

**JULY 2009**

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# *WOODCRAFT MATTERS*

[www.woodcraft-manningham.org.au](http://www.woodcraft-manningham.org.au)

## **MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING**

This months speaker will be John payne who is the manager of danier's hardware in Heidelberg. He will be talking about what tools they have available as well as what timber they keep in stock, he will also talk about what timbers he can obtain on request.

**START TIME IS: 7PM**

**DATE: TUESDAY 7th of July**

**Don't forget your name badges.**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

After a false start on nominations because the form in last month's newsletter is not in accordance with our constitution, we can now go full steam ahead using the form that Brian Luders has produced which is in this copy of the newsletter, along with the official notice of the AGM. Please note that if you want to nominate someone for any position, you first of all need to get another member to sign the nomination as a seconder and, most importantly, then get your nominee's agreement by also having them sign your nomination form against their name. Clear as mud? It's pretty easy, just connect the dots.

After a lengthy discussion at the last committee meeting, it is obvious that there is a desire within the club for representation at committee level for each discipline within the club. This is easily achieved if a nominee person is decided among the different groups and properly proposed as per my comments above. There is room on the committee for four such representatives without any need to change the constitution, so that exercise has been abandoned.

Last weekend's woodturning festival was very successful and entries were of a high standard, with Woodcraft Manningham well represented and among the winners. I believe that a comprehensive report is elsewhere in this newsletter.

Charlie Chamberlain informed the committee at their last meeting that he is prepared to continue to act as booking liaison for Introduction to Woodturning courses advertised in different magazines and also to conduct them, even though he has stepped down as group leader since the Central Group disbanded. This is very thoughtful and it's much appreciated by the committee that Charlie will continue to have input into the club albeit at a reduced level. He remains a member of Woodcraft Manningham and will attend monthly group sessions of one of the evening turning groups.

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.....From page 1.

Sincere thanks are due to Charlie for the many years he put into running the Central Woodturning Group which was one of the two foundation entities of Woodcraft Manningham. His enthusiasm, mentoring skills, commitment and organisational strengths in keeping up a full program, running a raffle within the group, supplying materials and generating ongoing interest for his members was of the highest standard, not to mention his good work as club safety officer and co-ordinator of preparation of materials for the annual birdbox effort. Hopefully he will remain involved in some of these extra curricular activities.

Two different group leaders have requested the committee have a look at Health and Safety issues as they affect the club, namely an evacuation plan and some more safety protocols. Woodcraft Manningham is one of the pioneer clubs at setting up and operating a proper machine accreditation scheme, which incorporates written safety protocols for each type of machinery in use in the club. This is a good start. We also distribute to all members a handbook which includes safety instructions to be followed when working in the workshop, including appropriate behaviour, what materials are banned, restriction on access to the clubrooms and so on. The evacuation plan will be a worthwhile addition, rather than rely on common sense or telling people to "Yell Fire and then run like Hell", although such sage advice is probably adequate in most situations.

While this is being done, please do remember the short version of the safety instructions as above. What we will also be working on is a set of guidelines covering the recruitment, qualifications required, selection procedure, operating guidelines, responsibilities, levels of authority, legal liabilities and helpful nostrums for putative group leaders in the club. This is a glaring omission from our current protocols. At present we seem to hope new leaders will magically emerge, and once they are appointed, they are left to their own devices unless something goes wrong. If something untoward is detected, the committee is then in a quandary as to what level of recourse they have to correct such problems.

While we prognosticate on these weighty matters, please remember:- (a) Report any damage to a machine immediately to your group leader for writing up in the maintenance book (b) **DO NOT** bring second hand timber to the clubhouse to be put through the thicknesser, saw or sander. It only takes one nail to wreck a machine. (c) Group leaders take note that we are having repeated complaints of the dust collector not being emptied after each session, (d) **ALWAYS** run the room dust extractors during a session (e) Make sure you know where the fire extinguishers are kept, (f) Keep the rear door way free of clutter to make evacuation easy and (g) Do not dump rubbish into bins until plastic liners (kept in the kitchen) are installed in each bin.

Keep chipper

Kevin McCarthy

## Missing Library Books

On a recent check of our library book collection the following books are missing with no entry to match in our loans book.

NUMBER	AUTHOR	TITLE
101	BARTON, WAYNE	NEW AND TRADITIONAL STYLES OF CHIP CARVING
106	BRIDENHAGEN, KEITH	DECOY PATTERN BOOK
110	ADLER, SHIRLEY	CARVING SPOONS
112	GERTNER, ZOE	WOODCARVING– A FOUNDATION COURSE
124		500 WOOD BOWLS
208	SEALE, ROLAND	PRACTICAL DESIGNES FOR WOOD TURNING
215	SPRINGETT, DAVID	ADVENTURES IN WOODTURNING
307	JACOBSON, JAMES A	MAKING SMALL WOODEN BOXES
404	SPIELMAN, PATRICK	THE NEW SCROLL SAW HAND BOOK
507	WYNNE, SUSIE	DRAW AND PAINT YOUR PET
716	SYFERT, JERRY	UNIQUE WOOD LAMINATION PROJECT

Can you find any of these books on your shelves or in your workshop? It is possible that you only borrowed recently or it may be longer and you have forgotten about it. **Please check**. Others are waiting for the opportunity to borrow them.

We only have a valuable library resource because of the generosity of those folk who have donated books and other resources. It is up to us all to follow the correct procedures when we use them.

1. Record the book, video, or magazine with your name and group name in the Library Loans Book (white folder labelled “Library Loans Book”) found on the bookshelf.
2. Return the resource within a month (depending on the regularity of your group meeting)
3. Check your name off in the Library Loans Book when you return the resource.

## **CHARLIE AND THE APPRENTICE FACTORY**

This sounds like the title of a well known film but describes what we learnt at the June Tuesday evening meeting from one of Woodcraft's stalwarts, namely Charlie Chamberlain, who for many years has been teaching carpentry skills and practice to apprentices at Swinburne TAFE. With samples of students work and class texts he took his audience of 20 or so members, who had braved the Winter cold, through an often amusing account of all that is involved in ensuring that there will be a supply of good tradesmen and trades women ready to face the real world. We always knew that Charlie is a master of woodwork skills and we were left with the feeling that all students that passed through his classes at Swinburne would be much better in many ways for having had him as their teacher.

Bruce Hensell was again a very able MC and he reported on the recent Carve-In where 48 carvers from all over Victoria had spent a productive and social weekend learning new skills or honing old ones. President Kevin summed up the success of the recent auction and thanked all participants. Bryan Thompson, in talking about safety in the workshop emphasised the importance of not distracting anybody engaged in using machinery such as bandsaw or buzzers by chatting or standing too close.

Members were reminded of the Club's wish that they support with an entry the Royal Melbourne Show in September, particularly now that Woodcraft Manningham is sponsoring it with cash prizes in three classes of carving and turning.

Once again some interesting items were produced for SHOW'N'TELL. Yen showed his versatility in relief carving with two prancing horses and even a portrait which he assured us was of his wife and not his mother-in-law. Rachel showed a carved copy [from Q. beech] of one of her winter boots. Her next project could well be a puss to put in it. Doug exhibited a carved self portrait with hat on and Ken Morrison's wooden head [not Ken's] machine carved at the Carve-In looked something like an Easter Island statue. As so often happens Greg Williams upstaged all with a framed intarsia picture of a large broadbill swordfish soaring out of a wave and made from some 30 different pieces of different coloured timbers.

As always there was much chatter and a magnificent supper to finish the evening, far more than enough for the smaller than normal attendance.

Derek Borrell

## **Australian Wood Review recycled wood competition**

Australian Wood Review have released the results of their recycled wood competition on their website.

Not only are there some inspirational entries shown in this competition, the site has all the entries from previous competitions including boxes and studio furniture. All pictures include makers description. This would be of interest to all woodworkers.

The web address is [www.woodreview.com.au/competitions/recycledwood/entries/](http://www.woodreview.com.au/competitions/recycledwood/entries/)

I am unable due to copy right to put any photo's in this newsletter but you can view them on the above web address.

Thankyou to Geoff Birtles for pointing this site out.

## CARVE-IN 2009

Some fifty people arrived at Lady Northcote Recreation Camp at Bacchus Marsh on the weekend beginning Friday 15th of May, for the Annual Carve-in.

They came from Mildura, Traralgon, Bendigo, Geelong, Ballarat, Mornington, Leongatha, Wonthaggi, Bacchus Marsh as well as various suburbs of Melbourne.

As they arrived all the participants were quickly able to settle into their chosen groups and lodgings and begin carving.

The carving choices offered were Furniture, Spoon, Face, Clock, Netsuke, Mechanical Carving and a group who chose to proceed on their own projects.

Ten Ladies made up the largest "non Carvers" group who joined in fully with all aspects of the weekend. The cars went to Ballarat for some shopping relief on Saturday.

Show and tell is the traditional feature of Friday evening, and a wonderful array of carvings completed over the past 12 months were presented. Points of interest like timber used, finishes applied, difficulties encountered and overcome, etc were spoken of.

The Totem Pole grew in height and variety as "show and tell" progressed. This activity is about the carvers using their imagination and carving skills to construct a "box" that will slide over the pole. The box is simply the foundation on which the carving is constructed.

The common interest and friendship was evident throughout the weekend, as participants shared with each other in their groups, at meal times and during free time's.

All good things come to an end. The final "show and tell" produced tables of completed and nearly completed carvings of a very high standard and wide variety, from all the carvers.

A very grateful thankyou was given to Bryan Thompson for his very thorough organising that was apparent throughout the entire weekend. Which above everything else contributed to such a productive and enjoyable three days.

Thanks was expressed to the carve-in committee, Janet the treasurer, Dr Charles Castle, group leaders and all who contributed in some way to the success of the weekend.

We look forward to the 2010 Carve-in

Ken Reid.

## Reg at the helm



The urge to go fast has always been with Reg Orr, owning and racing fast machines. Now an octogenarian, it is still with him.

On a recent research trip to New Zealand to study box making techniques, he stumbled upon the Earthrace power boat at Bluff and amazingly, was able to take the helm.

In June 2008, the amazing Earthrace vessel, on its third attempt, set a new world record for a powerboat to circle the globe, and did this with 100% renewable biodiesel fuel, and a net zero carbon footprint. The voyage was over 24,000 nautical miles, and took 60 days, 23 hours and 49 minutes, smashing the old record by over two weeks. Would you like to own the coolest boat in the world? For US\$1.5 million, she's yours! See more at [www.earthrace.net](http://www.earthrace.net)

And another distraction from his box making research, was to talk with the owner of the Wolds Fastest Indian, and to see his garage with a private collection containing many of the original parts and equipment owned by the late Burt Munro. Burt set world records at Bonneville - including in 1967 for under 1000 cc - his machine clocked just over 295 km/h. This record still stands today. He was 68 and riding a 47-year old machine when he set his last record.



## The story of The Robert McNamara Plaque.

At the unveiling of the Robert McNamara Memorial Plaque time was of the essence. It was somewhere between the viewing of the items for auction and the auction. Therefore there was insufficient time to explain the ideas and thought that went into the design.

The first idea was to have an owl sitting on two books. On the spine of the books there would have been The Robert McNamara Memorial Library. The carving would have been mounted on the top shelf of the library.

When we showed it to Jean she was not very happy with it. Firstly no-one would see it up there, and secondly it doesn't say anything about Robert.

The next carving session Jean came along with the design.

If you knew Robert and study the design, you will realise every element is about Robert McNamara.

In the centre of the plaque is his portrait.

The portrait is taken from a photo of Robert demonstrating turning at an Australia Day demonstration.

Robert was a teacher.

He taught secondary school students at a number of high schools and he also taught wood turners here at Manningham.

The lettering not only reminds us of his name but also reminds us that he built our library. And as Robert had Celtic heritage we have Celtic strap work.

Jean has incorporated turning, carving and scroll saw work into the design to remind us Robert was the President of our club when he died. And members from each of the disciplines, including box making, helped to make it.

Although all the groups from our club were involved in making the plaque, the overall design is very much a wood turning. ***Eucalyptus coolabah***

The plaque is made from two different timbers; Eucalyptus coolabah and Queensland White Beech.

During his life Robert worked with many types of timber firstly as a carpenter then a school teacher and finally as a wood turner. He not only worked with different timbers he was also interested in different timbers.

A number of years ago he and Melva joined the International Wood Collectors where they became active members.

The Eucalyptus burl reminds us how he loved burls; how he loved turning burls; how he loved the magic of discovering the colours and intricate grain buried below the gnarled external surface.

The eucalyptus burl reminds us that Robert was born at Bairnsdale in the heart of Victoria's eucalypt forests - and the Queensland White Beech - it reminds us that he was at the turning expo in Queensland when he died.

Thank you Jean for all the thought and effort you put into this wonderful design.

Bryan Thompson

# **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**To be held on Tuesday 4th August 2009**

**At 7.00pm in the clubrooms.**

**The actual AGM and voting in of president etc will take place prior to the usual monthly meeting.**

**WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE AS MANY MEMBERS PRESENT AS POSSIBLE FOR THIS VERY IMPORTANT EVENT AS THE CLUB FUTURE DEPENDS ON THIS MEETING.**

## AGENDA

Confirmation of the minutes of the AGM held in 2008

Receive Committee reports:

Chairman's Report

Treasurer's report

Election of Officers of the association:

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Gallery, Event and Training Manager

Three ordinary members

News editor

Nominations of candidates for election can be made to the chairman at the AGM providing the consent of the candidate has been obtained, AS PER THE NOMINATION FORM.

# CLUB NOMINATION FORM

NOMINEE FOR PRESIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

SECONDER \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINEE FOR VICE PRESIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

SECONDER \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINEE FOR SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_

SECONDER \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINEE FOR TREASURER \_\_\_\_\_

SECONDER \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO CONSIDER WHO COULD POSSIBLY FILL IN THE ABOVE POSITIONS AS THE FUTURE OF THE CLUB DEPENDS ON IT.

YOU MUST SEEK PERMISSION FROM THE PERSON WHO YOU WANT TO NOMINATE AND GET THEIR SIGNATURE ON THIS FORM. YOU MUST ALSO GET SOMEONE TO "SECOND" THE NOMINEE AS PER THE ABOVE.

THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS YOU WILL BE ABLE TO NOMINATE ON THE NIGHT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE ON THE NIGHT.

FORMS CAN BE MAILED TO

BRIAN LUDERS

6/2 ERNE STREET

BALWYN 3103

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<b>President:</b>	Kevin McCarthy	98523879
<b>Vice President:</b>	Bruce Hensell	0419 519 191
<b>Secretary:</b>	Brian Luders	9897 1482
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Neil Wakeman	9841 7773
<b>Membership Secretary:</b>	Neil Wakeman	9841 7773

### Committee members:

Charlie Chamberlain	9728 2179
Allan Way	9459 9049
Stuart Watson	9886 1893

## Contacts at Woodcraft Manningham including **days and times.**

<b><u>Templestowe Wood turners</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>1st Thursday 6.30pm</u></a>	<b><u>Day carvers – 1</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>1st Friday 9am</u></a>
Stuart Watson	9886 1893	Bryan Thompson	9723 5030
<b><u>Day Turners</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>Wednesday's 9am and 12.30pm</u></a>	<b><u>Day carvers – 2</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>2nd Friday 9am</u></a>
John Tarry	9842 5324	Bryan Thompson	9459 4176
<b><u>Lady Turners</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>2nd Tuesday 6.30pm</u></a>	<b><u>Day carvers – 3</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>3rd Friday 9am</u></a>
Stuart Watson	9886 1893	Bryan Thompson	9723 5030
<b><u>Manningham Wood turners</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>4th Thursday 6.30pm</u></a>	<b><u>Day Carvers - 4</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>4th Friday 9am</u></a>
Allan Way	9459 9049	Bryan Thompson	9459 4176
<b><u>Probus Turners</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>1st Monday 9.30am</u></a>	<b><u>Scroll Sawing</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>4th Friday 1pm</u></a>
John Edwards	9848 5875	Robert Murphy	9842 7060
<b><u>Box Making "Evening"</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>3rd Tues + Wed 6.30pm</u></a>	<b><u>Open Day</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>3rd Thurs 9am—12noon</u></a>
Reg Orr	9857 6058	Brian Luders	9897 1482
<b><u>Box Making "Day"</u></b>	<a href="#"><u>3rd Friday 1pm</u></a>		
Ken Morrison	9723 5030		

### Remember

If you miss your normal meeting you are welcome to do a "make up" by attending another group that month.  
Just give the group leader a call to let them know you will be coming along.