

NEWS

Woodcraft Matters

Woodcraft Manningham
Members' Newsletter

Club scoops woodwork prizes at Royal Melbourne Show



Woodcraft Manningham can be very proud. At this year's Royal Melbourne Show our club members collectively won more prizes than all other clubs together.

Stuart Watson, a "prize" sneak of long standing, won the Wood Turning division with his large platter (pictured alongside) and scored a third with a Burl Bowl. He also picked up a third in Articles of Wood with an attractive Box.

Robert Murphy got a second in Articles of Wood with his scrollsawn Wolf (pictured above). Ken Reid achieved a second in Carving with his Koalas and a Commended for his Fisher Boy. Derek Borrell also got a Commended for his possum as did Brian Luders for his snake.



More pics by Brian Luders on Page 3

President's Report

The Kiwanis Raffle was a success and the club received nearly \$780 as a result of our selling activities. Although this was less than our budgeted \$1,000 it was still a substantial sum raised by the club. Elsewhere in this newsletter, a full report is published on the success of members of Woodcraft Manningham who entered competitions at the Royal Melbourne Show. Congratulations to all those who participated and particularly those who received awards.

The annual Australia Day bird box stall will be run by the Group Leaders using the same Action Plan they have successfully operated from in the past. Bruce Hensell will co-ordinate the recruiting of members to man the stall.

Forty new chairs will be sourced to replace the plastic and metal units that have proved too low and very uncomfortable for long sessions and meetings. These new chairs will be lightweight, stackable and will be mounted on wheeled pallets to make them easy to store.

The committee at its October meeting approved the applications of Ralph Negrin and Ta-Ve Choong as new members. Welcome! The orders are rolling in for uniform items. We will fill as much as possible from stock and new stock will be ordered as soon as the order closing date of October 24th is reached.

It is very important that members realise that they are not covered by personal accident insurance while working in the workshop. Some misinformation has

Continues Page 2



From the Editor's Desk

I had thought my editorial "Our Club - A Valuable Recourse" in the last issue of Woodcraft Matters might have provoked lively discussion. Essentially it demonstrated how poorly we utilise our premises and the potential for growth. The silence was deafening!

This is surprising, because although we have a strong membership, our numbers are not growing and we have poor attendances at many of our evening activities and courses (see President's report this issue). If I was looking at this from a professional marketing point of view it would tell me that we are not always offering our internal and external markets what they want and/or delivering it in the way they want. Products, accessibility & timing, all need to be considered.

As a consequence of this the committee have been asked to consider the following:

- Greater clubroom accessibility for members
- The introduction of a wider appeal Saturday activities (eg Furniture Making)
- Some speciality night courses (such as clockmaking).
- The integration of some groups

This doesn't mean anything will necessarily change, but just like a business we need to take stock occasionally in the interests of longevity and growth. Every members' view counts, so speak up!

New trade sponsor!

We have just taken *Belic Tools* on board as a trade sponsor. Present your membership badge to receive a 5 to 10% discount on all non sale purchases. They are at 134 Canterbury Road Blackburn South.

I have been dealing with these guys for 20 years, and they are good guys, always the best prices, great range of stock with all the big names including Festo, Hitachi, DeWalt, Makita and so on. Bevan and Ross are the guys to talk to.

We will soon publish a comprehensive list of our trade sponsors.

Thank you to this month's contributors.

These include:

Kevin McCarthy, Brian Luders, Neil Wakeman, Don McLean, Bruce Hensell, Slovak Bojczuk, Per Knudsen, Stuart Watson, Charlie Chamberlain,

Geoff Birtles
Editor

President's Report ... Continued from P1

been circulating to the effect that as long as members are accredited to work on a machine then they are covered against injury. In fact the club runs a third party policy that protects it against claims by people injured by the actions of members. It is imperative that all members maintain their own health insurance cover to protect them in case of injury to themselves.

Please read the notice from Manningham Council reproduced in this newsletter (P6) offering Woodcraft Manningham the opportunity to organise and run a training course for young boys as an after-school activity. The Council pays \$40 per hour for the services of tutors. Please contact me if you are interested in setting up and running such a course.

I have written to each of the interested members regarding starting up our social committee ASAP. Hopefully the first function they run will be our Christmas year end break up.

Charlie Chamberlain reports that attendances at the various evening turning groups have slipped recently. Only around three people are coming to each Central, Manningham and Templestowe Turner nights. Charlie has talked to Stuart Watson and Allan Way, the other Group Leaders of night turning groups and they are discussing whether to combine the evening groups. It is simply not viable for leaders to open up the premises, provide their time for the evening, run lights, heating and machinery for a total of three participants. One alternative for members who are reaching the stage of wanting not to go out at nights is to switch to a daytime group. If the Day Turners group which offers weekly meetings is considered too frequent or too expensive, perhaps we can offer a monthly membership to people transferring from evening groups. Your thoughts are welcome.

The interest shown by members in the club running a basic computer course has sparked a response from our webmaster Malcolm Dean, who is happy to help organise such a course. Our main concern is to establish exactly what level of information is required. I would greatly appreciate some feedback from members who indicated an interest in such a course as to what it is they need help with. Please call, drop me a line or email me so we can gauge what to provide.



Kevin McCarthy
President

Woodcraft Manningham

Incorporated Association 0034137X

PO Box 567 Templestowe 3106

The Old School Building
Manningham - Templestowe Leisure Centre
Corner Anderson & Parker Streets
Templestowe Melway P33, E5

Club Phone 9846 8148

COMMITTEE

President	Kevin McCarthy 9852 3879
Vice President	Bruce Hensell 0419 519 191
Secretary	Brian Luders 9897 1482
Treasurer	Neil Wakeman 9841 7773
Communication & Promotion	Geoff Birtles 9846 6221 0412 360 510
Training	Charlie Chamberlain 9728 2179
Members	Stuart Watson 9886 1893 Allan Way 9459 9049
Web Master	Malcolm Dean 94898406

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GREG!

Well known and liked club stalwart Greg Williams turned 80 this month.
You are an inspiration to us all mate!

Monthly General Meeting

7pm Tuesday November 4
Club rooms NB This is Cup Day
Manningham Templestowe
Leisure Centre

Our guest speaker will be Alan Chinn.

Alan was one of the principals in the Wooden Boat Centre, until the Docklands development took over Victoria Dock. He then ran Ibis Boat Works for a number of years, until he retired.

Alan supervised and helped Mirella and me build our kayak.

Charles Castle

Woodcraft Manningham members scoop the prize pool at Royal Melbourne Show.

Continued from front page Pics Brian Luders



Clockwise from top left:

Burl Bowl, Stuartt Watson, **Third**; Fisher Boy, Ken Reid, **Commended**; Koalas, Ken Reid, **Second**; Owls, Jeanette Ball & Ken Reid; Bear with Fish, Yen Ip, Pigeon, Jeanette Ball; Mantle Clock, Charles Castle, Lion, Herbert Gmeuling; Possum, Derek Borrell, **Commended**.



HAPPENINGS

Club Monthly Meeting
7pm Tuesday November 4

Melbourne Tool Sale.
Sun November 9 9.00am - 1.00pm
Glenferrie Primary School. Mel 45 C11
Eltham Wood Work Exhibition.
Nov 8 & 9 Community Centre Eltham.
The Latrobe Valley Scroll Saw weekend.
Nov 8 & 9 Moe. Info 03 5135 3675

Woodcraft Matters
Copy deadline Sunday November 16

Australian Wooden Boat Festival
Tasmania February 6-9 2009

Visit to Cobb & Co at Tooradin
February 28 2009

Turnfest Kooralbyn Qld
Mar 27-29, 2009 Info 9853 5754



Club Training & Accreditation Day

More than 30 members attended a club machine training and accreditation day on Saturday October 4. Accreditation is required by all members before they can use any item of equipment (other than a lathe!), both for safety reasons and good work practices. The day was very much in danger of getting out of hand given the large numbers but all travelled smoothly due to member goodwill. Waiting periods

provided members with an opportunity to meet or catch up and a happy social atmosphere prevailed. Charlie Chamberlain (Chop Saw & Band Saw) organised this very much overdue day, very capably assisted by Reg Orr (Router & Table Saw), Don McLean (Sander), Bryan Thompson (Jointer & Thicknesser). Instruction notes were provided to all.

I have attempted to show as many participants as possible and attach as many names as I could. My apologies to those who names are missed, or incomplete, somehow I couldn't get much help on this at the monthly meeting - Ed.

Story & Pics Geoff Birtles



1. Waiting - Charlie Chamberlain, Robert Murphy, Peter Oppenheim, Reg Orr, Simon Law 2. Reg at the router table - Bill Wood, Peter Muir-Smith, Gerhard Mainberger, Ron Bentley, John & Judy Wheeler, Simon Law, Ta-Ve Choong. 3. Melva McNamara 4. Bryan Thompson at the Jointer - Robert Murphy, Peter Muir-Smith, Peter Oppenheim, Ron Bradley 5. Charlie Chamberlain at the Chopsaw - Bruce Hensell, Miles Thomas, Peter Muir-Smith, Patrick Culshaw

Club Training & Accreditation Day Cntd.



6.



7.

6. More waiting - Peter Dickson, Bruce Hensell, Charles Castle, Mike Thomas, Gerhard Mainberger 7. Charlie chopping fingers - Roy David, Gerhard Mainberger, John & Judy Wheeler, Simon Law, Melva McNamara 8. Bryan Thompson at jointer - Peter Oppenheim, Ron Bradley, Roy David 9. Reg Orr at Table Saw - Ron Bentley, Carl Jacobs, Robert Jacobs, Tim Gale, Judy Wheeler. 10. Reg with Yen Yip, Tim Gale, Robert Murphy. 11. Reg still at saw with Gerhard, Bruce Hensell and Melva.



8.



9.



10.



11.

*It was good to see so many members taking safety seriously. A big day for all, but with very positive feedback. Thank you to all my fellow trainers Reg, Don and Bryan and to Bruce.
For those who are not now accredited for a particular piece of equipment, you need to contact the listed trainer to make arrangements for a one-on-one session and registration. Charlie Chamberlain*

So you think timber for box making grows on trees!!

Story & pic Don McLean

There is no short cut when someone says to you “we are cutting down a tree – do you want it?” If the species is suitable for the type of woodwork you do and no nails have been driven into it by “little Johnnie”, the first decision is made – look then to what is involved in getting it to your workbench for a project.

If the tree has been felled and you only find out sometime down the track, chances are there will be splitting at the ends. End



A box in progress... Maybe!

cells exposed to the air will have started to dry – on a hot day you can see the wood cracking before your eyes. You really need to be there when the tree is felled and apply a sealer to the cut sections – *Endseal* is a product I use.

In summer, the log should be milled within two weeks or there will be deterioration in the material quality – if you look at timber mills, they have water being sprayed on logs twenty four hours a day through the summer months.

With the log loaded onto your trailer you are off to have it milled. I have a contact in Drouin, around 100kms away, who mills my logs. Seven dollars a meter plus \$35 if the machine blade hits a nail - only green logs only milled.

Slabs are cut so the benefit of quarter sawing is lost, resulting in about one third of the milled timber suspect and pretty much not of much use. I have been getting logs cut to 75mm slabs and when stacked for air drying it is about three years before they are usable. Keep the bottom layer about 100mm off the ground to assist in air circulation and make

it harder for the termites to smell it. I lost two slabs of English Elm last year to termites – I estimate the cost to get it into the stack was around \$200 for the two slabs.

Two trips to Drouin – one to drop off and a second to collect a few days later and it is in my back yard with spacers between and weight and a cover over. Ends should be coated again with a sealer to minimize end checking. With such an investment, another dollar per end for sealer is a small price to pay.

Work on losing about twenty percent of your timber when you come to work it – there will be end checking, some warping that will require correction by bringing to true and edge timber or sap wood that is lost in squaring up. As it is slabbed and not quarter sawn, around twenty percent is really only B grade timber.

By the time it is dressed timber for box making, it comes in at around \$15 a super foot when all cash outlays are counted – no charge applied for labour or storage. The box kits at the WWW Show are cheap!

Next time someone says to you they know of a tree you can have, my advice is to say “thanks, but no thanks”, our club has timber at great rates. The photo depicts a small log the “postie” dropped off to me with plenty of nails to remove – think it may finish up as fire wood.

Children's Woodworking Course Tutors wanted

We received a call from Dorian Jones, Cultural Venues Coordinator, Manningham City Council, seeking advice on the development of a childrens' woodcraft course as part of the Manningham Arts Centre “after school” program for 2009.

They wish to know if we can recommend somebody who might be interested in developing & delivering a course plan. They also require tutors for which they pay \$40 an hour.

Interested parties should contact me for further information.

Kevin McCarthy, President
Telephone 9852 3879

Committee Minutes

Synopsis October 13 Meeting 2008

- Street directional signs – It was agreed to proceed and accept a quotation arranged by MCC for \$312.70.
- Community raffle proceeds from the sale of 450 tickets totalled \$787.50
- Final questionnaire results indicated that members support the introduction of new activities such as furniture making , more access to the facilities and a need for some assistance for members in the use of computers.
- A Key Register has been established so that accurate records of key holders can be maintained.
- New enrolment Form. Kevin and Bruce to supply Geoff with copy that he can turn into artwork.
- Australia Day Official invitation is expected and due. Group leaders report they see no need for a project manager as they work together on this project as a group.
- Replacement of chairs. It was decided to replace the existing stackable chairs and all but 6 high stools with 40 green plastic stackable chairs that have been on trial.
- Treasurers report. There are now only two unfinancial members.
- Applications for membership by Ralph Negrin and Ta-Ve Choong were both approved.
- Sponsorship. It was reported that an anticipated major sponsorship arrangement will not now proceed. A trade sponsorship card will now be pursued.
- Circulation of member details It was agreed that members' personal information should remain private and not any of it be circulated to members.
- Accident insurance. It was agreed that members should be clearly informed that they are not insured against personal injury by our third party cover.
- The article “Our Club ... A Valuable Resource” (Woodcraft matters Sep'08) and a paper on better utilisation of club facilities including member accessibility and member growth initiatives were both tabled by Geoff Birtles. These were briefly discussed, with Committee members asked to consider both for serious discussion at the next meeting.
- Group Leaders meeting report. A cleaning roster is being prepared. The entrance and foyer needs to be cleaned and tidied and perhaps reorganized.
- NEXT MEETING Monday 10 November

Activity Group News

Day Turners

Visit the club on any Wednesday between 9.00am and 4.00pm and you will hear the pleasant hum of many lathes as the Day Turners work on their masterpieces. There are 20 members divided between morning and afternoon groups.

But it's not all turning. Over coffee, tea and cake, during morning and afternoon



A Potpourri Bowl demonstrating Herb Hardidge's segmented turning skills. From Walnut and Silky Oak with Huon Pine centrepieces.

breaks, the important business is taken care of. Show and tell, wood turning discussions, information about computers, joke of the day and a wide range of other business is discussed.

As there is no specific project, there is a wide variety of items that are turned each week. Different types of bowls, boxes, pens, lamps and pepper grinders are just some of the items turned.

There is a lot of discussion and frequent exchange of ideas and encouragement for members to try new things and different approaches.

At present, segmented turning has become

popular with Herb Hardidge showing how it's done. If you want to try something new then there is always someone ready and able to show you. Or if you have a question you'll probably get ten different answers – so take your pick. But it's not just turning. A number of members bring their own tools and are more than happy to demonstrate their usage and allow you to try and therefore decide not to buy.

Slowak Bojczuk

Manningham Turners

Fourth Thursday each month at 6.30 pm.

The combined task of making carver's mallets by both the Templestowe and Manningham turners, got off to a good start when the Templestowe turners met early this month. The Manningham group will continue on the 4th Thursday and the invitation to carvers to have a mallet custom made is still available.

Next month, November, we will attempt "emerging bowls". These have several steps and involve making a template and some hot gluing. I will provide the hot glue. Those members who saw Guilio demonstrate this project when he visited us, will have a head start. Members from other groups are most welcome to join us if this project attracts their interest.

Material can be any size depending on the bowl size you would like, but I recommend a modest start, say timber of 100mm by 100mm and 150 mm long along the grain. The technique used results in two being made from the one piece of wood.

Please note that the 4th Thursday in December is Christmas Day, so we will have to look for an alternate time to meet, more on that later.

Allan Way

Member's Work



One of the projects I finished this year was a chess set with a marquetry board; the latter was completed with some excellent guidance and input from my fellow turner John Edwards.

Another project was a small occasional table with an inlaid platter.

Per Knudsen



Woodturners Central Turners Waffle

Third Thursday each month at 6.30 pm.

October 16 saw a small attendance but still some ring stands finished, also a good lot of stirring and some fun.

Our November 20 activity will be a bud vase with cylinder insert, they are about 75mm x 12mm diameter. Bring timber to suit this project.

December 18 and January 15 will be free choice nights. Our first big night will be February 19 with the visit from Maroondah. They will supply a demonstrator, unknown at this stage.

As of September 17 I am the President of Maroondah Wood turning Club, a position I held for two years some ten years ago. About nine years ago I started the yearly reciprocal visit by both clubs and this has continued until now with the support of past presidents. The reason I mention this is that Central's yearly visit to Maroondah is on Wednesday the 19th of November at 7.15pm. I extend an invitation to any member of Woodcraft Manningham who would like to attend this evening. Give me a ring and let me know if you are interested and I will give you further details. The demonstrator on the night will be Stuart Watson doing a platter.

Charlie Chamberlain

Templestowe Turners

Fourth Thursday each month at 6-30 pm.

Hopefully everyone enjoyed the night making the two designer type carver's mallets. They came up really great. A few people made some nicely polished ring stands as well, using Allan's models.

Thanks to Charlie and his crew, basically everyone has completed their training on the different equipment. This makes our members more independent.

The project for November 6 is the Guilio Marcolongo "Emerging Bowl". Actually you should finish up with two Emerging Bowls. Timber required is a nice piece of turning timber (hardwood) eg blackheart sassafras, size 100x100x130mm, long grain...Planed sides preferable. Don't forget the date, November 6.

Stuart Watson

Group News not received in time for publication included Ladies Turning, Probus Turning, Day and Evening Box makers, Carvers and Scrollsawing. Ed.



Personal Protection

Safe work practices

Show 'n Tell

Monthly General Meeting
- October

Charles Castle
Rehabilitation specialist
& Manningham Carver

Physical infirmity had a fair bit of air play at our October meeting. Firstly Alan Chinn, our featured speaker on making wooden boats, called in sick, and Charles Castle stood in on short notice. From his vast experience as a doctor practising in the field of rehabilitation, health and safety, he gave a very pertinent and interesting talk on safety in the clubhouse work place.

One very interesting fact that came out



It's hard to believe that this clock is this members first go at cabinet making, with all brass and turned bits sourced from Bunnings! It is a copy of his grandfather's clock.

of the talk was that hearing damage is a progressive problem that accumulates with exposure to high noise levels over time. This damage is irreversible and the more exposure a person has to loud noise, the more their hearing continues to deteriorate.

The lesson is clear, use hearing protection

12th Down Under Turn Around



The 12th Down Under Turn Around was held this September at Cowes, Phillip Island. This amazing annual event attracted 120 turners from across Australia and NZ. This is a general view of DUTA stadium. Members should note that any turners who wanted to attend 2009 DUTA should contact Caroline Talbot on 03 59567300, to get on the waiting list.

Alan Way's full report is in the last issue.



Yen Ip, spin doctor.
Raffle tickets at the door and



Greg Williams shows his intarsia pelican.

to avoid further damage.

Charles also advocated members wearing safety shoes with steel toe caps to prevent foot injuries when lumps of wood get dropped or

flung from lathes or saws. His other main point was for all members to obtain and wear good quality safety glasses, and to always use full face shields for wood turning. Thank you Charles for a very timely and informed reminder of these issues.

The very entertaining *Show and Tell* segment featuring prize winners from the Royal Melbourne Show is fully covered elsewhere in this edition

Story & Pics Kevin McCarthy

Commercial Turner Workshop Visit

A visit to Cobb & Co. at Tooradin is planned for February 28 2009. The proprietor, Ian Robertson (Robbo) has been kind enough to open up his workshop for a one day demonstration for the last three years. It is a really good fun day, with no charge.

More details in future newsletters. Bookings are limited. Further info - Charlie 9728 2179

Australian Wood Review Open Box Competition

AWR have created an on-line gallery of all entries on their web site. The response to this competition was fantastic and standard of work outstanding. Use the link below to view our members' entries!

<http://www.woodreview.com.au/competitions/openbox/entries/>

ACTIVITY GROUPS & LEADERS

WOOD TURNING

Day

"Day Turners"

Every Wednesday 9.00am & 1.00pm
John Tarry 9842 5324

"Probus"

First Monday each month 9.00am
John Edwards 9848 5875

Evening

"Ladies"

Second Tuesday each month 6.30pm
Stuart Watson 9886 1893

"Templestowe"

First Thursday each month 6.30pm
Stuart Watson 9886 1893

"Central"

Third Thursday each month 6.30pm
Charlie Chamberlain 9728 2179

"Manningham"

Fourth Thursday each month 6.30pm
Allan Way 9459 9049

BOX MAKING

Day

• First Friday each month 1.00pm
Ken Morrison 9723 5030

• Third Friday each month 1.00pm
Ken Morrison 9723 5030

Evening

• Third Tuesday each month 6.30pm
Reg Orr 9857 6058

• Third Wednesday each month
6.30pm
Reg Orr 9857 6058

CARVING

• First Friday each month 9.00am

• Second Friday each month 9.00am

• Third Friday each month
9.00am & 1.00pm

• Fourth Friday each month 9.00am

All Carving Groups

Bryan Thompson 9459 4176

SCROLL SAWING

• Fourth Friday each month 1.00pm
Robert Murphy 9842 7060

New members welcome!

Please contact any one of the group
Leaders listed above.