

March 2004

WOODCRAFT MATTERS

Editor : Gino Centofanti
Phone : 9432 4205
Fax : 9432 4206
e-mail: centraa@ozemail.com.au
Mail : 3 Lightwood Lane.
Plenty 3090

Contacts at Central Woodcraft

President

Robert McNamara 9876 1032

Treasurer

Stan Smith 9841 6557

Secretary

Anne Schaffer 9844 2072

Central Woodturners

Charlie Chamberlain 9728 2179

Templestowe Woodturners

Robert McNamara 9876 1032

Manningham Woodturners

Don McLean 9455 2989

Day Turners

John Tarry 9842 5324

Lady Turners

Anne Schaffer 9844 2072

Doncaster Carvers

Bryan Thompson 9459 4176

Doncaster Daycarvers – 1

Greg Williams 9723 3827

Doncaster Daycarvers – 2

Greg Williams 9723 3827

Doncaster Daycarvers – 3

Greg Williams 9723 3827

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.

From the Prez.

What's happening around the club? Plenty, for members actively involved and interested in seeing progress and improvement. For those who don't choose to "put-in" - not much!

One box-making course drawing to a close, another one due to start on April 5th.

One introduction to wood-turning course finished, another one due to start on April 21st. A waiting list already exists for a following class after that. (Can you help?)

There is movement to form a box-making group (and other similar projects) after June.

A suggestion for the formation of a Triton users group has been put forward (maybe in conjunction with the box-makers?)

A sheet will be put up on the notice board to gauge your interest.

A big "but" with all of these ideas is for organizers and leaders to emerge. Many good suggestions flounder through lack of willing helpers.

Discuss and suggest by all means, but don't expect the committee to do it all for you.

A clean-up of the clubrooms will commence with Charlie's Central group this month, the committee see it as each group's responsibility to take a turn on a rotating monthly basis.

Expect to be asked to participate.

Our members information booklet is now ready for distribution, make sure you get your copy from your group leader. Thanks to all those who helped in it's preparation.

The introduction of our club uniform is well under way, initial orders for the cheaper priced shirt should already have been submitted (by April 7th)

We realize that some members have an "anti" opinion and will reject the notion of a club identifying symbol (you can't please all the people all of the time).

But we see it as a part of an effort to unify what has been, until now, a series of insular groups without contact or an interest in what happens in other areas of the club. Remember, we all rely on each other for our existence, one group cannot survive "financially or otherwise (Ed)" on their own.

With this in mind, we are still encouraging as many members as possible to be a part of this initiative.

The weekend at Warrandyte Festival has been and gone. A big thank you to all who participated, unfortunately, it is generally the "usual suspects" who take part. We would love to see some of our newer members become involved, it is not very onerous, in fact it is quite enjoyable.

A huge crowd on both days gave us great exposure as a club and generated a lot of interest in both our carving and turning groups. Already, we have three definite starters for the intro. to wood-turning course and many have shown serious interest in joining the club.

Continued page 2.

From page 1.

You may have noticed a change in the grinder area (although not if you haven't been to club for a while - another subtle little dig!). A new bench top has been installed with the grinder attached. The committee have given an in-principal approval to set up a grinding/sharpening station for the carvers, who have different requirements to the turners. This will be setup on the rest of the bench top area, please keep it tidy.

Robert McNamara



Joy to John and Judy.

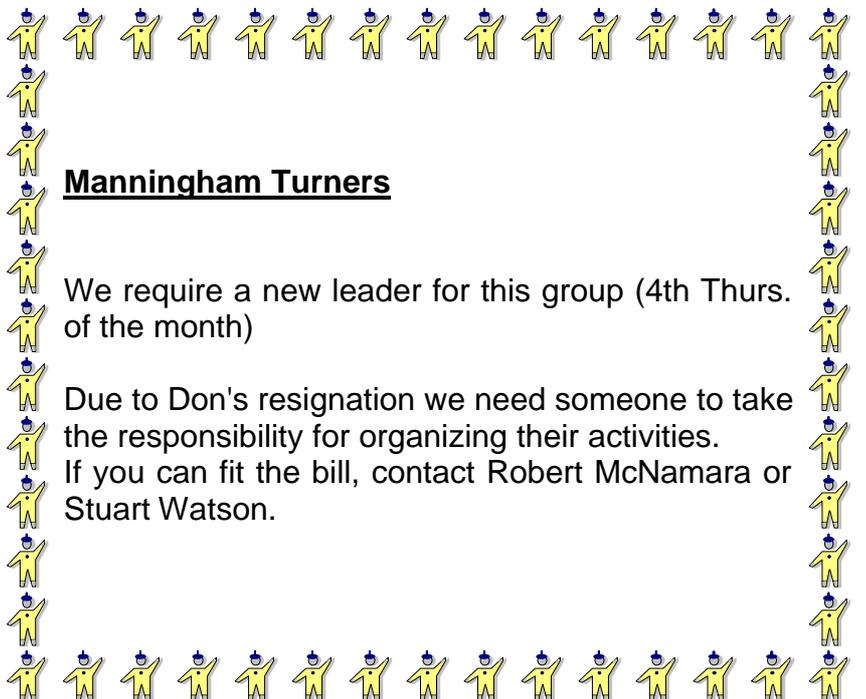
- John and Judy Wheeler are proud to announce the birth of their first grand children (Twins)
- Charlotte Grace who was born first 5 pounds 1 ounce
- Amy Nicole who topped the scales at 5 pounds 5 ounces
- They were born on the 7th of March 2004, in Auckland New Zealand.
- Needless to say they'll be heading to N.Z. way real soon.

Manningham Turners

Where are all the Manningham turners (4th Thursday)?
Next meeting, we will be starting a turned lidded box. You will need to bring some suitable wood approx. 75mm diam. x 150mm long.
Mark your calendar or get your other half to remind you.

Soft Drink Cans

In the fridge is a selection of soft drinks for sale at \$1.00 each.
An honour system applies, as with other aspects of our club.
About 20 cans have already been consumed. There is about \$10.00 in the jar.
The maths don't equate - does that mean that not all our members are "honourable"?



Manningham Turners

We require a new leader for this group (4th Thurs. of the month)
Due to Don's resignation we need someone to take the responsibility for organizing their activities.
If you can fit the bill, contact Robert McNamara or Stuart Watson.



464 Lower Heidelberg Road,
HEIDELBERG, VIC
phone: (03) 9457 2645

Just wanted to take this opportunity to thank Bryan who is the assistant manager from Mitre 10 at the above address for kindly donating a generous box full of "box making" hardware.

Bryan told me that he would be happy to source specialized tools for our needs i.e. turning and Carving or anything else we may desire.

He is happy to give us a discount on presentation of our club membership..

During my visit there we spoke about the Triton dust extractor which I would suspect a few of us may want. If this is the case please contact myself and I will make up a list of interested people and then present the numbers to Bryan from Mitre 10 to see what price he can come up with dependant on the quantity of Dust masks we want to order.

Any questions please do not hesitate to call me.

Seeing that not everyone reads the newsletter every time I will give you all till the end of June to respond to this proposal.

Regards

Gino (Editor)

WOODTURNERS WAFFLE

The March meeting saw a good turn out of Central and Warburton Valley members, all up about 31. We were treated to a good demonstration of how to turn a natural edge bowl from a small piece of burl by Shane Wolf. I would like to thank Shane for his demonstration and bringing some burls for us to buy at a very reasonable price. I also must thank Eddy Newton, the President of Warburton Valley for organising Shane to come; Eddy was not there on the night as he had a bad cold. Speaking of Presidents, Alan Lade President of Maroondah had a brain tumour removed, but is now on the mend, which we are all happy about.

The meeting on April 15th will be a turned apple, run by me, notice I did not say demonstrated by me. For this night you will need a piece of straight grained timber approximately 150mm in length and 70mm in diameter or 6" x 3". I have quite a few pieces of apple wood if you don't have any. Please bring your turning jackets, sand paper and finish as on the night the pieces will be judged and prizes awarded.

I also think show and tell should be anything made of burl.

I would like to congratulate John and Judy Wheeler on the birth of their twin grand daughters, there will be lots of fun times ahead. Thanks to John for the muffins.

Last but by no means least don't forget our clean up morning Saturday the 17th April, 8.30 am to 12 noon. Coffee, tea and biscuits will be provided. The committee has agreed to purchase a stepladder and some disposable dust masks. If you have an old vacuum cleaner could you bring it along. That's all the waffle for now, see you next meeting.

Charlie Chamberlain

Italian Pepper Grinder

While at a social function I came across the Pepper Grinder on the right. It was purchased in Florence Italy. While the shape of it is pretty much what we're used to seeing, I have never seen one painted the way this one was. The boy in the background is my son who while looking like he is about to nod off is actually concentrating on something in his hands. Just thought I'd share this with you all. For the benefit of those who don't have email the colours on this peper grider are White,Gold,Blue and Red.

regards

Editor



Here is a collection of some interesting woodcraft on the web:

<http://www.knotsburls.com/gallery/202-004.htm>

http://www.bowlturner.com/symposium_2002.htm

<http://www.chrispye-woodcarving.com/>

& for a combination of turning/carving...

<http://members.iinet.net.au/~peterlow/wood.html>

Ronit Freedman

Shepparton Woodwork Show.

On Saturday of the Labour Day weekend, I went up to Shepparton to see their Woodwork Exhibition, which ran for the two days. There were quite a few woodies from Central and other local clubs up there. Apart from their exhibition and sale of woodwork there were a lot of interesting stands, which included French Polishing, Model horse drawn lorries, lots of Woodturning and Carving, Box making, Model Airplanes, Lace making, Rocking Chairs, Carved Rocking horses, making and painting Mobiles, Eildon turning tools and heaps of other interesting people to talk to. There was plenty of good slabbed wood and bowl blanks including Poplar, Red Gum etc, which was lovely and dry, and all at really cheap prices. The Shepparton Woodworkers put on a really good show, and I would really recommend the trip up there next year for an interesting day out.

Stuart Watson

Day turners

In the last issue we mentioned about the \$2.00 bowl that Gordon had found. He has now bought a \$1.00 bowl. That does not even cover the petrol cost to get to turning let alone anything else. The only good thing I can see is that you could have a couple of these bowls and when you have a bad day at turning and someone says “what did you do to day” you can show them the bowl – BUT – take off the price tag first.

A few weeks ago a number of the day turners travelled to Shepparton for the Goulburn Valley Woodturning show. It is a must on my calendar and it is popular with the other turners. One of the turners left Melbourne at 7.00am so that they could capture the bargains. Unfortunately they arrived at the wood show after 1.00pm, after a number of detours to places such as SPC and Ardmona. It was good to see where their priorities laid. The show itself was excellent. There were many demonstrators showing their skills in many different crafts. They are not only skilful, but are ready to share their knowledge, experience and secrets with the public. Our members who went talked about the different secrets that they were given. Ian showed us his tools which he bought after he had practised with them – buy before you try. This is what makes people go back each year.

Pepper grinders and bowls are still popular, but there has been an increase in the turning of boxes. There has also been an interest by some members in the making of chess pieces.

Slav Bojczuk

DAYCARVERS ONE

It looked like an all male affair for the first Friday in March until five lady carvers [plus a white Maltese called “Bubbles”] made a late entry, just in time for “show and tell” where Ronnit Freedman proudly displayed the three boxes, in Sassafras and Silky Oak, she had already produced after only two lessons in Reg Orr’s new group. Amongst the newcomers was Jack Jones recuperating from his recent illness and two turners diversifying their wood skills with some carving, Yen Ip and Barry Ransom. Yen’s current piece is a cat on a cushion. Meanwhile Barry whittled away at a long necked goose that at one stage must have nicked him as he was seen with a fresh band-aid half way through the morning.

With 18 carvers in the workshop bench space was at a premium and the Dremel sanding bench was fully occupied. In the foyer area Pat Burder was busy preparing Jelatong eagle cut-outs for his class at the Carve-In planned for Bacchus Marsh in mid May.

Whenever Michael Harvey from Mt Eliza makes the trip to class he has something interesting to show and this time it was a beautifully crafted manta or sting ray in birds eye Huon pine and he was working on a second model in the same rare timber.

Ken Morris, our representative on the committee, gave the group the option of some serious workshop cleaning at a separate working bee or twice a year during normal sessions and most opted for the latter. Ken incidentally is off to Tasmania soon ostensibly to celebrate his Golden Wedding [Congratulations] but we suspect to fill his case with interesting timbers suitable for box lids that may take his eye.

Derek Borrell

Wanted

Wanted

Wanted

Articles of interest from members (and in particular our newer members) to fill this newsletter.

Trips, trees, problems, tips & tricks, jokes, how your interest in woodturning /carving came about. Etc.

Wanted

Wanted

Wanted

Craft Wood Sale of the Century - Melbourne

Large Quantity (10 cu m) of milled, dry wood at good commercial prices
Personally selected "for retirement & hobby purposes" over 20 years.

Comprising

Boards of Australian & exotic imports

Many species, some uncommon, others now rare or unavailable
Suit crafts, fancy projects & boxes, small furniture, clocks

List of boards (names & size) available by e-mail (in Excel), also a smaller list
of turning blocks, discs & logs

Quantity discounts apply

3 sales weekends - with different stock in each-

Sat & Sun 27 & 28 March,

Sat & Sun 3 & 4 April

Sat & Sun 17 & 18 April 2004.

(Some wood may be held-over 1 extra day on **5 April & 19 April** for collection)

At: **39 Brinsley Rd, Camberwell VIC 3124**
(12 km east of Melbourne CBD, Melways 46 B12)

Enquiries & Viewing: **Eugene Dimitriadis** ph 03 9882 7034.

e-mail - xyloaustralis@optusnet.com.au

Items not sold on these weekends will be moved to Neerim (1.5 hours E of Melbourne) where they can be viewed & purchased from June 2004.

ENTER, VIEW and BUY AT YOUR OWN RISK. Wood stacks can be unstable. No returns are possible. Payment methods need to be specified and agreed beforehand. Collection or delivery is your responsibility.