

April 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.

Wood is Still Good

I'm sure the word has rapidly spread about my moment of inattention and loss of concentration, resulting in a conflict between thumb and biscuit cutter blade requiring hospitalisation and plastic surgery on said digit. You will be pleased to know that the blade was not damaged and will not need sharpening for awhile yet. The prognosis on the thumb for a full recovery is good, after a period of enforced inactivity (do thumbprints change after being mangled?)

Thanks to all who have commiserated and shown concern, thanks also for all the thumb jokes and suggestions for filling the gap with a biscuit, glue and sawdust, etc., etc., etc.

I shall bear all the hilarity it caused with equanimity because soon I will be able to give a suitably raised thumb to some of the more outlandish comments.

A special thanks to Stuart for being my ambulance driver and support at a crucial time, and to Melva for being my chauffeur and button-doer-upper.

To more mundane matters.

Uniform items have been ordered and should be available for distribution later in May.

A few extra items have been ordered for any last minute changes of mind.

The clubrooms are much cleaner thanks to Charlie's Central group who had a great working bee on Sat. 17th April, vacuuming all the dust from inaccessible places, cleaning filters and adding a "touch of class" with a floral patterned blind to screen the afternoon sun.

Which group is next to help maintain the standard?

Ken Morrison's box making course is well under way and reports indicate members are learning and enjoying the activity.

Another Intro. to Wood-turning course has commenced with a full complement, imparting skills to existing members, as well as gaining new members, and fund-raising for the benefit of ALL members.

Continued over page

Continued from page 1

The month of May is with us already, the committee is gearing up to form the budget for 2004-2005. If any member has suggestions or requests for funding to be considered (not frivolous, if you please!) We need to know, through your committee rep., and preferably in writing. Annual fees will be due before the end of June, so start saving.

The budget will be presented at our Annual General Meeting in July, when all positions on the committee will be up for nomination and election. I should point out that the turners are well served with numbers, while the carvers are under-represented on committee. Ronit and Ken have done a great job but could do with some extra support - think about it before the A.G.M.

A big welcome to all our recent new members, we hope you get enjoyment and satisfaction from the club.

The newsletter is our main means of communication of what's happening. Be sure that your email or postal details are with Gino, the editor.

After all the effort Gino and various contributors make, the least you can do is ensure you get your copy and read the damn thing and keep yourself informed.

Robert McNamara

Lady Turners

Apologies to all the lady turners we were unable to contact for the late cancellation of your club night. The circumstances were unforeseen, and we could not make any alternate arrangements.

We will try to make it up somehow, when things return to normal (whatever that is!)

Day turners

Whilst most turning that is done on a Wednesday is for private pleasure, a number of members who turn in the morning have been "making stuff" for charity. A number of items have been made for a Hospital on King Island, which sells them to make money. Most are small items such as magnetic needle and pin holders, boxes, salt and peppershakers, small items, perfume holders and other sewing items. One of the nicest items was a little scene with bunny rabbits sitting around a mushroom. Miniature turning at its best. A number of the turners have also turned to carving – probably makes less sawdust. As Yan said, it is easier to sit in the lounge and carve than turn – you can hear the TV. It will be interesting to see carving is used in conjunction with the turning. Might open new possibilities for our turners. Whilst most of the turning is successful, there are enough little problems, which bring us down to earth and make us think. In bowl turning, we are always trying to get the sides and bottoms as thin as possible. But when calculating thickness, please take into account the recess that you have to hold your bowl. Bowls without bottoms hold very little and take a lot of work to fix.

Over the Easter weekend I went to Canberra and took the opportunity to visit the Bungendore Gallery. I agree with others who wrote about this gallery in previous newsletters that it is worth a visit and a wonderful place. I fully agree and I came back with many new ideas. What I did like was the prices, which reflected the time and effort that goes into making items. Even the little wooden mice were between \$14 and \$16 a piece. So I better get on to making the mice.

Slav Bojczuk

WOODTURNERS WAFFLE

The April meeting saw a good number turn up and they seemed to enjoy turning apples from the samples of the real thing. I must say when finished some did not look much like apples but my son-in-law tells me you can not grow two the same. Speaking of my son-in-law I must thank David and Gary Byrne of Hillndale Orchards for their support on the night. Not only did they supply the samples and the prize but also most of the apples that were turned on the night were from applewood that they supplied. The biggest surprise of the night was that Gino stopped talking long enough to complete the activity and win 1st prize, congratulations. Tell you daughter that if she can find a pizza tree we will have a go at growing it. Gino's daughter said apples are nice but pizza is better but I say not so healthy.

I would like to welcome Bruce to the Central Group and may his stay be long and enjoyable, good luck with your secret Carvers business.

Sorry to hear that Greg is not to good, hang in there old chap. Good to hear that Robert is on the mend.

May the 20th - The nights activity will be skipping rope handles and will be run be Ian Hansford. You will need to bring two pieces of clear pine 200mm x 50mm, sand paper and finish. If you want to complete the project bring 2 metres of sash cord (available from the hardware store). If you follow Gino's advice you will go to Mitre 10 and see Brian. The idea of this project is to make a pair of something, so to keep this theme going show and tell will be a pair of anything, but keep it nice.

I'm looking forward to Allan's pair of salt and pepper shakers that he won in the raffle.

I was very pleased with the show and tell at the last meeting, keep it going. If you don't have a pair of something anything else will do.

I was pleased to hear that Manningham Turners have a new leader – Ian Hansford. You will be in good hands as Ian has been an active member of Central long before my time and is a member of the Central activity group. Good luck with it Allan. Maybe both groups can get together in the future and have a joint night.

I have started box making with Ken and have enjoyed it very much as have the two members from Maroondah. It is nice for me to go to a night as a member and not a group leader.

Clean up morning - I arrived at 8.20 am and was greeted by two members on the door step, it got better as seven more turned up, as well as six vacuum cleaners. We cleaned from the top of the ducting, windows and walls as high as was safe, machinery, bench tops and floors and what we could of the carvers benches. The kitchen floor got as wash as well. Thanks to the hard working team. We finished in 2 ¼ hours and put the new steps and dust masks to good use.

Charlie Chamberlain

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

HOW TO TELL THE SEX OF A FLY

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter.

"What are you doing?" She asked.

"Hunting Flies" He responded.

"Oh. Killing any?" She asked.

"Yep, 3 males, 2 Females," he replied.

Intrigued, she asked. "How can you tell?"

He responded, "3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone."



One of the participants during the box making course inserting felt to the bottom of the box she just made.

Some interesting internet sites courtesy of Ronit Freedman

Turned/carved Sculptural Pieces:

<http://www.a1studio.freemove.co.uk/galleries/sculpage/sculpage.html>

This link would keep you busy surfing for days...

<http://www.skillspublish.com.au/Skills%20AWW%20Current.htm>

Listed in the Australian Woodworker Magazine: June 18-20
The Australian Woodturning Exhibition

Venue: Waratah Room
 (rear of Council chambers)
 Whitehorse Centre, 397 Whitehorse Rd,
 Nunawading, Melbourne
 Contact: Rick Gilks: Ph: 03 9850 2231
 email: rjgilks@iprimus.com.au

FOR SALE

 Triton Work Centre (MK3).
 Very good order, price negotiable.
 Also a 3 phase electric motor from a Woodfast Lathe

 Ian Provan
 Phone 9432 1976



Charlie Chamberlain during the box making course. He's routing out a groove to fit the bottom and top onto



A view of the class and most of the participants. The guy with the Red top (bottom right) is Ken Morrison

Manningham Turners (4th Thursday)

Under new management.

Ian Hansford, a member of the Central group since it was situated in RMIT, has agreed to lead the 4th Thursday turners. Ian will inject different ideas and add diversity to the club. We have agreed to tackle some more involved projects as a group to extend our skills and produce work of quality. The first project is an upholstered stool supported by eight turned spindles on a segmented base. All Manningham members are urged to bring some better quality material, ie. Blackwood, Myrtle, Sassafras or similar to begin the project.

Requirements:

Top. Enough to make two discs 320mm. diam. by 19mm thick (to be fixed together to measure 38mm thick)

Base. 100mm x 19mm x 2metres long, to be cut and joined in segments, then turned as one piece.

Spindles. Eight pieces 30mm x30mm x250mm long (spares probably reqd. to account for mishaps")

Material can be machined to thickness at the club if required.

Upholstery to be selected later. Come and help make this a worthwhile activity, don't be a member in name only.



Bob and Ben from Maroodah during box making with Ken



Robert McNamara demonstrating a Skew chisel during the Intro to wood turning course. (Don't know what went wrong with the photo as there is a white blotch covering his left arm)

Royal Melbourne Show,

September 16th. to 26th, 2004

Members intending to exhibit items in the Art and Craft section of the show need to acquaint themselves with entry conditions, etc. and have entries in by the closing date of Friday 16th. July, 2004. Details on the notice board and in the schedule booklet in the attendance book. Entry form in the back of the schedule booklet can be photo copied, or from the RAS web site www.rasv.com.au

Name of Club Discussion

At the time of introducing the club uniform, the committee was at pains to emphasize that there was no intention to alter the name of the club from Central Woodcraft at Manningham Inc. to the title used on the shirt, Woodcraft Manningham. I, as president, agreed and stood by that position. However, there have been a number of approaches made through the committee to look at "updating" our official name to that displayed on our uniform, to remove what some see as a confusion arising as to who we are.

This notice is to foreshadow and initiate a discussion on the matter over the coming months. Points of view will be canvassed as to your stance, and after an appropriate time, the committee will put a proposal to members for verification, or otherwise.

Each group would still retain their present designation for identifying purposes within the club.

Robert McNamara

She's Apples

Thursday 15th Central Woodturners.

We all turned apples on that night. I guess I must have improved since Christmas as I ended up winning a case of top rate apples, thanks to Charlie Chamberlain and his son in-law for donating them.

The family was impressed with both the one I turned and the real ones.

(This is what Charlie was referring to in his Waffle column)

My daughter who was feeling a bit peckish, when I got home said something to the effect "you got some apples for turning an apple, couldn't you have turned a pizza instead." While not impossible I don't know how we're going to do the topping, Anchovies etc. I have included a photo of the apples + the one I turned. It is made out of plain old pine. The piece I used while I believe it to have been old and dry was very sappy and was spalted in the middle.

Gino



Who's the mongrel who took the one down the bottom?



Had to fill the space some how.

DUST MASKS

Triton Dust mask offer.

As per the last newsletter, I mentioned that I was trying to negotiate a bulk purchase of the Triton dust masks from Mitre 10 in Heidelberg.

So this is a reminder for anyone that might be interested in doing so to register your interest with the editor.

In addition to the above I have by coincidence had two other members approach me with masks which they believe are quite good. The one by Greg Williams is his personal observation and on speaking to him by phone it sounded quite good.

The other Article is by the Day Turners who are also trying to organise a bulk purchase of a different type of mask as compared to the Triton one and the one which Greg has mentioned.

All have value and are in different price brackets.

So please read the articles below.

Dust Mask (DUST BEE GONE brand)

One of the biggest problems for people working with wood is dust. There are many dust masks on the market but one that has proved to be effective is the mask made from material, called "Dust Bee Gone".

The mask is woven polyester with two straps, one of which is of "Velcro" and it can be easily rinsed after a dusty session. Besides cleaner breathing, one of the main benefits that have been found that glasses do not fog up as they do when using other type of masks.

The mask retails at around \$80. However, one of our members has been able to source these masks at \$60.

If you would like to order one of these masks, call Slav Bojczuk on 9300 1063 or email bojczuk@ozemail.com.au

Day Turners

EMC POWER MASK

I have found a most delightful and effective dust mask, it is called an Air Safe power dust mask, I found that it was light, effective and at \$100 a pop very cheap compared with other masks on the market. It is not Claustrophobic as I found other masks to be, I got mine from Car-B-Tec, Bayswater, and I think that this little beauty is a must for all woodies.

Greg Williams.

Forstener bit Extension with Morse2 Taper.



My supplier of pepper/salt mill mechanisms has had machined a number of steel Forstener bit holders, 270mm long (including taper). You can mount any Forstener bit with a 3/8" shaft into this holder (secured by two grubscrews) and it will mount directly into most lathe tailstocks without the need for any other chucks or extensions.

The Morse 2 Taper is also threaded to suit M8 all thread if you wish to securely mount the Morse 2 taper within the tailstock for heavy work.

Price is \$20 for 1, and \$15 each for 3 or more.

Andrew also has a new supply of pepper/salt mill mechanisms \$15 for one or \$12 for lots of ten or more plus postage if you want them sent. They are the best mechanism I have ever used. This is the time to get cracking for Christmas – they make great gifts. I have the instructions I handed out on the demo day and can email them if you do not have a copy emaildon@optusnet.com.au

Contact Andrew for your purchases on 0438 317 263 or email andrew@harrison.id.au

Don McLean

