



WOODCRAFT MATTERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF WOODCRAFT MANNINGHAM

SEPTEMBER 2020

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There won't be a monthly President's report in this issue, because John's report was included in his presentation to the AGM this week. For those of you who were not there, the AGM was attended by about 20 people, a great turnout for an organisation of 100 members.

John's report, and the AGM minutes, are attached to the email accompanying this Newsletter.

FRAME AND PAINTING

I recently completed a carving and drawing project which may be of interest to the members. The picture frame sides were sawn from offcuts found at the clubhouse. I had a lot of guidance from Geoff Francis using the saws and routers which I appreciated. The sides were carved individually and then assembled into the frame and finally stained. The drawing is pen and watercolour and is based on a painting called "Tree and Valley" by a Belgium artist named Gisbert Combaz. He was inspired by Japanese woodblock prints (echos of Mount Fuji) and created numerous Art Nouveau pictures and posters in the early twentieth century. I took a bit of licence with my rendition adding vines, grapes and ferns which replaced thistles in the original. *Paul Barker*



Attached is a photograph of a birdbox I made for my wife. A couple of years ago a neighbour cut down a tree and I got a couple of logs, so I cut them down to make this. I have no idea what the timber is, but it is quite good hardwood.

Richard Fyffe



Woodcraft Manningham

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Members' contributions to the Newsletter are always welcome. Please note that contributors are responsible for the accuracy of any information they send in for publication. The Editor takes no responsibility for correcting spelling and punctuation errors.

Our clubhouse was once Templestowe Primary School, originally built in 1874. It is situated on the lands of the Wurundjeri people and we wish to acknowledge them as traditional owners. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Front Page logo image: Valerie Forbes, 2016

PORTRAIT CARVING BY YEN IP

After Greg Williams passed away, Yen Ip carved his face and Derek Borrell wrote a few words to go with it.

After some delay, I had 2 plaques made to be added to the carving sample board which is hung on the east wall of the club rooms. Here's a picture of the finished board back in place.

Bill Wood



Back in the early 1990's I was teaching carving at East Doncaster High School. One night I arrived to find this poem on the blackboard.

Bryan Thompson

Ode to a Woodwork Teacher

My head feels like hell,
My eyes black and blue,
My ribs feel all bruised
And my knees are bad too.

Things can't get much worse,
I'm all depressed,
It's my birthday today,
And nobody guessed.

Finally I'm older ,
But in the eyes of the law
I can't drive a car
Or sip on a port.

What an awful age,
Seventeen seems to be,
No one cares,
No one cares for me.

But all is not bad
Life's not so blue,
Because on Friday afternoon,
I have woodwork with Sue.

CLUB ROOM EMERGENCY RESPONSE

IF AN AMBULANCE IS CALLED TO THE CLUB ROOMS, QUOTE THIS LOCATION:

OPPOSITE 8 ANDERSON ST TEMPLESTOWE, BEHIND THE MANNINGHAM/TEMPLESTOWE LEISURE CENTRE.

MAKE SURE SOMEONE IS WAITING AT THE STREET TO GUIDE THE AMBULANCE IN, AS THEY MAY MISS THE ENTRANCE. (These directions are also posted above the phone in the foyer of the club rooms)

A MULTIMEDIA SCULPTURE

For the past 18 months I have been working on the restoration of a 1935 Morris 8.

Like many other cars of this period, the Morris' body was constructed on a wooden frame which was then skinned in metal panels affixed with 1" flathead nails. My car was a complete mess when I bought it (which I now realise that I should never have done!)

I soon found that virtually nothing of the frame was useable, other than for patterns so I rebuilt it, stick by stick. The door frames were quite tricky with compound curves that needed to be fitted inside the metal door skins. Shown below top to bottom, the rear "tub" section. The front scuttle and sill panels for under the door.



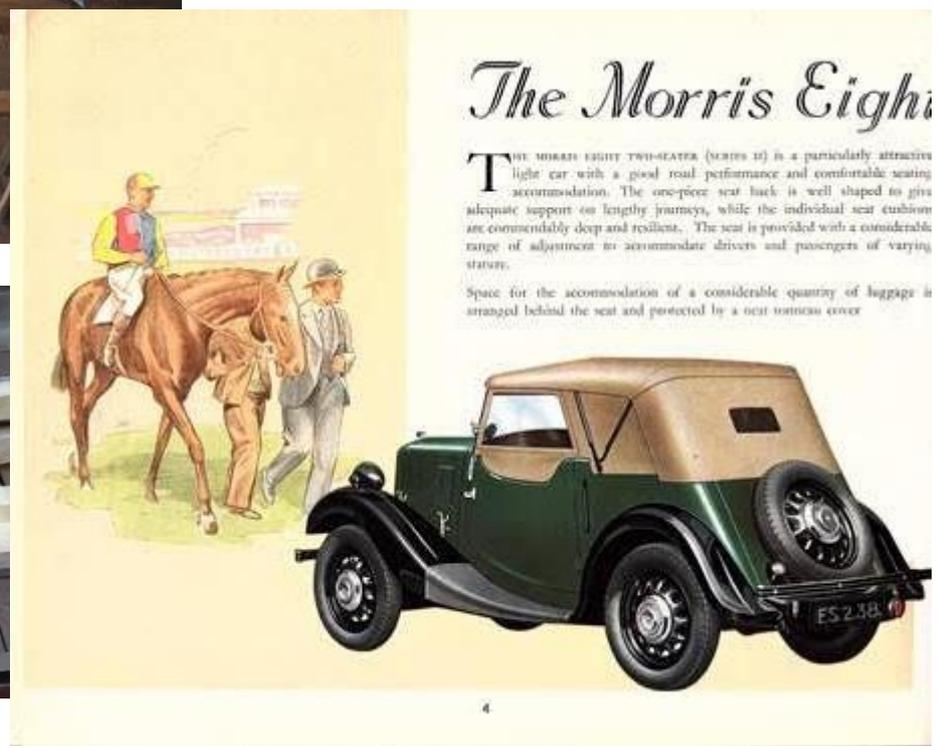
The metal panels, surprisingly, were not too bad although I had to make some sections which had rusted beyond repair. Fortunately I found some from another car that were salvageable but I will need to make new running boards as the original are rusted beyond salvation – I have a good friend who is a restoration expert so he'll be helping me with those when the time comes.



It is taking shape slowly, but last week, there was one big milestone reached – I was able to get the fully reconditioned engine started and running although we won't be driving anywhere for a long time.

Eventually, I hope that it will look something like the car illustrated in the 1930's sales brochure below (although mine is the earlier model, with wire wheels.)

Neil Wakeman



TURNINGS BY ALLAN WAY

Here are photos of some work done over the last month. All are finished in Rustins Danish oil. There is a tapered bowl (right) of Silky Oak 230mm in diam. and 55mm high, a set of salad servers and two cheese knives from Yellow box, a bowl of Eucalypt burl 240mm in diam. and 120mm high, a Red Gum lidded box 120mm in diam. and 90mm high, and a set of 4 egg cups in Red Gum.

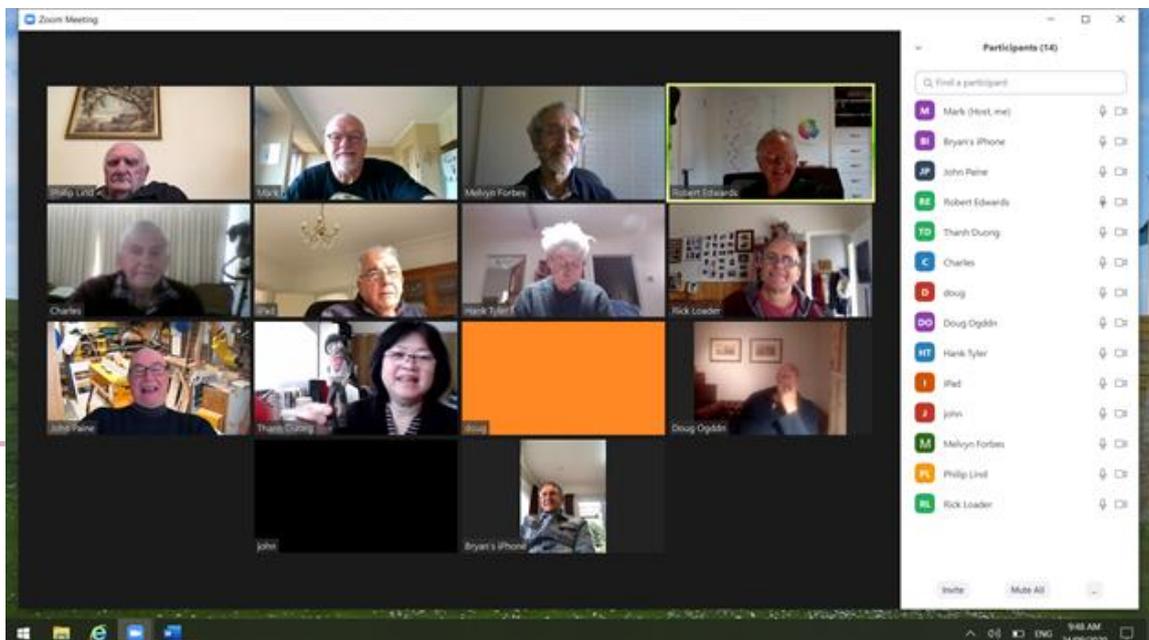
Alan Way



THURSDAY MORNING CARVERS

The Thursday Morning Carvers at their regular Thursday Zoom Catch Up. We are all anxiously waiting for our return to the Club hopefully before Christmas.

Mark Heland



DOOR IS DONE

Last issue we showed you a progress shot of John Paine's trompe l'oeil door, which opens out from his workshop onto the backyard. It's now completed.



CARVED FIGURES BY THANH

Jelutong 12cm H and 19cm H. Acrylic paint sealed with satin varnish polyurethane.



CARVING BY PHILIP LIND

Acrobatic Dancer holding two balls with a ribbon draped around her torso and limbs. This was carved from two posts of cypress pine glued together. The majority of the carving was from the darker hind section, whereas the left leg, right forearm and ribbons form the lighter front post. This gives a contrasting image of the carving. The base is a piece of ribboned sycamore.



GETTING BY WITHOUT MACHINES

The goal is to make the elliptical coffee table shown in this rough sketch:



From these:



Front of old piano



Offcuts from Maton guitar factory.

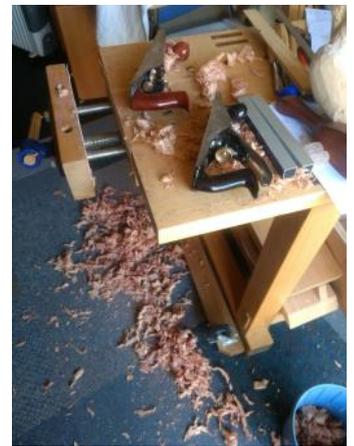
I don't have a table saw, surface planer, or thicknesser at home.



I made a safe, secure jig to rip the slabs with my circular saw, about 2/3 through. Jig is marked with red X.



Then I sawed the rest of the way through using a Japanese pull saw, and planed each piece to a scribed thickness.



I've attached a cutting pattern to each piece, for each individual component. Now I just have to make lots of 4mm wide tenons and mortises so that I get joints like this test I made.

I'll let you know how I get on.

Mel Forbes

