

FEBRUARY 2005

WOODCRAFT MATTERS

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Doncaster Daycarvers – 1

Greg Williams 9723 3827

Doncaster Daycarvers – 2

Greg Williams 9723 3827

Doncaster Daycarvers – 3

Greg Williams 9723 3827

Box Making Evening Sessions

Reg Orr 98576058

Box Making Afternoon Sessions

Ken Morrison 97235030

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.

**Active membership is the lifeblood of this club.
Have you brought a new member to the club yet?**

Prez's Comments

Wood IS Good

Australia Day over and done with for another year. As usual, mostly carried by the same stalwart faces, but with the welcome addition of three newer members, Bruce Hensell, who has provided us with a new club banner to display at these type of events, Pasquale D'Amato, who had his first train ride under the expert tutelage of Allan Way, and Ken Morrison who provided us with shade and folding tables. I hope you all enjoyed your experience.

A very successful day, again a good profit earned.

My grateful thanks to the 18 members who turned up and gave great service on the day, nearly all in club uniform shirts looking very smart and professional. There was a huge team effort, with great rapport between members from various groups. It was extremely hot, but we were OK with shade provided by a large tree and Ken's portable canopy, and plenty of cold water to keep us hydrated.

Things were organized more efficiently than before, and construction of bird boxes went much more smoothly. We didn't sell as much because people were not lingering in the heat to choose items to buy.

But a big thanks to members who provided stuff to sell, we've got a good start for next year (if we go again!)

I was a little put out, however, by some snide remarks referring to my hat, which I thought quite smart, some said it was "funny", I thought I heard "poofy" as well. Be that as it may, I didn't get sunburned, so there!

That said, let's look at the numbers. We could have done with a least another ten members to "give the workers a break". Too few carrying the load!

Allowing for about ten members who apologized beforehand with various valid reasons for not being able to attend, and charitably assuming another twenty members with health and mobility issues, this accounts for about 50% of our membership. Did the others "wimp out"? I assume you will all happily accept any improvement our fund raising efforts will provide for the club?????

It's a little too late to offer reasons why you couldn't be there, I might not be in a very receptive frame of mind if you try.

You might detect a note of disappointment (disillusionment?) in my tone. I have stated before that I don't mind leading the club as long as I know people are following behind. One wonders at times whether the level of support warrants the commitment?

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The wheels of committee turn “exceedingly slow”, no meeting has been held between November and February, however, we have purchased a Triton router with cutters and a Gifkin dovetail jig for box making. Reg and Ken are making a router table and cupboard, and a box to house the jig for the club.

Both Reg’s and Ken’s extra efforts in making the box making groups viable is “above and beyond”, both do a lot of “unsung” work behind the scenes. Thanks to you both.

Approval has been given for the purchase of sharpening equipment for the club. (The Tormek system). This should make an appearance shortly, after consultation with the experts as to the appropriate jigs required to meet our initial needs.

The table saw saga is continuing (definitely not forgotten!) This purchase has also been given approval. Expect to see some movement soon, but don’t expect unfettered access. Our experiences with constant misuse of the band-saw dictate access to the table saw will be restricted to those who can prove competency in it’s use and complete a required training program.

Relocation of the library is still very much on the agenda. It is just a matter of getting a “round tuit” (if someone has one, a lend of it would be very much appreciated)

Some good news to round off this dissertation on a positive note.

The work commenced by Mal Carlson and Don McLean, and continued by the present committee, petitioning the Manningham City Council for a reduction in our clubroom rental has finally borne fruit, the Council have agreed to reduce the amount we pay by one third. Congratulations to all concerned in this venture and our grateful thanks to the staff involved at the Council.

Much better than a poke in the eye with a sharp stick!

Regards to all, Robert McNamara

The Following photo’s are from the Australia day event.



Above the items which were for sale.



One of our carvers Bruce Hensell



The above photo shows how well organised we were. Plus the Marquee which made the day much more pleasant



Left Stuart Watson and right Ken Reid two hard working souls.



WARRANTYTE FESTIVAL

Saturday / Sunday 19th / 20th March

Where? Stiggants Reserve, Warrandyte (along the river bank where the W'dyte market is held)

This is nowhere near as big a commitment as Aust. Day, but important for us as a club, nevertheless.

We will have two small lathes to demonstrate on, one to make spinning tops for passing kids, and one to do more substantial turning for Mums and Dads to watch.

Reg and Ken intend to have a display of their boxes to generate interest in this aspect of our club.

We need carvers to demonstrate their craft (art?). Last year, Bryan Thompson took the club project and drew a considerable interest. You will need to bring your own thing to carve, we will provide stand, seat etc.

A sign up sheet is on the door. All day is preferable, but even a couple of hours will help.

We don't need experts, they can frighten away a crowd. We need people willing to show and tell the public that anybody can do this, even you.

We all have to start as a novice and our club is a great place to start.

It is not an onerous task and with enough members attending, there is time and opportunity to wander and enjoy the rest of the festival.

Please let me know if you are intending to be there.

Robert

CELEBRATION

Bill and Margaret Bridges

Celebrated their 50'th Wedding anniversary on Saturday the 22nd of January.

What a mile stone.

I hope you have many more anniversaries.

This is a web address for a Moulding web site which you may find interesting.

<http://www.wmmpa.com/bookstore.htm>

Gino

Dremil Components

There are some parts missing from the Dremil kit including the spanner. If you may have borrowed these components or know where they may be please let Pat Burder know about it.

2 x RECORD TURNING VIDEO TAPES WANTED

Stan Smith has kindly loaned the club a number of different video tapes, including the "RECORD" turning tapes. One of our members has been asking after them. Who ever might have borrowed them please return them as soon as possible as you have now had them for a reasonable length of time.

Lady Turners (2nd Tuesday, each month)

Next meeting will be for UFO's. (Unfinished Objects)

Over the last few sessions, some projects were not completely finished, such as Christmas decorations and/or pepper mills.

Bring along these articles, and any others you might still be wanting to complete, and we will try to finalize them before starting on our next task.

Wanted

Wanted

Wanted

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

Trips, trees, problems, tips & tricks, jokes, Question and Answers. Etc.

Wanted

Wanted

Wanted

WOODTURNERS WAFFLE

The February meeting was a night that for the last six years we have shared with the Maroondah Group. Thirty people attended this night and enjoyed the demonstration of a mug tree by a very nervous Tony Smith. For those who have never done this it is a bit nerve racking, but you must start somewhere. I would like to thank Tony for a very gutsy effort.

At the 17th March meeting we will have a visit from the Warburton Valley Group. This time one of our own will do the demonstration. Alan Way will demonstrate the making of a candlesnuffer. I know he will do a great job so make sure you come only and support your fellow member. There will be plenty of time on the night to socialise with people who have the same interest as you. Looking forward to seeing you all.

The second French Polishing course is nearly over and I have been kept busy as I have ten in the group, which is a hand full. The group is made up from members of Central, Maroondah and Koonung and friends. There are four ladies and six men and they are getting through their work very quickly because they don't spend as much time talking as the last lot.

Charlie Chamberlain

Below some photo's from Charlies French polishing classes.



DAY CARVERS

On the second Friday in February, like the first day back at school, the day carvers wandered back to their benches with greetings all round and inquisitive enquiries as to what each had been up to over the break. But these are no ordinary pupils - each had a project in hand and only asked Pat Burder or one of the more experienced for guidance as they set about their self imposed tasks.

The variety of carvings being undertaken and the different timbers never ceases to be of interest. Our two Life Members were there both working on box lid reliefs, Jack Jones an outback cottage and Ken Barker a rural scene in poplar. Brian Luders spent his time boring away excess wood to reveal two brolgas in deep relief out of jelatong and indicated that he is about to tackle a similar broлга theme in Mount Gambier stone. Noel obviously needs another right hand as he was carving just that out of some laminated timber. Cyril had his life size head to complete but admits that he no longer calls it a self portrait. He was also smoothing down what looked like three short walking sticks with bends on each end which were destined for an abstract lamp support. At the other end of the room Pat displayed a small well carved bilby, one ear up and one ear down, made from native cherry. Meantime Yan was busy on his fifth rose in relief and Dr. Charles had another floral theme in a delicate incised carving he was attempting in huon pine veneer. Derek showed how he had made flippers for his apple wood platypus from turned plugs and added a yabbie to the carving for extra interest.

Ronnit was a late arrival but full of news about the Victorian Sculptors current exhibition on Heron Island. She was still seeking inspiration from fellow members, and getting plenty, as to what to do with her piece of bark clad wood that looked like half a female torso. It was also good to see Jean Carson wander through for a brief chat and inspection of work in progress.

All round another interesting morning.

Derek Borrell

Dates to Remember in 2005

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|---|--|
| March 11 th – 13 th | Wagga Wagga Turn About. A weekend not to be missed places still available contact Larry Sloan 02 6926 1536 |
| March 12 th – 13 th | Wood turners of Goulburn Valley Shepparton (Labour day weekend) For more information call 5821 1341. |
| March 19 th – 20 th | Ballarat Woodworkers Guild Wood Expo NEW VENUE. Wendouree Sports Centre. |
| March 25 th – 28 th | Easter Men in Shed Show Trades Hall View Street Bendigo |
| March 25 th – 28 th | Bendigo Woodturners Annual Wood Show. Fire Station View Street Bendigo. |
| June 17th- 19th | Australian Woodturning Exhibition. |

Information courtesy of Carroll's Woodcraft supplies.

Templestowe Turners (1st. Thursday)

In response to requests from newer members at the group, we are focusing on a pepper mill as a club project to begin the year.

Some may not want to repeat a previous project and you are, of course, at liberty to pursue your own "thing".

We intend to cover the complete job from all the drilling preparation through to fitting the mechanism, which you will be able to purchase from the club.

You will need to provide suitable timber for the task. A piece of red gum from an old fence post is ideal, 75mm square by approx. 320 long, or another material of your choice, this size is required.

We can't all do the drilling at the one time, so the project will extend over a few sessions. A suggestion that some practice with beads and coves in the meantime would be of benefit to everyone.

Hope to see more of you than the past few sessions.

Robert and Stuart



This Beautiful piece of work was created by Robert McNamara In Ian Hansford's Class in the Manningham Turners Group on the 4th Thursday of the month.

The foot stool is made from Tasmanian Myrtle. Ian has some other excellent projects which we will be making in the coming months, so if your able to make it along you will not be disappointed.