

OCTOBER 2004

WOODCRAFT MATTERS

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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.

Prez's Points

Wood is Good

A very busy time of year approaching when things seem suddenly to close in on us. Spring time brings daylight saving, shows, fetes, and many more outdoor activities that all require our presence or attention.

Our club is no different, we have a number of events fast coming up, and with the usual holiday break at Christmas competing with other commitments, we have to shake ourselves out of the rut and get organized to cope with the intensity of the season.

The Working with Wood show is over, and many of us have overspent as usual, ("sucked-in" is the technical term used to describe our presence at these occasions, just ask Stuart what he couldn't resist.)

I saw many of our members at the event, some would think they picked up a bargain, others saved their money and said "just looking thanks"

Coming up is Whittlesea (probably over when you read this,) visit to Ma-roondah by Central turners, demonstration by Cliff Walsh, (which you shouldn't miss, ring Charlie for details).

End of year break-up b-b-q, (any other suggestions? Careful, you may get the task of organizing something!)

Working bee for Australia Day, 2005.

All of these activities are being given plenty of advance notice in other items in your newsletter, or on the blackboard in the clubrooms, for you to be able to prepare your excuses in advance (only joking!)

We certainly look forward to continuing the momentum of member participation at these functions.

Regards to all, Robert McNamara

Whittlesea Show

By the time you read this it will be over. Hopefully some of our members will have been successful in gaining some prizes for their efforts in the crafts competitions.

Thanks to all those who volunteered to demonstrate and have just generally taken part. Those who put in usually are the ones who get most enjoyment out of the club.

Robert

AUSTRALIA DAY

Australia Day, **Wednesday, January 26th. 2005.**

Your committee has again made a commitment to be involved in the Australia Day celebrations in King's Domain gardens near Government House next year. For those not in the know, we commit to making bird-boxes with kids on the day, as well as demonstrating carving, turning, and selling small items to the general public.

It is a great day for the club, being a good fund raiser, as well as an excellent social occasion for all members to be involved with each other in a picnic atmosphere. (Although there is a lot of work involved, too.)

To organize for the event, we require a working bee to prepare material for the bird-box kits. This will be at the clubrooms on **Saturday 13th. of November from 8.30 am to around 11.30 am.**

Early start is necessary to ensure parking before netball starts

We will be stripping plywood packing cases of nails and framing material then ripping into strips ready for cutting pieces to size.

Tools you can bring are hammers, pinch bars, pincers, saw stools. Saws have already been organized, so more of these will not be necessary.

Keep watching the newsletter, and the blackboard in the club for further information as it comes to hand.

We are anticipating at least as good a response from you, the members, as last year when we had an excellent turnout and a very successful activity.

To "value add" to the day, we are asking each group to make up small items that can be sold.

Turners can make small bowls, door stops, bud vases (test tube inserts are available in the grinder cupboard), tea lights (I have candle inserts requiring a 38mm, 1 1/2 inch hole), dibblers, mice and any other item that might find a ready sale. These can all be placed in a box in the foyer

Not being a carver, I wouldn't presume to suggest what you should make, but I'm sure you can collectively produce many suitable pieces for sale as part of your contribution to the activity.

WOODTURNERS WAFFLE

There is not much to report about the October meeting as I was not there. Ian, Stuart and Bill were running things while I wasn't there. Ian had the group turning coves and beads, thanks to Ian and others that helped on the night. I hope the rest of you learnt something.

Our next meeting on the 18th November will be something special. We will have a demonstration by Cliff Walsh, a member of Forest Hill and Yarra woodturners. Cliff is an excellent turner and has also been a judge at exhibitions and the shows. He will demonstrate segmented turning and it is a night not to be missed. This night will be open to all members of Central Woodcraft. All leaders of turning groups have advance notice of this demonstration. A limit of 30 people will be able to attend and to reserve a place you must ring Charlie Chamberlain after hours on 9728 2179. The cost will be \$2. Your support will be appreciated.

I have all ready set activities for the start of 2005.

February - A visit from Maroondah, they will supply a demonstrator.

March - Warburton Valley will visit. At this time it looks like mystery turning but it could change.

Charlie Chamberlain

What timber to use as a feature when making a Pepper Grinder from two narrow pieces of Red Gum?

The answer is a 3mm X 75mm Piece of Balsa.

This was very interesting in itself at a recent show and tell with the subject Pepper Grinder by Barrie on display. The question arose as to whether Balsa is in fact a softwood. Research indicates that although Balsa (Ochroma—Lagopus: South America) is the softest wood of the two groups, it is botanically a hardwood.

Source: Collins Good Wood Handbook
by: Albert Jackson and David Day.
I.S.B.N. 0 00 4125606

By John Dawdy

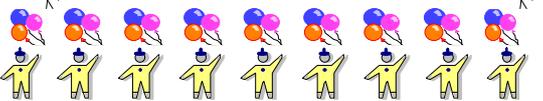


This photo of a music stand which was taken during the Royal Melbourne Show, could not be published in last months newsletter due to lack of space so I left it for this months newsletter as it certainly deserves a showing. It was made by Ken Barker. It also achieved a "Highly commended" at the Whittlesea show.



A warm welcome to our newest members Rhona Gailz and Miles Reynolds.

We are happy to have you on board..



Help required.

Since I became the Editor of the club newsletter, I have been able to print the magazine at no cost to the club. But I have now changed jobs and can no longer do so. To keep a long story short I'm having trouble finding a printer that is convenient. If there is anyone that can help either by arranging the printing or via some contact get the printing done cheaper for the club please give me a call on 9432 4205.

Regards Gino



BASIC FRENCH POLISHING COURSE

This course is open to other clubs.

The course will be run on a Monday night starting 7th February 2005 for 5 weeks.
7.00pm – 9.30pm

Cost - \$65 This will include the kit to complete this course.

You will have to supply your own new pieces to work on, a small pine foot stool or similar.
A minimum of 6 people are required for the course to proceed.

Please ring Charlie Chamberlain to secure your place.
9728 2179 after hours

Success at the Whittlesea Show

Five of our members who entered wooden items in the Whittlesea Show either earned prizes or were highly commended. Pat Burder's gained both a First and a Third in the "Small Article of woodwork" class with a carved Lion and an Egg Plant (as in the vegetable), while Don Mclean came Second with a Small Box.

In the item made from wood with an "Agricultural Theme" Dereck Borrell's Rooster came First and was also awarded a First in the over 60's, with his Art Deco Dances. He also gained two, Very Highly Commended with a Wooden Duck and a Red Gum Platter.

Ken Barker's very intricate Music Stand gained a Highly commended.

In the turned section, Robert McNamara excelled with a First and a Third and also a Highly Commended.

Question and Answer

George Reivers has asked the question What is Harewood and where could he get some.

Hopefully someone out there knows the answer. If you do please drop the editor a line on one of the contacts on the top left hand corner of the front page.

Editor.

DAYCARVERS

The first Friday in November was a little on the wet side but that didn't seem to dampen members' enthusiasm for another morning of carving, chiseling and chatting. Greg Williams was not his usual happy self but we all sympathised when advised that he is facing a problem with failing sight in his left eye, not good for a carver of his calibre..

Ronit Freedman is becoming a quite serious sculpturer these days in many materials beside wood and has joined the Victorian Sculpturers Association, even editing their newsletter. Congratulations Ronit. Another regular who works with various materials and specialises in glass is Ros who was making a yacht relief in Jelatong. Ros teaches art at a boys' school and has even given them a grounding in wood carving without using too many Band-Aids.

Yen was busy making a small pine prototype of a bear [Asian he claimed] with fish in mouth based on a 12 inch carving that looked like a Canadian grizzly with salmon - if successful he intends to try making a 12 inch model. At another bench Ken Barker's latest project was already starting to look like "The Last Supper" by Leonardo Da Vinci as he worked in relief with a piece of Blackwood - not the easiest material for such a fine carving.

Janet Ball was sanding off her falcon under the watchful eye of husband George, who attends the Friday afternoon box making session with Janet. Handyman George has been busy lately converting a steel container into a "chip shop" for Janet and has even made her a hydraulic bench from an old hospital bed.

Derek Borrell