

# TREEN TOPICS

APRIL 2009



*Shoalhaven Woodcraft Society Inc.*

*Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm*

*Nowra Technology High School. Moss St. Nowra*

*Secretary: Peter Jackson P. O. Box 2163 Bomaderry 2541*

<http://www.shoal.net.au/~woodcraft1/>

## TREEN TOPICS APRIL 2009

### **The Rose Engine**

As promised in the meeting notice Gordon arrived at the March meeting with his rose engine and then proceeded to tell us all about it and to show us how well it works. There is no doubt it has a very wide range of capabilities in the hands of a competent turner. In the short time he has had it Gordon has begun to explore the potential of the machine and has already produced some creditable results in the way of decorated bowls. The cost of making one is fairly reasonable with one of the major purchase items being an index wheel for about \$80. If you intend making one it would be advisable to consult Gordon to avoid some of the pitfalls he met along the way. As he said, there are some modifications he would incorporate if he were to make another one.

### **Creative Moments**

This event is now less than six months away. We want to see a wider representation of member's work this year with everyone taking part. One reason to get busy is that the sales section (which is separate to the main exhibition) will run for the whole three weeks of the exhibition instead of only for the first weekend. This gives the public much more time to see and buy your products and is therefore a great opportunity to pick up a few dollars for all your hard work.

### **Show and Tell**

Graeme Wiseman opened the innings with two well made railway trucks out of pine. Some nice finishing touches included red buffers and a load of sheoak logs on one of them.

Cec Butler began a rosewood bandsaw box at Kit's workshop and could not

wait to finish it at the next one in March so he proceeded to complete it at home. He was so pleased with the result, and justifiably so, that he made a second one. They were finished with three coats of wax and looked very nice indeed.

Apparently back in February Stuart Graeme issued an informal challenge to George Viellaris by presenting him with a pair of very small turned goblets only about 6 mm long. George turned up at the March meeting with a lidded box about 4mm diameter and 14mm long and inside it were two goblets!! They must be making their gouges out of sewing needles. Very cleverly done boys.

Dennis O'Keefe brought a lovely myrtle burl bowl back from a trip to Tasmania.

### **April Program**

Our speaker at this meeting will be Bill Turner on the subject of Turning and it's design. Bill is a regular contributor to Show and Tell with his nicely turned bowls and various other things so it will be interesting to see how he comes up with his ideas.

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> there is a sharpening day at Jim Davey's home. For anyone who has not been to one of these workshops I have to say that they are well worth going to. Sharp tools make woodworking so much easier and more enjoyable and Jim is the man to show you how to do it. It is also worth remembering that Jim is an agent for CARBA-TEC so if you are contemplating a purchase, he is worth speaking to.

### **May Program**

Peter Jackson will be talking on the subject of work safety and the need for members using tools and machinery at the men's shed to be accredited. The fact that most of us still have ten fingers is not sufficient proof that we are capable of using these highly dangerous things.

Then on 23<sup>rd</sup> May at the workshop we will run an accreditation day at which we can be approved to use the various machines out there. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn more skills which can then be applied at home.

### **Club Logo**

There have been two suggestions made for possible new club logos but we are still looking at the issue and at whether we really need to or want to change it. At this meeting there will be a discussion along these lines and the committee will then make a definite decision at the May meeting. Please give it some thought and have a say on the matter. A vote will be taken.

### **Workshop Catering Officer**

The request for a volunteer for this position in last months Treen Topics drew a blank so we are appealing to your sense of duty for someone to step forward. It is not a job which will take a lot of your time as it only happens once each month. Greg will be talking about it at this meeting so please give it some thought.

### **Len Arthur Award**

This award is made to a member who it is considered has made a significant contribution to the society. Remember the board which was on display at last year's exhibition. It was made by some of the members who did a very good job of it. The first winner who was unanimously voted the honour was Gerry Mutch. This year's winner needs to be decided over the next few months so that it can be presented at the ladies night in August.

### **Bunning's Workshop**

On 9<sup>th</sup> May there will be a workshop at Bunning's where the Men's Shed organisation and our group make something for four hours. It is a way of publicising the club and attracting new members. Greg will be looking for a few volunteers at this meeting.

### **RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

It is now April and what a busy month March has been, I started out by going to the Classic Wooden Boat Festival at Goolwa in South Australia and then returning home via the Avalon Air Show. What a contrast wooden boats and steam engines one day and a couple of days later the most technological advanced air craft in Australia.

I returned home just in time for the second workshop at the Nowra Men's Shed followed the very next day by the first Bunning's BBQ. One of the big things to come out of the workshop and the BBQ is the realisation that we all must manage our well being better. What I mean by this is that we are all getting older and unfortunately this also means frailer we cannot do what we used to do or if we can we cannot do it for as long. No this is not going to be a discussion of our love lives but a simple statement that we need to manage fatigue and heat stress better. The workshops being an all day affair may put demands on your body that you maybe are not used to and the heat from the BBQ can do the same. So if you feel like you need to sit down and take it easy for a while please do so, we haven't had to call an ambulance to any of our functions yet and I would like to keep it that way. I expected that that would be the end of it for the month but I was wrong.

I attended a meeting at Bunning's to discuss future displays and we have been invited to attend a Lady's Day on 9 May. We will be allowed to display some of our work and also put up our banner. I will be discussing with the committee this and possible other days at Bunning's.

Gordon and I attended the Egyptian Tool presentation organised by the Kiama Woodies. Art Burrows from the Australian Woodworker gave an interesting talk on the history and use of early Egyptian tools. I found the presentation to be excellent and well worth the drive to Kiama. John Hanrahan has indicated that Art Burrows would if invited run a similar presentation in Nowra. I will be talking to the committee regarding organising a presentation by Art Burrows in Nowra.

Don and I attended the committee meeting for the Nowra Men's Shed late in March. We will be finalising the memorandum of understanding between the two organisations in the not too distant future. The Nowra Men's Shed will be holding a social evening at the Archer Resort on 20 July 09 and the woodies will be invited. Allan Spearpoint is doing a great job documenting the activities of the Nowra Men's Shed. Allan has produced a DVD on the Men's Shed activities which members will find interesting. The toilet block is progressing and expected to be completed in the next few months. The committee will be planning future workshops at the Men's Shed with a workshop scheduled for once a month for the rest of this year.

I am hoping that April will be a bit slower than March but so far it is not working out that way. I will be leaving for a few days in Newcastle but expect to be home well in advance of April's meetings.

Greg Clark

## **WORKSHOP NOWRA MEN'S SHED 21 MAR 09**

Well I think we can rack up another successful workshop, thirteen members turned up to continue the theme of Bandsaw boxes. In addition to the bandsaw boxes we also had hands on demonstrations of bandsaw blade joining, Rose engine work, woodturning and woodturning tool sharpening.

The recurring theme to all these workshops is the people you have to thank. Special thanks to Kit Tanner for patiently demonstrating and encouraging the members to progress their boxes. Thanks to Don Parkinson for sorting out the bandsaw blades and making sure the Men's Shed was set up correctly for the workshop. Thanks to George Viellaris for demonstrating woodturning, turning a bowl that the Men's shed needed and for assisting members with the woodturning tool sharpening. Thanks to Gordon Elford for assisting members with bandsaw joining and demonstrating the Rose Engine and last but by no means least thanks to John Goodger and Peter Farrell for cooking the BBQ lunch I am sure that it was enjoyed by all.

In addition to the above Peter Farrell was able to remove the Jacaranda logs from his mate's place that he had been promising to do for a while. Gary Usher provided the Ute (thanks Gary) and Peter and Gary brought the logs to the shed. We will harvest the logs at a later stage.

It is interesting to listen to the comments from the members regarding the workshops and I would like to share one of the comments with you. One member who will remain nameless for obvious reasons commented that he enjoyed coming to the

workshops because he could spend all day woodworking but if he stayed home he would not be able to spend all day down the shed.

Regards Greg Clark

*The Shoalhaven Woodcraft Society Inc. was formed in 1987 and is Comprised of persons interested in understanding woodcraft and developing skills in its many and diverse forms.*

*The aims of the Society are to:*

*Foster an understanding and appreciation of woodcraft  
Provide mutual advice, help and a problem solving forum.  
Collaborate with other craft groups in the Shoalhaven.  
Involve the families of “woodies” in social activities.*

***Your Committee***

<i>President:</i>	<i>Greg Clark</i>	<i>4447 8384</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Warwick Robinson</i>	<i>4443 4080</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Peter Jackson</i>	<i>4423 6153</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Gordon Elford</i>	<i>4421 4397</i>
<i>Editor:</i>	<i>Peter Farrell</i>	<i>4422 8177</i>
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	<i>Bob Turnbull</i>	<i>0412 333 477</i>
	<i>John Goodger</i>	<i>4421 8622</i>
	<i>Jim Davey</i>	<i>4447 8790</i>
<i>Men’s Shed Rep:</i>	<i>Don Parkinson</i>	<i>4421 8695</i>

***Next Committee Meeting:***

*Bomaderry Bowling Club  
7.30pm Wednesday 6 May 2009*