

TREEN TOPICS

May 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/>

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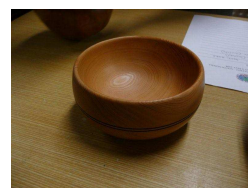
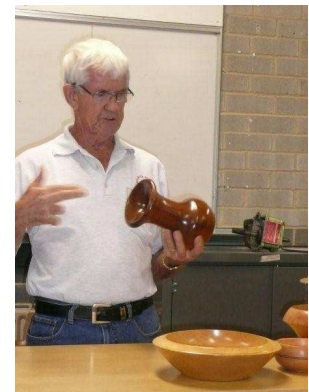
Turning Design



Bill Turner was our in house guest speaker for April and the questions during his talk and the discussion that followed was a good indication of the interest that the members had in his subject. Bill is one of our accomplished turners and his usual method is to begin a turning without any definite preconceived shape but rather to see what develops as he proceeds. Things can happen quickly in turning and Bill prefers to study the shape regularly as he goes along. If he considers that it is a bit on the plain side as it is reaching the final shape then he looks at how he can embellish it. As in all facets of

woodworking, experience teaches us plenty of tricks to improve our work and to disguise mistakes and turning is no exception to this.

The finish can make or break a piece of work, so to achieve a good one, Bill sands up to 800 grit. He then applies Wattyl sanding sealer and mostly sprays it with Quick 15. He had five examples of his work to illustrate what he had told us.



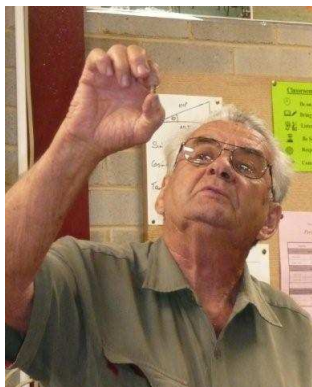
Show and Tell



Gordon Elford had been busy as usual and had two jewellery boxes which he made from recycled cedar complete with nail holes. He also had a bandsaw box which was nicely done.



Stuart Graeme showed an attractive, well constructed, open movement clock with a cedar top and base and glass sides. His account of his experience in sourcing the glass sides at a reasonable price was told in his usual humorous style.



Following on from last months duel between Stuart and George about who could produce the smallest turning, Stuart followed the clock mentioned above with his latest miniature effort. They were contained in the lid of a jar as a safety precaution in case they were dropped because they could have fallen through the cracks in the floor boards. When they were unveiled two tiny boxes turned from mahogany each containing a goblet and to further

emphasise the point, he also provided a magnifying glass. The goblets were about 4mm high, the cups 2mm diameter and the stems 0.5mm thick. George has promised to answer the challenge at this meeting so keep watching



Sharpening Workshop



This was held at Jim's place at Falls Creek on the Saturday following the meeting with around a dozen attending including a couple of new chums from the Men's Shed. Following a safety briefing and a broad brush description of the process we set to work using Jim's expertise when required. Initially, it often takes a fair bit of time to bring a tool up to Jim's exacting standards but once you have achieved that, it is a quick and easy matter to get a perfect edge again. The other important thing to remember is to resharpen BEFORE it gets too blunt. This minimises the time it takes as well as making your work easier because you always have sharp tools.

As usual we enjoyed Suzi's home cooking at morning tea and then Warwick did the honours on the barbeque with the lunch sausages. Work continued until mid afternoon by which time some good results had been achieved. Several members took advantage of Jim's Carbatec agency by buying bits and pieces to continue the good work at home. All in all it was a great day both workwise and socially.



Guest Speakers and Workshops for May and Beyond

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 Saturday 23rd 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.

The June meeting will see Doug Green back once more discussing aspects of finishing with an emphasis on wipe on / wipe off products.

July is the AGM and as business is usually over with quickly on that night we are holding a giant show and tell where it is hoped that everyone will bring something along. Even your favorite tool or jig is of interest so be in it.

Ladies night will be held in August and more on this function can be seen below.

The August workshop will be on turning so it should prove popular.

Club Logo

As most are aware, a vote by members at the last meeting was in favour of changing the club logo. There have been three proposals put forward for possible new designs and the committee has extended the cut off date for further suggestions to the June committee meeting. This is definitely your last chance to have a say on what it should be. Thank you to those three members who took the time and effort to make submissions so far.

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 has offered to take it on but I feel he already has more than his fair share to do. It does not mean that you have to attend each and every workshop. You will be able to organise the provisions and arrange with someone who is going there to take the stuff along on the day. We will be talking about it at this meeting so please give it some thought.

Len Arthur Award

This award is made to a current or previous member who it is considered has made a significant contribution to the society. The first winner who was unanimously voted the honour was Gerry Mutch who is no longer active. This year's winner needs to be decided over the next couple of months so that it can be presented at the ladies night

in August. You will be asked for nominations at this meeting. There are some excellent candidates especially amongst the older members and former members. Put your thinking caps on and propose someone.

Ladies Night

We are breaking with tradition this year by holding this meeting at the Bomaderry Bowling Club where we will enjoy dinner in the dining room followed by a special guest speaker. The cost will be \$16 per head which is quite reasonable for a three course meal. There will be more on this as time goes on but please start talking to your wife about it.

The guest speaker will be Art Burrows who will be speaking on the subject of ancient Egyptian tools. He has done this before at Kiama where they found it very interesting. Art is the Assistant Editor at the Australian Woodworker magazine so has a wide knowledge of woodworking.

Creative Moments

This event is now less than five months away being held from Thursday 24th September to Wednesday 15th October. 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.

Other than this there is the prestige of having your creation on display in the Art gallery for all the world to see. It is not a competition and one person's work is not judged against another's. The four months remaining should be ample time to come up with something special.

RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

MAY 2009

Where do I start for May, well I guess I should start by thanking Bill Turner for his presentation on Turning at the meeting. Bill is one of the talented intuitive turners; he can look at a piece of wood turn a curve in it by eye and it comes out looking great. Mere mortals like myself agonise with a piece of paper and a pencil trying to draw something that looks right before we are game to commit it to wood.

For those of you who thought you saw a look of panic in my eyes when Bill finished his presentation you were correct, we schedule our guest speakers for 30 – 40 minutes but when Bill finished his presentation in about 20 minutes we were looking at a very early finish for the night. But I shouldn't have worried as we moved into a club wide discussion on problems members were having with different aspects of woodcraft. The conversational question and answer segment amongst the members seemed to work well and we will try to include it in future meetings.

The workshop held at Jim Davey's shed was another success. Special thanks to Jim and Suzie for hosting the workshop at their home. The Sharpening and Plane Tuning workshops will be held at Jim's place in the future as there is a large amount of equipment, grinders, sharpening stones to mention a few items and it would be a logistical nightmare to move these from Jim's place to the Men's Shed and then back home again.

There is one other thing that took place this month and that was the display at the DIY Day held at Bunning's. Gordon, Stewart, Warwick, George and I spent a pleasant 3 hours talking to the public about woodcraft. Kit was unable to attend but gave George a couple of his bandsaw boxes for display. Bunning's appreciated our efforts and we were treated to free coffee, doughnuts and a sausage sandwich for lunch and I forgot to mention we were all presented with a Bunning's sample bag. Unfortunately Bunning's doesn't sell chocolates so there were none in the sample bag.

Planning is underway for the Creative Moments Exhibition with Gordon, Jim and Warwick representing the woodies on the committee. Special thanks to these members for undertaking the work for without their efforts there would be no Creative Moments Exhibition. I must not forget Daryl, Daryl was unable to serve on the committee this year but he did a Stirling job last year. Have a break mate you have earned it.

We are currently having some difficulty in publishing and printing Treen Topic, for those of you who do not know Treen Topics is a joint effort with Peter Farrell editing the newsletter, Liesel Turnbull publishing the newsletter and Bob Turnbull printing the newsletter. Peter does a magnificent job writing and researching the articles, he forwards them to Liesel who organises the articles and adds the photos, Bob prints the newsletter at no cost to us utilising the resources of his company. Peter is still beavering away but Liesel was involved in a car accident which is currently causing her great pain and she is struggling to sit down long enough to organise the newsletter. Bob is feeling the effects of the economic downturn and will have to make some changes to his company so that he can continue in business. Latest advice for Liesel is that she is recovering well and should be able to publish the newsletter and Bob is happy to continue until the middle of the year after which time we will have to make some changes, we will keep you informed.

The May meeting and workshop will be on safety accreditation, this is a very important subject and one we need to complete so that we can safely run the workshops. We will be maintaining a register of all our members and what machines they have been authorised to operate. Please remember without the authorisation you will not be allowed to operate the machine.

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>44478384</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Warwick Robinson</i>	<i>44434080</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Peter Jackson</i>	
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Gordon Elford</i>	<i>44214397</i>
<i>Editor:</i>	<i>Peter Farrell</i>	<i>4422 8177</i>
<i>Committee:</i>		
	<i>Bob Turnbull</i>	<i>0412333477</i>
	<i>John Goodger</i>	
	<i>Jim Davey</i>	<i>44478790</i>
<i>Men’s Shed Rep:</i>	<i>Don Parkinson</i>	

Next Committee Meeting:

*Bomaderry Bowling Club
7.30pm Wednesday 3rd June 2009*