

TREEN TOPICS

March 2010



Post: PO Box 2163
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www.shoal.net.au/~woodcraft1/

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 MARCH 2010

February Meeting

Derek Clegg was a visitor at this meeting and has since joined the club. Welcome Derek and we look forward to getting to know you.

The club library is now fully functional and members are encouraged to make use of this handy facility. All you have to do is phone Bob on 4423 3477 to make sure he is there, and then go in and borrow what you want.

Gordon did his duty as one of the judges at the Nowra show and he reports that, in his opinion, there were lots of items in wrong categories. Perhaps we should have greater involvement in the preliminary organising as well as the judging.

Bob Turnbull and Peter Farrell spoke on the fabrication of a table saw sled and the benefits thereof. Advantages include: Easy cross cutting resulting in square cuts and consistent accurate lengths with the aid of a stop. It is the ideal way to cut lap joints. By making a simple jig to fit on the sled, slots for corner splines can be cut with full control. Small sheets can be cut at any angle using edge markings as the alignment guide.

All other members present who have one of these in their workshop agreed that they were indeed a great addition to the table saw. A shorthand version of the method of constructing one of these sleds is included later in this Treen Topics.



Bob Turnbull began Show and Tell with a useful stool made from his favourite timber, Fijian cedar. This stool is the recommended project for the Tuesday night workshops which were about to begin.



Heinz showed us a bearing from a washing machine which he can use as a blade guide on his bandsaw.

George had a threaded insert that is used for turning lidded boxes.



Stan Parker turned a ring hanger in the shape of a vase from a piece of camphor. There are small slots cut in the perimeter of the top where the rings fit.



Garry Usher cut one of his bowls in half to gauge the wall thickness, as demonstrated by George a few meetings ago, and agreed that it is a good method of assessing that thickness. He also had two natural edged bowls out of turpentine which George had helped him with. Garry, who is a relatively new member, said that one of the things about our club which he likes most is the way that members are so ready to share their knowledge.



This Meeting's Program

In lieu of a guest speaker this meeting we are having a picture show. Gordon has a DVD on the amazing cupboard (for want of a better description) which was built by Geoff Hannah in Lismore over a period of seven years. I have seen the DVD and it is indeed a masterpiece. Well worth the price of admission.



Tuesday Night Workshop

The first few of these have been well attended with eight people taking part. The stools are still in progress but the time has come to decide what the next project will be. Rather than have this imposed on you by the committee, we want you to suggest things you would like to make. Please come to this meeting with some ideas.

Kiama Scrollsaw Exhibition

The Australian Scroll Saw National Exhibition to be held on 21st to 23rd May in Kiama and is something of a coup for that club. I think this has been held at Albury previously so this is much closer to home for us to go and have a look.

Carving Lessons

A man named Enn Muller conducts carving lessons at Albion Park Rail throughout the year if anyone is interested in either learning a new skill or improving on what they already know.

The lessons are held on Monday evenings from 6.00 to 9.00PM or on Fridays from 10.00AM to 1.00PM. They are conducted in parallel with the ten week school terms. Tools and timber are supplied.

The cost for a ten week term is \$200. This is paid as a \$100 deposit then \$20 per week until the \$200 figure is reached. There is also a charge of \$50 for timber.

Mr Muller can be phoned on 4257 1107.

Making the Chips Fly

This is the name for a woodturning symposium to be held at St Leo's College in Brisbane for four days in July. It will be hosted by some of the best turners in Australia and others from overseas. Workshops will be held in conjunction with the talkfest and there will be hands on sessions after the lectures so you can try out what you have just heard. It is an opportunity to mix with high calibre turners and to pick their brains. So if you want to escape the winter chill for a few days fly up to sunny Queensland and improve your turning in the process.

A brochure will be tabled at the meeting giving the names and profiles of all the turners involved plus some other details.

Details, registration forms etc are available on www.tymba.com.au . Alternately , write to Bruce Bell , PO Box 7823 Mail Centre , Toowoomba 4352 or phone him on 07 4630 3525 .

A Chance to Display Your Work

The *Point Gallery and Craft* is located at Greenwell Point and is run by the community. It is open from Friday to Monday inclusive and is offering our members the chance to display and sell their work during April, which includes Easter when lots of visitors are about. The area available is 5 meters x 1 meter of both floor and wall space. There is no insurance so any risk is your own, and the cost is \$50 per month plus 30% of sales. If you are interested phone Marion Wallace on 4447 1528.

A Stunning Senior Moment

A self-important uni student attending a cricket match took it upon himself to explain to a senior “woodie” sitting next to him why it is impossible for the older generation to understand his generation.

“You grew up in a different world, actually an almost primitive one “, the student said loud enough for the surrounding many to hear. “ The young people of today grew up with television, jet planes, space travel, man walking on the moon. Our space probes have visited Mars .We have nuclear energy, electric and hydrogen cars, mobile phones, computers with speed of light processing ... and more.”

After a brief silence the senior woodie responded: “You’re right son. We didn’t have those things when we were young ... so we invented them. Now, what are you doing for the next generation?”

The deafening applause which resulted was unanimous....!!

Forthcoming Program

Wednesday 17 th March	General Meeting–DVD viewing of the Geoffery Hannah Cabinet
Saturday 20 th March	Sharpening workshop – Jim Davey's shed
Tuesday 23 rd March	Night Workshop continues
Wednesday 7 th April	Committee Meeting
Wednesday 21 st April	General Meeting–Peter Farrell on Drawer making

HOW TO MAKE A TABLE SAW SLED

1 CUT THE BASE PLY THE SIZE REQUIRED AND SQUARE. IN THE WIDTH, ALLOW OVERHANG ON THE SIDES SO THAT WORK CAN BE CLAMPED TO THE SLED BASE.

2 MAKE THE RUNNER FOR THE SLOT IN THE TABLE SAW. FIX IT AT BOTH ENDS WITH SCREWS ENSURING THAT IT IS PARALLEL TO THE SIDE. ADD MORE SCREWS LATER.

3 ATTACH THE FRONT CROSS MEMBER WHICH NEEDS TO BE AT LEAST 60mm HIGHER THAN THE MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF THE RAISED SAW BLADE.

4 LOWER THE SAW BLADE BELOW TABLE LEVEL AND GET THE SLED SLIDING FREELY. CHECK THE LIMITS OF TRAVEL OF THE SLED TO AVOID HAVING IT OVERBALANCE AT EITHER END OF THE TABLE. ONE OF THE DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOR YOUR SLED SHOULD BE THE INCLUSION OF STOPS AND/OR A SUITABLE DEVICE WHICH WILL PREVENT THE SLED OVERBALANCING AT EITHER END.

5 MAKE THE BACK CROSS MEMBER ENSURING THAT IT IS PERFECTLY STRAIGHT AND SQUARE. DO NOT ATTACH YET.

6 START THE SAW AND SLOWLY RAISE THE BLADE UNTIL IT CUTS THROUGH THE FORWARD PART OF THE PLYWOOD BASE.

7 SLOWLY SLIDE THE SLED FORWARD UNTIL THE CUT IS CONTINUOUS TO WITHIN ABOUT 80mm OF THE BACK EDGE OF THE PLYWOOD BASE.

8 ATTACH THE BACK CROSS MEMBER WITH ONE SCREW ON ONE END. ADJUST THE OTHER END UNTIL IT IS SQUARE WITH THE SLOT YOU HAVE CUT IN THE BASE. CLAMP THAT END.

BE AWARE THAT THE SAW BLADE MAY COME THROUGH THE BACK OF THE SLED WHEN YOU BEGIN TRIAL CUTS.

9 WITH A WORKPIECE WHICH IS STRAIGHT AND SQUARE IN SECTION, DOCK ONE END AND CHECK IF THE CUT IS SQUARE. IF NOT ADJUST THE CLAMPED END OF THE CROSS MEMBER AND TRY AGAIN. REPEAT THIS PROCESS UNTIL YOU ARE CERTAIN THAT EACH CUT IS PERFECTLY SQUARE.

10 SCREW THE CLAMPED END OF THE BACK CROSS MEMBER PLUS INTERMEDIATE POINTS. I PREFER NOT TO GLUE THIS JOINT IN CASE LATER ADJUSTMENT IS NEEDED.

11 BEFORE PRECEDING ANY FURTHER MAKE THE BLADE GUARD AND FIT IT TO THE BACK OF THE SLED. INCREASE THE BLADE HEIGHT UNTIL CUTS ARE MADE INTO THE CROSS MEMBERS.



RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

MARCH 2010

This months edition of Ramblings will have to be short and sweet I am under the threat of serious injury or even death by our publisher if I make this longer than 1.5 pages. I hope you will not be able to detect the fear in my writing.

Stewart (he doesn't like to be called Stewie) has completed the library muster and we hope to have a complete list of library items available for members to see at the March meeting. Keith Turner has donated a large number of Australian Woodworker magazines to the library. Thanks Keith for your generous donation. The magazines are currently on my office floor until Stewart (he doesn't like to be called Stewie) and I register them into the database and deliver them to Coastal Phones.

The Members Manual roll out is nearly complete with a handful of members who have not received their copy. Hopefully we will pick them up at the March meeting.

We have taken delivery of the Belt sander and the Bobin sander; both items are at the Men's Shed and available for use. The new band saw has been ordered and will arrive some time latter this month or early April. In addition to the above we have ordered a 15 inch thicknesser, a metal detector and a new saw blade for the table saw; the purchase of these items have been made possible by the funds we raised at the Bunning's BBQ's.

Work is progressing on the installation of the SWS dust extractor at the men's shed; hopefully this will be up and running shortly.

The night workshops are running well but there is still room for improvement. The members who are attending are enjoying the evening and it looks like these workshops will become a regular part of our calendar.

The table saw that became surplus to requirements has been sold with one of our members George Gray the proud new owner. Keith Turner made some magnificent items using the saw and I believe George will follow in the tradition.

Last but by no means least work has started on the storage rack for the Huskisson Girl Guides. The Guides asked us to help them design, construct and install a storage rack and a storage cupboard. We have erected the storage rack and by the time you read this hopefully we will have finished the rack. Special thanks to Bob Turnbull and Warwick Robinson for all the work they have put into the project I know the guides are very appreciative of the work completed to date, well done guys.

Well this is it for March hopefully I have made it inside the 1.5 page limit and I will live to see another day. (note from Liesel 'Just aswell')

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

President: Greg Clark 44478384

Vice President Warwick Robinson 44434080

Secretary: Peter Jackson 4423 6153

Treasurer: Gordon Elford 44214397

Editor: Peter Farrell 4422 8177

Committee:

Bob Turnbull 0412333477

Daryl Roth 4421 6775

Jim Davey 4447 8790

Men's Shed Rep: Don Parkinson 4421 8695

Next Committee Meeting:

Bomaderry Bowling Club

7.30pm Wednesday 7th April 2010