

# TREEN TOPICS

*August 2014*



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[www.shoalhavenwoodcraft.com.au](http://www.shoalhavenwoodcraft.com.au)

*Shoalhaven Woodcraft Society Inc.*

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

*Nowra Technology High School. Moss St. Nowra*

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



# TREEN TOPICS AUGUST 2014

## August General Meeting

### Christmas in August / Ladies Night

The August meeting **will not** be the usual Wednesday night meeting at the high school. Instead, it will be the Christmas in July in August which will also double as Ladies night and **it will be held on Friday 22nd**. Once again, Dennis and Marylyn O'Keeffe are hosting the night at their home in O'Keeffe's Lane. The food options are to bring your own meat for a barbeque or you can bring a pizza and cook it in the pizza oven. Everyone is asked to bring something to share so there should be a good choice of salads and sweets. You also need to take your own drinks.

The presentation of the Len Arthur Award will be made on the night so it will be interesting to see who it is awarded to this year. To provide a woodworking theme for the occasion, Woodies are invited to take along something for show and tell. If you need any further information telephone Mel on 0407 957 196 or Dennis and Marylyn on 4448 6185.

### Bunnings Barbeque

The next one of these fundraisers will be on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Greg will be away so we need someone to run it in his absence. If you are able to perform this service, please contact Greg. The sheet for volunteers will be at the Christmas in August function and again at the September meeting. Thanks to these barbeques, we have quite a healthy bank balance but we are about to start dipping into it to finish off the shed. Therefore it is important to keep building up these reserves.

### Committee Positions

Steve Sheaves was the only new person elected to the committee at the AGM in July. Otherwise the same committee was installed with the exception of John Knowles and Warwick Robinson who have both stepped down for well-deserved breaks. Although the previous committee has done a sterling job, an injection of new blood and fresh thinking is always a welcome boost to a management team. If you feel that you could make a contribution please speak to any committee member. We are considering reallocating responsibilities so that each person will mainly be involved in only one specific area. This is designed to reduce the amount of time that any individual has to spend on club business. In other words, if you join the committee, it will be a much easier job than what you may expect.

## Creative Moments

The exhibition is attracting good numbers of people but sales seem to be a bit slow this year. Having the sales room remote from the exhibit itself would certainly account for part of this. The number of exhibits is also down on previous shows especially larger items of woodwork. It was pleasing to see that there were not many vacancies on the roster for manning the front table so more people are pulling their weight there. I saw Keith Turner, one of our former members call in for a look one day.



Bobs Christmas Box

## Tuesday Night Projects

There is growing excitement amongst the Tuesday night group as new projects are starting shortly. There is a good choice to pick from including a nest of boxes, a tool chest and a blanket box. The nest of boxes will involve making different joints, marquetry and hinge and lid fitting. The tool chest and blanket box are larger projects but all of them will begin with the basics of selecting and dressing timber and will progress right through to applying the finish. For those with less experience, it is an excellent way to learn skills from more experienced people who are only too willing to share their knowledge. There are possible designs for these projects on the club's Facebook page or they can be sourced from the club library or on the internet.

This month we had Mr Ron Gustang come to see us for a talk on Veneer and the art of Marquetry. Ron has been so very generous with sharing both his knowledge and veneers themselves and comes from Nowra. He works mainly in restoration and repair work on antiques both privately and through the Berry Men's shed. In his spare time he has crafted very extensive collection of fine marquetry that is only too happy to show to people. These works are done for pleasure or commissioned as works for sale. Ron has been so helpful to those of us wanting to get kickstarted on the marquetry adventure, it's been great to have someone close by who is available to talk to on the topic. He typically works using the window method, and has created a vacuum bag system at home for the larger panels.



Ron Gustang on the left. We all know the shady character with him.

Ron also displayed to us an amazing variety of veneers on the night, and even gave samples away! If anyone should require further information on techniques or veneers he is happy to be contacted and share his knowledge with you, ask Bob Turnbull or myself for contact details.

Along the same thread, Peter Johnston and Melissa Allen also recently attended a course run by Katalin Sali at Sturt School for Wood over the winter school week. Using veneers from Ron, along with materials provided, they created two boxes with quite detailed marquetry in them. The course proved to be invaluable, with the pair passing their knowledge along to other members of the group. You may even see samples of this in the next Tuesday night project....



Peter Johnston's marquetry box

Mel's marquetry box as well as marquetry examples



## RAMBLINGS AUGUST 2014

Well I didn't manage to get out Ramblings for July but here I am sitting down writing this for August. I will continue to utilise this medium in an effort to communicate to our members what is happening with the society and to let the members what the committee is up to.

The first thing I need to do is thank the outgoing committee for all the work they did in 2014 and welcome the new committee. There is a lot to undertake this year with the move from Terara to the Showground and all the new capability that the Showground will provide.

Work is underway to install the lighting and electrics in the new shed mainly due to the efforts of John Knowles with the men's shed installing the framing around the windows and doors in preparation for the lining boards to be installed. Lend Lease has volunteered men and materials to install the lining boards and hopefully that task will be undertaken in the near future. The grant money supplied by the state government for the shed build has almost been expended so the Shoalhaven Woodcraft Society and the Nowra Men's shed have agreed to continue with the completion of the build splitting the cost 50:50; this arrangement will ensure that the build is completed and we can move into the premises. The SWS money is coming from all those Bunnings BBQ's that we have been running for the last couple of years.

By the time you read this the plumbers hopefully will have finished the connection of the storm water from the shed to the street; this is a council requirement and must be completed before a full occupancy certificate can be issued for the shed. The safety rail for the cottage rear access ramp is under manufactured by the Men's Shed personnel but cannot be installed until the storm water is installed otherwise it will block machine access to the West side of the shed. The installation of the rear access ramp is also a council requirement before a full occupancy certificate is issued for the cottage. Once we complete both of these tasks we will focus on the installation of the retaining wall on the south east corner of the shed.

We will be moving in the work bench we bought a couple of years ago and kept in storage. The bench is fairly solid but will need some tightening up of the frame, installing an additional vice and a new top. We will probably save these tasks for after we have moved. The bench will be placed in the clean woodworking area in the workshop.

The Christmas party will be held at the Huskisson Scout as we have for the last couple of years but instead of the first Sunday in December we will be holding the party on Sunday 14 August 2014. There was considerable discussion within the committee regarding where we should hold the Christmas Party a popular suggestion was to hold it at the cottage but the cottage only has a small kitchen and a small area available for socialising it was decided to stay at the scout hall. In addition to available space the Guides will be providing the catering for the day. We would have stayed with the original first Sunday in December but the Hall was booked so we had to shift the date to 14 December.

The Creative Moments exhibition has finished and I would like to thank all those who helped out and provided items for display and for sale; a special thanks to Gordon Elford, Jim Davey and John Knowles who served on the exhibition committee; the exhibition was a culmination of their work for the last twelve months.

We intend to hold two open days at the showground cottage between now and the end of the year the dates selected are Saturday 11 October 2014 and Saturday 6 December 2014. We will be selling items on the open day probably from a table set up in the front yard of the cottage. The intention is to have members sell their wares and collect a 10% commission on sales. The commission is to go towards the cost of advertising the open day and to cover the purchase of equipment like tents to improve the facilities for future open days. The Nowra Spinners and Weavers and the Nowra Men's Shed will also be participating in the open day. The intention is to hold an open day every two months so if you would like to sell get cracking and start making items for sale.

Well I think this enough for now hopefully we will get the shed lined and the interior painted shortly and then we can start moving in equipment.

Greg Clark

#### Forthcoming Program

Friday 22nd August	Christmas in August at O'Keeffe's
Every Tuesday Night	Workshop at the shed – Various projects
Wednesday 3rd September	Committee Meeting
Weekend 5/6/7th September	Working with Wood Show in Canberra at Exhibition Park
Wednesday 17th September	General Meeting – Tony Simmons RFS Bush Fire Survival Plan
Sunday 28th September	Bunnings Barbeque

## ***Shoalhaven Woodcraft Society Inc.***

*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 a 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>44 478 384</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Peter Jackson</i>	<i>44 236 153</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Richard Hall</i>	<i>44 235 780</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Gordon Elford</i>	<i>44 214 397</i>
<i>Editor:</i>	<i>Peter Farrell</i>	<i>44 228 177</i>
<i>Committee:</i>	<i>Warwick Robinson</i>	<i>44 434 080</i>
	<i>Bob Turnbull</i>	<i>0412 333 477</i>
	<i>Mel Allen</i>	<i>0407 957 196</i>
	<i>Jim Davey</i>	<i>44 478 790</i>
<i>Men’s Shed Rep:</i>	<i>Don Parkinson</i>	<i>44 218 695</i>

#### ***Next Committee Meeting:***

*Nowra Showground Cottage  
7.30pm Wednesday 2nd July 2014*