



July 2008

WOODCHIPS

Newsletter of the
Southern Highlands Woodies Inc.
Affiliate of the Sydney Woodturners Guild.

Web site, www.sydneywoodturners.com.au

Patrons: Don & Bess Akrigg.



The Next Meeting
Saturday 27 September,
10.00 am



DIARY DATES.

At Southern Highlands

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|-------------------------------|--|
| 28 July - 26 August 08 | Treasures in Timber display, Moss Vale Council Chambers |
| 22 August 08 | John Harris & Bill Shean
Guild Bi-Monthly meeting at SHW. |
| 27 September 08 | Max Donato |
| 4 October | Bunnings B-B-Q |
| 1-2 November | Southern Highlands Art Trail |
| 13 December | Christmas Function |
| <u>Other</u> | |
| 5-7 September | Canberra Working With Wood Show
Do we want a bus for the 6th? |
| 12-14 September | Phillip Is Down Under Turn Around
Contact: Caroline Talbot 03 5956 7300 |
| 20 September | Surface Decoration Workshop, Blue Mountains Woodturners.
See Bill |
| 11-12 October | Woodturn 2008, Meadowbank TAFE
Please book now. |
| 13-15 November | Hare & Forbes Open Day |
| 20-22 Feb 09 | Woodworking Hobbies Expo 09, Newcastle Entertainment Centre |

July 2008 Meeting

John Powell got the meeting off to an immediate start by introducing Andrew Gittoes, professional from Goulburn. We started off with 15 members and 2 guests but we gradually managed to reach 21 members and 2 guests.

We continued through the morning with Andrew, then had lunch and then moved onto the business section of the meeting.

In the business section we covered:

Art Trail: This will be our next big event for 2008 after the Treasures in Timber Exhibition. It will happen on the weekend of 1/2 November. Our hall will be one of the artist's stations that people will visit as they move from studio to studio on the trail. We will need our best pieces on display. We will have a lathe operating. Need volunteers, pieces to display and a need to clean the hall before the weekend.

Treasurer: Ian Pye advised that we are currently collecting annual subscriptions and most seem to be coming in. We still have a few Equipment Levies not paid. See list on Board. Have \$2,800 in funds. Bunning exercise lifted our funds a little.

Foyer Exhibition: John invited all members to attend the opening of our exhibition in the Moss Vale Council Foyer on Monday 29th at 5.00pm. The presentation of the Excellence Award will also occur at that time.

Following the business section, we moved back to Andrew's demonstration.

Andrew Gittoes

Andrew started off by showing a series of slides of his past work and discussing his approach to design and production of his work. He likes to develop a 'series' of works and keep successive piece moving along the development line until he cannot see how he can take it any further. Once he reaches that point, he does not produce any more in that series. He hates seeing a turner producing the same bowl that he produce 15 years ago.

He likes classic enclosed forms onto which he heavily carves or reshapes the piece after it has come off the lathe. He primarily uses hand rather than power tools for his carving. And he loves curves so hates having to put a flat bottom on a piece so may use balls or feet etc for stability.

His best quote of the day was:

"Draw it ,without thinking how you will make it"

"Once Drawn, then work out how to make it".

He made a jarrah bowl which he then textured with a Arbortech blade on an angle grinder. He did not try to do the texturing precisely or exactly, but roughly to complement the rough and rustic look that jarrah burl has.

He then made a box and showed us how to make interesting and quirky finials. And finally some interesting and useful pieces from slim stock such as a butter knife and a spatula.

We'll certainly want him back.

Some of his work follows:



Excellence Award

On Monday afternoon, 28th July, approx 10 members and a number of our spouses assembled in the foyer of the Moss Vale Council chambers for the official opening of our 'Treasures in Timber' exhibition in the foyer display case. This was done by Gordon Lewis, Wingecarribee Shire Mayor.

In addition, he announced and made the presentation of the inaugural winner of the SHWG Excellence Award. For 2008, the deservedly recipient was John Harris for his hand-carved fluted bowl in camphor laurel.

The display is an excellent representation of the work and skill of the members of SHWG. It shows how much we have come on in recent years. Gordon Lewis was interviewed on radio a few days later and really gave us a huge praising and he encouraged every Shire member to go and see the display.

If you have not seen it yet, it will be in place for an extra week and now will not be coming out until Friday 5th of September. Following are some photos of the display and of John's presentation:



June Show & Tell conducted by Andrew Gittoes



David Pratic: Blackwood bowls



Bob Miller: three bowls in lemon wood

Peter Herbert: 3 legged bowl in black heart sassafras



Max Donato: Bowl and multi-candle candle holder



Fred S: grandson and picture frame, jarrah bowl

Bruce Everett & Bill Shean: Collaborative effort in camphor laurel

Paul Crossman's little mice



Bill Shean: osage orange bowl, lidded bowls in huon pine and rosewood

Club Shirts, Jumpers, Jackets :
 See John Harris. You can have logo made which you sew onto your own shirt, or he can organize a shirt or jacket or jumper.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Our next day for raising money via the Bunnings sausage sizzle is Saturday 4th October.
 Peter Brett is our new Bunnings coordinator.
 See him if you can volunteer some hours that day.

Help needed!!!!

Hall Cleanliness

You probably noticed that the hall has had a bit of a facelift since our last meeting. As well as rearranging the lathes, we have also moved a lot of 'junk' out of the hall and either got rid of it or about to.

There is a stack of timber in the shed. Please check it out and take whatever you want. Whatever is not taken, will be going to the tip.

From now on, the rule re timber is: **If you bring it, you take it away, same day.**

Elections

Our annual elections for office bearers is fast approaching. They will occur at our October meeting when the AGM is held.

How about doing a bit for the Group by volunteering for one of the Committee roles. Ian Pye has been treasurer for a number of years and has added the role of President, U3A to his plate and would appreciate a volunteer stepping in as treasurer.

John Harris has relocated to Canberra and while he will continue to be a Group member and attend meeting, perhaps some relief from the Secretary role would be appropriate in the home loan rate..

Committee

President	John Powell	02 48 712 714
Guild Rep	John Crisp	02 48 839 596
Treasurer	Ian Pye	02 48 623 750
Secretary	John Harris	02 62 582 701
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