

Highlights of March Meeting



SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS WOODIES GROUP INC.

Woodchips

The fresh Saturday Autumn morning commenced slowly. Members rolling in a few at a time some aiming for the tea urn others for a lathe still available. By lunch-time the numbers had grown to 21. Garnett's timber blank boot sale was progressing nicely. Lunch was prepared by Freddy R and Byron and served by them with the late help of John Crisp. I am told the sausages were OK but a fair few were left over.

The end of lunch break hooter went and all went outside to watch our demonstrator for the day. He is Richard Bowes Hare, a Kiwi having learned pole turning in the UK and now establishing himself as a pole turner in Australia.

What a pleasure it was to observe him working and so obviously



enjoying his craft. He demonstrated how to begin construction of a Windsor chair, continually narrating each phase. He also showed



us some other traditional methods such as riving the timber to achieve a continuous straight grained piece, a sideaxe to shape his initial pieces, a shaving horse to produce further pre-lathe shaping.

He produces about 60 chairs per year, as each takes about 40 hours work. In addition, he runs chair making courses where all methods used are traditional ones. A course to do a single bow chair is 7 days, and a double bow takes 12 days.

At the end most of us had a go turning by pedal

Contp4

What's Happening

- 18 April **Note change from 25th**
Deep Hollowing with Larry and Mo
- 2-3 May Illawarra Craft Spectacular, including Mens' Shed. Dapto.
- 23 May Jack Butler, Peninsula Region
- 6-7 June Central Tilba Regional Exhibition of Woodwork
- 19-21 June Sydney Working With Wood Show
- 27 June Hands On - Team Scoop Making
- 18 July **Third Saturday, not 4th.** Richard Raffan.
- 12-14 September Down Under Turnaround, Phillip Island
- May Meeting Last Show & Tell for inclusion in 2009 Excellence Award



2008 Excellence Award, J Harris

Show & Tell - March Meeting by Fred Schffarczyk



Lou Sackett: Platter in cryptomeria, bowl in tiger myrtle, bowl in sirrium.



Lou Sackett: Lidded bowl in PNG Rosewood

Ron South: Firetruck in pine and maple

John Crisp: Bowl in false cypress.



Ian Pye: Bowl in huon pine, lidded bowl in red cedar & huon pine

IFred S: Bowl in crypto, bowl in thuya



Max Donato: vessel in pacific maple & paint



Roger Wilson: Bowl in black heart sassafras, bowl in myrtle



Byron Grant: Bowl in PNG rosewood and mahogany insert.



Sam Mc Grath: Pens in various and dibbers in various



Peter Jackson: Chuck keys



Graeme Webb: Bowl in radiata and aust cedar.



Bill Shean: Pot pourri bowl in jackaranda and paint, textured bowl in casuarina, textured bowl in osage orange (unfinished)

President's Report

Our March meeting was one of our most interesting with a demonstration by Richard Bowes Hare. He showed us the various processes used for making a chair from green timber before the Industrial Revolution. The log is cleaved to size with wedges and an axe, then rough shaping is done with a draw-knife on a shaving-horse, and the final turning is done on the pole-lathe. Several members had turns at these processes.

The President's Challenge for March was a sample of inlay, colour and texture. Fred Schaffarczyk conducted Show and Tell. He's beginning to see it as his domain.

Several members had an enjoyable day at the Black and Coloured Sheep Association's Woolfest at Robertson. Shawl pins were the popular items of the day, and orders were taken for bulk sup-

plies. Thank you to all the members who participated.

I attended an Arts Trail meeting on the 7th April, together with a large number of artists also interested in participating in this years Arts Trail on 31st Oct and 1st Nov. We will have plenty of competition, so now is the time to start producing some items for display and/or sale. Make some pocket money for yourself and support your club!



Many thanks to Bill Shean, ably assisted by Desmond Kennard, for all the work put in to applying for the Wingecarribee Community Assistance Scheme grant. We applied for funds to purchase three variable speed motors for our lathes. The application has been submitted, and we now wait with bated breath for the results.

Keep the chips flying, John.

Treasurer's Report



There have been some further additions to the Equipment Fund which has risen to \$1,147.04. We received \$100 in members levies, \$72.50 from sale of items donated by Bill Shean and \$53

from Saturday lunch takings on 28 February which comprised sausages left over from the Bunnings BBQ.

This equipment money will mainly be kept until we know the outcome of the Grant Application so that we can contribute our share to qualify for the grant monies, should we be successful.

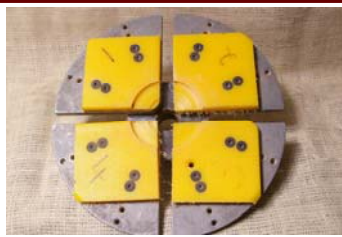
Balance at end of March was \$3,114.46 including the Equipment Fund and also \$165 which will be paid out for Richard Raffan's workshop etc. making our real balance about \$1,800.

Membership renewal is due before 30 June...a little time off but as I will be away during May and some of June, I will be issuing individual renewal forms ready for completion so that membership renewals should be received at the June Saturday meeting. Let's get them in on time this year!

Show & Tellcont



Bill Shean: Shawl pins and rings, various timbers, jig to make rings



Parts of the Record Chuck left over after being made into a faceplate by John Crisp and donated by Roger Wilson.

Highlights of March Meeting ... cont from p1

power. This was really easy to watch but definitely not so easy to do.

I don't think there were any members deciding to switch to that method of turning.



John Powell started the business of the day with the usual hilarious interjections.



Show and Tell commenced with Freddy S being volunteered. The quantity of items when compared with last month was significantly lower. The quality however was really good and three items stood out to me.

Roger's sassafras bowl with that deep shine, Max's deep hollowed "thing" where he was found to be just a little coy to part with his secret of construction and



then Bill S with his bowl inspired by Sandy May. Bill's item was stunning to say the least. He explained that it had taken four hours just to decorate the rim with his burn point.

Young Sam had a couple of dibbers made only this morning.

Our new fashion 'Woodchips' newsletter has gone up another notch in quality. The interest in contributing some writings by members is increasing. John thanked the cooks and Judy Powell for her contribution of cakes then closed the meeting.

Fred S

Black & White Sheep Assoc, 4 April by Bill Shean

This was the second time we had attended the Show at Robertson, and it dawned a slightly damp and cloudy day. Although it proved to be fine with only a little rain first thing in the morning.



We had no troubles putting the tent up this year, as the non-coloured coded one was used. In less than a minute, our beautiful Woodies canopy was up and filled with lathes and chairs.

The display stand went inside and we well and truly covered it plus a table with goods for display and sale.

We had a quiet sales day, although young Sam discovered the cost of selling at too low a price. He got an order for 50 of his shawl pins, although



Uncle John managed to negotiate a better price for the job.

I managed to get interviewed (having been volunteered by John Powell) by a reporter for the local paper. At the same time, you can see that I was once again taking it

pretty easy with sitting at the pyrographer instead of standing at the lathe.

John H managed a good sale of his knitting needles and I also got an order for shawl pins.



We had an all-day visitor in John H's mother who seems to want to keep an eye on young Sam to see that we do not lead him too far astray.



And Pam was running the show as per normal!!!!!!!

Thanks to all!!!

A Woodturning Woodie in Twenty Quick Questions

Woodturner in question....Peter Herbert

Place of birth? A local lad, I was born right here in the Highlands in Bowral.

Now residing? I now live in Colo Vale.

Occupation now or in previous life? I am now retired. Before retirement however I was a Cabin Attendant for Qantas on their International flights. I later went on to become an instructor, teaching Cabin Crews the fine art of cabin-crewing. I was with Qantas for thirty odd years. Before Qantas I was a Merchant Seaman with the various shipping lines that were navigating the coastal-trade runs around Australia. In 1945 the ship I was in was involved in the repatriation of Australian troops from Japan. I then went from sailing on the seas to flying over them.

Interest in turning began when/how? About twenty years ago when I watched a turner demonstrating at a Working With Wood show. It all began from there. I was there when John Page and Graham Z started the Southern Highland Region Chapter of the Sydney Woodturners Guild of which I am a life member. My interest continued further when I became president of the Sydney Woodturners Guild, a position I held for about five years.

Have you had any turning tuition? Yes. I had a one-day session with Andrew Gittoes in Goulburn.

How would you describe your workshop? Yes indeed. I have large shed down the back.



What sort of lathe do you have? Yes. As a matter of fact I have three. There is a Tekinatool 1500, a Vicmarc VL100 and a custom built lathe especially for bowl turning. I bought it from a chap in Oyster Bay.



What other machinery do you have? I've a Band saw, Drill press, Radial arm saw and a Triton router and saw bench as well as Routers and the usual handheld items.

Preferred turning tool? The Skew chisel.



Favourite turning timber? I like the burls.

Preferred Finish? The waxes, Triple-EEE and Shellawax.

Has your turning been influenced by anything/body? No. I just do my own thing.

Do you have a preference in turning i.e. bowls spindle etc.? I like to turn platters and bowls and multi-sided platters.

Do you have a favourite piece that you have made? Yes. A platter I turned off-centre out of a piece of New South Wales Rosewood.

What has been your most difficult/intricate/failed piece? A small burl that just fell apart. It literally disintegrated.

Is there any particular aspect of your turning you would like to improve? Deep hollow turning.

Is there any particular project that you wish to accomplish at some time? No. There is nothing I can think of at the moment.

What do you like and/or dislike about woodturning? Nothing at all.

Is there a particular benefit you feel you have gained from the craft? It keeps me busy.

Do you have any other interests apart from woodturning? No, not really. I do like to read.



Ed Note: Peter Herbert is Southern Highlands only Life Member of the Sydney Woodturner's Guild. A tribute to the respect that Peter is held in by all of our groups, not just our own.



**SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS
WOODIES GROUP INC.**

Meetings:

4th Sat each month, 10.00am – 4.30pm

Every Friday, 9.30am-12.30pm

President: John Powell , 48 712 714

Vice-Pres: Peter Herbert, 48 894 009

Secretary: John Harris, 62 582 701

Treasurer: Ian Pye, 48 623 750

Guild Rep: Fred Schffarczyk, 48 894 316

**Mail : PO Box 336
Mittagong NSW 2575**

We're on the web
Sydneywoodturners.com.au

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.

Library

Check it out.

Book, videos and DVDs.

Small fee for a month's viewing.

Old Editions of Woodchips.

Did you know that our Woodchips can be found in full colour on the Guild's website.

From May 2006 to current date. Check it out.

Equipment

We now have a 'dremel' kit and a pyrography machine. Both available for borrowing.

Cost is that you add something to one of the kits, eg a burr or sanding mandrel, or something.

**Presidents Challenge
2009**

January: Plate or platter

February: Gavel

March: Inlay, colour, texture

April: Trembleur, hollow form

May: Lidded bowl

June: Sphere or scoop

July: Letter opener, knife

August: Lamp, candlestick

September: Segmented work

October: Goblets

November: Pens

December: Christmas Ornaments

These are the projects for the theme of Show & Tell for each of the 2009 meetings. This should also produce a range of items in the Excellence Award.

John Page & Excellence Awards

John Page Awards Nominations for March were:

Byron Grant: 2 nominations

Roger Wilson: 4 Nominations

Excellence Award Nominations for March were:

Ron South: Firetruck, pine and maple

Max Donato: Vase in maple and paint

Bill Shean: Pyrographed square bowl in casuarina

Ian Pye: Lidded bowl in huon pine & red cedar

Excellence Award for 2009

The Excellence Award for 2009 will be based on the items presented at the July 2008 to May 2009 meetings. All items nominated by the Committee for inclusion in the competition will be asked to be returned to the June meeting.

At the June meeting, all members present will be able to vote on their preferred piece. The voting system has been changed and each member will be allowed 3 votes..

The winner of the 2009 Excellence Award will be announced at the opening of our 'Treasures in Timber' exhibition in the Moss Vale Council Chambers in late July. All items from the Excellence Award will displayed plus others.