

Highlights of July Meeting



Our special Maxi Day July 19. dawned sunny however when I arrived at the club at 9 am the sun was still shining but the temperature was 2.5C. Richard Raffan was our demonstrator for the day and a good roll up of members was expected including some visitors from



and Vegetable soup was wafting through our hall.

The demonstration commenced at 10 am with an audience of 25 and the number grew to 32 after



lunch . Richard turned a bowl from wet claret ash while being very descriptive with his tool handling procedure . Prior to sanding Richard sprayed some Powers Orange Oil onto the unfinished bowl to keep dust down and to create a special patina . When the outside of the bowl was complete he separated it from the core by use of a slicer that gave him a blank to make a second smaller bowl.

At 12 noon a two course lunch was served consist-

Cont
.....p4

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS WOODIES GROUP INC.

Woodchips

other areas. Our newly installed cameras would be tested today. Some of the members taking part in the installation on the previous Friday and giving lots of advice were Peter Brett , Bill Shean , John Powell , Peter Jackson and of course Crispy plus others. After some initial teething problems the cameras performed admirably. A job well planned and executed, congratulations to all. By this time the aroma of Freddy and Crissy R's superb Tomato

What's Happening

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|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 22 August | John Rossiter & Windsor Chair
Hands-on Day – Turn it, Bash it, Scrape It, Paint It, Surface Decoration Day. Try Crispie's jig!! |
| 4-6 September | Canberra Working With Wood Show
Bus Trip Saturday 5th. Booking sheet available. \$20 |
| 12-14 September | Down Under Turnaround, Phillip Island |
| 26 September | Ornamental Turners & AGM.
Nominations needed. |



2009 Excellence Award, R South



Bill Bailey: Letter opener in



Byron Grant



John Powell: Cheese knife in
woody pear



Max Donato: Letter openers



Peter Brett: Casuarina letter opener & pate knife



Bob Miller's Workshop by Max Donato

The first thing you notice of Bob Miller's workshop is just how neat and tidy it is. The second thing you notice is the space. Room to swing six or eight cats, until you realize that that space is usually occupied by a couple of cars, which explains the bench arrangements on the sidewall. Solid old doors have been ripped down the center to give a 410mm wide bench space the full length of the shed. They provide plenty of room to work on and still allow room for the autos. Also a section of the bench is sited directly under a large window giving plenty of natural light for working or for just sitting back and daydreaming through..

Beneath the bench he has artfully placed 60mm wide wire mesh shelves, so no dust, to stow some of the hundreds of plastic jars and containers of screws, nuts, bolts, nails and other small pieces of hardware, each showing a label describing the item if you can't recognize it through the container. He learnt early in the piece that glass does not bounce. Also there is some of those little blue hardware-store style storage bins clipped to the wall for the larger nuts and bolts.

Should Bob require a greater bench area to work on, he has fitted two of those folding type Bench-Mates each with a large heavy-duty plywood board about 1 metre by 2 metres. If an even larger work area is needed then he just butts the two together. When no longer required they fold up and are set against the back wall. A great idea. I went home and immediately fitted up my bench

mate. Extremely handy and very portable.

A multi-tiered steel-shelving unit sits lengthwise between where the noses of the two automobiles would be and this is packed solid with timbers of all shapes and sizes and types. Very neat. Very tidy.

Small stackable plastic laundry? bins with hinged lids hold the smaller off cuts, and one of them has the most number of pen blanks I have ever seen gathered together in one spot. Squares of sanding paper of all grades are cut from bulk rolls and fastened to the wall in a nice neat line with bulldog clips. Easily identified and ready to hand.

All available space has a shelf or a piece of equipment or the odd gardening tool in it or on it. Bob shows that shelves do not have to be long or wide to be useful. Old doors have been put to use yet again, this time in the whole piece and fitted up in the rafters for storing those larger and heavier items. In a novel approach to storage, a large piece of steel mesh (a square metre) is suspended from the rafters, and tools and other ready use items are hung from the mesh on butcher type hooks and wire loops, similar to my old granny's kitchen.

Bob has mounted a heavy-duty ped-

Cont p4

President's Report

This month has been a very busy one for the Woodies. We had a most enjoyable day with Richard Raffan who, as always, proved to be a very interesting and entertaining demonstrator.



We also set up the exhibition of the items in the Excellence Award in the cabinet in the foyer of the Wingecarribee Council Chambers. This is a really excellent display, and I would urge anyone who hasn't seen it to hurry along and have a look. It closes on 28th August.

Ron South was the worthy winner of the Excellence Award with his fire truck in pine and rosewood. Congratulations Ron, very well done!! We had a pleasant evening with the Mayor, Duncan Gair, making the presentation to Ron in front of several members and their wives. This was followed by light refreshments with good company.

Two evenings later Bill Shean and I met the Mayor again when we were presented with the Community Assistance Scheme grant of \$2565.00 with which we will purchase variable speed motors for our lathes. Duncan Gair gave us a very good "plug" and urged everyone to have a look at our display. All good advertising for our group!

We have a bus going to the Canberra Working with Wood Show on Saturday 5th September with Graeme Webb as the driver. Cost \$20.00. Please put your name on the board at the back of the hall if you are going to join us.

Finally, can I remind everyone that the Arts Trail weekend (31 Oct- 1 Nov) is fast approaching. We need a good supply of items for sale and display so get those lathes working and make yourself some pocket money into the bargain. Last year we had a lot of enquiries for lamp bases and candle sticks.

Keep those chips flying, John.

Treasurer's Report

The Equipment Fund stood at \$1,290.74 at the of June 2009.

In July we added the net income from the last BBQ which was \$613 and we paid out \$800 for a new motor giving a balance of 1103.74 now in the Fund.

We will shortly receive the Council grant for purchase of additional equipment. We collected \$800 for the Raffan Demo day and paid Richard \$700 and the food cost \$70.30 so we were reasonably square on the day.

Our regular funds balance is below par and we have rent to pay, membership money has to go to the

guild and an outstanding power bill so we may need to consider this situation next month.

I have increased the regular float from \$150 to \$200 so that there is sufficient on hand for future BBQs etc without making additional withdrawals. The total above is \$50 higher than the Payments figure on the statement as the float amount appears in the reconciliation at the bottom of the

statement page.

Regards

Ian



Experience: What you get when you don't get what you want.

Luck: When opportunity meets preparation.

Highlights of July Meetingcont

ing of the before mentioned soup and of course our famous sausages on a bun.

A small vase was Richard's next item followed by a small oak box which is very much his signature item.

As always he made it look so simple and easy , except for a couple of minor mishaps that made him look rather like one of us , i.e." Murphy was here "! Richard then attempted to make a natural edge bowl from a very unbalanced piece of claret ash ,



time however did not allow him to finish this item . It could be said that Richards demo was more entertaining than on previous occasions. We closed at 4 pm. Fred S



Bob Miller's Workshop ...cont

estal drill on a cabinet, which he has fitted with wheels for maneuverability. The cabinet itself has a drawer for drill bits and chucks keys etc, at the top and in the space under is where he keeps his supply of bowl and platter blanks. There is also a drop saw, a band saw, a monster of a lathe and a set of what Bob says is the most useful item in his shed. A set of Triton super-jaws. They can hold anything of any size and any shape, nice and steady at a height right where you want it.

The steel frame of the lathe has been boxed in to create cupboard space beneath the bed. The outside face of the backboard, and the areas at the end of the lathe holds all the lathe accessories such as chucks and faceplates etc. The front area, that directly beneath the bed, is fitted with a long length of magnetic strip (from IKEA he tells me) and this holds all of his turning tools very nicely. Upwards of thirty or more. A steel mesh

piece fitted to the bottom allows the shavings to drop through eliminating the perennial cleaning problem. The lathe is on wheels and can be easily moved around the shed or even outside on to a beautiful concrete apron that is almost the same area as the shed itself. On a nice sunny day he can, and does, wheel the lathe outside, slip, slop and slap, and turn to his hearts content.

The workshop has a toilet, a sink and a refrigerator for the necessities of life but, and very sensibly there is no telephone. There is also a glass-fronted cabinet for showing off the finished turnings and other works of art.

A truly functional workshop that, to quote that tired old cliché, has a place for everything and everything in its place.

The Excellence Award Presentation and Opening of the Display

As mentioned in John's President's report, Duncan Gair presented the Excellence Award at a function held in the Moss Vale Council Chambers and then opened the 'treasures in Timber' Display.

This year's winner was Ron South for his firetruck. Which was voted upon by a huge majority of members. Ron made mention in a little speech he made of how pleased he was that we had voted in a 'non woodturning' piece to truly reflect our name 'Woodies'.

Following are some photos of the presentation, the display and the members and spouses present at the opening.

We have also managed to get some good press recently for the award, the display and also our Council Grant.





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.

Pay when ordering.

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.

Library

Check it out.

Jimmy Clewes DVDs bought at the Show.

Book, videos and DVDs.

Small fee for a month's viewing or reading.

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 pro-

John Page & Excellence Awards

John Page Awards Nominations for June and July will appear in September's edition.

Excellence Award Nominations for June and July will appear in September's edition.

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Lathe for Sale

Teknatool 16-44 for sale.

2 years old. Currently approx \$1,800 new. Bargain at \$1,000.

Do not have room for this lathe in the new workshop at Tea Gardens. Bill Shean 0417 277 782 0246 843 146