

March, 2010



SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS WOODIES GROUP INC.

# Woodchips

## Highlights of February Meeting

Darrell Smith from the Blue Mountains found 26 members and 2 visitors in attendance for his session on metal forming tools and combining with his woodwork.

He told us how he had seen this add

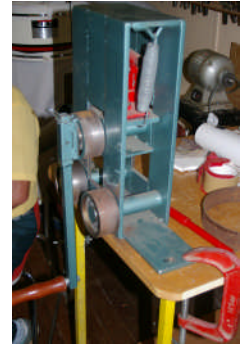


for a kit which would fold, curl, twist, cut, punch and do various other things with iron rods and flats. And he had to have it! But the basic kit soon became the more expensive but more capable kit.

He then got on with showing us



how each of the jigs work as each one had its own purpose of bending or curling or twisting etc.



Rumour has it that John Crisp went home and told Joyce about it. Her response was, "move something out before you move something in". Totally out there!

Darrell showed us his enthusiasm and got a number of members up trying the various tools.

Mike gave us his Mike's Tips section which was primarily about thrusting harder with tools to maintain bevel contact and control the cut.

Show and Tell was well attended with quite a few 3-legged contraptions which was the project for this month.

## What's Happening

- 27 March Mike Darlow, Design Workshop and Exercise
- 24 April Hands on Day
- Team bowl Making**
- 18-20 June Sydney Working With Wood Show
- 3-5 September Canberra Working With Wood Show



2009 Excellence Award, R South

# Show & Tell - February Meeting

Project for February was a 3-legged bowl



**Max Donato:** Surian Cedar bowl, 3 legs



**Bill Bailey:** 3-legged thuya bowl



**John Crisp:** Silky oak and steel



**Keith Buchanan:** 3 leg land-  
ing Tiger Moth



**Bob Miller:** pot pourri on Fi-  
jian mahogany



**Roger Wilson:** 3 legged bowl  
in PNG rosewood



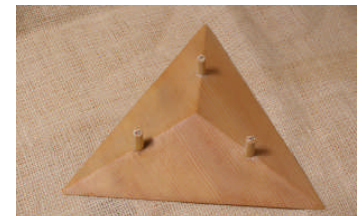
**Ian Pye:** 3 legged pine bowl



**Jim Powell:** Bowl in pine, painted dish



**Ian Pye:** 3 legged triangular bowl, western red cedar



**Roger Wilson:** Donkey with  
three legs bowl



**John Harris:** 3-legged, plus  
spikes, bowl in rosewood &  
claret ash



**Ken Sullivan:** Curnone sticks in  
rosewood



**Graeme Webb:** Picture frame,  
with photo of John Page, WR  
Cedar



**Ron South:** 3-legged in camphor laurel



**Peter Brett:** 3-legged in rosewood and pyrography



**Graeme Webb:** Lidded 3-legged bowl in  
gingko biloba & WR Cedar



**Bruce Everett:** Malle burl 3-legged and a burl 3-legged



## President's Report

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Well, here we are in London in freezing subzero temperatures. However we did find our way to Alexandra Palace to support Mike Darlow and Richard Raf-fan. Both gave very interesting and much appreciated demonstrations with plenty of questions being asked by the audience. Woodies over here are as friendly and helpful as those of the Southern Highlands and we were made to feel very welcome. The show itself was very similar to those in Canberra and Sydney, although on a smaller scale.

We saw a very intriguing demonstration on turning rose flowers out of Strawberry Tree roots by a French turner. The timber was very wet as he keeps it under water till he's ready to use it. The end result was beautiful, and we could see Ken Sullivan producing them.

Glad to hear the BBQ went off well, and hope the Moss Vale Show went well too.

We still have a lot planned for our time here but will see you next month, though probably still jet lagged.



Keep the chips flying, John.

### Further Communication from John

Hello Everyone,  
Thanks for the email and keeping us up to date with all the news. Good to hear that Peter Herbert was at the Show and that you did well with sales. We heard that there were record crowds this year.

Next week we are off to the Cotswolds for a few days so will be out off communications. Looking forward to some nice walks and cheese tastings.

Hope you are feeling much more comfortable by now Roger, and that Fred is getting some answers by now. Also hope that everyone else is well.

The family here are keeping us busy with "caulking" and "decorating". At least the weather is warming up a bit and we are now getting into double figures during the day.

Cheers for now,  
John.

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## Treasurer's Report

Here are the financial results of our recent BBQ at Bunnings and our activity at the Moss Vale Show.

BBQ takings were \$584, expenses \$322 so profit was \$262 (plus some sausages and drinks left over).

Show sales were \$1,015 so our 10% commission came to \$101.50 and we received a donation of \$9.

Fred Robjent did a great job of organising the show effort with transport of the gear provided by Peter Gerlach and general help from about 12 members. It was good to see Peter Herbert who attended for two days at the show.

We have opted out of a BBQ which was offered by Bunnings for 11 April.

See you all (except the globe trotters and other travellers) on Saturday 27 March.

Once again this month's figures are incomplete as banking could not be finalised before the end of the month due to our Saturday meeting being on 27 Feb. With receipt of Equipment Levies the Equipment fund has risen to \$1,366.09 and the total balance of our funds at end of February was \$2,998.31.

Friday lunch money has not accumulated since Christmas so we have not been able to recover the intended contribution for kitchen supplies.



Here is a short story of a recent weekend spent with our grand children I hope you all get a smile from it and feel sure most of you have had experiences just like it, enjoy.

### A Weekend with Nan and Pop.

Well the story goes like this, my wife Pam and I had the pleasure of enjoying our four grand children 's company last Friday night, as they all stayed for a sleepover for the evening, three boys and a little girl, the eldest has not long turned five and Ruby the youngest, almost three.

Saturday morning Rubys ' parents arrive to take her and her brother Jasper off to swimming lessons and the like, Pam and I take Thomas and William who are brothers off to their swimming lessons, and upon return the two brothers announce that we want to go into Pops ' shed and make some aero plane, submarines, rockets and spaceships. In an attempt to slow them down a little, I ask them to draw some plans of the things they want to make, sure Pop, where is the paper? And as you all know you need to keep a ready supply on hand for your own planning and sketches.

Well with plans at hand there was only one thing left and that was cutting out and construction, all done with meticulous care as the two lads watched and help cut out, and of course instructed Pop on just how to fit " W " wings for the space ships and make sure they are built to take all the knocks and bumps of inter planetary travel.

Once the construction of all these craft were completed as well as a jet aero plane for cousin Jasper, which I might add ended taking up all Saturday afternoon and nearly all Sunday morning. Well it was time to decorate and colour all the craft and the plans were once again sought for reference as they were complete with corporate logs etc.

At 1500hrs Mum arrived to take her sons home, much to the disappointment of the boys who were not quite finished in flogging Pop at soccer, but with some coaxing we managed to get Thomas and William and all their projects into the car for the ride home.

Monday afternoon Pam collects Thomas from Kindergarten

and during the ride home tells Nanna how much he had enjoyed his time in the shed making the craft that now has pride of place in the bedroom, and also throws in, are we going to your place now Nan, because I want to build some more planes and things with Pop, and as Nanna explains, that, Pop is almost out of timber from the last round of construction yesterday, and as all five year olds know you just go to the shop and buy more, and as explained by Nanna, we don 't have any money to buy timber at the shops, Tom.

Well the conversation takes on other topics for the duration of the trip home, but once home Tom heads for his bedroom, while Nanna gets the kitchen ready for tea, but after a while Pam hears this rattling sound emanating from Toms room and upon further investigation finds Tom busy trying to empty his money box, and so far has managed to extract \$1 and a 10 cent piece, there Nan how much is that? Well it 's a dollar and ten cents Tom, is that enough for some wood Nan? Well not really Tom, so more rattling and out falls a 50 cent piece, now how much is it? It 's a dollar and sixty cents Tom, Well announces Tom that should be enough money for Pop to buy some more wood for next time we are there to do building !

Kids you just can 't beat them, just when you think you have them figured out, they surprise you like Thomas did with Pam and I.

I really do enjoy the company of the four grand children in the workshop, although it is a full time job refereeing and finding enough timber the right shape and colour etc, and when the machines start there is a scatter for the right coloured earmouses, for our ears, yes earmouses, there is no way that I am permitted to refer to them as any thing else.

I hope you all enjoyed the story and feel sure that most of you have a similar story you could send Scott to help out with By Hand and Eye.

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## Corbett Gardens Stall by Max Donato

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### SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS WOODIES CLEARANCE SALE.

Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> of February the club held a Stall Sale in Corbett Plaza. A clearance sale so to speak. A chance for members to move some of those accumulated miscellaneous turnings.

*The club is in possession of a foldaway canopy/tent/pergola whatever, which is an absolute piece of engineering ingenuity. Packed away as a small-concertinaed package, a pull here and a push there and a 10 by 10 structure rises out of this little bundle of metal sticks. Pull a vinyl cover over the frame and bloody hell, there "it" is.*

We filled "it" with all sorts of turnings that appeared to appeal to the passersby passing by. They came. They saw. They picked it up, rubbed it, smelled it, oohed and aahed and sometimes put it back and sometimes kept it and took it home with them. They kept it to the tune of almost \$800 worth. The level of interest from the public was such that even while packing up at 4:30 people were still stopping and looking. I think that says a lot.

Ron South had some of his wondrous creations on offer and one lady liked them so much she took two. Very cheap if I may say so Ron. Freddie R sold a large pepper grinder. We told the chap that it had been finished with a particular British type finishing oil, but he bought it anyway.

### "BELIEVE" it or not, these are REAL 911 Calls!

Dispatcher: 9-1-1 What is your emergency?

Caller: I heard what sounded like gunshots coming from the brown house on the corner.

Dispatcher: Do you have an address?

Caller: No, I have on a blouse and slacks, why?

Dispatcher: 9-1-1 What is your emergency?

Caller: Someone broke into my house and took a bite out of my ham and cheese sandwich.

Dispatcher: Excuse me?

Caller: I made a ham and cheese sandwich and left it on the kitchen table and when I came back from the bathroom, someone had taken a bite out of it.

Dispatcher: Was anything else taken?

The majority of items sold were the smaller ones. Small bowls, platters, scoops etc. There did not appear to be a great deal of interest in the pens, but that may just have been on the day. Next time things could be entirely different.

Unfortunately there was no power available at the Plaza so we were not able to give the passing passersby a demonstration of turning which of course is something that really intrigues them. They love to smell the wood and to see the shavings fly, and the dig-ins and the job shooting out of the chuck. Must admit though that cleaning up at the end of the day was much easier.

The general consensus is that we should maybe hold these sales every three or four months It is a good way of making some money to buy more blanks and to get rid of those surplus turnings so you can see the floor of your workshop. It must be said here also that realistic prices should be put on your goods. Don't sell yourself short though. You have a skill not many others have. We would ask that you keep your prices to whole dollars. Not like a certain metal working woodie whom cooks sausages but shall remain nameless, who had us scrambling to find fifty-cent pieces for change.

I would like to thank all those who participated in the exercise. Those people who supplied goods for sale and especially those who gave up their time to man the stall and to haul all the equipment to the site, set it up and then strike it down and haul it away back to the clubhouse. Many thanks.

All in all it was a rather successful day. With the lessons learned and experience gleaned from this one, the next one should be even better.

Max



**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:** Roger Wilson, 48 623 175

**Secretary:** Peter Brett, 48 713 104

**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.

**Library**

Check it out.

Jimmy Clewes DVDs bought at the Show.

Book, videos and DVDs.

Small fee for a month's viewing or reading.

**Old Editions of Woodchips.**

Did you know that our Woodchips can be found in full colour on the Guild's website. I just sent the last few month's worth to go up on the web. So the missing editions should be there.

**Trend Timbers Move**

Trend Timbers will be moving:

15 Railway Road North

Mulgrave NSW 2756

This is one street over from their previous address.

**Presidents Challenge  
2010**

**January:** Turned picture frame

**February:** Bowl with 3 feet

**March:** Pr duplicate candlesticks

**April:** Deep hollowed vessel

**May:** Bowl with "??"

**June:** Reassembled wall hanging

**July:** Cutting board

**August:** Cup, saucer and tea spoon

**September:** Dinner plate

**October:** Turned toy or game

**November:** Ernie Newman Doll

**December:** Christmas Ornaments

These are the projects for the theme of Show & Tell for each of the 2010 meetings. This should also produce a range of items in the Excellence Award.

**John Page & Excellence Awards**

**John Page Awards Nominations**

**January**

Sam McGrath 3 nominations

Bruce Everett 1 nomination

Jim Powell 2 nomination

**Excellence Award**

**January**

Bruce Everett Pyrographed turpentine dish

John Harris Holy bowl

Sam McGrath Red boy burl bowl

Sam McGrath Burl bowl

**Tea Gardens Time**

Finally finished lining the workshop yesterday. Joy!!!

So now I'll start to put shelves up and move tools out of the garden shed, the boxes on the back patio and those temporarily stored in the garage. I'll probably find a few duplicates, so bring your money to the April meeting, there could be a few tools for sale.

Timber has to come back into the workshop from around near the laundry where it is blocking movement from the laundry up the side to where the clothesline used to be. The clothesline is now inside the garden shed. Different!!

So some time around Easter, I might actually be able to walk into the workshop and actually turn a piece of timber. Cannot wait. Regards Bill

PS. We had another members join the other day, took our total membership to 7.