



Newsletter

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Opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Board of Directors, or the Executive Committee of Woodgroup SA Inc.

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www.woodgroupsa.org.au

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(George Pastuch - Editor)

From the President

Things are looking well on all fronts. We have a potential club in the making at Kingston in the South East, and next year we hope, another formed of members of 'MakerSpace' (They still have not told us a price for hiring their centre for a full or half a day). This is the letter I sent to the person nominated to be the President of 'Kingston Woodworkers'.

Dear Potential President (no name),

Your name was forwarded to me by the President of the Murrayland Woodworkers at the last board meeting of Woodgroup SA.

Should you be able to form a club, and we hope that you do, we are able to offer you the following:

- A mentor group to assist you in physically setting up your workshop, and advising ('Murraylands Woodworkers' have volunteered to do this)*
- Give sound practical advice on safety in the workshop – providing sheets regarding setting up guiding policies on safety and the safe use of machinery, first aid etc*
- Access to Public liability insurance (NOT personal liability as it would send costs 'through the roof although we are investigating this)*
- \$100 per year for a person to help with first aid training.*
- Two seats on our board with a vote commensurate with your numbers). Contribution to travelling costs (one car) to help defray costs if you live over 50 km from Board Meetings*
- An invitation to attend our 'Merry Month of May' inter-club event, where once a year members (partners too) meet and see demonstrations, purchase tools, and interact; we have a dinner and awards are given for outstanding work.*

- Opportunities to attend exhibitions and also sell your members' craftwork
- Have a central point of access for help, advice, policies, etc
- The opportunity to apply for a capital grants (e.g. tools, machinery, etc) once a year- awarded on the merit of the application with quotes on costs – maximum about \$1000. We are at present forming a list of what grants can be applied for and when from local councils etc.
- We are able to supply members from different clubs to give talks and demonstrations.
- We provide a \$500 new club 'starters allowance'
- Access to publicise your club via the WoodgroupSA newsletter and website

To become members of WoodgroupSA we charge an annual 'capitation fee' of \$6 per member (applicable on a financial year basis i.e. for you it would come into effect from 1/7/2020 ???)

We will need to know:

- (1) How many members do/will you have?
- (2) Where will your workshop be – someone's home, a school, a shed, a community place
- (3) Are you able to be self sufficient and in what time span?
- (4) What tools do you have?
- (5) Do you have people who are sufficiently skilled to show people these skills and ensure that everything is carried out with safety?
- (6) Do your members (or some) need training in the safe handling of machinery?
- (7) Will you need speaker-demonstrators to start you off?

Remember, 'safety is our creed in and out of the workshop' so we all have an 'events book'

General Invitation WoodgroupSA members

This was a cancelled event (August) but now we are going full speed ahead.

On Saturday 16 November WoodgroupSA has scheduled a Technical Skills workshop in the morning 10-12pm and again in the afternoon 1-3pm at MakerSpace, 100 Franklin St Adelaide SA 5000 (you may need a parking station, or leave your car on the outskirts and take the bus in).

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The workshop will consist of four sessions of 30 minutes rotating:

- i) Laser cutting and engraving
- ii) 3D printing (how can we use it)
- iii) CNC cutting
- iv) An Information Technology section where we will show video clips, show how to use software-woodworkers can use and you can leave with it on your own USB stick (BYO)

A common shared lunch 12-1pm. We will need to know dietary requirements e.g. gluten free, coeliac, vegan, vegetarian.

People coming in for the same sessions, but in the afternoon will have this shared lunch (our social side)

And then we will run the same sessions 1-3 pm in the afternoon.

Club secretaries please coordinate and respond to [Secretary WoodgrooupSA](#) by Friday 18 October including a NIL return if applicable.

WoodgroupSA Network Meeting, Tuesday 10 September 2019

We met this time in one part of the newly and extensively renovated section of the Community Centre –in a very bright and cheery atmosphere. Apologies were received from Ray and Rena Hoare, and from Roger Humphris. It was good to welcome back John Beswick after months away.

John Tillack began with a variety of items. The first was a long draw knife with a cutting edge about 300 mm long with its original handles. This along-grain roughing tool was made of cast steel by Ward Steel, a Sheffield UK company founded in 1803, continuing to the 1930's, and well known for its good tool steel.

Draw knives are handy for taking corners off square stock, shaping chair spindles and legs (like the stool by Bob Page shown in last month's report), and similar.



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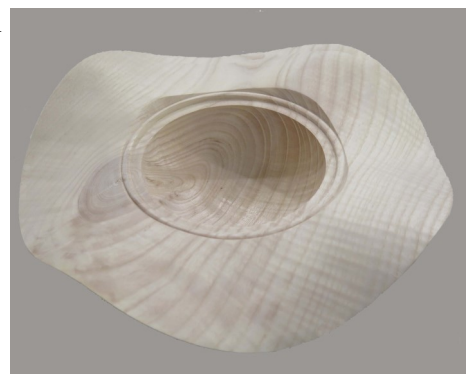
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His next was a jig for securely drilling a hole centred on the side of a cylinder of any length. His jig with a shortish cylinder is shown in the adjacent image—basically two vee-blocks in which the cylinder is clamped while being drilled on a pedestal drill. The jig is moved until the highest point of the cylinder is under the drill bit, then clamped to the table and drilled. The jig is simple to make, requiring only two bolts or threaded rods to push the cylinder firmly into the vee-blocks, two tee nuts, some screws, and some timber blocks—here all mountain ash (*Eucalyptus regnans*).

His third item was an ash bowl (*Fraxinus excelsior*) heading towards completion. The whole piece was about 230 mm in diameter, but with a rim about 60 mm wide shaped into waves with 4 crests and troughs around it. By turning the central bowl with a thick rim, he then power carved the waves on the top and bottom faces of the rim with Saburr discs followed by hand work. The overall result was quite attractive even in its unfinished state. He may add a lid with finial in darker timber to the bowl.

He then showed images of a table he was making—the top was a cross-grain slab of huon pine (*Lagarostrobos franklinii*) showing at least 400-500 years of growth rings. The slab was 900 x 500 x 40 mm thick. He had constructed a triangular frame and legs to accommodate the shape of the slab from mountain ash.



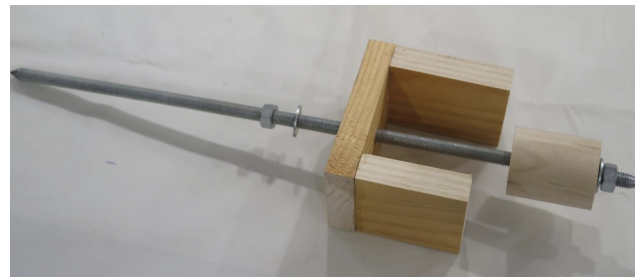


The legs slope outwards towards the top by 5 degrees. He was happy that the unusual joint work closed excellently! The image shows the result so far –an impressive piece of work.



Finally, he described a wall hanging he had made out of pieces of mountain ash. The hanging was too large to bring at 870 x 300 mm, but we were happy to see the image, shown below. The array was made by turning broad bead/cove patterns in the faces of 10 individual pieces clamped into a jig and turned. This was repeated, all the pieces were then separated and mounted to form the panel.

Graham Were was next up with a simple jig he had made to help extract the headstock spindle from Leda mini-lathes –a task occasionally needed when the rather light belt frays and breaks: the only way to replace it is remove the spindle from the mostly enclosed casting of the headstock. This is best done applying steady pressure to the spindle rather than hammering it out that may damage the bearings. His jig enables that steady pressure to be applied via the threaded rod passing down the spindle throat and the wooden stirrup bearing against the back end of the casting –the two legs are different lengths to allow for the shape of that casting. The idea can be applied to other lathes with slight dimensional modifications. His jig only requires a length of threaded rod and some timber blocks. It can also be used to re-insert the bearings and spindle after a new belt is installed.



His presentation provoked some interesting discussion on removing bearings from fittings without damage, ranging from using heat and coolth to expand or contract components so they loosen their grip –John Tillack mentioned fitting the pinion in the Port River Expressway bridge, where something like 40,000 litres of liquid nitrogen (at a temperature of around -200°C) were used to shrink the metre diameter pinion to fit it in place by a floating crane. The shafts and bearings of even large lathes are chicken feed by comparison!



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Roger Parker showed a “lazy susan” style of wool unwinder that knitters have taken a liking to –in preference to a yarn bowl. This model, made from rosewood (*Dalbergia species?*), is his first one. The base of this is about 150 mm in diameter, with the central spindle about 100 mm tall, around which the ball of wool or yarn sits. It works admirably, according to the knitters. It has resulted in orders for more! Roger will make some design changes to neaten the appearance –like making the skirt of the top disc longer to better hide the ball race.



John Beswick had been busy at TurnSA at Kingston recently. His first item was an initially spherical bowl about 120 mm in diameter, made from sycamore (*Acer platoplatanus*). An oblique split in the wall drove a design change: he sawed the bowl along the split in two, then reglued them back together with a slice of dyed sycamore in between, but with the two parts rotated relative to each other. The resulting bowl now had a gently rising and quickly falling rim. After some further trimming on the lathe, he then flattened a base on the bowl to give it some stability. The overall impression was of useful artistry.



His second was a cannon made from one piece of red ash (*Alphitonia excelsa*, a northern NSW/ southern QLD coastal species) of specified dimensions.



This was an entry into a competition to see who could shoot a small wooden projectile (made from the same wood) the farthest, using air supplied by a hand pump and air line that sealed to the breech. The greatest distance achieved was 40 feet 7 inches (i.e. 10.31 m), but with a cannon that had a brass tube bore, not part of the design

rules. John managed about half that with a carefully drilled 1/4" (6.25 mm) bore. The effort is something for others to try and better, using an identical approach!



Third was a 6 cm diameter red gum bowl cut into a weathered block about 110x 80 cm in plan view. He finished the bowl itself with Ubeaut tripleE, and the rim with Stylewood oil, giving that part a low sheen to contrast with the bowl itself.

Franco Lanfranchi returned with some miniatures turned out of a 50 mm cube. One of these won him a prize –the doubly-winged bowl. But the table and the “Rubik’s cube” (a small bowl with a lid), were excellently done too. Franco also issued a challenge to those who come to these nights –by suggesting a theme to get more folk involved: model a 50 x 50 x 50 Rubics cube using just your favourite tool and timber.



John Bennett passed around a small red mallee bowl (almost 100 mm in diameter) with some contrasting grain and patterning. He had added a couple of lines around the bowl near the rim for slight decoration.

This was followed by an unfinished 180 mm diameter silky oak (*Grevillea robusta*) open bowl. It was unfinished because it was parted off before close examination of the bowl under good lighting revealed rough patches and walls that were too thick –about 10 mm rather than less than half that –the result of far too much haste, though John Beswick intimated that initial design on paper would have helped avoid that blunder. Unfortunately, any paper version does not ring bells when impatience takes over! Re-mounting the bowl for returning deeper is to be done via a glue block on the base.



His third item was viewed as a weapon by some present –a tapered hole borer to aid making conical holes for funnels and the like. This tool was made from a thick file cut to shape and the two long edges ground to sharpness. It has been used to open out previously bored holes to a slow taper. The tool raised discussion as usual on the use of files for other purposes than filing, but in this particular application, where a torque on the shaft is the only load being applied, snapping of the high carbon steel appear to be unlikely, with any breakages being confined in the hole being bored. This is in contrast to possible shock loads that may be encountered when files are used as skews or end scrapers.



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The above shown and described fine array of items concluded the meeting just before 9 pm, a good session, folk agreed.

The next meeting will be on the second Tuesday in October, an early one, on the 8th, at the San Georgio Community Centre, 11 Henry St, Payneham. Drinks should be available this time from the bar. We shall still gather around 7:00 pm for a 7:30 start, and go through to about 9 pm. If you like Franco's challenge, bring along your efforts, otherwise, or as well, your other creations that you would like to show with others –or come to discuss the many aspects of wood craft.

JB(text) & Alex M. (images)

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The club contributions for 2019 are the same as in 2018.

2019 Club Contributions for the Newsletter

2019	CLUB ARTICLE	MEMBER PROFILE
July	South OZ Scrollers	Riverside & Murrayland Turners
August	Northern Turners	Sculptors & Carvers
September	Southern Turners	South OZ Scrollers
October	Riverside Comm & Fleurieu W/turners	Southern Turners
November	Hills Woodworkers & Copper Coast	Toymendous
There is no Newsletter in December		