



# 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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(George Pastuch - Editor)

## From the President's Shed

I thought retirement was meant to be restful and peaceful. It seems I have been conned somewhere along the way. Nowadays my time seems to be consumed by Clubs, community groups, grandchildren and all those jobs I have been putting off for years. Those endless creative hours at the lathe I had been dreaming about are now just cherished stolen moments. But I am aiming high.

My last discussion regarding training of new turners joining Woodgroup SA Clubs spurred some discussion and correspondence from members. There was a general agreement on the important role Club Trainers undertake. Where possible Woodgroup SA should examine how best to support them through possible skill enhancement workshops presented by professional turners, training packages or other assistance programmes. It is after all, an element of the ideals of Woodgroup SA to facilitate training and education of members. Thanks to all those who have contributed to this positive discussion, and my gratitude to those that freely give their time to pass on the skills to others.

Burnside Exhibition was again a successful event, thanks to all the Committee Members for their ongoing assistance, and the members who exhibited. The debrief resolved to seek a week earlier start in November 2018 and drop off a week in January 2019, to request a Supervisor Car Park Pass from the Council and improved signage and advertising. Council Management are amenable to work with us.

Wayville Exhibition (July Master Builders) has been booked. We had record entries last year and it was a

*(Continued from page 1)*

magnificent display. We did however, run short of tables supplying nine ourselves with (12 donated by KJEX Exhibitions). Woodgroup SA will negotiate hire through KJEX for a further 5 tables for July. New rules for Wayville will see entry limits remain unchanged but 15 pieces per Exhibitor be initially displayed and subsequent items put out on display as items sold. Detailed information will follow closer to the event.

A motion from Murraylands is to be tabled at the next Board Meeting following a request for Woodgroup SA to take over the continued running of the Hahndorf Creative Wood Fair scheduled for last week of November (Saturday and Sunday). There is no criteria for types of items to be sold. It is not a craft market, nor is it a high class Exhibition. Each Club has an allocated area they staff, no commercial businesses permitted. There is a focus on the social interaction with evening BBQ and drinks at nearby farm. Members are encouraged to bring your caravan or Swag, some billeting at two farms available, plenty of space for the caravans (6 Clubs involved last year and we had a ball) the Exhibition Committee has agreed to support the event if the motion is passed. Wood Flair On Fleurieu was a major sponsor and paid for hall hire and has been invited to be involved again this year. They are also members of Woodgroup SA.

Please keep your diary free for the Merry Month of May which is being hosted by Northern Turners this year, they have been working hard to prepare a wonderful event for us all. All in it will be a great weekend of fun and festivities and I hope to see many of you there.

All the best and I will report of my Woodturning lessons next month. The turning tools have been ground to the finest edge and I am on my way to the Mornington Peninsula to see "Robbo" Robinson, it will be just my luck I get a nasty catch during the two day lessons fingers crossed I don't!!!! Robbo does like to see the skew being used.

Cheers

Chris Reynolds.

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***Helen Harris***

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### Murraylands Report.

The dynamics of Murrayland Turners over the last twelve months I assume has been very similar to other Clubs within Woodgroup SA. We have sadly lost two members who passed away following illness and are sadly missed. The most recent, Don Clothier was a masterful turner and wood/engineer whose operational Alfa Laval cream churn (wooden) was a wonder to behold, his fully operational wooden oil can with wood piston plunger – identical to the metal counterpart must have taken hundreds of hours. He was a humble man with a natural gifted talent. We have fortunately gained three new members of varying skill sets who have injected a new enthusiasm.

Last Saturday we fitted our Lucas Mill with a Chainsaw slabbing bar to assist us in milling a massive Himalayan Cedar in concert with the Hills Turners. I also believe we have a River Red Gum to assist Southern Turners with. We are here as a resource to assist where possible other Clubs. We are fortunate to have our own premises at Johnstone Park Murray Bridge, and we have been setting these rooms up with an audio and visual projector to enable members to better view demonstrations. The machine workshop has just been overhauled with new shelving to replace the old timber racks, and a cabinet makers bench with two Dawn vices added.

Last months meeting focused on timber finishes for turnings, members brought along a turned candle stick that involved both spindle and face turning. It was sanded and ready for a finish to be applied. The member was given 10 mins to demonstrate their chosen finish and explain why it is their finish of choice and any issues in its application. At the conclusion all completed finished items were displayed as a comparison of sanding, timber grain and quality of finish. A wide variety of techniques and finishes from sprays, oils and waxes were used with a good exposure to methods many of us found new. Upcoming sessions on silicone mould making and casting with different resins in vacuum and pressure chambers are scheduled. We also have a carbide tool making workshop coming up.

We recently resurrected the woodworking classification as conveyors for the Murray Bridge Show and following a successful event, will expand the category to include Schools within the area to encourage woodworking, pyrography, Woodturning and scroll saw entries from students. We regularly demonstrate at regional shows and events as well as the local Bunnings Store during their special event evenings. We gratefully acknowledge the support of the community, Bunnings and the Murray Bridge Council. We share a good bond with the Hills Turners and have some Members belonging to both Clubs.

All the best to all our fellow members of Woodgroup SA.

Chris Reynolds.



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### Club Contributions for the Newsletter

#### 2018

January  
February  
March  
April  
May  
June  
July

#### CLUB ARTICLE

South OZ Scrollers  
Murrayland Turners  
Sculptors & Carvers  
Southern Turners  
Riverland Woodworkers  
Western Woodworkers  
Toymendous  
  
Northern Turners  
Whyalla Woodies  
Riverside Comm  
& Fleurieu Woodturners  
Hills Woodworkers & Copper Coast

#### MEMBER PROFILE

Western Woodworkers  
Whyalla Woodies  
Fleurieu Woodturners  
Hills Woodworkers & Copper Coast  
Northern Turners  
South OZ Scrollers  
Riverside Community  
& Murrayland Turners  
Sculptors & Carvers  
Riverland Woodworkers  
Southern Turners  
  
Toymendous

Please note that some of the dates for certain clubs may have changed from 2017 in an attempt to separate the requirements for individual clubs. THE EDITOR



# *Merry Month of May*

## *Bulletin No. 2*

*March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018*



### **Some detail regarding planning for the MMoM**

Trade tables are being planned.

**Carbatec.** - Following discussion with Luke Skilton regarding the products to be displayed, it has been suggested that we seek ideas from potential attendees about the range of items preferred. Therefore, we seek feedback from members of the various clubs about needs. If you have any ideas of items you might wish to see or to purchase, can you please let me know – email, [all.wood@bigpond.com](mailto:all.wood@bigpond.com) or by phone on 8264 7414. I will then compile a list and work with Luke. He will need some time in case he needs to order goods from Brisbane (by May 1<sup>st</sup>). I assume that the main requirements will be for consumable products. It is easy to google Carbatec to see their catalogue.

**Woodfast** will again support this annual event with their range of tools, consumables and equipment.

### **Display table**

Members are invited to bring some of their work for display. Details will follow later.

### **Partners programe**

We are planning three separate excursions for partners (although all would be welcome to participate). Places under consideration include a trip to the central Market (probably by the OBahn), a visit to the Port Adelaide wharf area, and a visit to the popular Virginia Nursery. These will depend on numbers interested and transport opportunities.

### **Auction**

At the last Northern Turners meeting we heard a presentation from Care for Cancer, the charity we will be supporting this year. The proceeds from the auction will form a large part of our donation. Items for the auction can include wood, tools, books, bottles of wine etc. The auction will be held after lunch on Sunday and items will all be numbered and will be on display from early on Saturday morning.

### **Demonstrations**

A number of demonstrations will be held over the weekend. They will be held in a separate room so that they will not interfere with the continuous practical sessions. At this stage we think that the following are possible. Some may be repeated if interest is indicated.

Pyrography with Steve Franz

CNC laser burning with Terry Smith

Steve Boczan with the Dremel

*And* Tim Skilton is prepared to help anyone with questions about turning and help solve difficulties people may have with tool use or project ideas.

The next Bulletin will include the Registration form and will be sent out on April 1<sup>st</sup>

***Ron Allen, on behalf of the planning committee – George Pastuch, Bill Elliott, Robert Edge, Hal Sneddon and Terry Smith***

### Whyalla Woodies member profiles

From our oldest member Malcolm Skepper aged 79, then our youngest Austen Kloppers. Aged 17.

Malcolm was born 1939 in Birmingham, due to air raids resulting in damage to their home, when he was six months of age, the family moved to Sheffield. Unfortunately, Sheffield was a major target for air raids also, consequently at the age of five, Malcolm's family where forced to move to Doncaster.

Malcolm remembers his dad going back to school to learn about woodwork, Malcolm making his own toy train under the guidance from his dad.

Malcolm migrated to Australia arriving 3rd in January 1965 with his wife Mary and their two-year-old son.

He worked in Whyalla, first in B.H.P. then 3 other firms before leaving his trade and started as a driving instructor with R.A.A 1976. After 7 years he left to become self-employed as an instructor in 1983.

Malcolm took up target rifle shooting in 1971, within 3 years he achieved "A" grade status, winning "A" grade championship six years straight. Made the South Australian Team as well as numerous prize meetings around the state.

Photography was his next hobby lasting four years.

1985 was the year Malcolm started woodwork, he did a little work on a friends lathe. He made his first lathe which was 4 ft between centres and later bought a Record. Malcolm was in Cummins to acquire some wood from the cabinet makers, there he saw beautiful household furniture. What he saw had an impact on him, to influence him, inspire him to achieve a high standard in his woodwork. Malcolm generously gives his time, shares his experiences to help others to achieve their goals in projects of woodwork.



Austen Kloppers

Age 17

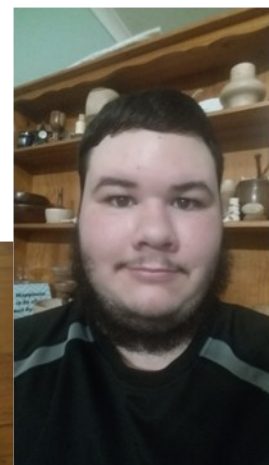
I was born in Secunda South Africa where I lived for 7 years before moving to South Australia due my dad receiving a job opportunity with One Steel. I started school in Nicolson Avenue Junior primary school. I attended Sunrise Christian school from year four and went to Whyalla high from year eight to year ten. I completed year eleven last year at Edward John Eyre.

Hobbies and interests

My hobbies include wood working and wood turning, working on automotive vehicles and metal working.

When I was 11, I found out about the Whyalla woodies during the Whyalla show in Jubilee Park. I was walking past and I noticed that they had demonstrations in scroll saw work and wood turning. As I watched how they could turn a plain piece of wood into something amazing I became very interested and decided to join the club.

Pictures of me and my work





## WoodgroupSA Network Meeting, Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

This first meeting for 2018 began with a mere 9 members, including a new face with Tim Nicholls from Southern Turners (and a model metalworker), and later, Graham Jones from Carvers and Sculptors. Apologies were received from Ray and Rena Hoare, Ray indisposed with a bad throat.

**John Edyvean** began the evening with a welcome to all, then passed around a couple of tools from Roger Humphris's past collection that he had cleaned up, and an early copy of Woodturning magazine.

The first tools were a Rawlplug masonry hand-drill drift with two masonry drills -hardened steel shafts triangular tips and tapered back ends that fitted into sockets on the drift. This gear was accompanied by groans from some members who had remembered using these in times long passed for installing wooden plugs in stone or brick walls to take screws or nails. Your scribe remembers using them for more interesting pursuits – one-time rockclimbing security! The second tool was a solidly constructed bevel gauge – the handle cut from one piece of steel, and the blade about 3 mm thick, with G52 stamped on it – presumably an apprentice's work.

The magazine, #52 from May 1997, had an interesting article on a 3-pointed turning tool from Crown Tools, UK, along with other fascinating material. John had included photocopies of articles connected with the use of the three-pointed tool from issue #53, June 1997, p51. This tool, a shear-scraper, consists of a round bar with an end sharpened into a 3-faced pyramid, and is used for effective cutting of end-grain, small beads, and V-cuts.



**John Beswick** seemingly stepped outside his usual framework with a candle and base, the candle being an electronic, multicoloured and multi-LED light source. The base was turned out of sassafras, with a purpleheart ring pinned to the base for a handle. The LED light array and enclosure with electronics was made by Excelvan. It required mains 240 VAC for power. Light colours could be selected and changed to any of a number of different ones via a remote control. John also passed around the preliminary and design drawings he made of the lamp and stand, but commented that he will remake the base to accord more with the 21<sup>st</sup> century character of the light unit, rather than a “wee-Willie Winkie” style of earlier times.

**Charles Greig** brought along a graceful thin-walled goblet, about 240 mm tall and 60 mm in diameter. The bowl and most of the stem were made from jacaranda, with a red gum base. The two woods, both end-grained, were glued together along a diagonal slice before turning the goblet. After initial shaping, Charles then masked off areas on opposite sides of the bowl exterior, where the growth rings formed a distinctive and closed pattern. He then randomly patterned the two areas with a Dremel and tool bit, painted the area green, removed the masking and resanded the bowl exterior, leaving the pattern green against the pale wood background. Using his own chatterwork tool, he subtly patterned a small ring around the inside bottom of the bowl. He finished the piece in his “Donnybrook” polish.



**John Bennett** passed around the same short piece of log that Tom Jung had produced at the December meet for identification, with no further advances forthcoming from those present, yet. The major points are at least the high density (about 880 kg/cu.m), the brown heartwood colour with fairly narrow light cream sapwood, the relatively strong sweet spicy aroma, the marked contrast between the early wood and latewood in the tree rings,

(Continued from page 7)

and the fine medullary rays.

**Alex Muhlholz** also passed around a short branch slice for wood identification, about 50 mm in diameter. The bark colour and texture, together with raised spots used for gas exchange through the bark (lenticels) visible on the bark, the dark brown heartwood and pale sapwood, were an aid to John Beswick, who indicated it was persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*), from the same genus as true ebonies.

**Roger Humphris**, had been busy making dozens of wheels for toys. With his usual skill in developing techniques to work more speedily on repetitive jobs, he ground out a tool from 12 mm x 3 mm steel for cutting out a recess on one face of the wheel, without having to move the tool rest from its usual axial orientation. The outer edge of the tool was ground to cut on the long side edge rather than the tip. He said his productivity of wheels increased significantly to about 30/hour with this arrangement.

Following this, he explained that he had been cleaning out his wife's craft cupboard and had uncovered all sorts of interesting items that had lain forgotten for decades. He passed around some for those who were enchanted by his offerings: Doll figures made simply with ball head, dowel neck, block body, and a single dowel leg set into a round base were first up. He showed a doll that had been dressed, completely hiding the woodwork except perhaps for the face. Then there were figures made for sitting on a shelf, mantelpiece, table or whatever, the wooden body parts joined by cords to provide the flexibility required.

His more intriguing pieces were two skipping models. One had two turned figures whirling a skipping rope around a third figure which "jumped" up and down as the rope passed above and below. The figures were turned and had dowel legs. The outside figures were attached to a base board and supported the jumping one. By turning a crank (that formed one arm of one fixed figure) with a shaft that passed through its shoulders towards the jumping one, where it was again cranked to pass through the shoulders of that figure and cranked back to the third figure, the figure "jumped". The "rope" was a piece of curved wire soldered at both end to the inner cranked parts. The jumping figure was free to rotate about the axle passing through its shoulders, so it jumped in a somewhat variable fashion, almost lifelike! The model with just two figures operated the same way but without far support for the end of the middle



Discussions throughout the evening brought things to an end just before 9 pm – a good evening in spite of low numbers.

**The next meeting is on ...**

**... the second Tuesday of the month, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**at the San Georgio Community Centre, for a 7:30 pm start.**

**(The venue can be entered off Henry St, Payneham, which runs off Portrush Road, for both northbound (turn off just prior to the Payneham Rd traffic lights) and southbound traffic).**

**Do come and join in the evening with your insights into all aspects of fine woodworking (or not-so-fine, as often occurs when our material comes up with surprises –and design challenges).**