



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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Hills Woodworkers Inc	Ron Burke	08 8389 8574
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(George Pastuch - Editor)

PRESIDENT'S SHED

The Training Initiative

I have taken a short hiatus from this column to focus on pressing matters with my aged Parents. My Mum needed a Nursing Home and My Dad has had to move in with me. At 91 years, Dad has learnt many new skills in dressing, showering, walking safely and even learning how to make a simple meal with a new contraption called a microwave. His 12 weeks Community Health Training is giving him the confidence and life skills to retain his independence. So you can teach an old dog new tricks after all. I have noted that there needed to be a training purpose, a willingness acceptance an end goal and a review process for this to have worked so well. He did not do this by himself, it also involved trained staff and the encouragement of people around him to move forward and learn new things in his life.

So how does this relate to Woodgroup SA? Glad you asked. I have been granted in principal, approval by the Board to facilitate a hands on training initiative to two designated trainers identified by each Clubs to upskill those members in "teaching new Members basic Woodturning skills and fundamentals". The purpose is that as a Group we need to ensure a consistent and sound teaching methodology that translates across all Clubs with

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similar ideals. Some new members are pre skilled when they join our Clubs but others come to learn a new skill and we need to be able to deliver this effectively to attract and retain new members.

Clubs and their members need a “willing acceptance” of the “no cost offer” from the Woodgroup SA Board. It is after all an investment in your future success as a Club by providing a skill set to help you confidently offer your services to aspiring Woodturners, build your numbers and make succession planning easier. The added benefit is that it will bring all Club Trainers together for the first time to allow them to network, resolve training issues and highlight strategies that work or identify areas where more assistance from WoodgroupSA is desired.

The end goal is officially to ensure a sound and consistent training methodology across all WoodgroupSA Clubs. I can foresee many other benefits to the Clubs, some I have discussed. There is a commonality of purpose that binds us together as a collective WoodgroupSA. This initiative is voluntary, it is your funds. The actual Hands on training if delivered over two days costs \$500. Total.

I have also allocated a contingency fund for incidentals associated with the event and a travel contingency fund as required by Woodgroup SA. You need to decide if your Club wants to be involved and get behind the idea.

Review, Murrayland Turners will be piloting the initiative in August, the Club Board has chosen to invest in their members and their future by running a two day session. The success of same will be evaluated and any changes will be enacted for the Woodgroup sessions. If the initiative is a success then ongoing programs that suits **ALL Clubs** can be recommended by the Board.

The lead demonstrator/tutor will be Ian ‘Robbo’ Robinson from the Mornington Peninsular in Victoria. Other guest presenters may be included to give Robbo a break.

Wayville Exhibition: Master Builders and Home Improvement Show.

Once again we have just completed the event with 23 exhibitors and 347 pieces exhibited. The Country Incentive plan was again offered where WoodgroupSA offers Country Clubs a courier to collect their items which are then presented for sale at your stated cost and any unsold items returned to your Club by courier. Sadly no Country Clubs have participated in the last three Exhibitions.

I feel that I need to remind you all that the Exhibitions are run by WoodgroupSA, this is not an individual club

(Continued on page 3)

SCROLL SAW BLADES

We are Australian Distributors for the Swiss made **Pegas** blades.

These are available in both plain end and pinned.

We also sell the German made **Flying Dutchman** blades.

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Helen Harris

PO Box 1384, Murray Bridge SA 5253

0428 826 224 08 8531 3440

ochjh@scrolling.com.au

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event nor is it owned by any individual Club. Those that participate by exhibiting, I thank you for all your hard work, you are very talented and creative. I realise that this is not everyone's "cup of tea" I can only urge others to have a go and in turn you are making our events bigger and better.

The Exhibition has some entry guidelines to help make the event run smoothly.

My approach to the Exhibitions has been one of inclusion and common sense rather than exclusion. To be fair we need to remember that we are a voluntary group that come together to encourage others to exhibit and be part of the spirit of the event. Not everyone exhibits the maximum allowable items but is the diversity of pieces, individuality of style and participation of many and blending of Clubs that truly make these great events.

WoodgroupSA grant \$785, this year went to Murrayland Turners, I congratulate them in their 1st grant application. Murrayland Turners will be purchasing the Lucas Mill slabbing attachment that has been loaned to the Club. The Mill has seen a lot of work lately with some 20 logs of English Elm full of beautiful colour, they were destined to be burnt but were saved for milling by some quick foot work.

My Shed:

I have just finished making another nine kitchen cupboard doors from quarter sawn Tassie Oak, the never ending saga of building your own kitchen. I have used Canadian Rock Maple bench-tops (Recycled Bondi Beach Bowling Alley), did I mention they were heavy, (5 people to lift in the breakfast Bar). Not much time on the lathe lately, latest job was to make six shaped castor cups to raise the height of a beautiful mahogany 1836 dining table that was imported from England. I had just enough Mahogany for the job. The most difficult component was getting the brief from the customer who did not understand the structural design needs. So prototyping in scrap timber was the end result as there was difficulty comprehending the design. It was a good lesson for me to think outside the box with regard to form and function.

Chris Reynolds



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Club Contributions for the Newsletter

2018

July

CLUB ARTICLE

Toymendous

August

Northern Turners

September

Whyalla Woodies

October

Riverside Comm
& Fleurieu Woodturners

November

Hills Woodworkers & Copper Coast

MEMBER PROFILE

Riverside Community
& Murrayland Turners
Sculptors & Carvers
Riverland Woodworkers
Southern Turners

Toymendous

Can you please forward articles by the 15th of each month

THE EDITOR

Basic Scrollsaw Course
Saturday 29 September*
[Mitcham Community Shed](#)
9am to 4pm
cost: \$20 for WoodgroupSA members

The course consists of a short introduction to the scroll saw followed by a series of exercise-based techniques. A number of experienced members of South Oz Scrollers will ensure that you receive personal support.

To register, complete the following and return to:

Secretary South Oz Scrollers, 6 Archibald Street, BLACKWOOD SA 5051
with non-refundable payment. Registration will not be accepted without payment.
Payment by EFT is possible - for details contact sozscroll@woodgroupsa.org.au

Name	
Woodgroup SA Club	
Phone	
Email Adress	
Own Saw	Yes / No

Please register early as we have already received some registrations and the course will be opened to the general public on a first-come first-served basis.

* subject to minimum number of attendees (payment will be returned if the course does not proceed).

¹ the club may be able to provide a saw if required (better to use your own if you have a pinless blade scroll saw).

If you require further information please ring Mike Donnellan: 8370 0108

Members Profile - Toymendous

Peter Aschberger was born in Strathalbyn in the first half of the 20th century and resided there for the first 17 years. My father emigrated with his family in 1927 from Yugoslavia (now Serbia) and ultimately took up being a flour miller at Strath for 40 years. There he met my mother, married and eventually I arrived. Life in a small country town in the 50's and 60's was simple. Entertainment was via the radio, no television, that arriving when I was 12 – a simple box with 4 channels and requiring the viewer to walk to the TV to change channels. At some point we acquired a phone which for a time was connected to the exchange requiring us to ask the operator for connection to the desired number.

No supermarkets – food was acquired from the grocer, bread from the baker (sandwich loaves – very good and purchased warm – I doubt whether the entire loaf ever found its way home). A school lunch could be purchased for a shilling.

Plenty of fun with friends – going on long bike rides into the countryside, trapping rabbits (which the butcher would buy) and catching yabbies in the local creek. They were very good to eat.

I attended teachers college and University in the late 1960's undertaking science degrees.

I married in the early 70s. and taught Biology and Science at Millicent and Mt Gambier in the 1970's. Living in the South East was good and we made friends many of whom we still have today.

I then taught at Blackwood in the 80's, then Woodville, Para Hills and ultimately Hallett Cove.

We returned to Adelaide in 1980 and bought a house in Hawthorndene. The kids grew up here and the surrounding reserve and forest were great places to play.

1992 saw us venture to the USA to teach for a year in Washington State in a school called Mountain View. Classes began at 7.30 in the morning. In winter this meant it was dark. Living in a town called Vancouver (not the Canadian one) was interesting. Supermarkets (which sold liquor), gun-shops and fast food outlets were among the most memorable aspects. Often saw numbers of people having breakfast at McDonalds (huge serves) or Dunkin Doughnuts.



Driving on the opposite side of the road proved to be relatively easy. Driving on black ice (thankfully infrequently) proved to be somewhat more difficult. One morning the door rubbers on the car (parked outside) froze to the metal and I could not get it open. That day was cold.

Many of the Americans we met had or carried guns of one form or another, from pistols to small weapons in the glovebox to a rack of guns on the wall.

We visited Mt St. Helens which was about 30 miles from home. Even then the trees were dead and flat, pointing away from the eruption. Generally the scenery was spectacular, from cities to mountain lakes to huge rivers. The summer holidays in June and July enabled us to travel all over the country.

In my 40's I was introduced by a friend to old cars. I eventually acquired a 1930 Chev Roadster which I restored. I could only do some of it and professionals helped me with the rest. Maybe I can drive it when it is 100 years old. It is interesting to describe the features (or lack of...) to younger people – no power steering, no power brakes (the brakes are drums), no synchromesh, no radio (my 3 year old granddaughter asked if

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she could play a CD in the old car ...?), no indicators, no air-conditioner or heating and one vacuum wiper. The headlight dimmer is on the floor, as is the starter. It has been some time since I have driven it and therefore some maintenance will be needed to get it up to scratch.

Approximately 10 years prior to my retirement, my interest in wood came to the fore. I attended the TAFE courses in cabinetmaking, turning, carving and finishing over about 7 years. I enjoyed making and fixing things wooden. As a consequence when we moved to our existing house we built a man-cave into which I put some machines, and have happily pursued the making and repairing of furniture and toys ever since. I enjoy the challenge of making things which test me so that I have to think outside the square from time to time. I found a plan on-line for a deckchair from the Titanic and made one. They don't adjust but they fold, for storage in those days I suppose. I have been given wood, acquired it from demolition sites or people who no longer want it. The numbers of projects that are pending seem to increase in number - therefore I will be occupied for some time.

I joined Toymendous a number of years ago and I have enjoyed the creation of a range of toys, donating them and most especially learning a little of what happens to them and the reactions of some of the youthful recipients. Taking part in a range of different activities and interacting with numbers of people within the group has been enjoyable. I wish the Toymendous group and any readers of this profile peace and fulfilment.

WoodgroupSA Network Meeting, Tuesday July 12th, 2018.

Apologies were received from Ray and Rena Hoare. John Tillack was still well away from Adelaide. The small crowd with few offerings made for a most enjoyable evening pursuing topics in more depth than is sometimes possible with larger numbers.

John Bennett was first off this session and passed around two timber samples about 10 mm thick, destined for features in small box lids or similar. One piece, about 100 mm across, was from a branch of spotted gum (*Corymbia maculata*), and showed the fairly typical pink-brown heartwood adjacent to pale cream sapwood. The latter showed some spalting, where it had weathered. The other piece, about 110 x 210 mm, was from a paperbark (probably *Melaleuca styphelioides*.) grown as a street tree and felled about 10 years ago. The wood was quite hard, and with a contorted but fine grain showing fiddleback. When polished and sealed, it should be a good feature wherever it is used.



Graham Were's contributions followed on from last month's discussion on lathe thread changers and spindle extensions. Some time ago Graham had ordered several for Western Woodies and for himself from McJing's. Several that came supposedly fulfilling the order were the wrong size. Additionally, to get them changed took 12 months. He noted that the replacements were probably from a different supplier, when they were compared with ones that he had from earlier times.

The matter of extenders with an M2 taper down their axis was raised by those present—it was suggested to try Redwood Machinery for such extenders if the company is still in existence following the expansion of roadways past the premises, and you can contact the owner!

The matter of locking Morse tapers into the headstock was also raised. The consensus was that a rod of diameter that fits down the headstock hollow shaft and welded, epoxied, or threaded into the tail of the Morse taper is all that is required. An issue occasionally occurring is that the Morse taper is sometimes hardened, making it difficult or impossible to drill and tap, without heat treatment first.

And on a related "fixing" problem on lathes, be wary of reversing the lathe rotation with lathes with a high speed start – chucks can and do spin off unless the start is slow. Tightening the chuck against a plastic washer before tightening it thoroughly prevents the chuck binding on the headstock spindle. They were all good hints to bear in mind..

Graham mentioned jigs and their usefulness in all aspects of woodcraft. Specifically he described his router jig for cutting mortices for use with loose tenons – to be shown next session, perhaps.

John Beswick brought along his latest artistic creation, a turned jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*) vase, and the jig and tool he used to decorate the vase walls. The vase (Photo 1) was about 220 mm tall, with a maximum

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diameter of around 130 mm. Five shallow hollows were 'routed' into the outside wall of the vessel, requiring a special home made-cutter and a jig to hold the vessel so that the shaft of the tool was perpendicular to the surface at the centre of the desired hollow. The jig (Photo 2) was based on a rocker allowing it to be clamped in the drill-press vise so the drilling was done at right angles to the vase surface, whatever vase could be rotated about its axis in the jig, held at both ends. Doing this allowed the hollows to be spaced around the perimeter of the vase. The home-made hollow-cutter was 80 mm wide and about 20 deep. John had made this from high carbon steel that he had carefully sharpened to profile. This was welded to a 10 mm shaft - very much cheaper than anything that could be bought, if at all. Once the hollows were completed, the vase was airbrushed, a jacaranda compound leaf with its leaflets painted, and the hollows painted purple. Into each hollow John glued gilded jacaranda pods to complete the decoration. Photo 3 shows the preparation typical of John's projects - in this case, initial sketches, the home-made cutter, a convex sanding pad for cleaning up the hollows and a sample hollow on a curved piece of scrap. It was clearly an interesting and absorbing project, finished to John's usual high standard.



At the conclusion of the evening, **John Edyvean** suggested bringing lathe thread adapters of whatever fashion for sharing insights next meeting. For those uninterested in such technical matters, please do come along with your wood artistry, be it scroll-sawing, carving, toy or furniture making, pyrography, or even turning, for the next meeting, so everyone may learn something from your experiences.

The next meeting is on ...

Tuesday, August 14th, 2018

at the San Georgio Community Centre ...

... 7:00 pm for a 7:30 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).

For Sale 2 Solid lathes for the hobbyist or budding wood turning expert.

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