



# 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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Whyalla Woodies Inc	Robin Sandy	08 8645 0047
Hills Woodworkers Inc	Ron Burke	08 8389 8574
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(George Pastuch - Editor)

## WoodgroupSA Network Meeting, Tuesday August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Apologies were received from Ray and Rena Hoare. John Tillack, and John Edyvean. The small crowd included one new face, Karen Ames, from Western Woodies, recently with time to take up turning again after family occupations for many years, and keen to get going again. Welcome to Karen.

**Roger Humphris** was first off with apologies for only having an offering of “items from someone else’s shed” for anyone interested. They included Dremel polishing rouge, three chainsaw sharpening bits, marking crayons, 3 hardened steel cutting teeth for a metal mill, several grinding bits, one well worn, and a box to take them. Roger P. liked the box, so he got most items!

**John Bennett** had a couple of items, or was it eight? His first was a female form, turned about three axes, following a demonstration by Simon at southern Turners earlier in the month. Firstly a cylinder was turned between centres. Then marking the length into 8 equal parts, the overall shape was turned between centres: the head occupying the section closest to one end, the neck in the next section, and the waist in the 4th section. Then to give that shape some better definition of breast, the axis was firstly

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moved off-centre at the head end by about 4 mm, and section 3 reshaped, removing material from the back side of that section. Next, the axis was moved off-centre in the opposite direction by about 4 mm, and material removed only from the back side of sections 4-5. Following that by sanding to blend the curves into each other gave the final result. The approach differs slightly from one demonstrated by Neil Scobie several years ago at a Northern Turners weekend. Neil offset the turning axes both ends, rather than just one. That results in more emphasis of body shape.

The second item shown was a tangram – an ancient Chinese puzzle made from 7 pieces, 5 triangles, one square, and one lozenge shape. The pattern for these can be cut from a square piece of card divided simply by diagonal lines to form the pieces. His puzzle was made from 7 different Australian

timbers, each labelled by pyrography on the edge with the common and botanical name of the species. The pieces were passed around for assembly back into a square – helped eventually by a pattern including other shapes that can be assembled by the 7 pieces. The pieces can also be assembled into a large triangle, and separately into rectangles, pentagons, or hexagons. All absorbing, for those who like geometric puzzles.



**John Beswick's** first item was a fine recovery from disaster when dropped a 180 mm diameter red-gum bowl he was turning, breaking a large chip from the rim. Such accidents should be viewed as design opportunities, John said, so by reshaping the rim and judicious embellishment of the edge and part of the interior of the bowl with different sized Dremel burrs and pyrography, he produced a great result rather than wood for the bin.

(Continued on page 3)

### ***SCROLL SAW BLADES***

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(Continued from page 2)

His second item, entitled "Hung, not drawn", consisted of two parts. He had turned a round-bottomed container from pink gum affected by mistletoe burl, a piece from Charles Greig. Its flared rim with shoulder was hung within a sycamore frame that provided support and base. As initially presented, one puzzled as to how the container was placed inside its support, since the latter enclosed the shape at its top, and could not have been inserted without some magic. John revealed the process – the support was originally bowl-shaped, then cut lengthways in half. The two halves were held together very



firmly by 4 rare earth magnets embedded in the cut edges of each piece. Splitting the base this way made it easy to get the round-bottom bowl inside, then reclamping the halves to produce the final result. A fine split was accommodated by filling it with a red-stained sycamore wedge. John passed around his working drawings, showing the development of his concept as he considered the desired outcome.



His last piece was a bowl turned from the chunk of Canary Island Palm (Phoenix canariensis) picked up in the June meeting.



In end-grain, this wood exhibits fine dots of the fibres that give it a striking pattern. His bowl had a diameter of around 260 mm. John had carefully inserted a piece of black palm (Normanbya normanbyi from

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### *Club Contributions for the Newsletter*

#### **2018**

August

September

October

November

#### **CLUB ARTICLE**

Northern Turners

Whyalla Woodies

Riverside Comm

& Fleurieu Woodturners

Hills Woodworkers & Copper Coast

#### **MEMBER PROFILE**

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](mailto: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).

<sup>1</sup> 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



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Queensland) to part of the rim, with its dark material and longitudinal grain providing a strong contrast to the paler Canary Island material. He had airbrushed the interior of the bowl with graded colour bands, and had finished the surfaces with clear cellulose lacquer. The result – striking.

**Karen Ames** sought information on sources of good aluminium oxide (white) grinding wheels – quickly remedied by those present - suggestions included Paramount Browns at Cavan, Weber Abrasives in Welland, and others.

**Alex Mühlhölzl** had a piece of branch wood to identify – pale, with brown pith, fine grain, and it was beginning to split as it dried. No clear identification followed – suggestions were more directed to fully documenting sources and tree characteristics before they faded from memory. That applies to everyone!

He also showed a Woodfast “Superchuck”, with 75 mm and 50 mm diameter cutters, used before scroll -chucks became available. A cutter is used to drill a hole that matches the outside diameter of the Superchuck jaws, into the base of the piece of wood to be turned on the lathe. The wood is then inserted into the chuck, and the jaws expanded into the hole using a draw-bar to pull a conical wedge shaped piece of steel in against the jaws. Graham Were said such chucks were an excellent device in their day, enabling work to be taken off and returned to the lathe without losing concentricity.



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

**Tuesday, September 11th, 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). All welcome, as usual. Come and add to the learning experience, whatever your woodworking enthusiasms .**

# **VAUGHN RICHMOND**

## **2018 DEMONSTRATION WORKSHOP – NOV 3rd and 4th**

### **Hosted by Northern Turners**

#### ***Coordinated by Tim Skilton and Robert Edge.***

We are very pleased to confirm that after 10 years, woodturner, Vaughn Richmond will be returning as this year's demonstrator.

Example of Vaughn's artistic beautiful contemporary wood art influenced by the Art Nouveau period can be seen his web pages.

We are sure you'll agree that there is much to be learned from Vaughn

**So, to ensure your place at this year's wonderful artistic demonstration, the details you need for essential bookings and pre-payment are**

- When:** • **November 3rd and 4th 2018.**
- Where:** • Torrens Valley Christian School, 1227 Grand Junction Road, Hope Valley.  
(As in the past).
- Cost:** • **\$100 for Woodgroup SA members**  
• **\$120 for Non-members.** o (Exceptional value)
- Payment:** • **BSB: 805050 (Peoples Choice Credit Union)**  
• **Acct No. 102356456**  
• **Acct Name: Robert Edge**
- **Description: Your Name**
- Bookings:** • **Contact me at; o robsan5958@gmail.com or 0431 735 108.**

Demonstrations will include :-

#### **The Midas Touch - Gold leaf, Copper leaf**

In this session, Vaughn demonstrates how to apply gold and/or copper leaf to sections of the work. The session includes turning a dish or bowl, preparing the wood, and hints and tips on applying the leaf. The light application of acrylic paints over the gold or copper leaf can enhance the look and value of the piece. The secret is to choose compatible colours without compromising the natural colour and grain of the wood

#### **Lumps and Bumps—The Shape of Things**

A hands on demonstration by Vaughn on how to get your wood turning shapes right. One of the most challenging aspects of woodturning is to give your work that special lift, and its all about shape. This session also covers important issues such as:-

- pre planning
- timber selection
- Setting up
- Attaching the work
- Bowl turning techniques

#### **Design—Finding the Influence**

*"There is so much in nature that can inspire woodturning designs, shapes and patterns."* Over the years Vaughn has collected a number of photographic images that have influenced his design ideas and helped to get the thought processes working. This presentation shows selected images from nature as well as man-made objects, that have led to a woodturning being created based on the image.

### My Woodwork Experience

When I was 8 my older brother was given a Fretsaw for his 14th birthday and I was fascinated by the wonderful designs he made. When he made a map of Australia with the state borders and emblems burnt on using the sun and a magnifying glass I couldn't wait to do the same. I asked my father if I could have a saw too his reply was typical of the times "Girls dont do woodwork, go and ask your mother to teach you to cook."

So my dream of doing woodwork was put aside and I learnt to cook and clean as girls were supposed to and later trained as a teacher. I taught for 5 years before marrying and became a farmer's wife. After 43 years we retired back to Renmark where we had both grown up and did all the retirement things like volunteering for various groups and doing a bit of travelling. We both played in the Riverland Brass Band and sang in the local Music Society and Sam was often asked to sing somewhere while I played the piano for him. So after he died in 2005 I was at a loss to know what I could for a hobby. One day while reading the local paper I was drawn to an article advertising a Woodworkers Group which had started up in our old High School building. My heart jumped ! This was the solution. I could at last learn how to do Fretwork.

Well that was the new beginning I was looking for. I wasn't sure if I would be accepted but, needn't have worried as there were already other women there and I was made to feel very welcome. When I said I wanted to learn the Fretsaw I was shown to a Scroll Saw and after being told the safety rules was shown how to use it. I was in seventh heaven as I cut a small piece of timber into various shapes which I then painted different colours, assembled like a jigsaw and framed my first effort!

All the members were very helpful and I was gradually shown how to use the huge variety of tools and machines which do all the hard work for you. I have enjoyed every minute of my time making a variety of things as my confidence and competence grew. So began my long association with the Riverland Woodworkers. I have been a member now for about twelve years and have made some very good friends who share my interest in working with wood.

At first I made simple things like breadboards and biros and gradually became more confident to make little tables and boxes (my favourites!). When I could use the grouter I made boards with a tile inserted for serving hot foods. Once I mastered the lathe I enjoyed making fancy little handles for butter and pate knives. When my first Pfeiffer great grandson was expected I decided to make a family Heirloom in the form of a Rocking Horse for children up to five years. It took me nearly two years but eventually it was delivered. Then I discovered three dimensional patterns and every member of my family has one of my candlesticks and vases. At that time I was running a group for people of the Golden Age and made many games for them to play. Some of the things I made were a Chinese Checkers board with different coloured quandong stones for marbles, a Chess board and set of chessmen, lots of small animals for Table Top Tenpin bowling, a set of large dominos, Triominos, two sets of mallets and hoops for indoor Croquet and Ladder Golf. My love of box making was handy for storing a lot of word and number games I made.

Over the years being a member of this group has provided me with many different opportunities to meet lots of people from all walks of life through the COTA awards, Merry Month of May and our own bimonthly BBQs with families and friends who all share the interest in Woodwork

My Woodworking experience has fulfilled an almost forgotten dream, given me many hours of enjoyment and the opportunity to make new

friends so, if you like me are looking for a group to join come and see us and you too may find a talent you didn't know you had and with this having lots of fun.





## Trees for Life

Trees are life-givers and one of the primary sources of the oxygen in our world which we need for life. Now can I ask you a question? Do you seriously appreciate trees? As you are reading this article, I can assume that you have an interest in trees, or more especially, wood, for we the woodworkers and hobbyists, use the wood we get from trees. Wood, in its various shapes, forms and varieties, has so many uses. I feel that often, as wood and timber consumers, we woodworkers, often look at a tree just for the supply of timber that it will give us, thinking little of how the piece of wood we are using, came to be in our hands.

We all know that trees are an essential part of our lives, be it for construction, food production, beautification of our cities and parks etc. How often do we consider that trees and other foliage are an essential part of our world, for transforming carbon dioxide and sunlight into oxygen (also known as **photosynthesis**) which most living organisms need to breathe and survive?

We have all heard the news about climate change and carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, de-forestation, global warming etc. How often, though, do we consider that each tree which is cut down reduces the production of the oxygen we need to survive and the amount of carbon-dioxide which is removed from the atmosphere?

De-forestation worldwide is increasing alarmingly. This brings me to the point of this article in that we as humans need to conserve trees and other vegetation and more importantly, **to replace those which we use.**

For many years, my wife and I have been involved with a not-for-profit organisation called *Trees for Life*. (<http://www.treesforlife.org.au/>)

This organisation was set up to help revegetate our state, primarily with native vegetation, which has been severely impacted, in Australia, by land-clearing since European settlement.

*Trees for Life* has been operating for over 30 years and recently achieved a milestone of producing over **30 million** native tree, shrub, grass and bush seedlings in South Australia alone, with most of the work being carried out by dedicated volunteers.

As members of and growers for *Trees for Life* (TFL) for over 10 years, we have grown over 4,000 tree seedlings in our back yard.

My question to you is: **Can you help to grow tree seedlings in your back yard/property?** In most cases, the answer will be “yes”. If you, as a woodworker can spend 3-5 hours per week in your shed producing works of art, it is quite feasible that you could spend about 20-30 minutes per day for about 7 months of the year (November to May), raising tree seedlings for landholders and council revegetation projects.

The activity is certainly not difficult, little or no capital outlay of expenses on your part and no experience is necessary as all training and materials are supplied. Around November each year, TFL supplies member growers with Styrofoam boxes of potting mix, black plastic tubes and seeds, along with the details of the landholder of whom they will be growing for. Seeds are collected by diligent volunteers around the state and seedlings are grown with the aim that the seedlings will be returned to the area where the seed originated from. On receipt of your kit of ingredients from TFL, it is then your job to fill black plastic tubes with the potting mix medium, place tubes in Styrofoam boxes, plant the various seeds on or about the suggested date, place boxed seeds on a raised platform in your back yard and water once to twice daily (depending on the weather) for 6-7 months until you have a beautiful little forest of about 500 seedlings of various species. During April/May your seedlings will be handed over to the person/s for whom you have been growing the seedlings for. The landholders will then plant out the seedlings on their properties. For those keen to see the results of their efforts, visits to the properties to check on ‘your’ trees is an option.

From our experience, the landholders for whom we have grown trees, are so grateful on receipt of their seedlings and even more so, for land holders receiving seedlings for the first time. It is very satisfying to know that, somewhere else in the state, other people are trying to revegetate their property, often in trying conditions, added to the fact that that they are growing seedlings especially for their area, which you have grown from seed.

I would really encourage you to grow seedlings for this organisation. The satisfaction in knowing that you have contributed SO much to the state of our environment far outweighs the small amount of time and effort involved. If you would like to talk with me about growing tree seedlings, please contact me through Northern Turners Wood Turning Club or contact *Trees For Life* directly to see how you can help. Please contact *Trees for Life* if you can help between now and October to begin growing this coming season. Thank You

To get involved please contact Trees for Life (<http://www.treesforlife.org.au/>) to register and get growing.

G Kutchen

Northern Turners

