



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)

Article from the North Eastern Weekly dated November 7, 2018 (page12)

WOODY TOY STORY FOR CHARITIES

TOYMENDOUS – a group intent on spreading the Christmas spirit – is making more than 1200 wooden toys for disadvantaged children.

Its members, all volunteers, get together twice a month at the Trade Training Centre in Gilles Plains.

The toys they are making will be presented to seven charities on December 7.

“When you see the smile on children’s faces who would otherwise have almost nothing or, at times, nothing it’s a rewarding experience,” says Toymendous president Ron Crowhurst.

With two sessions left before handover, the group is busy completing 55 varieties of wooden toys – including wheelbarrows, tractors and sewing machines. “At the moment my wife can’t get her car in the garage because it is filled with toys that I’m working on” Mr Crowhurst of Hope Valley says.

Membership losses in 2017 have left Toymendous with just 20 volunteers for its 30th year of

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Christmas gift-giving.

“Hopefully we can attract some new members and bring in fresh ideas and enthusiasm to keep us going for another 30 years” Mr Crowhurst said.

The group relies on donations of timber, along with work of its volunteers, to complete the toys each year.

This year Toymendous will donate to Ronald McDonald House, Vinnies, Kidsflix, United Care Gawler, Reynella Kiwanis, Westside Baptist Mission and Sister Janet Mead.

Toymendous meets on the First and Third Saturday of the month and public holidays.

Toymendous president Ron Crowhurst and volunteer Graham Bassenschutt with just some of the 1200 wooden toys they’ve helped to make for disadvantaged children.



Channel 9 interviewing Toymendous members for a Christmas segment

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Copper Coast Woodworkers.

Hark hail and heed, I shall type you a tale to read.

During a recent brief absence from my workshop I observed on my E-mazing E-mail Machine a message from S.A.'s honourable Woodgroup. This electronic epistle eluded to the expectation of a contribution to their monthly mail, namely the November Newsletter. I turned my thoughts from wood to Wood Club and had an indulgent look at ourselves, The Copper Coast Woodworkers.

Whilst the tree that is C.C.W. may not stand out in the forestry of wood groups it is deep rooted with many branches. Our members affiliation with Woodgroup S.A. can be found as early as 1992. It is most certainly a mature tree with an average age over 70. Originally meeting at their own workshops then the Kadina High School and now surviving in the Agricultural, Horticultural and Floral Society showground in Kadina.

Despite its minuscule membership its branches are spread widely. With less than a dozen members it is a surprising spread of activities these people are involved in.

We are members of the A.H.&F. Society and members belong to the Vintage and Veteran Motorcycle Club, the Pistol Club, the Gem Club, the combined Kadina, Wallaroo and Moonta Band, the Wallaroo Sailing Club, a life member of the Keyneton Motorcycle Club, a National Trust Member restoring vintage trucks and tractors, the fishing club, the Ford F250 Club, a Church Deacon, a Radio Controlled Yacht Club co-ordinator and life member of W.S.C. Teach craft to a church youth group, deliver Meals on Wheels to the handicapped and elderly, volunteer assistance to the Tourist Info. Centre, talk on local radio and raise money for charities. We make things for community groups such as Lions and the Kindergartens and trophies for the A.H.&F. Society. Involved as a Club in Show day, swap meets, markets and hobby days.

The recent past has seen branches of our small tree spreading around the world to Great Britain, across the ditch to N.Z. the deep south to Tasmania, the red centre and the Alice, across the Simpson Desert and to the Gulf Country in far North Qld. In planes, trains, boats, cars, motorcycles, 4wd's, buses and pushbikes.

But, with all this we retain the enthusiasm to turn, burn, cut and carve. Twice a month we meet to pass ideas, enjoy each other's company and create. Following a basic program of projects such as bowls, rolling pins, mallets, natural edge, pens, bud vases, boxes, goblets, candlesticks, Xmas trees and novelties with some experimentation and much creative scrollsawing.

This small tree may have shed many of its leaves but the wood is dense the grain straight and the roots are strong. So, despite the poor soil and hard conditions we can stand proud.

Bob Petts for the Copper Coast woodworkers.



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NORTHERN TURNERS 25th ANNIVERSARY

Northern Turners celebrated the clubs 25th Anniversary with a celebration on October 27th 2018

Tim Smeaton acted as Master of Ceremonies for the meeting.

Jan Beare first welcomed our visitors:

- ☐ Kevin Knight, Tea Tree Gully mayor
- ☐ Tony Zapia, federal member for Makin
- ☐ Frances Bedford, state member for Florey
- ☐ John Tillack, Jack Hunt, Malcolm Taylor from other Woodgroup clubs. Also South Oz Scrollers' president, Ted van Dijk
- ☐ Hans Noom, past Northern Turners member
- ☐ Di Bohmer, Dick Pillar's daughter,
- ☐ Carol Summers from the TTG Historical Society,
- ☐ Alison Scott and Lee Hutton from Cancer Care,
- ☐ Bronte Edwards, a past member of the old Woodfast Turning Club



Ken Knight & Tony Zapia

She then acknowledged some of the founding/early members of Northern Turners such as Anne Kerr, Graham Hawkins, Mal Warneke, Andy Smylie, Ron Adam, Roger Humphris.

Ken Allen then presented a history of the club prepared by Ron Allen. This covered the early history of Woodgroup, explaining how Northern Turners became a special interest group where all the members were direct members of Woodgroup. This changed in 2007 when Woodgroup was reorganised so that the various clubs are the members of Woodgroup and individuals are members of the various clubs.

Kevin Knight (Mayor of TTG) was then asked to say a few words. He first acknowledged the presence of

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Tony Zapia and Frances Bedford. He then noted the diversity of the people who get involved in such clubs, saying that many groups such as Northern Turners make the city a better place to live. He said he was “absolutely impressed” with our work and gave us a “well done”.

Gordon Best was then called upon to say a few words about Dick Pillar. He noted that Dick Pillar, one of our founding members, could be considered the father of Northern Turners. He noted that Dick was a busy man - writing many articles for the Woodgroup newsletter, demonstrating various turning techniques etc. He reminded members that Dick’s family made a donation to the club after his death, with which we purchased our audio-visual equipment. He then presented his daughter with an eight page write up about Dick.

The next item was the selection of the winner of the Silver themed piece. Tim showed members the trophy made by Enzo Bronzi to be given to the winner. Enzo then said a few words, after which Tony Zapia was called on to decide the winner.

Tony said a few words, first acknowledging the mayor and Frances Bedford. He then said that the appreciation to craftsmanship shown in our work, noting that society has largely lost the ability to make things by hand. He gave his congratulations on our 25 years and thanked us for supporting local charities. He noted that any one of the items he inspected would hold their place in any display of fine woodworking. Finally, he announced the winner – Jeff Todd, for his hollow form with imbedded aluminium highlights, complete with silver flowers.

Demonstration

Later a demonstration was given by Dave Gilland, who showed various examples of three-sided shapes which are turned parallel to the lathe bed.

He then showed how to turn a piece perpendicular to the bed, using a jig to hold the piece.

Thanks to Dave for his demonstration.

Dale Starr – secretary

(with thanks to Ron Young for the photos)

Tony Zapia presenting the prize to
Geff Todd



Jan Beare, Tim Smeaton and Frances Bedford



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Jewelry Box making with David Hough.

At a recent meeting of Hills Woodworkers we had the privilege of hearing from David Hough, a member of Northern turners, about how he makes jewelry boxes and bandsaw boxes.

David was a bricklayer, then started making furniture before changing to boxes, ever evolving his skills and techniques to make more detailed boxes. He makes his own inlays using a wedgie sled for cutting timber. He slices them for box lids (0.5-0.7 mm) or inlays for turned items (2mm) to allow for sanding and turning. He uses a 16 inch Leda bandsaw with 14 tpi blades (1/8, 1/4, 3/16 inch) from CX in Qld.. He showed other jigs he uses to make the joints at 45 degrees on a table saw: these needed careful and accurate setup for consistent results.

He showed how he cuts slots for inlay hinges using a horizontal cutter in a drill press. David makes boxes from Huon Pine, Redgum, Jarrah, Blackheart Sassafras with Poplar for trays and inlays. Poplar remains white. Lids are flat or bowed, some with chamfered edges. Boxes are finished with Ozzie Oil and the trays are covered in felt or flocked inside his bandsaw boxes. He rebates the bases on small boxes but uses a slot for larger ones to allow for movement in timber. He finishes first before gluing, and uses Titebond Hide Glue-it has good open time, does not need to be heated like the old hide glue, is washable in water and removable if repairs are needed by heating up the piece. David brings timber direct from Queensland from Stan Ceglinski. David showed us a large range of boxes (see the pics) and showed his jigs, small chisels (1-1.5mm) and other tools and how he designs the inlays.

The pieces David makes are delightful in their accuracy, design and use of contrasting timbers. His work is usually seen in all of the woodshows run by Northern Turners and Woodgroup and should not be missed. David's skill was an inspiration to those of us less skilled in accurate machining.



David demonstrating one of his jigs

WoodgroupSA Network Meeting, Wednesday November 14th, 2018.

Apologies were received from John Edyvean, thankfully improving in health, and John Beswick, who unfortunately, has other commitments on a Wednesday evening. Apologies are due to anyone who did not receive the email regarding the change in day from Tuesday to Wednesday –this change will continue for December and January at least, owing to staffing changes at the Community Centre over the summer.

Charles Greig started off proceedings with two weed pots “in progress”. Charles had asked himself “Why flare out the top square with the pot axis?” and had begun to explore other possibilities. He had initially left the pots with a thick top after turning the rest to shape –one out of mango (*Mangifera indica*), with darker stripes running through the wood (on the right in the image), and the other from poinciana (*Delonix regia*), and both about 130 mm tall. Off the lathe, he then shaped the tops to flare obliquely to the stem by carving and sanding to get the shapes shown. The idea can be further extended in many decorative and different directions.



John Tillack was next up with a good array of variously shaped items –time in his shed has clearly been very productive. His first item was a silky oak open bowl turned from a darker piece from John Edyvean’s timber clearance effort. This bowl was about 250 mm in diameter, had finely turned beading along the edge of the bowl and rim, and overall, a very pleasing profile.

His next one was a lidded bowl about 100 mm in diameter. He had turned its base out of pink gum (*Eucalyptus fasciculosa*), with walls uniformly thin to give the bowl lightness. The lid was out of white mallee burl (*E. dumosa*), with a finial out of pink gum stained black to look like ebony!



The third effort he showed was a similarly sized and “non-spherical bowl” also out of pink gum, with no flat base and stronger grain patterns and colouring. To give it a stable platform, he had hollowed out a separate piece profiled to the bottom of the bowl, for it to sit in, more-or-less upright.

His next was a kapur (*Dryobalanops spp*) open bowl in which he had been trying out colouring approaches demonstrated by Vaughn Richmond the first weekend in November at the

Northern Turners venue. Kapur often has a good colour but somewhat uninteresting grain patterns, so John felt some enhancement was worth trying on the bowl’s interior—with a deep purple base and a thinner central overcoat spun as 3000 rpm for a couple of seconds to produce a radial pattern and some spray into the workshop! The result: interesting!



His final piece was an artistic spiral form mounted on a base. The jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) form was initially turned as a doughnut of sufficient thickness to contain the desired spiral, about 180 mm in diameter. The doughnut was then bandsawn to the tapered spiral pattern. He hand-shaped the edges of that to the final pleasing shape shown. To hold the form upright for display, he inserted a stainless steel peg about 6 mm in diameter at one point of the rim, the other end of the peg going into the base piece made out of “beena tree”.

Some discussion followed provocation by John’s coloured kapur bowl, and the experimental approach taken by Vaughn Richmond –try it and gauge the effect –if you do not like it, sand it off and try again. Some folk maintain that green should never be put on wood, but Charles G’s judicious use of malachite powder in resin shows that green can be very effective on certain timbers. As came up in the discussion, colouring wood depends on the piece –its colour, grain, and the intended market!



Franco Lanfranchi, who we had not seen for quite a while, was last up with a quite adequately large Christmas cake, shared around among those present. Thank you Franco.

To extend the evening a trifle, JB, being provocative, enquired about sharpening angles of turning tools. Naturally enough, that brought out a multitude of opinions with the common thread that it is not critical what the angle is, but get used to it, and use it each time a tool is resharpened, so you do not waste much metal in the process. The use of a sharpening jig minimises metal waste, as long as you have recorded the jig settings for the tool when the tool was first sharpened!

This session ended again a bit early, but on the note that there WILL be a network night in December whatever the outcome is of the Woodgroup AGM. Those attending the network night meetings agreed that they are helpful, interesting, and promote sharing of ideas between members from different clubs, something worth encouraging whatever the preferences are of woodworkers.

So the next meeting is on the second WEDNESDAY in December, the 12th, at the San Georgio Community Centre, off Payneham road. As usual, drinks & conviviality from 7:00 pm for a 7:30 start. Any member will be welcome, always.

JB(text) & AM. (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
January	Toymendous	Western Woodworkers
February	Murrayland Turners	Whyalla Woodies
March	Sculptors & Carvers	Fleurieu Woodturners
April	Whyalla Woodies	Hills Woodworkers & Copper Coast
May	Riverland Woodworkers	Northern Turners
June	Western Woodworkers	Riverland Woodworkers
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		

Vaughn Richmond Workshop November 2018

Vaughn Richmond came to demonstrate from the other side of the Earth,
No, I am really only joking, he came across from Perth!
And Tim told us of his sayings, or are they really fables,
“My work is what I can do and what I’d like to if I’m able.”
As a turner he enjoys discussion of design quite hypothetical
But combines love of good design with what is really practical.
And to find a pleasing shape, this turner did implore us
To look at ancient pottery, the useful Greek amphoras.

In some ways I found your approach was really too meticulous,
Sanding to 800 grit, To me that sounds ridiculous,
But the quality of the finish on the pieces you completed
Is something that in our hands is unlikely to be repeated.
And he will not use cracked wood, he say mending will not last
At the thought of Supaglua, Vaughn was clearly quite aghast,
But the hot melt gun from Bosch means his glue is not too thin
As he cuts a small groove especially to squeeze the hot glue in.

Application of gold leaf to an indented border
Was tricky and this technique ain’t made to order
And Chris stuck on her fingers, the gold leaf she took,
As he guilelessly said “Take a leaf from my book”.
As he coated the borders or inside with size
Our intrepid turner was heard to advise
“Use a hair-dryer now, and wait till it gets tacky”
(But the Kiwis asked, “What do you mean, it’s Waitake).

The second day promises pictures of Vaughn’s
Powerpoint presentation will prevent any yawns
As he highlights design used in so many ways,
Pieces spread round the world in collectors’ displays,
And then to the practical, if it’s brass that you’re needing
To lift up a bowl, then this turner you’re heeding
As he uses plumbing fittings, we’ll see tapers he’s turned,
Then his fees will be justified, really well earned.

Thank you,
Tim Smeaton October 3-4 2018