

Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild Inc

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

President Report

One sixth of the current year is already over and we are hurtling with great speed towards the next big event on our calendar the Tilba exhibition. I would like to encourage everybody to enter some work into the exhibition. 'I am not good enough' is not an excuse as everybody is classified in specific categories according to their experience and we all started somewhere. The quantity not the quality of work entered at the Eurobodalla Show was disappointing with none or only one or two articles in each category, hence everybody won a prize.

Before Tilba on Easter Saturday we have the Durras market day which is always a good sales day for us and I don't have to travel too far. On Easter Sunday we have been reinvited to the Mogo gala day which was cancelled before Christmas due to inclement weather. We are only required to attend for three hours but I would like to ask for some volunteers to help to man our stall.

We also have been approached by the Eurobodalla Council to assist with ideas and produce play equipment for a park in Mogo and hold a workshop for public enthusiasts to build possum boxes. As I am the absolute king of possum box making (unwillingly) I will lead the adventure.

Looking back we had a very successful Eurobodalla Show in regard to sales which was the result of many members donation of time and sales articles. The outstanding item was the hall table built and donated by Eric which fetched a cool five hundred dollars.

A big thanks goes to our slabbers who slabbed in one day about eight logs with the same chain. The majority of the timber was paulownia which is a hardwood but light as a feather the second lightest timber after balsa wood. Bob turned a large bowl where the contents would always be heavier than the bowl and Nick is making a surfboard.

John's woodturning courses which include tool sharpening are already in full swing. Apropos tool sharpening: Phillip sharpened all the chisels by hand from the club on Wednesday, thank you very much. Some chisels looked like nail pullers or can openers which is not the right use. Also Malcolm has a special interest group going to make chopping boards which is a hype of activity. Our machinery instruction is starting again and will be expanded to include work techniques.

In concluding I would like to say that our club has a fabulous environment of tolerance, acceptance and help towards others and I hope it will never change. The only grievance I have is the bloody wood which always deforms after one is finished.

Helmut

Dates for Your Diary

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|---|------|
| Workshop Days Each Mon & Wed | Mogo |
| Workshop Toy Days 1st & 3rd Wed | Mogo |
| Workshop Demonstrations 2nd & 4th Wed | Mogo |
| Next EWG Monthly Meeting .. 2nd March, Helmut Delrieux home, 50A Village Rd, South Durras | |

Proposed Sales Days 2019:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Easter Saturday. 20 April | Durras market day |
| Easter Sunday, 21 April | Mogo Gala Day |
| 18/19 & 25/26 May | River of Art @ Mogo workshop |
| 8/9 June (long weekend) | Tilba Woodshow |
| 5 October (long weekend) | Sales Day BB Village |
| 2 or 9 November | Hospital Handmade Markets, RSL Club |
| 30 November | Sales Day BB Village |

NOTE: Members seeking further information contact **Secretary Eric Simes (02) 4471 5086**

MORUYA AGRICULTURAL SHOW



Once again the Moruya Ag Show has come and gone, with great success for the EWG entries. In fact, you could say we scooped the pool in terms of Awards.

Fortunately the weather was much cooler this year making it reasonably comfortable for members attending the stand. Public attendance at the show was down a bit this year, however this was not reflected in the Club sales over

the 2 days. In total EWG made \$1,810 which included a heap of chopping boards and Eric's award winning table, so thanks to all who contributed to either making the sales items or 'manning' the stand, and congratulations to all award recipients. For a small club we definitely punch above our weight!

Right : Peter McDowell had great success this year winning the Most Successful Exhibitor Award for his two entries, one a turned vessel, and the other a turned and carved vessel



Nick Hopkins won the Show's Champion Exhibitor Award and first prize in the wood turning category for his vessel on a turned plinth, and first prize in the wood carving category with his other piece on the right.



Peter McDowell hard at work demonstrating his turning skills



Left : Les Bamford's winning entry in the wooden model category of a logging truck.

Below : Les Bamford also entered his model of a vintage motor bike, which won second prize in the wooden model category. We are so used to seeing Les' fabulous models in the workshop, and it is rewarding to see recognition from a broader audience.



Left : Helmut Delrieux's box won second prize in the box making category

Below : Eric Simes' table with inlay top picked up first prize in his category



Above : Peter McDowell's two turned vessels won second prize in the wood turning category



Peter Brotherton's entry in the box making category earned him first prize, (left)

Below : Barry Fenning's winning entry in the novice wood turning category of 3 bowls cut from the same blank , plus matching lids (please see article by Len Newman explaining the process and his experience with this method)



Around the Workshop

Unfortunately two Club members have been unwell of late .. Dana Strain and John Lodding. Dana has recently had a double joint replacement, and we hope you recover quickly Dana. John has been battling with health issues for some time now which has prevented him from attending the workshop. We understand he has had a further operation recently, so get well soon John!

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held on **Saturday 2nd March 2019** at **Helmut Delrieux's home, 50A Village Rd, South Durras**

BBQ will be held at 12 noon followed by the meeting at 1 pm. Bring along your lunch and a chair if practical.

THE SAGA OF A HUON PINE TURNING BLANK (OR THE TRIALS AND SOME TRIBULATIONS OF AN AGEING WOODTURNER) by Len Newman written in November 2018

It all started some time ago when by happenstance I met Garry Ellis and his wife Diana when shopping in Woolworths. Garry was one of the founding members at Don Lee's workshop in Mogo some 31 years ago. Garry was a very skilled craftsman in his own right and was demonstrating how to craft hand made dovetail joints when I first joined. They were as good as any that I have seen since in various galleries, including Bungendore Gallery.

He later opened up a small gallery of his own in part of his home which is on the way to South Durras. He then offered the club members to put their works of art in the gallery for sale on consignment. This was the beginning of my adventure into selling some of my work to a number of galleries, including Bungendore.

After some time Garry went on to build a much larger gallery which included a dining area. This operated very well for a number of years but time finally caught up with Diana and Garry and they decided to close the gallery and turn it into a home. It is one of the best conversions that I have ever seen and it is a very delightful home tastefully furnished with some of the paintings that Garry purchased from the artists that supplied the gallery. We had been invited to visit some years ago but because of family commitments had not been able to go. During the meeting in Woolworths Garry and Diana again invited Audrey and I with Garry saying that he had a number of woodturning blanks that members of the Club might like to have. I accepted the offer expecting to see 6 to 10 blanks but on the day of inspection there were at least 35 turning blank, some already rough turned plus quite a lot of burl and other assorted bits of wood. I asked Garry what his intentions were regarding the disposal of this wood. He then asked me how many members were in the club and I said about 50. His proposal was that if each member of the club donated about \$10.00 to the Farmers Drought Relief Fund the club could have all the wood. I pointed out to Garry that whilst there were 50 members only about 10 were woodturners and that the proposal probably would not work. Helmut then visited Garry and the proposal was discussed at the next Monthly Meeting. I am unaware of the final outcome. After all of this Audrey and I spent a very pleasant afternoon with Diana and Garry. As I knew that it was Garry's 84th birthday I gave him one of my Coolabah Burl Pens. In return he presented me with a large turning blank (who got the best deal?) Garry was not sure what the wood was but thought that it might be Huon Pine. Now this brings me to the real point of the saga of a Huon Pine turning Blank.

I was unsure of what species the blank was until I took it to the club to drill a 55mm recess. Also because the blank was very discoloured there was no sign of the original centre point. I was trying to find the centre with the club's centre finder when Don Geaves saw the blank and he found the centre with the aid of his single arm compass (for the want of a better description). When marking out the circle the blank proved to be out of round by about half an inch. Time was then running out for me at the club and on my way out to my car Eric spotted the blank. He had a good look at and said "what a pity to turn it into sawdust!!!!!!" I remarked that I thought the blank was about 20 years old and Eric said "more like 2500 years old". He was referring to the original tree of course. Anyway I took the blank home with intention of returning to the club the next week to cut off the oval part on the bandsaw. That weekend I had a phone call from Cyril Elliot, an ex member of the club saying that he had just bought a second hand lathe and would I come out and have a look. I did that and was able to cut the blank round on Cyril's bandsaw and cut another recess in the other bottom of the blank.



Len Newman's three bowls set in huon pine

Prior to all this I was talking to Peter McDowell and he asked if I had had any experience with a McNaughton Bowl saver. I told him that the only bowl saver that I had experience with was a long handled lance with a straight cutting blade . Peter then said that he would practice at home with the tool on his own lathe and offered to have a go on my blank if successful. I willingly agreed to this and arrangements were made to go to the club on the following Monday afternoon when I had a small window to get there at about 2.30pm. When I arrived at the club Peter was already demonstrating the McNaughton which had five curved blades that fitted into a long handle. The demo was very successful and Peter started on my blank. This operation required the use of Vivmark's large jaws fitted to the club's Vickmark chuck. I had already turned my blank to a rough design of what I had in mind making sure that it was perfectly round at the top where it had to fit the Vickmark Jaws. It turned out that the fit was almost perfect and only a very small shave was need in the recess for re-chucking purposes. The blank was then taken off the lathe and reversed to fit onto the 50mm chuck. Peter then started on the process of peeling out two bowls. Things were going well until there was a slight glitch and Peter had a catch and the bowl came off the lathe . Luckily the lathe was going at a slow speed and there was no damage. This meant the blank had to be reversed again to repair the recess. This was done, the blank reversed again so that the peeling could continue. The first peel was successful but on the second one there was another small glitch. When nearing the end of the cut the middle came off very quickly and revealed that the outside bowl had a hole in the bottom. This in no way was Peter's fault and was probably caused by me cutting the recess too deep. At this stage there was only Peter Brotherton left watching and he said "it will make a good plant holder Len" . I am sure that it was a good thing that the hole appeared at this stage as I am quite sure I would have gone through the bottom when turning the inside. This would have made the repair much more difficult. I now had three blanks to play with.



McNaughton Bowl saver tools

The following week Peter gave me a five inch by three quarter inch of Huon Pine so that I could turn a plug to fill the hole in the bowl. He also kindly loaned me his large Vickmark Jaws. Armed with these essential bits I was later able to go round to Allan Zakrajsek's workshop where I thought that I would be able to finish the whole project on his beut Nova DVR Lathe. Not to be, the Vickmark Jaws would not fit on Allan's Nova chuck. But I did manage to turn the "plug". So back to the club and again with the help of Peter I was able to fit the blank back onto the Vickmark chuck. I then trimmed up the bottom to take the plug. This was fitted to the blank using a self expanding glue. This was then clamped to the base using the tail stock as a pressure clamp. Of course this meant that the blank had to be left on the lathe at least overnight. As this was done on a Monday afternoon it meant going back to the club the following Wednesday morning. Here I have to give my thanks to Barry Fenning for kindly waiting for me to trim up the foot. Again I was helped by Peter who was observing and kept a nice sharp edge on a skew chisel for the delicate part of shaping the foot. I was now able to go back to Allen's workshop where I finally finished all three bowls.

Thanks Len for your article and insight into using the McNaughton Bowl Saver tool. I had the opportunity of watching Pete demonstrate the process, and it is much harder - and scarier, than you can imagine! Len says this project was his 'last hurrah' in the turning field, and he has even sold his lathe. What a great project to go out on!

Following Len's example, Barry Fenning made this lovely bowl set using the same process back in December. He bought it along for the December Show & Tell, but I held it over to go with Len's article. I think you will agree Barry has used the various colours of wood to great effect.



SHOW & TELL

Michael Barkley made this chequerboard cutting board using Australian red gum and merbau pine. He was experimenting with various contrasting colours.



This is a very different piece from Peter Brotherton—a child's toy using outer rods encasing round balls in a cylinder shape. The cylinder is rolled along the ground making noises—simple but very effective.

Right are 3 bowls made by Alan Zakrajsek. The large bowl is white cedar, medium bowl is protea and the small bowl orange ossage. All different but beautiful



Left is Barry Fenning's coat hanger with thermometer, using red gum finished with spray gloss polyurethane. Door handles were used for the hooks

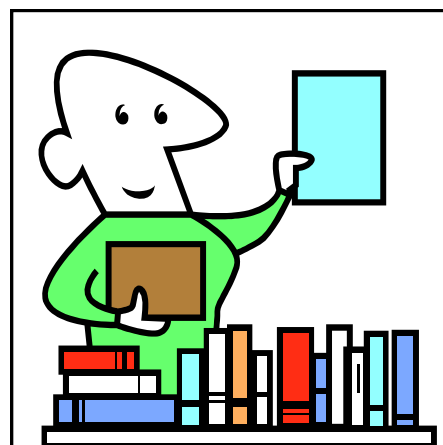
TIMBER & WORKING WITH WOOD SHOW CHANGES

The Timber & Working With Wood Show is changing. It is now called the Timber Tools & Artisan Show and will be held at Exhibition Park (EPIC) in Canberra from 1 – 3 November 2019. This is the original venue before it was moved to the racecourse a couple of years ago.

The show now includes:-

- Woodworking
- Luthiering & Instrument Making
- Metal Sculpting
- Black Smithing & Blade Smithing
- Painting, Sculpting & School of Arts
- Air Brushing & Street Style Art
- Glass Blowing
- Pottery & Ceramics
- Leather Craft

The show's web site is www.timbertoolsartisan.com.au



The club library is always open for business.

It holds over 70 books on most woodwork subjects, over 200 current and back issues of woodworking magazines, videos, and most current catalogues of tools and woodworking suppliers.

Members must sign out any item borrowed and sign it back in when returned.

Edited by Christine Birks and Malcolm McDonald

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