

**ILLAWARRA WOODWORKERS
GROUP INCORPORATED**
PO Box 121 Corrimal NSW 2518
www.illawarrawoodworkers.org.au
December 2014 NEWSLETTER

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| President | David Lipscombe | Oak Flats |
| Vice-president | | |
| Secretary | Pat Keefe | Towradgi |
| Treasurer & P. Officer | William Perry | Cordeaux Heights |
| Coordinator (Organ.) | Ric Funnell | Fairy Meadow |
| Coordinator (W'shop) | Pat Keefe | Towradgi |
| Coordinator (W'shop) | Mark Beaver | Towradgi |
| Coordinator | John McMahon | Fairy Meadow |
| Coordinator (Sales) | Janet Kearney | Warilla |
| Librarian | Peter Hansen | Corrimal |
| Newsletter | John Cashman | Fernhill |

Events Coming Up

10 December, 5.15 Committee, 7pm Club Meeting

Supper Roster: Frank Pynenberg

13 December, about Noon Club Christmas BBQ

All members and spouses welcomed. Also at the BBQ there will be a presentation to some of our lady supporters and workers

Thanks to Bendigo Bank, the Oak Flats and Shellharbour Community Branches, who have again sponsored the club with a grant for consumables

Show and Tell

October.

Pat Keefe showed a closed end mandrell that he had purchased online

Mal Stewart showed a large segmented bowl of some 6-800 pieces of pine and silky oak.

Mal also showed some ingenious ‘inside/outside’ finial shapes. Four lengths of wood are glued together and turned, then separated and re-glued together so that the first turning now becomes the inside of the finial shape and the new outside is then given a second turning

Frank Pynenburg showed a lidded bowl turned from a yellow box burl with a finial of wenge. Frank also showed a segmented hollow vessel of English Beech and Rosewood

Peter Hansen showed a whole variety of items many of which he donated to club sales – a potpourri bowl of jacaranda, a clock, Christmas trees, some paper knives, a triangular bowl, a trinket and more. Thanks Peter.

Rich Funnell was not to be outdone and also brought a stack of things to show, many for club sales. These included a toy garage, a platter, three pine bowls, a dozen wedges, key rings and two carved sea horses and more. Thanks Rick

November

Pat Keefe showed a two steel heavy duty lathe tools he purchased at the Dapto

Rich Funnell showed a large mirror with interesting carved edges from a large piece of banksia

Milan Oder showed a very large bowl turned from a burl of yellow box.

Mal Stewart showed two large segmented bowls of up to 1200 pieces. One he had finished and one still in process. As well he showed some numerous components that will be eventually glued together before turning into another segmented bowl

Mark Beaver showed a large-based bowl turned from Ghost gum. Mark turned it over time, starting when the wood was still green

TOOLS

Peter Hansen collected some tools from a diseased estate. The club has kept some and quite a variety, are on sale to club members. Pat Keefe can give you an approx 2nd hand price. Thanks Peter

Training Boys

The school year has almost finished, as has the group of six boys experiencing some basic woodwork on Thursday afternoons each term. This is our fifth group to do the course. Boys in the group this term were Mikey Chisholm, Marcus Hasler, Alex Boulous, Jason Balfour, Magnus Landmark and Kaycee Sherers-Howson. Ms Pip Fenwick was the accompanying teacher. Thanks to our regular trainers, Peter Hansen, Rich Funnell, Tony Bell, the Editor and until recently, John Parker. Thanks also to those who filled in on occasions, Mal, Dave, Frank and Mark and various other club members who prepared the wood pieces for assembly. Much appreciated

Waste Not, Wood Not !

A couple in Freemantle, WA, are selling firewood under this title. They are reusing waste sawdust. Their machine compresses sawdust from a sawmill into small cylinders which are then packed and sold as firewood. Very convenient and a good reuse sawdust !

Earth Garden April 2014

Bits and Pieces

* I knew it ! I knew it ! Finally a study has shown that the brains of the elderly are only slow, because they know so much!

* Life is much brighter when you focus on what truly matters

The Hobby Turner October 2014

Page Three



CHRIS HESLER

No! The Committee hasn't run off with the Club funds to spend up big in a local Nightclub. That's Chris Hesling- drummer and club member.

After finishing school at Tarrawanna Public and Mt Keira High Chris landed an apprenticeship in spray painting with Waalkers Engineering.. About the same time he bought a second hand Pearl which had a 'kick, snare and a rack or two' drums. Pearl was a cheapy drum kit at the time, not the swish up-market drum kit it is today. But where to practice ? Happily there was a small flat available near Waalkers and Chris moved in there. Even more happily, there weren't near neighbours, so Chris could practice drumming to his heart's content

He didn't have formal drum lessons, but he frequented clubs and pubs where there was live music. He watched the drummers, and noticed and practiced their techniques at home. He also found muso friends and they would get together for jam sessions and to swap ideas and techniques, and try out some of the songs they had written.

. Page Four

Chris has written lots of his own music Some of the clubs also ran ‘Open Mike Nights’ where anyone could get up and play their stuff.

Sooner rather than later, Chris started filling in as a drummer, and then playing regularly in bands. He played in “Don’t Say Don’t” for years and also ‘President Gas’, later just known as ‘The Gas.’ In ‘The Gas’ the musos dressed up, as well as playing Rock n Roll. Some of the stands were over the weekends, and some for up to four nights a week. Currently he is practicing with ‘Killer Jewels’

One time Chris went on a 14 day tour with ‘The Four Kinsman’ band. This time he was the lighting engineer. The Kinsman used puppets as well as music and demanded precise lighting. In each venue it would take up to 4 or 5 hours to get all the lighting set up. When the Kinsman started their act, they had a specific menu of lights and effects Chris was to follow. After the show he had to dismantle the lighting, grab some sleep, then go on to the next venue. It was being thrown in the deep end at first, but Chris learnt a lot, and says that it was good experiencing the technical side of band playing.

While he was drumming away, he also had a variety of jobs, at the steelworks, without a job for a while, and then with Casewide Engineering where he has been for 25 plus years, doing a variety of jobs, spray painting occasionally and a lot with their trucks

Chris has been mostly single. One effect of that is that he has developed into quite a cook, even asked to cook for friends occasionally. He is also a collector- collecting coins, wartime memorabilia (He loved cadets at school – ‘you can get into situations where you test yourself!’) He collects die-cast fighter planes, helicopters, motor bikes and has two motor bikes of his own. One is a 900 Kawasaki which needs a bit of work but is a ‘collector’s item’ and a 1200 Suzuki which will become another ‘collector’s item.’ Chris has also now acquired several machine tools for his shed, including a lathe, which he bought from Dave.

PTO

Page Five

(How many lathes has Dave got ?) Chris showed us his first turned item, a lighthouse, with appropriate lighting, at the club recently It won’t be the last !. Good to have you aboard Chris !

Moving moments.

Wood moves. You can nail it glue it, but you won’t stop wood from shrinking or swelling with the seasonal changes in humidity. The secret in dealing with wood movement is to work with it, not against it. Even woodworkers sometimes forget this until a crack appears in a table he has been working on or a drawer won’t close properly. Wood movements can cause joints to open and doors that used to swing clearly now bind if they haven’t room to expand.

This happens because wood was once living, with cells that held water and were vital to its growth. Long after the tree is cut down and the wood is dried, those cells continue to exchange moisture. In summer’s humid conditions these cells absorb moisture swell and cause the wood to expand. But as winter approaches the wood cells release moisture, shrink and cause the wood to contract.

Most wood movement that will affect your work will occur across the width of the piece. That amount will vary depending on whether the boards are flat sawn or quartersawn. The movement along a board’s length or thickness is negligible in material that is less than 1 1/2” thick

The following are suggestions about how to control wood movement in your workshop. It’s important to control the temperature and humidity in your workshop so that they are close to the environment that the piece will be located in. Basements and garage shops in the east, south and mid-America require humidity control in the summer and heating in winter.

Page Six

If possible take delivery of your material at least a week before you start working with it. This gives it time to acclimatize to your shop environment. If it is summer and the humidity is high you can assume that the piece is not going to swell much more. In a high humidity condition you size the drawers so that they are only about 1/16" smaller than the opening. If it is wintertime and it is dry you should move the dimension to 3/16" across the front of the drawer.

If the material is warped, true it up by face or edge joining before you machine. Do not attempt to force the board into flatness with clamps as the warpage will eventually show up in your finished project. If the board is twisted or cupped you may lose the majority of the thickness by the time you join one face to flatten it. To reduce this loss cut the board into short sections which will reduce the waste.

Solid wood tabletops will grow as much as ½" across their width. Attaching the top to the aprons so that it cannot move is asking for disaster. The tabletop may split along the grain or along a glue line, or bow upwards. Attach the top with wooden clips or steel table clips. The clips hold the table top down, and they also move with the wood and slide in the grooves that you saw in the inside face of the table aprons.

When involved with work such as a chest of drawers that has web frames attached to solid sides, the web frames can't restrict the frames from moving. In this case you can join the frames to sides with sliding dovetail joints. Stop the dovetail groove about ½" from the front of the sides. To assemble the joint apply glue to the front 3" of the dovetail groove only and this will allow the case to expand or contract as the seasons go by without cracking or splitting..

As the season changes, so will the dimensions of your work. It is a rare project that doesn't require some attention for wood movement. May these suggestions assist you with your projects

WHY ?

Why do you press harder on the remote control when you know that the batteries are getting low ?

Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with the hopes that something new to eat will have materialized ?

Why is it that when someone tells you that there are a billion stars in the universe you believe them, but if they tell you there is wet paint, you have to touch it to check ?

Why do banks charge a fee for insufficient funds, when they already know you've only got a little ?

Why is it that when you try to catch something that is falling off the table, you often manage to knock something else off ?

RECYCLING. Peter Hansen and Rich Funnell recently went through our Library and weeded out a couple of books and some magazines which were sent off to Moree TAFE as resources for the Aboriginal students there. Good one !

Christmas & January The President and all the Committee wish everyone a happy Christmas and a great New Year. January is free time with no club meetings or Saturday workshops. Enjoy the break !

Helensburg

Our stall at the Helensburg Village Fair at the end of October was very satisfactory. It was a nice sunny day. There was a good feel about the Fair, lots of people, and some good sales. This was despite the fact that the 'Roof' of our tent was left behind!!! Because of short notice, we restricted sales to 'club only' and had just four members looking after the stall. We have been invited to participate again next year. Rich has suggested that we need more variety in items offered for sale