

**ILLAWARRA WOODWORKERS
GROUP INCORPORATED
PO Box 121 Corrimbal NSW 2518**

March 2007 NEWSLETTER

President	David Lipscombe	Oak Flats
Vice President		
Secretary	Mal Stewart	Thirroul
Treasurer	William Perry	Cordeaux Heights
Public Officer	John Parker	Corrimbal
Coordinator	Peter Hansen	Corrimbal
Coordinator	Bill Body	Balgownie
Librarian	Kevin Parker	Woonona
Newsletter	John Cashman	Fernhill

Events Coming Up

10-18 March Seniors Week Display at Corrimbal Uniting Church Hall.

14 March Club Meeting

31 March 1 April -Thirroul Seaside Festival- Display, Sales and Demonstrations. Set up 30 March

4 April Committee Meeting

11 April Annual General Meeting

Saturday morning workshops Our Secretary has been holding some Saturday morning workshops to make and finish items for the Thirroul Seaside Festival. So far the support for Mal has been underwhelming to say the least! Come on fellas! Lend a hand for Mal and the Club!

Show and Tell!

Show and Tell started with a bang after the Christmas break.

* **Ken Smith**, like a modern Santa Claus, hauled in two bags of goodies for the club's \$2 box: wooden spoons, door stoppers, honey dippers, plant hole diggers, etc. More than 120 pieces! Thanks Ken! And this is far from the first donation from Ken.

* New Club Member **George Cheneval** showed a lamp base made from a dark heavy timber which scientists told him is about 4000 years old.

George also showed some photos of a model of the famous 3801 steam engine which he has made over the last four years. His model is a metre long, is made of silky oak, and finished with Mirrotone. George may be new to our club but is not new to fine woodworking.

* **Barry Long** described a Tea Box he is making with compartments for different tea bags and decorated with carved leaves of the tea plant.

* **Milan Oder** showed a display box incorporating a glass lid for turned pens and pencils. The display box was made from silky oak, and the 18 pens and pencils were made from about 15 different woods. Classy!

* **Mal Stewart** showed us photos of a large dining table he has made for a family member. It was made from furniture grade pine, and featured a turned central supporting leg to which 4 feet were attached with dovetail joints. Wow!

Annual General Meeting

Please note that the Annual Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday 11th of April at 7pm. All positions on the Committee will be up for grabs. (Yes. You too can join this august band !) Nomination forms are included.

Two

Improvisation

Last month Mal Stewart demonstrated how he had improvised making a connection from his hand held sander to his dust extractor. The impetus for this came from his wife Wendy, who was both concerned for Mal's health and for her car. (Mal's workshop is also their garage) Mal opined that sometimes concern for her car might be a priority!!!

Mal used a heat gun on a small length of PVC tubing to improvise a connecting piece. After heating, one end of the tubing was fitted over a flattened oval form to fit the sander, while the other end had it's diameter reduced, using two shaped blocks to fit the tube of the dust extractor. It worked! Mal is happy and so is Wendy ! Good improvisation!!

Good Grief !

A chimpanzee walked into a bar, jumped up on a stool and ordered a beer.

"You're a talking chimp!" the bartender exclaimed.

" Right," the chimp replied, " I'm working in construction across the street for a week, but then I'll be laid off, now where is my beer?"

Each day the chimp came in for a beer after work, he was getting more and more depressed about being laid off. Meanwhile a circus came to town, the bartender mentioned the talking chimp to the owner.

" I've got great news, you can get a job with the circus." he informed the chimp.

" The circus? In a big canvas tent?" the chimp inquired.

" Yes. Its just down the street" replied the bartender.

" Hmm. Wonder what they need a finishing carpenter for?" mused the chimp.

Computer Dovetails !

If you have access to a computer and want an easy quick way to layout dovetails, go to Google and put in “Dovetail Generator.” This will give you a tool where you simply enter the relevant information and it will create a template for you giving accurate cutting lines.

Fold the printed template over the wood, and hold in place with a temporary spray glue. Then go ahead and cut through the paper template.

For example I clicked on

Width: 100mm **Pitch:** 1:6 **Tails:**3

Tail thickness: 12mm **Socket thickness:**12mm

Even gaps and Tails **Even spacing**

And then clicked **Calculate**

And the template appeared on the screen.

Press **Print** and you have it. Glue or pin the template to the timber and away you go

From *The Kiama Woodcraft Group July 2006*

Later events for this year –

* 11-12 August: Brighton Beach – Display, Sales and Demonstrations. Set up 10 August

* 16-17 September: Bulli Show – Display, Sales and Demonstrations. Set up 15 September

The tool shed

Ratchets and wrenches and vices on benches,

Shockies and shifters and levers and lifters

Sanders and sockets and sprayguns and sprockets,

Chisels and chippers and grinders and grippers,

Hacksaws and hammers and routers and rammers,

There and no ‘ifsi and ‘buts’ – this bloody old shed

Is driving me nuts so I’m bolting to bed. Graham Fredrickson