



Issue 284

October 2011

Shed Notes

Newsletter of the Woodcraft Guild ACT Inc

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2011, 1930 - 2130

Venue: **The SHED**, Lions Youth Haven, Kambah Pool Road, KAMBAH ACT 2902

A Burning Issue

Our local Kambah Fire Station have kindly offered to give a presentation at the October meeting on practical tips for fire prevention at the Shed, and on what to do if a fire breaks out. Safety Officer Ted Riesz is organizing this event, but all he was able to tell me before this issue went to print was that he *“would not know until the Sunday before the meeting who is actually coming. However, the station master (actually mistress) advised me the team are not trained to give a polished presentation, so I am hoping for an off-the-cuff practical session relying mainly on answering member’s questions about fire prevention around woodworking sheds. They will be pleased to answer members’ fire-related questions.”*



2011 Annual Exhibition Major Prizewinners

(L) Members Champion: Rolf Barfoed; (C) Open Carving: David McEwan;
(R) Open Turning: Tim Skilton

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ABN 79 748 587 157

PRESIDENTIAL PALAVER

This is my first report as your new President, but I don't have a lot to convey at the moment, other than to say that the Guild's activities following the Annual Exhibition continue apace.

Canberra Home & Leisure Show, 21-23 October

As I write, arrangements for the Guild's participation in this Show by way of demonstrations and sales are in the capable hands of the immediate past President, and everything looks set to go. If the current weather holds it should be a great weekend. [See *STOP PRESS*, page 11. Ed]

Guild Commissions

Dremel Demonstration Boxes – work is now well advanced on these special storage and display boxes for Dremel demonstrators. The work is being undertaken by Terry O'Loughlin and Alan Walker with (from what I observed at the Shed) lots of assistance from a number of other members, who were busy fitting hinges and other fittings and fixtures to these quite complex constructions.

Landscaping

Work on this project – long delayed because of the focus on building our Toilet Block – is now progressing with the setting out of levels and stringlines for a timber retaining wall on the “uphill” side of the Shed. Sleepers have been delivered, and this is a project that will require some able-bodied assistance in coming months.

Imminent Events

Events that will keep us busy up until Christmas include:

Marymead Fete on 12 November – please contact Robert Hogg if you can help.

Creative Weekend on 19/20 November – by all accounts, from those who participated in a similar event last year, this is a highly enjoyable communal activity not to be missed. So if you are available on that weekend, come along and challenge yourself to work outside your comfort zone, and give free reign to your creative impulses in the company of similarly inspired colleagues. Gai Simpson is coordinating, and I'm sure she will be happy to give you more details.

Kingston Bus Depot Markets on 3/4 December – we are still seeking a coordinator for this event, so if you are someone with lots of items to sell and wish to make a few extra dollars at Christmas time, this is the ideal opportunity.

Guild Annual Christmas BBQ on Sunday 11 December, at the Shed – bring your families along to see where you spend your leisure time away from them!

Finally, a reminder that if you wish to be included in a guided tour of the Woodwork Shop at Parliament House, please let me know ASAP. There are still many positions available, and once I have a full complement (15), I will settle on the time and date with Daniel Gair.

Fred Buckley, President 6288 6586 president@woodcraftguild.org.au

EDITORIAL EFFLUVIA

I apologize to my small but dedicated band of readers for the lateness of this issue, which was the result of a combination of personal illness, computer malady, and last-minute housekeeping panic at the imminent return of my wife from an extended overseas trip. This issue will be posted online before the October monthly meeting, but it is unlikely that printed copies will arrive by snail-mail before that date.

Congratulations to our new President, Fred Buckley, and the members of his Committee on their election at the AGM. Some of you may have noticed that Yr Ed managed to find himself among the latter – I want to take this opportunity to state categorically that, contrary to the opinions of a number of cynics, my election to the office of Vice-President does NOT herald the launching of a sinister plot to seize power and tyrannize the Guild. In a moment of weakness, I succumbed to the entreaties of the then President and accepted nomination on the eve of the AGM, so that we would not have an empty chair on the Committee. My excuse for accepting nomination was that I expected (going by the example of the US Vice-President) that the position was largely ceremonial, lacked any real authority or responsibility, and at worst would only involve acting as a ventriloquist's dummy when the real President was unable to appear at a monthly meeting. While I will do what I can over the next year to support Fred and the rest of the Committee in keeping the Guild running smoothly, I have no intention whatsoever of putting my hand up for President at the next AGM (or at any subsequent AGMs). The succession planners better start looking elsewhere ...

Getting back to my real job, I have tried to fit in to this issue as many photos as possible of the prizewinning entries in this year's Annual Exhibition – many thanks to Robin Cromer for the snaps, and congratulations to the winners on their superb craftsmanship!

Editor

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COMING EVENTS

Internal

Next Monthly Guild Meeting: - Wednesday 30 November 2011 at 1930, at the Shed.

Presentation: Richard Raffan will give a presentation on a subject to be advised when he gets home.

Creative Weekend

Saturday & Sunday, 19 & 20 November – A fun weekend where you can create whatever you want out of combinations of materials, such as timber and steel, or from whatever you can use of someone else's leftovers. You can work on your own if you wish; in collaboration with someone; or in a group. Try your hand at something you have never done, but always wanted to do (within reason!). You can gain some clues from those who have tried before and succeeded, or are still trying – “a mistake made is knowledge gained”. So come along and spend a weekend in good company, make some new friends, and take home a *creative* piece of *art*. Your creativity is only limited by your imagination! There is a **limit of 30 places**, and cost is **\$10 per day**. For more details, contact **Gai Simpson** on **62314139**, or by email to fgsimpson@bigpond.com

Woodturning Course – Intermediate Level

Tuesday 10 to Saturday 14 January, 2012, at the Shed – conducted by Richard Raffan. For full details, see separate article below on **page 5**.

External

Next Triton Club Meeting

Wednesday, 02 November 2011, at 1900 – Sharpening of Woodworking Tools. (For further information, contact Burn Alting on 6281 0432, or visit the club's website <http://www.tocact.org.au>)

Marymead Fete

Saturday, 12 November 2011 from 0900 to 1400, at Marymead, 255 Goyder Street, Narrabundah – the Guild will be represented by a modest sales and demonstration (scrollsaw & turning) stall, with all proceeds donated to this community organisation dedicated to supporting vulnerable and disadvantaged children and families. Contact **Robert Hogg** on **6295 7372**, or at rho67893@bigpond.net.au for details.

Old Bus Depot Markets, Kingston

Saturday, 03 & Sunday, 04 December - SELL woodcraft for Xmas presents at the Old Bus Depot Markets – no demonstrations, just need some volunteers to set up the Guild tables on Saturday and Sunday and help with sales. Do YOU have woodcraft items you want to sell? Just prepare a sales list using the Sales List form from the Guild website: <http://www.woodcraftguild.org.au/resources.htm>
Stock for sale must be delivered to the Shed no later than 1500 on Thursday, 01 December. For further information, contact **Dan Steiner** on **0415 133 606**, or at dansteiner1@gmail.com.au

Australian Woodturning Symposium

Friday 14 to Sunday 16 September 2012, at Eaglehawk Resort, Canberra – this biennial event will present international and Australian expert turners demonstrating their skills, as well as giving opportunities for hands-on experience under their expert tutelage. ‘Early Bird’ registration before the end of January 2012 is \$395; for full details see organiser **Bruce Bell**'s website at www.tymba.com.au

Intermediate Turning Workshop with Richard Raffan

Richard Raffan will teach at a 5-day workshop for intermediate-level turners in the New Year. This course will be offered at the Shed from **Tuesday 10 to Saturday 14 January, 2012, from 9am – 5 pm** each day (though the finish on Saturday may be a bit earlier). You will be offered a use of a lathe, access to the Guild's turning tools (if needed), and suitable blanks. The course fee covers a light lunch, as well as both morning and afternoon tea and biscuits (cold drinks available at the usual cost). **Fee is \$550.00, only 10 places available. To register, contact Dan Steiner at dansteiner1@gmail.com.**

Richard describes this Workshop:

If you know a scraper from a gouge, or a skew chisel, and have spent a few days at a lathe, this is for you as well as more experienced turners.

During a 5-day hands-on workshop I cover most facets of turning wood using standard gouges, chisels and scrapers. You'll dramatically increase your efficiency and confidence at the lathe by working through a range of exercises and projects designed to develop and refine specific techniques. Each project will be simplified, or complicated, to meet then push your skill level – I aim to ease you out of your 'comfort zone'.

Initially we concentrate on technique, with not much finished work, but by the end of the week you'll have many projects completed. I'll demonstrate each technique and project you are about to undertake – it's a week of 'monkey see, monkey do'.

DAY 1: After introductions, I have slides that introduce me, as well as the week's activities. You'll get an idea of what you'll be turning; what I look for in regards to form, function and design; and some inspiration if you need it.

Next you get on the lathe with a simple project so I can gauge your skill levels, and this typically leads to a couple of hours on basic skew chisel exercises that lead to spinning tops. Spinning tops are design opportunities that develop fine tool control using skew chisels and 3/8" [10mm] gouges. Day One ends with hollowing endgrain, pencil pots, and scoops.

DAY 2 starts with you completing/revising scoops and pencil pots. Then it's bowl techniques and how to make best use of gouges and scrapers. Using a 3/8" [10mm] spindle gouge, you'll turn beads and grooves on bowl profiles, rims and bases.

DAY 3: Suction-fit end-grain boxes and cross-grain boxes (lidded bowls). The latter introduce a number of ways you can use Vicmarc (and some other) chucks to mount work using small details as gripping points, without marking the wood.

DAYS 4 and 5: You'll turn whatever you want, with me looking over your shoulder. With people working on a range of projects, you'll see and learn a variety of ways to solve a range of chucking and other problems.

Please note: *This is not a rigid schedule — each group is different, and will consequently proceed at its own pace. I strive to keep my students stretched and challenged, once I know what they seem to be capable of doing.*

Richard

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) REPORTS

(SIG Coordinators: please note the deadline for newsletter input: 2nd Friday of each month.)

SIG MEETINGS (EXCEPTIONAL)

(For details of normal SIG meetings, please refer to the Calendar on the Guild website at <http://www.woodcraftguild.org.au/calendar.htm>)

SIG COORDINATORS' NOTES

Pyrography SIG: The next and **LAST** Pyrography SIG for the year will be held at **midday on Sunday, 13 November 2011**. There has been a request for the Pyrography SIG to share this day with the Scrollsaw SIG (if it has to move to accommodate a possible clashing event), but because we pyrographers only use the amenities area, I doubt there will be any problems if this eventuates. I also think it can be a good thing to combine different SIGs with pyrography, to share potential ideas.

With a kitchen full of pyrographers at the October meeting just past, I am very happy to see it has become one of the more popular groups. Bruce McKenzie is again doing a fantastic job of salvaging suitable pyrography timbers from what ends up in the trailer, and we are all very grateful for his extra time and effort. We are also very happy to welcome a new younger member, Nadia, who has a wonderful natural talent for pyrography and will hopefully continue to be an enthusiastic pyrography and woodwork advocate for future generations.

I hope that, by now, those who ordered an Ironcore pyrography machine have received it in the post, and are happy with their purchase. I believe I am still able to take advantage of the discount from Ironcore, but it won't be available forever, so if you are still interested, get in touch ASAP for details. I also found useful information in the booklet that comes with the machine on how to shape nibs, which I hadn't read before – so make sure to read everything that is supplied!

We were hoping to run another pyrography workshop before the end of the year, but time constraints in this busy season mean this won't be possible until 2012. I hope, however, to organize an "Introduction to Pyrography" workshop, and another called "Pyrography Potential", which will include all other options for pyrography, including design on turned bowls, boxes and furniture; mixed media; and the use of colour, scorching and branding – and anything else we can throw in! More information soon.

Vivien Laycock 0438 877 711 viv_bungendoreart@bigpond.com

Mandrel & Miniature (Pen) SIG: The next meeting of the Pen SIG will be held in two parts on **Saturday, 01 November**, at the Shed – a Practical Session from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm; followed by a Demonstration Session from 1.30 pm. to 4.30 pm. The Project for the Month is Demonstration of the Turning Duplicator; and the Pen of the Month is the Polaris.

Turners' Toys for Christmas: The turners' 'Toys for Christmas' project resulted in 217 'Woodcraft Wizard's Magical Wands' being handed over to the Toy SIG, for distribution by charities during Christmas 2011. A special thanks to all who participated, particularly Eddie Middler, who turned 70 wands.

We propose to continue to support the 'Toys for Christmas' appeal, and suggestions are sought for a suitable item to turn for Christmas 2012. Items already under consideration are 'Knitting Nancies' and 'Play-Dough Rolling Pins'. If you have any suggestions and /or samples for a suitable toy, please bring them to the next meeting.

2012 Program: Volunteers to demonstrate your favourite Project or Pen for the 2012 Program would be appreciated at the November meeting. This is your chance to share your skills and particular interests with the rest of the SIG. Suggestions for items to be featured in the program are also welcome.

Art Pollard 6288 6602 artpolrd@tpg.com.au

OFF-CUTS

Miscellaneous Items of Interest

SPARE PRIZE ON OFFER

One of the sponsors of our Annual Exhibition is Angus Watson, of the CIT. This year, Angus offered up to 2 hours of machining time as a prize, but the winner can't make use of this generous offer, and has returned the prize to the Guild. Does another member wish to avail him/herself of this prize? If so, contact **Dan Steiner** on **0415 133 606** or **dansteiner1@gmail.com** – first in, best dressed!

WOODCUTTER NEEDED

No, this is not a casting call for the latest production of “Little Red Riding Hood”! Yr Ed received the following email seeking assistance:

“I am a member of ‘Patch a Puzzle’. We are a small group of volunteers who work through Anglicare at St John’s Church Reid on Thursday mornings, from 10 am to 12.30 pm, in the old Scout Hall near the Reid Childcare Centre. We mend children’s wooden jigsaw puzzles. Our main woodcutter, who had been with the group since its inception about 10 years ago, has had to retire, and we are looking for a replacement. We are having difficulty finding anyone. Would there be a member of your group who would be interested?”

Usually we have one dedicated cutter and 6 painters. A couple of the painters can also cut, and are doing so at the moment. We have equipment and wood at the hall. Puzzles are sent to us from crèches and schools, and we charge them a recovery cost for the work.

Hoping that you will be able to assist us.

Lyn Turner
Anglicare **6248 7771”**

When I first received this request, I passed it to the Toy SIG, but they did not feel they were able to help. Is there any other SIG, or individual member, who might be able to assist this group of worthy volunteers? It would seem to me that this falls squarely within our “community outreach” objective...

STURT SCHOOL FOR WOOD GRADUATING EXHIBITION 2011

Sturt School for Wood have sent us an invitation to their exhibition of work by this year’s graduating students, to be held in the Sturt Gallery Mittagong (Cnr Range Road & Waverley Parade, open daily 10am-5pm). The exhibition will be opened by Leon Sadubin at 11 am on Saturday 26 November 2011, and will run until Sunday 11 December. For more information, see the latest Sturt Newsletter at <http://www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/newsletter.htm>

2011 ANNUAL EXHIBITION PRIZEWINNERS

First Prize Winners



(Left) Boxes –
Justin McCarthy



(Right) General –
John Jervis



(Left) Marquetry –
Robin Cromer



(Right) Pyrography –
Shannon Henry



(Left) Tools –
Terry O'Loughlin



(Right) Toys –
Alan Casimir



(Left) Turning Between
Centres – **Robin Cromer**



(Right) Turning Faceplate
– **Fred Morton**

Second Prize Winners



(Left) Boxes –
Justin McCarthy



(Right) Carving –
John Murphy



(Left) Furniture –
Peter Rogers



(Right) General –
Maurene Grundy



(Left) Marquetry – **Don Rowland**



(Right) Pyrography – **Meg Harrison**



(Left) Toys –
Robert Hogg



(Right) Turning Between
Centres – **Robin Cromer**



Turning Faceplate – **Greg Holcombe**

*All photographs of prizewinners courtesy of **Robin Cromer***

FOR SALE

LATHE, COPIER & COMBINATION MACHINE

Lathe: 930 mm maximum throw; with Copier "Luna"; made in Sweden; asking price **\$400**

Combination: Woodfast multifunction machine, model 300 CS2 (3-phase); plus Woodfast dust extractor, model 300 MK2 (not shown); asking price **\$2,000**. **NB:** Will need dismantling to remove from garage.

Contact **David Craig**, 21 Yanda St, Waramanga, on **6288 1405**



Carba-Tec CTJ381 PLANER/THICKNESSER

The Guild's Planer/Thicknesser (now replaced by a more advanced helical cutter model) is available for sale. It is at least two years old, and has been used extensively, but is still in good working order, with only minor problems (eg table locking mechanism does not work). **Price by negotiation.**

Contact **Fred Buckley** on **6288 6586**, or president@woodcraftguild.org.au

(NB: Image is from Carba-Tec catalog, and is indicative only)



PIANO HINGE

The Guild has available a quantity of continuous piano hinge for sale to members. Price **\$3.00 per meter** (about half the price at Bunnings).

Contact **Terry O'Loughlin** on **6291 9970**, or at the Shed.

POOL TABLE FITTINGS

Pool table fittings, consisting of pocket inserts; pocket backs; small pool balls & triangle; 2 pool cues – suitable for constructing a child-sized pool table.

Contact **Andrew Hewat** on **0407074279**, or at andrew.hewat@act.gov.au .

TRITON WORKCENTRE

Triton 2000 Workcentre, in good condition; wheel kit fitted; plus dust bag and original instruction manual (NB saw not included). ‘Bargain basement’ price **\$150.00**.

Contact Robin Cromer on **6286 8568** or at robinandjill@bigblue.net.au

FRAMING TIMBER

The following email was sent to the Editor:

“I am wondering if any of your members would like some framing timber. I have about 50 metres of recycled ash that was cut into framing wood by Thor's Hammer, and as I am no longer doing my artwork, I have this amount left over. I bought it for \$5 a square metre from Thor, but am willing to sell all that is left over for \$60. It is cut in a square modern style, also it has been designed with a reusable profile system if one chooses. It can greatly aid in the storage and exhibiting of one's art if one can reuse a frame. The ash is very hard, and travels superbly for many times without getting any dents. I can give the purchaser free lessons in how to make a good frame using all conservation quality materials, and demonstrate cutting and glueing, and show types of boards to use to make a frame.

I also want to sell my printing press that I used to make woodcut prints. If anyone is interested in embarking on such an idea, I would gladly help them get started in printing, in which I have over 20 years experience. I would sell the press for \$2000 ONO. It is easy to transport as it can be taken apart, and one only needs an average size trailer.”

Contact **Philippa Matthews** on **6161 6781**, or at philippamatthews@grapevine.com.au

STOP PRESS

The appalling lateness of this issue has at least made it possible to include this up-to-the minute illustrated report from the coordinator of our participation in last weekend's Canberra Home & Leisure Show:

The Guild had another very successful stand at the Canberra Home and Leisure Show, 21-23 October. Members demonstrated woodturning, carving, pyrography, and scrollsaw work to hundreds of interested Show visitors. With an expanded stand this year, we sold over \$2500 of woodcraft items, as well as talking with visitors about joining the Guild and coming out to view our facilities.

Dan Steiner 0415 133 606 dansteiner1@gmail.com



(Left) Carver **Bruce Fox** comes to grips with a wombat,



(Right) **Bill Hodgetts** working his magic with wizard's wands, while **Derek Jewell** looks on in awe.

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GUILD MEMBERSHIP

Please see the Guild website at <http://www.woodcraftguild.org.au/membership.htm> for detailed information about Guild membership, or contact the **Membership Secretary, Mike Nash**, on **6262 5096**, or by email at mike.carol.nash@bigpond.com

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Members' Articles: Articles from members are very welcome, **providing copyright rules are followed and sources acknowledged.** Preferred format is in **Times New Roman 12pt** font, in an MS Word document, attached to an email. Articles will be published when space is available, and entirely at the discretion of the Editor, who may make editorial changes where necessary (especially if you can't spell). **NB:** If you are illustrating your article with images, please send them separately as JPEG files, so they can be adjusted to fit.

Deadline: 2nd Friday of the month (except December, when no issue is published).

Member's Free Advertisements: One free advertisement of **3 lines** per edition.

Other Advertising: Queries regarding rates should be addressed to the Treasurer. Payment is by donation to the Woodcraft Guild ACT Inc, PO Box 1411, WODEN ACT 2606.

Editor