



WOODCRAFT GUILD TASMANIA INC.

fostering Tasmanian woodcrafts
PO Box 645 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

Newsletter No. 156, September October 2016

From the President

The Woodcraft Guild AGM was held recently on August 9th 2016. This was well attended. All formalities went through in a smooth process and the AGM concluded at 7.20 pm

The Secretary had received nominations for all of the positions to form a new committee. Following a motion and a vote, the nominations were accepted by the meeting.

The 2016/17 committee is President – Brian Ridler, Secretary Ken Dowling, Treasurer John Grubb, Vice President John Penprase, committee members are George Harris, Rod Daly, Michael Gaskell, John Sheppard, Clinton Luckock, and Murray Jessup

Thanks again to each of the committee for accepting the nomination. I welcome to the committee both the new members and those who have returned to the fold.

The AGM was followed by the August General Meeting with the usual notices and show and tell, followed by a presentation by Kevin Morse and another by Trevor Semmens.

These got off to a rather shaky start as the pre-tested data projector suffered a fan failure which resulted in a shutdown. Vision was restored after our large screen TV was relocated from our clubrooms to the meeting space.

Kevin gave a very interesting and detailed talk on his skill in photographing celestial events especially Aurora Australis. The talk included suggested times, locations and camera settings. Those members who took notes or have a good memory went away with a wealth of information. Thanks Kevin.

Trevor Semmens followed with a power point presentation of a recent 'Lost Trades Fair' held at Kyneton in Victoria which included images of many skills of years gone by. Such as coopering, arrow making, coach building, pin striping, saddle making just to name a few. Thank you Trevor

Brian Ridler
President

Reports on previous guild activities

July Meeting

The July meeting started with a BBQ at 5.30 cooked by Ken Dowling and Brian Ridler, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the 18 members who attended. A recent new member Gustavo was welcomed.

Show and tell:

Ken Dowling	a square platter
John Shephard	palm nailer, small disc turning, & router dowel maker
Michael Gaskel	pair of gavels
Rod Daly	VW. Kombi wooden toy
Brian Ridley	Aluminum square he recently purchased.
John Penprase	Turning blanks on lathes for Sat demo and photos.

Tea, coffee and chat followed, with meeting closing early due to rainy snow and a very cold night.



August Meeting

Details of the August Meeting were provided in the Presidents report above.

Future meetings

- September 13th Graham Cowie from Hobart Battery World on all battery related matters
- October 11th Mystery speaker
- November 8th Doug Fitzgerald Power tool update, corded and cordless
- December 13th Christmas Dinner Black Buffalo Club Bar 6 for 6.30 RSVP on the club notice board or to Brian Ridler.

Royal Hobart Show

Members have been working hard on Saturday mornings as well as doing some homework at other times making the parts for the planes and boats that will be assembled by children attending the Royal Hobart Show. These are now complete, and in fact additional supplies have been done for the Wooden Boat Festival next February.

This is only part of the guilds commitment to the show as volunteers are needed to help the children construct the boats and planes. The Show is held in October Between the 19th and the 22nd. The extremely busy day is the first one when many school children attend the show. Past experience has shown that activity commences soon after opening and concludes at about 2.30 when most children need to return to school. Any volunteers should contact John Penprase.

Sydney Working with Wood show

I was in Sydney on the last weekend of June to see the Wallabies play a Rugby Union Test against England, but that is another story. On the same weekend was the Sydney working with wood show which is part of a national circuit that members may have attended and may recall that we had one at the Derwent Entertainment Centre a long time ago. This year's show was in one of the showground pavilions at the Olympic centre at Homebush. Getting there involved a 30 minute train ride to Lidcombe station and then transferring to the sprint line to the centre.

Arriving at 10 am at opening the first thing I noticed was that there were not as many people waiting to get in as has occurred at other shows I have attended. The show was only in one building and had the usual woodworking suppliers present. Carbatec, Gifkins Dovetail, Abortech, Carbitool etc

The show was advertised as being "Show and Try", but it seemed to me that it was a bit on show and not much try at all. The Carbitool stand was most impressive as it consisted of a wall of all their router bits and other things they make

There was also a very large area for the various woodworking clubs in Sydney who were demonstrating turning, scroll sawing etc and also had a large number of items for sale.

After a couple of hours I left having visited most of the stands at least twice with a feeling that these shows are not as big as they used to be and certainly did not have the bargains that you could have got in the past.



Great Wall of Router Bits



Theo

Carbatec demonstration

Members who have subscribed to the Carbatec website will at times have received emails advising them of the Saturday morning demonstrations they have in many of their stores. Usually these are on the mainland and therefore of little interest. I was in Brisbane on the weekend of the 20th of August and was able to attend the demonstration organised for that weekend.

The demonstration was done by Gary Field who describes himself as a woodcarver sculptor and was showing how to carve wooden spoons. Gary is located in Nambour on the Sunshine Coast and runs classes as well as having had various exhibitions in the last 30 years or so. He will be one of the demonstrators at Turnfest next year. His work can be seen on his website www.garyfieldwoodcarver.com.

I arrived early as everything is in Queensland and after I found Gary it appeared that I was the only person there. Gary showed marking out of the spoon shape, cutting out a rough shape on a bandsaw or in his case using a small hatchet to undertake the initial shaping of the spoon, attaching the spoon to a carving vice and then some shaping the various spoon chisels and knives.



After the morning demonstration I visited the Brisbane Boat show. At the main entrance there was a guy carving a boat from one piece of wood. He was Radha Pedersen and apart from undertaking commissions and appearing at various shows he also ran a 3 hour sessions on Saturday mornings to teach carvers.

As his sessions were at Beneleigh situated half way between my site at Southport and Brisbane, I decided to attend the next ones. There were 3 other budding carvers at the first session and they were all carving wall plaques. I was interested in starting to carve spoons. So was given a piece of camphor laurel and shown how to mark out the piece and then carve out the spoon shape and then remove much of the excess of timber round the spoon. In my opinion it took me most of this session in chopping off pieces that could have been removed much easier with a band saw. But then he did not have a band saw so it was back to the chisels

Radha has a website www.radhapedersen.com.au which shows some of the pieces he has for sale. I found the boats he had carved from on piece of timber to be quite fascinating. He will be attending the Wooden Boat Show in Hobart next February and I can only recommend that members visit his stand and see some of his work,



Special Interest Groups:

Box making: This group, led by George Harris, meets on the **second** Saturday (PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF WEEKEND FOR THIS GROUP) of each month, at **10.00 am** in the Guild workshop. Jewellery boxes and small lidded boxes are challenging, but very rewarding. It is woodworking on a small scale, but similar design and construction challenges apply on full scale furniture.

New participants always welcome. Phone George on 0409 973344. Router techniques and the use of the Guild's router table are also featured.

Wood Turning: The woodturning Special Interest Group fixture meets on the **fourth Saturday** (PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF WEEKEND FOR THIS GROUP) of the month, and is being led by Committee member and keen wood turner John Penprase. Start time is 9.00 am, and members are asked to contact John Penprase or Brian Ridler or just turn up on the day for a look.

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Guild meetings: second Tuesday of each month at 7.00 pm at Cosgrove High School, Main Road, Derwent Park. Enter by **Felicity Lane**, which is adjacent to the Motors used car yard in Main Road. Meetings are held in the Manual Arts block. Telephone any Committee member for more specific details. All members and any guests are welcome to join us in a BBQ, lit at 5.30 pm.