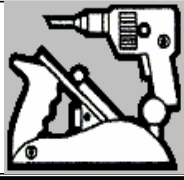


Waverley Woodworkers Inc.

Newsletter June 2006

Volume 13 Issue 5



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Office Bearers 2005/2006

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| President: Geoff Allen | 9568 4380 | Vice President: Gavin Betts | 9807 4661 | Secretary: Tony McLachlan | 9840 7716 |
| Treasurer: Phillip Dunstan | 9808 7510 | Auditor: Ian Trivett | 9802 5110 | Public Officer: Laurie Stuart | 9807 9793 |
| <u>Committee Members:</u> | | | | | |
| Wolfgang Becker | 9560 9278 | Bruce Hartland | 9560 5708 | Cameron McKerral | 9885 5525 |
| | | | | Laurie Stuart | 9807 9793 |

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Well. What do you want from the club? What equipment would you like to be able to use? Are you having trouble with any of our tools? Does any equipment need replacing? These are questions the committee ponders over regularly, but we need your help to make sure all members get a say. Since each club member should feel some ownership of club resources we should all also feel we have responsibility for safety and suitability of the tools available to us. So if you have any bright ideas don't hide them under a bushel basket, tell the committee and if you feel that your not getting heard try again and or join the committee. Speaking of which the current committee runs out of puff in July so if you have the desire to join the committee fill out the nomination form that is in this issue of the newsletter. One obvious deficiency this year has been that none of our ladies has been on the committee to give it some balance, hopefully this year will be different or maybe committee members will have to take it in turns to wear a skirt.

Nominations for the Committee must be delivered to the President by 5:30 pm on 3 July, 2006.

Geoff Allen

Monthly Meeting 10th May

Most of us probably think what a waste when we see truck loads of old houses etc. heading for the tip. It seems we were not alone Ward Petherbridge of Waste Converters is one of those rare people who runs a company that sorts out the waste and attempts to sell the recyclable bits from construction and demolition. The Create from a Crate competition at the annual VWA uses Waste Converters crates. Ward explained how the recycling operation works and talked to us about his involvement in the VWA.
Geoff Allen

Monthly Meeting 14th June 7.30

Are you too stuck up to attend? If not come along, get glued to your seat while 'The man from Selleys' talks through some sticky situations.
Geoff Allen

AGM Advance Notice Wednesday 12th July 7.30pm

AGM followed by regular (shortened) Monthly Meeting.

Annual Subscriptions

The committee have decided to keep the annual subscriptions to \$75. and all members are reminded that they are payable by 30th June 2006 for the following 12 months. To vote at the AGM you need to be financial so its time to raid the piggy bank.

Thickneser, table-saw, cut-off saw and jointer use.

The rules for use of these machines include the directive that timber with nails, paint or dirt are banned. We own an electric circular saw for breaking down preloved timber, sometimes the bandsaw might be a more appropriate tool to use especially for trimming off painted edges. By using the metal detector usually nails can be found and dirt can be removed by wire brushing followed by a stiff bristled brush; however, the onus is on the user to pay for a replacement blade if you are unlucky enough to damage the blade.

Geoff Allen

JUST TURNING

1 May: Seven members present.

Members viewed a batch of very nicely made toys to submitted to Monash Council for their opinion on suitability for Monash area charities, kindergartens, etc. John McGarry made these samples.

Ian Heffernan brought along photos of turning done by John Balak of Zeehan, Tasmania. Ian also showed the stool legs that he is currently turning during a course run by Bob Morrison.

Bob Lorrensene brought along a Pine, painted and turned toadstool and a saucer of Irish Strawberry.

Bob Morrison showed an unusual lidded container of Huon Pine, Ironwood, with Gidgee knobs. This piece won second prize four years ago at the National Show.

Peter Kent brought along a lidded container of Brigalow, a very hard timber, and a bowl of Sycamore timber. These articles are finished with Triple EEE and Shellawax.

Praveen Nathaniel's article is an open bowl of Blackwood – a work in progress. He also brought in a small bowl, turned green which could be used as an egg cup.

Helene Longton brought a Kaleidoscope done in an egg shape.

Each member of the Turning SIG has decided members will fashion a piece over the next six weeks and bring them for Show & Tell on 19 June.

8 May: 10 members present,

We were lucky enough to have Rick Gilks come to this night and he showed a partly made Club entry for the Australian Woodturning Exhibition to be held 16, 17 & 18 June. Rick also explained the different categories for the show. Rick is secretary for the Committee responsible for this show. Entry forms are available at the Club and entries close on 26 May with delivery by 11 June. Bit late notice, but most of the members who are likely to submit entries would have known these dates from the Monday night meetings

Ian Heffernan brought along an egg and egg cup made from Coastal Banksia, with Shellawax finish.

Bob Lorensene brought along 3 Toadstools, one made from freshly cut timber.

Alex Morey brought along a segmented platter, one of the first he had made.



Peter Stacey brought along a pen finished with a few coats of Wipe-On-Poly.



Phil Dunstan showed two photo's of items of furniture in Yarralumla, one a Jewellery Cabinet and the other a Dining Table which would seat 50 people made from Queensland Maple. Phil also showed a sample of a Red Gum Cuff Link – a pair of which he made for his son.

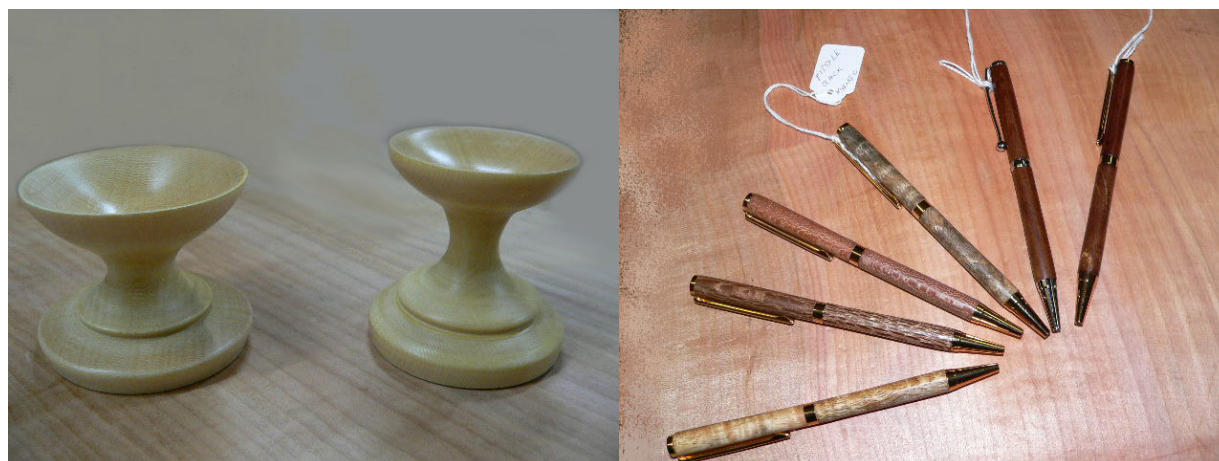
Bill David told members of his visit to a workshop in Egypt on his recent trip. The workers were out in Melbourne a few years ago working on the Coptic Church at Hallam.

Ron Jones brought along photo's and a leaflet of a full size motorbike made and turned from different timbers. It is on display at the Cann River Museum,

15May: 8 members present.

Phil Dunstan turned a goblet from Silver Birch and two stands for spheres from Huon Pine.

Ron Jones brought along well turned pens from fiddleback Ash, Red Mango, Silky Oak, fiddleback Mango, and Sheoak.



Bob Morrison brought along some Silky Oak to share; a Silver Birch bowl for Show & Tell, 2 Apricot flowers and 1 Apricot toadstool. As well he showed a lidded container of Myrtle Burl with Huon Pine Lid and a Gidgee finial.



22 May: 7 members present

Geoff Allen brought along pieces which have split, distorted whether thick or thin and one piece even had a knot protrude from the bowl. Timbers were Banksia and Nectarines. Geoff also brought along an unusual Japanese container in three parts connected by string and made from hollow bone with an etching of a Japanese lady. Geoff made a similar item from Conkerberry – this item is called “Inrow”



Wolfgang Becker brought along a piece of timber for identification.

Phil Dunstan has begun the Oregon project and showed pieces of Walnut Burl.

Ian Heffernan brought along his three legged stool completed in Bob Morrison’s class. Stool was Pine finished with Estapol.

Praveen Nathaniel brought along his bowl – Blackwood and a Bloodwood box finished with Danish Oil



Peter Kerr gave a progress report on his Oregon item and is finding that the cutting tool is leaving the timber rough.

Bob Morrison's classes. There are vacancies for a new class which can begin when there are four members who wish to do the class. They are held on a Tuesday evening for three hours from 6:30 pm and run for six weeks..

WOODWORKING TIPS FROM "WOODSMITH"

Copyright of August Home Publishing Co. Publishers of the "Woodsmith", "Shop notes" and Workbench" magazines, all worth a read.

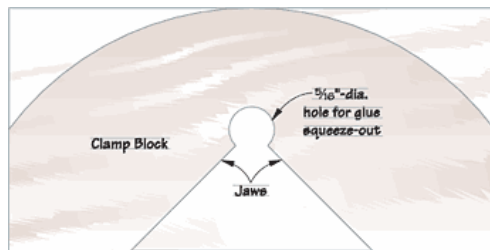
Used by Waverley Woodworkers Inc. by permission.

Align Miters with Clamp Blocks

A band clamp does a great job of applying even pressure when gluing up boxes and other square projects. But if the project has mitered corners like a picture frame (*Photo*), then a band clamp has problems.

The main problem is that there's no way to keep the mitered corners aligned. Plus, the band may not pull tightly around those sharp corners, producing uneven clamping pressure. Even worse, it may crush the fragile outside corners of each miter.

For those reasons, I came up with these simple corner blocks that work with a band clamp to hold mitered corners at 90°. The jaws of the blocks form a 90° opening to "hug" the frame. Their rounded outside edges let the band slide easily, and the hole in each prevents glue squeeze-out from sticking to the blocks.



To make the clamp blocks, first cut a series of blanks to size from 3/4" stock to match the *Full-Size Pattern* that's shown at right. Then, apply the pattern to each blank, and drill the hole where shown. Next, use a band saw to cut the jaws and rounded outside edge on each block. Finally, sand the edges smooth to complete the clamp blocks.

Good woodworking,

Wyatt Myers
Online Editor, *Workbench*

Handy Tote for Sheet Goods

Lugging around sheets of plywood can be a pain, literally. So I came up with a simple tote that I've been using for the last few years.

The secret to my tote is a pair of PVC pipe hangers, like those shown in the photo at left. You can buy them at any hardware store or home improvement center. I cut a piece of 2x6 long enough to make it comfortable to grip and then nailed the pipe hangers to either side. A metal drawer pull screwed to the 2x6 makes a great handle.



Have a nice weekend,

Phil Huber



Please Note: I am told that Gus-Tec of Mountain Highway, Bayswater have folded. I am told that the Carba-Tec company withdrew their licence for Carba-Tec products. All such products are now available from Carba-Tec in Springvale.

The Moroccan Argan Tree



A Forest of “Tree meadow” trees

In drought ridden conditions when there is little else to eat, goats will climb up a variety of trees in many of the warmer countries in the world. It is an unusual sight here in Britain where we have plenty of grazing at a lower level and fewer goats. My family had a couple of goats on our little farm in Wales, who greatly enjoyed climbing the roof of our old barns and took delight on jumping onto the car roof. No wonder the Chinese have a proverb saying “If you don’t have any worries, keep a goat.

Some holiday makers to the Mediterranean countries come back with amazing photos of goats grazing in trees. The most spectacular of these pictures originate from South-West Morocco, where there is a unique habitat of semi-desert Argan Forest, which is sadly declining. Nearly half of the forest has disappeared in comparison with Victorian times. 600 hectares are lost every year. The main reason for this demise is the effect human beings have on the environment in a variety of ways.

For example:

- . Many more people with ever larger domesticated grazing herds have moved into the area. Over-grazing can easily be lethal to a fragile ecosystem.
- . Unsustainable collection of firewood and timber.
- . The abandonment of traditional land management in favour of modern more intensive agriculture, which includes ploughing and irrigated crops.
- . Unsustainable fruit gathering.
- . The disappearance of spiny “nurse” plants such as *Rhus pentaphyllum* and *Zizyphus* spp. And the clearing of spiny argan brush, which also protected the seedlings, from beneath trees.
- . Global warming may also be an additional factor.

The Argan Tree (*Argania spinosa*), also known as Morocco Ironwood, is quite a thorny evergreen tree that grows up to 10m high. Its life span is said to be anywhere from 125 to 450 years and the tree may not come into full production until it is 40 – 60 years old.

It is also locally known as “The Berber Tree of Life”, because it helps to make life possible for many creatures in the semi-arid desert of south Morocco. Its roots travel deep to find water and help to bind the soil. Tree root systems also facilitate water infiltration and aquifer replenishment.

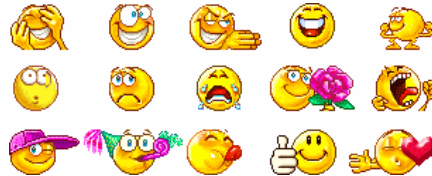
The Berber tribes also use the tree in many ways:

| | | | |
|---------------|--|-------------------------|----------|
| Timber | Firewood | Ornament | Charcoal |
| Animal fodder | Argan Oil (which is the most expensive oil in the world) | | |
| Amlou paste | Lamp fuel | Cosmetics and soap, and | |

Medicine – It is an excellent tonic and some say it has aphrodisiac qualities.

Now! Who will be the first member to bring along a sample of this timber to see how it machines?

Time for a Smile



Subject: Something to Ponder On.....

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it. Think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s: These are interesting . . .

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour; hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting >married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the >house had the privilege of the nice clean water; then all the other >sons and gentlemen; then the women; then the children; and last of >all the babies. By then, the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in! it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with >the bath water."

Houses had thatched roofs: thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery, and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs."

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt, hence the saying, "dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance way; hence the saying, carrying the bride across the "threshold."

(Getting quite an education, aren't you?)

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Everyday they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while; hence the rhyme, "Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old."

When visitors came over, they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. They would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could "bring home the bacon." They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and "chew the fat."

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or "upper crust."

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up, hence the custom of holding a "wake."

England is old and small, and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a "bone-house" and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside, and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the graveyard shift") to listen for the bell; thus someone could be "saved by the bell" or was considered a "dead ringer." and that's the truth...

Now, whoever said that History was boring!!!

Educate someone... Share these facts with a friend.

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Discounts Available from the following: These companies offer discounts to members of the Waverley Woodworkers. Note: Discounts are only available on presentation of your current membership card. | |
| Australian Wood Panels , 40-42 Winterton Rd., Clayton. | 9543 5033 |
| Baileys Toolbank . Unit 4 Rowen Crt. Box Hill. | 9897 1911 |
| Blackwoods , 31 Fowler Rd., Dandenong (ask for Cyril) | 9518 2222 |
| The Delta Group Shed 2, 577 Plummer St. Port Melbourne. | 1300 887 558 |
| Carba-Tec , 80 Osborne Ave. Springvale | 1800 558 426 |
| Flatman's Timber & Hardware . High Street Road. Syndal. | 9802 9211 |
| A. Lewis & Co. 302 Jasper Rd., Ormond. | 9578 6218 |
| Malvern Paint & Timber Finishes . 1933 Malvern Rd., Malvern East | 9885 2883 |
| Magnetic Abrasives . 286 Neerim Rd., Carnegie. | 9571 6811 |
| Mathews Timbers . 125 Rooks Rd., Vermont. | 9874 1666 |
| Moorabbin Timber . 230 Wickham Rd., Moorabbin. | 9553 0155 |
| Sachy's Industries , 43 Browning Drive, Glen Waverley. | 9803 2370 |
| Shiver me Timbers , 217 Kororoit Creek Rd. Williamstown. | 9397 5993 |
| Woodworking Warehouse . 11 Citrus St. Braeside. | 9587 3999 |
| If you know of any other source of discounts for members, or if you have difficulty obtaining a discount from any of the above, please contact Peter Stacey, On ph 9560 5752 , or by e-mail phug8047@bigpond.net.au | |

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Preventing Router Bits from Burning Wood

Question: Recently I was routing a $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide, $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep dado in Mahogany. After routing about half the dado, I smelled wood burning, yet the dado was clean with no sign of scorching. The sawdust, however, looked like it had been sprinkled with black pepper. Several spots about $\frac{1}{16}$ " to $\frac{1}{8}$ " began to glow, so I rushed to get a pan of water, which took about 45 seconds. When I returned, the spots were glowing rings about the size of a quarter. The water quenched the burning sawdust, but I was shaken by the thought of what could have happened. AS for the router bit, only the tip of one edge was a little brown. What Happened?

Frederick Eckart, Hatley, Wis.

Answer:

Several things can cause the burning with a router bit. A dull bit causes friction as it rubs against the wood because the cutting tip is rounded and no longer shaves a clean slice. This is more common with steel bits, though, than with carbide.

Moving too slowly through the wood – even if the bit is sharp – also can cause burning because the bit has time to heat the wood to its burning point. Last, if you try to take a deeper cut, chips may clog around the bit and heat up as they rub against each other, the bit and the wood Burning is a possibility.

I would only rout a $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Deep $\frac{3}{4}$ " in. wide dado or groove in one pass with a 3-hp router. A router this powerful will let you plow through the wood at a speed that will avoid burning. Even so, when making such cuts, it's best to make them in several passes or to hog out the bulk first with a dado cutter on the table saw to within $\frac{1}{16}$ " in. of it's final depth, and then use a sharp router bit to clean up the cut and take it to depth.

Jeff Greef

This Q & A may raise some eyebrows in the club. Your written response will be appreciated.

Speaking of Router Bits.

On Friday 26 May, we were shocked to find a $\frac{3}{4}$ " in. straight router bit that had been damaged beyond repair.

It appears to have used on a piece of wood (or metal?) that contained some nails, screws or other very hard material and this has broken pieces of carbide of the cutting edges. Now it takes a lot to break up the carbide cutting edge and it must have been obvious to the user that something was going very wrong.

However, the user just put the bit back in the rack and not told anyone about the problem,

When another member went to use the bit, the damage was noticed, and the job could not be completed.

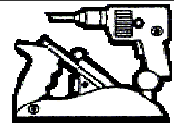
Everyone makes mistakes, but at least report the problem to the duty member so another bit can be obtained.

The cost of a new bit, about \$45. So, if the guilty member would like to put some money in the cash bin it would be appreciated.

This space left blank for your input!!

Waverley Woodworkers Inc.

Clubrooms: 2 Windsor Ave., Mount Waverley, Vic. 3149 Telephone: 9807 9648



Workshop Opening Times

| <u>Day</u> | <u>Times</u> | <u>Sunday</u> | <u>Closed</u> |
|------------|---|---|---|
| Monday | Only Public Holidays for general woodwork. | Special Interest Group Meeting Times | |
| | | <u>Day</u> | <u>Times</u> |
| Tuesday | 9 am – 4 pm. | Monday | 9 am – 12 noon - Assisted Woodwork Allocated Basis (Except on Public Holidays). |
| Wednesday | 9 am – 12 noon. | Monday | 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm – Carving . |
| Thursday | Closed | Monday | 7:30 pm – 9 pm – Wood Turning . (Only 1st & 3rd Mondays in July & August). |
| Friday | 9 am – 12 noon. | Club Night | 2nd Wednesday of the month 7:30 pm – 9 pm. |
| Saturday | 9 am – 12 noon December- February. 9 am – 4 pm (March - November). | | |

If not delivered, please return to:
Waverley Woodworkers Inc.
2 Windsor Ave. Mount Waverley
Vic. 3150

