

# INGRAM

NEWSLETTER OF THE FERNTREE GULLY WOODWORKERS INC.

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## From the President

Fellow Woodies,

You have done it again; it was a very hot evening but you turned out in big numbers for our second meeting on Wednesday November 2.

Triton representative, Bill Trustler demonstrated the Triton Work Centre for us. Bill did a lot of talking but not very much action in 1 hour 45 minutes.

I have a Triton myself and I find it a very good unit. With just a couple of hours playing, the average woodworker can gain a lot of experience and confidence, enough to be able to take on some very interesting projects. So at some future date in 1989 we will see if we can get Bill back again with some Triton action.

For any club to be a good strong club it needs member participation.

We had a real good chance to show our strength and community pride on Saturday November 19 at the City of Knox Bi-Centennial Party in the Park.

The party was centred around the new City Of Knox Arboretum on the corner of Dorset Road and Francis Crescent.

One of our members, Hamish Hill has had a lot to do with the park and was continuing one of his projects during the celebrations.

He has already been responsible for the carving of the entrance gate to the Magic Garden and his next project was the carving of an entrance archway.

Hamish spoke at our last meeting and invited any members to come along and help.

About a dozen members showed up at various stages of the day and tried their hand at wood carving.

Many spectators tried their hand too under our guidance. The age didn't matter; little kids through to octogenarians had a go. Many people asked where we came from and the message about our club was spread around; hopefully we gained some new members but at least we waved our flag and reached a few more people.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday December 7 and will be one that you won't want to miss. We have John Doyle and Dennis Connor from the Eltham and District Woodworkers Inc.

giving a real demonstration of hand dovetailing with humour. We have the use of two or three wood turning lathes at the school on meeting nights for anybody who would like to try a bit of turning. Bring your own timber and tools if you have them; I will bring some along for those people who want to have a go but don't have any.

If you have not already paid your joining fee of \$10 and your annual membership fee of \$20,

December '88 will be your last chance to become a Foundation Member of the Ferntree Gully Woodworkers Inc.

You could go through your whole life and never have the opportunity of being a foundation member of any organisation so let's see the colour of your money on Wednesday December 7.

**Alf Stephens, President**

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## WOOD TURNING CLASSES

There are many wood turning tutors and classes springing up all over the place as the hobby of wood turning has a resurgence. Many of these classes require a fair amount of travel and expense and don't always meet the needs of the student.

One of our own members, Peter Bravin gives wood turning classes at reasonable rates to all skill levels. Shop locally. Try Peter at our next meeting.

## REWARD

for More material for this newsletter We'll pay the right price. Satisfaction for having done your bit.

# Hands into saws don't go

by Dr Stephen Collier and taken from the Woodworkers Group, NSW newsletter.

"I have been doing a project on this common injury and have collected approximately 150 cases of circular saw injuries to the hand over a 30 month period. This gives an incidence of more than one circular saw injury per week attending our Hand Clinic. I have looked at many factors for these injuries and have found several common denominators. All these injuries are particularly severe with patients off work for often six months at a time. Of the statistics collected, 25% of the patients have less than six months experience with a saw and in a lot of cases the patient had never been shown how to use a saw properly.

A significant number have been holding the wood in one hand and the saw in the other, and almost inevitably have cut the opposite hand. Two thirds of the injuries have occurred at work and one third at home generally by home handymen. Often they are using chipboard which I have found is a common cause of complaint because of the irregular texture of the wood. Interestingly, 40% of the bench saws were guarded and 90% of the hand saws were guarded but the hands were still injured. This says something about the guards - perhaps they are inefficient and do not cover the blade sufficiently. Approximately 40% of the injuries involve the thumb and as this is the most important digit, the

severity of the injuries can be appreciated. Half of the patients cut tendons and often this requires two-stage surgery, and almost half the patients had nerve injuries requiring microsurgery. Eleven out of the 150 patients required replantation of their fingers, again requiring long hospitalisation and the use of hospital facilities. Thirty five per cent of the total had at least one finger amputated and two of the patients had four or more fingers amputated, which again is very serious. Education should be more extensive, particularly for the home handymen and apprentices. Bad work practices can easily become habits and nobody can expect to be lucky all the time."

## One day in a sawmill.....

**TZING** 

