

# INGRAINED

P.O. Box 35  
Upper Ferntree Gully  
Vic. 3156

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September 1991

**Knox & District Woodworkers Club Inc.**

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## September Meeting

At our September meeting, the guest demonstrator is Keith Little, a well known woodturner from Montmorency. Keith is going to concentrate on Spindle-turning, particularly Copy-Turning (eg. Table Legs).

## Membership Badges

**All members are requested to make a special effort to attend the September meeting.**

Why?

Because your new badges are going to be issued at the meeting.

## Thankyou's

A BIG thankyou goes to the following people:

Bruno Moretti - for Engraving our badges.

Clinton Buckwell - for the "Finishing" touches to our badges.

Peter Johnston - for organising the clips (*a sticky job*).

Steve & Fiona Ross - for all the background work that most people don't see.

The "YOU PICKED-IT" Project.

Just in case you forgot what your project was, the list has been reproduced below.

**Remember it has to be handed in at the September meeting.**

**Spice Rack**

*Alan Mason*

*Sue Wood*

**Spoon Rack**

*Len Rowson*

*Alex Davis*

*Peter Howell*

**Bread Board**

*John Stewart*

**Book Ends**

*John Masterton*

**Planter Box**

*Dick Kors*

*Peter Johnston*

**Picture Frame**

*Colin Lowe*

**Wooden Vase**

*Gary Pope*

**Shadow Box**

*Arthur Thompson*

*Steve Ross*

**Hand Mirror**

*Ed Lawer*

*Val Kamenski*

*Ivor Davies*

**Cheese Platter**

*Stan Jebb*

**Candlestick**

*Bob ??????*

*Sergio Meilak*

**Trinket Box**

*Alan Amos*

*Bill Hawley*

**Serviette Rings**

*Sam Parker*

*David Jamie*

**Egg Cups**

*Max Green*

*Steve Eu*

*David Buckingham*

**Child's Toy**

*Fred Wilson*

*Ken Onions*

**Pencil Box**

*Peter Sage*

**Coffee Mug Stand**

*Fiona Ross*

*Alf Stephens*

**Letter Box**

*David Howell*

**Knife Rack**

*John Kors*

## Finishing Demonstration

Club members were treated to a demonstration of Finishing methods by Steve Ross at the August club meeting.

The method shown by Steve included using Rustins Danish Oil (3 to 4 coats), then Hand-Sanding using 800grit through to 1200 grit Wet-and-Dry saturated with Rustins Danish Oil. Allow this to dry then GENTLY rub the surface with 0000 Steel Wool.



Steve Ross explains the make-up of various finishes



Using Steel-Wool in preparation for waxing

When complete, apply a light coat of wax (There are quite a few brands on the market) then polish-off the wax with a good quality bristle brush. (Remember how you used to clean your shoes?)

Thankyou Steve for a most informative and rewarding talk.

## DUSTING OFF

Many years ago when I was a schoolboy I witnessed an event that had a profound impact on me. It occurred during the woodwork lesson. The school possessed one woodturning lathe. This lathe was always in great demand. This particular day us kids were being shown the fundamentals of woodturning, each of us taking a turn on the same piece of timber. The boy after me never forgot that lesson. He picked up the gouge and presented it to the piece in the correct way. A few seconds later he dropped the gouge and clutched his hands to his face. He lost the sight of his right eye that day due to a splinter of timber five centimetres long penetrating it. Yeah! you guessed it, he didn't wear eye protection. Neither had I, or any of the others. Why was he the one to pay the price? As I said, the event had a profound effect on me. In later years I took to fashioning fancy firewood again as a kind of therapy. I have remembered that first lesson and I never approach a moving lathe without eye protection.

Lovely stuff wood, isn't it? The different grains and textures, the working properties, the strengths and weaknesses. The glow of a polished piece "hot" of the lathe. These things bring much joy to turners all over the world; the old, the young, the experienced and the novice. As long as we all wear eye protection there is little to worry about, right? Wrong. Flying chips are not the only hazard wood addicts face. Some saps can be extremely irritating. Infections can occur handling some timbers if our skin is cut or scratched and unprotected. There's a whole bin full of "nasties" waiting to ruin our day if we don't take one or two precautions.

The more common enemy is the dust produced during the finishing process. Wood dust can act as:

**A Primary Irritant:** This causes irritation of the skin, when there is a direct contact for a sufficient period, or in a great concentration. The reaction is usually proportional to one or other of these factors and remains constant as long as contact is maintained with the irritant. The sufferer does not develop an allergic condition.

**Sensitizing Substance:** This produces a reaction on the skin at the first or subsequent contact, so that it becomes allergic to that substance. With sensitization, even a small

amount of the allergenic material will cause a reaction, usually in the form of dermatitis.

Sensitivity to wood dust is very personal. Not everyone will become sensitized to the limited number of wood species responsible for causing such reactions. A person may become sensitized (develop an adverse reaction) to a particular timber e.g. western red cedar and not be affected by others. The parts of the body most affected by wood dusts are the eyes, ears, the alimentary and respiratory tracts. The symptoms may include coughing, sneezing, breathing problems, nose bleeding. Other symptoms include headache, fainting, giddiness, nausea, diarrhoea and vomiting.

Contact dermatitis is a common result of exposure to some wood dusts. White cypress pine, merbau, Miva mahogany and Australian red cedar are among those thought to cause contact dermatitis in some people.

African mahogany, western red cedar and blackwood are known to cause erythema and eczema in some people.

Exposure to the dust from elm, oak, beech and a variety of African timbers can increase the risk of developing nasal cancer.

Prevention: The following prevention methods are worth consideration.

- Avoid unnecessary exposure to the skin. rub on a good barrier cream before working on the lathe.
- Install an effective dust extractor and ensure adequate ventilation.
- Get into the habit of wearing a dust mask or respirator. Be sure to buy the correct type
- Make sure your clothing fits snugly at the neck and wrists
- Keep the work area clean and as free of dust as possible. There is no substitute for good housekeeping. It also reduces the risk of fire.
- All cuts and wounds should receive immediate attention and be kept covered until healed.

**A Bit of Good News:** Serious problems with wood dust are quite rare and the conditions which commonly occur are more a nuisance than serious and are generally easily remedied. Nevertheless, an ounce of prevention is more effective than a pound of cure.

Enjoy what nature has grown for us to fashion but respect its ability to "bite".

Cheerio! T.D.

## V.W.A 16-17 November 1991

The Victorian Woodworkers Association and other clubs are conducting a demonstration weekend on the 16th and 17th of November 1991.

There will be plenty of Timber, Tools and other goods for sale.  
It is to be held at the rear of the Doncaster Municipal Offices, 699 Doncaster Rd.  
Doncaster. (Melway Map ref 33/F12)

## Woodsmith has moved

### **The WOODSMITH**

Now located at  
1 Burgess Rd.  
North Bayswater  
Vic 3153

Phone: 761 4622

### **New Trading Hours**

Tuesday to Friday: 9.30am - 4.30pm  
Saturday: 9.30am - 12noon

CLOSED: Sunday, Monday

*Until next time, Happy Glueing and Screwing!!!*