



Volume 6 No 2

June 1993

HORSES FOR COURSES

Alf Stephens, the Founding Member who initiated the steps which led to the formation of this club, had a hobby making rocking horses; not the ordinary painted variety seen in toy shops, but solid, assembled from approximately 35 individual, specially shaped parts; all carefully glued into their respective position in the scheme of things; the whole then painstakingly planed, filed, sandpapered and polished. Mounted on a specially made stand, with saddle and hair added they were the subject of interest and admiration. Happy with the knowledge of having completed a challenging and worthwhile project, Alf then donated them in turn to local hospitals.

Realising the value of this exercise as a useful training in the use of hand tools for less skilled members of the club, Alf persuaded a number of them to emulate his efforts, with the consequence that there are now seven such projects under way, in various stages of construction, which have been displayed at a number of public gatherings to help promote the Club's image.

VISITORS

During the May General Meeting it was determined by a narrow majority that, "Visitors to the Club will be allowed to use specified tools and machinery subject to strict supervision by an experienced Club member".

EDITORIAL

This is YOUR Newsletter ! It is produced on YOUR behalf with YOU in mind. It keeps YOU informed and in contact with YOUR fellow clubmates. It airs YOUR views and complaints and where possible prints YOUR articles.

I believe that within all of us there dwells a frustrated writer, yearning to set pen to paper and communicate with our fellow humans. I understand how often you determine to enter an opinion or article, only to be deflected by some secondary task, then the opportunity is gone until next time. This routine repeats again and again and your frustration mounts until you are in the depths of despair.

This problem of yours concerns me and I have given it considerable thought. I believed "There must be an answer to their anguish", and suddenly it hit me ! It was so simple. "Dig this". Almost everyone's surname begins with a letter from A to Z. Starting this month all those whose surname begins with the letter A are given the opportunity and incentive to submit either an article, a complaint or maybe some advice. It can be in English, Greek, binary code or you may even wish to communicate 'in tongues'. Anything is acceptable. Perhaps you are a latent poet, send it in; if you set it to music, please enter it on an audio cassette. We will copy it and return the cassette and when our tape is full, we will market it commercially. Perhaps we could even produce it as a musical, to rival "The Phantom of the Opera"; we could then all retire on the proceeds.

No doubt those 'letter B' characters are fuming that they are not 'first cab off the rank', but I'm pleased to inform them that they have an extra month to refine their submission.

Please hand your entries to any living person on the Committee. We look forward to receiving them and anticipate that your next newsletter will consist of at least 100 pages.

'BE IN IT' COMPETITION

Entries for this competition, to be held on Wednesday, 7th July, will be assigned to the following categories:-

Carving	Spindle Turning
Large Furniture	Bowl Turning
Small Furniture	Miscellaneous
Toys	

Each category will be judged according to its status, either as an 'advanced' entry or as proclaimed to be in the 'novice' section.

BOOK & MAGAZINE LIBRARY

A further list of Magazine articles :-

Library Number	Magazine Title	Subject Matter
35	Practical Wood Working (UK)	18th Century Chair
52	Practical Wood Working (UK)	18th Century Chest of Drawers
46	Practical Wood Working (UK)	18th Century Country Dresser
52	Practical Wood Working (UK)	19th Century Needlework Table
175	Traditional Woodworking (UK)	Adhesives
57	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Adventure Playhouse
176	Traditional Woodworking (UK)	Ancient Woodcarving
56	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Antique Shoe Horn
159	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Art of Veneering
160	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Australian Timbers
121	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Award-winning Bookshelf Unit
59	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Bandsaw Techniques
121	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Bandsawing in Safety
51	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Barbeque Trolley
59	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Barometer Mounting
52	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Bathroom Stool
159	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Bedroom Chair
47	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Bedroom Suite
175	Traditional Woodworking (UK)	Bench Tools
46	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Bird Boxes
175	Wood (USA)	Bird House
55	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Bird Tree Puzzle (Toy)
29	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Birdtable
159	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Blanket Chest
60	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Bowl Making
30	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Box-Comb Joints
47	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Bridle Joints
47	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Bronzing Powders for Picture Frames
50	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Built In Wall Unit
175	Wood (USA)	Cane Fishing Rod
109	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Carousel (Toy)
32	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Carved Fruit Bowl
175	Wood (USA)	Carved Owl
54	Practical Wood Working (UK)	Carved Plate Stand

A RECIPE FOR A NON-TOXIC, HARD WEARING, WATER RESISTANT OIL FINISH

INGREDIENTS: Beeswax
Cold pressed virgin olive oil

Mix 20% Beeswax to 80% olive oil (by volume). Put in glass jar; heat in microwave oven for 1.5 minutes. Stir contents. When cold and too hard to use, remove some paste, add more oil and re-heat. Restir.

NOTE! Ask an Italian friend for information on cold pressed virgin olive oil.

PROFILE

Our intention is, over the course of time, to introduce members to each other through a series of pen portraits. Our first subject is fittingly, our President.

PETER HOWELL

Born in England, Peter arrived in Australia in 1955, together with his immediate family. Due to a misunderstanding with the Australian education bureaucracy, Peter left school at the tender age of 14.

His introduction to the workforce was due to a successful application to a Building Company, with whom he served loyally for 24 years. Starting as an humble office boy, he progressed through the years from payroll and accounts clerk to estimating and costing.

With this accumulated knowledge of business practice, it is not surprising that he parted company with his long term employers in order to start business on his own account. Together with a partner, they imported luxury velvet and associated curtain fabrics from West Germany. Flourishing through the embryo stages, they were dealt a body blow when the Australian Government unexpectedly devalued the dollar, a crisis which they were not equipped to survive.

Currently he is employed by a Bayswater firm engaged in the manufacture of zips and textile accessories for clothing and allied trades.

Having been associated with the building trade it was natural that Peter should involve himself in the extensions and additions required to his own property. This experience created an urge to extend his woodwork knowledge beyond the basic principles, a desire frustrated by a lack of time and the competing hobbies of golf and fishing.

That was to change however, in October 1988, when a friend drew his attention to a meeting advertised, by Alf Stephens, to promote a proposal that a local woodwork group be established. Peter, amongst others, enthusiastically supported the concept and so became a Foundation Member. Peter was Treasurer for 1 year and Vice-President for 2 years before being elected to his present office as President..

Home Timber & Hardware
1134 Burwood Highway
Ferntree Gully
Phone 758 9166



Special

Makita 2HP Router
Model 3600 BR

\$275

Offer valid to 14/6/93

SELLEYS RECOMMENDED GLUES

Boats	Bonding Timber Repair to damaged hulls	308 Wood Glue Resorcinol Araldite Epoxy Bond Fibreglass
Doors & Drawers	Fabrication (indoors) Fabrication (outdoors)	Aquadhere Resorcinol Urethane Bond
Hardboard		Liquid Nails
Timber	Bonding Waterproof Bonding	308 Wood Glue Aquadhere Resorcinol Urethane Bond
Wood Toys		Aquadhere
Wood Furniture	Bonding - Interior Bonding - Exterior	Aquadhere Resorcinol Urethane Bond

AN APPRECIATION

Members may not be aware that one of our newer members, Keith Salisbury, has kindly donated a radio to provide background music during workshop activities. On behalf of the members, the Committee, have instructed me to convey their thanks to Keith.

A NOTE OF SYMPATHY

To 'IMPOTENT'

We appreciate that your physical disability and marital relationship are the direct result of your involvement with this Club, but we cannot accept responsibility or in fact use these pages as a 'sob column'. We would however refer you to the article on page 34 of the 'Womans Day', dated 30th February 1981 and we sincerely sympathise with your irreplaceable loss.

ADIOS

Arthur Westwood departed this region on Friday, May 21st and was farewelled after his last appearance at the workshop by the Thursday morning group. We wish him well.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Club was represented on Friday, 30th April, at the Uniting Church Hall, Werribee for a demonstration of 'Older Person's' activities, organised by the Vic Health Foundation.

After a presentation by a Tai Chi group, we were asked to exhibit the three wooden horses, in varying stages of construction, which we had taken with us. There was an enthusiastic reception from the large crowd present and we promised support to a local body who expressed a wish to start a woodwork club in their area.

'PLACEMAKER' ON SHOW

As announced in the last Newsletter, on Saturday, May 15th, 'Placemaker' opened to demonstrate their skills and expertise to visiting Councillors, from our own and other Councils. A number of our members joined them in this exercise and after an enjoyable day, we joined the 'Placemaker' staff and some Councillors for a barbeque and drinks.
