

**August  
2002**

# INGRAINED

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Newsletter of the

*Knox & District  
Woodworkers Club*



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Club Phone (03) 9758 4849  
Web Site [www.alchester.com.au/kdwc](http://www.alchester.com.au/kdwc)

## Executive Committee

President	Peter Sleeman	9758 1390
Vice President	Bruce Allen	9754 5774
Secretary	Charles Bruckner	9801 2197
Treasurer	Doug Dell	9729 1886
Committee Member	Paddy McCann	9758 3920
Newsletter Editor	Bob Plant	9754 5920

### President's Report

This month has been a rather sad one as we mourn the loss of one of our founding members, David Howell. David was a valued and respected member of our club and will be greatly missed. As he battled illness over the past 12 months, David still kept working for the club and others in the community. We give thanks for his time with us and may we remember his wife Yvonne and family as they too mourn.

Once again I draw your attention to the toys for Christmas. Many members have been busy and we are getting close to a total of 200 toys but still more are needed. So don't forget, you can put a smile on a child's face this Christmas.

Another reminder – the 'Be In It Competition' August 4<sup>th</sup>. Show us what you have been doing.

August 24<sup>th</sup> 11am. we are having a visit from the Waverley Woodworking Club. All members and spouses are welcome to join us and a BBQ lunch will be provided. Do come and meet some more woodies, share ideas and experiences as we get to know each other. If members could bring things they have made for "Show and Tell" these would be most welcome. Hope we see you there.

Peter Sleeman.

### Reminder - Club Shirts & Caps

Polo shirts and caps are available to purchase, it would be great at the upcoming Stringy Bark Festival if there was a sea of blue shirts and caps working at our stand.

- The cap is dark blue with the clubs badge on the front, it comes as "one size fits all" Cost \$8.00
- The polo shirt is dark blue with a pocket and the club's badge on it. It comes in four sizes (S, M, L, & XL) Cost \$18.00

To order your cap and shirt, complete the attached order form on last months Ingrained and return it and the money to a committee member. Additional order forms are available in the office.

Shirts will be available in 2 to 3 weeks from ordering. It is important to place your orders as soon as possible so as not to miss out.

### Turner's Talk

The recent cold weather has reduced the number of turner's around the club on Mondays, but we still have about eight hardy soles hard at it.

The great thing that I notice now is that there is a lot of experimenting going on and some great work coming off the lathe. An idea that I have found is that you don't tell others the intended shape, usually if you are like me, you end up making modifications (sometimes unintended) to your projects.

We have started work on our new turning area, thanks to those who helped with the levelling. There is quite a lot more work to be done so it looks like a few extra working bees to come.

Bob Plant

### They just keep rocking a long

If you have been down the club recently you will notice that our stable of rocking horses is increasing, I understand there are about 10 at various stages of construction, the effort by this group of members is really great.

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## New Members

We have two new members this month, if you see them around, have a chat and make them welcome.

The new members for this month are: Graham Bye  
Charlie Sultana

## On Workshop & Safety Matters

There are still members yet to complete their safety reviews, this should be attended to as soon as possible if you wish to use any of the machines.

The phantom has appeared again recently. Recently he decided to make one the lathes go in reverse by making a figure eight on the belt. Good trick but a B..... nuisance that others had to fix.

Please think of others and clean the machines up after you have used them.

If you are concerned when you see some one using machinery in an unsafe manner, speak to them about it or contact the key holder or a committee member. Remember it may be you who gets hurt because of their bad practices

## Guest speaker for September Meeting

Our guest speaker for this meeting will be Bill Norquay from Sachys Robertson Screws Australia. Bill will be talking on innervations in the fixing area and the range of products that he sells

If you are a wood turner then he has some excellent screws for using on faceplates. He will have sample packs available on the night.

## Our Library is Expanding

Thanks to members and others for their donations of books and magazines, we are starting to build some great reference material.

Recently we received quite number of Traditional Woodworking, an English magazine from Fred Moore. There are some excellent articles in these covering all areas of woodwork, thanks Fred

## Sniff It Or Snuff It

*This article is taken from the Mildura Woodies Newsletter.*

My father died of it. My brother died of it. Both were heavy smokers of cigarettes. I smoked a pipe mildly until five or six years ago and didn't inhale and up until recently, I thought I was reasonably safe. I have always a singer and although never having a good pair of lungs, I didn't have much trouble with breathing, except when I had bronchitis, which was a warning.



Emphysema is a degeneration of the lungs that usually develops after many years of assault on lung tissue from cigarette smoke and other toxins, which destroy the small air sacs in the lungs. The lungs lose elasticity and exhaling becomes difficult as the damaged lungs trap air and cannot effectively change it into fresh air.

Now I have it!! EMPHYSEMA! mildly and yet controllable, but occasionally, it can have me gasping for breath after a bit of exertion which can be very distressing.

But how did I get it? Partly through woodturning, according to my doctor. When I started the hobby over 50 years ago (I should be better at it by now, shouldn't I!!) I spent many evenings over the lathe, heavily sanding out the rough turning and catches, not then knowing how to use a gouge or skew properly, with only a rag over my nose and often breathing through my mouth because of a stuffy nose. You have no idea the amount of dust in the enclosed work area.

The timbers I used were Celery top pine, Tasmanian myrtle, Kauri, Blackwood; all of these can cause lung problems to a greater or lesser degree. The finished articles were then sprayed with Duco, which of course did not help, but then I did provide some ventilation. After a few years I gave up the hobby, but took it up a few years ago.

At first I used a soft plastic but found this very poor and graduated to a Cigweld twin filter respirator with P2 particle filters, which should be replaced every six months. Now that I can use the skew, the sanding is minimal but the dust is much finer and more insidious. However it is very tempting to forgo the respirator when doing small jobs and this is when the damage can be done. Of course the ultimate respirator is the pressure helmets but these are very expensive.

If you have not seen it, emphysema is a very distressing disease, not only to the sufferer but also to the family. It puts a severe strain on the heart, and in severe cases such as my father and brother, oxygen must be available at all times. The problem is that it is a gradual process unless early precautions are taken, the results are certain.

So please for your own sake and for your families sakes wear a proper respirator at all times, even if only for a few minutes turning. I am lucky to have got to my present age without serious disability as yet, but now I don't expect to live to a hundred as I thought I would.

If you want to know more there is a lot of information on the Internet.

Thankyou for reading this  
Joe MACK

## Working Bees

By the time many members will have received this newsletter, the August working bee will be over. The work

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this working bee centred around setting up a barbecue and social area next to the veranda on the Placemakers building. Other work included the usual tidying up around the workshops.

More working bees to come: - with the developing of a woodturning area, and the moving of our wood storage facility to under the veranda of the club, the committees is looking at additional working bees in the near future.

## WRITING WITH FIRE

**PYROGRAPHY:** This is a rather unfortunate word. Often confused with fireworks and acts of arson. The term was originally coined by the Victorians from the Greek words *pur*, meaning fire and *graphos* meaning write to make the old and ancient art of "Pokerwork" sound more arty than perhaps it was

Strangely enough the thing that most people do the first time they pick up a pyrographic pen is to write their name. One is given to wonder what the first caveman wrote when he discovered that a heated stone in his fire could burn a mark in wood.

Pyrography has certainly been practised in one form or another since the discovery of fire itself. During the 17th century it was used principally for decorating small items of wood ware. Much of the work being similar in style to the designs used in the engraving of silverware.

Later it became fashionable to decorate furniture with pyrographic panels. During the 19th century, pyrographer's achieved a very high standard of craftsmanship. However it remained no more than a pastime for them probably because the basic nature of their tools prevented them from working at a commercially viable speed. Was this the origin or the phrase "too many irons in the fire"? When you stop to consider the primitive means at their disposal to control the heat of their irons, it is remarkable that the standard of so much of the work was so high.

I can just hear someone saying right at this point, "Why all the fuss about making a brown drawing on a piece of wood. There we come to the very crux of the matter, its quite true that if a brown drawing was all that was required there are lots of better ways of going about the job.

Much of the pyrographer's work is akin (if not to carving) at least to engraving where the depth of the intrusion into the work piece gives a degree of third dimension that may not be obtained in a drawing. The tools at hand in this day are many and varied, most of which are heated electrically with a control over the degree of heat offered at the point of working. Although the best results are probably obtained with a wire tipped pen, most any type of soldering iron will give some kind of result, quite often pleasing enough to coax the operator to consider purchasing or make a hot wire device.

*Les Swift*  
Peninsula Woodturners



## Editorial

I write this editorial as a reasonably new member of the Knox Woodies, having only been a member for about two and a half years and newsletter editor for two years. We are quite a large club with a membership of about 155 and open our workshops for about 40 hours a week. Having read many newsletters, I believe that our facilities are available to the members more than any other club.

I have a concern that much of the work is done by too few, with a Committee of only 5 and only limited and unstructured support under them, eventually these people burn out through having to shoulder too much of the work. I believe that its is time that the responsibilities were shared by far more. To do this I would like to suggest that the following changes be looked at, at the upcoming A.G.M.

- The management committee be extended to 7 to give a better representation of all the areas of the club
- Teams with a leader to represent them and their interests in the administration of the club. I would suggest that the team members should not be elected, but those with a genuine interest in the area be involved. These teams could meet regularly or on an adhoc basis when the need occurred. It is probable that some members have interests and participate in more than one team
- With the responsibilities of the treasurer and secretary it would be great if they had an assistant

On reading other clubs newsletters and looking at our own needs, I would suggest the following team structure would be suitable for our club

Team	Tasks
In-house & social	Organize social functions and manage the clubhouse
Publicity	Publishing a monthly newsletter Organizing guest speakers Managing our website Handling publicity matters as they arise
Festival	Plan for festivals, organize kits
Carving and pyrography	Develop interests in this area
Safety	Oversee all safety aspects of the club and make representation to the committee Be responsible for training of new members
Maintenance	Carry out maintenance on equipment and make representations to the committee for replacement of equipment
Wood turning	Develop interests in this area
Rocking horse	Develop interests in this area
Toy appeal	
Library	



Please note that these are my thoughts only and while they have been discussed with committee, they are not binding to them. These are for discussion at the moment but

may be looked at the AGM in October. A diagram of the team structure is on the notice board for perusal  
Thanks Bob Plant

## Workshop Hours

Monday (Nb day is for woodturning only)	9.00 am - 2.00 pm	Bob Plant	9754 5920
	6.30 pm - 9.30 pm	Bill Longden	9758 2438
Tuesday	9.30 am - 3.00 pm	Peter Sleeman	9758 1390
	6.30 pm - 9.30 pm	Bruce Allen	9754 5774
Wednesday	9.30am - 3.00 pm	Peter Sleeman	9758 1390
	6.30 pm - 9.30 pm	Paddy McCann	9758 3920
Thursday	9.30 am - 3.00 pm	Paul Aminde	9758 1733
Friday	6.30 pm - 9.30 pm	Bruce Allen	9754 5774

## Saturday Mornings

August 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8.00 am - 12.30 pm	WORYKING BEE	ALL WELCOME
August 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am - 12.30 pm	Doug Dell	9729 1886
August 17 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 am - 12.30 pm	Chris Smith	9729 6515
August 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am - 12.30 pm	Jan Brown	9762 1063
August 31 <sup>st</sup>	9.30 am - 12.30 pm	Reiner Lolkema	9754- 4567

Members please note: If no members have arrived by 10.30am the Key Holder has the option of closing the clubrooms

## Regular Club Group Activities

Day	Time	Regularity	Group	Contact
Monday	Day at 9.00 to 2.00	Every week	Day woodturners	Bob Plant 9754 5920 Jan Brown 9762 1063
	Evening	Every week	Carvers & Burners Festival kit development	Willy Schlaf 9762 2206
Wednesday	Evening	Every week	Evening woodturners	Frank O'Connor 9879 7512
Friday	Evening	Every week	Rocking horse group	Joe Semenow 9758 6024 Allen Brookes

## What's Coming Up

### At The Club

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August  
Working Bee

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August  
*BE IN IT Competition*

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> August  
Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August  
Waverly Woodies will be visiting us for a barbecue

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September  
Monthly Meeting  
Speaker Bill Norquay from Sackys Robertson Screw distributors

Wednesday 2nd October  
Annual General Meeting

Saturday & Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> October  
Stringy Bark Festival at Rowville

Saturday December TBA  
Christmas Break Up

### In The Big "Woodies" World

October 25- 27  
Timber and Working With Wood Show.  
Jeff's Shed

November 9-10  
Eltham and District Woodworkers Annual Show  
Eltham Community Centre  
Pitt St. Eltham  
10am -5pm

### On Sale At The Club

- Pen kits
  - Slim \$14
  - Fatter centre \$18.50
- Pen display boxes
  - Plastic single pen \$1.00
  - Velvet covers pkt of 10 \$4.00
- Clocks
  - 50 & 65mm \$14.50
  - 30mm \$13.50
- Letter Openers \$6.00
- Super Glue
  - thick & thin \$12.00
- Accelerator \$13.00

To purchase these items, contact  
Peter Sleeman, Bill Longdon, Doug Dell or Bob Plant