

May-June 2010

www.woodworkersnsw.org.au



**The Hannah Cabinet (pictured above) will be on display at
NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney from
Monday, 5th July to Friday, 30th July 2010**

Next meeting: Monday 7 JUNE 7PM for 7:30PM

**POWERHOUSE MUSEUM
ULTIMO**

(Parking available in carpark on Macarthur Street
adjacent to the Museum)

Featuring Presentations by:-

**Peter Crutchfield of Wildwood Designs
Peter will be talking about timber sourcing,
furniture design and construction.**

**Nathan Cardwell
Nathan will talk about the World Skills Competition in
which he recently competed.**

The Woodworkers' Association of NSW, Inc

ABN 51 544 261 324

Correspondence to PO Box 1016 Bondi Junction NSW 1355

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Secretary Gordon Joseph (02) 9235 2874 gwjoseph@bigpond.net.au
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 Kim Larymore (02) 9858 1578 klarymore@optusnet.com.au
 Peter Dunn (02) 9896 4017 bentneck@iprimus.com.au

Exhibition Committee Cath Fogarty (Co-ordinator), Warwick Wright (Chair), Tracy Gumm, John Gallagher.

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Editor Vacant **Assistant Editor** Paul Barton

Aims of the Woodworkers' Association of NSW, incorporated

To provide a forum for networking and to encourage camaraderie amongst all those who work in wood.

To promote public awareness and appreciation of fine woodwork.

To encourage creativity, design and development of skills and application by all woodworkers.

To represent professional woodworkers and promote sustainability of fine woodwork as a career.

To promote awareness of environmental issues including encouraging the judicious use of our precious native timber resources and use of sustainably harvested, recycled and reclaimed timbers.

Welcome to new & returned members

Carl Wehrhahn

Opinions expressed in articles in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or the Committee of The Woodworkers' Association of NSW Inc.

woodworkersnsw.org.au
For contact details, discounts, members gallery and much more

Membership is open to anyone interested in woodworking, both hobbyist and professional. The Association meets every second month; the first Monday of every even month. Members also meet for skill share and / or a BBQ at least twice a month at the 'Shed' at Abbotsford.

FROM the CHAIR

I must pay more attention. When the Chairman at the AGM called for people who wanted to nominate for positions to step forward, I did not notice that everyone else took a step back. So here I am again.

First, some thank-you's.

Paul Barton took the role as Chairman last year and kept the ship sailing smoothly. Paul is going to spend more time on developing his woodwork business and being with family this year, including some extensive travelling.

The Committee last year provided sterling service and **Frank Duff, Peter Harris, Peter Hunt, Kim Larymore and Miko Nakamura** re-nominated and were re-elected to the current committee. We thank them for their past and ongoing service and commitment. And we welcome **Peter (sausage roll) Dunn** and **Gordon Joseph** to the committee. Gordon has kindly agreed to take the role of secretary, for which he is ideally qualified.

We will miss **Alec Horley**, who served for two years as our diligent secretary, and is going to devote more time to study and woodwork. We hope to see the product of both at future meetings.

We are also going to miss our former Chairman **Warwick Wright** who will be spending more time woodworking on the South Coast and working with the new professional association of woodworker designer makers & artists that was the subject on an article in the last newsletter. Warwick has provided many years of service to the Association in a variety of roles - three years as Chairman, six years on the Committee, running the Exhibition sub-committee that conducted the Design and Wood exhibitions at Danks Street in 2007 and 2009, as well as being assistant editor and more recently editor of our newsletter. His contribution to the Association has been enormous and his departure leaves a big hole that will require several people to fill.

Next, some news and developments:

The Shed: We have negotiated a 3 year lease at a modest rental with the local council. We will now be able to improve our workshop with some security of tenure. On 28 March we had an animal glue workshop at the Shed (further details in the newsletter) and on 16 May we had a clean-up, so the Shed is suitable for more extensive workshops. Bench-building is progressing. A number of workshops are currently being planned for the rest of the year and your suggestions are welcomed.

Workshop visits: All members are invited to a presentation and demonstration of **soda blasting** at the workshop of Blasting Unlimited on 29 May to see its applications on woodwork. More details inside.

June meeting: At the next meeting at the Powerhouse Museum meeting room on **7 June 2010** at 7 for 7.30pm, **Peter Crutchfield** from Wildwood Designs is coming to talk to us about how he sources the red gum and other local

timbers that he uses for his furniture as well as his design philosophy and the construction techniques used at his workshop in Marrickville.

Nathan Cardwell will also tell us about his efforts in the World Skills competition in cabinet making where he came a very creditable 4th out of 16 competitors in the construction of a grandfather clock cabinet.

The Committee has also approved a trial of allowing members to bring a couple of tools along that they are willing to sell, so we will have a **For Sale table** at the next meeting for people who are interested. Just put a label on them with your name and asking price.

We will also be introducing a new segment for our meetings entitled **Something Clever** where we invite members to share with us something which impressed them. It might be a bit of gear or a technique they saw being used or read about - perhaps a simple solution to a nagging problem.

I hope to see you at the meeting. Please encourage a friend or two to come and join us as well.

The Timber and Working with Wood Show: The show is fast approaching and if you want a free ticket you just need to email me or Kim Larymore (who has kindly agreed to assist co-ordination) and let us know when you are available to assist with setting up or manning the stand. The Show runs from **Friday 18 - Sunday 20 June** and setting up will take place on Wednesday and Thursday before.

Community projects: The Association has been involved in a variety of community projects recently. These have included supplying tools for the establishment of an orphanage in Tanzania, awarding **Young Achiever** prizes at the T&WWWS and supporting Nathan Cardwell to compete in the **World Skills** competition in Brisbane. Other projects are presently being considered by the committee and if you have any suggestions, please let us know. Making a contribution to the community enriches us all.

Phil Greenwood

Members' Classifieds

Richard Crosland's School of Fine WoodWork

Learn with the master. Richard Crosland's School of Fine Woodwork operates small, hands-on classes for students of all levels. The friendly, creative atmosphere fosters rapid progress and many beautiful pieces are the lasting result. All tools provided and work in progress can be stored at the Alexandria workshop.

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KAURI PROJECT EXHIBITION

Royal Botanic Gardens, August 2010

A joint project between Friends of The Gardens
and the Botanic Gardens Trust

In 2007 a beautiful 150-year old Kauri Pine, *Agathis moorei*, was felled in Palm Grove, Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney, having died prematurely due to the roosting habits of the population of Grey-headed Flying-fox.

The timber from the milled tree was distributed to designers, woodworkers and artists who have transformed it into special pieces.

Objects—ranging from musical instruments, furniture, carving, turned bowls and boxes, woodcut prints, theatrical sets and sculpture, to a small boat—will be for sale at the Exhibition. This will help fund the reinstatement of the Palm Grove and provide for more Kauri Pines in the Gardens.

Entry is free: **21 – 29 August 2010**, 10am - 4pm

Opening night: Friday **20 August**, 6pm - 8pm Cost: \$35.
Friends & Members: \$25 including refreshments. Bookings essential.

For more information and Opening Night bookings contact the *Friends of The Gardens* on 02 9231 8182, or -

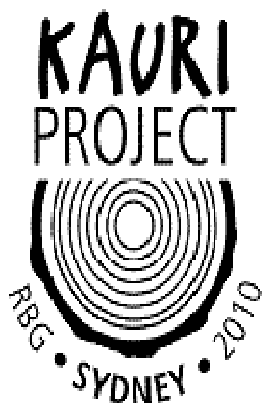
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Vale: Kauri Pine, 1853 - 2007



Pyramid Box by
Alex Springall



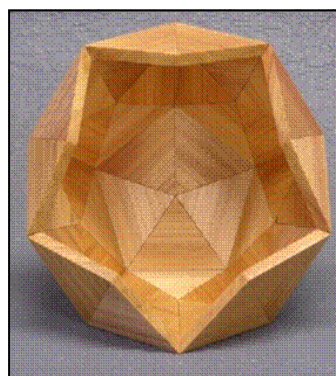
16 Oct 2007 RIP



Blanket Box by Garry Olson



Bowl by Fred Blake



Alex Springall: Dodecahedron



Nick Statham: Sculpture



Richard Raffan: Kauri bowl



Simon Sadubin:
8 ft Clinker Dinghy
(Image: Nick Cubbin,
courtesy of Qantas)

Annual General Meeting

Conventional wisdom is that club members tend to stay away from AGMs lest they be *Shanghaied* onto the Committee; in any case AGMs are known to be long and boring! Not with this Association!

Outgoing Chairman, **Paul Barton**, reminded a good attendance of high points of a successful year. There had been interesting talks at meetings, and workshops at various locations; also development of **The Shed** at Abbotsford.

As to the Election of Office Bearers and the Committee: The procedure was quick and painless: A previous Chairman, **Phil Greenwood**, re-nominated and, with no challenger, was duly acclaimed as Chairman for 2010-2011. Phil promised that meetings should and would be painless - even rewarding. (He saw no need to pressure members to stand for office! Vacancies were expected to be filled, shortly.) Further details are in his report.

Phil showed a fine wooden gavel & sound block made by **Tom Paley**—a possible threat for the control of wordy Committee meetings—if unlikely to be needed!



Also displayed was the **Tom Paley** wooden aperture (150 mm W x 200 mm H)—actually only the perimeter is wood—being the size acceptance gauge for objects made by members.

Alan Perry produced a very clever Souvenir Shelf, intended to display bits and pieces collected, e.g. when on holidays. His challenge was to think outside the square to make a container that fitted through a specified aperture. He had thought of a semi-circular shelf, but it was easier to make an inverted-U shape made from 9 mm standard MDF board (for later painting). The shelves are housed-in 3 mm and it was a bit difficult to glue-up, small sections having to be glued and left to dry.



David Eden showed a beautifully made sculptured object with drawers.

Woodworker Designer Makers - Formation of an Association

Warwick Wright & Leon Sadubin advised members at the AGM of a recent meeting at PH Museum to consider the initiation of a professional association to cover Woodworker Designer Makers. About two dozen had attended, some from far afield and interstate.



A national association (an incorporated entity) was agreed—rather than State-based bodies, to cover craftspeople who make their income from designing and working in wood. They would develop an accreditation model (including peer review) leading to some designation. [Like, e.g., accountants who can become Chartered Accountants]

The Mission would be to represent professional interests. They would set standards, market the value of membership, foster professional development, communicate within the membership, and increase public awareness of fine furniture and objects. While there would be only one category of membership, a transitional class might be required initially.

Membership fees would need to be large, at least initially. A steering committee is seeking to achieve incorporation asap after 1 July 2010.



The Timber & Working with Wood Show

Sydney June 18 - 20

This is the show for all members; what you sow so shall you reap. It is an opportunity to engage with woodworkers of various skills and immerse you in a wash of creativity. Trust me, try it!

We will again be using the rotunda, this year the theme will be cabinets. The public is extremely interested in the nuts and bolts of how a piece is constructed.

If you are working on a piece that fits our theme how about showing it! You would also find that being there on our stand and talking to the public, telling your story, results in conversations that are interesting and rewarding.

Trust me, try it!

We will as always for this show give members conducting schools of wood the opportunity to promote themselves and demonstrate their ability to impart their knowledge and skill.

Our ship needs a crew; those to commission it, those to man it and those to do the decommissioning. Can you make yourself available to be part of the team?

Do what you can, remember any part of the experience brings us in touch with fellow members and broadens ones experience.

There is a reward for giving half a day or more to our team effort. You get free an entry pass to the show on any or all days, free parking on the first set up day with at least subsidised parking on the second set up day and during show days.

The other major activity we are engaged in is the Gallery Competition – Putting timbers on show in NSW.

We join with the other clubs in managing and presenting this display.

To play our part we need to be available for the rosters as required.

YOU CAN HELP by nominating to

- Be part of the construction gang to erect our stand. Wednesday 16th June
- Be available on Thursday 17th June to assist with furnishing our stand and any requirement for assistance with the competition set up
- Provide a piece of your work befitting our theme (preferably under construction) to be delivered to the venue on Thursday 17th June
- Be a stand attendant during show time
- Be a demonstrator – Terry Gleeson is coordinating demonstrations, please contact him Ph – 9651 1012, Email – thechairmaker@ozemail.com.au

Note – Display pieces on our stand and entries in the competition will need to be picked up after 5pm on Sunday 18th June

To register your assistance please contact Kim Larymore Ph- 9858 1578, Email – klarymore@optusnet.com.au

WE CAN OFFER YOU

- Members providing assistance of half day or more receive a free pass for the duration of the show. Similarly transport providers will also receive a free pass
 - Reduced cost parking in the parking station opposite the venue.
- Providing show assistance more than one day – parking for day 2 and 3 paid for.

If you wish to attend the show but cannot provide assistance you may purchase tickets at \$8 each from Kim Larymore on 9858 1578 or Email: klarymore@optusnet.com.au

**The Competition
see page 8**

The Timber & Working With Wood Show Sydney 2010

Fine Woodworking Competition

Putting Timbers on Show In NSW

Your committee encourages you to place an entry in the competition; look at the proposition as if it was a gallery display; should you receive an award it is a bonus. We imagine many of you underrate your skills, ingenuity and creativity. Go ahead we applaud you!

You can copy the attached entry documents and download the documents if necessary from the EEE web site – www.EEE.net.au, go to Exhibitions, go to Working with wood, go to competitions.

20th Annual Craft on Show

by Central Tablelands Woodcraft

Bathurst Showground

30 - 31 October 2010

Craft on Show started as a Woodcraft Show, eventually expanding to encompass all genuine handcrafted items.

In 2010 the emphasis is on Woodcraft.

There are **cash prizes** for various categories of the craft; an opportunity to sell and to exhibit your craftsmanship; and promote your association or your own individual skill.

Support your interest by participating in **Craft on Show**. Do not allow your skills to be lost to future generations.

For further information contact -

President Michael Nassar

Email: woodies@lisp.com.au

Web: www.woodies.org.au

Repairs - Did we Clean Up!

Sunday 16 May 2010 at **The Shed**

A good roll-up of members and guests had an enjoyable gathering and BBQ—which had to be experienced to be properly appreciated!

Leader & cook, **Phil Greenwood**, introduced guests from Fusion Australia who work with children aged 13-15 who have been excluded from school because of behavioural problems. At a



small workshop at St Marys they mentor them to develop life



skills and self-esteem to get them back into school. They seek basic

hand-tools, people who would be prepared to work with a young person over a few weeks; and soft-wood for use for projects.

In the afternoon, decayed shed boarding was removed and replaced with new siding.

Further work was also done on hard-wood bench-tops for new benches.

Afterwards there was a general clean-up. Have you ever seen such a clean, carpeted working area!?



Gluing Workshop at 'The Shed'

One Sunday recently, a group met at the Shed for a convivial BBQ and a talk /demonstration on gluing.

On animal glue, **Terry Gleeson** talked about:-

- His preferred glue/adhesive, presumably for furniture timbers.
- The advantage of repairing/unmaking joints, even at a later stage.
- The only negative is the need to get the pot ready and maintain it.
- Mixing powder and water.
- Controlling the temperature, skimming impurities (initially).
- Working FAST before the job cools and the glue becomes too viscous.
- Use of glue blocks to reinforce joints.



Animal glue (hide glue)

Information from the web

Animal or horse glue is made from connective tissue found in hoofs, bones, tendons, ligaments, and cartilage in vertebrate animals.

There was a **famous jockey** that never lost a race. When asked how he achieved this, he replied: I whisper in the horse's ear: 'Roses are red, violets are blue. Horses that lose are made into glue.'

I whisper in the horse's
ear:
'Roses are red,
violets are blue. Horses
that lose
are made into glue.'

Most **modern glues** are not able to re-bond to other glues or to themselves so clean timber to timber contact is a must, especially when working on the restoration of furniture.

Hide glue on the other hand will reglue to old hide glue and form a good strong bond. You should clean out the joint before reglueing, but the old glue can be mostly removed with hot water and a rag without damage to the joint. The new glue will then bond to the residue that remains in the joint and is already keyed into the timber.

Hide glue comes in a **powder or pearl** form and is mixed weight for weight with water, i.e. 100 g of powder is mixed with 100 g of water. This is left to soak for a short time, it will shell up during this time as the glue soaks up the water. It is then heated in a double boiler until it melts and kept at a constant temperature around 80 Celsius. The glue should resemble a thick broth when it is ready for use.

Paint the glue on to both joints and press them together using a clamp. The new glue will melt the old remaining glue in the joint and form a new bond. You will have to work fairly quickly as the glue jells very quickly, especially in cold weather. The setting time can be retarded with the addition of a little extra water or by warming the joint prior to applying the glue.

A plus for hide glue is its **speed in setting**. Because it works so fast it is some times not necessary to use clamps to hold a piece. In some instances the addition of glue blocks to the back of a joint will strengthen and hold the piece together making for an easier and stronger repair.

Glue blocks are small pieces of timber usually triangle shaped. These are used to lend extra support to a joint especially on corner joints. Glue is painted on the two right angled faces, the block is placed in position and then slowly but firmly rubbed up and down until the glue starts to grab and the block can no longer be moved freely. These blocks have many applications in restoration work.

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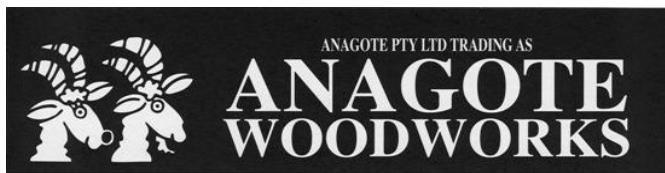
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Sturt Fine Woodworking 12 Week Courses 2010

1st February - 23rd April

Tutor - Tim Rousseau

Fine furniture designer and maker, Tim Rousseau from the USA, has a studio near Rockport, in Maine, USA where he divides his time equally, between being one of the leading instructors at the Centre for Furniture Craftmanship in Maine, and making commissioned pieces for clients from all over north America.

Fee \$7,300



3rd May - 23rd July

Tutor - Tim Foster

Tim Foster has worked for the past 28 years as a professional Furniture and Cabinetmaker in many areas of the industry including: kitchen manufacture, domestic furniture manufacture, commercial fit-out and shop fitting as well as the fine wood working and design field. He completed a Diploma of Art & Graduate Diploma of Art majoring in woodcraft and furniture design in 2002. He has taught Fine Woodworking, Kitchen Design and Materials & Technology at tertiary level. Throughout the past seven years Tim has exhibited his work continually in many of the capital cities of Australia.

Fee \$7,276



9th August - 29th October

Tutor - David Uphill-Brown

David Uphill-Brown graduated from Pamham, UK in 1981 and then moved to Canberra where he established his reputation as a designer and maker of fine furniture, working on commission for domestic and architectural clients. Commissions include work for the parliaments of Australia, Papua New Guinea, the Marshall Islands and the Solomon Islands. David has an equally strong background in teaching and served as Academic Director and Principal of the Australian School of Fine Furniture in Tasmania until 2004 and then as Instructor at the Centre for Furniture Craftmanship in Maine, USA.

Fee \$7,276



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