



# The Woodworkers' Association of NSW Incorporated

ABN 51 544 261 324

December 2022

## From the Chair

In the last newsletter of the year, it is appropriate to reflect on the ups and downs that have occurred during the year for the Association and its members.

The floods in Lismore in March hit **Geoff Hannah** hard, with both his own home and the Lismore Regional Gallery (which housed the Hannah cabinet), being submerged. Then in May our long time Secretary and Life Member, David Palmer passed away and we lost a great friend and mentor. For all members and their families who have experienced suffering during the year, we send our best wishes and hopes for a better 2023.

Turning to the positives, we have enjoyed a continued year of strong growth in our membership with nearly 40 new members this year! Pleasingly, we are seeing an upturn in the volume and quality of woodwork being produced by our members at the Workshop and in their own workshops. We have many excellent makers in our group, two of whom, **Clare O'Reilly** and **Celeste Stein** have just graduated from Sturt and their work is currently on exhibition at the Sturt Gallery in Mittagong. **Brian Dawson** is also having an exhibition at the Lane Cove Gallery in February. It is time for the Association to consider sponsoring an exhibition of members' work to increase the public's awareness of the availability of quality woodwork, to promote our members and Association and to inspire more people to engage with woodwork.



We have expanded the number and range of courses being offered to members in 2023. **Phil Nanlohy** is doing an exceptional job in developing new and different courses to meet members' demands. Soon we will also have a new website which has been designed by member **Kain Tietzel** and the (challenging) process has been managed wonderfully by our Secretary, **Mark Angelo**. The enhanced website will provide new avenues to connect with our members and the wider community and to share information and resources. I hope this will particularly benefit those members who are not able to attend meetings and those who do not use the Workshop.

Our library has also been upgraded and we now have a full set of Fine Woodworking magazines (almost) and an interesting collection of Woodworking books on diverse subjects. **Geoff McClelland** has cleverly catalogued our library so that members will be able to browse the catalogue online and see if there is a book that they wish to borrow.

**Chris Gaskin**, our newsletter editor, has advised that this will be his last newsletter due to competing commitments, including home renovations. We thank Chris for his efforts this year and wish him all the best with the renos. If a member might be interested in taking up the editor's role, please contact a member of the Committee.

Our December meeting is traditionally focused on members' projects - completed or in progress - and sharing stories of their inspiration, development, execution and sometimes, exasperation. I hope you can join us with something that you have made, or are making, and share some genuine woody spirit.

Best wishes to everyone for the holiday season.

Phil Greenwood

[www.woodworkersnsw.org.au](http://www.woodworkersnsw.org.au)

## WWA Objectives

The objectives of the Association are:

- 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 sustainable harvested, recycled and reclaimed timbers.

## WWA Life Members

Richard Crosland

Geoff Hannah

Phil Lake

Kim Larymore

David Palmer

Leon Sadubin

Richard Vaughan

## WWA Committee

**Chair: Phil Greenwood**

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**Vice-Chair: Clare O'Reilly**

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**Secretary: Mark Angelo**

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[secretary.woodworkersnsw@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.woodworkersnsw@gmail.com)

**Treasurer: Gordon Joseph**

0409 488 919

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**Committee members:**

**Frank Duff**

9061 3061, 0422 778 380

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[www.woodworkersnsw.org.au](http://www.woodworkersnsw.org.au)

## News, News, News

### General Meetings

The next General Meeting of the Association will be on the 5th December at the Canada Bay Club, 8 William Street, Five Dock, 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start.

Members are encouraged to arrive early to enjoy the company of other members and eat a meal at the bistro or restaurant available at The Canada Bay Club.

### Workshop Bookings

Our Abbotsford workshop is open for members' use each Sunday and Wednesday from 10.00am until 4.00pm.

The number using the workshop at any one time is limited and it is therefore necessary to book a time and date. Bookings can be made for one or more of the two hour blocks of 10.00am to 12.00pm and/or 12.00pm to 2.00pm and/or 2.00pm to 4.00pm. To book, please contact our workshop booking person, Andrew Honan, by email at [bookings.woodworkersnsw@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.woodworkersnsw@gmail.com) and let him know your preferred date and the two hour block or blocks you wish to book on that date.

### Brian Dawson Update

Our very talented member, Brian Dawson, continues to enjoy success in exhibiting his work. At the recent North Shore Craft Group's exhibition, Brian was successful in selling a number of his creations. Also in the Australian Wood Review 2022 Maker of the Year Awards, Brian received two High Commended awards for two pieces he entered.

Brian is currently busy getting ready for a four-week-long one-man exhibition that he is holding at Gallery Lane Cove commencing on 31 January 2023. The Gallery is at 164 Longueville Road in Lane Cove. In time, details of Brian's one-man exhibition will be available on Gallery Lane Cove's web site and we will send members the link when it becomes available.

**Peter Harris**  
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**Richard Leniston**  
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**Tim Major**  
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**Phil Nanlohy**  
0416 022 252  
[philnanlohy@gmail.com](mailto:philnanlohy@gmail.com)

**If you would like to join or assist the Committee or be more involved in the Association, please call any member of the Committee.**

## Assistance to the Committee

The Committee is assisted by a number of members on a regular basis with the overall management and administration of the Association. They are:

Newsletter editor: **Chris Gaskin**  
[chris.gaskin11@gmail.com](mailto:chris.gaskin11@gmail.com)

Membership Secretary: **Peter Hunt**  
[membership.woodworkersnsw@gmail.com](mailto:membership.woodworkersnsw@gmail.com)

Workshop Supervisors Roster and Workshop Bookings: **Andrew Honan**  
[bookings.woodworkersnsw@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.woodworkersnsw@gmail.com)

Workshop Supervisors  
**Henry Black, Peter Dunn, John Evans, Peter Harris, Gordon Joseph, Richard Leniston, Peter Munro, Tim Major, Phil Nanlohy & Clare O'Rielly**

## Mini Symposium | BlueMtns Woodturners

Please see the link below for information on Woodturning Demonstrations by World Class Woodturners including: Richard Raffan, Ernie Newman, Simon Begg Machinery and Product Displays from: VicMarc.

<https://www.bluemt看swoodturners.org.au/about-1>



## We need your help!

After 12 months in the seat, our Newsletter Editor is unable to continue due to a change in personal circumstances. Therefore, we need a new editor to continue the good work and flow of information to our members.

You will be given full support to take on the role and guided through the process. If you would like to have a discussion to find out more information, then please contact Chris or any member of the Committee.

## New Members

We are delighted to welcome the following new members: Geoff Bowmaker, Clare Donnellan, Adrian Gillin, Lucy Liang, Daniel Little, Byron Roberts and Robbie Thompson.

We look forward to your involvement in the activities of the Association and meeting you at our bi-monthly general meetings as well as at our Abbotsford workshop.

A nice cross section of a timber log showing bark, cambium, sapwood and..... Heartwood ♡ ... in more ways than one !!





## Geoff Hannah

Geoff and Rhonda Hannah at their home in Lismore after the presentation of Geoff's Life Membership certificate in November 2022.

Geoff's beautiful weatherboard home, and his workshop underneath the house where he conducts woodworking classes, were inundated during the March floods. Geoff has lovingly dismantled, cleaned and re-assembled the workshop machines, has removed the internal weatherboards to allow drying then replaced them, and undertaken a huge range of tasks to restore his home. It is an ongoing project that few would have the capacity and skill to perform. But this is a very exceptional man.

Geoff's wood shed (in the background) was lifted by the flood (13 tonne slab and all) and floated from an adjoining property into Geoff's backyard! All the timber has been removed and placed in storage.

The Hannah Cabinet pictured below right (see <http://www.hannahcabinet.com>) was in the Lismore Regional Gallery which was submerged in the flood. The cabinet has been removed to Canberra for restoration.



## One for Our Longer Term Members

The following photos were recently converted from slides discovered in the Associations' storage, and estimated to be taken around 20 years ago.

Recognise any Members? By the way, nice glasses Frank!



## Durden Pacemaker Refurbishment – by Chris Gaskin

A few months ago a friend gifted me a rusty Durden Pacemaker. I decided the time was right to embark on a renovation job that would give me a functioning machine for my workshop.

The first task was to disassemble all components and remove the rust. This process was made easier by soaking the cast iron in a solution of pickling vinegar and sugar soap.

To keep the cost of the refurbishment down, I decided to keep every fastener, nut and bolt, that came with the machine. However, this meant more time on the wire brush.

Once the rust was removed from the bulk of the components, it was time to give my machine some fresh paint.

In the spirit of keeping the machine original, I took a sample of the paint to a paint shop to match the blue colour. With a bit more rust removal and a few coats of paint, the machine started to look like new.

Before fitting the shaft, I took the assembly to a Saw Doctor, to fit a circular saw blade on the non-standard 19mm shaft. I was lucky enough to be in position of having the original planer blades which I took the opportunity to get sharpened.

Due to the age of the machine, and the simplicity of design, the final assembly went well. After years of neglect, it was a pleasure to see the electric motor spin into action when the power was switched on.

Care was taken to ensure all safety devices have been installed correctly, following the description in the Durden manual.





## Durden Pacemaker Refurbishment – continued

After a methodical process of elimination and problem solving, the planer is finally cutting square.

Not pictured is the morticing attachment which will be the subject of the future renovation.

Due to limited time, the renovation took about 12 weeks to complete.

The machine will be removed off the current trolley and set on the ground. The next task is to fabricate a cross cut sled and start creating woodwork projects.

The cost of refurbishment is estimated at:

- \$50 case of beer for the machine
- \$150 for paint and consumables
- \$220 for saw blade and sharpening
- \$420 Total Cost



## Short Course Review – Basics of Finishing by Tim Major

Nik Tepley's September "Basics of Finishing" course was, as ever, a sell out.

The word was that Nik's courses filled quickly and now we now know why.

Neil, Carol, Anthony, Jason, Sid and Tim learnt a great deal over a very enlightening 2 days.

The group were instructed on how to prepare our Walnut veneered board, supplied by Nik. Instruction on medium application followed using Shellac, Livos oil and Brush-on water base Polyurethane, scuff sanding between coats and waxing techniques to finish. A thoroughly enjoyable learning experience was had by all.

The Association will be hosting another Finishing Course in 2023. Members will be informed of the details by email in the coming months.



## 2023 Short Courses Program – by Phil Nanlohy

The Association is pleased to release the 2023 Short Courses Program in the table below.

1. No requests for places will be accepted until the 17th of December.
2. In the future bookings may be able to be made via the website but until that facility is announced the usual process will be followed. This is an email to [philnanlohy@gmail.com](mailto:philnanlohy@gmail.com) to confirm that there is space available then pay the fee to the Association's account.
3. As the courses are run by members for members only current members can book a place.
4. Your place in a course is secured when the fee has been received.

Course	Dates	Course Leaders
Introductory Woodworking No 1 6 participants @ \$120	28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Peter Munro Tim Major
Spoon Carving 6 participants @ \$120	4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Carol Falkner Clare O'Reilly
Steam Bending 6 participants @ \$120	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Carol Falkner
Leather Stitching and Lacing 6 Participants @ \$120	1 <sup>st</sup> Apr	Phil Nanlohy
Introduction to Box Making 4 participants @ \$200	17 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Tim Major Peter Munro
Veneering 4 participants @\$360	17 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> Apr	Peter Harris
Hand Carved Walking Sticks 6 participants @ \$120	27 <sup>th</sup> May	Bronwyn Vost Claire O'Reilly
Jointing with Dominos 4 participants @ \$120	24 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Stuart Faulkner Phil Nanlohy
Marquetry 6 participants @\$200	17 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Peter Young
Marquetry 6 participants @\$200	20 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> Jul	Peter Young
Dovetail Jointing 4 participants @ \$200	14 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Peter Young
Basics of Finishing 6 Participants @ \$200	16 <sup>th</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	Nik Teply
Plane Restoration 6 participants @ \$120	7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Brian Dawson Kevin Wallace
Introductory Woodworking No 2 6 Participants @ \$120	14 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Phil Nanlohy Clare O'Reilly
Introduction to Handtools 6 participants @ \$120	4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	To be advised
Jointing with Dominos 4 participants @ \$120	25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Stuart Falkner



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