

May June 2013 Newsletter

Woodworkers Association of NSW

PO Box 1016

Bondi Junction NSW 1355

ABN 51 544 262 364

# 1st prize win and a sale!

## *Show your work in the newsletter*

*Submit 3 photos and a few words about the item (or items) with your contact details*

*Email the editor: [jhn@bigpond.com](mailto:jhn@bigpond.com)*

Congratulations, Jo Ann Hopkins



## *Reader feedback*

*After reading your email from the RAS asking for boxes to be submitted to the "Wooden Boxes" class, I did just that and won first prize!  
I was thrilled and the box was sold!  
Regards, Jo Ann Hopkins, Member, WWA of NSW.*

## **2013 NSW WWA Monday meetings**

3 June, 5 August,  
7 October, 2 December

### **Newsletter deadlines**

1 July, 2 September,  
4 November 2013

## **Next meeting of the association**

**7 for 7.30pm, Monday 3 June 2013**

Putney Tennyson Bowling & Community Club, Frances Road, Putney, NSW

**Speaker: Newly elected committee member, Brian Dawson will give a presentation on making his Roubo bench.**

# From the Vice Chair's bench

Firstly, on behalf of all the members I wish to thank the previous committee for their hard work keeping the association running smoothly over the last 12 months. And, a special mention is required for two of the retiring committee members: Phil Greenwood, now our past chairman, who, from what I have discovered in the last couple of weeks, was responsible for getting over the various hurdles in setting up our workshop facility.

And to Kim Larymore, our past Vice Chair, we all owe many thanks for assisting in guiding and running the association over the many years and particularly for his ability to sort through problems with the minimum of effort and, at times, to produce

something out of the hat at the last minute using his wealth of knowledge and networking within the wood working fraternity

Now to other items of interest, and discussed at length at the last committee meeting, in which all members are invited to participate. Firstly, we hope many of you are about to, or have almost completed something to exhibit at this year's Timber and Working with Wood show. Steve Townsend is the organiser for this particular event and he will be looking forward to quite a few of you contacting him about your display piece and for your help to put the display together at the show.

On behalf of association mem-

bers, the committee has also accepted an invitation from Sturt Gallery at Mittagong to display members' work. This exhibition is scheduled for 6 April to 25 May 2014. We hope to mount an exhibition which demonstrates the wide range of crafted wooden items. This exhibition is about the skills of the members, and not just our professional members but all our members. We want to show the visiting public what our members are able to make: furniture, boxes, turned pieces, musical instruments, screens . . .

This exhibition will provide an opportunity for all our members to sell their work if they wish, or

. . . more next page



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*Weekend Courses in 2013 will run from 9.30am to 4.30pm, unless otherwise stated. Easy Start Courses are from 11am to 4pm. Enrolments are open for all courses. All course costs include GST All enquiries to Sturt  
P 02 4860 2083 or 02 4860 2094 www.sturt.nsw.edu.au*

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Tutor</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Cost+materials</b>
April 22 – June 28	<b>10 Week Wood</b>	To be confirmed	Int – adv	\$6,000
15-16 June	Tuning & sharpening	<b>Daryl Ingate</b>	All	\$290+\$25
1-5 July	<b>Winter School</b>			
	Marquetry	<b>Katalin Sallai</b>	-	\$595+
	Boxes	<b>Phoebe Everill</b>	-	\$595+
Aug – Sept	<b>4 week Woodwork</b>	<b>Roy Schack</b>	Beginners	\$TBC
	1 day Easy Start course for absolute beginners: 11am - 4pm			
Thurs 5 Sept	<b>Intro to wood</b>	<b>Daryl Ingate</b>	Total beginners	\$58

... previous page continues

to attract new patrons who want to commission a particular piece of work. When the details are finalised, your organiser for this event, Brian Dawson, will provide more information. Watch this space!

Phil Greenwood has kindly taken on the coordinating role for

the Victorian pallet competition, and I believe around six members have accepted the challenge.

The committee is also investigating possible activities for the months between the regular two-monthly meetings, most likely to be held at the Abbotsford workshop, and that will be of interest to all members. The regular last Sunday of the month opening

will continue and we hope to extend that to include a week day as well, for those wanting to do woodwork during the week.

Lastly, the committee is required to fill the still vacant position of Chair of the association. Any interested member should contact the Merv Walter, our Secretary.

**Rick Bartholomew**

## ***The Hand and the Chisel***

A biography of an exceptional craftsman from the elite trade of carving, who rendered in wood and stone with grace and perfection, from tiny wooden carvings to the ornate facades of public buildings and churches, all executed with perfect precision.

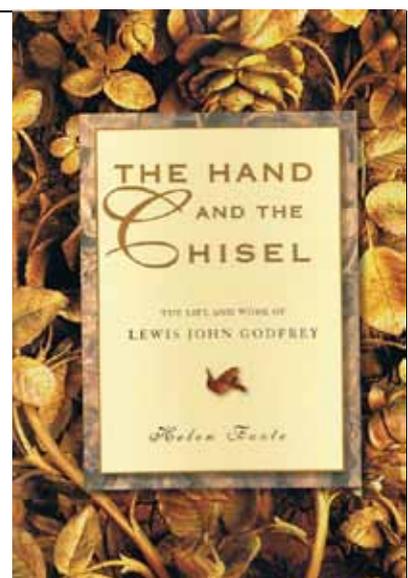
This colour illustrated record of Godfrey's known (Australian and NZ) work is a revealing and long-overdue tribute to his incredible talent.

The author, Helen Foote, is Lewis John Godfrey's great-grand-daughter. Before Helen began the book, the little she knew about him was that, in his day, he was a carver of some repute. What began as a casual enquiry became a quest, as Helen discovered more and more impressive works by Godfrey in Australia and New Zealand.

*Published by Melbourne Publishing Group Pty Ltd  
(A4 paperback with French flaps, 76 pp)*

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## Member info

### Australian Wood Review offers:

#### Wood Diary

Event listings in the magazine and website for free. Submit your info 5-6 weeks before the magazine goes on sale.

#### Doctor Wood

AWR runs a question column. Send your woodworking question or problem to . . . doctorwood@woodreview.com.au . . . and they'll hunt round for the answer.

#### Stories

Tell them your story. And tell them what stories you'd like to read in the magazine (or if you'd like to write for them.)

#### Contact Linda Nathan, Editor

*Australian Wood Review*

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*Multiple complicated joints are practical*



## Traditional Timber Frames

**The April 2013 AGM speaker (and association member) Chris Nance engaged all present with his treatise on traditional timber framing.**

Chris learnt the craft in the UK in 2006, from British Oak artisan Alan Ritchie ([hewnwood.com](http://hewnwood.com)) while Chris was on a BBM youth scholarship.

This specialized kind of construction makes use of large, cross-section green timber joined with traditional mortice-and-tenon joints held together with hand-crafted, hardwood pins.

Structures made with from this form of construction are expected

to become a legacy for future generations, as they are in the England and Europe.

In four years, Chris has adapted old world customs to Australian timbers and building practices. He prefers to use a softwood: *Macarocarpa Pine*, *Cupressus macrocarpa*, mill-sawn to 200 x 300 or 200 square (mm) has low shrinkage. Some hardwoods are also used. Accordingly, the tools used are much larger than normal.

Because the timbers are rarely true and straight, Chris uses the British 'Scribe' method of marking out, where a reference line is marked on the timber rather than working from a reference edge.

Timbers are set out on saw horses (Chris has more than 100!) and joints are laid out using plumb bobs rather than squares.

Tenons are cut on the spot, with hand or circular saws; many mortices can be chain-mortised. Much hand finishing is required.

Curved timbers are sometimes used, for strength or architectural effect. Each design is engineer-approved to comply with local government regulations. There are very few enterprises like TTF in Australia.

In manufacture, metal pins are used since these can be prised out. Pin holes are drilled in the joint areas, slightly out of align-



*Framing of simple structures shows design features*



ment so that the final hardwood pins apply force to close the joint properly.

Pins are not cut off flush but left slightly proud, becoming a feature. Frames, or component parts, are trucked to the site, and where possible erected with a crane.

A whole structure can be finished in a short time thanks to trial assembly during manufacture.

Obviously, costs for custom design and manufacture are high, but not excessive considering the expected longevity of the structure, compared with that of normal domestic housing.

Chris has agreed to consider showing his 'factory' to WWA members when there is some interesting work in progress.

Stay tuned for news on this front!

**Frank Duff**



*Frames are assembled on trestles; straps apply tension to correct alignment*



*A small but massive frame needs strong sawhorses!*



*Much muscle is required to align the beam and fit the tenon*



*Metal T-pins are used initially, then removed, allowing riven hardwood pins to be substituted*



*Above left: Splayed and tabled scarf joint as part of a 250 x 200 floor beam. Above right: mortice and tenon tying joint detail between a 200 x 200 post and a 200 x 150 top-plate (all dimensions in mm)*

# Masters of Craft Exhibition

The Masters of Craft Exhibition paid due honour to three of Australia's finest furniture designer/makers: Geoff Hannah, Tony Kenway and Scott Mitchell. Between them they share nearly a century of woodworking involvement, development and practice.

**Geoff Hannah** fine, multi-faceted cabinets culminate in his masterpiece *The Hannah Cabinet*, combining marquetry, precious stone and ingenious construction and finish.

Born in 1948 in the Northern Rivers Region of NSW, Geoff Hannah studied as an apprentice cabinet maker from the age of 15 before starting his own business in 1973. Awarded a Churchill Fellowship in 1980, Geoff went to England and France to study furniture from 1635-1850.

Time spent in the workshops of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, and the Palace of Versailles in France, were particular highlights of his study tour, as were his special privileges and after hours visits in the Louvre, Paris.

In 2009 Geoff was made an Honorary Fellow of Southern Cross University. The Hannah Cabinet is Geoff's masterpiece and was made over a six year period using 34 different Australian and international timbers, four species of shell and 17 varieties of precious stone with extensive marquetry inlays on 18 doors and on, and in, 140 drawers.



Geoff Hannah's, multi-faceted Yew table (above) and Zebrano box (below)



## Masters of Craft

Bungendore Wood Works Gallery

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# Masters of Craft Exhibition cont . . .

**Tony Kenway's** devotion to the wood species of his North East NSW subtropical home is spectacularly evident in his incredibly finely handcrafted organic-design inspired tables, chairs and specific commissioned projects, winning a number of international chair shows judged by the world's best.

Tony Kenway is committed to making collectable pieces of furniture from the finest timbers available.

As a prominent Australian designer, Tony has developed a unique range of furniture, drawing inspiration from simple and elegant forms found in the marine and coastal environment where he lives.

His knowledge and appreciation of Australia's rare timbers have enabled him to create exquisite furniture of the highest calibre.

This, together with a traditional background in cabinet making and boat building, has led to international recognition for his designs and craftsmanship.

His furniture has won international design awards and art prizes including the 'Best Chair' award in 2003, and again in 2006, at the Philadelphia Furniture Show.



*Tony Kenway's Cunji dining suite (above) and Rocker (below)*



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# Masters of Craft Exhibition cont . . .

**Scott Mitchell** straddles the disciplines of finely executed commissioned and product-line furniture, while also designing and crafting substantial corporate, government institution and private building fit-outs in the ACT.

Scott Mitchell is all about fine contemporary furniture. He is a passionate artist who makes furniture and products with function, practicality and art in mind. He is a shining example of the success of the inclusion of woodworking in fine art training institutions.

Growing up in the timber-rich Tweed River Valley he eventually found the ANU School of Art. The School had chosen one of the world's great woodworkers and educators, the late George Ingham to lead the way.

Wood is now an accepted medium in art schools throughout Australia and one of the valuable lessons embraced by Scott is the ability to think outside the square, to keep pushing and refining the envelope in the fields of design and best practice on the workbench. This thought process allows Scott to seek out new technologies, something that he embraces eagerly, uses in his design and work ethos, and recognizes as the way of his future.



*Scott Mitchell's Dove Table (above) Hall Table and Seat Bench (below)*



## *Masters of Craft*

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## *Dates that count*

### **Monday meetings:**

3 June, 5 August, 7 October, 2 December

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6 May, 1 July, 2 September, 4 November

## Create from a Crate Competition and Exhibition 2013

Create from a Crate is open to entrants from all Australian states.  
(The VWA would consider subsidizing the transport of pallets to a central point in NSW if there were sufficient interest from NSW woodworker.)

Total prize money: \$7,000. Entries close 30 June, 2013.

An exhibition of finished pieces will be held in Oct/Nov 2013  
(at a Melbourne and regional Victorian Gallery - TBA).

### More information at:

[vwa.org.au/exhibitions/create-crate](http://vwa.org.au/exhibitions/create-crate) // [facebook.com/createfromacrate](https://facebook.com/createfromacrate)  
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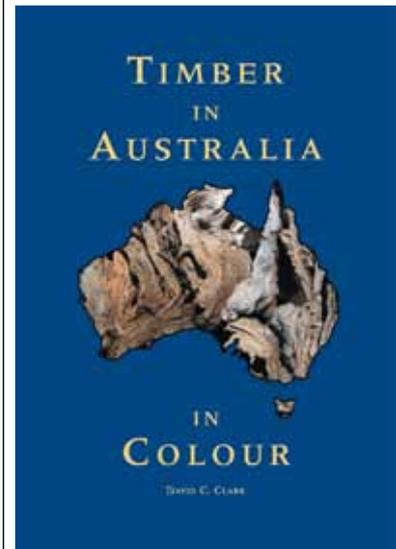
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or needs amending. [jhn@bigpond.com](mailto:jhn@bigpond.com)**

***Remaining 2013 deadline dates: 1 July, 2 September, 4 November***

# NSW WWA member ads

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- Invicta Delta 400mm thicknesser 7.5Hp,
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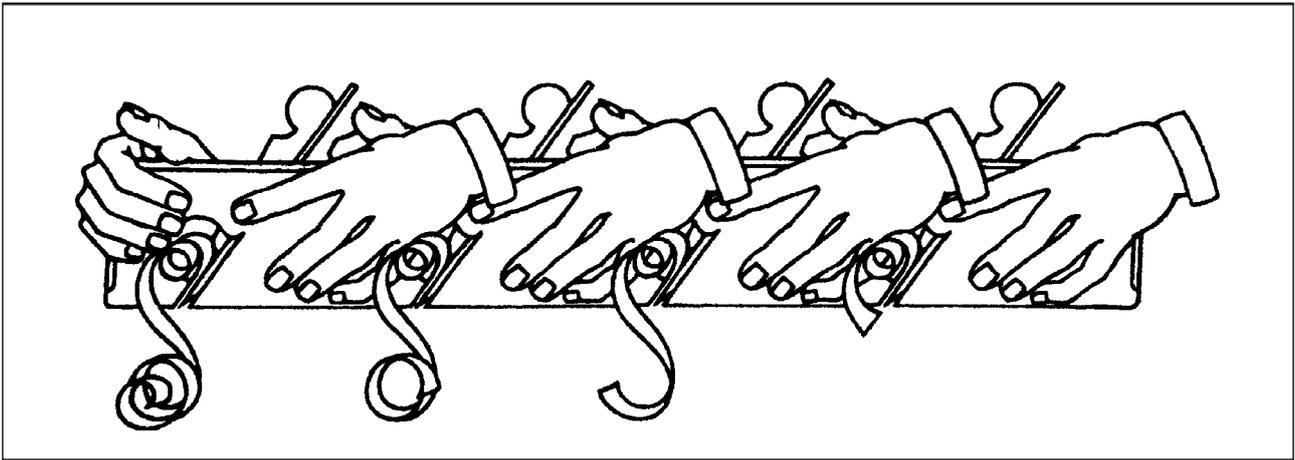
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**For new listings, or to update an existing listing, contact the editor**  
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*Remaining 2013 deadline dates: 1 July, 2 September, 4 November*



## Association Committee contact information

### Committee members

**Chair:** Vacant

**Vice Chair:** Rick Bartholomew • 02 9476 6676 • rickardo@idx.com.au

**Secretary/Public Officer:** Merv Walter • 02 9634 2066 • secretary@woodworkersnsw.org.au

**Treasurer:** Miko Nakamura • 02 9805 1775 • treasurer@woodworkersnsw.org.au

### General committee members

Brian Dawson • 02 9880 7646 • 0418 212 496 • brian@valuesystems.com.au

Frank Duff • 02 9896 4017 • 0403 821 389 • fwduff@optusnet.com.au

Peter Dunn • 02 02 4344 7806 • 0410 411 951 • bentneck@bigpond.com

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### Currently assisting the committee

**Membership Secretary:** Peter Hunt • 0418 867 870 • p\_j\_hunt@msn.com.au

**Newsletter/Website:** Jo Healy-North • 0417 667 367 • jhn@bigpond.com

### Life members

Richard Crosland, Phil Lake, Kim Larymore, Leon Sadubin, Richard Vaughan, Alan Wale

### New members update

Ken Pitman

**If you'd like to join the committee or be more involved in the association, call Merv Walter**

*If undelivered please return to PO Box 1016 Bondi Junction NSW 1355*

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