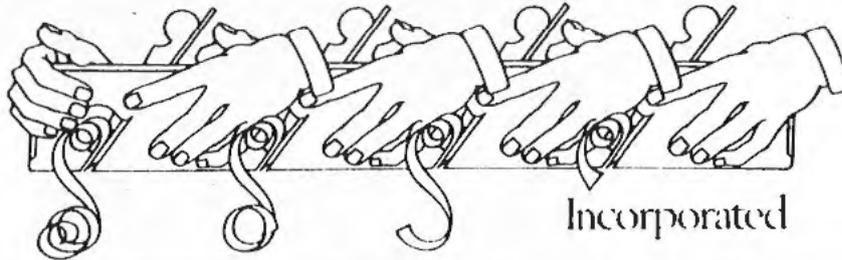


WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION OF N.S.W.



FROM THE CHAIR

At the time of writing, you may be aware that the positions of Chair and Vice Chair remain unfilled. In an attempt to define the role of the Chair, Paul Floyd encourages you to 'please consider' with these thoughts.

The Chair is the frontperson for the Association.

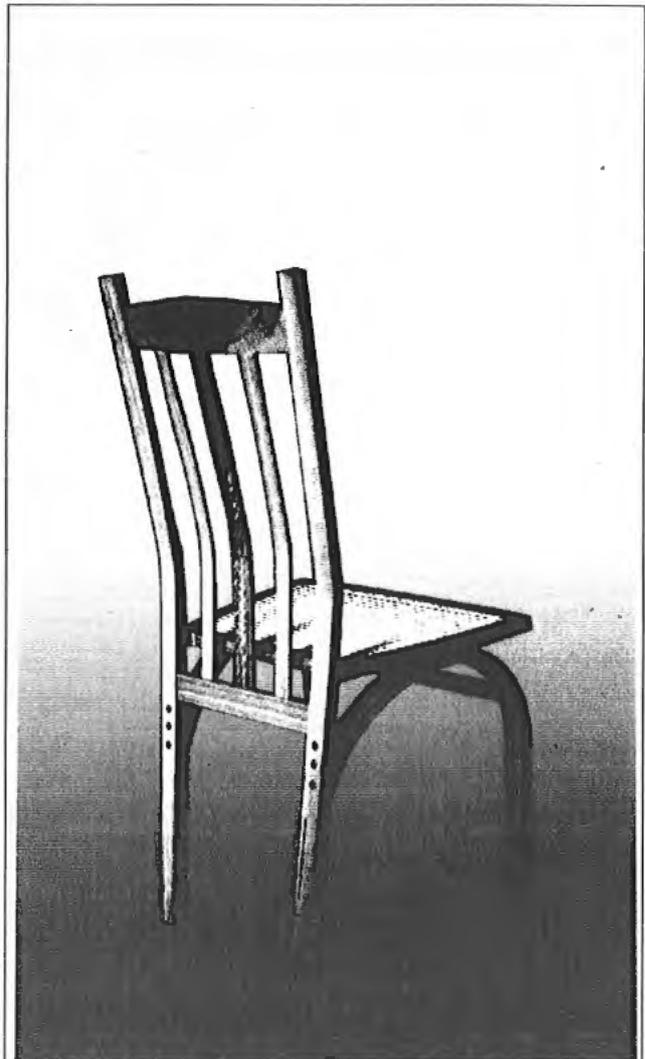
You don't have to be the greatest fine woodworker in the country - management skills and people skills are more important in this position. You need to display leadership qualities, be able to work in a committee situation and be able to delegate. The other committee members have been great to work with.

Chairing six general meetings for the year, as well as writing the preceding newsletter articles is far from onerous. The number of hours involved is difficult to ascertain and depends greatly on individual dedication and circumstances - as much time as you think it needs! There is phonework involved so a daytime number where you can be reached is desirable. The letter writing is minimal due to the Secretary on the Committee.

The Chair generally organises the guest speaker for each meeting, prepares the agenda for the Committee and General Meetings and follows through on delegated work.

The Chairperson gets to meet a wide variety of very interesting people - the various guest speakers, both government and non-government dignitaries as well as a great number of the members. There are also lots of invitations to openings of art and craft functions if you're lucky enough to have the time to be able to take advantage of this.

Kind regards
Paul Floyd



Prototype chair made by Roberto Viola while at Sturt School for Wood. It is constructed from Red Mahogany (E. resinifera) with a seat of woven cane.

OUR NEXT MEETING

Guest Speaker : Colen Clenton

Monday June 3 is your chance to learn where those very beautiful Colen Clenton (note the spelling) tools come from - from the man himself.

You don't have to be a woodie to appreciate the excellence of what he makes, or get a sense of the spirit that produces these lovely objects which are also inspiringly effective tools. Come and hear of the thought behind, and the processes that have gone into, their refinement.

It's wonderful for example to have a square which you know is really true and which can be easily recalibrated back to true if in a moment of carelessness ... And they all feature really choice bits of Australian timber lovingly selected and cut to show off their glory.

You do woodwork for the love of it so of course you deserve at least one of these treasures in your workshop to delight you each time you see it or use it. (I'm a shameless devotee of happiness in this life so I own six of his tools). I asked Colen to bring some to the meeting in case you haven't yet seen them, so be prepared to succumb to the need to treat yourself (and be glad you did).

In any case Colen is the sort of bloke you'll be glad you met.

Richard Vaughan

Monday, June 3rd
Powerhouse Museum
500 Harris Street, Ultimo
(entry via Macarthur Street)
from 7 pm

Light refreshments will be available from 7pm for a 7.30 start. Limited parking may be available on site - reserve a space by phoning Paul Floyd on (047) 35 2033 by midday on the day. Look forward to seeing you there. Visitors and friends are always welcome.

ARCHIVES

The archives of the Woodworkers' Association of NSW are kept by the State Library of New South Wales in Macquarie Street, Sydney.
Their reference is : Serials L9 (O/N 679797)

Unfortunately, some people use statistics
as a drunk uses a lamp post -
for support rather than for illumination.

Change of Address ?

Was this newsletter correctly addressed to you?
If your name or address is incorrect, please
drop a line to the editor so that our records
can be updated for next time.

WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION OF NSW COMMITTEE

Chair: Vacant

Vice Chair: Vacant

Secretary: **Karen Miles** voicemail: (02) 640 7848
PO Box W77
Warringah Mall 2100

Treasurer: **Margaret Kearns** ah tel: (02) 358 1824
PO Box 1308
Potts Point 2011

Editor: **Con Downey** tel: (02) 525 7593
28 Malvern Road
Miranda 2228

Assistant
Editor: **Bob Howard** bh tel: (02) 319 5666
380 Botany Road
Alexandria 2015

General
Assistance: **Fred Blake** bh tel: (02) 231 5259
John Brassell tel: (045) 76 1535
Jim Davey bh tel: (02) 545 1633
ah tel: (02) 548 2684
Jon Gasparini tel: (047) 57 1915
Andy Stewart ah tel: (02) 449 7150
Dan Taylor ah tel: (047) 39 5377

Opinions expressed in articles in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or the committee.

Minutes of the General Meeting April 1st, 1996

* Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted

Proposed : Jim Davey
Seconded: Bob Howard

* Apologies received from John Brassell, Jon Gasparini, David Muston and Dan Taylor

* Financial report :

As at 30th March 1996 \$6,243.50.

Copies of the Annual Financial Report were available. The loss shown of \$1,262.30 is due to the depreciation of our computer and is a loss on paper only.

* Election of New Committee

Position	Proposed	Seconded
----------	----------	----------

Chair :

Vice Chair :

Treasurer : Margaret Kearns Karen Miles Fred Blake

Secretary : Karen Miles Richard Vaughan Jim Davey

Editor : Con Downey Andy Stewart Richard Vaughan

Asst Editor : Bob Howard Richard Vaughan Andy Stewart

General

Assistance : Fred Blake, Jim Davey, Jon Gasparini,
Andy Stewart, Dan Taylor

No-one was elected on the evening for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair.

* There was a gentle reminder about membership subscriptions being due. The \$3.00 flat fee for catering is working well and help in cleaning up after each meeting is greatly appreciated.

* Hans Drielsma's Forest Excursion

The committee has been in touch and the following will be put to State Forests :

- a social group will travel to the Wyong area for the day - not unlike the Canberra trip. There will be opportunities to put questions on forest practice to the guides. A number of members indicated interest on the night.

- a special delegation of 3 senior members would tour the Wauchope area to take a closer look and ask the hard questions. The tour will happen on a weekday and they will be required to submit a report to the members.

- Paul will co-ordinate funding for the next exhibition as the State Library has asked for letters from sponsors such as State Forests before committing themselves.

* The committee would like expressions of interest from those intending to exhibit in 1998 to be made known by the August meeting.

* Timber & Working With Wood Show and the Australian Women's Weekly Craft and Art Fair - a sub-committee will be formed to organise the stands this year. Also we need some work for displaying and this can be from any member.

* Paul thanked the previous committee and membership for their support and encouragement. Paul was also thanked by the committee and membership present.

Karen Miles

NEWSLETTERS RECEIVED RECENTLY

- . Arts Law Centre of Australia
- . Australian Association of Musical Instrument Makers NSW Branch
- . Ballarat Woodworkers Guild Inc.
- . Bayside Woodturners & Woodcrafters Club Inc.
- . Central Coast Woodturners Co-operative
- . Forest Hill Woodturners Inc.
- . FOUND
- . Goldfields Specialty Timber Interest Group Inc.
- . Mid North Coast Woodworkers Inc.
- . Northern Rivers Woodcraft Group Co-operative Ltd
- . Queenscliffe and District Woodworkers
- . The Illawarra Woodworkers' Group Inc.
- . The Marquetry Guild Inc. NSW
- . The Society for Responsible Design
- . The Sydney Woodturners Guild
- . The Traditional Tools Group Inc.
- . The Yarra Turners
- . The Woodturners Society of Queensland Inc.
- . The Woodturning Centre
- . Victorian Woodworkers Association Inc.
- . Warragul Woodworkers' Club
- . Woodcraft Guild of the ACT Inc.
- . Woodgroup S.A. Inc.

Thank you to those editors and secretaries who regularly send along a copy of their newsletters for our shared enjoyment. Don't forget, these newsletters from other groups are there to peruse and borrow at our meetings.

We would like to exchange newsletters with ALL woodie groups. Are you aware of other woodie groups who regularly produce a newsletter? Please supply name and address details to the editor.

The Association warmly welcomes the following new associate members

**Michael Borton
Ian & Jennifer Brown
Stuart Montague
Bruce Porter
Mary Jean Vickers**

1996 MEETING DATES

JUNE 3rd

AUGUST 5th

OCTOBER 14th

DECEMBER 2nd

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

JULY 4th

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ed.

When not woodworking, I am involved with the computer industry and I use the Internet daily. Some members may not be aware of how much information there is about woodworking "on the net" and how it could be of direct benefit to both professional and amateur woodworkers alike.

Just one of the relevant parts of the Internet are the "newsgroups". There are thousands of newsgroups each on a different subject covering just about every human pursuit imaginable. Newsgroups allow you to read messages from a public message board dedicated to your favourite subject. There is a newsgroup dedicated to woodworking that allows people from all over the world to exchange ideas on the subject. If you like you can just read what other woodies are up to, but maybe you've got a problem with a piece or you're looking for that elusive plane or chisel for your collection? Just type in your message and "post" it to the newsgroup. Someone, somewhere will be happy to reply and you can browse other exchanges between people on a sub-topic of interest to you.

The World Wide Web is another part of the Internet that is a fantastic source of information. It allows people or organisations to make information publicly available to anyone on the planet who has access to the Internet. Here you can find great information on woodwork, including tips, techniques, information about tools, timber, books, etcetera, etcetera. This is where the Association's commercial members could advertise either their products or spruik for that next commissioned piece.

There is an interesting Internet "site" run by Australian Wood Artisans Promotions in Adelaide. Here buyers can see samples of work by a variety of wood artisans and order something over the Internet from anywhere in the world.

Some of the information available from overseas sites is mind boggling. It's so easy to get and gaining access to the Internet is relatively straightforward. Equipment-wise you need a computer and a modem (a device about the size of a box of drill bits that allows your computer to talk to another computer over a normal telephone line).

You then need to subscribe to an "Internet provider" who will charge you for access to the 'net. Get your computer to dial their number and you are away. A new world of information is at your finger tips. You don't have to understand computers - just push your mouse around and click the buttons!

The NSW Association may be interested to know that the Victorian Woodworkers' Association are well represented on the Internet. They have an interesting site that has information about their Association, upcoming events, lists of teachers and other clubs, and plenty of other wood info.

Perhaps members would like a demonstration at a future Association meeting of what the Internet offers those who sell their work or woodwork products, or those who are keen to seek or share information on woodwork.

I have no hidden agenda or barrow to push here - and I'm not necessarily offering to give the demonstration either!! I have just found that there is a lot of valuable stuff on the Internet that I'm sure some members would find value in - even those revered members of the Society of Latter Day Luddites.

Your sincerely

Bruce M A Porter

Dear Ed.

"Woodies" are a great crowd of people.

After years of just dealing with the "Antiques" fraternity with our Howard waxes and polishes, it has been a delight to mix-it with the woodies at the various "Working With Wood" fairs across the country. These people are a very honest and down-to-earth group of individuals.

We've learnt a great deal from the tradespeople, turners and various other woodworking enthusiasts that we've met and as a result I can speak with much more authority about our products when it comes to their application on raw wood.

It's been marvelous to discover that people like Vic Wood likes to use Howard Orange Oil on his finished product and that 'Feed-N-Wax' reacts so well when applied during the turning process. Even though our 'Restor-A-Finish' is one of those antique care products that I thought would have little interest to "woodies", I've been pleasantly suprised at the amount of enquiry I receive about it, particularly from woody wives.

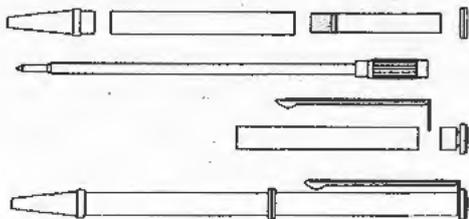
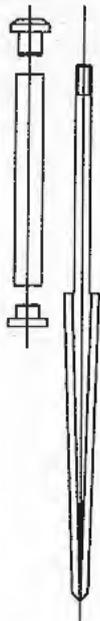
Anyway, thanks for your support and to this publication, well ... keep up the good work.

David Foster
Howard Products

Letters from readers on any topic of interest will appear in the next available issue of the newsletter. If your letter is not typed, please write legibly.

Your letter must be signed, but your name will be withheld if you so wish.

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100+ sets	\$3.80 set	105-195 sets	\$2.45 set
		200+ sets	\$2.07 set

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Restor-a-Finish: Revolutionary wipe-on, wipe off process that eliminates scratches, heat rings, water marks and most other surface damage by amalgamating instantly with existing finishes. In most instances the need to strip re-stain and re-polish is negated. Seven tints plus neutral in 473ml cans.

Feed-n-Wax: Unique among furniture waxes. Being a liquid combination of beeswax, orange oil and carnauba wax, it applies like gel yet buffs dry to a rich, hard, satin lustre. No hard work, no build-up problems... and it nourishes and protects dry furniture like no other. 473ml packs.

Orange Oil: The most efficient natural furniture cleaner and polisher available. It contains trace elements found in wood, so when it penetrates it feeds, nourishes and reveals an amazing depth of grain. Containing no wax or silicones it can be used as often as you wish. Also for use on raw wood as a final finish or as a sealer prior to waxing. 473ml pump packs.

Citrus Shield: 100% natural this is for those who prefer a thicker paste wax. Containing pure beeswax, orange oil and carnauba wax, it spreads like orange butter and buffs dry to a rich, hard high lustre (Feed-n-Wax has a satin lustre). Wonderful on a sealed or raw wood. Big 400g can.

#0000 Superfine Steel Wool: This is the finest yet toughest steel wool we know about. It's made specially for Howard Products and it's the only steel wool we can honestly recommend. Eight pads in a 175g pack.

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SPACE

Good self contained workshop
18' x 27'
in Erskineville
with 3 phase power and shared yard
in established antique restoration centre with 4 others.
Spray booth & machine room available to share.
\$560 per calendar month
Enquiries : Gary on (02) 557 4204

New Address

If the highly efficient woodworkers' gossip-line hasn't brought you the news yet, Bob Howard has moved his workshop to new premises in 9 Beaconsfield Lane, Alexandria, 2015. Phone and fax numbers remain the same : Ph (02) 319 5666 Fax (02) 318 0027.

The new place is all of 100 metres from the back door of the old one, for those of you who are familiar with it. Beaconsfield Lane ran behind the old workshop, and the new place is about 100 metres north in the lane.

As part of the move, Bob has for sale :
16" Wadkin jointer RD721 \$2000
24" Thornley disc sander \$1000
C & H hollow chisel morticer with 5 chisels \$1500
Bookpress 430 x 380mm \$450
Phone Bob Howard on (02) 319 5666

What We're About

The aims of the Woodworkers' Association of NSW are to :

- Keep increasing the standard of Australian fine work in wood
- Promote public awareness of this work
- Provide a focus for the exchange of expertise and to foster camaraderie among those who work in wood
- Be a voice for the proper management of our precious native timber resources.

The membership year is from January to December. Associate membership can be yours for \$40 per annum, or \$10 per quarter or part thereof.

Send your name, address and area of interest with your payment by cheque, money order or credit card (BC, MC or Visa, card number, cardholder's name, card expiry date) to our treasurer, Margaret Kearns, as listed on page 2.

ASSET REGISTER

Karen Miles is compiling a register of assets belonging to the Association.

Members of the current committee have already helped out by listing known assets and their whereabouts.

Are YOU aware of any other Association property which may have been missed? If you can assist, please contact Karen as detailed on page 2.

BEGA WINNERS

The annual Bega Woodcraft Awards were recently held at their regional gallery. As usual, there was a wide variety of fine work amongst the 140 entries and the organisers were pleased with attendances of over 5.000 during the two week exhibition.

The difficult job of judging was done by Mike St. Clair and David Maclaren. The winners were :

Furniture

Mary Jean Vickers - 3 seater
Lyndall Kennedy - chair
Ted Johnson - games table

Highly commended

Robert Weymer - "Step Up To The Entertainer"

Merit

Adrian Bell - coffee table
Annie Didcott - writing Table
Gary Hovey - tapered cabinet
Damon Lewis - ming table
Albert Seath - coffee table

Encouragement

Peter Wellington - side table and chair

Artistic Turning

Stephen Hughes - "Dream Shield"
Guilo Marcolongo - hollow form

Highly commended

Robert Manhal - "G.A3"

Face Plate / Spindle Turning

Stephen Hughes - "Aquatic Offerings"
Christa Welk - bowl

Merit

Tom Skilton - lidded container

Carving / Sculpture

Friedrich Wolf - "Save The Wales"
Friedrich Wolf - "Two Bellingers"
Fred Blake - "The Pied Piper"

Highly Commended

Doug Harding - "Koala On A Gumtree"

Merit

Brian Dumper - table lamp
Enn Muller - fruit bat

Marquetry

Kalman Radvanyi - Pisa

Open

Stephen Hughes - "The Messenger"
Steve Stafford - "Ptoonadactylus"
Richard Bateman - chess set

Youth

Paul Boxsell - office desk
Paul Pullin - standard lamp
Ben Cross - marquetry tree

Forest Project Award

Ted Johnston - "Broken Easter Egg"
Gary Cooper - coffee table
Steve Stafford - "Greenhorn Sentinels"

Congratulations to all winners, especially those members of our association. My apologies to any winners omitted from this list.

Jim Davey

SNI Research Update

The research study about saline nasal irrigation (SNI) we let you all know about is alive and well. We are now past the stage where all participants have tried (or are trying) SNI and the last data collection of the cross-over trial is soon due. For the uninitiated, a crossover trial is where all participants try two months on SNI and two months off in random order.

We have received support from your accomplices in woodwork from the Sydney Woodturners' Guild as well as from a few woodworking factories in the west of Sydney. Your Coffs Harbour colleagues might participate in the study as well (we don't know at the time of writing). Steve Rabone won't be able to get up there because of time problems, but Swami might. The same applies to a group from Mittagong (Sturt School of Wood), although a few are already in the study. These groups could contribute more people for the questionnaire part of the study and make it rock-solid., so if you know of anyone from Coffs or environs, please encourage them. Basically, people can enter the study at any time. We will continue recruiting until resources are used up or until we get at least 50 people. We have about 45 now.

About Steve's time commitments ...

Worksafe is folding. The entire research division might go. Steve jumped ship two weeks before redundancies were asked for, and so saved the taxpayers amongst you bundles. He is now at Parramatta, working for an insurance company. The great ending to this soap-opera is that Swami and Steve and Geoff Watson (the pathologist from Prince Alfred Hospital who looks after the nasal brushings) and Dr Jim Leigh (Head of the Epidermiology Unit at Worksafe) are pushing on regardless, inspired by you lot. In short, THE STUDY GOES ON. The above group have the resources, commitment, expertise and support (you again) to finish the study, publicise the results in Australia (through this newsletter for one), and formally get the results published in a peer-reviewed international journal ... and we will!

As we all know, there are health risks involved with woodworking. Nose symptoms such as stuffy nose, blocked nose and snoring are the commonest and this research will tell us if symptoms such as these can be helped by SNI. Nasal cancer is rare, but much less rare amongst woodworkers than the general population. This research MAY give us an indication whether SNI can reduce the risk of nasal Cancer.

Anyone still interested can contact

Steve Rabone on (02) 427 5160 ah or
Swami on (045) 66 4477.

New BOOK

Keep a look out for "Wood Dreaming" by Terry Martin. This traces the development of woodcraft in Australia with a particular emphasis on woodturning.

Published by Harper Collins, and available at major book-stores around now at about \$75.

Sydney Design'99

The Design Institute of Australia is preparing to host the combined conferences and congresses of the three international societies representing Industrial Design (ICSID), Graphig Design (ICOGRADA) and Interior Design (IFI), in Sydney in late September 1999.

Sydney Design'99 promises to be the largest and most important design event ever held in Australia or anywhere in the southern hemisphere.

Sydney Design'99 has been strategically planned to be a wide ranging event including a major public exhibition of design, the theme of which will be a review of world design innovation across the disciplines throughout the 20th century, an intellectually stimulating conference aimed at the global professional design industry, with special ancillary conferences and forum programs developed for design education, business and manufacturing industries, exporters, the general public and all levels of government. In addition to all these conference activities, the three international design organisations will hold their biennial General Assemblies.

When the DIA bid for this design event in August 1993, the outcome of the Sydney 2000 Olympic bid was not known. The successful outcome of the Olympics bid will make the Sydney Design'99 event even more attractive to the world design professionals who will be vitally interested to learn more about the design related developments for the Olympics.

To find out more, contact : Sydney Design'99
PO Box 259 Paddington
Sydney NSW 2021 Australia
or facsimile (61 2) 385 0706

FINISHING CLASSES

AN EXPLORATION OF FINISHING METHODS with Ray Gurney

The aim of this course is to introduce you to a variety of easy but effective finishing methods. You will learn how to prepare the wood properly, including sanding, grain filling, stopping, and, where necessary, staining. Basic hand finishing methods will then be explored, using wax, oil, shellac or varnishes.

Your teacher, Ray Gurney, is one of the most experienced and highly regarded furniture conservators/restorers in Sydney. Ray trained at the London College of Furniture and at West Dean College in England in the mid-70s. He has had his own business here in Sydney since 1980, working for clients such as the Australian National Gallery and a number of Historic Houses, as well as many well known antique dealers.

The next class runs over 6 nights from 31st May, 6pm - 10pm. All tools, materials and wood to practice on are supplied. Cost is \$350. To book your place phone Bob Howard on (02) 319 5666.



THE SOCIETY FOR RESPONSIBLE DESIGN

The aim of the Society for Responsible Design is to work towards a sustainable future through environmentally and socially responsible design practices.

They organise SRD Talks which focus on different environmental and social design issues.

To find out more, phone (02) 564 0721, fax (02) 564 1611 or write to PO Box 73, Rozelle NSW 2039.

Rose Gum Joinery Timber

Rose Gum, also known as Flooded Gum, is appearing again on the East Coast as a joinery timber and also as fine furniture. It never really went away but had been largely overlooked since imported rainforest timbers took over the joinery market.

Eucalyptus grandis is one of the fastest growing eucalypts, occurring from Newcastle to North Queensland. The timber is a warm pink to red, straight grained and easy to work, it glues well and is surprisingly light for a hardwood.

Rose Gum is marketed from Bellingen in northern NSW by a company called **Rose Gum Timbers**, which produces select quality timber from a huge local resource of plantation and regrowth forest, much of it reclaimed farmland.

Timber is seasoned in solar heated kilns, a slower process than conventionally heated kilns, and one which produces a consistently better quality board, with negligible degrade.

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- Lining Boards
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- Door Jambs
- Bench Tops
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Roger Burke: (066) 55 2100 • 015 256 140 Martin Hogan: 015 785 904
34 Coronation Street, Bellingen NSW 2454

ACN 068-794-015

OUR NEXT MAJOR EXHIBITION

A passionate soapbox speech from Bob Howard

The next major exhibition, hopefully in the Stae Library again, will not be held until sometime in 1998.

On the one hand, that is a long way off, but on the other, as most previous exhibitors will know, it will be upon us with frightening rapidity.

So, now is the time to start thinking about it. To make it a success, we are going to need some new exhibiting members, and for some older exhibiting members to reinvolve themselves with the Association.

Because of the very high standards set by the Association, it is an intimidating thing to contemplate the adjudication procedure. This is obviously a two-edged sword: it does maintain the standard, but it also continuously threatens us with extinction if not enough people have the courage to go for it.

But there are some things you can do to make the step less intimidating. Most importantly, talk about it with your committee members and any exhibiting members you can waylay. If you can, get these people to have a look at your current work and ask for their advice. Familiarise yourself with the standard required and the types of things to beware of. We always tend to fear the unknown, and it is very easy to blow imagined problems and shortcomings out of reasonable proportion.

One other important thing is, in the words of the NIKE ad, to just do it - make the commitment to go for it, in time for 1998. It is worth the effort. It's an achievement to be proud of to become an exhibiting member, and taking part in a major exhibition is terrific fun.

Over the past few years the membership of the Association has changed. There used to be a higher proportion of members who were exhibiting members. Some older members cite this change in the makeup of the Association as a reason for their lack of involvement; 'It's not like it used to be ...'.

But voluntary associations are, in a sense, ruled by gravity. The weight of numbers always threatens to pull them a certain way, and if you want them to go another way, you have to be prepared to get in and apply a bit of force to overcome that gravity.

If you can't be bothered doing that, you can't really complain about what happens. This is the perennial problem of every organisation from a tennis club to a democracy.

I personally value this Association. I enjoy tremendously being part of a woodworking fraternity. I particularly enjoy being a part of a group with such a strong commitment to excellence.

I value the friendships I have with fellow woodworkers all over the state. I unashamelely use these people when I need to, phoning for advice whenever I run into a problem.

I love to have a yarn, finding out what they are up to, what they are working on, swapping information and having a bit of a whinge about bloody money, and so on.

I don't forget that it is this Association that has made this possible.

So if you haven't been to a meeting for a while, how about making the effort next time?

Family Forest Fair

The Fair held at Cumberland State Forest on March 23rd was enjoyed by all concerned.

Judging by the reaction of most of the children who tried hand planing at our display, it was their first such experience but probably not their last. Their faces positively beamed as they achieved wonderful results with their own hands - with only a little guidance and the help of some well-tuned tools - and were then allowed to take home the fruits of their labour.

The Association was subsequently officially thanked by State Forests for our attendance. The efforts of all members involved in the exercise were appreciated.



Really? ... Wow!

Behind The Name

Ken Hill, from Royal Botanic Gardens in Sydney was the guest speaker at our April meeting. Ken's work involves the study, classification and naming of plants. His presentation included his work on the recently discovered Wollemi Pine, the study of eucalypts leading to the transfer of many species to the new *Corymbia* genus, and the reasons for renaming plants.

WOLLEMI PINE

The Wollemi Pine was discovered around Christmas 1994 in the Wollemi National Park by David Noble, a ranger with NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. There are about 30 plants growing in two stands, about 1 kilometer apart, in one canyon of the National Park. Amongst Coachwood and Sassafras they grow through the normal canopy to about 40m (130 ft) with trunks of a metre in diameter. The tree copices from root level with as many as 60 stems, the bark looks like "Coco Pops" and is unusual in that it is living.

Other unusual features include the foliage. The juvenile foliage is fern-like, which matures into primary branches, flower, seed then fall off, after which there is a different growth epicormic from the trunk.

The wood is very pale in colour, light weight with clearly defined darker growth rings.

It wasn't long after seeing the first specimens that Ken Hill and colleagues realised that this was different. Examination showed similarities with an *Araucaria*, the Monkey Puzzle Pine from Chile. Further examination under electron microscope showed similarities in the leaves to *Araucaria* and *Agathis* but not the same.

The tree has been classified in *Araucariaceae* family with its own genus of *Wollemia* and species of *nobilis*, after the discoverer.

The Botanic Gardens are propagating from seedlings, seeds and cuttings of which cuttings has been the most successful.

BLOODWOODS

The Botanic Gardens is the centre for Eucalypt research and Ken Hill has been involved in the recent study of the Bloodwoods.

In 1972 there was a proposal to split the *Eucalyptus* Genus into several different Genera; it didn't happen. Now the Bloodwoods have been relocated from the *Eucalyptus* Genus to the new Genus of *Corymbia*. There are 113 in the group (leaving about 700 in *Eucalyptus*) and they include Bloodwoods, Spotted Gums, Ghost Gums. Most have urn-shaped fruit and most have scaly-tesselated bark which is red underneath. The links common to all *Corymbia* are :

- Complex vein structure in the leaves
- Oil gland structure
- Compound inflorescences

All the *Corymbia* have been described in "Telopea" Vol. 6 (2-3), Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney.

NAME CHANGES

Name changes are the result of ongoing study into classification of plants. Some names are changed because they don't fit the description of the original Type. Others may have been sub-species but are now considered a species on their own, while others are changed from one genus to another. The study is very complex and detailed enough to require the use of the electron microscope.

Judging by the barrage of questions which followed, I would say the group thoroughly enjoyed the informative presentation. Many thanks to Ken Hill.

This summary was kindly provided by Jim Davey.

1996 TIMBER & WORKING WITH WOOD SHOW

As has occurred in previous years, the Association will have a stand at the Show to promote fine woodworking generally and the Association in particular. I will be posting a list of times and dates available for those who would like to volunteer for a morning or afternoon slot on the stand.

At the same time, we are looking for individuals who would be interested in joining a small sub-committee which will be organising the stand and hopefully coming up with some new ideas for the stand's presentation.

Anyone who feels they have a piece of work - either in progress or completed - or a skill they would like to share is also encouraged to join us at some stage over the weekend of the show.

Anyone unable to attend the June meeting who is interested in the above can leave a message on (02) 640 7848

Thanks

Karen Miles

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1994

STATEMENT of PROFIT & LOSS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1995

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1994		STATEMENT of PROFIT & LOSS		YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1995	
6,540.00		INCOME: GENERAL:	SUBSCRIPTIONS	6,280.00	
50.00			ADVERTISING	100.00	
0.00			SALE OF POSTERS	55.00	
0.30			SALE OF VENEERS	100.00	
4.50	6,594.50		SUNDRIES	193.49	6,728.49
-----				-----	
0.00		EXHIBITION:	EXHIBITORS' FEES	2,400.00	
0.00			ENTRY FEES & NET SALES	0.00	
0.00			SPONSORS	3,600.00	
3.71			INTEREST	0.00	
0.00	3.71		SUNDRY - Catalogues	286.35	6,286.35
-----				-----	
	6,698.21	TOTAL INCOME:			13,014.84
-----				-----	
231.65		EXPENSES: GENERAL:	BANK CHARGES	226.79	
0.00			BANNER	350.00	
2,020.00			DEPRECIATION	2,020.00	
100.00			DONATION & GIFTS	15.00	
670.55			INSURANCES	675.55	
237.89			MEETINGS	371.12	
3,653.45			NEWSLETTERS	4,228.27	
0.00			POSTAGE & COURIERS	39.92	
0.00			PRINTING & STATIONERY	31.95	
280.00			SUBSCRIPTIONS	238.00	
609.30			WORKING WITH WOOD SHOW	246.50	
83.75	7,886.59		SUNDRIES	93.22	8,593.32
-----				-----	
0.00		EXHIBITION:	HIRE OF VENUE	1,350.00	
0.00			OPENING FUNCTION	329.44	
500.00			ORGANISER'S FEES	0.00	
500.00			PHOTOGRAPHY	96.61	
7.15			POSTAGE & COURIERS	12.50	
0.00	1,007.15		PRINTING & STATIONERY	2,992.00	5,683.55
-----				-----	
	8,893.74	TOTAL EXPENSES:			14,276.87
-----				-----	
	(2,195.53)	NET LOSS:			(1,262.03)
=====				=====	

BALANCE SHEET

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1994

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1995

5,612.28	ACCUMULATED PROFITS AS AT 1 JANUARY	3,416.75
(2,195.53)	NET LOSS	(1,262.03)
3,416.75	ACCUMULATED PROFITS AS AT 31 DECEMBER	2,154.72
THIS AMOUNT IS REPRESENTED BY:		
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:		
6,059.00	COMPUTER	6,059.00
(3,871.00) 2,188.00	LESS: PROVISION FOR DEPRECIATION	(3,391.00) 168.00
CURRENT ASSETS:		
1,962.25	CASH AT BANK	2,430.22
226.50 2,188.75	WITHHOLDING TAX	226.50 2,656.72
4,376.75	TOTAL ASSETS:	2,824.72
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
960.00	SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID IN ADVANCE	670.00
960.00	TOTAL LIABILITIES:	670.00
3,416.75	NET ASSETS:	2,154.72

Opportunities

Artspace invites proposals from independent groups and organisations. Artspace, 43-51 Cowper Wharf Road, Woolloomooloo 2011. Contact Nick Tsoutas on (02) 368 1899.

DARC - Eco design Display and Research Centre are inviting craftworkers to submit proposals for exhibitions. Contact Marianne Cini on (02) 555 9412.

The Rocks Markets is calling for expressions of interest from experienced crafts people. Contact John Klein, GM, PO Box N408, Grosvenor Place, Sydney, NSW 2000.

Australian Crafts to Germany - LPF Langer Marketing is planning to establish a new Australian art and craft direct marketing business in Germany. Expressions of interest from artists in any media whose work is distinctly Australian are particularly sought. Contact Lars Langer, 13 'The Breakwater', Corlette NSW 2315. Phone (049) 84 9144 or fax (049) 84 9146.

Teachers. Waverley Woollahra Arts Centre is looking for expressions of interest from teachers to expand their range of classes. Phone (02) 564 3869.



- 21.06.1996 Applications close for
"Warburton Woodfest Woodwork Competition"
 Enquiries : Robert Zubin
 PO Box 248 Yarra Junction VIC 3797
 Ph: (059) 67 5207 Fax: (059) 67 1764
- 30.06.1996 Applications close for
"Icons for an Australian Republic Competition"
 Enquiries : Keryn Byrne
 Riddell Exhibition Promotions
 Tel: (02) 565 1099 Fax: (02) 712 5628
- 17.09.1996 Applications close for
 14th annual Woodcraft Guild of the ACT Exhibition
"Treasures in Timber"
 Enquiries : PO Box 1411, Woden ACT 2606
- 30.09.1996 Applications close for
"Toys That Teach Competition"
 Enquiries : Keryn Byrne
 Riddell Exhibition Promotions
 Tel: (02) 565 1099 Fax: (02) 712 5628

BOOK REVIEWS

by Richard Vaughan

If you've got a garden there's room for more pleasure than just round the flowers and the barbeque. These three books are intended to add to your enjoyment of the garden. I'll save the best for last.

One limitation of all three books is that the information on the wildlife, the timber and, to a lesser extent the tools and the hardware, may be very useful in North America but it is not useful here. So you would consider buying any of them on the appeal of the ideas they offer for making interesting projects. I'll address the Australian requirement after the reviews.

Super Simple Birdhouses You Can Make. Charles R Self. Sterling 1995. 128 pp. \$16.95

Simply put 'Super Simple Birdhouses' is not worth bothering with. The projects are a collection of very minor variations on 4 walls nailed together (one with a hole drilled in it) plus a base and a roof. Boring. The black and white photos, none in colour, are hazy and not even instructive really. Furthermore, the constant specifying of brand names in text and photos is irritating. Maybe he'll make money out of this catalogue aspect but he sure doesn't deserve to out of the book.

The Birdhouse Book **How to build fanciful bird houses and** **feeders from the purely practical to the** **absolutely outrageous.**

Bruce Woods and David Schoomaker.
Sterling 1996. 128 pp. \$24.95

The 'Bird House Book' is much more fun. The projects certainly are fanciful and are probably more about decorating your house than being first home choice for birds.

The degree of colourful and cute detailing seems more appropriate to a dollhouse than a birdnest and in fact quite a few are photographed in a house rather than on a tree. Fun and hefty puns are the essence. For example "Ma Bill's basic black unit will get a lot of use (especially during 'beak' calling hours)". 'The Cuckoo Condo' is of course a clock, complete with pine cone pendulum weights, and there's a 50's style 'Fly by Night Motel'.

I wonder how the maker would feel at the first sight of Nature's call being answered on one of these pieces.

There's little doubt they'd be diverting to make and be colourful round the house, but they're not really for the birds. There are guidelines on such practical aspects as siting,

predator barriers and dimensions for various species but the book is much more about making showpieces on a birdhouse theme. And what's wrong with that?

Beastly Abodes - **Homes for birds, bats, butterflies and other** **backyard wildlife.**

Bobbe Needham. Sterling/Lark 1995. 144 pp.
\$34.95

This book zings with delight at the prospect of offering hospitality to families of fascinating creatures, of adding life to your home's life. The wonderful variety of abodes appeals. They're not complicated but do have imagination and visual appeal. The text is informative and affectionately conversational about the critters. The many excellent colour photos of the abodes and the beasts readily inspire you to get to it, even if you've never previously considered any more than a token and probably grubby bird bath in the yard.

You can make thoroughly delightful projects which give fun in the making, pleasure when installed as well as ongoing interest for you, the kids, and your friends. You'll also get satisfaction at inviting in happy replacements for gardening poisons.

Incidentally, have you seen the Frogs exhibition at the Museum of Sydney? It could refresh your childhood sense of wonder, or perhaps memories like :

"AAAK! You get those filthy things out of this house this instant. Do you hear me?!"

"Aaw Mum. But they're my Friends"

In any case 'Beastly Abodes' is a lovely book to have, to just enjoy or to invite you into new ways of enjoying your workshop and your garden.

For information on Australian backyard inhabitants I contacted Taronga Zoo Education centre on (02) 9969 2455. They were very helpful and recommended "

'Guide to the Care of Urban Wildlife'
by Erna Walraven (she works at the zoo). Allen & Unwin;

'Urban Wildlife in NSW' by John Pastorelli. Angus and Robertson 1990;

'Garden Birds in Australia and New Zealand' by Clifford Frith. Doubleday.

The Zoo has a fact sheet on possum boxes and their bookshop is certainly worth a browse. There are also various societies such as WIRES, as well as specific groups for birds and bats who are happy to help you be a good neighbour on the planet.

BOOK REVIEWS

by Richard Vaughan



Essential Shaker Style

Tessa Everleigh. Ward Lock 1995. 95pp \$29.95

While the Shakers flourished, the refined aesthetic of the items they designed and produced for use in their communities was widely appreciated. Very few if any Shakers are now alive but the simplicity, elegance and functionalism of their designs have been enjoying increasing admiration and inevitably emulation and exploitation.

This book offers ideas for incorporating the distinctive appearance of Shaker work into modern homes, without making museum settings. The overall impression is of a collection of feature articles from the homemaker / interior design section of a wide circulation women's magazine.

After a dozen pages of the historical background and ethos of the Shakers there is a seven page chapter entitled "The Six Essential Elements of the Shaker Style" with a paragraph or so on colour palette, fabrics, woodwork, furniture, storage and accessories. There follow six pages on the various living areas of the home. These are generously illustrated with handsome photos of authentic Shaker interiors as well as of contemporary interpretations. The accompanying text is informative though it didn't really need the constant assertions of being true to the spirit of Mother Ann Lee or the brethren.

Each chapter concludes with projects, generally fabric based, including an applied heart cushion, lavender cachet and a herbal wreath. The instructions are concise and well illustrated by clear line drawings.

Most of the photographs of the authentic Shaker settings are the work of Michael Freeman and appeared in "Shaker, Life Work and Art" (published 1987) for which they were commissioned. Anyone wanting an authoritative, probably definitive book on this remarkable Utopian society should look at it, or better still possess "Shaker". One of that book's authors, June Sprigg, worked with them for 15 years, and the some 200 natural light photos by Freeman are simply glorious.

Familiarity with the Shakers inspirational work with wood is essential to the ideas bank of anyone designing and/or making furniture. "Essential Shaker Style" offers an affordable sample of some of these ideas.

Essential Scandinavian Style

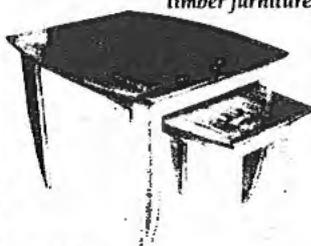
Rosalind Burdett. Ward Lock 1995. 95pp \$29.95

"Essential Scandinavian Style follows the same format as Shaker Style and is also by an author with a background in homemaker magazine journalism but it is less appealing. This is due to its feeling much more like a collection of skimmable magazine articles than a gathering of essence. This is due largely to the folly of attempting to capture the essence of the style of five very distinct countries over three stylistic periods in a book with less pages than most of the magazines Burdett has written for.

The photographs are pretty enough but have the undistinguished familiarity of so many furniture and furnishing catalogues. You'd probably get more visual stimulation and at least as much sense of "Scandinavian style" from an Ikea catalogue.

The Table Shop
at Coogee

Look no further for innovative uniquely designed timber furniture



Winter Special
Matching Mirror With any Table Purchased

We design and make elegant Tables, Desks and Mirrors that are in harmony with the natural beauty of Australian timber

Visit The Table Shop at Coogee

173 Arden Street, Coogee Beach.
Tel: 665 4381 Mobile: 0418-215-992
(Cnr Dolphin Street roundabout)

Open Weekends 10-4

I earn my living as a furniture designer/maker and have a small shop trading as "The Table Shop at Coogee". I have been thinking for some time to increase the variety of woodwork on display there.

I would like to hear from other members who would be interested in placing their work in our shop on a consignment basis. I am especially interested in hearing from makers of smaller items such as bowls, trays or plaques.

Please call me, **Andrzej Kosmider**, at my workshop on (02) 398 2969.

HUON PINE MAKES GOOD FIREWOOD: A NOTE ON SUPPLY

Story by Fred Blake

The fading light of a wet dusk did not conceal the warm yellow newly cut surface of an old grey log. Huon pine! The log was lying with several others, just above the water line, on a shore of Lake Burbury, near Strahan, western Tasmania. Discussion with a nearby encamped fisherman revealed that the timber is not allowed to be removed from the Hydro-Electric Commission controlled land around the lake, but it could be used for firewood. And it made good firewood too, presumably because of the oil content.

Well, you can imagine the initial disbelief and concern of a mainland wood carver who reveres this lovely pine wood. A visit to the Strahan office of Forestry Tasmania, and subsequent phone enquiries, clarified the situation somewhat. The abandoned logs are in fact available to the public if they want to collect them, providing a craft or one-tonne licence is obtained.

Forestry Tasmania is now more attuned to salvaging available timber - some of you will remember a bulldozer driver from Tasmania visiting one of our meetings a couple of years ago, offering a container load of Huon pine salvaged from the same Lake Burbury, before it filled. Brochures obtained from Forestry Tasmania present their current attitude to Huon pine, and the following information is taken from this source.

Originally only the biggest and best Huon trees were taken, by hand felling. As mechanisation occurred, by the 1960's and 70's the operations resulted in forestry damage not now acceptable. From the late 1970's until recently, the main source of Huon pine was as salvaged from the hydro-electric water storages on the west coast. These are now excluded by their inclusion in World Heritage Areas. The Teepookana Plateau, 10km east of Strahan, and outside the Heritage Area, has been logged for Huon pine since the late 1800's, up until 1987. The area still holds mature trees, but has stumps, tops, and fallen logs ("downers") left lying in the dense undergrowth. This timber, like that found on the shores of Lake Burbury, remains in fine preserved condition. The remaining timber in the forest is now worth millions of dollars, and Forestry Tasmania estimates that at present levels of use, there is enough Huon pine on the ground at Teepookana to last until late into the 21st century.

Guided tours of a demonstration area of working forest can be taken by anyone lucky enough to be in the Strahan area - details available from the Strahan Wharf or the Strahan office of Forestry Tasmania (004-71.7176). Or you can drive yourself to the area, along the King River (badly damaged by tailings from the Mt. Lyell Copper Mine 25km upstream) to a parking area 3km from the demonstration forest. You are advised to visit the Strahan Wharf Centre first.



Forestry Tasmania
GROWING OUR FUTURE

Tassie's Trees



Huon pine *Lagarostrobos franklinii*



Tassie's Trees

Huon pine *Lagarostrobos franklinii*

Millions of years ago the earliest trees to evolve included some of the native conifers, such as the genera *Lagarostrobos* (represented today by Huon pine), *Phyllocladus* (represented by celery-top pine) and *Athrotaxis* (represented by pencil pine and King Billy pine). Huon pine is in the family Podocarpaceae, the first pollen records of which date back 135 million years.

Huon pine reaches a great age: trees over 2000 years old have been dated, placing the species among the longest lived organisms on earth. Some specimens, still growing, could be over 5000 years old.

Huon pine is easily recognised by its feathery foliage and drooping branches; it is similar in appearance to the common cypress.

Huon pine produces pollen and seeds in small, inconspicuous cones with male and female cones on separate trees. The species commonly regenerates vegetatively from fallen stems which produce new upright shoots along their length, and possibly also from small branchlets broken from tree crowns. Seedling regeneration of Huon pine does occur, but is less common than vegetative reproduction.

Distribution is restricted to west and south-west Tasmania where it occurs along river banks and in scattered other wetter patches.

Huon pine is commonly associated with rainforest trees such as myrtle, leathervood, sassafras, celery-top pine and blackwood.

In its natural state, Huon pine grows to 20 or 30 metres high, and some trees may reach 40 metres. When growing near rivers it is often a scruffy looking tree covered in lichens with branches overhanging the water. Huon pine is found only in rainforest, although in some cases the 'rainforest' may only be a narrow margin, a few metres wide, on a river bank.

Huon pine was the first of Tasmania's conifers to be commercially exploited, particularly for shipbuilding and furniture making. As early as 1815 major river valleys of western Tasmania were explored for this species, and the notorious convict settlement on Sarah Island in Macquarie Harbour (1822-1833) was founded largely to exploit the pine resources of the lower Gordon and King River valleys.

Huon pine has remained the most prized rainforest timber.

The timber itself is a mellow, fine-textured wood with a characteristic, pleasant fragrance. It seasons readily, has a low shrinkage, is soft and easily worked; is light in weight and has good nail-holding properties.

These, together with its stability and high resistance to attack by rot and marine organisms, have earned Huon pine a high regard as a shipbuilding material. It is also highly prized for furniture making, joinery, turning and the craftwood industry.

The durability of the wood is due to the presence of an essential oil which gives Huon pine its unique odour. The oil can represent as much as seven per cent by weight of the wood and can be extracted by steam distillation.

Most Huon pine stands are not easily accessible; most are on the west coast. However, you can see Huon pine at the Tahune Forest Reserve near Geeveston in the south; the Teepookana Forest Reserve and the Heritage Landing on the Gordon River on the west coast; and near Newall Creek on the Mount Jukes Road south of Queenstown.

For further information about this and other Tasmanian trees, see *Native Trees of Tasmania* by Kirkpatrick and Backhouse and for the location of places mentioned contact any Forestry Tasmania office.



Compiled 1995
Printed on Recycled Paper

Two Giant Blue-gums.

Michael Bogle

It isn't easy to add any new information about the use of furniture timber in Tasmania to the exhaustive survey found in Fahy and Simpson's Nineteenth Century Australian Furniture. But during a recent visit to the State Library of Tasmania, Hobart, this researcher found some oblique references to Tasmanian timber that may interest Newsletter readers.

The catalogue for the Great Exhibition of 1851 in London in the State Library of Tasmania illustrates how anxious the islanders were to bring their timber resources to the attention of international timber merchants.¹ Van Diemen's Land could offer "blue gum timber equal to oak as a shipbuilding timber" as well as wood described as stringy bark, blackwood, sassafras, myrtle, muskwood, Huon pine, he-oak veneer, (*C. stricta*), two veneers of the native cherry tree (*Exocarpus cupressiformis*), veneers of Tasmanian honeysuckle tree (*B. Australis*) and so on.

But Van Diemen's Land had another timber entry for London's 1851 Crystal Palace but the sample arrived too late for exhibition. In a report prepared in 1855, an anonymous public servant notes that a plank of blue gum 145 feet long, 20 inches wide and 6 inches thick had been prepared for London but it was so large that it proved difficult to find a ship to carry it. By the time a vessel was found, the sawn plank arrived in Britain too late to exhibit.²

When the 1855 Paris exhibition was announced, the colony's foresters were determined to exceed their 1851 record and felled another giant blue-gum in order to saw out a single plank 160 feet long x 20 inches wide and 6 inches thick. It was destined for shipment to Europe.³ Many unusual timbers from Van Diemen's Land were also consigned to *le Jardin des Plantes* (the French Botanical Gardens) following the exhibition. The intense effort to fell and prepare the second blue-gum plank also proved to no purpose. It also arrived too late for the Parisians to exhibit.

In 1855, the island's colonists considered their blue-gums to be the world's largest trees and avidly sought to exploit their novelty. In the 1850's, the news of California's giant sequoias had not been widely circulated. By the 1860's, however, parties of tourists were visiting the Yosemite Valley, California groves. Even Hobart's well travelled widow Lady Franklin, the wife of the late (and lost ...) arctic explorer and former colonial governor, Sir John Franklin, had a novel luncheon atop a giant sequoia stump.⁴

The international search for Big Trees became obsessive. In Victoria, during the Centennial fervor, the surveyor George Cornthwaite found a mountain ash in Gippsland which he optically measured at 366 feet standing. Australia was back in the contest for the world's tallest tree. But to verify his measurement the surveyor felled the record-breaking forest giant. It carried the contest at 373 feet.⁵ The current "World's Tallest Tree" (a California sequoia) is 364 feet.

To return to the tardy Tasmanian blue-gums, one cannot help but wonder to what ultimate use these magnificent specimens of sawn timber were put? Fence palings? Furniture? Firewood for the European winter? But given the wood's hardness and durability and its monetary value in the 19th century, it seems certain that somewhere in Paris there is a part of France that is forever Australian.

¹ Official Catalogue of the Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of All Nations. Spicer Brothers, London, 1851.

² Contributions from Tasmania to Paris. 1855. Best Printers. Daily Courier Office, Hobart, 1855.

³ *ibid.*

⁴ Schama, Simon. Landscape and Memory. Knopf, 1995, p.190.

⁵ Bonyhady, Tim. "The Giant Killers." Sydney Morning Herald, 3rd February 1996.

Floored by BAMBOO!

At the recent Sydney Home Show my attention was drawn by a new texture which turned out to be bamboo flooring. The marketers, PLYBOO AUSTRALIA, provided some product information which I'll bring along to the next meeting.

The CSIRO Product Evaluation Report description follows:

The flooring is fabricated from seasoned strips of bamboo 20mm x 5m thick. The strips are glued in three layers with the middle layer offset from the top and bottom layers. The boards are supplied with a tongue and groove on opposing edges and ends (to allow for end joining). The finished size is 90mm wide x 15mm thick x 900mm long.

Because this bamboo product comes from China, the marketers assured me that no giant panda has gone hungry as a result of this alternative use. This material might just provide that 'look' you are after on your next job. To find out more, contact the marketers, PLYBOO AUSTRALIA, on (02) 380 6680, or fax (02) 380 6840.

PRODUCING CURVED & SHAPED WORK

At our February meeting, Alan Perry, Head of the Cabinetmaking Section at Lidcombe TAFE, gave another well prepared presentation on a number of methods of shaping wood.

1) **Cutting out From Solid Wood** - this method results in short grain appearing at each end.

2) **Preforming Components** - using an uneven number of pieces of veneer, with alternating directions of grain, glued and held in formers to shape while setting.

For gluing, urea formaldehyde is normally used as it sets hard; PVA's can also be used but they allow more creep.

3) **Postforming Components** - gluing 2 pieces of plywood or MDF (Medium Density Fibreboard, also called Craftwood).

4) **Laminating** - grain all in the same direction, giving a better look to the edge. Laminating is not using veneers, but pieces of timber, which is a nicer way of doing a shape. Best Method: Cut 6 - 7 pieces of wood from the same piece of timber, replace in the same order exactly, without reversing the centre piece (which is often recommended). A little springback occurs. Secret is in selection of timber, which must be quarter cut, or it will move everywhere.

5) **Steam Bending** - a steam box that is easily fabricated was displayed by Alan.

Comments he made on the method:

- the unit takes about one hour to boil, then 3/4 hour to come to full steam readiness, and then a steaming time of 1 hour per 25mm of wood thickness;
- the steamed wood remains plastic for only 30 - 60 seconds;
- need to overcorrect the shaping a little, and experiment with each particular wood;
- wood thickness which can be bent: 9 - 30mm;
- use of a metal strap (eg. maling or packaging) around the outside of a tightly bent piece of wood helps, holding the fibres together. Two blocks are used at each end of the piece of wood to be bent to retain and stabilise it;
- to gain even tighter curves, resteam and repeat the process;
- best timber for steam bending: European beech; best Australian timbers: Alan is to provide a list;

6) **Saw Kerfing** - can get flexible MDF already saw kerfed (sheet size 900mm x 600mm).

Alan then lead into the use of "PERFECTA PLYWOOD", the product previously previewed in this newsletter.

John Waters of John Waters Industries Pty Ltd and his assistant, Rob Bowman, described this new "Perform" 3 ply wood. This product, which comes from Canada, bends easily into required shapes. It comes in 5mm (5cm bending radius) and 8mm (10cm bending radius) thicknesses, in sheets measuring 2400mm x 1220mm. Glue choice is waterproof or water resistant. Double lamination (using two sections of the product) using fast setting PVA produces a strong and solid form. Cylindrical forms and tapered columns are easily fabricated with this method.

A veneer can be applied, and there is a Flexi-veneer which can be bent around a pencil. No Australian veneers are yet available in the range.

John makes the unhappy point that 35 years ago, while he was training, 80% of our furniture was made in Australia, Now 80% is imported, and only 20% is made here.

John Waters Industries Pty Ltd are at
31 Prime Drive
Seven Hills NSW 2147
Telephone : (02) 674 3600.

Thanks again to Alan for another informative technical presentation.

This summary was kindly provided by Fred Blake.

Postscript. Another neat product from John Waters Industries is a lightweight flexible concrete sheeting called "Uniflex". It also is constructed with a flexible centre layer sandwiched between outer layers of "flexible" concrete.

"Uniflex" was on display at the Interior Designex 96, and with only a light timber frame was fashioned into a large column which looked like it had been poured on site and weighed many tonnes. In fact of course it was hollow, but surprisingly rigid and knock-tolerant. Apparently, "Uniflex" is flavour of the month with shopfitters.



For the first time, the Association will have a stand at this Show to promote fine woodworking generally and the Association in particular. I will be posting a list of times and dates available for those who would like to volunteer for a morning or afternoon slot on the stand.

At the same time, we are looking for individuals who would be interested in joining a small sub-committee which will be organising the stands and hopefully coming up with some new ideas for stand presentation.

Anyone who feels they have a piece of work - either in progress or completed - or a skill they would like to share is also encouraged to join us at some stage over the time of the show.

Anyone unable to attend the June meeting who is interested in the above can leave a message on (02) 640 7848

Thanks

Karen Miles

Diary

MAY

- 7 - June 28 "Turning The Elements"**
Works by Stephen Hughes and Margaret Salt
Bungendore Woodworks Gallery
Kings Highway, Bungendore NSW
Enquiries : (06) 238 1682
- 10 - June 4 Ceramics and Paintings - Recent Works**
by Prue Venables and Thornton Walker
Beaver Galleries
81 Denison Street, Deakin ACT
Enquiries : (06) 282 5294
- 10 - June 9**
THE BOX AS CONTAINER
Works by an invited group of designer-makers
CSA Wood Workshop
Ellery Crescent, Acton, ACT
Enquiries : (06) 249 5841
- 23 - June 16 ensemble : an exhibition by**
Union Street Ceramic Studios
Craftspace, 88 George Street
The Rocks, Sydney NSW
Enquiries : (02) 247 9126
- 24 - 26 Brisbane Timber & Working With**
Wood Show
RNA Showground, Brisbane QLD
Enquiries : Riddell Exhibition Promotions
(02) 712 5623
- 25 - June 2 National Woodturning Exhibition**
Waratah Room, Nunawading Arts Centre
Maroondah Highway, Nunawading VIC
Enquiries : Ted Anderson (03) 9874 7365
- 26 - June 16**
Ian Jones - Ceramics
Sturt Galleries
Range Road, Mittagong NSW
Enquiries : (048) 602 083
- 27 - June 23**
VWA Living With Wood Exhibition
Meat Market Craft Centre Main Hall
Melbourne VIC
Enquiries : Jane La Scala (03) 9497 1916
Jeremy Watson (03) 9387 7135
- 30 - June 2**
International Arts, Crafts & Hobby Expo
Caulfield Racecourse Exhibition Centre
Station Street, Caulfield VIC
Enquiries : Craft Update Promotions (03) 9751 1901
or fax (03) 9751 1383

JUNE

- May 7 - June 28 "Turning The Elements"**
Works by Stephen Hughes and Margaret Salt
Bungendore Woodworks Gallery
Kings Highway, Bungendore NSW
Enquiries : (06) 238 1682

Is YOUR event listed here?

It will be for free if you just drop a line to the Editor - see address on page 2 of this newsletter.

If ANY reader could please let the editor know about OTHER woodie happenings in other parts of this great country, please share it with our readers.

JUNE

- May 10 - June 4 Ceramics and Paintings - Recent Works**
by Prue Venables and Thornton Walker
Beaver Galleries
81 Denison Street, Deakin ACT
Enquiries : (06) 282 5294
- May 10 - June 9**
THE BOX AS CONTAINER
Works by an invited group of designer-makers
CSA Wood Workshop
Ellery Crescent, Acton, ACT
Enquiries : (06) 249 5841
- May 23 - June 16 ensemble : an exhibition by**
Union Street Ceramic Studios
Craftspace, 88 George Street
The Rocks, Sydney NSW
Enquiries : (02) 247 9126
- May 25 - June 2 National Woodturning Exhibition**
Waratah Room, Nunawading Arts Centre
Maroondah Highway, Nunawading VIC
Enquiries : Ted Anderson (03) 9874 7365
- May 26 - June 16**
Ian Jones - Ceramics
Sturt Galleries
Range Road, Mittagong NSW
Enquiries : (048) 602 083
- May 27 - June 23**
VWA Living With Wood Exhibition
Meat Market Craft Centre Main Hall
Melbourne VIC
Enquiries : Jane La Scala (03) 9497 1916
Jeremy Watson (03) 9387 7135
- May 30 - June 2**
International Arts, Crafts & Hobby Expo
Caulfield Racecourse Exhibition Centre
Station Street, Caulfield VIC
Enquiries : Craft Update Promotions (03) 9751 1901
or fax (03) 9751 1383
- 4 - 16**
The VWA Products
Wood pieces from the State Craft Collection
State Gallery, Meat Market Craft Centre
Melbourne VIC
Enquiries : Jane La Scala (03) 9497 1916
Jeremy Watson (03) 9387 7135
- 9 - 10 Wood and Woodturning Expo**
WAUCHOPE WOOD & TURNING SUPPLIES
(adjacent to Hastings Sand And Gravel Supplies)
Rocks Ferry Road, Wauchope NSW
Enquiries : David Hayes (065) 85 1200
- 16 - 18 'FOCUS ON FURNITURE'**
Furniture Industry Association
Victoria Quay Exhibition Centre, Fremantle WA
- 23 - July 14**
Ken Gilroy - Paintings
Sturt Galleries
Range Road, Mittagong NSW
Enquiries : (048) 602 083
- 30 - July 6**
McGregor Winter School
Toowoomba QLD
Enquiries : (076) 36 4000 or fax (076) 36 4888

Diary

JULY

June 30 - July 6

McGregor Winter School
Toowoomba QLD
Enquiries : (076) 36 4000 or fax (076) 36 4888

3 - 6 AWISA 96 (trade only)

Sydney Exhibition Centre
Darling Harbour, Sydney NSW

5 - 7 Woodwork Exhibition / Competition
John Paul College, Coffs Harbour NSW
Enquiries : (066) 52 5221 or
(066) 538481

6 - 14 Woodfest Woodwork Exhibition
Upper Yarra Arts & Entertainment Centre
Main Street, Warburton, VIC
Enquiries : Robert Zubin (059) 67 5207

12 - 14 Newcastle Woodworking and Crafts Expo 96
Enquiries : Terry Corcoran (049) 82 8579

18 - 21 Australian Women's Weekly
Sydney Craft & Art Fair 1996 + Quilts
Sydney Exhibition Centre
Darling Harbour, Sydney NSW
Enquiries : (02) 9977 0888

19 - 21 Sydney Timber & Working With
Wood Show
RAS Showground, Sydney NSW
Enquiries : Riddell Exhibition Promotions
(02) 712 5623

20 - 23 Melbourne Furniture Exhibition
Melbourne Exhibition Centre
Melbourne VIC

27 - August 30 "Dimensions"
Works by Chris and Judy Wilford
Bungendore Woodworks Gallery
Kings Highway, Bungendore NSW
Enquiries : (06) 238 1682

AUGUST

July 27 - August 30 "Dimensions"
Works by Chris and Judy Wilford
Bungendore Woodworks Gallery
Kings Highway, Bungendore NSW
Enquiries : (06) 238 1682

9 - 11 WA WOOD SHOW and
OUT OF THE WOODS Exhibition
Claremont Showgrounds, Perth WA

SEPTEMBER

12 - October 13
City of Perth Craft Award
Perth WA
Enquiries : Craftwest (09) 325 2799

14 - October 13
Meet The Makers - at Floriade
Canberra ACT
Enquiries : Steve Watson (06) 285 1186
or fax (06) 285 1796

23 - 25 Oberon Woodcraft Exhibition
Oberon NSW
Enquiries : Col Roberts (063) 361 002

OCTOBER

September 12 - October 13
City of Perth Craft Award
Perth WA

Enquiries : Craftwest (09) 325 2799

September 14 - October 13
Meet The Makers - at Floriade
Canberra ACT
Enquiries : Steve Watson (06) 285 1186
or fax (06) 285 1796

2 - 4 "Treasurers in Timber"
Woodcraft Guild of the ACT's 14th annual exhibition
School of Tourism and Hospitality
Canberra Institute of Technology
Constitution Avenue, Canberra ACT
Enquiries : PO Box 1411, Woden ACT 2606

18 - 20 Melbourne Timber & Working
With Wood Show
Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne VIC
Enquiries : Riddell Exhibition Promotions
(02) 712 5623

18 - 21 Australian Women's Weekly
Brisbane Craft & Art Fair 1996 + Quilts
Brisbane Exhibition Centre
South Bank, Brisbane QLD
Enquiries : (02) 9977 0888

31 - Nov 3 Adelaide Timber & Working
With Wood Show
Wayville Showgrounds, Adelaide SA
Enquiries : Kym Jones (08) 293 5377

NOVEMBER

Oct 31 - Nov 3 Adelaide Timber & Working
With Wood Show
Wayville Showgrounds, Adelaide SA
Enquiries : Kym Jones (08) 293 5377

19 - December 31 "New Turning"
Works by Richard Raffan and Terry Baker
Bungendore Woodworks Gallery
Kings Highway, Bungendore NSW
Enquiries : (06) 238 1682

21 - 24
International Arts, Crafts & Hobby Expo
State Sports Centre
Australia Street, Homebush NSW
Enquiries : Craft Update Promotions (03) 9751 1901
or fax (03) 9751 1383

DECEMBER

November 19 - December 31 "New Turning"
Works by Richard Raffan and Terry Baker
Bungendore Woodworks Gallery
Kings Highway, Bungendore NSW
Enquiries : (06) 238 1682

5 Regional Craft Award
Perth WA
Enquiries : Craftwest (09) 325 2799

JANUARY 1997

6 - 17 McGregor Summer School
Toowoomba QLD
Enquiries : (076) 36 4000 or fax (076) 36 4888

RECYCLE 100

new colours

**Bilby Brown
Brampton Blue
Nimbin Green
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**110
+
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Alexandria NSW 2015
PHONE (02) 699 8222
FAX (02) 698 3930

SERIOUS WOODWORKERS NEED SERIOUS PROTECTION. AN AIRLITE IS THE ANSWER.



- Compact powered anti-dust respirator.
- Keeps fresh filtered airflow over face.
- Impact resistant visor to protect eyes and face.
- 4 or 8 hour rechargeable battery pack.
- High capacity filter design.
- Lightweight.

For further information
call Racal Health & Safety
on 1800 803 086.



your name
here

Contact the editor for details of the reasonable rates to advertise in this bi-monthly newsletter.

Small items from members incur no charge.

Garrett wade



Upper level Queens Rd at William St
Five Dock (opposite the leisure centre)

Tel 02-744-3458
Orders 1-800-337736