



THE WOODPECKER

25th Year Celebration Luncheon

The day might have been Victoria's coldest April day in 25 years but those attending the club's 25th birthday luncheon had an excellent day.

The meal was excellent, the speeches short and the company most convivial.

The cake was inscribed with "Congratulations WoSP, 25 years of community service".

Those involved in the cutting of the cake were the Life Members:



Figure 1 L-R Bill Gorissen, Gordon Waddingham, Bert Bartlett, John Bayliss, Dennis Conner, Ron Higgins

Bill Gorissen joined the club in 2000 & like many others he loved working with wood and had different projects he wanted to complete for his home. In 2002 he joined the committee. As an electrician Bill was invaluable in maintaining the machinery and extending the wiring as the workshop grew. Bill was a popular member of the club and it was a shame when he had to retire from active service.

Gordon Waddingham joined the club in 2004 to learn wood turning from Jack Kane who was one of the club's foundation members. Being a skilled trade's person it was not long before he took over running the class. After a year he became a committee member and being a builder by trade organised the materials and assisted with the growth & many changes to the workshop and outside sheds.

Bert Bartlett is the club's longest serving member. Bert joined in 1998 and as a furniture maker in his life before retirement he promoted his passion for making toys for disadvantaged children. He has acted on the committee & is a past President. Bert is always cheerful & always looking for better ways to get things done.

John Bayliss joined the club in 2004 after being president of the Southern Peninsula Anglers club. He could see the club had a number of tradesmen prepared to make improvements but needed money to do it. Consequently John joined the committee in 2005 and soon the trade persons were advising what was needed & he set about finding the money for the materials required.

In 2009 John Bayliss became president. As the committee identified things to be done, John set about raising the money to do it. Over a period of time John approached the Lions Club, Rotary, Op Shops & the Bendigo Bank for funding. John is collaborative by nature and has used people's strengths to get things done.

Dennis Conner, 2005 Vice President for 11 years, was a Silent Achiever". For over 15 years Dennis has worked for the betterment of the club and its members. Dennis worked on numerous external projects to raise money for the club.

2001 Ron Higgins, past committee man who managed all the sausage sizzles at Bunnings. Ron is still a regular pen making demonstrator at various civic functions and remains the Monday night team leader.

Many thanks to Dennis Conner, John Bayliss, Councillor Antonella Celi & Betty Preston, the wife of one of the founding committeeman.

John provided a brief summary of the club's history & thanked the life members & all those who had helped with the growth of the club.

Councillor Celi expressed her pride & satisfaction in seeing her support has been well rewarded & Betty provided a little more insight into the struggles the early club members had to overcome.



Figure 2 Dennis Conner, John Bayliss, Betty Preston, Antonella Celi



It was excellent seeing so many members and their partners attending the birthday celebration. Apologies to anyone attending whose photo may have been missed.



Projects

Brian Young

No doubt Brian has a passion for laminated turning. His latest platters demonstrate his patience & skill in planning, design, turning & finishing. The designed patterns are enhanced by the use of contrasting timbers.

The pictures do not do justice to the real item. Each platter a thick red gum base laminated so that there is no end grain to finish. Consequently the polished base is a feature by itself although most people would not see it as they would be examining the cross, circle, & arrow features on the top of the platter.

It is a shame the club does not have a sales outlet for such high quality work. Some members have encouraged Brian to take a stall at the Red Hill Market. The obvious constraint is you would need a variety of items to make it worthwhile. You are encouraged to view the real article, not just the picture. Then perhaps you may consider purchasing one as a wedding present or other special occasion.



New Treasurer

At the last general meeting Peter Rodgers-Wilson was introduced as the new treasurer. The committee recognises that in having Jeff Killeen retire Peter will have a tough job of maintaining a high standard of reporting.

The committee & the club are very appreciative of the work Jeff carried out for the club. Jeff raised the bar in providing the committee a Balance Sheet & Profit & Loss Statement each month and always kept the committee well informed as to its financial status. In addition Jeff took on the role of managing the Bunnings BBQ's which as we all know is no easy activity. When wood became available from an estate Jeff & Scott Hanley both stepped up in bring the wood to the club and pricing it for sale. This activity alone would have raised almost \$2,000 for the club.



Jeff was always prepared to do a little bit more. If it was required to eyeball the minutes or a newsletter prior to being sent out he always volunteered to vet them. Thanks Jeff.

While Jeff is unable to serve on the committee it is great that he is not lost to the club. Many thanks Jeff for your contribution to the club.

Membership nears 100

Welcome to the following 2021 new members to WoSP. Gui Benevides, David Bevens, Allan Brookes, John Chapman, Peter Day, Steve Fraser, Ron Hannan, Alan R Smith & Karen Tender.



As the club nears a membership of 100 again, currently 97, it is interesting to note that 20% of the club members travel more than 25k to reach the club. This seems a rather large number as there would probably be other clubs closer to them. Whether these members have been attracted to the club by word of mouth, the website or Facebook does not really matter. However one would think WoSP would be able to attract more local members. So the committee encourages you to invite your neighbours to visit the club. If they do not have a project their help would be very appreciated on Wednesdays by the Toy Team.

Recent inspection of the membership shows that 93% have an email address. It was not all that long ago that the number was in the vicinity of the 70% mark. This is great for the club as at \$1 a stamp, a mailing of the newsletter each month would cost approx. \$100.

In further analyzing the demographic of the membership 73% are above the retirement age of 65 with 35% of that number being 75+. On the other hand 10% of the membership is less than 50. As popular as the club appears, it seems to missing out on the home handy man or the 9-5 demographic.

The club does provide Saturday mornings for the Monday to Friday 9-5 handy man but that message needs to filter further into the community. Should the committee further consider early evening classes in an effort to attract a younger age group? This could be a good discussion point for coffee time within sessions.

Please discuss & provide feedback.

Specialty Chisels Part 1

Initially new members wishing to learn about wood turning know nothing about the chisels so the club provides the basic set consisting of:

- Skew chisel, Roughing gouge, Spindle gouge, Bowl gouge, Parting tool

As the member becomes more experienced they will be tackle a variety of different projects eg pen making, bowls, spheres, containers, etc. Then the challenge becomes what other chisels are needed to complete the project.

The club recommends the wood turner becomes as independent as possible by purchasing their own equipment.

When learning anything you should aim to learn from the best so this article references Cindy Drozda, who is well known for her bowls, boxes & finials.

You can make some of these tools yourself. In some cases you can buy the shaft and turn the handle. Your priority of purchase depends on the type of work you undertake. However initial consideration should be given to negative scrapers & a hollow tool.

A negative scraper is a chisel with 2 bevels. Some negative rake scrapers have each bevel set at the same angle while others will be set at different angles. Their function is not aggressive but to take off very fine amounts of timber before sanding.

A square end negative scraper, 5° on top with $60^{\circ} - 70^{\circ}$ on bottom creating an included angle of $65^{\circ} - 75^{\circ}$. This is used on the inside of a box entrance where a straight edge is required. Generally the scraper is wider at the top than the bottom. Reference the picture to the right.

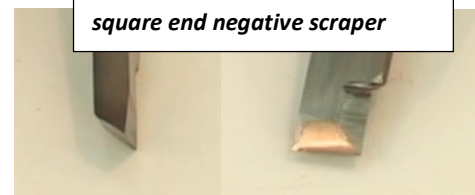
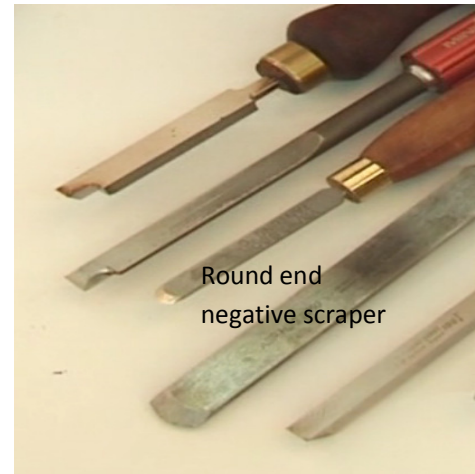
Round end & square end negative scrapers, are always useful.



Use the burr up for burls / side grain & down for end grain.

Depending on the type of hollowing required you can use a bowl gouge with a 65° bevel.

Alternatively the hollowing tool used by Cindy Drozda is a specifically shaped rounded negative scraper designed to undercut the mouth of a bowl or box.



Besides the chisels the club suggests you also acquire your own measuring tools, polishing & sanding supplies.

The tools to the right measure (1) the depth of a bowl wall, (2) the inside & outside thickness of tenons, tubes, forstner bits etc. (3) the depth of a bowl, (4) the angle of a chisel bevel.

Next month will feature other speciality tools and polishing & sanding supplies a member should consider purchasing.



Snippets & Offcuts

Club Improvements

The 20" thicknesser is now operational as is the brake on the large band saw.

As a safety requirement the brake has been outstanding for a long time so it is great that an appropriate solution has been found.

Optus / Telstra

Have you noticed that if you have a mobile with Telstra as the service provider then your phone does not ring if a person with an Optus service provider tries to contact you?

Football Sweep

Congratulations to Lynne Higgins who conducts the football sweep each year. In fact it is understood she has been running the sweep for 13 years. The prizes are excellent. Hopefully you were able to join this year.

Dust Extractor Noise Level

It was interesting taking the decibel measurement of the noise level within & outside the club.

Inside the club the bench saw & a lathe were being used. The outside measurement within 10 feet of the dust extractor ranged from 55-60.

Outside by the fence the range was 57-67 but included people talking. Inside the club the decibel rating was higher ranging 68-83. Thankfully the club had the sound buffer installed. Nevertheless WoSP recommends members use their own ear muffs to avoid any damage to their ears.

My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary.

She said, "I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 150 in about 3 seconds."

I bought her a bathroom scale.

And then the fight started.....

Saturday morning I got up early, quietly dressed, made my lunch, and slipped quietly into the garage. I hooked up the boat up to the van and proceeded to back out into a torrential downpour. The wind was blowing 50mph, so I pulled back into the garage, turned on the radio, and discovered that the weather would be bad all day.

I went back into the house, quietly undressed, and slipped back into bed. I cuddled up to my wife's back; now with a different anticipation, and whispered, "The weather out there is terrible."

My loving wife of 5 years replied, "And, can you believe my stupid husband is out fishing in that?"

And that's how the fight started....

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