

**ILLAWARRA WOODWORKERS
GROUP INCORPORATED
PO Box 121 Corrimal NSW 2518**

MARCH 2009 NEWSLETTER

President	David Lipscombe	Oak Flats	
Vice-president	Tony Sirotich	Figtree	
Secretary	Mal Stewart	Thirroul	
Treasurer	William Perry	Cordeaux Heights	
Coordinator 1	Ric Funnell	Fairy Meadow	
Coordinator 2	Ken Smith	Thirroul	
Public Officer	John Parker	Corrimal	
Librarian	Ken Smith	Thirroul	
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Events Coming Up

11 March 5.30pm Committee, 7pm Club Meeting

Supper Roster: John McMahon and Denis Hamilton

16 – 20 March. Seniors Week Uniting Church Hall, Corrimal

4, 5 April Thirroul Seaside Festival – Demo's and Sales

8 April 5.30pm Committee, 7pm Annual General Meeting

Supper Roster: Rick Funnell and Bill Hedley

7 May Bunnings Ladies Night Display and Sales

13 May 5.30pm Committee, 7pm Club Meeting

Guest Speaker Steven Diver from Microclean

Supper Roster: John Cashman and Tony Sirotich

VALE – ALBERT SEATH

With great sadness we report the death of longtime club member Albert Seath who died of cancer in late January. He was 76. Jim Hall, an old club member took his funeral service.

Albert had been a mine carpenter and was a fine and innovative wood craftsman. He was loyal member of the club, and frequently displayed his work or latest innovation in the 'Show and Tell' section on club nights.. His cheerful face and warm personality will be greatly missed.

Albert will be remembered for his marvelous chequeboard chopping boards which he made in batches of three, his napkin holders, especially the one with an inlaid Dalmatian, and his numerous other pieces. He was a generous man and also loved a challenge. Who can forget his wooden arrow through holes cut in a light bulb or his 'impossible' dovetail joints?

He was a great artisan and a fine man. Our thoughts and sympathy go to Thelma, his wife, and his offspring, Peter, David, Diane, Janelle and Tanya, and their families.

Garage Sale. The club has bought a couple of sturdy steel cabinets from the estate of John Scott. There are also a number of tools and quite a bit of wood which will be offered first to club members and then at a Garage sale !

Club Website.

Bill Perry is busy reinvigorating the Club's Website which is ahem! much out of date. But things change and you will be pleasantly surprised to see the final product. It is still in preparation but you will soon be able to check it out.

Show and Tell

At our February meeting **Terry Elkins** showed a neat little toy duck, a bathroom toy, fitted with a small propeller and a rubber band motor. Terry donated it to the club for sale. Thanks Terry!

Peter Hansen showed a small bowl of Pink She Oak.

Milan Oder showed and donated some turned Office Tidies for the club. Thanks Milan

Rick Funnell showed and donated a bamboo chopping board which he had bought cheaply, but then reconditioned. He also showed and donated a novelty toy car zig-zag. Thanks Rick.

At the December meeting last year **Colin Shaw** showed a variation made on a Makita Router

Peter Hansen showed 5 deliciously turned little Christmas trees which he donated to the club Thanks Peter!

Frank Cescon showed some ingenious turned vases and containers and small kangaroos. Also donated. Thanks Frank! **Milan Oder** showed a mangrove tree lampshade. That was stunning. The base was fashioned from a mangrove root and the lampshade was as colourful as any Tiffany lampshade.

Bunnings BarBQ At very short notice we were asked to fill in at Bunnings when another group cancelled. Two club Execs swung into action and rustled up another 6 or 7 members and the food stuffs needed. Bunnings require that the BarBQ to be manned from 9.30am to 4pm. All went well, though they ran out of snags about 3pm, and had to race to the butchers. But the boys made some \$800 plus for the club. Congratulations to Dave and Mal and the 'Rustlers.'

Saturday Workshops

These are in full swing to prepare items for sale at the Thirroul Seaside Festival and later for the Bulli Show. Workshops will be held every Saturday in March and April, Easter excepted. from early Saturday morning until just after lunch. In May workers will have a month off. Come, join the gang!

Club Calendar

Rick Funnell, with a little help from the office of his bowling club, has prepared a very neat Club Year Planner for all members. Available at the club

Annual General Meeting

This will be held next on 8 April at 7pm. As well as reports and the Club's Financial Affairs there will be elections. All Committee positions will be declared vacant. Will you think about taking a position on the Committee? New people and new ideas are always welcome

FRANK PYNENBURG



Frank is one of the newer members of the club. 'I've just had an ordinary life. Lived it all here in Corrimal,' said Frank as we sat comfortably under the pergola he had built at the back of their house. Water in a small fountain tinkled. Beyond the pergola was a garden, a fold-down caravan, garage and shed.

Tell me where Pynenburg comes from? 'It's Dutch. We're from the southern part of Holland. My parents, my sister and two brothers arrived here in 1951. I was born a year later. I was an after-thought ! Initially we all lived in a tent in Corrimal Caravan Park, and only later got a house. My father was a barber, but out here he worked for the steelworks. Then after a number of years, he was able to set up his own barber shop in East Corrimal. He died many years ago. He should have been a woodworker. He loved working with wood, and was a perfectionist.' Frank and Lynette showed me a candlestick Frank's Dad had carved, rather like a delicate double helix spiral.

And what of your work? 'I went to the local schools, and then did upholstery. Then I worked for the mines, Old Bulli and South Bulli, for 11 years, but was laid off when there was a downturn in mining. So I got a job with Lamberts Kitchens in Unanderra. Initially it was delivering for them but later doing some carpentry work. I was with them for 18 years. But I got sick of them and told the boss off. In the meantime, Lynette had bought into a preschool at Figtree. It was called 'Little Graduates' It was pretty run down, but we worked hard and smartened it up. I worked for her for 6 years, and by that stage we had enough to retire on. That was great!

How did you and Lynette meet? 'On a blind date' said Frank. 'No .It wasn't quite like that,' said Lynette. 'Dad used to drink at Corrimal Leagues, and he said that there was a nice young bloke there. Mum was horrified. She didn't drink and thought that they were all drunks at that Club. I used to work at Crystals and the Social Club there was having an outing to the Music Hall in Sydney. They said I had to bring a partner. I didn't have anyone at the time, so I wrote an invitation to Frank, and said he wouldn't have to pay anything. He said he would come. We were all to go up in a bus, and when the bus arrived at Corrimal, I found that the girls had tricked me. Frank was the only man aboard! But we got on well together, and soon were married, and then had our two girls, Tanya and Renee.'

What are they doing now? Tanya is married and has a girl and a boy, Charlie and Harry. She has a Hair Salon in Woonona. We mind the children a couple of days a week. Renee is a Legal Secretary and has lived in London for eight years. We had a big three months trip over to England and the Continent a couple of years ago. So of course we spent time with Renee and saw a cousin of Frank's in Holland.

How did you hear about the Club Frank? 'I had done some building work, and I had Dad's interest in wood. I saw a display of the Club's work in the Library, and I rang up Dave. He told me about the club and invited me to come along. I came on the Saturdays and Peter Hansen gave me lessons on using the lathe. Then a woodworking firm in our street was closing down. They had an auction sale and I bought a Technatool lathe for just \$170. Then I bought some chisels at the Canberra Wood show and Peter gave me the wood and showed me how to turn the handles. A lot of wood I use comes from the club, but I'm glad to give my 'turnings' back to the club. Peter, Dave, Mal and the blokes at the club have been very good to me.'

Frank took me up to see his small compact workshop with his lathe, a bandsaw and various hand tools. In the garage we passed a small car under a cover. 'This is my baby,' Frank said, drawing back the cover to show a shiny red MG B. 'I got it quite cheaply. The motor and tyres had had it, but I got them fixed up and she goes like a charm. The bloke who sold it to me was almost in tears when I drove it away. He loved this MG, but his wife wanted "something more practical."' "

And the caravan? 'We haven't used it a lot, what with the grandchildren, and my mother who has been in hospital for eight weeks. She is 91 and was going fine up to about six months ago. But then things started to go wrong. She lived nearby, but I had to go round and check on her a few times a day. When my brother came up she was taken to hospital, but I don't think the doctors can help her much at her age !

Lynette said, 'We took the caravan up to Cowra last year. There had been a family mix up years ago and we had lost contact with my brother, Robert. All we knew was that he worked for the local Council. It was a bit like those 'Find My Family' shows on TV. But for privacy reasons the Council officials wouldn't tell us where Bob lived ! So we started asking about him at the pubs, because he had been fond of a drink. But Cowra has seven pubs and three clubs. It wasn't until we reached the fifth pub that anyone had heard of him!' A barmaid there told us, 'I think I know some one in the DMR who might know him' But we pointed out, 'He doesn't work for the DMR, but for the Council.' 'It's all the same up here,' she said, and she made some phone calls, and then told us where the Council depot was. We went there and waited as the workmen were coming back. We almost missed him too, because he had changed a lot. So have we, I guess. He's now quietly living in the old shearers' quarters, on a farm. He makes model ships in this spare time. He's a bit of a loner. We didn't fall into each other's arms, but we met after so many years, and we had a good time of catching up together. We won't lose touch again!'

Not at all bad for 'just an ordinary life!'



Kevin Parker's 'Endeavour'

H M Barque 'Endeavour'

Kevin Parker showed his marvelous model of James Cook's Endeavour at our February meeting. It's almost metre long and quite stunning! Kevin's son Greg had given Kevin the model kit shortly before he tragically died. His death knocked the wind out of Kevin's sails for several years, but eventually he was persuaded to go back and finish the model as a fitting memorial to Greg. Kevin found the model plans less than adequate so investigated the 'Endeavour' thoroughly. His model is without its sails so as to show the complex rigging. Thanks to Kevin for a marvelous display. Thanks also to Tony Hancox for safely ferrying the 'Endeavour' to and from

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