

# ILLAWARRA WOODWORKERS INC

## MAY 2005 NEWSHEET

### The AGM

The April Meeting was also the Annual General Meeting of the club. Bill Body, the retiring President gave a brief report of the many activities in the last year and challenged all members to wholehearted involvement.

Some of the speakers heard during the year included Mike Darlow (turning), Ernie Newman (turning), Steve Flint (country furniture) and Ian Keys (restoring old tools). There were several intermittent days / evenings for woodworking, tool sharpening, wood carving.

The Financial statement was presented by Bill Perry and it was recorded that there was a bank balance of \$1,649.92  
Jim Hall, with some flamboyance, chaired the elections,

President: David Lipscombe  
Secretary: ?  
Treasurer: William Perry  
Vice President: William Body  
Public Officer: John Parker  
Librarian: Bruce Keats  
Coordinator: Peter Hansen  
Coordinator: Malcolm Stewart  
Editor: John Cashman

The position of Secretary was not filled, so was held over to the next meeting. Temporarily, Bill Hopton is staying on. Bill Perry offered to take that position if someone else would be Treasurer. Any offers ?  
New members this year are Bruce Keats, Mal Stewart, and the Editor

New President, Dave Lipscombe spoke generously of Bill Body, his predecessor, and thanked him for his tireless efforts for the club

Many thanks to Bill Hopton who has served both as Secretary and Editor for the last couple of years. Bill has been promoted at work and in a few months will be heading North for a few years. Bill has been an efficient secretary and his bubbling enthusiasm and good humour will be greatly missed.

Many thanks too, to Keith Guy who has been the Librarian for the past year. Keith's welcoming smile and his readiness to help in the Library department has been much appreciated. At least for a while, Keith will continue to lead the Monday toymaking group

### **News - Thirroul Art Festival**

Bill Hopton reported that the the Saturday at the Thirroul Art Festival was a good day for the Woodies. A lot of people were interested and admired the items on display. Sunday at the beach, however, was a bit of a fizzer

**Open Day.** It was decided not to hold an Open Day this year. Lack of interest from commercial exhibitors and difficulty in finding an organiser led to the cancellation.

### **Show and Tell**

Bill Headly showed an ingenious ladies jewelry ensemble of pine.

c This had a Japanese style look about it and had three separate compartments. Very neat.

The irrepressible Ken Hutchinson showed an item that eventually became an inkwell ?, a vase, and a figured bowl previously shown, but now French polished by Barry Long. A real dish. Ken also had some wood as hard as nails. What was it ? Black cyprus ?

Barry must be our sporting representative ! Not content with making a large intricate netball trophy, he has now repaired a croquet mallet which he showed, and has been asked to make another.

Bruce Keats showed two nice turned pens. Too nice to lose !

c Bill Body showed a turned Lazy Susan made from Mount Keira red cedar. Family members have lined up and asked for 4 more !

### **Professional Quiz !**

The newly elected committee is composed of men in the several following professions. Can you match these professions with the committee members? First prize. A free cup of coffee at supper !

- Carpenter, Carpenter and Joiner (Rtd somewhat), Electrical Engineer, Electrical then Chief Engineer (Rtd), Insurance Officer (Rtd), Maintenance Manager, Minister (Rtd), Past President

### **Coming Events**

May 11: Club Meeting

June 3 -5: Sydney 'Working with Wood Show'

June 8: Club Meeting

July 4 - 23 : Club Display in Wollongong Library

July 13: Club Meeting

## Bill Body.



Bill body stepped down after 10 years of being President of the Club, but agreed to stay on as Vice president.

Bill has been unstinting in his work for the club, both challenging and encouraging members, in seeking to provide the club with adequate machinery and tools, in passing on his many skills, and in always putting his hands where his mouth is. As Chairman Bill has been authorative and demanding: he has always led from the front foot.

Yet on an occasion when he overstepped the mark, he had the grace to publically apologise.

But Bill's enthusiasm and devotion to the club has been constant, and has never been less than 100%

Bill will always be remembered for his initiative in seeing the potential and arranging a lease on the school's old toilet block. Then he led the club members of the time into transforming the building into a workshop and meeting room, with some storage area for the club.

Once the venue was fixed up, Bill and the Committee set about getting the hand and machine tools to equip it as a good workshop, the latest addition being a table saw.

Bill is a very fine craftsman. The various jewelry boxes that he made, a kitchen chair cum ladder, a wonderful wine rack, some beautiful toys and numerous other fine pieces makes many of the rest of us envious.

Bill has also been very generous in passing on his skills and experience not only in craftsmanship, but in safety, knowledge, etc.

Bill Body, we salute you !

## Good Grief !!

Two blonde carpenters were nailing weatherboards to the frame of a new house. One pulled out nails from his pouch, but threw them away if they were pointing towards him, but used them if it was pointing away from him.

The second blonde carpenter saw what he was doing, and after calling him all sorts of unprintable names, explained, "You stupid so and so. Don't you understand ? The nails pointing towards you are for the other side of the house !"

They say that Carpenters are just plane folks ! Groan !

**Ahem!** NF at the bottom of your address label means that you are a Not Financial member of the Club. 30 / 65 ! Bill Perry will be pleased to see you !

## REAL QUIZ

Pole lathes were powered by foot. The turner pressed down on a pedal which attached to a cord which was wrapped around the workpiece or a mandrel and tied to the free end of a flexible branch or pole. Were pole lathes first used in the eighth, thirteenth or eighteenth centuries ?

2. What commercially available timber weighs less than any other ?
3. What do the words 'draaier, tornatore, drechsier, tournier and tokarz' have in common ?

## SAFETY

Is too easily ignored. What is this safety rule ?  
! pohskrow eht ni gnihTolc esool yna raew t'noD 1.

### Winston Churchill

To the best of my knowledge, Churchill was not a woodworker, but he became a bricklayer one time when he was out of office. He built a very long, high brick wall at Charterhouse, and was awarded honorary membership of the Bricklayers Union.

As well as being a great wartime leader, he was quick on his feet. eg

One time his remarks so outraged Lady Astor, that she exploded, 'Mr Churchill, if I was your wife, I would put poison in your tea !'  
Churchill replied, "And if I were your husband I would drink it !"

Lady Astor must have been a terror for punishment, for on another occasion she accused him, 'Winston, you are drunk!' He replied, 'Yes M'lady, and you are ugly. But in the morning I shall be sober !'

## RQ Answers

1. Pole lathes were used in Europe in the thirteenth century, though they may have existed before this in east Asia.
2. Balsa.
3. They all mean 'turner'; draaier (Dutch), tornatore (Italian), drechsler (German) tournier (French) and tokarz (Polish). All these words meant woodturner and became surnames in the same way that the surname 'Turner' was acquired by woodturners over 500 years ago. Ernie Newman *Sydney Woodturners Guild*

*Illawarra Woodworkers group Inc. PO Box 121 Corrimal NSW 2518  
Club Workshop in Fairy Meadow School,  
Enter from Balgownie Road, near the speed lights.*