

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

NOVEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

President	David Lipscombe	Oak Flats	
Vice-president	Tony Sirotych	Figtree	
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Coordinator (W'shop)	Frank Pynenburg	Corrimal	
Coordinator (W'shop)	Pat Keefe	Towradgi	
Back-up Coordinator	Ken Smith	Thirroul	
Public Officer	John Parker	Corrimal	
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Newsletter	John Cashman	Fernhill	

Events Coming Up

11 November: 7pm Club Meeting

Supper Roster: Tony Hancox and Milan Oder

2 December: 5.30pm Committee Meeting

9 December: 7pm Club Meeting

Supper Roster: Frank Pynenburg and Roy Thomas

13 December: 12 noonish Christmas BBQ

Bring your own steak, but sausages supplied

SATURDAY WORKSHOP GUIDELINES

The attendance at our regular Saturday workshops has been steadily increasing and very good. Regrettably there has also been a trend of increasing use of the workshops and clubs machines for some members' personal work rather than working on items for the club. The purpose of the Saturday workshop is to provide a time to allow the members to meet and work on items that the group could sell, raffle or donate to local charities. Since we no longer have a Monday morning toy making group this is the only regular workshop time for this activity.

The income from sales of our woodwork items allows us to purchase materials we may need, pay the electricity bills and other workshop costs that are not covered by the membership fees.

Our group has not received any government or council grants and very limited external funding to provide the facilities and machinery that we have. The workshop machinery and equipment that we have is the result of many years of hard work by a limited number of members who have made items as well as attending at shows to sell the items that have allowed us to purchase the machinery and equipment we have.

In 2010 as a trial we will open the workshop for one Saturday each month for members to do their personal work. Hopefully, if you use these free days, you will also support the club workshop days.

Remember the purpose of the workshops is to:

1. Make items for the club. Items are either for sale to cover club costs or donated to various charities.
2. Provide an opportunity for learning and discussion between members.
3. Maintain and update the workshop facilities and machines.
4. Limited time to do your own work after the club work is completed.

Workshop Rules:

1. Use dust extractors on all machines in the workshop (particularly when sanding).
2. YOU use it, YOU clean it. Don't leave a mess for someone else to cleanup.
3. Throw your scraps and off cuts in the bin. Don't leave them for someone else.
4. Return all tools and clamps to their proper place when you are finished.

Illawarra Woodworkers Group Committee .

Carving Workshop

Terry Elkins' carving workshops continue on each third Wednesday of the month, 7 - 9pm, are proving popular. Some members work at carving a fox from a twisty grain poplar, and others are making Christmas decorations using chip carving on painted MBF board.

BELMORE BASIN

Club members mounted a very good display of fine woodwork in the Old Courthouse the weekend before last. Sadly, viewers and customers were somewhat few and far between. Should we continue to persevere with this venue? But a B-Double, made by clubmembers was proudly presented to a Ann Tanks, a representative of Camp Quality (the Children's Cancer research organisation)

DAPTO SHOW

The Club has been asked to demonstrate and have items for sale at the Dapto Show on Friday and Saturday 22 and 23 January 2010 held at Dapto Showground. We have been offered a good location with rent similar to that of the Bulli Show.

Grateful thanks to ILLAWARRA ITeC our great sponsor. ITeC provides Training and Development for Small Businesses and for the Unemployed too



Kate and Mark's mother, Cushla, of whom she is very fond.

KATE MORRIS

How to describe Kate Morris? She is a bundle of energy, a bundle of concerns for the environment, animals particularly Grey Headed Flying Foxes and good politics and a bundle of fun too! Kate is one of the four ladies who have joined the club in the last year or so

Kate was born into a big family that was always on the move. Her father was in the Army and they moved frequently to bases up and down the East Coast and in South Australia. The longest stay the family had (10 years) was in Canberra. During this stay Kate attended primary school and then the junior year of High School.

Kate is the eldest of six children, and is very outgoing and to those who meet her, full of confidence. But during her mid-teen years she witnessed a terrible car accident that deprived her of some of the

members of her own family. That memory is never far beneath the surface. Australian Ross Campbell, who was a fine essayist, said of the best comedians that despite their humour, they understand and often carry a deep sadness underneath.

Kate's first job after finishing High School was as an Apprentice French Polisher. That was quite a job, but unfortunately, at the end of the year the small firm she was working for went broke. Then she went to the University of Wollongong, and did both Creative Arts and Creative Writing Degrees. Her first job after Uni was being a Carer for a troubled teenager. That was quite a year. Since then she has had numerous positions and situations, often in the environmental and in the arts area.

In the early 2000s there were many protests about the Stockland development at Sandon Point. A protest tent at the site was manned for 4 years until it was mysteriously burnt down. To highlight the issue Kate became the Curator of an Art Show at the Mori Gallery in Sydney. Many well known artists contributed their work. Kate says, 'The Art Show went well, but it was an enormous job, and it just about killed me!' Kate has also written and had published many poems and short stories. At present she is working on a script for a film that an acquaintance will soon be making.

She has had other numerous positions. She worked for 'Feathered Friends' for a year, and was a volunteer with WIRES. This group rescue and care for injured wildlife: mostly that is birds, but she has also caught and removed a few snakes. 'I remember one time I was called in to one of the mine offices. A red-bellied black snake had slithered in behind their filing cabinets. It was a big job moving the cabinets, and only after the removing the last one could I get at him. He was a big fellow, 5 or 6' long, and as thick as your arm. The men left me to it, but watched from the door. I got hold of his tail but he was so big and heavy it was difficult to wriggle him into the sack. When the men saw me holding the snake by the tail they

cheered and ran into the room. I had to yell, 'It's not secure yet!' So they turned and quickly raced out of the room again.' *Have you ever been bitten?* 'Only once, by a python. They are not poisonous, but they know how to bite!'

Kate's boyfriend Mark, has a 15 year old daughter, who is also called Kate. 'She's Kate 1, and I'm Kate 2. We all get on well together. It is as if she is my own daughter.' *And where did you meet your boyfriend?* 'At a protest meeting. It was when the State Government took away our right to elect Wollongong City Council. We were both there. He's very supportive of what I do.'

And woodwork? Kate showed us some pyrography she did at the Ribbonwood Centre, where she met Mary and Anne. 'Then I went to the Women's Evening at Bunnings and the club had a stall there. Dave and Mal were there, joking around like Abbott and Costello. I asked Mal "Do you teach turning?" He said, "Come and see us in a couple of months." This happened a couple of times and at last Mal said, "Come along to the workshop on Saturday." So we did and had some turning lessons.' *And what do you like turning?* It was simple. Quick as a flash Kate answered, 'Wood.' Then Kate added, 'Next year I want to do a Fine Arts Course at TAFE, and if I can turn a bit I'm sure that will come in handy.'

This lady is going places. Good luck to her!

BULLI SHOW

Thanks to the many who demonstrated and manned the stall. Sales were down somewhat, as was attendance. One day up, the next down. The horses which usually attract quite a following, weren't participating this year.

Congratulations however to several members, Frank Pynenburg, Tony Hancox, Milan Oder, Bill Hedley, and Terry Elkins, who took out numerous prizes in the woodwork section of the show.

SHOW AND TELL

(September) **Ken Smith** showed a bowl turned from pine and donated some neat little rolling pins for children to use for 'playdoh': very good for children in hospital. Thanks Ken.

Barry Long showed a platter made from 18 wedges.

John Totenhofer a recent member, showed a very stylish cupboard on tall legs, made from various rainforest timbers such as sassafras, acacia maidenii, coachwood and emu apple

(October)



Bill Hedley (pictured) showed another clock he had made on his scroll saw. This one was 1.2 m high and looked somewhat like an oriental temple: made from MBF wood with maple veneer. Two months work without a break. No one can stop this man!

Don Gray showed a nice lidded jar made from huon pine and rosewood: contrasting colours. Too good for Vegemite, Don!

Barry Long showed a cast iron reading stand which

he had ingeniously repaired with a small piece of shaped and drilled brass.

Frank Pyneburg, showed some turned lidded boxes, a lady's earring stand and a triple candle-holder which he donated to club sales. Thanks Frank. Photo on page 8

Time passes. I knew you would want to know this! At 5 minutes, 6 seconds after 4am on July the 8th, this year, (using American month-day system), was 04.05.06. 07/08/09 Milton Ulladulla *Woodchips*

Page 7



Turned Pieces by Frank Pyneburg Photo Dave Lipscombe



President Dave Lipscombe hands over our B-Double at Belmore Basin to Ann Tanks of Camp Quality

Page 8