

WestTurn News

Guild Web Site: <http://www.sydneymountainturners.com.au>

Issue 64, January 2005.

Western & Blue Mountains Region

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Twin Gums Retreat Address: Cnr Northcott Rd & Diane Dr, Lalor Park

Regional Committee 2005:

Convenor: Alan Phelps
9631 6381

Secretary: Harry Cole

Treasurer: Greg Maloney

Regional Rep: Larry Bailey
9622 6140

Member: Ted Edwards

Events Co-ordination: Alan Phelps is the events Co-ordination contact for this Region. So if Alan approaches you to help please assist.

Library: See Don Hughes if you would like to know what is currently available from our library. Please remember that some of the items within the library are on loan from other members and all care should be taken to bring them back as soon as you are finished. Just as in other libraries one month is usually sufficient time to have an item out.

Stores & Equipment: is being looked after by Graham Dawes and Ted Edwards. Please let them know if you find any problems with any of the machinery in the hall.

Editor: Larry Bailey is putting the newsletter together. Articles can be e-mailed to susanjoanb@msn.com or give to a committee member who will pass them on to me.

Catering Officer: Rohan McCardell, see Rohan if you have any special needs.

Sick List:

If anyone knows of any of our members or their partners who are on the sick list, let **Graham Murray** (4658 0563) know, and he will send them a get well message from the Region.

Committee Meeting:

The committee meeting is held on the first Tuesday of the month starting at 7.00pm at Twin Gums Retreat. All are welcome to attend.

Next meeting **1st February 2005.**

Committees Report:

No committee meeting held since December meeting.

Western/Blue Mtns Region Calendar for 2004:

Third **Sunday** every month from 10.00am

Every **Wednesday** from 10.00am.

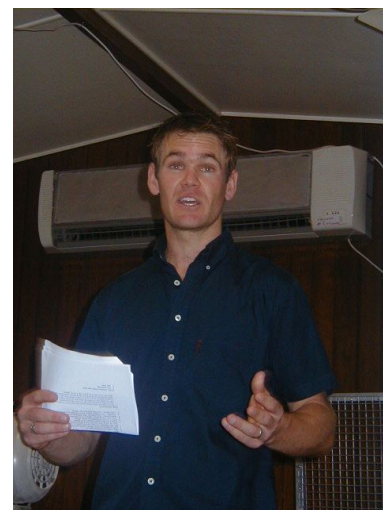
Every **Friday Night** starting from 7.00pm.

DECEMBER 12

This meeting was our Christmas Party and a great thank you goes to Rohan and his wife Colleen and the other helpers for the wonderful turnout of food.

Michael McCann one of Australia's Gold Medallists (Athens Olympics 2004) hockey players gave a brief overview of the lead up to the Athens

Olympics for the Australian Hockey Team and the rigors they had to go through. Michael also had his medal on display.



Christmas Raffle

George Wells had kindly donated a toolbox. Thank you George. Also prizes donated by Anna Dawes & Toby McIlwain.

Prizewinners were, Don Hughes, Robyn Mahoney and Michael Harvey.

FEBRUARY 20

Our guest demonstrator will be Gorgi Armen from the Peninsular Region. Theme for show & tell will be **a lidded box**. Please fill out the green slip so this person knows who did what. To be notified next newsletter.

MARCH 20

Bring your tools, as this will be a hands on day. Theme for show & tell will be, **your favourite turning (if you still have it)**. Please fill out the green slip so this person knows who did what.

APRIL 17

Our guest demonstrator will be Gary Light. Gary has demonstrated at the Blue Mountains challenges in the past. Theme for show & tell will be, **a bowl or platter**. Please fill out the green slip so this person knows who did what.

MAY 15

Bring your tools, as this will be a hands on day. Theme for show & tell will be **any item made by spindle turning**. Please fill out the green slip so this person knows who did what.

Past Demonstrations:

Our members have participated in the following demonstrations. The details are as follows:

Auburn Mega Mall Sale

We ran this in conjunction with the Peninsula Region over two weekends. Unfortunately the crowds don't seem to be there. Over the four days our Region sold at total of \$1005.00 worth of goods. We managed to Raise \$200.00 with our raffle for the

Children's Hospital. Our regions commission came to \$190.30 Plus we sold a lot of the small bowls we had in stock @ \$5.00 each and raised \$ 120.00.

So all told we didn't do too bad. The small bowl sales were a bit of a surprise. The Mall itself was very quiet with not a lot of people. The Peninsula seemed to do reasonably well with their items made from burls. The public seemed to like these.

Anyhow we will have to decide if we want to go ahead with any more sales like this. The main problem is getting a venue somewhere. If anybody has any ideas please let us know. We certainly owe Herman Stakenburg a dept of gratitude for all the help he gave us. We did have a lot of enquiries for memberships, which look very promising. We have four definite starters for classes plus a couple of probabilities in the New Year.

The Wigan Family won the Raffle from Ashfield and the lady was delighted to get the Pedestal Platter we had made

We will get the raffle money to the Children's Hospital prior to Christmas.

Alan Phelps

Future Demonstrations:

Our members have been asked to participate in the following demonstrations:

Australia Day in The Park

Again we have been invited to attend this and demonstrate. We have indicated we are interested, but this is to be approved by the committee. We are to be given the same shady spot as we had last year. Its a good day out with plenty of people interested in what we are doing so it would be good to support this event again.

Leisure4Pleasure

For Veterans Ex Servicemen and Partners.

On 11 March 10 am to 3pm Demo time again! This is for this show, which may bring in a few new members and it's not a long arduous day.

PROPERTIES OF SPECIES OF SOME WOODS CONT.

Bloodwood, Brown:

A small to medium sized hardwood of the northern inland slopes in New South Wales and in many parts of Queensland. Heartwood yellowish brown. Less prone to gum veins than red bloodwood. Used mainly for fencing.

Bloodwood, Pale:

A medium size hardwood of occasional occurrence in the dry inland areas of New South Wales, Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia. Heartwood dark red. Used for fencing.

Bloodwood, Red:

A large hardwood of the coastal districts of New South Wales and Queensland. Heartwood dark pink to dark red. Texture coarse. Grain often interlocked. Its most characteristic feature is the abundance of concentric gum veins, which permeate the timber; because of their presence red bloodwood and other bloodwoods are usually utilised as round timber rather than sawn; yet they can give a very attractive appearance to the sawn material. Used for poles, piles, posts and decorative paneling.

Bollywood:

Medium sized hardwoods of the rainforests from the central coast of New South Wales to Northern Queensland. Heartwood usually pale brown but tones of yellow, pink and grey can be present. Sapwood, to 20mm wide, usually

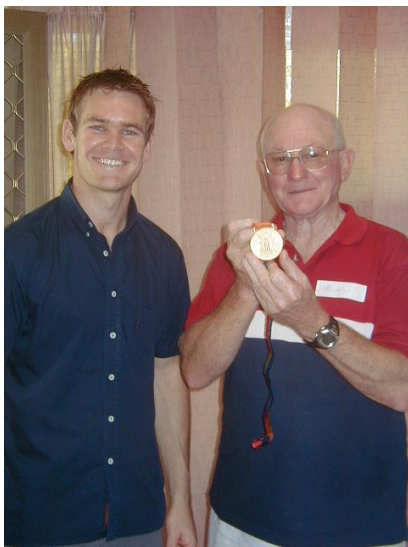
distinctly paler. Texture moderately coarse but even. Grain sometimes interlocked. Soft, easy to work. Glues well. Satisfactory for steam bending. Used for plywood, joinery, carving and boatbuilding. Scarce.

Bowls for Christmas

Last Thursday the 16th December, we delivered around 80 bowls full of lollies to the Salvation Army, Old Peoples Home at Stephen St Blacktown. We believe there are about 100 residents there. The staffs were very grateful and impressed with the gift. So congratulations fellas on another project successfully completed.

Christmas Party

This was a good day Thanks to Rohan and his helpers. We had about 64 people attended. The guest speaker was Mick McCann the Olympic hockey player who won a gold medal at the Olympics. He gave a very interesting talk on their overall preparation of the team for the games plus showed a video of the highlights of the match. Everybody seemed to enjoy themselves and he answered all the questions. Our raffle went off OK with Robyn winning the Tool Box.



Extended Workshop Times

As from Jan 2005 we will be open every Friday night. Maybe we can get the Sausage sizzle going again for every body's enjoyment.

Classes

With the number of people showing interest we may be able to get these going early in the year. I will leave this up to our instructors

General

We have purchased a few new tables for our general use. They

certainly came in handy at the Christmas party

Alan Phelps

MEMBERS AND VISITORS:

Welcome to our new members and any visitors today.

We hope that you enjoy yourselves at this meeting and, indeed, many other meetings that you may attend at this region and at our other regions.

Safety Instruction:

In line with Work Cover, OH & S practices, and pure, simple common sense, NO ONE is to attend workshop type meetings or any Guild function wearing thongs, sandals, or open foot wear.

****Please note: Current first aid officers are:**

Ted Edwards & Larry Bailey

ITEMS FOR SALE

Sandpaper – Various grades at \$6.00 metre.

Wood – as priced on the rack on the stage.

End Sealer - \$4.00 per litre.

Friction Polish – priced to bottle size.

Scrapers & Parting Tools

–Range of round & square end \$30.00 ea.

Bowl Gouge - \$35.00

Please see Bill Swindail if you wish to make a purchase.

Ladies Days

Dates are 29 Jan, 19 March, 21 May, 30 July.

Bowls for Easter Plus!

We are going ahead with this again this year only we have extended this to making a slightly better quality bowl and putting them into stock that will be used for everything. That is Demo

days, give always at Easter and Christmas and selling them or asking for a donation at demo days or selling to the public. As was suggested we just put them in a rummage box and let people take their pick. Ted and I will organise a couple of the guys to select suitable timber and where necessary cut and laminate, then make these into suitable blanks which we will put into a box for base stock and then the guys can get at them at their leisure to make the bowl.

Toby Mc McIlwain is doing a drawing of what he feels is the most popular shape required. We will insist on a good finish. Also as suggested we will ask the members to bring in any of their mistakes or not so good jobs and put these into a rummage box for general sale.

Activities Board

We are going to purchase or make a large whiteboard to use as an Notice Board for the years activities We will show the activities on a monthly basis somehow, in large lettering so it is easily readable and keep it up to date. The idea is so anybody can see at a glance what is coming up. Something like a king size yearly planner.

Donation to care Aust.

So far the region is donating \$500.00 plus what we can get from the guys I am hoping that we can pick up a lot of money on Aust Day with our rummage boxes at the demo.

Cheque for The Children's Hospital

We have a cheque for \$200.00 that I will get down to them within the next few days.

Events Co Coordinator

I would like to get somebody to do this. This would release me to

do more useful things or have a bit of a bludge

A venue to Sell or Goods

I am going to start looking around for a venue somewhere. This could become time consuming and I don't hold out a lot of hope but lets give it a go. This is another reason for wanting somebody to look after the events co ordination.

Letter To Blacktown Council

I am sending a letter to Blacktown Council asking if they will enclose the carport for a storeroom. This is probably in vain but we can only ask. This has been kicked around for about two years now with no body doing anything and some of the guys have a dozen good reasons why its not going to work. Well let's give it a go.

Blue Mountains Challenge

Sat 16th April 9am to 4pm

This looks like it is going to be well patronised. And everything the mountains do generally is a dam good show. As you suggested we should practise. We only have about three months so lets get into this before we leave it too late. At this stage Graham Dawes, Larry Bailey & Alan Phelps are going to turn in the challenge but we will need helpers when the item has been turned.

Peninsula Group

Because of all the help they have given us I am making an air cleaner for their workshop similar to ours. I got one second hand for nothing and I shall do the modifications over the next few weeks or so. We should get a few of our guys and go there on their main day and give it to them.

Woodturning Classes for Minors

In this months By Hand And Eye they are advertising classes down at Lidcombe TAFE. Any minors that contact us we can refer them down there. This gets us off the hook.

Regards Alan

Spalted Wood



This picture is what happened when someone tried to kill the spores in the microwave at the hall. It was only on for about 30 seconds. There are several ways to kill the spores and the microwave is only one so be careful and watch your work. Another way is to freeze the wood.

The Rabbit Strategy

The CIA, the FBI and the LA Police Dept. are each asked to prove their capability of apprehending terrorists. President Bush releases a white rabbit into a forest and tells each agency to catch it.

The CIA goes first. It sends animal informants into the forest. They question all plant and material witnesses. After three months of intensive investigations the CIA concludes rabbits do not exist.

The FBI goes in. After two weeks with no leads it bombs the forest, killing everything, including the rabbit. It makes no apologies; the rabbit had it coming, it insists.

The LAPD go in. They come out after just two hours, with a badly beaten bear. The bear is sobbing, "OK, OK, I'm a rabbit, I'm a rabbit!"

John Howard hears about George Junior's idea and decides to test Australian law enforcement agencies. He releases a white rabbit into what's left of Stromlo Forest, near Canberra.

The National Crime Authority can't catch it but promises that if it gets a budget increase, it can recover \$90 million in unpaid rabbit taxes and proceeds of crime.

The Victorian police go in. They're gone only 15 minutes, returning with a koala, a kangaroo and a tree fern, all three shot to pieces. "They looked like dangerous rabbits and we acted in self-defense," they explain.

The NSW police go in. Surveillance tapes later reveal top-ranking officers and rabbits dancing around a gum tree stoned out their minds.

The Queensland police go in. They reappear driving a brand new Mercedes convertible with scantily clad bunny girls hanging out all over it.

The WA police actually catch the white rabbit, but it inexplicably hangs itself when the attending officer "slipped out momentarily" for a cup of coffee.

The SA and NT police join forces and beat the shit out of every rabbit in the forest, except the white one. They know it's the black ones who cause all the trouble.

The Australian Federal Police refuse to go in. It examines the issues, particularly cost, and decides that because of low priority, high overtime, and the projected expense to the AFP as a whole, the matter should be

returned to the referring authority for further analysis.

and ...

ASIO goes into the wrong forest!!!

Supplied by Anna Dawes

Mike Scott

Slide show on design by Mike Scott on artistic design. Internationally renowned wood artist. Artistic vessels and sculptural turnings. Saturday 22nd January from 3pm at 183 River Road, Emu Plains. (Brian Smith). Cost \$10.00 per head. Please phone either Brian on 4735 6902 or Ernie Newman on 4739 1248 for attendance numbers. Some of Mike's turnings are on www.chaiwood.com

Wagga Wagga Turn About

This is just a reminder that the Wagga Wagga Turnabout will be held on Friday 11th, Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th March at the Borambola Sport & Recreation Centre. Full cost is \$130.00. If you are interested but would like more information contact Larry Slaon on 6926 1536. Anna Dawes has attended several of these and would wholly recommend for a good weekend of turning and discovery.

Blue Mountains Woodturning Challenge

Saturday April 16 at Blaxland High School (Coughlan Road, Blaxland) 9am to 4pm.

Exhibition Challenge: each club to bring work turned by at least three club members (We won this on the first challenge). All work to be turned since the 2003 challenge.

Hands-on Challenge: Each club may enter a team of three or more

people. Each team will have one hour on the day.

Individuals: are welcome to display up to 3 turnings in addition to those on their club's table. (Larry won a prize in this area on the first challenge).

So if you are interested see a committee member and we will organise something.

TURNING CLASSES

We encourage all beginners to seek help, ask questions and enjoy what we hope will be a great hobby.

If you are interested in joining classes please see **Bill Swindail** or **Alan Phelps**.

Please note that due to requirements under the child protection act we cannot teach children under the age of 21.

Please remember that **NO** member can commit the Region to participate in any demonstration or event without first presenting to the committee. Guild approval is also required for insurance purposes.

Convener
