

Gold Coast Wood Turners Inc December Newsletter 2010

From the President.

Well it's hard to believe this is the final Newsletter for 2010. What a year we have had. It's been a very successful one at that.

Thankyou to everyone that attended the working bee this was a great turn out and we accomplished a great deal.

A Special "THANKYOU" to everyone for the help that they have given while i have been away in W.A. working. I appreciate this very much. I would like to wish you all and your families a Happy and Safe New Year. I look forward to seeing you all in 2011.

Merry Christmas
Eddie
President

COMMITTEE MANAGMENT

President

Eddie Smith
5574 7764
0413 638 118
smith.j.e@bigpond.com

Vice President

Bill Egan
0429160597

Secretary

John Meikle
5572 1840
0413 343 372
johnjan143@optusnet.com.au

Treasurer

David Hallett
55297977
0438118613
relton@tpg.com.au

Editor

Courtney Smith
smithcourtney@live.com.au



Merry Christmas



Notice of Annual General Meeting

This is to advise all members that
in accordance with the constitution
of the

Gold Coast Woodturners Inc.

There will be a

Annual General Meeting

held at Merna and John Franklin Centre,
238 Mudgeeraba Rd.,
Mudgeeraba

at 8:30 am Saturday 19th February 2011

for the purpose of

Election of management Committee for 2011

Gold Coast Woodturners Inc.

Nomination form for Management and Committee for Year _____

I, _____

Propose _____

For the position of _____ for the Gold Coast Woodturners Inc.

I, _____ second the proposal

I, _____ accept the nomination for the above position

Sign below:

Proposed: _____

Date: _____

Secunder: _____

Date: _____

Nominee: _____

Date: _____

Please forward nomination form to Secretary on completion.



Seasons Greetings



A Beginners Story

“Hi my name is Susan. I'm a Woodturner!”

I moved to Australia in January this year and discovered woodturning or maybe it found me, I'm not quite sure. It started at the Mudgeeraba Show and two days later I found myself in the beginners class. The rest as they say is history. This is a great journey and I am so enjoying the ride. The Australian Woodturners I have met are bighearted with their time, advice, skills and even their materials. They are talented and fun. I have progressed from honey dippers and wine bottle stoppers through bud vases and pens to the ultimate of bowls - a burl bowl. Anne has been an amazing tutor, even hosting Alison & I at her home on Tuesday mornings. Her patience and teaching have encouraged and challenged us both and her generosity is second to none. Our Monday night tutors, Peter and Vince, are great - with Vince showing great tolerance in the midst of my learning curve with pens... Ray offered us the opportunity to turn a burl and what an experience that was. For the uninitiated, a burl is a rounded knotty growth on a tree. It's hard and it is beautiful. The grain appears in swirls with wonderful patterns. The colours in the Brown Mallee burls we chose, vary from a soft and reddish brown through to a rich cream. The design seems to emerge from the wood itself. My bowl revealed a winged rim with the most superb natural edge. As we worked the edge, breaking off the bark, little spiky bits began to appear which was really exciting. The "bits" reminded me of the middle stem of a carrot and the thick root type growths you sometimes see growing out from the central core. Creating the burl was one delight - the next was the finishing. Wielding an electric sander, we worked on the surface, sanding and then applying our finish and polishing. Quality control was strictly applied which was a great learning curve and has trained my eye to see things I never saw before and emphasized what the eye can't see, the hand can still feel! Inscribing my name on the base was a proud moment. Turning the burl was akin to rattling along a 4 x 4 track, compared with my first green turned camphor bowl, which was a tarred highway in comparison. The burl was jolty and tough but oh so satisfying. Oh dear think I have a problem, I need a program to help with this addiction.

Members!

A warm welcome to all new members, our club is forever growing and its great to see the interest in Wood Turning. Wish you all the best.

If any details change over the break please notify us when we return.



»» news

Join breast cancer trial

GOLD Coast women with a history of breast cancer are being urged to join a new study at Tweed Hospital. Tweed is one of 100 hospitals worldwide taking part in an international intervention survey aiming to discover whether a drug used to treat breast cancer can also prevent it. Women aged between 40 and 70, who are post-menopausal with a family history of breast cancer, are asked to join the study. Details at 1800 640 709 or www.anzbcctg.org

Gong for Griffith Uni

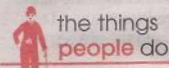
GRIFFITH University has been recognised for its ongoing contribution to the state's tourism industry at the 26th annual Queensland Tourism Awards. The university's Department of Tourism, Leisure, Hotel and Sport Management won the category for Tourism Education and Training and was inducted into the Tourism Hall of Fame. Professor Kristine Toohey said the award was due to the department's teaching and research success.



Andrew Potts goes for the chiselled look

Picture: MIKE BATTERHAM

Handing on skills from bygone era



Green tips at displays

GOLD Coast residents have been urged to learn how they can reduce their carbon footprint through a series of interactive displays installed in the Gold Coast City Council's Nerang and Evandale administration centres. The displays will be at a series of public computer kiosks as part of the council's climate change strategy, which also includes a new sustainability website. For details, visit www.sustainablegc.gov.au

I'VE always wanted to be hard as wood but never taken the chance to turn it.

Just a week after finding magic in the cards, I found myself with chisel in hand and a song in my heart as I learned how to cut wood and turn it.

Woodturning was first practised by the ancient Egyptians more than 5000 years ago and was developed by the Romans.

It was modernised during the industrial revolution and while much of it is now done by computer, there is a dedicated number of locals who practice it by hand.

It has been more than 10 years since I last picked up the chisel and sander but I have always appreciated the craftsmanship in the creation of everything from tables and chairs to bowls and plates.

My only woodwork experience was at school when I spent six months designing and manufacturing a hollow wooden book which still resides on my shelf - a proud reminder of a rare moment of

handyman triumph in my life.

After a decade on the bench, I was keen to learn the secret of how to cut and make something useful.

Gold Coast Woodturners president Nigel Rose said there had been a boom in interest among locals in the past year.

More than 50 new members have joined to practise the hobby.

"Anyone can do it but there is a broad range of skills and practices - nobody ever knows everything about it," he said.

"Everyone has their own interpretation of things and we try to learn from this."

Nigel and several club members showed me how to use the many tools when cutting wood and shaping it.

I got up close and personal with a chisel to create a small wooden bowl.

My hands shook as I pushed the chisel into the wood and saw the sawdust fly, making way for the edge of the bowl.

After just a few minutes the bowl was significantly closer to completion and I was inspired and covered from head to toe in sawdust.

For information, call 0417 642 340 or visit www.gwoodturners.com.au

- ANDREW POTTS

