

## Gold Coast Woodturners - Kids Course, July 2011

The club was a hive of activity for three days during the July school holidays, as Gold Coast Woodturners hosted its 3<sup>rd</sup> course for school kids. It was so popular, the club was overflowing, with more students arriving than available lathes and pyrography machines. Undeterred, tutors conjured up extra equipment and the workshop was soon knee high in sawdust and pyrography pens were smoking. Students, get your applications in now for the September course as numbers will have to be capped within the equipment limits.

During the course the woodturners turned a fabulous array of items, choosing three projects from a set list. Beginners were offered: a honey dipper, pencil holder, pen and bud vase while the intermediate members (those who have previously attended a course) were given a choice of: a thermometer, pen, bowl, scoop, eggcup and a clock.

The pyrographers had a great selection of images. They practiced varied burning techniques and their resulting artwork was very impressive. The buzz from all the kids was incredible – the energy, the enthusiasm and quality end results were great to see.

The secret to the success of the course lies in organized leadership, backed up by the small army of tutors who volunteered their time to teach the kids.

Many thanks go to the following tutors:

In Woodturning: Ray, Vince, Peter, Ron, Anne, Alison, Susan, Wim and Jack.

For Pyrography: Mike, Brendan and their assistant, Jessica.

What a team!

Where else in Australia would you find 15 woodturners and 7 pyrographers, all still at school, learning from a total of 12 talented tutors!! Well done to everyone.

PS Our girl / boy split was 14 girls and 8 boys, which is maybe why one of the boys said his friend wanted to come next time, “as it’s a good way to meet chicks”. Anne, you were the first lady in the club – look what you started!

Details of the next course are as follows:

Mon – Wed, 26 – 28 Sep, 2011, 8am – 12 noon daily.

Applications forms are available from/return to Ray Mahoney,

T: 5559225, E: [raymaey@bigpond.com](mailto:raymaey@bigpond.com)

It will be first received, first in!

Some photos from the course:





I think there should be a prize for the best caption, for this picture with Jack!

