

BUSINESS SECTION

A quiet month business – wise, everything appears to be running along smoothly with good attendances at both meetings. President Ron has left on a two - month overseas jaunt and we must thank Ben Veitz for stepping in to produce the newsletter in his absence.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

The various groups report quite vigorous activities as follows:-

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Gerald Payne has arranged the following:-

JR Laser Cutting Service. 21st April
U-Beaut Polishes, Preparation of timber and polishes, 19th May
Albert Hildebrand, turning demo, small items, 5th May
GMC Tools, New Tools, new catalogue, 2nd June
Hassells marquetry, demo, veneer packs for sale, 16th June
QE2 model makers with their new model of the Queen Mary 2, hopefully in July
Eric Williams, pen turning demo, date to be fixed.

SCROLLERS

Show prize on track (it is an egret mirror, not a clock, as the writer wrongly reported last month, sorry).

BOATIES

Prize boat is in course of construction, albeit slowly, as Dudley laments.

TOYS

Still looking at options, although plans for some projects are in hand and allocation of parts to be made is in progress. Neville Pitman will contact Noah's Ark to see what requirements they may have. The toy conveners hope to attract more members to the group.

TURNERS

Still a success story, the last two meetings had 17 and 20 attendees respectively. Bowl turning is the current topic. It has been decided that a learner turners' separate group will be held for newcomers. Routing techniques for turners will be a coming demonstration. Members attending the groups are reminded that they do so at their own risk and to observe all basic safety measures.

SHOWBIZ

Tony Higginson, production manager at Production Engineering P/L, a highly – qualified laser technician whose work takes him all over the world, gave us a very interesting insight into the mechanics of laser cutting of materials including acrylics, plastics, mild, high carbon and stainless steels, wood, MDF and gasket material.

An explanation of the workings of the laser, which involves gases, helium (high purity), nitrogen and carbon dioxide, a 40,000 r.p.m. turbine which converts AC power to DC (40,000 volts producing an infra – red wave form similar to fluorescent light.

A CNC system operates from 1 watt to 7,000 kilowatts directs a lens of polished crystals to cut the material with a 0.4mm kerf. The waste material is vaporised and the vapour is blown away by a jet of air in the case of wood, or certain gases depending on the material being cut. The system is fully automated and costly to maintain. A stencil shown took 3 to 4 minutes to produce but 20 hours to program on the computer.

Tony invited members to attend the factory to observe the process. Groups are limited to 15 persons and possible visits will be arranged in due course.

SHOW & TELL

7/4 Ted Brown - small drawer box, turned merbau sides, blackwood ends, huon pine top with inlay, danish oil finish.

Frank Harrison - hollow-turned bowls in redgum and sassafras, ornamental bowl in cypress and blackwood, hole-in-one golf trophy (Frank, a keen golfer, did not name a recipient).

Albert Hildebrand - had pieces of a New Zealand Christmas bush from a neighbour's garden to give away. A green-turned bowl of this nice-to-turn wood helped the disposal of his load



John England - sheets of parquetry timber to give away- appeared to be myrtle.

21/4 - Steve Woodcock - constantly has requests from friends and family for unusual projects, this time a wooden cut-throat razor! Steve obliged the requests. The result in Blackwood and pine will be a gift for the friend's bearded father, who lives in Scotland.

Neville Pitman - still producing turning tools, this time experimenting with tips attached with superglue.

Jock McLarty - toy carousel, perhaps a good idea for the toy program.

Doug McVean - ever the frugal Scot, displayed a carpenter's apron, purchased for \$9.00 at Bunnings.

Rick Gower - not long back from a Tassie holiday, Rick supplied a number of price lists for Island Specialty Timbers, not especially cheap, but quality is assured by Forestry Tasmania.



Martin Horevoorts - new member Martin showed a new version of a rocking horse - a suspended model, secured by four ropes which keep it stable.

Jock McLarty – showed a beautifully made and finished aircraft propeller in laminated timber.

Turner's Websites

Have a look at the following turners' work

Doug Snyder
Ed Zbik
Fred Faschingbauer
Fred Wiman -

Mindblowing !!



Ray Austen - showed the lazy susan to be presented to Audrey Howard in appreciation of her services to the club at our annual show over many years. Made from re-cycled brushbox, finished with Danish oil, the top was turned by Mal Carlson, the base by Ray, who carried out the final assembly. Also shown was a square bowl in cherry, Danish oil finish.

Albert Hildebrand - a typically beautifully crafted model of the H.M.S. Supply, one of the ships from the first fleet. Result of 18 months work.

Albert also carried out a splendid job as meeting chairman in the absence of the president and vice-president.

