

The Cutting Edge

August 2008

42 Courtney St Nth. Melbourne Vic 3051

2008 Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 7.00pm September 30th

Workshop of Alastair Boell
79 Lexton Rd Box Hill

Committee Elections

Appended to this newsletter is a template of the nomination form for election to the the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and 6 Committee Members. Please consider nominating for anyone of these positions.

There are a number of responsibilities which are usually allocated after the election of the Committee. These are program based activities such as Minute Secretary, Exhibitions, Monthly Meetings, Newsletter, Insurance Scheme, Woodwork and Master Classes, Library. If you wish to help with any of these programs please nominate for the general committee.

Major changes are being planned for the Association.

Proposals will be presented on the future of

Club Meetings

Exhibitions

The Wood Design Centre

The School of Woodcraft

New Workshop for School & Club

Following the formalities, there will be a social evening, with informal talks from some of our younger members about their recent adventures in the art and craft of fine woodwork

All Welcome ▪ Light Supper & Drinks ▪ Gold coin Donation

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Shavings

Exhibitions

Our exhibitions adviser Karen Brown is busily preparing a position paper on the future course of VWA exhibitions. Briefly, Karen will be proposing a program along the lines of:-

1. A \$50,000 woodwork prize in conjunction with a major regional gallery, ie Bendigo, Ballarat or Geelong - maybe even the Heide Museum of Modern Art?
2. Small exhibitions highlighting individual woodworkers in small venues. These would be part funded by the VWA to promote woodwork.
3. Woodwork Forum (maybe in conjunction with the prize)
4. Curated exhibition, by invitation highlighting the best of the best.

VWA School of Woodcraft

A trial partnership with the Council of Adult Education is to commence in October of this year. The CAE will list in its catalogue a number of basic woodwork courses provided by the VWA. These courses are now being listed on the CAE Website at <http://www.cae.edu.au/?cinfo=courseguides> under the Keyword "Woodwork"

Club and School Workshop

The Executive Committee is still working on the proposal to establish a new machine room and other facilities for the school and a "club house" or open workshop for VWA members in general. Costs for an area of 250 - 300sq metres in the Kensington/North Melbourne area are between \$25k and \$35k. A new approach to the Abbotsford Convent site is being considered and financial support will canvassed from government arts funding bodies

Annual General Meeting. Change of Date

The AGM, previously announced for the 23rd of this month, will now be held on the 30th of September at the studio and workshop of Alastair Boell in Box Hill. All positions on the executive committee will be vacated and declared open for election at that meeting. It is hoped that there will be many who will be putting up their hands for positions on the committee. A Meetings Co-ordinator is but one of the positions vacant at present.

Other Business

Congratulations to Ken Free for his exhibit *Mr. Droplet* in the Craft Victoria event *A Month About Making*. Ken also made a showing in the ForestrySA Wood Sculpture Competition at the Riddoch Art Gallery, Mt. Gambier, South Australia. We hope to have his account of that event for our next issue.



Alastair Boell and Pete McCurley were invited by the Melbourne Botanic Gardens to collect timber from a felled *Grevillea Robusta*. The timber was collected in a rented truck and taken to the Stormwood site at Eltham for future use by the VWA. It was an exercise of more political importance than timber value.

We hope to establish a creative and active relationship with the staff at the gardens. Pete and Alastair are also investigating a timber mill site in Daylesford for the milling storage of our future urban salvage timber

Ken Free Makes a Splash at Craft Victoria's

A MONTH ABOUT
making

A Month About Making was a festival of workshops, exhibitions and forums focusing on the practical and conceptual elements of making, inherent in craft and design throughout August 2008. The event explored current trends in craft and design practice and philosophy.

Ken's exhibit "*Mr Droplet*" represented the water crisis and the strongly divided opinions on what we should do about it. Like much of Ken's work the piece is characterized, and virtually created, by its strong narrative and social comment.

"I have referred to the 'left brain/right brain' theory to indicate that the traditional, simplistic, conservative approach would be to build more dams. On the other 'side' the forward-looking, creative (and perhaps driven by the heart) approach is to do something really worthwhile - but what? And how? Damn! Damn! Damn!

My sculptures are based on my observations of the world around me and say something about topical social and/or political issues. By using salvaged or recycled Australian timbers the sculpture also has the visual appeal of wonderful wood without making a dent in old growth forests.



As a craftsman/artist, I derive satisfaction from the relationship I have with the wood by shaping it with hand tools which requires an understanding of and respect for the nature of the material. In the case of *Mr Droplet*, the use of a precious piece of salvaged Huon Pine and the technical difficulty of stamping lettering inside the 'head' made the making process especially challenging and rewarding when the vision was realised in the finished piece".

Materials/techniques: Huon Pine.
Woodcarving/sculpting

Internet Information Resources for Woodworkers in General and for Felder Owners in particular

The Internet is a wealth of information and can be very helpful to the wood worker. For professional wood workers the internet is a way displaying your work to the world. On-line tools such as Google Sketchup (<http://sketchup.google.com/>) and Alibre (<http://www.alibre.com/>) can be used to help / design your next wood working project. It can be also used to search for reviews on your next equipment purpose, help with troubleshooting equipment, independent advice and learning new working methods. For these latter items the many forums, groups prove an invaluable resource.

One such forum was set up by Felder owners in order to share information regarding the purchasing, usage and maintenance of Felder equipment. It's not officially sanctioned by Felder but contains lots of useful info. It can be found at: Felder Owners Group <http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/felder-woodworking/>

If you don't own a Felder there are many such groups that exist for different types/brands of equipment e.g. <http://www.festoolownersgroup.com>. Unfortunately many of these groups do not show up in internet searches (such as Google) as most of the information is only available for members. However as membership is usually for free this isn't a problem.

The question is how do you find a group? Searching "<item you're interested in> owners group" is usually a good start. Include the quotes " " as you'll end up getting hits for unrelated groups. Yahoo groups <http://groups.yahoo.com/> is another place to look for groups.

An Australian site <http://www.woodworkforums.com> is also another valuable resource which has groups devoted to different topics covering just about all areas of woodworking.

Contributed by Christian Groves



Directory of Woodwork Forums

<http://www.woodworkzone.com>

- **Canadian Woodworking Magazine Forum ★★★**
A good magazine, and even better forum, that's pretty busy. Although the magazine is published in Canada, plenty of folks from all over are regular 'forumites'. This is a great place to ask questions, gloat about new tools, post pics of projects, read what others are saying about products, swap ideas, etc. (From the main page - click the 'Woodworker's Forum' link on the left navigation menu)
- **ISW's Forums**
Forums offered by Industrial Strength Woodworking include general woodworking, laminate flooring, and used machinery. ISW is also a great site for TONS of other woodworking info!
- **Sawmill Creek**
Almost 13,000 members, and over a 1/2 million posts! Topics include: General Woodworking and Power Tools, Neanderthal Haven, Turners Forum, Woodworker's Classifieds...more!
- **Scroller's Chat**
A new site, opened in Jan. 2003, dedicated to scrollsawing. Several different topic boards to choose from, including 'getting started', 'plans & patterns', 'scrolling shows & picnics'...more.
- **The Oak Factory Bulletin Boards**
One of the first (if not THE First) woodworking forums, started by Kip Yeager, aka "The Mighty Oak". Choose from 4 different bulletin boards, with topics like General Woodworking, Tools and Equipment, etc. "Jump right in, and let's talk shop!"

- **The Woodburner Forums**
Several different topic boards dedicated to pyrography, a.k.a. woodburning. The site also features tools, patterns, photo albums, tutorials, and more.
- **WWA Info Exchange**
A friendly bulletin board to help visitors interact with fellow woodworkers. This site also features a plan & article search, tool survey, Wednesday night chat, and an opportunity to join the Woodworker's Website Association.
- **Wood Central Message Boards**
Here's the place where you'll get timely, lively answers to every imaginable woodworking question, from some of the best-known and most knowledgeable people in the field! Choose from 10 different forums!
- **Wood Net Forums**
Very busy boards! Choose from several different topics, such as general woodworking, woodworking tools, tool swap & sell, home improvement, and more!
- **Wood Talk - Woodworking Forums at WOOD Online**
Welcome to the internet's busiest woodworking forums. To make this section faster and easier to use, we've divided it into several distinct woodworking forums. Please review all our forums before posting a question. Then, post in the woodworking forum most closely associated with your question.
- **Wood Web Forums**
LOTS of different forums are available at Wood Web! Everything from adhesives, to CAD, to dust collection, professional finishing, to general woodworking are all up for discussion. Wood Web also offers a large product and woodworker directory, machinery finder, classified exchange, article directory...more!
- **Woodweb Woodworking Forums**
WoodWeb is a community for all woodworkers. Site provides woodwork discussions, free plan library, tool search, tool reviews, tool classifieds, links, image gallery, web ring and much more.....New members welcome
- **Woodwork Forums**
Welcome to Woodworking Australia's Woodwork Forums! Loads of Boards, with lots of hot topics, and discussion for all.
- **WoodworkersWeb**
A resource site for all woodworkers including a forum, free gallery for posting woodworking images, woodworking articles, calculators and live woodworking chat every night at 9:00 PM EST.
- **Woodworking Club**
A club for woodworkers all over the world.
- **Woodworking.com Forum**
Brought to you by the 'web's woodworking supersite', there are several topic boards, including: 'I'm new to woodworking', 'Around the Shop', 'Woodturning', 'Trading Post',...more.
- **Yahoo Groups Intarsia Board**
A great place to discuss intarsia. This group has approx. 800 members. You must register to become a member before taking part in the discussion. The group also features live chat, a place to post pictures of your projects, and more.
- **Yahoo Groups Scrollsawing Board**
A meeting place for all scrollsawers. This group has approx. 1800 members. You must register to become a member, before joining the discussion. The group also hosts live chats on Monday and Wednesday nights.
- **Yahoo Groups Woodworking Board**
Discussion list of tips, tricks, and techniques given to group by its members. Open to all carpenters, woodworkers, turners, carvers...ANYONE INTERESTED IN WOOD. Approx. 1800 members. Registration is required to take part in the discussion.



Old Woodworking Machines Forum Index
Hosted by <http://www.owwm.com>



Japanese Woodworking Forums
Presented by www.japanesetools.com

VWA School of Woodcraft: Courses provided for the CAE

CAE course guide Sep-Dec 08

Woodwork Techniques for Beginners

Covers basic hand tool techniques for furniture making and woodcrafts. Practice using hand planes, chisels, saws, marking out and measuring tools. Learn about timber and basic woodwork terminology.

Pete McCurley, Venue Box Hill Wed 7-10pm from Oct 1st. 5 Classes ▪ \$315 ▪ HVS45601

Woodwork Techniques (Continued)

Learn basic joinery techniques for furniture and cabinet making. Practice getting timber flat and square. Covers wood joints, lap, dovetail, mortice and tenon – and their application.

Pete McCurley, Venue Box Hill Wed 7-10pm from Nov 5th. 6 Classes ▪ \$410 ▪ HVS45701

Furniture Construction

Craft a foot stool while learning professional furniture making techniques. Includes hand cut dovetail and mortice and tenon joinery.

Alastair Boell, Venue Nth Melb Mon 7-10pm from Oct 6th. 10 Classes ▪ \$695 ▪ HVS45801

Hand Plane Techniques

Demonstration and practice of hand plane tuning and sharpening techniques including chisels and scrapers.

Alastair Boell, Venue Nth Melb Sun 10am-5pm Sep 28th. 1 Day Class \$140 ▪ HVS45901

Wood Carving Traditional

Discover the beauty of wood carving and create a traditional acanthus leaf design. Tools and wood provided.

Ronnie Sexton, Venue Box Hill Sat 10am-5pm from Oct 4th. 3 Classes \$410 HVS46001

Scrapheap Challenge: Recycled Timber Project

Turn recycled timber into unique furniture. Visit demolition yards to source wood and construct a rustic chest with traditional woodwork joints and techniques.

Pete McCurley, Venue Nth Melb. Intro Sat 9.30am-3pm Oct 4th then Fri 6.30-10pm from Oct 10th. 5 Classes \$440 ▪ HVS46101

How to enrol

In person: 21 Degraeves Street or 253 Flinders Lane, Melbourne. Tel: 9652 0611 Fax: 9654 7840
Mail: 21 Degraeves St, Melbourne VIC 3000. Credit cards (Mastercard and Visa) accepted

Venues

North Melbourne: VWA Wood Design Centre 5, Tyrone St, Meat Market Arts Centre

Box Hill: Boell Furniture Workshop & Studio, 79 Lexton Rd. North Box Hill (off Middleborough Rd)

VWA School of Woodcraft: Furniture Making & Design Classes 3rd Term 2008 Enrolment Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Please Tick Selection

- Cabinet Making with John Diorietes – Saturdays 9.00am 12 noon**
Fees \$450 per term of 10 Classes or pro rata rates for part term entry
- Cabinet Making with Adam Stewart – Tuesdays 7.00 – 10.00pm**
Fees \$425 per term of 10 Classes or pro rata rates for part term entry

PAYMENT OF \$ _____ IS ENCLOSED OR PAID BY DIRECT DEPOSIT.

Cheques & Money orders to be made out to the Victorian Woodworkers Association.

Payment may be by direct deposit to: Bendigo Bank BSB 633 000. Account no: 11 11 05 292
Please post or email copy of remittance of funds transfer

Post or Email to: Peter Stansfield. Secretary VWA 2 Leber St. WARRANDYTE VIC 3113

Tel 03 9844 3749 Mob 0402 258 341 Email: pmstans@bigpond.net.au

VICTORIAN WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

AFFORDABLE PUBLIC & PRODUCT LIABILITY INSURANCE

For professional and amateur craftspeople working at, teaching, demonstrating, exhibiting or marketing their craft. Underwriter: QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited

VWA Annual Full Membership Fee Option A - \$165

Includes \$10,000,000 Public & Product & Tenants Liability, \$20,000 Property in physical & legal control. Excess \$1,000

VWA Annual Full Membership Fee Option B - \$187

Includes \$20,000,000 Public & Product & Tenants Liability, \$20,000 Property in physical & legal control. Excess \$1,000

Other Insurances available for Members

1. **House and Contents insurance package with an extension to cover Home Workshops**
2. **Personal Accident and Illness Insurance**
3. **Commercial Studio or Workshop Business Package:** To cover those Members who operate a business away from their residence

Contact: Meg Allan, VWA Membership Secretary 2650 Mansfield – Whitfield Rd, TOLMIE VIC 3723
Tel: (03) 5776 2178 Fax: (03) 5776 2185, Email: roballan@preston.starway.net.au



JAMFACTORY Furniture Studio Associate Program 2009 Applications close 31 October 2008

Established in 1974 the JamFactory has four training studios working in the areas of Ceramics, Furniture, Glass and Metal, in addition JamFactory houses 5 independent artists studios, three Gallery spaces and two retail shops. JamFactory is located in Adelaide's West End arts precinct.

THE ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

The Associate program is a practical two year studio based training program for emergent craftspeople and designer/makers. The Associate Program is particularly attractive to recent art and design school graduates as well as to more experienced practitioners aiming to focus their practice. Under the guidance of a Creative Director, the studio provides an environment in which Associates explore creative ideas and hone their technical and making skills, while acquiring business and marketing skills necessary to establish financially and culturally viable careers in craft and design.

THE FURNITURE DESIGN STUDIO

The Furniture Design Studio embraces a broad range of craft and design practice, incorporating the design and production of commissions ranging from small-scale production of furniture and objects, as well as site specific artworks for public and private spaces and custom interior fit outs. The studio also focuses on the development of individual furniture ranges and exhibition pieces.

Associates participate in all aspects of studio and commissioned projects developing their skills in the process of design, costing, client liaison, tendering, and manufacture as the beginning or development of a professional crafts business. The production of the individual prototypes, products and exhibition work of residents is supported with advice and assistance by the studio and the organization. Through access to the marketing and sales department associates are also encouraged to develop their practice with a view to further income generation. Associates are allocated their own drafting tables within the design area and work bench within the hand shop. Shared access to the Furniture Studio computer and software, workshop machinery, hand tools, power tools, spray booth, industrial sized lift, office facilities, kitchen and lounge area is provided.

OPPORTUNITIES

In addition a program of events, activities and opportunities are developed for Associates to broaden their experience. Artist talks and residencies by visiting artists provide inspiration and a culturally diverse environment for Associates. Opportunities such as the Italian Centre Design Award and StarveDog Lane Magnum Design Competition, provide associates with rewarding experiences and amazing professional development opportunities. Associates also participate in JamFactory's Biennial, an exhibition of all practising craftspeople within JamFactory and an important showcase of contemporary craft and design.

WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE

For the two-year duration of the scheme Associates have access to the Furniture Design Studio seven days a week from 8am to 8pm, with after hours use welcome by negotiation. Associates may utilise other studios exploring the qualities of different materials and processes and working in collaboration with skilled designer/makers. Associates spend up to two and a half days working on studio projects under the direction of the Creative Director. This studio time does not attract an income or payment

FEES The annual fee to participate in the scheme is covered by a JamFactory Fellowship for Australian residents who are selected. Applicants from all parts of Australia are welcomed.

For more info and details on how to apply visit www.jamfactory.com.au

JamFactory Contemporary Craft & Design, 19 Morphett Street Adelaide SA 5000

T: +61 8 8410 0727 E: contact@jamfactory.com.au

**2008 – 2009 Victorian Woodworkers Association Committee
Nomination Form for AGM Elections**

Executive Committee - Office Bearers

President

Nominee _____ Signature _____

Proposed by

1 _____ Signature _____

2 _____ Signature _____

Vice President

Nominee _____ Signature _____

Proposed by

1 _____ Signature _____

2 _____ Signature _____

Secretary

Nominee _____ Signature _____

Proposed by

1 _____ Signature _____

2 _____ Signature _____

Treasurer

Nominee _____ Signature _____

Proposed by

1 _____ Signature _____

2 _____ Signature _____

General Committee - Six Positions

Nominee _____ Signature _____

Proposed by

1 _____ Signature _____

2 _____ Signature _____

Note: Person nominated must have agreed to and, therefore, signed as being the nominee
Please return this form by Monday 29th. September by email or post to :
Peter Stansfield, Secretary 2 Leber St. Warrandyte 3113 Tel 03 9844 3749 Email: vwa@vwa.org.au.

YOUR CLUB – YOUR COMMITTEE

There are a number of responsibilities which are usually allocated after the election of the Committee. These are program based activities such as Minute Secretary, Exhibitions, Monthly Meetings, Newsletter, Insurance Scheme, Woodwork and Master Classes, Library. If you wish to help with any of these programs please nominate for the general committee

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – 12th September 2008

VWA invite you to submit articles of interest for any of the newsletter sections:

- Calendar of events
- Timber & Trade
- Tree Watch
- Workshop
- Product Review
- Letter to the editor
- Or any other interesting information you think the members would appreciate.

Email Editor: P. Stansfield vwa@vwa.org.au



**VICTORIAN WOOD
WORKERS ASSOCIATION**

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VWA Committee 2006/07

President:	Tracey Vanstone		0422 976 704
Secretary:	Peter Stansfield	9844 3749	0402 258 341
Treasurer:	Rob Allan	5776 2178	
Executive Officer:	Alastair Boell		0413 537 490
Newsletter Editor:	Peter Stansfield	9844 3749	0402 258 341
Membership Secretary:	Meg Allan	5776 2178	
Committee Members:	John Walkley	9499 6395	
	Justin Vecchio		0439 773 522
	John Waters	9486 3580	
Rep. of Council of Wood Working Clubs:	Rob Allan	5776 2178	0448 332 141.