



Phil Hansen's finely decorated NZ Falcon catching a bellbird mid-flight

THE PRESIDENT'S PAPERS

Covid: On Saturday 16th October 2021 the Committee of the Tauranga Woodcrafters, having regard for the greater good of members, unanimously passed the following motion:

"We record that the committee encourages all our members to get vaccinated against the Covid-19 virus. We take this stance because of the age of the majority of our members, and their health risks. We recognise that vaccination is a personal decision. However, we sincerely believe it is the only defence we have against overwhelming the NZ hospital system with Covid patients and thereby wiping out the capacity of that system to deal with other types of medical emergency requiring ICU facilities.

Furthermore, members must stay home if sick, feeling unwell, or have visited a listed place of interest where a Covid infectious person has been. Get yourself assessed if you have any symptoms of Covid-19. Don't come to any meetings in the workshop until you recover, or are cleared by an assessment test."

Members Welfare: To all our members who are unwell, or are recovering from illness, our thoughts are with you and we all wish you a speedy recovery.

Safety Incident: A recent safety incident in the workshop has been reported to the committee. A member was reaching to take earmuffs from a wall rack behind some equipment and they tripped on an extension lead and a dust extractor hose. A fall resulted. A dust extractor was pulled over onto the person resulting in an injury to a shoulder and ribs. As an immediate action we have moved the main ear muff wall rack along the wall towards the hand tool rack near the main door where access is better. We are also looking at

a member club of the national association of woodworkers inc.

further work to avoid needing to have extension cords running across the floor where they pose trip hazards.

I recently spoke to a Tauranga woodworker (not a member) who lost an eye after forgetting to wear safety glasses while cutting a chunk of firewood on his table saw. His safety glasses were laying on the bed of the saw, but he ignored them because he was wearing reading glasses and chose to take the risk. A sliver of wood flew off the blade of the saw and went through glasses and eye. He said it all happened in a fraction of a second. There was no time to take evasive action. The slivers of plastic from the lens shredded the eye ball! Blinded, he crawled across his section to summon an ambulance and help.

Both these incidents reinforce the message for us all to just take 5 seconds to stop and assess the workplace before starting any task.

Taranaki Guild November 2021 Woodcraft Festival: This is a reminder that the Taranaki Guild has their Woodcrafter Festival planned for November 27th/28th 2021. Details have already been circulated to all members by email.

Creative Wood - Treeworkx Competition: When did you last enter any of your work in the Treeworkx Competition in NAW's Creative Wood magazine? How about lifting our game and submitting some entries from members of the Tauranga Guild?

Dingle Foundation Easels: My thanks to everyone who worked on the easels for the Dingle Foundation. Greg Taylor reported that this task is now complete.

Workshop Maintenance: As reported earlier, we are planning some work on the overhead power cord droppers and looking at improvements to tool storage in the workshop.

I want to record thanks to Greg Taylor and his crew who have erected a new steel framed wood storage / drying rack behind the workshop.

New 5 micron cloth bags have been installed on both dust extractor systems in the workshop. We note that the plastic collection bags are being left until nearly completely full of sawdust and ripping open when people carrying them to the waste bin to empty. The plastic cannot carry the weight. Please try to empty the bags after you finish each group session and before they get too full and heavy. If the bag does rip then please throw it away and get a new one from the locked cupboard in the disabled toilet area (use the same key as for the wood container).

2022 Show: We have registered with the BOP Garden and Arts Festival for our 2022 November show to be included as one of the destinations. Greg Taylor is already underway with planning for that event which will become our major fund raiser for 2022. We are asking all members to think about how we can lift our efforts to new heights in promoting the Guild's activities & members work.

Guild Secretary: Alan Sciascia has advised me that he wants to stand down from the committee, no later than the AGM in May 2022. Alan has been a great contributor as the Guild's Secretary for the last 2 years. I welcome anyone who might be interested in taking over the secretary's position to let me know please.

La seule certitude est le changement

Phil Hansen, President.

General Report

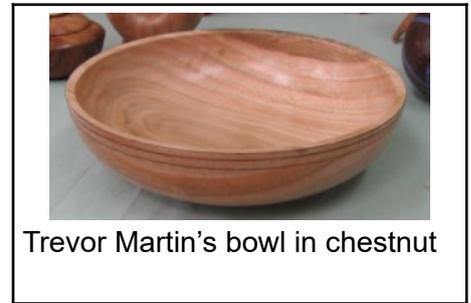
A wide range of quality pieces were presented at this month's Show and Tell with many demonstrating innovative or demanding skills.



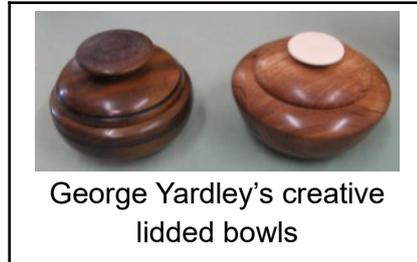
Greg Taylor experimenting with precision turning and copper leaf



Derek Kerwood's elliptical bowls (latest variant on left)



Trevor Martin's bowl in chestnut



George Yardley's creative lidded bowls



John Harrison's twisted sculpture



Roy Tregilgas' finely pierced coconut shell



Allan Curtis' 1 of 3 cheeseboards for gifts

Group Activities

Group 1: Woodcarvers

2nd and 4th Monday of the month: 9:30am – 3:00pm.

Our carving group presented Jean Crabtree with a unique walking stick at a recent meeting. Six carvers each did a separate relief carving along the length of the stick. Some of these were also painted to emphasise details. For example the bottom panel showing Jean doing one of her sky dives. She has so far done this twice; once at her 85th and again when she turned 90!



Jean being presented with her stick



Composite photo of Jean's stick

Our carving group numbers have been down recently. Sadly Tom Coomber has not been well recently and Chris Barton has decided he should stay away from the workshop for the time being because of Covid and taking care of the health needs of his clients.

At our last meeting Ivan Watchorn was just starting to carve a diary cow, while Barwick Harding was whittling another of his Tomte figurines which he is combining with a carving of a fox for the final arrangement.

Several carving projects were completed by members of the group in October and displayed at the monthly meeting. John Harrison showed off a lovely carved wooden "twist" carved from banksia. Phil Hansen had another Möbius Knot made from Matai timber.

Phil Hansen has also finally completed his NZ falcon carving after four months of effort. The falcon itself was carved in 5 pieces from the same block of Macrocarpa which proved an ideal wood for this project. The prey is supposed to resemble a bell bird. For the falcon, the head, body, tail and initial lengths of both wings up to the end of the secondary feathers were carved from a single block. The ends of both wings with the primary feathers to the start of the radius bone were carved separately but with the grain of the wood re-oriented to run up and down the length of the feathers to maximise strength. Both legs with their talons were also made separately with the wood grain orientated to maximise strength, and glued to the body just before painting. The main body section was carved first and then the head and tail were cut off so it could be hollowed out. This was to reduce weight for the mounted carving. It brought the final weight down from 800gm to 450gm. The next step was to glue the body, head and tail parts back together. The separate wing ends were carved. After shaping and sanding the illusion of each feather having barbs was done all over the body and to the separate wing ends, using pyrography. Finally the wing ends were glued onto the body of the bird. The wood was sealed and then several very thin coats of white gesso were applied as an undercoat. Finally multiple thinned down layers of acrylic paint colours were applied (one of top of another, on top of another) to try and match the natural colouration of New Zealand's native (female) falcon. The prey bird is connected to the falcon by having some talons penetrating into the breast. For anyone who has not done so, and wanting to research NZ's birds of prey, it is worth visiting the Wingspan National Bird of Prey centre in Rotorua where falconers from amongst their staff educate the public by showing off their birds in interactive flying displays. <https://www.wingspan.co.nz>



Phil Hansen 027 705 0408, for Frazer Pengelly

Group 4: Woodturners

Group 4 Hands on Turning: 1st Tuesday at 9:30am

Group 4 Monthly Turners Meeting: 1st Tuesday at 1:30pm

Group 4 Hands on Turning: 4th Wednesday at 9.30am

We had a great turnout for the morning hands on session and wood sale.

Due to a donation of some dry, semi turned wood of various species to the group, we sold off pieces at \$2 a pop and forwarded funds to the club coffers.

Our afternoon session concentrated on decoration of turned articles using paint and epoxy coating. Graham Nicholson gave us a run down on application of acrylic paints to a vessel that he had made and described making an insulated coffee mug base out of Jarrah. This was finished with clear epoxy emulsion and bubbles removed with CO₂. Both articles were top class and something we can aspire to.

We had a think tank on electronic lathe control systems after a question from Bronwyn regarding current fluctuation on her Vicmark lathe

Lawson Worsnop 027 357 2430

Group Five: Scroll Saw, Marquetry and Intarsia

1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 9.30am

Many home-built craft pieces featured on the Show and Tell table this week, Jacob led the way with a further two superb marquetry pictures and a miniature version of an intricate bowl, the original of which, was a design Gavin fought like a tiger to create earlier this month. Jacob also displayed a jewellery box crafted from an Oak bed head and a newly designed simple small oblong box which will become a favourite over the months/years ahead. As Gavin, who is well known for uttering superlatives about Jacob's creations said again, 'he just continues to improve'. Fred has found that if you want to churn out pictures, then you need to learn how to make frames and fit them; another skill mastered.

The versatility of the humble scrollsaw encourages a group like the Guild's Scroll Team, to continually search for new options and challenges. There are the standard models to be followed when acquiring the knowledge and skill required to satisfy relative competency in the discipline. However, once a member makes a novel item this encourages experimentation around the workshop and there is no limit to creativity; that's where the Scroll Group is today.



One of Jacob von Holzen's just completed marquetry projects



Another of Jacob's recent marquetry pieces



Leigh Morris' hanger for pierced earrings



Jacob's 'skeleton' bowl



Duncan Campbell's fretwork box



Jacob's 'simple' box in recycled oak

Glenn Whittaker 548 0987

Allan's Words of Wisdom

"We don't value craftsmanship any more! All we value is ruthless efficiency, and I say we deny our own humanity that way! Without appreciation for grace and beauty, there's no pleasure in creating things and no pleasure in having them! Our lives are made drearier, rather than richer! How can a person take pride in his work when skill and care are considered luxuries! We're not machines! We have a human need for craftsmanship!"

Bill Watterson, creator of Calvin and Hobbes

"There must be a union between the spirit in wood and the spirit in man. The grain of the wood must relate closely to its function. The abutment of the edge of one board to an adjoining board can mean the success or failure of a piece. Gradually a form evolves, much as nature produces the tree in the first place. The object created can live forever. The tree lives on in its new form. The object cannot follow a transitory 'style', here for a moment, discarded the next. Its appeal must be universal. Cordial and receptive, it should invite a meeting with man."

George Nakashima, American woodworker, architect and furniture maker

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Caretaker Supplies	Stephanie Simpson	
Cleaner	TBD	

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DUTY ROSTER – 6 MONTH LOOK AHEAD

Nov 2021	Group 1
Dec 2021	Group 4
Jan 2022	Group 5
Feb 2022	Group 6&7
Mar 2022	Group 1
Apr 2022	Group 4
May 2022	Group 5
Oct 2021	Group 6&7

Date	Time	Group Activity
Tue 2nd	9:30 AM	4 Hands on Turning
Tue 2nd	1:30 PM	4 Turners
Wed 3rd	9:30 AM	5 Scroll Sawyers
Mon 8th	9:30 AM	1 Carvers
Wed 10th	6:30 PM	6 Open Workshop
Sat 13th	9:30 AM	6 Open Workshop
Wed 17th	9:30 AM	1 Scroll Sawyers
Sat 20th	11:00 AM	Committee Meeting
Sat 20th	1:30 PM	Guild Meeting
Mon 22nd	9:30 AM	1 Carvers
Wed 24th	9:30 AM	4 Hands on Turning
Wed 24th	6:30 PM	6 Open Workshop
Sat 27th	9:30 AM	6 Open Workshop

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