



Kiama Woodcraft Group Inc.

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February 2009 Newsletter

Committee

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Meetings 4th Wednesday of each month at Kiama High School:- Next Meeting 25/2/09

EXPO

Expo will be on our doorsteps in another 3 weeks. Volunteers are needed for the security over the Saturday night and all outstanding signs need to be back for re-dating prior to redistribution. Joe also is looking for demonstrators over the Expo weekend to give the public a visual experience of the variety of woodwork the Kiama members can perform, so don't be shy!

February Speaker/Demonstrator

I unfortunately missed out on last month's guest speaker with Kit Tanner. By all accounts it was a very well received demonstration and made box making look easy. (Always is when you know how). I would like to take this chance to give John Jenkins a big THANKS for all the work he does, trying to get an interesting speaker for the night. They don't always make it but John always seem to find an alternative, Well Done John!! If any member knows of a possible demonstrator or speaker please let John know, I'm sure the more input from members the better.

As was reported at the January meeting John Jenkins was not successful in getting the speaker on the Wave motion generator, possible motion sickness? So John Jenkins proposed to Pres J that each member bring along his/ her best finishing ideas for our project, be it stain, spray ,matt, glossy, wax, Danish oil or whatever. This may provide for interesting discussions / debates. Maybe some of you have some ancient formulations for that perfect finish to add to the mix.

Rolling Events Calendar

Kiama Woodcraft Expo - 14-15 March 2009

March guest speaker is **Art Burrows** from the AWW and will be on Ancient Egyptian Woodworking Tools. This will be an interesting talk, we may just find out how they managed to build the pyramids or maybe coffins!

April meeting will be held at the Pilots Cottage

DID YOU KNOW?

The Ancient Egyptian calendar is a little different from ours today. There were ten days in a week, three weeks in a month, four months in a season, three seasons in a year, and five holy days. That adds up to a 365-day year. The Egyptians were the first people to come up with the 365-day year. Not so sure I like the idea of a 10 day week!

The era between Early Neolithic and upcoming of Pharaonic monarchy is known as Predynastic period. This period shows the formation of strong and simple, Mortise and tenon joints connected with two pieces of wood. These joints were given the appropriate strength using leather lashing, pegs or dowels. The age between sixteenth to eleventh century B.C. is referred as the Egyptian empire which shows an evidence of animal glue strengthened wooden furniture.

Ancient Egyptians were the first civilization to utilize veneering. They were also the first to use varnish or sealants resulting in what are now termed as "finishes". They used native acacias and the wood from the sycamore and tamarisk trees.

Tree of the Month

Jelutong (*Dyera costulata*, syn. *D. laxiflora*) is a species of tree in the oleander subfamily. It grows to approximately 60 metres (200 ft) tall with diameters of 2 metres (5 to 6 ft), or even to 80 m (260 ft) tall with diameters to 3m (10 ft), and boles clear and straight for 30m (90 ft). It grows in Malaysia, Borneo, Sumatra and southern Thailand. Its natural distribution is scattered locales in low-elevation tropical evergreen forest.

Jelutong is used for its wood. Although technically a hardwood it has many properties similar to balsa wood. These properties such as the low density, straight grain and fine texture mean it is easy to work with and popular with model makers. The roots are used as a cork substitute.

In addition, jelutong can be tapped for latex and from the 1920s through the 1960s, jelutong latex was an important source of chewing gum.

Jelutong has been traditionally over harvested, and is a threatened species in many areas. However, due to its quick growth, hardy survival, and strong replanting efforts, its extinction is unlikely. It is a protected species in parts of Malaysia and Thailand. The tree is grown commercially for timber.

Sawdust from this species has been known to cause allergic dermatitis.

Source: Wikipedia



Sandpaper Refresher

How Does Sandpaper Work?

Sandpaper works a lot like a saw, chisel, or any other cutting tool in your shop. The particles on sandpaper are made up from a number of sharp edges that cut the wood the same way a saw blade does. The only real difference is that sandpaper, unlike your saw, can't be sharpened.

Sandpaper is Sandpaper, Right?

Not exactly. There are two different grades of sandpaper on the market; Commercial and Industrial. The commercial grade is commonly available at hardware stores and home project centers. The industrial grade is usually available only through industrial supply stores. It's made from higher quality materials and is designed to be used in the rigors of the production line.

What is grit?

When talking about sandpaper "grit" is a reference to the number of abrasive particles per inch of sandpaper. The lower the grit the rougher the sandpaper and conversely, the higher the grit number the smoother the sandpaper. This makes sense if you imagine how small the particles on an 800-grit sandpaper would need to be to fit into a 1" square. Sandpaper is referred to by the size of its grit (i.e. 150-grit sandpaper).

What's grit sandpaper should I use? The grit you use depends on what you are trying to do.

Grit	Common Name	Uses
40-60	Coarse	Heavy sanding and stripping, roughing up the surface.
80-120	Medium	Smoothing of the surface, removing smaller imperfections and marks
150-180	Fine	Final sanding pass before finishing the wood
220-240	Very Fine	Sanding between coats of stain or sealer.
280-320	Extra Fine	Removing dust spots or marks between finish coats
360-600	Super Fine	Fine sanding of the finish to remove some luster or surface blemishes and scratches.

So what's the difference between Commercial and Industrial grades?

There are three main components to sandpaper; the abrasive grit, the backing material, and the bonding agents. Industrial grade sandpaper uses higher quality components as well as tighter manufacturing tolerances.

Abrasive Grit – Industrial grade sandpapers use abrasive grit material that is stronger and less likely to break down or wear out. Higher quality grits are often very finely graded to ensure consistency.

Backing Material – Commercial grade sandpapers tend to use kraft paper or low-grade fabric as a backing material. Higher grades of backing material are often made from fine cottons or polyesters.

Bonding Agent – The bonding agent is the glue that attaches the abrasive to the paper's backing. Lower grades of sandpaper are often made from hide glue, which doesn't hold up well with heat or moisture. Higher-grade bonding agents such as phenolic resin are used for industrial grade sandpapers.

What are the different types of sandpaper used for?

There are four main types of sandpaper abrasives used in woodworking; Aluminum Oxide, Garnet, Silicon Carbide, and Ceramic. The two used most often by woodworkers are Aluminum Oxide and Garnet.

Aluminum Oxide is one of the most common woodworking abrasives. It exhibits a high degree of friability. This means that when heat and pressure are applied it fragments. This is highly desirable because when Aluminum Oxide fragments it creates new sharp edges. This self-renewing property allows aluminum Oxide to last longer than most other sandpapers.

Garnet is a natural abrasive that is still commonly used in woodworking. It is not friable like Aluminum Oxide and tends to wear out a lot faster. This is not necessarily a detriment since garnet will produce a smoother surface than aluminum oxide of the same grit number. It will however cut slower than its stronger cousin will. Garnet is also an excellent choice for a final sanding paper. It has the tendency to burnish, or seal off a wood's grain. This allows pigmented stains to penetrate woods such as birch, pine, or lauan, more evenly.

Silicon Carbide is harder than both Aluminum Oxide and Garnet. This makes it suitable for cutting harder materials such as metal, paint, plastic, and fiberglass. Silicon carbide is also a friable abrasive but wood is not hard enough of a material to fracture its surface so it will tend to wear out faster than Aluminum Oxide.

Ceramic is not a friable material. It is the hardest of all of the abrasives commonly available. It is generally available in only the roughest grades for fast wood removal in woodworking. The most common use for ceramic sandpaper is shaping and leveling of wood. It is also one of the most expensive materials available. You are most likely to see ceramic abrasives used on belt sander belts.

Source: WWW.Woodzone.com

Kiama Woodcraft Group Inc. General Meeting January 28th 2009

President John Opened the Meeting at 7:00 pm and thanked all for attending and wished us all the very best for the New Year. Then welcomed our guest speaker Kit Tanner and our 3 visitors from the Sydney/Shellharbour Carvers Group.

Attendance: 21

Guest Speakers: Kit Tanner

Apologies: Barry Long and Tom Loosz.

Guest Speaker:

Our guest speaker had on display for us a fine collection of some of the band saw boxes he has made. He advised us that he had become addicted to them after making his first box in 2003 after doing a course with Allan Williams. His favourite timbers are Cedar and Camphor Laurel and most of his finishing is done with Danish Oil. Kit went on to give us a brief explanation on the various types of boxes that were on display. He then proceeded to give us an excellent practical demonstration on the bandsaw on how it is done and made it look very easy. I suspect the brand new blade fitted by John Daniel helped a lot. The one thing I think we all managed to work out was that there is a lot of hand and machine sanding to be done after the bandsaw bit. Kit also mentioned that some of Allan Williams boxes particularly one called the ANautilus@ sells overseas for between \$1,500 and \$2,000.

Pres. John thanked and presented Kit with a cedar pen .

Show & Tell:

Ted Batty - Presented his winning entry in the Kiama Show which was a beautiful ornamental bowl made of Chinese Tallow Wood and very detailed. He also showed us what the final result looks like when the piece your working on decides to fly apart .

John Jenkins - Displayed a double sided band saw box of Red Cedar finished in Danish Oil and what can be done with the remains from the first box.

Ron Croft - Showed his first attempt at band saw boxes two very well made boxes.

John Unwin - Was looking for ideas on what to do with a very ancient piece of Aust. Red Cedar which was once part of an altar rail in a church near Nyngan and was approx. 150 years old.

Errol Cutting - A very fine turned platter of Cape Banksia finished with Danish Oil..

Our guests from the carver group displayed a very impressive carved mirror frame made by the famous and well renowned Fouad Ibrahim, the design he used being over 300 years old.

The Minutes:

From previous GM meeting were accepted as circulated.. Moved Colin Hanbridge & Seconded Ted Batty.

Business Arising: Nil

Correspondence In:

Kiama Council - Re Old Fire Station Community Art Centre Rules.
Kiama Council - Re Clean Up Australia Day 2009
Kiama Council - Re Second hand Saturday Events.
Kiama Council - Re Sunmart Marquee can be borrowed free of charge.
Kiama Council - Re Community Social Plan.
Kiama Council - Refund Hall Hire Bond. Cheque for \$110.01
South Coast Regional Exhibition of Woodworkers .Sat.6th & Sun 7th June 2009 10am-4pm.
Trend Timbers Open Sale Day Fri. 27th & Sat. 28th March 2009.
Carroll 's Chronicle December/January 2009
Advert from Australia Post.

Newsletters & Magazines:

Milton Ulladulla Bowling Club Woodworkers Inc. January & February 2009.
Cubby House News - December 2008 & January 2009
The Hobby Turner November 2008.
Treen Topics. Shoalhaven Woodcraft Society. January 2009.
Goulburn Region Woodworkers Jan/Feb/March 2009
Traditional Tools Group December 2008
The Australian woodworker Magazine Feb.2009

Correspondence out:

The Australian Woodworker Magazine - Subscription Renewal.
Get Well Card for Barry Long.

It was Moved David Ross seconded Ray King that the correspondence be accepted.

Business Arising: Nil**Treasurers Report:**

Treas. Dorothy Hanbridge presented her report and moved that the report be accepted seconded Enn Muller.

Expo Co-ordinator:

Joe White - Advised that letters going out to clubs and newspapers. Volunteers required for security Saturday from 5pm till Sunday morning early. Baden Keen, David Ross and Ted Batty will be able to help. Ray King raised matter of signs for exp and asked who had signs so they could be delivered to have dates changed cost should be cheaper than last year. John Hawkins to provide article for Independent. Joe asked for expressions of interest from members interested in demonstrating at the expo. Joe advised that the commercial side of the expo will be same as last year. John Hanrahan advised the members that the Carvers group will be at the expo and would like to sell raffle tickets for their carved mirror frame did we have any problems with this? NO.

Co-Ordinator:

John Jenkins - No guest speaker for February as yet as wave power generation people have failed again. Guest speaker for March will be Art Burrows who will enlighten us on Ancient Egyptian Wood Working Tools. The April meeting at this stage will be held in the Pilot 's Cottage. John to advise Tom Loosz so can be included in News sheet.

Co-Ordinator O. F. Stn.:

John Unwin - Our recent sale was one of the best yet. John raised the matter of John Daniel making a donation to the club for his stall at the sale. John Daniel very happy to make the donation.

John Hawkins, gave us a run down on winners and place getters at the Kiama Show in the wood work section and advised us that entries were down 10% on last year and with 37 active members on our books we should be able to do better. We were unsuccessful in our application to run the National Scroll Saw Exhibition as it has been decided that it will go to Redcliff near Brisbane..

General Business:

Baden Keen advised that he would not be attending our meeting next month. David Ross to look after supper. Baden expressed concerns that we always seem to have a shortage of funds for supper. Ray King moved that the cost of our supper be paid by the club out of general funds seconded by John Daniel. A counter motion was put by John Unwin seconded by John Hawkins that the system remain as is and only be subsidised out of general funds as the need arises. Ray King 's Motion was put and failed. John Unwin 's motion was put and carried. John Hawkins reminded members that if they entered articles in the south Coast Exhibition that they would not be able to enter them in the Sydney working with Wood Show. It was agreed that the secretary 's name and details be supplied to Kiama Council Re- the Community Social Plan.

Meeting closed at 08:57 pm.

Barry A Mather (Secretary)