



# The Cutting Edge

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December 2012

42 Courtney St Nth. Melbourne Vic 3051

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## UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

### December 11<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm.

**Christmas Drinks and Members' show and tell night.** In the Small Meeting Room (where we held the AGM) at the Meat Market, North Melbourne, entrance off Blackwood St. A fantastic door prize is waiting to be won!

Please email images of your latest projects or work in progress to the VWA Secretary at [secretary@vwa.org.au](mailto:secretary@vwa.org.au)

### March 26<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm. Venue to be confirmed.

**Ashley Eriksmoen, artist and furniture designer.** Ashley Jameson Eriksmoen studied fine woodworking at the College of the Redwoods before earning her M.F.A. in Furniture Design at Rhode Island School of Design. In 2012, Eriksmoen moved to Canberra, to be Head of Furniture at the Australian National University School of Art and to continue her studio furniture practice. <http://ashleyeriksmoen.com/home.html>

### April 23<sup>rd</sup> 7:30pm. Date to be confirmed.

**Visit to the workshop of Christian Cole Furniture.** 5 Dairy Drive, Coburg Vic. 3058. <http://www.christiancolefurniture.com.au>

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## November President's Report 2012

The Southern Hemisphere tilts toward the sun. The chickens are laying two eggs a day. The loquats are beyond sweet and juicy and now rot on the ground. The stinking Indian mynas are eyeing off my raspberries, reckoning they will get in before me. There is a tinge of yellow on the apricots and the eucalypts are a haze of new oil waiting to explode. Streuth – it's nearly Christmas.

As the year draws to a close we reflect on the past. The VWA continues to consolidate its position as the leading woodworking association in the country. We are in a strong position organisationally thanks to the hard work, dedication, intelligence and commitment of our committee past and present and our wonderful, devoted staff.

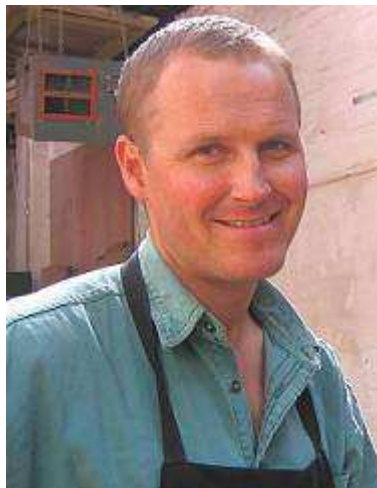
I would like to thank all the committee members for their generosity. There is a lot of work to do in running the VWA. Without the passion of our honorary committee there would be no VWA.

We welcome two new members to the committee: Ward Petherbridge and Sam Johnson. We are thrilled to have Ward and Sam on board.

This past year two long serving highly valued gentlemen have retired from the committee. Ken Free and Carl Lutz have helped shape the modern VWA and now move on to other things. As VWA President and as a woodworker, I thank Ken and Carl for all they have done and trust we will see them participating in the VWA's future.

On behalf of the VWA Committee, I wish you all a merry and safe Christmas and a happy new year.

Yours,  
Damien Wright



### Note from the editor.

Please direct any comments or feedback on the newsletter, articles for publication, or other VWA activity to the Editor at: [editor@vwa.org.au](mailto:editor@vwa.org.au)

## Southern Chinese Pavilion from the University of Melbourne, by Hamish Hill.



### *The New*

During our first semester in 2012 I had the pleasure of instructing a group of about 30 Masters level Architecture students in the construction of a full size pavilion based on an early 19<sup>th</sup> century bridge built by the Dong people at Tongdao in Hunan province in southern China.

The finished building was intended to be erected in a public space as a meeting and resting point providing shade to be enjoyed by all, the above image shows the structure with only a few of the finishing rafters in place on the left hand side, all will be attached in its final resting place.



### *The Original*



Construction:

Mortise and Tenon joinery along with drop in dovetails and wedges were the main form of jointing. They make this a very strong yet slightly flexible traditional timber structure, and allow for occasional dismantling and reconstruction with ease.



The structure will be re-erected with solid concrete footings (similar to image) and galvanized steel stirrups to hold the base of the columns in place.

The finished roof would be as illustrated with round rafters solidly screwed to purlins covering the whole structure, this would traditionally be done with timber pins or dowels but to conform to building regulations we are required to use screws. Adding screws to other parts of the structure is also necessary, because if at a later date the users decided to add a roof made of sheet material then updraft could be a problem. Traditionally the roof would have had fairly heavy clay tiles added which serve to help anchor the building to the ground.



An alternative roof could be attached directly to the purlins removing the need for extra rafters and protecting the timbers from most weather and thus alleviating the need for treatment of the timber prior to erection.

Dependent on the pavilions final location, spaces between columns could be filled in with panels or slats and seating could be easily incorporated in two or more of the openings.

Currently we are negotiating with West Richmond Primary School who would like to have the Pavilion located somewhere on their campus. We are keen to make this happen as it is

a wonderfully multicultural school and I suspect many of their students and families would enjoy its use. The students who made it will be helping me re-erect the Pavilion early in 2013.

Hamish Hill. 2012.

*Editor:* Excellent article Hamish, and what a fantastic project! I feel like taking up architecture again.

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## Storm Wood winning entries at the Timber and Working with Wood Show, October 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>. 2012

On the 2nd of February 2005, a 31 hour storm ripped through Melbourne, leaving a damage bill of millions of dollars in its wake. Much of the damage was concentrated in Melbourne's parks and gardens, where over 230 trees, many dating back to the 1850's, were blown over.

The trees were salvaged from the following areas: Flagstaff, Treasury and Fitzroy Gardens, Fawkner and Yarra Park, and the Domain Parklands.

The then acting Lord Mayor, Gary Singer, decided to make 20 tons available to Victorian artists and craftspeople. The VWA was offered 10% of the salvaged timber, which was milled and air dried over the subsequent years, before being distributed to the members.

The following images are the prize-winners of the Stormwood Exhibition competition.



*Melbourne Lord Mayor Gary Singer; Amanda McKay, events and programmes Manager VWA; and Peter Berry, auctioneer. June 2005.*



*First Prize of \$1000 to Rod Jones for his carving in elm.*



*Equal second prize. Andrew Potocnik. Turned vessels and carved shapes*







*Equal second. Chair in Elm by Jerome Wielens.*



*Low table in elm by Russell Davidson.*



Hall Table by Robert Manhal



Table by Nat Patane

## VWA Meeting at BLUEPRINT Furniture, North Melbourne. October 30<sup>th</sup>



The October Members' Meeting took us to Blueprint Furniture, in North Melbourne. About 30 members turned up for what was to be a tour of the factory, taking us through all the stages of production. Our host for the evening was Charles Scott, co-founder of Blueprint Furniture with his partner Jodie, a business they started 22 years ago. The current workshop is situated in the old Vic Rail printing workshop in North Melbourne, a spacious saw-tooth roof industrial building from the 1890's.

In essence, the business consists of manufacturing beautifully crafted furniture, from recycled industrial timber. While Blueprint design and manufacture a broad range of domestic and office furniture, the main focus at the moment is large solid timber dining tables. These are usually sourced from industrial scale structural sections from wool sheds, factories, warehouses and the like that are due for demolition in and around Melbourne. The timber species include blackbutt, bluegum, Oregon pine, jarrah, karri, etc., but generally the paler species tend to be more popular.

More unusual pieces of furniture are made from floor boards salvaged sports halls, where the line markings are retained and give a hint at its previous life.

*The meeting started at the storage yard at the back, with timber stacks 4m high. Although recycled timber is substantially dry, they still need to be racked out*





for further drying. From there they are fed through a metal detector and de-nailed.

The metal detector, ( on the right), together with a vast array of tongs, pliers, vice-grips, crowbars, blunt chisels and custom made de-nailers (below), ensure that no metal bits remain in the timber and play havoc with the machines when the timber is fed through the



machines for the next stage.

With the de-nailing completed, the boards are dressed on the high speed buzzer (right). The buzzer is a beautifully designed German machine, capable of running at around 7000rpm, and with tungsten blades, produces a fine finish.



Charles Scott explains the finer points on his multi-blade, power-fed rip saw (left).

A venerable old bandsaw of the 1920's, (right) used for re-sawing boards, set up with a 4 inch wide blade and satellite tips.

Longstanding VWA member Graham Hickman, admiring the six-head spindle moulder used to machine tongue and groove floor boards (below).



Once the boards have been dressed and cut to size, they are arranged on a laying out table, to be colour and grain matched as a table top (left).

They are then biscuit joined and glued with polyurethane glue. Gum veins are filled with the West System epoxy resin. The glue line is then cleaned up with a cabinet scraper, and sanded with a 180

Festo rotex random orbital sander through all grits to 240 , and then hand sanded. Finally, the



completed table tops are ready to be sprayed with an acid catalysed lacquer, and racked out.

The VWA wishes to thank Charles and the staff at Blueprint Furniture for the excellent presentation and their hospitality.



## Create from a Crate October 2013

Create from a Crate is an innovative competition aimed to promote recycling and waste reduction.

The aim of the competition is to promote the re-use of waste timber that is currently going to landfill. The competition focuses particularly on post-industrial timber packaging waste.

Each year 500,000 tonnes of timber waste is disposed of in Victoria. Much of this timber waste is packaging waste in the form of pallets, crates and boxes. Often imported pallets are made of exotic timber species and much of this timber has the potential to be recycled into new and value added products.

We hope that the Create from a Crate Competition helps make people aware of the potential that this waste material has for being re-used and recycled. We would like to change people's attitudes towards timber waste so that people begin to consider this timber more as a resource that can be reused, rather than as refuse to be discarded. The competition provides the incentive for individual wood designers and crafts people to design and construct functional or artistic objects from the timbers available from these pallets.



*John Monument and Libby O'Brien from the Victorian Woodworkers Association in front of the pallets from Amcor Flexibles designated for the Create from a Crate Competition 2013*

### Competition Outlines 2012/13

- The timber used in the Competition is provided by the Waste Converters Recycling Depot in Dandenong South. This timber originated from AMCOR Flexibles, Preston.
- **Two** wooden pallets will be made available to each contestant.

EACH PALLET CONTAINS: (all dimensions approximate)

- 3 bearers 1520-1670mm long, 150 x 70mm
- 9 boards 760mm long, 100 x 20mm
- 1 board 760mm long, 125 x 20mm
- 2 boards 760mm long. 150 x 25mm.
- Only the timber contained in the pallet is to be used other than fixing screws and nails, adhesives and finishes. Ideally a maximum of ten percent total content of



finished article/s can be other material (e.g. other timber, glass, steel, etc). The idea is to "emphasise" rather than hide the recycled origin of the recycled material!

### Categories/sections

Judges awarded a minimum of 4 Prizes including:

- First prize: \$3,000
- Second prize: \$2,000
- Third prize: \$1,000
- Waste Converters Prize \$1,000

### Exhibition and Award Presentations

- The first exhibition in 2003 was held at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre, Spencer St, Melbourne as part of the Timber and Working with Wood Show. There was a follow up exhibition of the winning entries held in the Atrium at Federation Square sponsored by Sustainability Victoria. The 2004 and 2005 Exhibitions were held at the Meat Market Craft Centre in North Melbourne. The most recent exhibition was held in 2006, again as part of The Timber and Working with Wood Show, which was held at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre.

The venue for the 2013 exhibition is yet to be announced. We will be aiming to exhibit in one metropolitan galley and one regional gallery.

### How to enter:

There are several steps and fees related to entry, so please read the following carefully:

- a. Go to the VWA website and fill in the registration form:  
<http://www.vwa.org.au/exhibitions/create-crate/>
- b. Once registered, an automated reply will be sent to your inbox with details on how to pay the entry fee/deposit. Free entry for VWA members. Deposit is repaid upon submission of a piece at the exhibition.
- c. Auto reply will inform entrants of the collection options.
- d. Information on Create from a Crate is also available on:  
<http://www.wasteconverters.com.au/RecyclingCompetition.php>,
- e. Facebook Page <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Create-from-a-Crate/286427344794964>.

Crate Collection Fee: \$50.....**this fee is refunded** after your item is displayed in the exhibition.

**\*\* Please note that the cut off date for entries is June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**

**Payment details:**

Please deposit **\$50 (or \$100 if you are not a VWA Member)** into the Bendigo Bank account -

**BSB 633 000**

**Acc. No. 1111 05292**

**Acc Name – Victorian Woodworkers Association**

Or if you wish to send a cheque or money order, made out to the **Victorian Woodworkers Association**, please post to –

**Meg Allan**

**c/o VWA**

**2650 Mansfield – Whitfield Road**

**TOLMIE 3723**

Once you have paid the required amount, you will be sent an email informing you of where to pick up your crates.

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## 'Home' Exhibition March/April 2013

'Home' is an exciting exhibition exploring the contemporary home in craft, fine furniture and woodcraft. *Home* will be held at Banyule Arts Space, Ivanhoe (VIC) during March and April 2013. The theme and works displayed will present a new way to experience a collection of a variety of works by transforming the gallery space into the interior of a house. Banyule Council is calling for submissions for fine furniture and suitable woodworks as listed below. We are excited to hear about your creative ideas so feel free to make suggestions if you think a particular piece you have created may suit the exhibition.

*Our homes are the space where we are most at ease. By recreating this setting, viewers will be able to relax and enjoy the works free of some of the connotations that come with a sterile gallery environment. By merging furniture and woodcraft with works of art from the Banyule Art Collection, we can reimagine this most intimate setting with a range of works that are both functional and creative. The focus of this display is on the importance of the crafted object, the skills of their makers and the process of making itself.*

### YOUR DETAILS

NAME:

ADDRESS:

EMAIL:

TELEPHONE:

LOCATION OF WORKSHOP (SUBURB) WHERE YOU CREATE WORK:

### WHICH WORKS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUBMIT FOR CONSIDERATION? (TICK ONE OR MORE)

#### The BEDROOM

DOUBLE OR QUEEN SIZED BED\*

BED SIDE TABLES

JEWELLERY BOX

PICTURE FRAME

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

#### The DINING ROOM

DINNER TABLE AND CHAIRS\*

BUFFET

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

#### The KITCHEN

SALT AND PEPPER SHAKER

SMALL KITCHEN TABLE AND CHAIRS

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

#### The PLAYROOM

ROCKING HORSE

DOLLS HOUSE

DOLL'S CRADLE

CHILDREN TOYS (That are available for children's use)

BLACKBOARD (That available for children's use)

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

#### The FAMILY ROOM

COFFEE TABLE

TV STAND

CHESS BOARD

BOOK SHELF (We are looking for two book shelves in total)

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

#### OTHER ROOMS

IDEAS: \_\_\_\_\_

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN GIVING A TALK AS PART OF OUR PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM?



YES     NO    NB: Your response here will have no impact on the selection of works.

**WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN A FORUM AS PART OF OUR PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM?**

YES     NO    NB: Your response here will have no impact on the selection of works.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER IDEAS FOR WAYS TO ENGAGE THE LOCAL COMMUNITY IN HOME?**

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**Please send images of your work(s) and a resume or brief biography about you and your work to:**

Claire Watson, Exhibition Curator.

**EMAIL SUBMISSIONS (PREFERRED):** [claire.watson@banyule.vic.gov.au](mailto:claire.watson@banyule.vic.gov.au)

**POSTAL:** Claire Watson, Art Curator, PO BOX 51, IVANHOE, VIC, 3079

**SUBMISSIONS CLOSE 10 JAN, 2013:** if successful you will be contacted by the curator.

**QUERIES?:** Contact Claire: (03) 9457 9851

Please note works must be delivered to Banyule Arts Space (14 Ivanhoe Pde, Ivanhoe) on 11 March, 2013 and collected on 24 April, 2013. Due to a limited budget Banyule Council can only provide a nominal fee towards the transportation costs of items marked with an asterisk (\*).



## Timber and Veneers for sale

High quality blackwood boards and a variety of veneers are for sale. Please contact David Collins, 19 Melanie Drive Warragul 3820

5623 2088  
0419 031 282



The sizes are: 250x25 1/3.0 4/2.7 1/2.1 2/1.5  
230x25 1/4.3 2/3.5 1/3.0 2/2.3 2/1.1  
200x25 1/4.3 1/4.1 4/3.6 1/3.5 1/3.1 2/2.7 5/1.8  
2/1.0  
175x25 1/4.1 3/3.6 3/3.0

I am asking for \$1860.00 for the lot or \$3500.00 m3 if sold per board.

I also have some bundles of fiddleback ash and tas myrtle veneer leaves which you can see in one of the pics.

The details of the veneer are: Bundles 1 and 2, 35 leaves x 330 wide x3.0m long fiddleback ash

Bundles 3,4 and 5 35 leaves x 520 wide x3.0m long fiddleback ash

Bundle 6 12 leaves x 520 wide x3.0m long fiddleback ash

I'm asking for \$20.00 m2 for the f/back ash veneer

Bundle 7 35 leaves x 350 wide x 3.0m long tas myrtle

Bundles 8,9,10,11 35 leaves x 180 wide x

2.7m long tas myrtle

Bundle 12 and 13 35 leaves x 180 wide x

2.7m long tas myrtle (different grain to above bundles)

Bundle 14 35 leaves x 330 wide x 2.7m long tas myrtle

bundle 15 50 leaves x 400 wide x 3.3m long tas myrtle (burl type of grain)

I'm asking for \$10.00 m2 for the tas myrtle veneer



### Current Committee and Contacts:

President	Damien Wright	03 9486 4434
Vice-President	Jerome Wielens	0431 891 451
Treasurer	Rob Allan	03 5776 2178
Secretary	Stephen Farquhar	0419 311 010
Editor	Will Matthysen	0438 984 415
School Sub-committee Chairman	Jerome Wielens	0431 891 451
Exhibitions Co-ordinator	Libby O'Brien	0430 500 420
Committee Member	John Monument	0417 119 946
Committee Member	Andrew Potocnik	0419 875 811
Committee Member	Mark Wakeham	0428 242 585
Committee Member	Sam Johnston	0404 520 680