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UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

Wednesday 27th August at 7:30 pm.

Designing for CNC.

**Venue: Arts House Meat Market Meeting room,
5 Blackwood Street North Melbourne. 3051.**

Sam Johnston of Sem Design will talk about furniture and product design specifically related to digital design and production.

Sem Design was founded in Melbourne by Sam Johnston in 2011. Trained as a landscape architect, Sam has worked in the industry for over 10 years, in Brisbane with SPLAT, New York with EDAW/AECOM and London with Gustafson Porter.

Sam's research and teaching experience includes various lectures, conference papers, and exhibitions, including Bauhaus Kolleg V and ECLAS 2007 conference, as well as leading the design studios for post graduate and master of landscape architecture students at Kingston

University and, most recently, a Lower Pool Design Studio at RMIT, Melbourne.

Sam is also a member of the Wood Design Centre in North Melbourne run by the VWA.



Friday 19th September 12:00pm to 4:00pm.

**Excursion to the Plywood Production Mill at Myrtleford.
Address: 251 Myrtleford-Yackandandah Rd, Myrtleford 3737.**

Carter Holt Harvey purchased the Sawmill and Pulp Mill at Myrtleford in 1995, and since then has invested heavily in a new plywood mill to keep up with today's standards.



They are major producers of a range of timber products; including structural and engineering timber products, and various forms of plywoods and flooring.

Ross Barlow, the Facility Manager, has offered to take VWA members for a tour of the plywood manufacturing plant while it is in operation, showing all aspects production from veneer slicing, pressing and laminating.

Places are limited, so please contact VWA Meetings Co-ordinator, Stephen Ziguras on 0405 668 779, or email at stephen@ecowooddesign.com.au if you are interested in attending. Also see Carter Holt Harvey website at <http://www.chhwoodproducts.com.au/>.

Wednesday 22nd October at 7:30 pm.

VWA Annual General Meeting.

Venue: Arts House Meat Market Meeting room, 5 Blackwood Street North Melbourne. 3051.

Create from a Crate News Update.



The hugely successful Create from a Crate 2014 is to become a biennial event, so get ready for Create from a Crate 2016! For those woodies that started work for the 2014 event but did not manage to exhibit, finish off those entries and submit them in 2016.

Entries are required on the 1st February 2016, and the Entry Form will be posted in the next newsletter. The **Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre**, at the Corner of Walker & Robinson Streets, Dandenong 3175, has been booked from the 4th till 27th February 2016.

There is also a possibility that Create from a Crate 2016 will be hosted at a major Regional Art Gallery for a few weeks, after the Walker street exhibition. Negotiations are underway.

VWA Members' Meeting, 20th May 2014. Hamish Hill presents Students' work at The University of Melbourne Architecture Workshop.

Hamish welcomed about thirty VWA members to the Architecture Melbourne Uni Architecture workshop on the corner of Swanston and Grattan Street. The evening consisted of a presentation by Hamish of a range of projects where students were given the opportunity of hands on construction.

As well as traditional woodworking equipment, the workshop also accommodates the latest in CNC laser cutting and 3D printing equipment, and also on show was an excellent exhibition of student works based this technology.

In past newsletters Hamish has written about timber structures based on traditional Asian architecture. These life-size structures included gateways, pavilions and small foot bridges which were redesigned to be constructed in treated pine, and formed the basis of group projects undertaken by architecture students.

Also of interest was the very successful timber furniture elective subject that Hamish and Alex Selenitsch had run in the past, producing some strikingly innovative pieces.



Balsa Models of student designs

Alex and Hamish have been running this subject for over twenty years with up to twenty Masters of Architecture students, each making a piece of furniture during the course of one semester. (That is twelve weeks with six hours workshop time a week.)

The students come to the subject with very little, or more often no, experience of workshops, timber or making (apart from models). They began with a brief that was provided, and in the first two weeks had to come up with a design in model form, research the timber they were to use and purchase the same, generally from Mathews Timber.

Alex and Hamish encouraged them to start with rough sawn timber to give them the whole experience of what is involved in processing the sawn log. During this initial period the students discuss the design options with the tutors before deciding on a final direction.

In recent years the design brief given to the students is for a Hall piece. They start the process by having discussions around the ceremonial and practical aspects of a piece of furniture that greets and farewells you and others from your home. As a rule timber comes in stick, slat or board form, and Hamish highlights the idiosyncratic movements and difficulties associated with timber in contrast with most manmade boards and materials.

The outcomes speak for themselves, Hamish and Alex have the luxury of working with well-motivated intelligent adults who have been trained in design and are receptive to instruction and guidance.



Fiona Y Lew



Adam Golvan



Ruth Wibowo



Mia Hutson



Anastasia Sklavakis

Students are encouraged to use Organoil Danish Oil for finishing as it is wonderfully fool proof and non toxic, occasionally students who do not want discoloration of their timber will use an old fashioned soap mix which also can work well and is also non toxic. The greatest hurdle is time, there is never enough, but they always get there in the end.



Amelyn Ng



Brenton Weisert

VWA Members' Meeting, 25th June 2014. Ray Bellette and Natural Timber Oils

Ray Bellette from Natural Timber Oils gave an entertaining and informative talk to VWA members at North Melbourne on Wed 25 June.



Ray has been a longstanding distributor for Organoil (made in Australia) and 5 years ago started selling Osmo oils (made in Germany).

Organoil have been going in Australia for 25 years. Initially based in Byron Bay, they moved to Sydney after a fire burnt down their warehouse in 2003 and the subsequent liquidation in 2008.

Osmo were founded in Munster, Germany in 1878 as a timber producer. They initially imported a natural wood-wax oil from the US (still made today by Osmo) and started making their own Hardwax Oil finishes in the 1960s. Osmo are the original manufacturer of Hardwax Oil. They are the only company in Germany to produce both timber and natural oils, today Osmo sell in 100 countries worldwide.

In the last 5 years, Ray has seen an increase in demand for Hardwax Clear Oils and coloured interior finishes for timber. This is where Osmo has an advantage as Osmo finishes come in a range of pre-mixed tints. Many top-flight makers and retailers are now using Osmo (including for example, Blueprint Furniture, Anton Gerner, Peter Walker Perth, Eclipse Furniture Wagga and Richard Vaughan to name a few). All Osmo and Organoil internal oils are 100% food safe when dry.

Application of Osmo takes a little practice, but there are three firm rules:

1. Don't oversand: this can prevent the oil from soaking into the timber. Sand to 80-100 grit for coloured finishes and a maximum of 180 grit at the most for a clear finish.
2. Don't over-apply: use a well drained roller or brush and work the finish well into the timber. Too much oil means the finish will not soak into the timber correctly and take much longer to cure.
3. Use the right equipment. You can brush, rag or roll. A short napped microfiber roller can be used but not mohair or lambswool. For the final finishing the roller should be used in the same direction, and not flipped over as the rollers are 'directional'

Sanding is usually not needed between coats, but if desired a light rub with a white scotchbrite scourer is plenty. The Osmo UK website has a good video on how to apply Osmo Polyx oil: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dz8eGPnh74Q>.

To keep blonde or pale timbers from turning yellow from the oil finish, Ray recommends using Osmo Polyx Raw finish with 2% white for the first coat and then a clear top coat (in whatever sheen is required – Matt, Mid-Matt, Satin-Matt and Glossy are available).

Ray also recommends the Organoil Danish oil. It is a traditional recipe with no urethanes and dries to a matt finish. Sand up to 1200 grit, apply one coat and wipe off the excess one hour later. Recoat the following day and polish with lambswool one week later.

Stephen Ziguras.

World Wood Day 2014 by Richard Yates.

Local Wood and Metal Artist, Richard Yates, has recently returned from China, after participating in World Wood Day. Richard was invited to participate in this year's International Wood Culture Expo that was held in Fujian Province, China from March 26th.



The event sponsored by the International Wood Culture Society featured over 300 Wood Carvers, Sculptors, Fine furniture makers and Wood turners from 57 Countries. World Wood Day celebrates the activities related to the Arts and humanities that acknowledge wood. The event spanned 18 days, taking in Xian you City, Wenzhou, Meizhou Island, Old Shanghai and Beijing.



Invited Sculptors were asked to bring an artwork to exhibit which was created from a native wood, and represented the theme 'Homeland'. Richard chose Huon Pine, to carve a deep relief carving of the 1850's Australia Gold rush. This carving ' Road to Riches' was subsequently sold in China.



Richard was very honoured and humbled to be invited to such an event and found the experience profound and inspiring...To work alongside and collaboratively with some of the most talented from around the world, was a chance of a life time. During the weeks, Richard and his fellow artists demonstrated their skills in front of thousands of appreciative Chinese visitors to the Exhibition Centre. The artists then travelled to Wenzhou Special Education School where they then again demonstrated their skills to the students of this wonderful school. This school is also very fortunate to have China's

Master Carver, Master Gao, teach and mentor the students the fine art of carving. The international carvers were honoured to work with Master Gao, on a collaborative installation for the school.

Richard and his wife Karen, travelling China together, were over whelmed by the warmth and kindness of the Chinese people, and will truly value the lifelong friendships that were forged with the other artists.

Position Wanted

Dear Prospective Employer,

I am seeking a full-time apprenticeship position. I am currently working on a casual basis with Mark Tuckey Furniture.

I have completed the Furniture Design & Technology course at RMIT, and a pre-apprenticeship course of furniture making in 2009. I have also taking up fine woodworking and design classes at Handsome and Co on weekends which I thoroughly enjoy.

The skills and experience I've achieved through education and work experience are:

- Use of hand tools, power tools and static machinery
- Preparing surfaces to finishing
- Excellent computer skills and knowledge of, Auto-cad 2011
- Good communication skills
- Flexible with time management
- Furniture Restoration

I have a passion and love for furniture to the finest detail and would value the opportunity working within the building and design industry and be a part of that culture.

Please contact me for a copy of my current CV. I look forward to hearing from you soon. You can contact me on 0406 291 925 or 9435 7451, or email at j-marten@hotmail.com. I am based in Greensborough, Melbourne.

Yours sincerely,

Jessica Marten

Furniture Timber for Sale

Leo Sadlek has various timbers for sale that he would like to clear before moving, including 25yo New Guinea Walnut, air dried Blackwood, Lilly Pilly, and Tasmanian Myrtle.

Please email Leo for further information:

- lsadlek@live.com



Timber	Sizes	Packs for sale now					Price
Tasmanian Myrtle	250 x 25	225 x 25	210 x 25	180 x 25	150 x 25	100 x 25	.35 M3
	1 @ 3.3M 3 @ 3.0M	3 @ 4.2M 1 @ 1.5M 1 @ 1.2	2 @ 3.3M 1 @ 3.0M	3 @ 3.3M 3 @ 3.0M 3 @ 2.4M	2 @ 2.1M	1 @ 1.2M	\$2,100.00
Tasmanian Myrtle, rough sawn. Beautiful natural dark pink to rich red colouring with streaks and tones of purple. This timber is getting difficult to get a hold of. This timber was shipped from a saw mill in Tasmania around about 1995. They are clean boards, mostly back sawn with good figure and color. This is excess from a large set of furniture I constructed.							
Figured Ash	240 x 35	200 x 35	135 x 35	120 x 35	70 x 35		.12 M3
Large 'birds-eye' character	1 @ 1.0M	2 @ 3.9M 1 @ 2.4M	1 @ 2.7M	1 @ 3.9M	1 @ 3.9M		\$300.00
Figured ash. This is beautiful hardwood suitable for an interesting table top. It has a large 'birds-eye' character.							
New Guinea Walnut	300 x 50	250 x 50	140 x 50				.1 M3 \$400.00
Wide clean boards, 25 yrs old	1 @ 3.9M 1 @ 3.0M 1 @ 1.7M	2 @ 3.9M	1 @ 600mm				
New Guinea walnut is a solid heavy and hard timber with lots of variance in the colour range. These lengths of 50mm boards were purchased in 1989 for a range of tables that I was making at the time.							
Lilly Pilly - Air dried	5 @ 300 x 30 x 1.7M	Salvaged from the streets of Neerim South. Close grained & hard mid-brown colour. All width is not usable.					\$150.00
Air-dried Lilly Pilly timber. Five bark to bark slabs of Lilly Pilly timber that has been air-dried for approximately 17 years. These slabs came from trees that used to line the road into Neerim South Victoria and I saved the timber from going into fireplaces. The slabs have bowed, but the timber will be useful once milled into narrower boards suitable for furniture components such as frames and drawer fronts. Or they can be cut, milled and laminated into a table top.							
Air Dried Blackwood (dark)	300 x 38	200 x 38	180 x 38	150 x 38	140 x 30		.24 M3
	7 @ 2.3M	1 @ 1.5M	1 @ 2.4M 1 @ 1.8M	1 @ 1.8M 1 @ 1.0M	1 @ 1.0M		\$1,450.00
Log milled in 1994. It has been stickered and air-dried for 10 years. Another ten years in my rack. I have used a lot of this and find it a stunning rich dark red-brown colour. There is some bark to bark slabs and a little bit of fiddleback on the edges.							
Air dried Blackwood (light)	300 x 25	150 x 25					.2 M3 \$900.00
	7 @ 2.4M	8 @ 2.4M					

This is a pack of timber from a tree that I had milled in the mid-1900's. It was stickered and air-dried for 10 years and then a further 10 years in my rack as I slowly used about half of the original log. This timber is clean, with some bark to bark slabs and all 25mm thick. The light coloring in timber from this log comes up very nicely when polished.

Red Gum Slab	2.7M long x 60mm thick and tapers from 500mm to 350mm wide. Bark to bark	\$190.00
Plywood Rack	Two large bays offer room for approximately 30 full size 18mm x 2.4M x 1.2M boards. A side bay has room for offcuts of various smaller sizes.	\$30.00

Current VWA Committee and Contacts:

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Committee Member	Mark Wakeham	0400 102 551
Committee Member	Sam Johnston	0404 520 680
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Committee Member	Stephen Ziguras	0405 668 779

