

# WAD NEWS

*The Newsletter of the Woodcrafters Association of Durban*

Issue 16

December/January 2005

## In This Issue

**TOYS FOR JOY. CHAIRMAN'S TURN. WHAT'S HAPPENING.**

### TOYS FOR JOY - 2005

THE DURBAN Woodcrafters' Association-sponsored "Toys for Joy" project aimed at providing as many gifts as possible for under-privileged children in the Durban metropolitan area, was still in full swing when the accompanying photograph was taken.

Headquartered in the Durban North home workshop of member Tom Chalmers, the project is now in its third year for the association, having earlier been run for several years for the Durban North Rotary Club.

Time, rather than materials, is the biggest constraint for the project. During the past three years, Tom has been assisted by fellow club members Frank Robertson and Alan Iverson. However, this year, business commitments have kept Tom's workshop closed for several weekends when most of the work is done.

In addition, material has been in short supply this year with few contributions from local sources. Most of the timber this year was either purchased locally or came in the form of off-cuts from Rare Woods, in Knysna, which had heard of the project.

Tom often visits the town and returns home with a bootful and the rear seats of his car full of timber of all types and sizes.

This helped somewhat this year, but with the local supply all but dried up, it resulted in a drop in the number of toys manufactured from the record-breaking 600 last year to just under 150 this year.

As a result, Tom has appealed to club members to assist in manufacturing toys for next Christmas as well as sourcing off-cuts. Ideally, he needs wood at least 40 mm thick by 50 mm wide, but any wood will be accepted and turned into toys. Old floor boards are also welcome as they are used in the production of blackboard frames.

All he asks is that a few members spend an hour or two during odd weekends at his workshop assisting with the cutting, sanding, assembly and painting of the toys. Normally, the workshop begins production of the toys each April with a deadline in mid-November.

All toys, blackboards etc. are donated to various institutions, such as crèches, farm schools and the like. The toys are given to the children for Christmas and the blackboards and other equipment is donated to the crèches, most of which do not have such "luxuries".



**Chairman**

Charles Thatcher

[Charles.thatcher@bsnmedical.com](mailto:Charles.thatcher@bsnmedical.com)

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*Vice Chairman*

Perrie Bullock

*Treasurer*

Albert Paterson

7673338

*Secretary*

John Morgan

7027679

*Librarian*

Geoff Etheridge

*Members*

Rod Ball

Neil Knight

Tom Holden

Derek Williamson

**Membership**

Application forms are available at the monthly meetings from the treasurer, Albert Patterson.

Joining Fee:	R200.0
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Annual Subscription:	
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Normal	R130.0
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Pensioners	R85.00
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Woodturning Section:	
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In addition to the fees above:	R65.00
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**Visitors:**

It was a pleasure to entertain the following visitors who joined us at our last meetings. I trust that you enjoyed the demonstration and we hope to see you again shortly.

Nigel Tretway, Clyde Neuman, Winston French, Gavin Schofield, Vogt, John Fitzgerald, Robin Andrews, Paul Hoepfl, Mac Naidoo, Tim Potter, Robin Allan.

**CHAIRMAN'S TURN***Charles Thatcher*

I can't believe it is the end of the year once again. It is great to BE back home after a long spell and back into the woodworking again with renewed vigour. The association seems to have thrived in my absence, so maybe I should go away more often! Thanks Perrie and the committee.

This letter as you will see is short and sweet, I am taking my annual break from the news letter to re-charge the batteries and will be back in full swing again next year.

Thanks to all those that have contributed to the recent demos, Fred, John Morgan, Bruce, John Mills, & Perrie who have all put in tremendous effort to make the demo's the outstanding success they are. Thanks guys.

Recent suggestions from some members have suggested that the demonstrations are too advanced for a lot of the members and we should get back to basics. The committee have discussed this in length and whilst we agree that it is important that we cater for the new woodworker, we have also to take cognisance of the more advanced members. One of the aims of the association is to raise the standard of Woodworking in the association and to achieve this we must always be challenging ourselves and trying out new techniques and methods so it is with this in mind that we decide on the demonstrations. We are aware that we need to also cater for the novice and we will endeavour to structure the lectures around both ends of the scale.

This leads me into the Woodcrafters Challenge, novice and advanced alike I challenge you to enter your master piece/s into the challenge at the end of year function on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December. This is a great opportunity to obtain constructive comments that will improve your skills and maybe win a prize or two plus have a lot of fun. Don't let me down please!! There are entry forms at the end of the newsletter, please try and complete these beforehand, it will make life far easier for everybody at registration

All that is left is for me to wish you all a very festive and joyful Christmas and we look forward to a great year ahead.

Hope to see you all at the challenge / Braai.

Happy Woodworking

*Charles*

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

Please let me know of any events that would be of interest to our members, I need to know when and where and I will endeavour to include it in the next newsletter.



DECEMBER 5 <sup>TH</sup>	18h00	WOODCRAFT
<p><b>Woodcrafters Challenge &amp; EOY Braai</b>                  This promises to be a great event so DO NOT miss it. Please make an attempt to enter something into the challenge.                  Remember to bring your crockery and cutlery to the braai , salads and rolls will be provided. There will be a cash bar so please do not bring your own booze. We look forward to seeing you there.</p>		

DECEMBER	WOODTURNING
<b>NO MEETING</b>	

JANUARY 9 <sup>TH</sup>	18h00	WOODCRAFT
<p><b>To be Confirmed</b>                  Details will be sent out shortly.</p>		

JANUARY 16 <sup>TH</sup>	18h00	WOODTURNING
<p><b>Ornamental Turning</b>                  Winston, a member of the Midlands Guild will be demonstrating ornamental turning, balls with spikes and the like 'A la David Springett' something different to the norm, so be there it promises to be very interesting.</p>	<p><b>Winston French</b></p>	

**Machine 'O' SHOW**

9<sup>TH</sup>, 10<sup>TH</sup> & 11<sup>TH</sup> December  
 Berea Centre

**Woodworking Crafts, Diy, Tools, Demonstations etc.**

## THE CLASSIFIEDS

**Rockwell Lathe for Sale      R 1800**

- 4 Speed, ½ HP Motor
- 1metre Cast Iron Bed, 7” Swing
- Tool Rests, Face Plates, Morse Taper Drive & Cup Centre

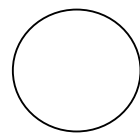
Contact Jasper Pons at  
032 4853010

**Imbuia Planks for Sale**

3.0m x 330mm x 25mm	R250
3.0m x 400mm x 25mm	R300
1.5m x 330mm x 25mm	R125
2.1m x 120mm x 25mm	R50
2,4m x 80mm x 25mm	R50

Contact Jasper Pons at  
032 4853010

# WOODCRAFTERS CHALLENGE 2005



## ENTRY FORM

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

**CATEGORY:** (Please indicate with a X the relevant category)

Woodturning  Furniture Making  Other

**CLASS:** (Please indicate with a X the relevant class)

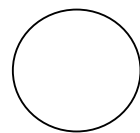
NOVICE  INTERMEDIATE  ADVANCED

**DESCRIPTION:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**WOOD:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**WOOD:** \_\_\_\_\_