Meeting Chaired by Bruce Jackson President of WAWA

Secretary David Milton

Meeting commenced at 10am at the Mandurah Group Workshop.

Attendees:

Bruce Jackson (President), David Milton(DM), Robin Campbell(RC), Jon Braine(JBr), Joe Blundy(JBI), Frank Visser(FV), Denis Tapley(DT), Noel Moyes(NM), Mike Miller(MM), Jim Cameron(JC), Alan Williams(AW), John Quartermaine(JQ), Kerri Nichols(KN), Barbara Jennings(BJ), Denis Hadden(DH), Ian Ludford(IL), Adrian Bolton(AB), Alan Andrews(AA), Neil George(NJ)

Apologies. Andrea, McCandlish, Glenys Hough, Max Heath, George Murphy, Brian Maher, Norm Byrnes

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

• The WAWA training program for 2021

- General provisions handout previously presented to CoM was given out by JC for discussion
 - o Chainsaw Training.
 - DT indicated that he had taken over responsibility for co-ordinating chainsaw training and had been in touch with Peter Tutt and the courses are available and will cost same as last year. Need minimum of 6 max of 8 per course.
 - o DM informed that there are three Wandi members on wait list.
 - DT What will WAWA subsidise this year? Is it fair to limit the subsidies to 2 people per group when group sizes vary considerably? It becomes a safety issue when members are denied access to the training.
 - AW It must be made clear that training is for WAWA group activities and not for personal training, that is the trained members must be available to carryout chainsaw work at WAWA group activities.
 - DH Country group need to be able to have access so either trainer will have to travel, or they may have to travel up to the training site.
 - DT Peter Tutt has training facility for trimming felled logs which he prefers to use.
 - ACTION: CoM to decide on numbers and subsidy issue and advise groups.
 - First Aid.
 - Andy Hill is co-ordinating, so groups need to talk to him or DM on what is available but organising is up to groups.

- AW Groups to report to secretary who has training/certificates. Training needs to uniform across groups and that we should seek group bookings to get discount.
- DM Reminded groups that the Standard Training of First Aid at senior level is part of National Training Scheme and that recent training showed that no discounts are available by main providers, same price per individual for one or 20 participants. This allows groups to get individuals trained. If groups want to claim cost, they must provide the details of training to WAWA either Secretary or Registrar who will keep record on data base.
- For Demonstrator and Judge Training JC explained that previous arrangements will continue. It is up to Group Conveners to request demonstrator training assistance. Judge training will continue to be run on an as needs basis by JC and BJ.
- Group Assistance and in-house training JC indicated current practices to remain, its up to groups to put their requests to JC.
 - AA queried about defibrillator training provisions and how they could get annual refreshers and some support from WAWA concerning costs.
 - AW indicated that you could get a refresher session for \$250 but that St Johns will do it for zero cost if you signup for your defibrillator going onto their network
 - DT suggested that you if you can identify a medical professional in your group ie a nurse, doctor, paramedic they can do it.
 - DT Queried where groups looking for WEWS turners or demo turners for their meeting **It was advised they contact JC**.
- Turning Techniques. It is proposed that WAWA conducts training in lathe work. That is, learning to turn at an advanced level. A survey to determine the level of interest among members, what skills members would like to learn, and the number of trainers needed, has been written. Does it need refining? Will it provide the information needed?
- DT handed out a proforma of a proposed questionnaire to be sent to all WAWA members asking for feedback to him concerning turning skills and developing techniques. The aim is to lift the skills of all turners and get higher standards, encourage experimentation, and enhance enjoyment. The form was discussed, training will be for different skill levels and it will be a type of "master class" the following discussion points were raised:
 - BJ There is a need to ensure we capture some indication of the members perception of their skill level.
 - AW Should not use novice, Advanced, Master class etc. Need to have some tick boxes. Any reference to advanced should be removed, focus on improving skill. Times running courses will need to be flexible.
 - FV Time of training ie 9am to 3pm may be issue for some groups/members as facilities may not be available. Can we use other facilities?
 - JC Nomenclature is very important. The intention is this is not for beginners or new start members but those that have some

experience and want to improve their skills and knowledge, its really a Woodturners Skills Improvement program

- o II Why not pick out a couple of specific techniques?
- DT This will come from survey and then we can construct a module e.g. deep hollowing, specialised tools needed, different opinions. Encourage participants to bring own tools.
- AA There is a great need with his members for tool sharpening and maintenance.
- FV Finishing courses are needed.
- o AW Survey must ask if the participant has relevant skill.
- JQ The issue of competency needs to be recognised, that is does the participant perception of skill match their demonstrable skill.
- DT indicated that the survey would be followed up with a more detail information gathering on these issues once courses are considered.
- BJ Recommended that the time for survey return be mid-April due to Easter etc.
- DH Suggested group committees look at their areas and focus on specific areas for the group, that is they talk to their group concerning the proposal and respond in a co-ordinated way.
- JC Reminded members that getting a view on skill levels is hard on an individual basis.
- AW There should be a place for intensive beginner follow up training i.e., a full day on a specific activity such a spindle turning, bowls etc.

• The WAWA website

- DT What should be on it? Who should have access to add information? Let us get some quotes before we commit. This website should make WAWA look like an association that aspires to professional standards.
- IL showed the members the current page by running through a live demonstration. IL is currently updating and modifying page to make it more useful to members. The intention is to continue this current process of continuous improvement but the possibility of complete page rework by a third party is being investigated. We are using WordPress for the page development.
- BJ problem with new members password
- Mundaring is misspelt.
- NM Swan successfully use Google drive, publish information weekly and requested that a link be provide on WAWA webpage.
- NM Can Technical drawings be made public once they are all indexed and downloaded?
- BJ Suggested that they should be only for members, as a perk of membership
- IL Indicated most drawings in the woodturning world are public e.g. a lot are from New Zealand.
- NM The drawings are used by high schools for teaching. We need to check re copyright and ownership of drawings. Swan Group also have a lot of drawings and may want to provide them to the public.
- BJ The web should have sufficient info to attract new members but also provide paid members with value for money.

- IL The area under Banner "Learn to Turn" maybe a place where we can have skill level subgroups including a public access are and a member access area.
- KN The Web is our public face and marketing tool so needs to be "jazzy", but this is likely to be only provided using external party and will be expensive.
- AW Knows a developer who is reasonably priced who's details he will pass onto lan. They have knowledge of Page design, graphic art, and commonly used layout formats.
- DM We are gathering information which allows us to analyse the devices being used and this is important in web design, particularly if it is to be device dynamic.
- AW Pages can be device dynamic.
- NM Phone only page design is not acceptable for a lot of users.
- IL showed the calendar page and how the groups can utilise a premade form to enter info such as WEWS or club activities.
- AW Expressed issue of access time and slow response.
- BJ Recommended that calendar information must go to moderator before upload. This was agreed to, and lan will enact suitable protocol.
- NM Queried cost of plug ins and Ad on.
- IL We currently use free WordPress and hosting cost and minor plugin cost are being sorted out. At this moment, the ownership rest with a third party but we are trying to negotiate transfer to WAWA without risking locking out. Calendar ap has an issue of dropping out event once it is finished or date passed. This needs to be corrected to retain information.
- AW Need to consider retention as important from Associations Act requirements.
- DM Contact us is working well with several general inquiries and 3 people attracted who have become members.
- IL Showed groups Contact section which is main issue for all groups. This WAWA webpage has been setup with sub webpages for each group to use as it sees fit. The group must decide whether they
 - will have third party design a page for them and hook onto the WAWA group area eg Mandurah has done this. Or
 - use the WAWA sub page and WordPress (they will be given administration rights to work on the page) and build and maintain their own subpage.
 - WAWA CoM needs feed back on how each group want to use their page
- AW Suggested that the calendar would be more useful if each groups calendar was linked to main calendar so automatically updated.
- IL We have a side bar on Header page with max of 10 events shown but we need to know if we want this al to be public info and or do we have filter to look for a specific group
- JC Queried re special interest groups, e.g. Segmenter, Embellishers
- IL They will need to be treated as a special interest group with similar profile (combined) as groups.
- AW Other entities such as SIG and club-based activities e.g. scroll sawing at Melville are not in Rules or Handbook. CoM to consider this matter and formalisation.

- IL Do we want to have an outreach area ie charitable groups, social side of activities, how would groups like to do this. Should we be lobbying federal/state funding sources like Mens shed.
- AW WAWA is a state incorporated body, other states do not have such bodies were as Mens' shed are individually incorporated and have variable rules but have single state and federal lobbying bodies.
- AW Concern at quality of Mailjet messages being sent out and the quality of the content. There is a need for better quality. Noted Action WAWA Secretary.
- BJ Appreciate what is being done and questioned what happens if John or Ian not available, do we have backup, internal or external. Perhaps this is strong argument for external supplier and needs to be considered.
- AW Succession plan for web should ensure its easy to change content and design. Needs well designed input and output. Needs to be regularly maintained.
- IL Indicated that discussion with a provider (Key2Creative) touched on this and other matters of design, protection of integrity of design and backups.
- AW We need to be carful using acronyms in public areas. Need to either have glossary or use first use explanation process (DT).
- AW The side bars links need to be hotspot active.
- AW Proforma needed for each group provided by WAWA so that group page process can be made more structured and uniform. Group mainly lack the skills to design or implement page at group level, ACTION WAWA to develop standard group webpage.
- AW Should the page be Public facing or member facing. New members are the lifeblood, the main aim of the page should be to draw in new members as its hard-to-get new members in other ways.
- JC Website as a service to members, they pay for it, its secondary to attract new members, but existing members must use and provide content for web page.
- JB We should be also considering the importance of face book also in attracting new members, Collie group has been quite successful in this regard, reaches a different audience and has proved in that case to attract new members.
- DH We need page to attract new members and to promote woodturning as in our charter
- AW WAWA needs to be more active in attracting new members as membership is dwindling.
- BJ Staying as we are currently, with limited attraction of new members is in long term not viable.
- IL It is possible to have face book page link to web page and vice versa. Do we also need to have Instagram or other platform links?
- AW Social media is popular with younger cohorts but need to be fresh, relevant and up to date. High maintenance commitment is needed.
- RC Control of pages is important, we must ensure multi-level control that prevents loss of ownership, has been an issue with past pages.
- JC Embellisher (ed note and Swan) run Facebook pages which are highly valuable. Links must be available and are useful.

• Neil George handed out instruction and pink slips (one only) to all groups present for Swan WEWS parking. Neil also explained the situation with parking instructions and the need to read instructions on the webpage. Members are advised to car-pool.

• The WAWA newsletter

- Andrea's note read out about need for contributions from groups in a timely manner. If reports and articles not submitted by requested time and Andrea has to chase up often with no response, then this delays the Newsletters publication. Groups have responsibility to ensure they have someone who reports. ACTION Groups to provide articles and reports in a timely manner and ensure they report on their WEWS.
 - DM Advised all that the next Newsletter will only be published on Webpage and a Mailjet email will be sent to all members on list directing them to the Webpage.
 - JC Reminded groups that the Newsletter is only emailed out and that each group needs to have a method of getting Newsletter to those who do not have email.
 - AW Indicated it was not satisfactory to just email out a Mailjet notice, the Newsletter should be attached.
 - DM indicated that with Mailjet we get a response from what emails are not being received and why, main issue is full mailbox or wrong email address (changed?). Between secretary and Web Master we chase up these issues with individuals
 - AW Suggested that these issues be sent to each group to follow up which was rejected by DM as an additional burden on secretary and is not practical.
 - RC Reinforced the need to use Mailjet only and that members with full mailbox are responsible for this issue not WAWA.
 - AB Indicated that at Manjimup all members not on email get a hard copy.
- JC Raised on Andrea's behalf the issue of what do groups want in the Newsletter. We need more than currently goes in. Can groups provide more local articles possibly about a member, or some one's workshop, or a community event attended or a helpful hint or idea.
- Standardising our acronyms.
 - DT.WEW has been used for many years but now several members are using WEWS instead. This makes more sense. Time for a change? All present agreed. ACTION Weekend Workshop wil now ne known as WEWS.
- Break for lunch 12:07 to 12:35
- Weekend Competitions
 - JC Inclusion of show-and-tell at weekend workshops, can groups provide a table?
 - NG indicated that Swan does not have room for such a table at next WEWS.

- JC/BJ the are can be anywhere, even in another room or area, tucked away.
- FV Joondalup/Wanneroo always have a table, mainly members items and it is quite popular.
- BJ The table has no formality and its up to member brining in item to ensure its safety and to take care of it.
- AW Previously we have had also small jigs, small items just displayed and no formal show and tell.
- DM Why not just call it the Show or Display only table.
- JC Suggested ACTION Note for groups to include it on their program for WEWS.
- BJ Request for groups to provide ideas on improving competition, consider this at their next meeting and get feed back to her. For instance, do we have it right with the current three classifications of skill, but should we consider as when standards drop off, particularly in Advanced as participants age should we allow an old master group but its not judged. The other issue is are we getting substandard entries just so groups can claim disbursements at the end of year.
 - AW We need to encourage entries, promote wood turning.
 - DT Should groups critique entries prior to submission, some groups do this, but this may lead to less entries.
 - FV Some Groups already do this pre competition critique.
 Suggested that we may need a new group above advanced for competitive turners.
 - AW We do need to recognise age issue that will affect capability of turners.
 - DH Is the Show/Display table the best area to put these types of items.
 - NG There is work in Novices that should be in Advanced. (comment by President and BJ that current system advances people as quick as it can)
 - AW The current system has a good natural progression.
 - DT Asked if there was enough flexibility in system (DM comment that some members jump grade now etc)
 - JQ The system is a challenge for the individual and they may query how they win a prize, are there enough categories. There is always a risk that we lose people, or some won't enter because it's too hard.
 - AW putting work with peers has advantages and if you win it's an extra bonus.
 - BJ The feedback sheets provide a entrant opportunity to rank themselves in various judging criteria and is quite important as they can focus on a particular aspect.
 - AA The competition system allows members to try and improve as it gives good feedback.
 - JC Can we use database to find most improved in a competition year.

- BJ This is difficult as we have different judges each competition and they mark differently.
- DH Must improve judges to get comparable scoring across competition.
- NM On behalf of the segmenters SIG they feel that their entries are being disregarded by the judges who seem not to consider the time and effort to build a piece before turning. The competitions are not just about turning and they would like to have fair considerations for the effort in segmenting. The same situation probably effects embellishing groups.
- AW Other techniques can take just as much time, time and effort is often difficult to understand and separate individuals using some method can take completely different time to execute.
- DT Simply the judging should take this into consideration, for instance the recent walking sticks competition a lot were segmented and then turned as one piece. This should possible be criteria.
- NM It would appear that judges do not take this into account.
- BJ The criteria Turning includes quality of workmanship which includes joinery.
- JC Agrees that segmenters (and embellishers) have a point. Judges need to develop skills in this area, possibly by exposure to the methods used by these groups as a short-term solution. Long term more difficult.
- IL Suggested that if you have used additional techniques and time then this should be considered.
- JC suggested that there is no need for additional allowances for time spent.
- AB Participants in competitions have option not to compete if they feel disadvantaged. We need to encourage turning for enjoyment and making others curios/happy. However, we should review criteria due to new or added methods or perhaps add new categories of competition.
- DM Read out the following from current criteria give during judge training.
 - In Turning criteria "If items have joints, segmented, or laminated are these well-hidden? If obvious are they designed to be unobtrusive? Alternately, do they look clean, tightly finished with no excessive glue lines or gaps, and does the grain and colour line up to match?" If embellishment is carved, is the carving well defined, balanced, and attractive?
 - In originality, Ingenuity of design, Selection of timbers. "If the item is segmented, is the contrast between the different timbers pleasing and complimentary to the design? If embellished, is the embellishment integral and complementary to the design?"

- In Difficulty "Is the item segmented or laminated; and to what degree of difficulty" Does the item demonstrate a high degree of skill in its execution?"
- AW Competition by their nature participants are trying to win and will try to be different.
- JC Judges training recently has tried to get consistency, but we still need to get further information to judges.
- AA Recommends that the competition judging process needs to be reviewed in light of raised matters.
- BJ Suggested that this will not be resolved at this meeting and will take the raised matters into consideration and bring the matter to CoM for further review if needed.
- \circ $\,$ RC asked that embellishers be considered in the review.
- DT Isn't it time to allow members to handle competition entries when judging the Peoples' Choice. Surely, the procedure of: Sterilise hands before handling items then sterilise again after, should satisfy Covid requirements.
 - NM There is an issue of chronic breakage of competition items, and we should maintain not handling items.
 - AB Indicated that Manjimup provided all necessary precaution to abide by current Covid 19 requirements including having each apple cleaned.
 - ACTION CoM to decide on protocols for competition and Covid related matters.

Workshop Safety

- JBI Raised the matter of closed footwear as per safety requirement to better managed in workshops and WEWS. As a convener we need to set examples re proper PPE ie closed footwear, Face shields, eye protection, dust protection. Members must feel confident to stop unsafe acts or situations, its just not safety officer role.
 - AW Safety guidelines must be used and applied to all.
 - JC All members must apply safety guidelines. WAWA put this as a top priority and all conveners are responsible to ensure their groups adhere to best practices.
 - DH Recent cases at Busselton with lathe left turned to high speed, turning off balance.
 - FV Joondalup?Waneroo have a safety item/talk at meetings. Cover recent issue with safety on bandsaw, loss grub screws on steb centres.
 - DM Look at safety alert on webpage.
 - BJ Every member gets a hard copy of safety manual/guidelines when they join.
 - AA There can be issues with big timber on bandsaw, needs to specific training. (DT offered Melville's procedures and training package)

• AW Wandi has specific training and requires two people in attendance while band sawing.

• Shopping Centre Group and Marketware sales

- DM presented on behalf of shopping centre group there plans for this year. They have 5 events planned so far. On one wek one in November and one one week one in August. Remaining three are only for three days and limited space. Centres normally available are now also asking for fees from \$600 to \$1000 for running display and activity. 4 members are 90 years old or over. No new members joining in so dwindling participation. 10 old wooden trestle tops and frames are available for any group, free, stored at Wandi shed
 - AA Gosnell has same problem with members being in volved in outside activities, only limited number of people are involved.
 - DT The shopping centre group has several goals, exposure of WAWA to public, Sale of items. Should they have a web page presence for sales?
 - AW The group was setup originally to help those in metro area to sell woodturning items.
 - JC The structure of the shopping centre group will not change. One barrier is the need to commit to be available for one complete day (two half days) and help setup and pull down.
 - BJ the roster needs a minimum of two persons.
 - RC Theft is a real problem when only two persons manning booth and the open nature of items which generally are handled by potential buyers. There is also severe competition in group, if an item by one member sells well then next setup there will be competing items.
 - BJ Country groups participate in a similar way in their community events and also can have issues of commitment. Groups need to try different methods i.e., no help then you charged commission by group.
 - RC Can we consider a for sale section on the webpage?
 - IL This may be problematic as this will be seen as WAWA objects and do, we need to vet quality to make sure our brand is not tarnished?
 - RC Agreed, quality can be an issue. (anecdotal information suggest this is an issue for several groups selling items and how to diplomatically deal with substandard items can lead to significant personality clashes)
 - AW There are a lot of issues if we sell through website and how WAWA is portrayed. Need to carefully consider.
 - JC Suggested that the forum revisit this latter on. It should be noted that the shopping centre group has been a very important public face in the past. However, it appears that this is in decline.
 - JQ Some groups may like to look at their own councils for initiatives like Melville councils Art Trail, where the council publicise these activities often with craft type fairs. WAWA could be promoted then.
- MM Collie proposal concerning raising funds for fire victims by WAWA collectively having groups do something. Too big for Collie to do on their own.
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- AA Gosnells have made pens for troops, sent to central agency who sell.
- AW Its probably too late to do something meaningful. WAWA need to be more responsive in this type of situation.
- DM Groups can be responsive to these issues in their own right and contribute. WAWA would be seen as involved by association.
- AW Groups already do this.
- BJ Groups need to raise their profile by being active in their own communities.

• Succession planning

- Association level
 - JC We need a President to replace Bruce this year, we have no one in offing at moment.
 - AW We should implement a two-deputy type situation, one who will be stepping in and one in reserve.
 - IL Groups need to be responsible for finding President.
 - JC Agreed with IL point, it has been very frustrating over past 18 months on this matter. Groups have 3 months for their own Conveners succession and WAWA 5 months for President.
 - DH Can we use webpage to advertise that these positions are vacant at next AGM and call for nominations.
 - AW Someone who is not on CoM coming in as President is not an ideal situation and should be avoided.
 - DM pointed out that if the previous lack of president had gone on to next AGM the matter of winding up WAWA may have arisen as required under the Associations Act. We need to avoid this possibility.
 - JBL Collie had a similar situation last year, a last-minute nomination allowed them to continue.
 - DT Suggested that the perception of the burden of the role of President is real but in fact is not onerous.
 - President indicated that with the formation of a subcommittee process CoM is operating with a better spread load and that we have co-opted external members to assist.
 - AA indicated a real issue is that members with no administration background often wont volunteer because they feel out of their depth.
 - JBI Indicated that in Collie case he stepped up because he was comfortable with the administration side of things.
 - AW We need to look for committee members from new members. The more members helping at committee the better the spread of work. This helps with succession planning.
 - JC Groups need to be concerned about succession planning, without it we will not survive, the issue need to be addressed.
 - BJ We need to be aware of the trap in committees with same member year in year out, there can be staleness.
 - AB 2pm Excused himself from meeting as he had to be back in Manjimup for another appointment.

- JQ should we put this to a WEWS. Can we get people with trade or general background to fill roles? Only Executive role s need to be more skilled.
- o NM Should we have financial remuneration for President /Secretary.
- JC Currently members of committees are mainly of mindset to give back to community.
- KN We need to encourage people to have a go.
- NG Propose that we invite two members to committee meetings to see how they work.
- JC Reminded forum that CoM meetings are open to all members as observers.
- IL Felt we need to raise again at WEWS.
- BREAK 2:10pm to 2:20pm

• Inter-group co-operation

- DT Sharing of programs between groups and open invitations to members from other groups. The website would enable this to happen more easily. Need to swap meeting program details.
- AW Programs to be put up on web. Existing programs can be swapped but may need a common format.
- FV Would be nice to have this information of what is happening in other groups.
- IL Groups need to send info into webmaster/secretary of CoM.
- ACTION Calendars on webpage, groups to send in information of their activity programs.

• Administrative Issues Administrative Issues

- Revision of the WAWA brochure
 - o JC Has undertaken to revise the current brochure by end of April.
 - Brochure Insert, can it be put on website so it can be printed off.
- Disposal of demonstration stage and ramps
 - DM WAWA Ramp, stage and lifting crane are to be disposed of unless a group wants to take them.
 - o BJ Indicated that Busselton may take the lifting crane. To advise CoM.
- Nominations for WAWA awards
 - JC A reminder that awards should be being considered. Go to the Handbook for guidelines. Briefly Eneabba Award and Life membership are President's responsibility, Merit Awards are decided at group level mainly but need to come to CoM. Certificates of appreciation can be given out at group level.
 - BJ Honorary membership is a CoM responsibility and consideration is given to long standing members who may be not active in group but want to stay in touch by getting Newsletter etc.
 - BJ We are getting new members applying through webpage form and this is good sign.
- Do country convenors get travel expenses when travelling on WAWA business?
 - President A note had been sent out about this in last few days.
- Items raised from the floor.

- NG Mary Byers is compiling information on Life Members and she is missing some information and need to get permissions so wil be inContact with group conveners regarding this. The citations and information is being prepared for a Webpage and was an initiative from Mary.
- KN (WAWA Treasurer) The auditor has requested in last years audit that a quarterly update of groups accounts including register of inventory/asset be obtained so that end of year issues is minimised. Treasurer to follow up on this with a request initially with a end of December set of figures request from groups.
 - RC Queried whether that would relate to SIG accounts.
- BJ Indicated that at Manjimup WEWS the chuck wagon inventory was checked and found to have some issues.
 - Groups reminded that no consumables such as coffee, tea sugar, confectionery, biscuits etc not to be left in the wagon.
 - There were missing items (unspecified)
 - There were surplus or unwanted items (unspecified)
- DH Thanked the CoM for organising this Forum, it was most useful.
- DT Queried whether the Quaich could be made from a segmented item as long as it was turned in one piece.
 - BJ made a ruling that this would be acceptable to the competition on this item at Swan WEWS.
- President Thanked everyone for attending the forum and providing a good discussion and feedback for CoM and Conveners to consider.

NEXT Meeting Proposed to be last Saturday in July (31st) to be held at Wandi. Confirmation to be sent out closer to time.

Meeting Closed 2:48pm

David Milton Secretary WAWA(INC) CoM