

Marquetry Matters



The Quarterly Newsletter of

The Marquetry Society of Victoria Inc. Reg. No. A0002470K ISSN 2207-5941

March

No. 242

2018

Editorial

So this is the second of the Quarterly editions of Marquetry Matters – hopefully generating the usual interest but not so frequently! I may have gone overboard with the photos of the 2017 Xmas ‘do’ but felt that it’s good for members to see their works displayed worldwide via our mailing list.

Unfortunately this has been at the expense of many of our regular features such as UK and USA news and the Issue’s Design’. I will have a great deal of ‘making up for it/them’ next issue!

On the subject of UK and USA news I am totally red-faced! We have received at least one Marquetarian recently and I have yet to do a review. As for the American Marquetarian I find that I have not reviewed the last 4 issues that reside in our library! But don’t let that deter you from reading them!

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Member News

It was great to see Maggie Wilson at the January meeting, looking fit and well! Welcome back, Maggie, and realise how we all appreciate you coming all the way to Box Hill from Riddell’s Creek – heaven knows how many Kms that is to travel!

Semi-member News

The final chapter of the Peter Scott Young Saga played out after the last meeting. 4 or 5 of us descended on Peter’s vacated home, under the hospitality of Peter’s son, Andrew. With comments like “We’ve each got enough veneer to last half a dozen lifetimes already” we left with car boots-full! All to be sorted out in due course, of course!!! There were some beautiful veneers going (going, going, gone!) and we are most grateful to Andrew for letting us loose in a veritable Aladdin’s Cave of veneers! They were all of what was left from a bulk purchase by one ‘Australian Premier Veneers’, a concern that we’ve never heard of, but see below, under Commercial Break, for details. I am sure we will know more shortly.

There was a little ‘blast from the past’ in that buried in a box of assorted veneers was a plastic bag addressed to Rev & Mrs E.V. Winn from SIM Australia in Miranda, NSW, SIM being the Mission that Frank was involved with. It would appear that Peter took on Frank Winn’s veneers when Frank passed away. And that was many many years ago! Frank was virtually a foundation member of our Society in July 1977, had Membership No. 6, and left in July 1999; i.e. a stalwart of the Society during that time.

Valued Colleague News

We heard from our UK colleagues recently that Clive Jones had passed away in January. What sad news. Clive had been very ill for some time. I recall that he had to give up his Independent’s Corner of The Marquetarian some time ago. Alan Mansfield intends to place an obituary for Clive in the summer edition of the Marquetarian. To quote from Alan’s email to us:

‘Clive had certainly done a lot for the Marquetry Society over the years, especially scanning every page from the entire print run of The Marquetarian and converting them to PDF and burning them to a master DVD - that took some dedication I can tell you. I considered doing that myself - but baulked at the idea - but Clive took on the challenge and made a first class job of it.

And then Clive converted the entire slide collection to electronic file - complete with documentation for each JPEG - that was also some job. What patience Clive had. He was certainly up to a challenge and he beat each one magnificently.

It’s a sad loss to us with Clive’s passing – no doubt condolences will come from world-wide.’

We in Australia, well Victoria at least, join with you in sending commensurate condolences.

I always resonated with Clive’s Independent’s Corner as I felt that we in Victoria are only a step away from that classification!

Got a Minute or Two (Designed to keep the members informed who are unable to get to the meetings)

Not really a great amount to report on in this issue. However, our current most worthy Hon. Sec. was besieged with 23 bits of inward correspondence which he countered with 7 bits outward.

Amongst a plethora of business-type notices were no less than 3 enquiries regarding marquetry pictures: One entitled ‘Richmond Bridge’; a couple by a C.W. Brandon in the 1930s, and one entitled ‘Swaggy No. 2’. If these names ring any bells with our readers please get in touch.

There were 3 enquiries for classes or workshops but, unfortunately we are not in a position to offer anything but our regular monthly workshops for members. To date no one has taken up our invitation to join us on those days, but here’s hoping....we could do with some ‘new blood’!

There were 3 items re veneers with, to date, no resolution – into the ‘Work-in-progress’ department!

Another “Work in progress” matter is a request for a Marquetry Tutor for Koonung Secondary College. Helen Briffa, their Arts/Technology Domain Leader and Visual Arts Teacher is teaching Wood Technology to a group of Yr 8 students (13 year-olds) and is keen to introduce the art of marquetry to them. She wonders whether we run demos or workshops or would any of our members be keen to work with her Yr 8s and her to teach them this skill. We are currently waiting for more detailed information as to how much of a commitment/etc. it would be.

Re the 2018 Xmas Competition ‘Topic’. After some discussion it was unanimously agreed that the Topic for this year shall be the 12 Signs of the Chinese Zodiac Animals or the 12 Horoscope Symbols. Pictures to be limited to approximately A4 in size or equivalent area as usual. You’ll have to wait until the next issue of this newsletter for stimulating design ideas. Remember that there is also a General classification for competition and/or display.

Re The Working With Wood Show, the new location this year is ‘Sea World’ in Williamstown on 7th-9th September 2018. It sounds like quite a different venue and it is quite a trek from the eastern suburbs of Melbourne to a south-western suburb. However, this show is essentially the only chance that we have to actively promote marquetry and we have been participating for many years now. We are stuck with having to go along with it I am afraid!

The A4 Arts Heron Island business keeps cropping up. I recall that we felt limited by the thickness of the work that the organisers, the Contemporary Art Society, stipulated but member Chas made the point that we could even produce pictures just say three veneers thick, or on thin mdf board to meet the criteria. Food for thought! Probably too late for this year's show but perhaps we can make a concerted effort next year. If you can get along to see their set-up I think you would be impressed. It would be great to see wood challenging all the other media.

Whoopee, we actually had a "Show and Tell" segment! Our Hon. Treasurer, Craig, has done a magnificent job in producing a bound book of Henry Moritz's work, essentially for our Library. He discovered a business that specialises in producing personal photo albums. Their website tells it all: <https://www.thephotobookclub.com.au/> and it is an 'eye-opener'. Using their template you provide all the text, illustrations and photographs and they produce the finished product to the size and number of pages that you choose. And at what I think is a reasonable cost for what you get. We were all so impressed that we have requested Craig to order another copy that we will send to Henry's family. Well done, Craig!

The minuted subject of a 'Facebook Group' is dealt with below.

Forming a Facebook Marquetry Group

Back in January I came across the following link with the idea that we could form a "Love of Marquetry" group as part of the overall 'Facebook Group', but realised that it shouldn't be formed without consultation of members: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/?category=top>. Unfortunately, at the next meeting I couldn't find my notes on the subject so it 'fizzled'! I've now found the relevant download and am reminded of its complications:

There are 3 Privacy Settings to choose from: Public; Closed; and Secret.

Then there are 9 questions to be asked against each setting:

Who can see the group and request to join?	Who can be added or invited by a member?
Who can see the group's name?	Who can see who's in the group?
Who can see the group description?	Who can see the group location?
Who can see what members post in the group?	Who can find the group in search?
Who can see stories about the group on Facebook (ex: News Feed and search)?	

So you see that it is a bit complicated. However, if we can sort through it I think it could be a valuable 'Network Tool'. What do members (or even readers) think? You will probably need to check out the website yourself to determine the various options.

Dates for Your Diaries

1st – 16th September, Warratina Lavender Farm Woodworking Exhibition, Wandin.

7th - 9th September 2018, The Working With Wood Show this year in Williamstown.

The 2017 Xmas Show

Christmas Competition Results

(a) Open Class Entries: 10

1st Roy Turner 'Ah Bisto'; 2nd Charles Watt 'Golfer', 3rd John Higgins 'Pyramids'

HC Bob Taylor 'King Billy'

(b) Topic – Musical Instrument Entries: 7

1st Bob Taylor 'Harp in the Park'; 2nd Charles Watt 'Celtic Harp'; 3rd Bob Taylor 'The Village Glen Band'
HC Elsie Knaepple 'Little Drummer Boy'

(c) Applied Entries: 2

1st Bob Taylor 'Tea Tray & Coasters'

(d) Barilli Trophy: Roy Turner

(d) Most Appealing Piece: Roy Turner 'Ah Bisto'

The 2017 Xmas Show Photos



(a) Open Class 1st
Roy Turner 'Ah Bisto'



(a) Open Class 2nd
Charles Watt 'Golfer'



(a) Open Class 3rd
John Higgins 'Pyramids'



(b) Topic – Musical Instrument
1st Bob Taylor 'Harp in the Park'



(b) Topic – Musical Instrument
2nd Charles Watt 'Celtic Harp'



(b) Topic – Musical Instrument
3rd Bob Taylor 'The Village Glen Band'



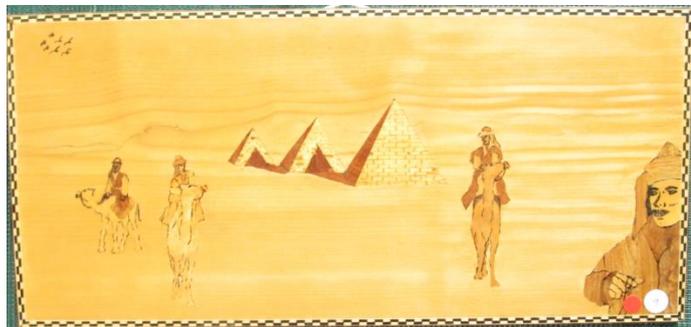
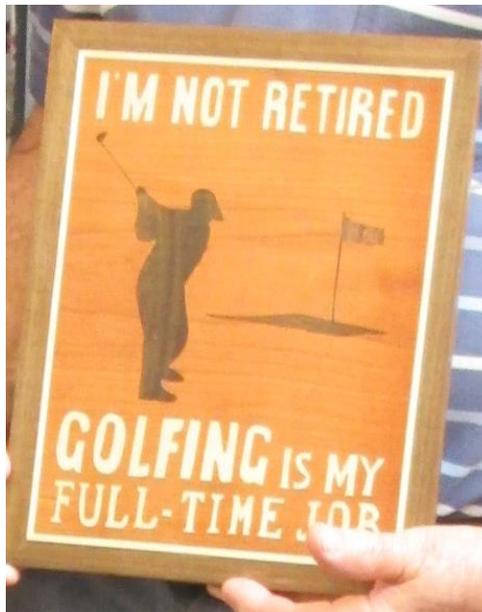
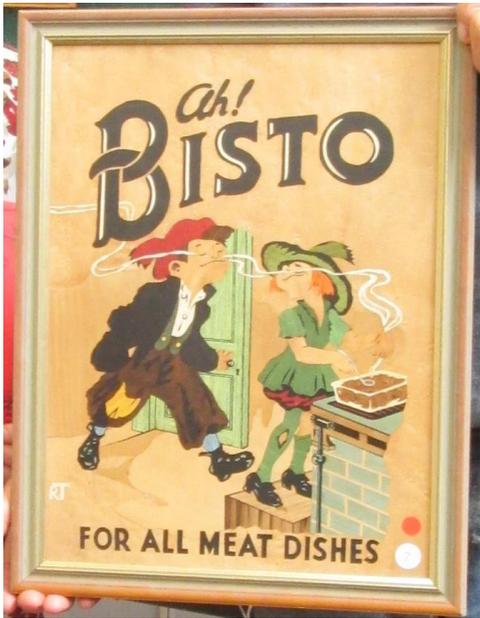
(a) Open Class HC
Bob Taylor 'King Billy'



(b) Topic – Musical Instrument
HC Elsie Knaepple 'Little Drummer Boy'



(c) Applied 1st Bob Taylor
'Tea Tray & Coasters'



Ed Note. Apologies for the quality and presentation of all of the pictures. I just did not have time to Photoshop/anti-skew/etc. them. I also need you to match up the picture titles with the results published above!



News from other Societies

The Marquetry Society of Canada

We received quite a ‘newsy’ email from the past-president Alain Huard and I’ll circulate this at the next meeting as it would be a bit too much to include here ‘in toto’.

Alain advises that they now have a new President, John Ness, who has been with their society for over 13 years. Alain further advises that he will continue working on their website - “Which brings your Society as part of my Vision. If you go to our main Society page, (marquetrysociety.ca) and go down to the first row of subtitles, under "Humour", and then enter, you will see at the top taskbar, marked "members" enter that too. The password id "Marquetry2018" you will see inside another subtitle marked "other clubs" go into there and there you will see that we have uploaded 2 of your "Marquetry Matters" newsletters for our members to read. Hope you don't mind, but it is a way for our paid members (only) to offer a variety of information not intended for the public.”

Alain goes on to extol the virtues of newsletters to keep the art and craft of marquetry active particularly where members cannot get along to meetings. We are on ‘the same page’! We obviously share the same problems with diminishing memberships and Alain has some ideas on how to counter this and will be corresponding with us further on the subject. I cannot help but think that the ‘Facebook’ group that I have mentioned elsewhere will be a useful adjunct to this. Watch this space....!

Commercial Break

Whilst visiting a major **Art Shop in Bayswater** I came across an interesting ‘find’ – ‘Ampersand’ and ‘Bella Vivo’ wooden painting panels. They are wooden panels backed with a support frame or cradle of pine strips, the support strips being either 7/8” or 1½” in thickness. They would appear to lend themselves ideally for mounting of our veneer pictures straight on to the panel, with the sides being veneered to suit the picture border or continuation of the picture down the sides. There would appear to be no need for a backing veneer which would save a considerable amount of time and trouble.

Whilst the quality of each manufacture appears similar, the sizes and prices don’t, as follows:

Size “	Ampersand		Bella Vivo	
	7/8” cradle	1½” cradle	Thin Edge	Deep Edge
6 x 6	----	----	\$10.60	----
7 x 5	----	----	----	\$11.75
8 x 8	\$14.40	\$15.80	----	\$18.75
10 x 8	----	----	\$14.75	\$20.20
10 x 10	----	----	\$15.25	----
12 x 9	\$19.00	\$21.00	----	----
12 x 12	\$24.00	\$26.50	\$21.90	\$26.00
14 x 11	\$24.60	\$27.25	----	\$31.25
16 x 12	\$25.30	\$31.20	\$23.70	\$34.40
20 x 16	----	----	\$33.80	\$47.95



Visit the art shop (well worth it!) at Unit 12/21 Power Road, Bayswater, Victoria, Melways 64H5, or Online 24/7, 365 days a year on: <http://www.theartshop.com.au/>. (They also stock X-acto knives)

As mentioned earlier, **Australian Premier Veneers** (Rob and Kym Fabrice) are a new ‘find’ for us. They are at 6 Rowern Court, Box Hill (just around the corner from our meeting venue!), Telephone: 0437 269 223; Email: enquiries@apveneers.com.au, and Web: www.apveneers.com.au (Well worth looking at). Rob Fabrice has just responded positively to our invitation to visit our next meeting this coming Saturday – watch this space....!.

Another veneer supplier has also surfaced, **Matilda Veneer**, – this time in Queensland. Check out their website at <http://matildaveneer.com.au>. Quite impressive. I’m awaiting response to my enquiry for veneer in small quantities.

**THE MARQUETRY SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
INC**

The aim of our non-profit Society is to promote and foster interest in the art and craft of marquetry.

Meetings are held at the
Box Hill Community Arts Centre,
Cnr. Combarton and Station Streets, Box Hill,
Melways 47 D11
on the fourth Saturday of the month, with hands-on
workshops on the second Saturday of the month.

Hands-on workshops are also held on Tuesday
afternoon of each week, 1pm to 3pm, at the
Scout Hall, Cnr. Edith Street and Heathmont Road,
Heathmont. Melways 50-A11

Phone anyone to check times.

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MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY

Direct all enquires to the Secretary.
An annual membership fee of \$40 and a
joining fee of \$6 apply.

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MARQUETRY MATTERS

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MEETING & WORKSHOP DATES

coming up

SATURDAY 12.30 to 3.30 P.M.

@ BOX HILL

Workshop	14 th April
Meeting	28 th April
Workshop	12 th May
Meeting	26 th May
Workshop	9 th June
Meeting	23 rd June
Workshop	14 th July