

VOL 35 ISSUE 3 NOVEMBER 2011

Mainspring



Newsletter

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF WATCH AND CLOCK
COLLECTORS



Museum visit by Di and Tony Roberts, more revealed on Pages 2 & 8.

BAYARD
 MUSEE DE L'HORLOGER
 SAINT-NICOLAS D'ALIERMONT

UNE ORIGINALITE ALIERMONT
 La Hesse au point, en Normandie, d'Alie...

UNE OR...
 Le mi...



General Meeting July 31, 2011.

There was a morning workshop meeting. Ten members attended and it was great to see several newer members getting support from our more experienced members and other members learning new skills such as bushing clock plates. The additional workshops are allowing increased access to the club's tools. Well done to Allan Roberts for this great initiative.

Twenty seven members in attendance. No new members or visitors turned up. Apologies received from, Bill Tree, Norman Heckenberg, Alan Caine and Jim Gray.

Tony Roberts gave a well prepared slide presentation on his recent seven week trip to Europe. Amongst many destinations and clock related experiences, while in Wales Tony spent two days at Llanelli with an electrical clock collector named Ian Stock. Then a trip to England to Bob Miles who recently has produced his book on the history of the 'Synchronome - Masters of Electrical Timekeeping' published by the British Antiquarian Horological Society. And a museum called 'Time Machine' at Funtington managed by Paul Strickland. Tony showed us all his other ANZAC interests as their trip took in northern France and Belgium. His visit to the famous Musée de l'Horlogerie, Saint-Nicolas d'Alhiermont was quite special and the locally made Bayard Alarm Clock display is incorporated into the museum.

Tony Manton's watch talk became a very interesting discussion on several unique watch features. Tony explained how the face is marked on a single handed watch, he explained the jump hour, minute, and second feature, along with the Moon Phase, Tourbillon escapements, repeater watches and alarm watches. Thanks to Tony and many of our members, we had examples of many watches with several of the complications



Tony discussed. Several solid and rolled gold repeaters were shown by Ken Durston. The watches were stored safely and securely in our display cabinet which was made by Allan Roberts. Thanks to Tony Manton and everyone involved with bringing an example.

Paul Ferris commenced Show 'n Tell. He brought along several clocks from his collection. Paul told us how he had originally become interested in collecting clocks as a young boy and how his interest was re-ignited by a chance meeting with Bill Meeken. Paul's advice was to never say no to a clock as one of his favorite pieces was given to him by a work colleague. Alan Hazelton showed two high quality fusee clocks and a lovely one piece cased carriage clock by Bolviller á Paris, the case was covered in repoussé birds. One of the London made fusee's in a four glass case had recently been purchased and cleaned up by Mike Ward. Ken Durston showed an unusual Ansonia movement that had segmented plates. Ken also showed pictures of an 1820s French mantel clock he had recently viewed, with a magnificent gilded, cast bronze base with two standing figures, the movement with silk suspension. I noticed that at least two members quickly asked for



the owner's details, Ken noted that his wife didn't like the clock so that finished his interest in the piece.

Mal Enright showed several early English verge watches from his collection including his most recent acquisition, a lovely 18th century London made, verge lantern clock for the Turkish market by Berthoud et Favrel, in very original working condition, recently imported from Holland. Merv Wittenbury showed Mal an early French verge watch from his collection that matched a Roy á Paris clock powered by a French verge watch that Mal had brought along, uncanny how these things happen.

Please consider bringing along a clock or interesting item to the next Show 'n Tell at the next General Meeting, watch your email in-box for the details to be posted.

Michael Bauer - Secretary.



The watch segment display swelled with member's pieces and watch stands made by Eddie Penning that are for sale, contact him.



Queensland 400-Day Chapter 168 Special Interest Group - report.

The second meeting of the Queensland Special Interest Group of Chapter 168 was held at the home of Colin and Nancy Hill on Saturday July 23, 2011. After the initial hello's the group congregated around the outdoor area and the first clock up for identification was a Gustav Becker owned by Bernard Fellner.

Based on the Horolovar 400-Day Clock Repair Guide the clock was C1903. Special features of the clock were a large silvered dial with Arabic numbers, pie crust bezel, distaff hands and disc pendulum. The finials on the clock were very different being shaped like a cross between a Queensland Blue pumpkin and the onion domes on an Eastern European church. The finials being cast brass. The clock was engraved and presented to a Fire Fighter in Glasgow Scotland on his retirement in 1907.

The next clock belonged to Malcolm Enright and was identified as a Jahresuhrenfabrik-Uhr C1908. The four glass case did not have the traditional door but fitted over the top of the clock and fixed through the base. Again this clock had a silvered dial incorporating a convex (raised) chapter ring, Arabic numbers, Fleur de Lis hands and disc pendulum. The clock case was 11 inches high by 6.75 inches wide. The clock was No. 244 on page 30 of the Jahresuhrenfabrik-Uhr book.

Next up was another Fellner clock a Kienzle C1908. Disc pendulum not identifiable in the Horolovar repair guide (making the clock far more unique and valuable)! The clock had a pie crust bezel, enamel dial with the typical flower pattern, Arabic numbers and spade hands. Additional note worthy features include three finials and knurled base around the rim of the dome.

Following the Kienzle was another Fellner Kienzle C1909 but with a four ball pendulum. This clock had an enamel dial, Arabic numbers and spade hands. The spun brass base had a wooden insert.

The last clock to be identified was another clock brought along by Malcolm Enright. The clock was a large August Schatz and Sohne, with a featured hole in the top of the dome clock. The clock had an enamel dial, floral motifs, spade hands, enamelled pillars and four ball



Remember to bring along any 400 day clock and have it perused by those present and entered on to the Chapter 168 local register.



pendulum. The clock had two (one small) and the usual spring barrel, three finials and a two jewelled unadjusted movement. This model with the extra spring barrel was only manufactured in 1953. The spring barrel operating somewhat similar to a fusee arrangement resulted in the clock being slightly more costly to produce (and hence had a higher purchase price). While this feature is not known to have made the clocks operate any more accurately they are rarer and highly collectable.

After afternoon tea, we looked at a number of 400-Day clocks brought along by Bernard for sale and admired Colin and Nancy's clock collection.

A big thank you was given to Colin and Nancy for opening their home to us and making it a memorable and fun afternoon.

Until next time don't get too wound up as life oscillates (albeit I hope at more than eight beats {rotations} per minute).

Stuart Woods - Member.



Review: Collectable Clocks 1840–1940 by Alan & Rita Shenton.

First published in 1977 for the British Antique Collectors Club, this book is still regarded by serious clock collectors as 'the Bible'.

So why is it called 'the Bible'? It's because this book is directed at present day collectors whose horological interests extend way beyond the rare and exotic pieces made by famous makers of the past. Clocks which were exclusively attainable only by connoisseurs in the past or those who are exceptionally wealthy. This book recognises that the post-industrial revolution era led to many new ideas and designs in the factory method of production of clocks and that these clocks today are well worthy of recognition for

their novelty or mass produced components.

This book discusses the many various types of clocks and argues that 'there is something of interest whatever the size of your pocket'. Clocks described in this book are not just English in manufacture but attempt to cover the spectrum of clocks on the market during the years 1840–1940. Chapters cover the historical and technical development of Marble clocks, Skeleton clocks, Torsion clocks, Carriage clocks, Longcase clocks, Bracket & Shelf clocks, Small clocks, Wall clocks, Mystery and Novelty clocks. Also covered are clock cases reflecting the different eras; decorative and art nouveau and art deco for example. Finally we also have chapters on

Alarm clocks, Electric clocks and Time recorders.

And to assist the eager horology student there is also a chapter designed to give advice on learning how to evaluate a clock, all of which is imbedded and explained in greater detail in each of the following chapters.

Colour plates with detailed descriptions and original pricing as well as black and white photos abound.

Such is the expertise and depth and detail of research by the authors that they comprehensively cover such questions as 'What is quality, What should one look for, What date is this clock, How did this clock evolve historically, What not to buy in relation to availability of parts and How to authenticate a clock'.

Specimen pages from actual trade journals plus a glossary and bibliography further contribute to the indispensability of this book as a basic reference manual and guide to anyone with an interest in collecting things horological.

The book is available in our Chapter's library.

Jeff Dyer - Librarian.

Sun Nov 14, 2004 12:29 pm
 Just had an Email advising that Rita Shenton has passed away, she founded her horological bookselling company over 20 years ago. I have bought some interesting books there, the business continues to be run by her two sons. The new website address is: <http://www.shentonbooks.com>
 Duncan on TZ-UK

Horology in Provincial and Rural Museums by Charles Kenneth Aked, Rita Shenton, John Cyril Stevens.

Hardcover: Antiquarian Horological Society. ISBN 0901180122 (0-901180-12-2)

Pocket Watches of the 19th and 20th Century by Rita Shenton, Alan Shenton.

Hardcover: 480 pages
 Antique Collectors' Club Ltd.
 Published: 01 January 1999
 Categories: Clocks, Chronometers & Watches (horology) Antique Clocks, Watches, Musical Boxes & Automata.
 ISBN 13: 9781851492114
 ISBN 10: 1851492119

Christopher Pinchbeck and His Family by Rita Shenton.

Hardcover: 71 pages
 Brant Wright Associates, Kent, England.
 Published: 1976
 ISBN-10: 0903512068
 ISBN-13: 978-0903512060
 ISBN: 0903512068

Collectable Clocks, 1840-1940: Reference and Price Guide by Alan Shenton and Rita Shenton.

Hardcover: 484 pages
 Antique Collectors' Club Ltd.
 Published: 1 Jan 1999
 ISBN 13: 9780907462668
 ISBN 10: 0907462669



to identify their clock's age, models and some go further to describe repair techniques. Of note, the club has recently ordered a copy of Joseph Rabushka's book and we already have Terrwilliger's volume 9 on the shelves so keep an eye out for them in the library.

Jeff Dyer assisted by Eddie Penning ran the library on the day, Jeff was also busy with his Dremel polishing the face of a lovely French clock he bought from a previous Chapter 104 auction.

Thanks to everyone involved for making this another excellent workshop.

Michael Bauer - Secretary.

ON THE NEXT PAGE: The management committee is always happy to support our advertisers, member Jeffrey Addison supported Mainspring from the beginning of our 'colour period'. His business was terribly effected by the early 2011 Brisbane floods but Jeff & Di and staff have bounced back. To assist members who are taking advantage of Ray Quirk's watch segment at our regular Workshops, we are pleased to advise Labanda have put together a 'starter kit', pictured on Page 6.

Workshops report August 28, 2011.

Happy to report that 24 members and two potential members attended on the Sunday.

One of the visitors used to be an NAWCC member in the 1980's; John Johnston, he was very impressed at the focus on support and learning being provided. He remarked that "this was exactly what he has been looking for", he has since confirmed he will be rejoining our club.

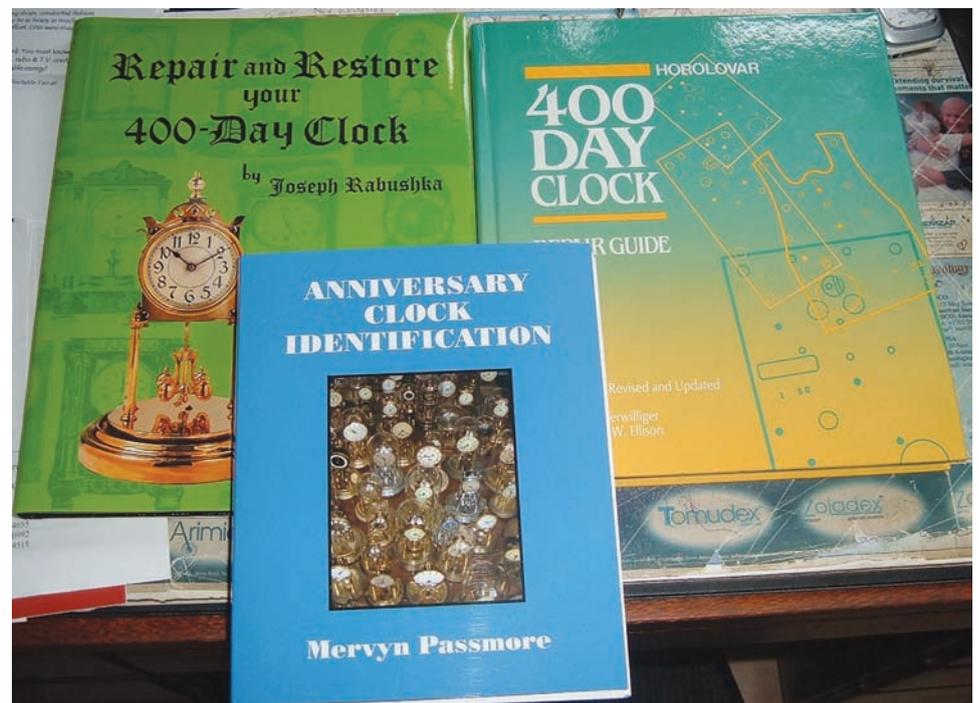
Phil Bailey, one of our newer members brought along a lovely mantel clock which he has been restoring. Alan Caine assisted Phil getting the clock to chime properly. Phil drives up from Grafton, NSW to attend our workshops.

The club's work bench and Allan Roberts' lathe was in great demand with 5 to 6 people surrounding the workbench most of the day, see the above shots full of movement, very hard to get members to stop for a focused picture. Several members have been getting experience in re-bushing plates and polishing pivots.

Ray Quirk continued with his watch course. Ray showed members how he has modified his ultra-sonic cleaner to hold glass beakers. Ray places degreaser in the beakers and places the beakers in a water bath. This effectively cleaned a pocket watch that Tony Manton had brought and a very sticky balance wheel platform from a carriage clock that my wife had recently obtained.

Ken Durston gave an excellent and well researched lunch time presentation on the review of

three popular 400 day repair books, namely 'Anniversary Clock Identification' by Mervyn Passmore, 'Repair and Restore your 400-Day Clock' by Joseph Rabushka, & 'The Horolovar 400 Day Clock' by Charles Terwilliger. Each book has its strengths, with the Horolovar; it has always been a work-in-progress in that every back plate on record (at the time of publication) has been drawn to scale allowing holes, marks and features to be studied and compared. Those Chapter 168 members will have updates through the publication of their own 'Torsion Times' which, although published at delayed intervals, does in some ways work to update the store of Anniversary Clock knowledge. All three volumes work to assist owners





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NICHOLAS HACKO'S D.I.Y KIT
Supplied By Labanda

Dated September 8, 2011.

A founding member of Chapter 104, Sue Timms has passed away today. Sue was Chapter 104's first ever NAWCC Fellow, this was a reward for her continual dedication to horology and Chapter 104. We send our condolences to the Timms family and wish Chris well as he carries on their family business.

In 1974 the NSW chapter of the NAWCC, chapter 72 held a regional conference in Newcastle NSW, two families from Qld were in attendance and decided to form a chapter in Qld and so chapter 104 was formed.

Those two families were the Timms and the Averys. At that time there were 7 members who lived in Queensland and were part of USA NAWCC clock collecting group, they were Warren Starr, Ian Smart, Keith Brennan, Dave Verrall, Harry Wellings, Chris Timms and Arnold Avery. Over the following years Sue

was to become a driving force behind the chapter 104 becoming successful.

Sue held the position of President a number of times, Secretary and Treasurer many times and could always be relied upon to help organize the auctions, the catering or any activity involving the club. Especially the Regional that we held at the Qld. Museum to coincide with Expo. The display titled 'Past Times' ran from 6-29 September 1988. The display was a huge success and the Museum was so impressed they allowed the Chapter to hold another display there from 14 August-3 October 1999. Sue was again very involved in this event. This time the display was titled 'Time to Reflect' and comprised over 1,000 pieces of antique horology - a lot of hard work. This display was an even greater success and attracted much media interest.

Sue was also heavily involved in the second Regional we held in 1999 also. Sue was involved in the first workshop held by Chapter 104, when Doug Minty of Chapter 72, at our invitation came to Queensland to run this event.

Sue was awarded the Honor of Fellow. The awarding of the honor of Fellow is not given lightly, which is evidenced by the fact that only a

small number have been awarded in NSW, and two in Qld over the 36 years the club has been in existence.

Colin Hill - (Our other Fellow).

Over the years the club has put up many displays at Antique Fairs, Bottle Collector Club Fairs, I can't remember their correct titles and it doesn't matter. Even one at the Brisbane University and one at Cominya for an all German day where we put up a display of German clocks.

Sue was always the ring leader and tireless worker for these events. The main aim of these displays of course was to promote our club and the love of anything horological.

Over the years these displays and Sue's energy and enthusiasm attracted many new members to our Chapter 104.

Sue had an amazing memory for names and events and if anyone wanted to know something Sue was the one to ask. If all that was not enough you were always made very welcome at their home for a cuppa or a quick snack. Sue's untimely sickness and passing is a great loss to her family, her church and fellow parishioners and her many friends and in particular those longer serving members of NAWCC.

Arnold & Bernice Avery.

1978	Sue Timms	Newsletter Editor
1990	Sue Timms	President
1991	Sue Timms	President
1994	Sue Timms	Committee
1995	Sue Timms	Secretary
1996	Sue Timms	Secretary
1997	Sue Timms	Treasurer
1997	Sue Timms	NAWCC Corr.
1998	Sue Timms	Treasurer
1998	Sue Timms	NAWCC Corr.
1999	Sue Timms	Treasurer
1999	Sue Timms	NAWCC Corr.
2000	Sue Timms	NAWCC Corr.
2000	Sue Timms	Newsletter Editor
2001	Sue Timms	NAWCC Corr.
2001	Sue Timms	Newsletter Editor
2004	Sue Timms	Newsletter Editor



**Short NAWCC history:
December 22, 1977 - Accepted as FIRST
QUEENSLAND CHAPTER NO. 104
by the NAWCC, USA.
Confirmation letter dated 28/12/1977.**

1978

Keith Brennan - President
Peter Wright - Vice President
Harry Wellings - Secretary/Treasurer
Keith Brennan/Sue Timms - Newsletter
Editors

1979

Keith Brennan - President
Peter Wright - Vice President
Sue Timms - Secretary

1980

Warren A. Star - President
Peter Wright - Vice President
Peter Tilley - Secretary/Treasurer
Ossie Sibbles - Newsletter Editor
Keith Brennan - Assistant Editor

1981

Warren A. Star - President
Peter Wright - Vice President
Peter Tilley - Secretary/Treasurer
Ossie Sibbles - Newsletter Editor
Keith Brennan - Assistant Editor

1982

Warren A. Star - President
Peter Wright - Vice President
Peter Tilley - Secretary/Treasurer
Ossie Sibbles - Newsletter Editor
Keith Brennan - Assistant Editor

1983

Warren A. Star - President
Peter Wright - Vice President
Peter Tilley - Secretary/Treasurer
Ossie Sibbles - Newsletter Editor
Keith Brennan - Asst Ed.

1984

Warren A. Star - President
Peter Wright - Vice President
Peter Tilley - Secretary/Treasurer
Ossie Sibbles - Newsletter Editor
Keith Brennan - Assistant Editor

1985

Arnold Avery - President
Bernard Fellner - Secretary/Treasurer
Anna Fellner - Newsletter Editor

1986

Arnold Avery - President
Bernard Fellner - Secretary/Treasurer

1987

Colin Hill - President

Bruce Coaldrake - Secretary/Treasurer
Mavis Shearer - Librarian

1988

Colin Hill - President
Bruce Coaldrake - Secretary/Treasurer

1989

Colin Hill - President
Tony Roberts - Secretary/Treasurer
Norm Heckenberg - Newsletter Editor

1990

Sue Timms - President
No Vice President elected
Tony Roberts - Secretary/Treasurer
Norm Heckenberg - Newsletter Editor

1991

Sue Timms - President
No Vice President elected
Colin Hill - Secretary/Treasurer
Norm Heckenberg - Newsletter Editor
Roy Copper - Librarian

1-11-1991 Incorporated in Qld.

1992

Allan Hazelton - President
No Vice President elected
Colin Hill - Secretary
Ken Lewis - Treasurer
Tony Roberts - Newsletter Editor
Roy Copper - Librarian

1993

Tony Roberts - President
Keith Hallett - Vice President
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Ken Lewis - Treasurer
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Tony Roberts - President
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Ken Lewis - Treasurer

1995

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1997

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Paul Jones
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Bob Hunt

1998

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1999

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Colin Hill
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2000

John Haylock - President
Chris Timms - Vice President
Stuart Woods - Secretary
Jennifer Porter/Sue Timms - Treasurer
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Roy Copper - Librarian
Sue Timms - NAWCC Corr.

2001

Arnold Avery
Colin Hill
Peter James
Alan Hazelton
Tony Roberts
Norm Heckenberg

1998

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Sue Timms - Treasurer
Bill Meeken - Newsletter Editor
Roy Copper - Librarian
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1999

Colin Hills
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Tony Roberts
Norm Heckenberg
Alan Hazelton

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John Haylock - President
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2001

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Tony Roberts
Alan Hazelton
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2002

Chris Timms - President
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2003

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Neil Herbert - Secretary
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2004

David Kelly/Paul Hutchinson - Workshop Co-ordinators

2005

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2006

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Ken Durston/Ian Aitchison/
Paul Hutchinson - Program Comm.

2007

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2008

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Steve Painter - Craft Co-ordinator

2009

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2010

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Steven Painter - Craft Co-ordinator
Colin Hill/Chris Nurser - Executive Reps.

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 David Kelly - Workshop Co-ordinator

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 David Kelly- Workshop Co-ordinator
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 Paul Hutchinson - Workshop Co-ordinator
 Ron Walker - Assistant
 Jeff Addison
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 Jeff Dyer - Librarian
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 Norm Heckenberg - Web Master
 Alan Hazelton - Mentor Co-ordinator
 Paul Hutchinson - Workshop Co-ordinator

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 Norm Heckenberg - Web Master
 Alan Hazelton - Mentor Co-ordinator
 Jim Gray - Workshop Co-ordinator
 Michael Bauer
 Allan Roberts
 Mike Ward

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 Allan Roberts - Workshop Co-ordinator
 Paul Hutchinson
 Bill Meeken

Prepared by BM,MB,ME.

FROM PAGE 1 - European Clock Museum mentioned in "The French Marble Clock" repair book, page 22.

It is always interesting when on a trip/holiday when you happen across the unexpected. In our case it was a horological museum in a small village near Dieppe, France. Dieppe is a city on the coast about 200 Km north-west of Paris and is shown on the map below as is the town of Saint Nicolas d'Alhiermont where the Museum is located.



Saint Nicolas has an important clock making history extending back to the early 18th century and extending up until the late 20th century. The Museum is excellent, all the clocks on this page and the majority on the cover of the newsletter are from the collection. It is somewhat difficult to converse with the staff (who are employed by the local council and speak little English), however there is a portable electronic speaking guide in English and you can operate it manually according to numbers allocated to each section of the museum. I could have spent many hours in the museum hearing about the historical and technical significance of each area and type of clock but as it was early Spring the opening hours were restricted to a few hours in the afternoon. Diane and I spent about two and a half hours looking at the exhibits. Also we had well over 100Km to travel back to our B and B near Amiens and as you can appreciate, wanted to travel safely in daylight hours.

So if you find yourself in that area of France at a loose end, I can thoroughly recommend the museum, the town and the surrounding countryside.

To read more about this interesting area I suggest you read Chapter Two of the French Marble Clock by Nicolas M. Thorpe. There is a copy in the Chapter Library. I have a few brochures if any member is interested to peruse further.

Tony Roberts - Member.





Workshop Report September 18, 2011.

It was great to see another large turn out with 27 members and visitors in attendance.

As with the last workshop, 2 visitors attended and both are keen to join after seeing the workshop and club facilities. In fact, Edgar Salwegter joined on the spot. New members and the associated mentoring and support are critical for the ongoing success of the club, so please make any new members welcome and where practical, offer them your support. With these new members and the addition of our recent members, our full membership will push past the 100 mark before the end of the year.

Allan Roberts is steadily sourcing the required tools to allow us to continue to add value to member's clock maintenance experience. A new gem tumbler has been purchased for cleaning of clock parts. Tony Roberts demonstrated the use of his machine at a previous workshop and the results are excellent.

As with previous workshops, the club's workbench was in demand with

the rebushing tools breathing life back into worn plates

Grant Thompson who is one of the Ansonia clock restoration group finished the reassembly of his Ansonia clock. He was looking at why the clock was striking up to 18 times on the hour.

Eddy Penning did a great job managing the library as Jeff Dyer is enjoying a holiday.

Geoff Jones, a member from Townsville attended the workshop, it was great to meet another far-flung member.

As usual, there were many other repair projects on the go. Tony Manton was like a proud parent with his recased Hamilton watch. He has done a wonderful restoration.

The lunch talk was kindly provided by Neil Herbert who discussed how to center a new wheel on an arbor. Several approaches were discussed and demonstrated with tools that Neil had manufactured to hold the new wheel in a lathe. Thank you to Neil for a very informative and practical talk.

Tony Roberts followed on from Neil's talk with his trailer of tricks. Tony had been busy cleaning up in preparation for some building work and had kindly brought along his trailer full of potential treasures. The only condition was that once you removed it from his trailer it was yours, no returns allowed.

Tony Roberts and Ken Durston also mentioned some clocks and watch parts that they had inspected on the Sunshine Coast. The clocks included a large skeleton clock and a Junghans clock. All the clocks and watch parts will require a lot of restoration as the owner lives on a canal and the watch parts had been in storage for several decades. Surprisingly the Skeleton clock still ran and was in beat. We also noticed that it had only recently had a replacement glass dome fitted.

Thanks to Arnold Avery for the donation of a spindle to get the club's legacy lathe working, we are now currently assessing the lathe's functionality to see if a replacement is best in the long term.

Don't blink too quick, we are downhill racing towards Christmas and the management committee are currently discussing 'the luncheon get-together' - so stay tuned to the email postings we generate.

Michael Bauer - Secretary.



2011 Christmas Lunch, NAWCC Chapter 104 Inc.

The Christmas function for 2011 will be held at our Clubhouse, Rocklea Show Ground on Sunday December 4, 2011 commencing at 11:30 am. Spouses and partners are encouraged to attend.

The Management Committee has decided that a charge of \$25 per attendee will apply to offset some of the cost. Included in the charge will be 2 free raffle tickets per person to participate in 2 prize draws.

As there are no bar facilities in our club house members are encouraged to B. Y. O.

Please complete the confirmation slip as soon as possible but before November 30, 2011 to enable suitable catering arrangements to be made. Use a photocopy of this page or fill out the form included in this mailout? See you there!

Confirmation Slip

Name

and

will be attending the Christmas function on Sunday 4 December 2011.

I am enclosing \$25:00 or \$50:00 (circle)

I have deposited \$25:00 or \$50:00 (circle)

Directly into the Chapter's Bank Account with Suncorp:
BSB 484-799
Account number 024317831

Please use your name as reference.

Cheques made out to NAWCC Chapter 104 Inc.

Return to: NAWCC Chapter 104 Inc, P O Box 951, Aspley, Q4034.

Shotgun marriage saved - read all about it!
or compound pendulums can be useful – really!

Richard Fawdry

An attractive French 8-day time and strike white marble portico clock (photo right) was acquired as a going concern, but only when it was set up at home was it discovered that the clock was losing 3 ½ hours per day. Even with the pendulum adjusted as short as possible (photo below) that clearly looks incorrect for a clock of this quality, the clock was still losing 10 minutes per week and hence required an even shorter pendulum. Clearly something is amiss.



French movements often have two numbers stamped at the lower edge of the back plate that indicates the manufacturers recommended pendulum length for the movement. Checking the rear of the movement of this clock (photo below) shows the numbers 3 and 5 indicating the correct pendulum length should be 3 and 5/12 French inches (ie 3 pouce 5 ligne).



One French inch equates to 27.07 mm and so the recommended pendulum length for this movement is 92.5 mm. The diameter of the dial on this clock measures 85 mm and so the pendulum length (not much more than the dial diameter) seems unusually short for a French movement especially when in a portico case. Is there another way to check the required pendulum length?

Yes, there is. Dismantle the clock and count the number of teeth on the wheels and pinions from the centre wheel to the escape wheel. For this clock, the centre wheel (84 teeth) acts on the pinion (7 leaves) of the first wheel (84 teeth) that acts on the pinion (7 leaves) of the escape wheel (41 teeth) that acts on the 2 anchor pallets. The centre wheel (carrying the minute hand) completes one revolution per hour so that the:-

$$\text{No. beats per hour} = \frac{84}{7} \times \frac{84}{7} \times 41 \times 2 = 11808 \text{ bph.}$$

The pendulum length ('l' in metres) may be calculated from the equation, $l = g \frac{t^2}{\pi^2}$ where 't' is the pendulum beat time (in seconds) and 'g' is the acceleration due to gravity (9.79652 msec⁻²).

For this clock, $l = 1000 \times 9.79652 \frac{3600^2}{11808 \times \pi^2} = 92.3 \text{ mm}$ that agrees well with the 92.5 mm conversion of the pendulum length stamped on the back plate. This calculation is valuable since it confirms that the movement should still beat as the manufacturer intended and that it has not been tampered with over the years. Nevertheless, a French movement requiring a short 92 mm pendulum is clearly wrong for this size case and hence this clock is a marriage between a portico case and a substitute movement.

A few options are available to 'legitimise' this marriage. Firstly the correct movement, utilising approximately 180 mm pendulum, could be fitted to the clock. Finding the right size movement that fits the

existing dial and bezel or one that comes with a dial and bezel that fits the existing drum case and has the correct pendulum length seems to be a pretty tall order but may still be feasible in years to come.

Secondly, the gearing in the movement could be altered so that a longer pendulum will be required. For example, removing teeth from the escape wheel will make the clock run 'fast' that can be corrected by lengthening the pendulum. But how much change is required to achieve the desired pendulum length of approx 180 mm? Using the above two equations, the number of beats per hour and the corresponding pendulum length can be calculated for various wheel counts.

For this clock, the table (right) lists the calculated pendulum length as the wheel count is changed and shows that the escape wheel must change from 41 teeth to only 29 teeth in order for the pendulum length to double from 92 to 184 mm. Cutting a new 29 tooth escape wheel is feasible but the anchor may then be the wrong size to span the correct number of teeth for a reliable escapement action. And so the problems compound. Is there another choice?

Centre wheel	1 st wheel pinion	1 st wheel wheel	Escape wheel pinion	Escape wheel wheel	Pallets	Beats per hour	Pendulum mm
84	7	84	7	41	2	11808	92.3
84	7	84	7	40	2	11520	96.9
84	7	84	7	39	2	11232	102.0
84	7	84	7	38	2	10944	107.4
84	7	84	7	37	2	10656	113.3
84	7	84	7	36	2	10368	119.7
84	7	84	7	35	2	10080	126.6
84	7	84	7	34	2	9792	134.2
84	7	84	7	33	2	9504	142.4
84	7	84	7	32	2	9216	151.5
84	7	84	7	31	2	8928	161.4
84	7	84	7	30	2	8640	172.3
84	7	84	7	29	2	8352	184.4
84	7	84	7	28	2	8064	197.8
84	7	84	7	27	2	7776	212.7
84	7	84	7	26	2	7488	229.4

What about using a compound pendulum? Adding a heavy mass high up the pendulum shaft will make the clock run fast that can be corrected by lowering the pendulum bob – just what we want. A lead block, as large as could be made to fit in the available space, was cut and secured as high as possible to the pendulum shaft using an electrical barrel connector (photo below).



The clock was brought into beat and the pendulum could be made to swing freely clear of the strike count wheel, the bell and the bell bracket. With the starburst bob adjusted high the clock rate was measured at 13900 bph (+250 min/day) and 10920 bph (-108 min/day) when adjusted to the lowest position. The clock rate could now be smoothly adjusted to the 11808 bph required by the wheel count with the bob positioned more normally for the appearance of a portico clock (see main photo). The rear of the clock is now more crowded due to the additional mass and the setup of the clock for reliable operation is now more finicky but the movement is unchanged and these modifications can be completely undone when a more suitable French movement is acquired. Compounding a pendulum, when space allows, can be an effective method for altering the rate of a clock movement when it is necessary to do so.

Date: 22 May 2011 3:24:49 PM
 From: richardfawdry@bigpond.com
 Subject: Re: NAWCC Chapter 104 newsletters and Workshops
 To: male@co-opones.to, yabba42@bigpond.com

Hi Michael & Mal,
 Please find attached an article I wrote some time ago for Ch72 that may be suitable for 'Mainspring' with a bit of reformatting by Mal.
 regards
 Richard Fawdry

Workshop and General Meeting Report October 9, 2011.

The 9th of October was a combined mini workshop and General Meeting. The mini workshop kicked off at 8.30am and was attended by 11 people. Several people worked on projects with assistance from several members such as Allan Roberts and Greg Baker. The club's new tumbler was in full use with Mark Chalmers cleaning several clock movements. Mark was impressed at the results achieved.

The general meeting had a total of 29 people in attendance. It was great to see two members invite guests. Grant Felberg and Ken Dallinger both appeared to enjoy the company of fellow watch and clock enthusiasts. Grant has indicated he will join the club. The message here is to invite acquaintances that might be interested in horology, they may turn out to future club members.

Tony Roberts gave a follow up talk on the topic of holding wheels for cutting and cutting pinions. Several tools were passed around the room for examination, ranging from hand made tools Tony and Norm Heckenberg used to cut teeth on a wheel which appeared to be based on a bandsaw blade to seriously professional looking wheel making tools. As always, Tony's talk was informative and appreciated.

Ronny Wachtel gave an excellent talk on valuing watches. Ronny's opening words of caution were to assume that a watch isn't right and go about proving that it is.

Several elements can severely devalue a watch:

- Is the dial original (an original damaged dial may well be more valuable than a repaired dial)
- Has the case been overly polished and has the original finish been damaged
- Has the movement been replaced

Ronny advised members to take their time assessing a watch and gave us several tips on finding reference material and pricing such as eBay, various other auction sites, and several books which he frequently refers to. 3 valuation points were mentioned:

- Retail perfect
- As is
- Restored but selling to a dealer for resale

Ronny also discussed insurance valuations and warned members to

be cautious as many second hand watches may well be worth in excess of an insurance valuation.

Several members took the opportunity to have their watches appraised with several valuable watches putting smiles on our member's faces.

Several members commented on how well Ronny knew his stuff and how much they enjoyed the presentation. I hope we can talk Ronny into a return visit at some stage in the future. Many thanks go to Ronny for his time and for sharing his knowledge, so freely.

Martin Willis presented a slide show of pictures he had taken at the recent NAWCC Sydney auction. The Sydney auction had something for everyone with a huge range of clocks and clock related items. Martin mentioned that the Sydney club doesn't produce an auction catalogue, all thanks to Bill Meeken who is the driving force behind our auction documentation which is a huge endeavor each year.

Show and tell produced some interesting items again. Martin Willis showed some workshop keys, one size fits all. Jeffrey McGuire showed an interesting watch hand pusher that looked more like a miniature marine mine. Allen Roberts showed a presentation of a clock he had obtained from eBay and one that he has fully restored. Allan has done a magnificent job rebuilding parts of the case that were missing or damaged beyond repair. Discussion was had on the movement manufacturer and it was thought the movement is a Lenzkirch.

General business covered several important topics including a reminder for the Christmas party and asking members to consider nominating for a committee position next year. Martin advised members that Mal Enright was retiring after doing a first class job as the editor for the newsletter over the last three years. Changes to the format of the Newsletter were also discussed, so if you think you have skills in this area we need to hear from you urgently?

All in all everyone had a good day and thanks go to everyone who contributed either by attending or contributing to the full day of horological activities. Remember November 30 is the Christmas lunch cut-off date.

Michael Bauer - Secretary.

President's Report October 11, 2011.

Hello fellow members, once again the year has passed very fast and our next meeting will be the Christmas lunch, at this point we only have about twenty one members and partners. I know we did not subsidise the meal this year but \$25.00 is still good value to have an excellent lunch with your fellow clock nuts.

There will be the usual silent auction so bring something to sell or money to treat yourself to a nice Christmas present.

The AGM will be on us soon at which time we will need new people to fill committee positions, we seem to have this problem every year so I do urge members who have not served on the committee before to please volunteer to help run the club. It is not difficult and you will get all the support you will need while on the committee.

Mal Enright will be standing down as newsletter editor so we will no longer be getting our newsletter in colour. The main problem is cost as it is just getting too expensive to print.

So the next editor will have to produce something simpler, it may be an email format or a posted B&W sheet. To have had a coloured newsletter over the past three years has been a real achievement - a real marketing tool. This is unknown for a club of our size but advertising is hard to achieve based on such a small audience and the advertising had to pay for the printing. It is important that we have a newsletter editor otherwise our communications will be just the odd email so I do ask you to please see that this position is filled.

It is important to remember that it is the responsibility of all members to help run the club and not just leave it to a few.

I will also be standing down as President, I have been on the committee now for about ten years continually, first as Librarian then Vice President and President for the last three years, so I have decided to take a break.

Looking back over my last three years our club auctions have had the highest ever sales of \$72,601.00

This has earned the club \$7,260.00 in commissions.

We have our own club house with a home for our library, also our workshop equipment inventory is at an all-time high. We have been able

to justify this expenditure due to a higher participation of members at workshops.

Having our own club house has allowed us to purchase a screen and projector for visual presentations and a camera so our watches and clocks can be projected to the entire audience.

Generally, meetings and workshops have been well attended with numbers around the thirties.

Our membership does fluctuate but we have managed to keep numbers around the 100 mark.

I would like to thank those members that have supported me as President and helped me run the club to make it what it is today.

Alan Roberts as Vice President will be nominating for President in 2012, as you know he was the instigator for getting our club house. He puts in a lot of his time organising the workshops and is always the last to leave. Alan is an enthusiastic member and will make a good President, one who will lead our club forward. So I hope you will give him your full support.

See you on the back benches.
Martin Willis - President.

A1 Classic Clocks: <http://www.a1classicclocks.com.au/>
BHI website: <http://www.bhi.co.uk/>
Brian Loomes: <http://www.brianloomes.com/collecting/index.html>
Brass Castings: <http://www.fineartcasting.co.uk/>
Brass Castings: <http://www.optimumbrasses.co.uk/index.htm>
Brass Castings: <http://www.viola.biz/english/contact.htm>
Brass Castings: <http://www.marshall-brass.com/>
Brass Castings – clocks only: http://www.goodacre.ndirect.co.uk/cat_dir.html
Brass Castings: <http://www.optimumbrasses.co.uk/optimumbrassescatalogue.pdf>
China Clock: <http://labbcoco.en.made-in-china.com/product/dMIQojarJAUt/China-Gilded-Locust-Clock-JG3054-3A-.html>
Clock Movement Importers (Bris): <http://www.cmi-hermle.com/>
Clocks Magazine: <http://www.clocks magazine.com/>
Clock Spares UK: <http://www.clockspares.co.uk/>
Comtoise website: http://www.antique-horology.org/_Editorial/Comtoise/Intro.htm
Comtoise parts maker & supplier: <http://www.comtoise.de/comtoise.htm>
Dial restorations – worldwide: <http://www.antique-horology.org/Entries/partsforsale/partsforsale.asp?subcat1=dials>
Jot Riks – Perth: <http://www.dutchtimepieces.com/>
Dutch clocks for sale: <http://kloks.webs.com/>
Lei – English Lanterns in Netherlands: <http://www.lanternclocks.com/>
Glass domes: <http://www.collectingwarehouse.com/>
G K Hadfield: <http://www.gkhadfield-tilly.co.uk/>
Graeme Brown – wood stringing etc: <http://www.gbrownantiques.com.au/>
H S Walsh: <http://www.hswalsh.com/jewelleryinterest.aspx#4>
Ian Burton Antique Clocks – UK: <http://www.ianburton.com/>
JMW Clocks – UK: <http://www.j-m-w.co.uk/contact.html>
John Wardle – horological materials: <http://www.johnwardle.co.uk/>
London Clocks: <http://www.londonclocks.co.uk/>
Meadows & Passmore: <http://www.m-p.co.uk/>
Pro Clocks (caveat emptor): <http://www.proclocks.com/>
Richards of Burton – UK – parts: <http://www.clock-works.clara.net/index.html>
Selva on-line shop: <http://www.selva.de/>
Time Restored – UK: <http://www.timerestored.co.uk/>

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Chapter 104 Program to date for the end 2011 and start of 2012.

NOVEMBER 2011

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	01	02	03	04	05	06
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

-  Sunday November 6 Workshop
-  Sunday December 4 Christmas Party
-  Sunday January 15 Workshop
-  Sunday February 5 Annual General Meeting

DECEMBER 2011

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

General Meetings, Workshop and Special Interest Group Meetings are now held at the **Chapter 104 Clubhouse, Rocklea Show Ground. UBD - Map 199 (I-6), 1430 Ipswich Road, Rocklea. Use gate, corner Ipswich Service Road & Goburra Street** commencing at 12.30 pm and concluding at approximately 4.00pm. Mart items should be set up for 12:00noon start. Afternoon tea & coffee is provided but please bring a plate to share. Please bring interesting new items for Show'nTell as this segment proves to be most popular.

JANUARY 2012

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						01
02	03	04	05	06	07	08
09	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Workshop and Special Interest Group Meetings commence at 9.00am & conclude at 4.30pm.

We are interested to trial a Mini-Workshop commencing at 9:00am on the days set down for General Meetings (which commence at 12:00 noon). At every General Meeting members are invited to bring their projects in. If these trials gain support it will be kept as a part of the General Meetings. People wishing to continue on the beginner's course are welcome to bring their clocks to the morning sessions. Bring lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided, but please bring a plate to share.

FEBRUARY 2012

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29				

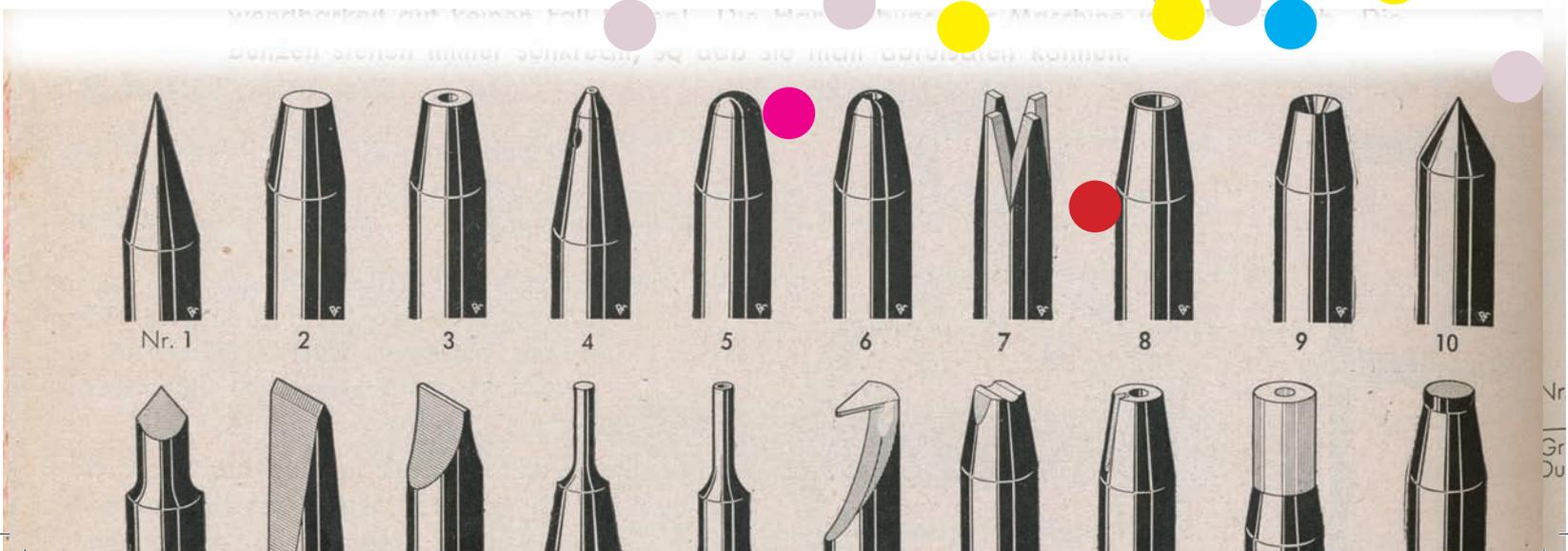
Password for Chapter Web Site:

The Chapter web site address is <qldclocksandwatches.org.au>

Certain parts of the website are for members only.

The password for this area is <<chapter104>>

Currently there are only newsletters in this area.



POSITION	NAME	EMAIL	PHONE
President	Martin Willis	Martinw7@bigpond.com	07 3893 3576
Vice President	Allan Roberts	allan-r@bigpond.net.au	07 3277 7858
Secretary	Michael Bauer	yabba42@bigpond.com	07 3868 2222
Treasurer	Mike Ward	mg.ward@yahoo.com.au	07 3300 3468
Newsletter Editor	Malcolm Enright	male@co-opones.to	07 3356 7645
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Committee Member	Bill Meeken	menengai@tpg.com.au	07 3882 1213
Committee Member	Paul Hutchinson	jphutch@tpg.com.au	07 3263 2694

Chapter 72
Program to hand:

Unless otherwise noted,
Chapter meetings are
held on Sundays:
in the Wentworthville
Uniting Church Hall
near the corner of Station
& McKern Streets,
WENTWORTHVILLE,
NSW commencing
1.00pm to 5.00pm

December 4, 2011
'Mechanical Music'
- local speakers

Chapter 122
Program to hand:

Meetings are held every third
Monday of the month at the
Eley Park Community Centre
Eley Park Road BLACKBURN
SOUTH VIC at 8:00pm

November 2, 2011
Victorian Post Office
Clocks (Presentation at
Doncaster-Templestowe
National trust, by V. Kenney)

November 21, 2011
'Rolex, versatile legend or
over-rated'? - Tim Galimany

December 10, 2011
* The Christmas Auction
at Blackburn Hall - 25
Central Road Blackburn,
near Railway Station
* NOTE NEW ADDRESS

December 19, 2011
Christmas Get Together
(Eley Park Road)

Chapter 182
Program to hand:

Normal meetings start
at 1:00pm on the last
Sunday of the even months,
except December at
The Irish Club, 6 Parkinson
Street WESTON ACT
Phone 02 6288 5088

TBA
'Display at the Irish Club'

Pendelrädern
einzelne, für Pendulen

Nr.	28	31	32	33	34	38	30	39
	ohne Stift	mit Stift	ohne Stift	mit Stift				
Gros	M 5.35	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	5.95	8.25
Dutzend	M 0.50	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.55	0.75

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Web - www.brisbanevintagewatches.com



All thanks to our willing cartoonist from Florida, USA who supplied many more horologically orientated statements on the human condition than the editor could use during his time doing Mainspring, contact Carl Dagostino and subscribe to his blog - <http://carldagostino.wordpress.com/>

