VOL 34 ISSUE 2 JULY 2010

# Mainspring

CHAPTER 104

Newsletter

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF WATCH AND CLOCK
COLLECTORS

#### President's report July 2010.

Dear Members. We are now mid year and I am pleased to say things have been going very well. First up our annual auction, see report page two. I thought last years was hard to beat but this year was outstanding. We sold \$25,828.00 thats up on last year by \$3,490.00. I doubt that we can keep growing at this rate but its good to see all the members giving it their support. My thanks to all those who helped to make it a day to remember.

We have had several general meeting now where we have used our new web cam, projecting images of watches and other small items being discussed onto the wall screen, this has been very successful and I think it will pave the way to display information off the internet during meetings, also. We will be considering the purchase of a laptop computer to facilitate this and other club data handling requirements in the near future.

I thought that the June meeting was one of the best we have had for a long time about half of the members present got up and talked about their clocks and tools that they had brought along, a great 'show&tell', lets keep this interest going? It goes to show, get involved and get more from the meetings.

Workshops have been well attended with lots of good information and displays provided by our lunch time celebrity speakers.

We are going to run two special workshops this year, unfortunately they are both in September but we have to work in with the presenters (see details on other pages).

For some months now we have been moving towards finding a permanent home (club house) for 104 Chapter, this has been spearheaded by Alan Roberts who has been handling the negotiation and overseeing the works. The premises are at the Rocklea Trotting Complex and all being well,



we be able to have the August 2010 meeting there.

We will make this the grand opening meeting so bring your wives and partners and we will cater for afternoon tea - more on the format later. You will be notified by email to confirm this.

I am pleased to say two more things; the membership numbers are continuing to rise and we are over one hundred now so keep wearing those name badges please. Final request is that every member please assist the committee by spruking the colour Mainspring issues with particular emphasis to assisting selling the advertising space which is cheap and effective. Email the editor and he will send you the blurb on material instructions and fees.

Regards, Martin Willis. Chapter 104 President.



#### 2010 auction Report.

Not even the Icelandic volcano could keep people away from the Chapter 104 Auction on Sunday the 18th April.

Just prior to lunch I counted seventy enthusiastic bidders, a very solid support. We usually have a few members and visitors from NSW; but this year Bill DeKaste coming all the way from Victoria for the auction, I believe is a first.

A special thanks to all of the Chapter members who were there early and went straight to their allotted tasks making everything ready and enabling us to start on time and then all those of you who helped at the end of the day. So many helped it may appear unfair to mention some and not others however I want to menton just two: Bill Meeken for a splendid effort, he listed all the auction items, the lot numbers, produced and posted the sellers lists and catalogues and then spent the whole long day at the computer processing the sold and unsold items. Since the auction he has been preparing the cheques and settling up the financial aspects of the day. Alan Hazelton, our auctioneer, kept things moving and provided a few occasional humorous comments to keep us in good spirits. The Auctioneers assistants did an excellent job, having the correct items in place to hold up and show made for a minimum of lost time.

The lots on offer covered the entire spectrum of quality and value from a box of assorted movement parts to highly valuable and rare items. Horological and historical tools, books, horological parts and quality clocks covered the tables and some large items had to be placed on the floor under the tables.

As is the case with any auction, the vendors thought they would have liked a bit more money for their lots while some buyers thought prices

high and would have liked to pay a bit less, nothing new there.

The Chapter amplifier and head microphone proved to be a great asset and ensured that all could hear the proceedings comfortably.

The catered meal was very good

value and served promptly on time, if you missed it this year make sure that you do not miss the auction next year. Our annual auction is the premier event on the Chapter's calendar.

James Hutchinson - Secretary.



L to R: Bernard Fellner, Robert Pearce, Colin and Nancy Hill pose with a black wall clock, enamel dial, strikes the hour and half. Made in the Black Forest for the Indonesian market c1880. A clock which later on travelled home with Bernard.

From the Editor: I have asked four different parties to submit their thoughts on the auction this year, just to see some other users perspectives, here's the first three to hand:

"I would like to congratulate the working committee on the organisation of the auction of the 18 April 2010. It was well organised and the goods were available for viewing sooner than expected. A couple of areas where there were problems were finding the article promptly enough for the auctioneer, and we lacked the display for the wall clocks which created many difficulties for viewing and displaying when bidding. Perhaps the Chapter in future could consider restricting the number of articles so that the auctioneer may be able to spend a little more time explaining the more interesting items. Overall, congratulations and a very good day of Chapter fellowship". Regards, Keith Hallett.

"Sunday 18 April 2010 saw Julia and I attend the annual Chapter 104 Auction. Originally we didn't intend buying anything but then there were those can't resist buys. Prices were slow and buys excellent. Whether you wanted to fix-it-up or hand-up they were there. The buzz in the air was electric as the bargains were sought and won. As usual Alan Hazelton did an excellent job in keeping the lots moving and trying to get the best for the buyers. All in all an excellent fun day. Thanks to all involved in organising the event it was a credit to you. While many lots were passed in for those that did buy they got some great deals. What more can anyone ask"? Kind regards, Stuart Woods.

"Confusion in the few numbers lost - Alan again excitedly presented everyone's goods to sell - terrific lunch, Jennifer certainly 'beat 'em home' - everyone did their level best". Thanks, Henry & Hanna Braun.





Tony Manton's watch presentation has been much improved with the use of the Chapter's new portable camera, now allowing for the projection of the smaller watch articles he deals with during his segments.

(LEFT and below LEFT) 15 jewel jump hour Ebauche movement with rotary's logo. (BELOW) 17 jewel Ebauche movement with rotary's logo and Geneve stripes.





## General Meeting 11 April 2010 Watch segment report.

Roamer is a Swiss watch manufacturer.

Roamer was founded in Solothurn, Switzerland, in 1888 by Fritz Meyer. At first, Meyer and employees concentrated on manufacturing cylinder escapements, and from 1904, when Meyer joined forces with fellow watchmaker Johann Studeli. watch movements. 'Meyer & Studeli' (MST) units became a reputable brand before World War I. By 1923, production grew to one million units. In 1940 the company started its own dial production line. In 1945, a representative office opened in New York City. In 1952 Roamer Watches officially changed its name to Roamer Watch Co. SA. In 1955, Roamer patented an original Anfibio watertight watch case, which proved to be a commercial success. In 1972, the company launched its first quartz movement.

In 2003 Roamer returned to

manufacturing of mechanical watches. Currently, it remains an independent watchmaking company, selling its products to over x70 countries. Roamer Watch Co. is a member of Federation of the Swiss Watch Industry FH.

Product lines as follows: Competence, R-Line, Stingray, Classic, Dreamline, Superslender, Ceramic.

http://www.roamer.ch http://www.watchcarefully.com/ articles/roamer.html

Rotary Watches Ltd. was established at La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland by Moise Dreyfuss in 1895. By the 1920s family members Georges and Sylvain Dreyfuss began exporting Rotary watches into Britain, which was to become the company's most successful market. Rotary is still an independent family company, and at present Robert Dreyfuss the great grandchild of Moise Dreyfuss is its chairman.

In 1940 Rotary became the official watch supplier for the British Army. Coinciding as this did with the Second World War and the drafting of huge numbers into the army, the move put a Rotary watch in almost every household in Britain, leaving a lasting impression of the brand in the UK. More recently, Rotary Watches was elected as one of the UK's 'superbrands' in 2006. And has retained its place in successive years. The winged wheel Rotary logo was first introduced in 1925 and has since undergone only minor changes in appearance. In addition to its traditional brand, the company also produces watches under the more exclusive 'Dreyfuss & Co' name.

Rotary is a member of the Federation of the Swiss Watch Industry FH. Although naturally proud of their Swiss heritage, Rotary Watches' head office is now in the UK, and they are predominately a British company. As is the case with many watchmakers, Rotary offer a range of timepieces manufactured in Switzerland together with a range of less expensive pieces made elsewhere, usually with movements from Japan or China. While some of these watches may carry the company slogan 'Est. Switzerland 1895', it is important to note that only those clearly marked 'Swiss Made' on the dial are certain to originate from Switzerland. Under Swiss law, a watch must contain a Swiss movement and be assembled in Switzerland to carry this mark.

Rotary watches typically use either a quartz or automatic movement, and often feature what Rotary refer to as the 'Dolphin Standard (equivalent to at least ISO 2281), meaning they are water resistant and may be suitable for all-day swimming and diving.

Unique to Rotary is the 'Revelation' design of reversible watch, which features two distinct movements and faces, allowing the wearer to change style at will or easily switch between two different time zones.

Federation of the Swiss Watch Industry FH/Wikipedia information.

http://www.rotarywatches.com/en/about/swiss-heritage

http://www.rotarywatches.com/en/about/superbrand

Headquarters, Regent Street, London, United Kingdom. Tony Manton.



#### Highlights of General Meeting NAWCC Chapter 10 Chermside Library 11 April 2010.

Present: 24 members as per attendance book.

Apologies: K Hallett, R Walker, C Bass, N Heckenberg.

Opening: President Martin Willis opened the meeting 1.15 pm,

Minutes from previous meeting: Copies of the minutes of the 7th Feb-2010 meeting having been circulated, it was moved by Jeff Dyer and seconded by A Hazelton that they be accepted, carried.

Business arising: Nil. Correspondence In:

Membership fees. Membership applications, Magazines.

Correspondence Out:

Membership fees reminders, Auction notices, Agenda for general meeting. Letters of thanks for donations.

Moved that the correspondence in be accepted and the Correspondence out be approved. Bill Meeken, seconded Mal Enright, Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Bill Meeken presented the treasurer's report.

Bill Meeken moved that the treasurer's report be accepted, seconded Ken Durston, motion carried.

Watch Section: Tony Manton gave a presentation on the history and progress of the two watch companies; Rotary and Roamer. Several members brought examples and Tony commented on the various examples. The Chapter now has a web cam and stand, with this a large image can be projected on to a screen which is a great help to Tony when he was pointing out features of the watches. The library has a screen and an excellent ceiling mounted projector which we use for general meetings now we also have our own projector to use for PP presentations and instruction at workshops.

Presentations; Alan Hazelton presented a very interesting display

of clock ornaments, several members also brought in some additional ones. Some of these items were very valuable and certainly worthy of collection.

Martin Willis gave a Power Point presentation of repairs to a huge mainspring from a mechanical piano which was undertaken by the Canberra Chapter.

Show'nTell: Tony Roberts and Ken Durston explained the trouble they had diagnosing a fault in a clock striking train. The fault turned out to be the result of a replacement pinion with the incorrect numbers of leaves being used. The result was that the clock struck 101 times in twelve hours instead of 90.

Tony Roberts spoke of progress with the electric horology group and the need to change the meeting scheduled for Mother's day.

Eddy Penning displayed a black case American clock that he had restored and thanked Ken Durston for his advice and help with the case, he also thanked Jeff Dyer for his assistance with the gilding.

Afternoon Tea was an opportunity for members to mix and catch up with each other.

General Business. Nil.

There being no further business the Vice President closed the meeting at 3.45 pm.

James Hutchinson - Secretary.



#### **Electrical Horology Session 5.**

The members enrolled have entered a steep learning curve, every participant reports that it has been beneficial and thoroughly entertaining so far. The shots below are from Session 5, 17 May 2010 at the Queensland University, Physics Department; Electromagnetic Induction - Motional emf - Magnetic flux - Faraday's Law - Lenz's Law - Inductance - Back emf & Spark suppression. All thanks to those leading out in this program; Norman Heckenberg, Tony Roberts with assistance by Alan Emmerson. Members have purchased equipment and text books, have been subjected to practical exercises, taught soldering skills and then tests and further revisions, bring it on!



#### Workshop Report 16 May 2010.

There were several apologies and 19 members attended an interesting workshop. I am trying workshops with the emphasis on clock repairing, let me know what you think as I am new to this and always open to suggestions to keep the workshops interesting.



Ron Walker presented an interesting lunchtime talk on his efforts with the genealogy of a 19th Century English dial painter - a Mr. Walker to whom Ron thinks he may be related. This proved to be no easy matter and Ron related some of the intertwined leads he has explored; many of the paths he followed turned out to be dead ends. Thank you Ron.



Paul Hutchinson brought some magnets and solenoid coils; he demonstrated two methods of remagnetising a Bulle magnet. Norman Heckenberg had a Gauss meter and he, Paul and Ron Walker experimented with the various methods, each time comparing the relative magnetic strength of the various methods. Ron's magnet was a well made replacement but the steel used did not produce a magnet with strength of the originals. Tony Roberts's magnet was successfully remagnetised and Ron's one was greatly improved. It should prove to be satisfactory. Other options were explored with small rare earth magnets, which appear to show a

lot of promise. Some members were intrigued to find that both ends of the Bulle magnet attracted the South pole of the compass while the centre of the magnet attracted the North pole, strange but true!

Eddie Penning worked on the time train of a Westminster chiming clock with Ken Durstons' help, advice and encouragement.

Tony Roberts asked Mal Enright & Norman Heckenberg to bring in their early synchronome cases for a back panel screw hole examination, Mal's 1912 case from Just & Co, the Brisbane Jewellers, is fitted with a quite miniature movement which has had even earlier (two) other installations, one was a separate suspension support and the other holes show that a shield bracket was screwed inside the case. The members were also interested to know whether the case was of English Oak or Australian Silky Oak - not one member who reviewed the case was able to say emphatically what the wood type was.

Tony MacIndoe cleaned and re-assembled an unusual French ship's clock. Unfortunately Tony had some bad luck whilst fitting a pin to a pillar his hand slipped resulting in him shearing both pivots and bending the arbor on the 4th wheel. Tony now has opportunity to learn new skills, namely re-pivoting and straightening an arbor!

Ken Durston kept himself busy helping others as required and set Jeff Dyers' Mantel clock in beat.



Jim Gray assisted by Ken
Durston, Bill Meeken and Alan Caine
worked on a Hubert Herr KW75
movement. As these movements
have comparatively thin plates they
are prone to wear and this one will
require a lot of re-bushing. The
easy option would be a replacement
movement, but they are no longer
in production. A new-old-stock

movement would be an option, if anyone has one please give me a call.

Mervyn Whittenbury successfully repaired Alan Caines' replica Omega Calibre 1012.





Mal Enright was assisted with an 18th Century pair cased watch by Merv Wittenbury and Neil Herbert. The watch is by a London maker; B. Heath (Mal's wife's name). They broke down the watch to effect a search for a bull's eye glass and to send the enamel dial down to Marnie Myall for repairs. The watch bezel will be sent up to Toowoomba to be fitted by member, Jeffrey McGuire who is doing the movement and case restoration.

Alan Caine worked on an Ingraham clock with a broken strike spring.

Jim Gray - Workshops Coordinator.

## Mainspring Gauges and the Dennison Combined Gauge, 2009 by Richard Watkins.

This is a summary of the 50 page work by Richard Watkins, downloadable at his public homepage: http://www.watkinsr.id.au/

Our material has been made available from Wikipedia, the free on-line encyclopedia via Richard in Hobart, Tasmania.

Mainspring gauges were used to measure the sizes of watch mainsprings so that replacement springs could be ordered from a supply house. Mainsprings are characterised by their strength (thickness) and height (width).

They were made by several European companies and are all similar to the gauge in Figure 1, being brass plates with notches on both edges and round sinks on both sides. The height of a spring is measured by finding the smallest notch on the edge of the gauge into which it will fit. The strength is determined by finding the smallest round sink into which the mainspring barrel will fit.

(The diameter of the barrel is related to the mainspring length and strength, but this method for determining strength only works for springs of standard lengths).

Each manufacturer used a different arbitrary scale to describe mainspring sizes, but these sizes are usually based on the French inch.

A better method for measuring strength is to use a slit gauge, Figure 2, with which the thickness of the mainspring is measured directly. This gauge uses a scale of sizes running from 21 (0.05 mm) to 5/0 (0.30 mm).

Scales used in watchmaking generally do not use negative numbers. Instead, after size 0 there is 2/0 or 00, 3/0 or 000, and so on.

About 1840 Aaron Lufkin Dennison devised a gauge "upon which all the different parts of a watch could be accurately measured", see Figure 3.

Later this became known as the "US Standard" gauge. The edges have the usual notches for mainspring heights (based on the Imperial inch, but there is no obvious way to determine mainspring strength, except perhaps by barrel diameter using one of the three scales on the top left (which are Imperial inch scales in 1/64th and 1/32nd

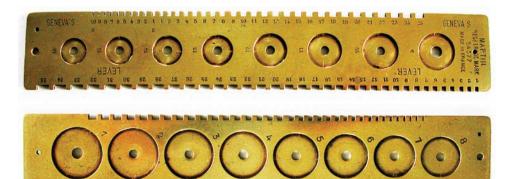


Figure 1: Martin mainspring gauge (front and back views). Actual size 181 x 30 mm.

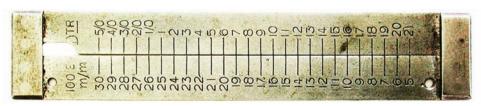


Figure 2: Martin mainspring slit gauge. Actual size 87 x 17 mm.



Figure 3: Dennison combined gauge. Actual size 150 x 19 mm.

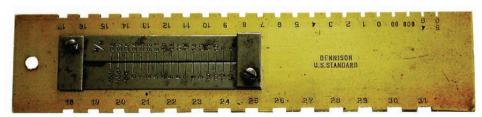


Figure 4: Dennison simplified mainspring gauge.

divisions). Over time, this gauge was simplified and reduced to being purely a mainspring gauge, see Figure 4. Only the height notches remain and a thickness slit gauge added to it. The slit gauge is also

based on the Imperial inch, but it often has metric equivalents which are crude approximations.

Richard Watkins - Kingston Beach, Tasmania, Australia.



# Membership with Online Bulletin and MART and other new NAWCC features from John Hubby, Chair, NAWCC Board of Directors. To Chapter Presidents:

There have been some recent developments in NAWCC Internet services and features that I believe will be of significant interest to your chapters and members.

1) In the December Board meeting, approval was given to create a membership category that will receive the Bulletin and MART online, but not the paper copies. This new membership is at a reduced cost of US\$60, and provides all other usual membership benefits including full access to new Internet memberonly features.

This is immediately available on application to Pam Lindenberg, at <pli>plindenberger@nawcc.org> The reduced fee is applied at the time of your normal membership renewal. New issues are posted on the first day of each Bulletin month, so you will receive these at the same time as any member anywhere. If you wish to continue to receive the paper copies the lower dues do not apply but you can still access the online copy by logging in to our site as described following.

2) A bit over a year ago we started registering our members online. All that is needed is a valid email address and your personal information which is stored on a secure server. That led to the creation of the NAWCC Community Site at: http://community.nawcc.org/NAWCC/ NAWCC/Home/, where we now have many member-only internet features and community groups. To access what is here and also customize your personal profile, just click on the 'Member Login' button at the upper right. If you are not yet registered, you will be led through a process to provide your personal information including your email address. When that is completed you can then access the many and increasing number of member-only features we have in the internet, as described in the following points.

3) From January 2010, all the issues of the NAWCC Bulletin since the first newsletter in 1943 have been placed online, where they can be searched, read, articles downloaded, etc. This is a free service for members only. The Bulletin Supplements are now being scanned for posting and

will be online about the end of this month. To access these, go to www. nawcc.org and click on 'Publications' where you will find the link. You will need to be logged in to access them.

- 4) In February, we brought online all the NAWCC Library educational videos that had recently been converted to DVD format. These are now available by going to the main website at www.nawcc.org and clicking on 'Library'. The link to the online videos is on that page. Just click on the one you want to watch and it will be available right there on your computer. These can be used by chapters for educational presentation using a digital projector from your laptop with speakers connected.
- 5) The Community Site has a Chapter section where most chapters now have a web page or link. I notice none of the Australian Chapters are connected there. All that is needed is for you to contact Markus Harris at <mharris@nawcc.org> and he can put together the template that will direct members to your present website. A chapter roster feature is also available and all that is needed is a roster of your members to be sent to headquarters. There is a large number of community e-groups available where members can discuss a multitude of topics. Also, the NAWCC committees each have a group where they can carry out business. If you don't find a group you think should be included, just forward your suggestions on the 'Contact Us' link.
- 6) The NAWCC Message Board at: http://mb.nawcc.org/ has been available for more than 10 years, but its present version is far and away the best we have ever had. It is now the largest single Internet resource in the world for information about any and all kinds of horological items, and is being expanded to include an Horological Encyclopedia feature. It also has members-only Forums where NAWCC business and such matters can be discussed. Questions asked receive prompt and friendly answers from the huge pool of knowledgeable persons who visit the site. Other features will soon be online, including the following:

An online e-classifieds site, that will be called NAWCC 4Sale. This will be accessible to anyone including non-members for buying, but only NAWCC members will be able to sell.

An online Auction site that will

be an extension of the eClassifieds, planned for introduction about midyear. Here again, only members can sell but it will be open to anyone to buy.

The Hamilton Watch Co. Serial number database, for research purposes.

There are a number of other projects 'in the pipeline' to be brought online as they are ready.

It will be appreciated if you will provide this information to your members, and I encourage you to utilise all that you can for your chapter.

Best regards to all, John Hubby - Chair. NAWCC Board of Directors.

### A case for the defense - NAWCC Publication Review.

No not a dry legal argument but a review of the new book Aaron Lufkin Dennison an Industrial Pioneer and His Legacy by Phillip T. Priestley published through the NAWCC U.S.

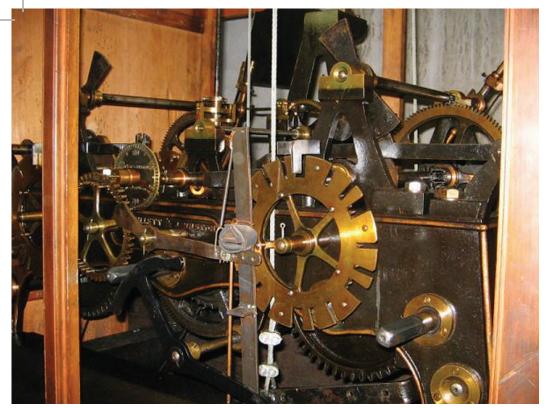
It is the biography of Aaron Dennison who made CASES for the DEFENSE of the delicate watch movements protected therein. He is the father not only of mass production of both cases and watch movements but the interchangeability of parts. The first and major part of the book deals with the history of the Dennison family and their establishment of the Dennison Watch Factories. The last part contains reference tables and lists of various subjects including a cross reference to watch crystal sizes, Dennison watch case serial numbers with corresponding dates for not only the gold and silver cases but also the gold filled and rolled gold cases (e.g. Sun, Moon and Star grades) which is invaluable in dating your pocket watch. The book is littered with photographs of the case makers at their work as well as the machinery they used.

I thoroughly recommend this publication whether you are a pocket watch enthusiast as an extensive reference source or a student of social history.

It is available on line through the NAWCC US web site www.nawcc.org

I purchased my copy in March this year at \$A33.99 but this price would depend on exchange rates at the time of purchase.

Jeffrey McGuire.



#### Toowoomba Town Hall Clock; 110 years on.

'I'm late, I'm late, for a very important date'! - So said the white rabbit from Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll.

This sentiment was also shared by the Governor of Queensland; Lord Lamington on Tuesday December 11th 1900 and a certain flat bed, three train, double three legged gravity escapement, tower clock by Gillett and Johnson of Croydon England.

Both of these illustrious identities are connected with the New Town Hall at Toowoomba. In hind sight both should have been at the opening on Wednesday December 12th 1900 however Lord Lamington, who was to officially open the new building, telegraphed the then Mayor; Alderman Keeffe on Tuesday December 11th advising that he would be unable to attend. Apparently his Lordship was sailing to St Helena Island in Moreton Bay and had become sea sick.

The second non appearance was the said tower clock. To be fair it was not its fault for being late for the opening ceremony. As with most bureaucracy the decision to add a clock and bells to the new hall tower was only made by the city fathers as an after thought on the 14th of August 1900, (4 months before it was due to open).

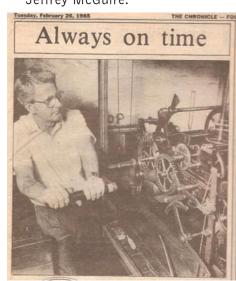
As a consequence of this belated decision Mr. H. Walker; Watchmaker of Toowoomba was engaged to supply and install the said clock at a total cost of £399.00 sterling. Eventually

the clock and bells arrived in 1901 aboard the SS Duke of Devonshire. The ships name was painted on the large hour bell and is still visible today.

To us clock enthusiasts the most interesting part of this movement is the double three legged gravity escapement which, although the clock has seen constant service for the last 110 years is still providing the citizens of Toowoomba with accurate time. It is to be noted that the Great Clock at Westminster London incorrectly known as Big Ben also shares the same escapement its invention in 1851 being credited to Mr. E. B. Denison later titled Lord Grimthorpe.

As well as photos of this movement there is one of a gentleman who appears to be trying to crank start the clock as if it was a model T Ford. I wonder who it might be?

Jeffrey McGuire.









## Highlights of General Meeting NAWCC Chapter 104 Chermside Library 6 June 6 2010.

A long standing ambition fulfilled. General Meetings are always interesting but the June 6th was exceptionally so.

President Martin Willis opened the well attended meeting 1.05pm; apologies were received from K Hallet, C Hill, J Dyer, B Tree, D Kelly.

Martin announced that the Committee was in the process of arranging the lease of a 'Clubhouse' at the Rocklea show grounds. This mark is a major milestone in the history of Chapter 104. A 'club-house" has been a long time ambition of the Chapter and will provide us with a very large well lit air-conditioned room, larger indeed than we can ever imagine filling. The 'club-house' will enable us to conduct all Chapter functions at the one address including Workshop meetings, General meetings, Auctions, Christmas party and Committee meetings. There is more than ample parking and on wet days we will be able to unload auction and mart items under cover. Moreover we have the use of a kitchen with refrigerator, sink and hot water urn. It also satisfies a very important requirement which is the exclusive use of a lockable room in which we can store the Chapter library and tools. This will make the

entire library available to members at all meetings. You will receive separate information of the address, access to the site and parking. Martin then asked Allan Roberts to present the PowerPoint presentation that Mal Enright had prepared showing all aspects of the building. Allan told of some of the other sites which had been considered and the great difficulties he had in finding a suitable building in a comparatively central location. Allan spoke of his negotiations with the landlord and of the terms and conditions of the lease.

Allan and Martin provided answers to enquires about various aspects & features of the building. There are no stairs; there is easy wheel chair access, a monitored security alarm system and secure parking. Enquiries regarding tables and chairs, toilet access, and the interior were also answered to everyone's satisfaction.

Martin announced that a letter of intent had been lodged with the Rocklea Show Society and a lease would be signed subject to repainting and some restoration work being completed. On behalf of the members Martin thanked Allan for the effort that he had put into searching for and negotiating the 'club house'.

Bill Meeken spoke about the auction and record numbers of items listed and sold, outgoing costs and the overall success of the auction. He said that the Chapter was in sound

financial shape.

The Meeting resumed after the tea break with Tony Manton's watch segment. The theme for the talk was military service watches and aircraft clocks. The members had brought in many makes and models to display. Tony explained that with the cessation of hostilities many watches in the process of being manufactured for the military had been fitted with new dials and entered the civilian market. There were some small military aircraft clocks on display and these were discussed. The web-cam is excellent for these watch segments and allows us to see on the large screen all details that Tony wants to bring to our attention. He also provided a wartime mystery item which was an odd shaped sturdy metal box. Looking at the shape of the box we were invited to guess what the box contained and he offered a bottle of wine as a prize for the correct answer. Norman Heckenberg and Tony Roberts had the correct answer. The item was a WWII aircraft navigation aid a 'Bubble Sextant'. Tony's watch segment has become a valuable asset to the Chapter meetings and it is encouraging to see the growing group of 'watchies' gathering together during the afternoon in deep discussion.

The show and tell segment was very well supported with very many of the members having brought something of interest, too many items for me to itemize here. Bill Meeken presented his miniature Dutch long-case clock. This was a very unusual item. Norman Heckenberg introduced watch and clock tools but as we had to be out of the room on time we were not able to cover this to the extent that we would have liked. I would like this segment to be presented again.

James Hutchinson - Secretary.



### Prouds Master Clock at Kingaroy: Final Report.

In the November 2009 issue of Mainspring, Norm Heckenberg and Tony Roberts reported on the restoration of the School of Arts tower clock at Kingaroy, Queensland. The clock was erected in 1918 in memory of the late Archibald Blue, a local businessman and Editor of the local newspaper. Part of the intrigue of this restoration project was the circumstances surrounding the death of Archibald Blue. Blue had used his paper to accuse local Barber Adolf Hoffman, who was of German origin, of distributing leaflets calling for an anti-conscription vote in a forthcoming referendum. Blue died after a fight with Hoffman. Norm continued his research earlier this year and reports:

The trial of Adolf Hoffman: In the last few months, the National Library of Australia has made available online digitised versions of several newspapers of the time, and it has been possible to find Brisbane Courier reports of the trial of Adolf Hoffman.

On October 9 he was charged in the Kingaroy Court with assault and having done grievous bodily harm to Archibald Blue, thereby causing his death. Court business was then suspended as a mark of respect for Blue's funeral. The cortege was a mile in length and was headed by the

Masons and the Town Band. A few days later Hoffman was committed for trial to the Criminal Sittings of the District Court in Brisbane, but granted bail.

On 3 November there was a long report in the Brisbane Courier, outlining how Hoffman had confronted Blue in the School of Arts, claiming that the statements published in the Kingaroy Herald were absolutely untrue, and demanded a retraction. Threats were exchanged. Later that day, Blue had gone to Hoffman's shop and 'without any warning, struck the accused in the face'. A fight ensued, with Hoffman falling on Blue with his knee on Blue's stomach. 'A post-mortem examination disclosed the fact that death was due to a rupture of one of the small bowels, haemorrhage, and peritonitis. If the accused intentionally placed his knee on the stomach of the deceased with a view to causing him injury he would be guilty of murder'.

In an unexpected development the presiding judge, Chief Justice Sir Pope Cooper, after some argument persuaded the Crown Prosecutor, Mr J.J. Kingsbury, to withdraw the charge of manslaughter, and instead present an indictment for murder. The jury was discharged and then reempanelled to try the murder charge. The next day, a witness claimed that Hoffman had told him months ago

about how he had had a row with a man in Germany, and had 'got my knee into him' and that 'he was dead two days later', or 'he died two days later', witness was not sure which. There was a lot of medical evidence given about what sort of internal injuries a knee could produce, but at the end of the day, the jury retired and half an hour later returned a verdict of not guilty and Hoffman was discharged.

The third visit: Tony and Norm, along with local horologist Jim Blyth, visited Kingaroy for the third time on October 19, made a number of small adjustments to the clock, fitted a drive chain to the sprockets attached to the worm drive 'crows nest', designed by Thomas Murday and the motion work was then set going.

Jim Blyth accepted the task of monitoring the clock's performance. All went well initially except that the chain drive seemed to slip. Jim has now installed heavier duty sprockets and chain. The clock is now running within a minute a week.

This is a great credit to the original engineering by Thomas Murday and the clockmakers at Prouds, Sydney over 90 years ago.

Compiled by Norman Heckenberg and Tony Roberts.

Above: Norm Heckenberg, Tony Roberts, Maria Thoumine, Jim Blyth in front of the finished clock

Below: Tony Roberts and the clock movement.



## Chapter 168 Queensland Interest Group report.

Saturday 29 May 2010 saw the second meeting of the Queensland interest group of Chapter 168 at the home of Stuart and Julia Woods, Springwood, Queensland. The meeting was attended by 12 and the group was grateful to have Bernard Fellner and Louis Reinhold share their professional experiences and tips when repairing 400 day clocks.

The meeting started out by Bernard Fellner sharing two recent examples of re-enamelling 400 day clock bases, pillars and pendulums. One he was not 100% happy with (albeit it was an excellent result) and the other that was an exceptional result. Bernard spoke of how he preferred the brass lacquer (Like Armour Lacquer) purchased from A J Miles in Woolloongabba to Incralac. Bernard felt it covers more evenly and is easier to work across the base and/or other parts being lacquered. This lacquer doesn't seem as prone to streaking/running as Incralac. Thinners for thinning the lacquer was a generic product purchased from Supercheap (Motospray Superglow Multi-purpose Thinner). The best masking tape Bernard has found is electrical insulation tape (this tape being more pliable and not prone to bleeding at the edges). Bernard also had a local jeweller engrave the name of the maker (over the top of the original dial transfer) so it would not be lost when buffing/relacquering the dial. The end result was a clock anyone would be proud to own and a tribute to the original manufactured finish. Next the group documented a Gustav Becker clock belonging to Bernard. The clock was, from the Horolovar 400 Day Clock Repair Guide, dated as circa 1910, fitted

with a standard No.8 saddle and disc pendulum. With the exception of the decorative piece under the bezel, the clock was complete and original. The clock will now be entered into the Queensland Gustav Becker register.

Other clocks dated included a Schatz Bermuda (August 1961), a Schatz 1000 (September 1954) and an unusual Kern and Sohne belonging to Bernard Fellner (1962). The Kern had a highly elaborate heavy cast brass base surrounded by three Greek statues chained together. The dial had a red background and Roman skeletonised numerals (a brilliant and unusual piece). Bernard also brought along a number of clocks for sale including a Schatz 1000. All prices were very reasonable. After being beaten severely by the financial advisor (Julia) I resisted buying any.

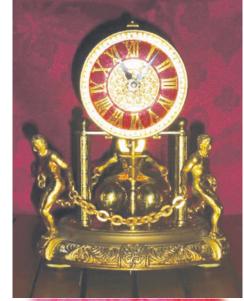
However, the group had to admit defeat with the three clock movements and four glass mahogany case brought along by Michael Ward. Despite much discussion no firm view was reached. Maybe after some further searching and if we had the wine earlier we may have been more successful in identifying the movements?

Louis Reinhold brought along a shelf cuckoo clock as an example of one of his earlier repair jobs that whilst not having originally gone according to plan now looks brilliant. The clock being a family heirloom made it especially significant to Louis.

Thanks to Julia who again put on an excellent spread and to Tony Manton and the Woods for the after session red and white wines.

Our next meeting is proposed to be held in August/September.

Stuart Woods.

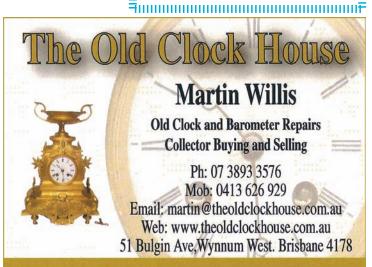




Clock Display at the Pine Rivers Heritage Museum, 12 November 2010 to 16 January 2011.

Old Petrie Town, Dayboro Road, Whiteside. Qld 4503 07 3285 7213







## Excellence in design and new ideas in Horology found by the Editor.

Depending on your work - leisure ethic most people would say they would want to own a Rolex. The Oyster Perpetual Yacht-Masterll in 18ct white gold with the legendary 4160 movement seems to be the go for high flying out doors types. My research has come up with an alternative watch that I wish to flag down here; the Montblanc Metamorphosis (pic above) from the newly renovated factory in Villeret, the 'Institut Minervia de Recherche en Haute Horologerie', under the watchful eye of Montblanc has been offering financial and technical support to talented young watchmakers to help them explore new ideas in horology and establish their own businesses.

Two years on and the first project is ready, kept confidential until December 15 2009 the fascinating new Montblanc Meta-morphosis is now available. The project has been a collaboration between two horologists; Johny Girardin and Frank Orny. The watch was inspired by the idea of a dual-faced watch. The novelty lies in the way the indications are displayed on a single side of the instrument.

In normal use, what the makers have called the 'civil time' mode, the hours, minutes and seconds are displayed in classical regulator style on the black and silver sub-dials. At six o'clock, the calendar is displayed in an interesting 'tens and units' indicator where a small hand points to either 1-2-or-3, while a longer hand traverses the consecutive units.

Upon activation of the slide at

the side of the case near ten o'clock. an amazing transformation occurs. Both lower and upper subsidiary dials descend slightly, while opening and splitting apart into four 'wings' each which then slowly slide out of view, concealing themselves below the central area of the dial. A previously hidden subsidiary dial then rises to view in the lower position, becoming a minute-recording dial for the watch which is now transformed into a chronograph. The rising dial contains an aperture which 'consumes' what was the units-counter of the date, effectively hiding it from view. In use the red-rimmed minute recorder continuously moves past the fixed pointer just below the central axis of the watch. The entire transformation is effected in fifteen seconds, resulting in an exceptionally strong visual effect.

The watch may be left in either the Chronograph or Civil time mode, neither compromising the efficacy of the other. When the wearer reverts to Civil Time, the metamorphosis is reversed and the hour, minute and seconds-hands are restored to the current time by a continuously-operating mechanical memory.

The device employs 470 components, of which about 50 are devoted to the transformation itself. Justin Koullapis says in his review that it goes without saying that every element is manufactured to very exacting tolerances, while needing careful individual adjustment by a watchmaker. According to Jean-Marc Pontroué, the ten pieces of this horological automation that will be produced is far below what they would actually be able to sell. This is a concept watch, helping to establish new principals and ideas, while giving inventive horologists a technical and financial platform from which to set up their own businesses. In accordance with that, the intellectual property of the watch remains in the ownership of its inventors who have set up a separate company, Télos Watch SA, from which Justin says we will no doubt see much further innovation in the future.

This review is taken from the British Horological Journal, February 2010 issue which has just appeared in the Chapter 104 Library as of May 2010. Be sure to borrow and see the other published photographs in the issue.

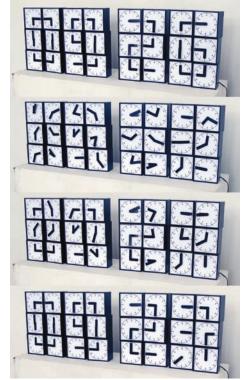
Malcolm Enright - Editor.



Young Swedish product designers; Per & Bastian are humans they say, since 1982 in fact. Per grew up in Stockholm and Bastian grew up in the countryside of Swabia in Kirchberg/Iller (Germany). They both graduated in summer 2009 from HDK, the school for design and crafts in Gothenburg. During a study trip to New York in the winter of 2008 they decided to co-operate. They say in their blurb - they do it.

The Clock Clock is not their first collaboration but the one that has gained them most column centimeters. Their press article list on the web site quotes 21 recent articles from Wallpaper & Domus in English language to numerous European language articles - go and see the clock clock work on screen, it uses the world time server to deliver the time each minute. Two stacks of 12 analogue clocks change every dial's hands to spell-out the time:

http://humanssince1982.com/



Partnering with David Cox Engineering in the U.K. on The clock clock & Mdler GmbH, Stuttgart / Phidgets Inc, Calgary who sponsored the technology, on The clock clock.



Continue Time © Sander Mulde. Sander writes - our office clock fell, causing the minutes and second pointer to come off and they were just laying in the transparent cover. Witnessing the random patterns that occurred while the hour pointer still rotated, the concept for the Continue Time was born.

On this Continue Time clock, two out of the three pointers rotate around another pointer, instead of the central point on the clock face, as with traditional clocks. The resulting kinetic artwork, and fully functional clock, is continuously changing its shape during a full rotation of twelve hours.

Limited edition of 40 pieces  $+\ 1$  artist proof.

While creating mesmerizing patterns on your wall the pointers are still read as with any traditional clock. The widest pointer (attached to the clockwork) shows the hours, the medium sized pointer (attached to the hour pointer) shows the minutes, the smallest pointer (attached to the minute pointer) shows the seconds.

http://www.sandermulder.com/continue time.html

Their web site url (above) has three different movies imbedded, the first one on |vimeo| I had trouble viewing, the second and third are on |UTube| and are well worth the effort, especially the production section of second video. Orders are taken and shipped world-wide from their studio in Eindhoven, Holland. Our characteristic designs have left their traces in homes, galleries and museums all over the world.



Finally, the most up-to-date digital (nano apps - nano fees), small applications available worldwide for hand held computers and downloadable for as little as \$1.99

Category: Utilities
Updated: Feb 11, 2010
Current Version: 1.5.3 - 2.7 MB
Language: English
Seller: DreamSurface LLC
DreamSurface LLC

Description: TimeTuner is the most critically acclaimed & full-featured radio alarm clock app on the market. Featured in NEW & NOTEWORTHY, #1 STAFF

FAVORITE and WHAT'S HOT on

App Stores worldwide.

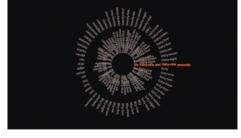
Rated 4+



My own screen saver is designed by a young U.K. digital monkey named Simon Heys and is called the Word Clock. He has two versions, the first is a dense field of words and the current (spoken) time is highlighted in the entire field of text (or screen).

My version is circular as I like my dials and changes each second to display the time, below I've snapped two images to show the changes in screen landscape. Go online here: http://www.simonheys.com/ wordclock/

The new iPod and iPhone apps are currently available for a small fee.





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#### Chapter 104 Program to date for 2010.

From Secretary Paul Hutchinson & Workshop Co-ordinator Jim Gray.

Sun 08 August 2010 General meeting, this will be a Special meeting, we will have a "catered afternoon tea" so plan to bring wives and partners to see the new Clubhouse. This will be more of a social meeting, bring along TIMEX items for 'show&tell'.

Sun 12 September 2010 Workshop meeting - Electrical horology group should bring electric clocks to this normal workshop to keep our hands in.

Sun 03 October 2010 General meeting

Sun 07 November 2010 Workshop meeting

Fri 12 November 2010 Pine Rivers Museum Clock display opening

Sun 05 December 2010 Christmas party

Sun 15 January 2011 Workshop meeting

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 4.00 pm. Mart items should be set up for 12:30 pm start. Afternoon tea & coffee is provided but please bring a plate to share. Please bring interesting new items for show and tell as this segment proves to be most popular.

Workshop and Special Interest Group Meetings commence at 9.30 am & concluding at 4.30 pm.

Bring lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided, but please bring a plate to share.

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.

#### 104 Chapter members please note:

Henry Braun has massed his entire 'restoration & repair' material from a lifetime's horological interest, including most of his clocks and has them offered on eBay.

He says he's selling 90% of his shed and workshop.

- 7 large groups in total
- 180 movements
- 65 clock cases
- boxes of spare parts arranged in makers/country of origin
- numerous cuckoo clocks offered for sale

Those members interested in driving up to Eagle Heights should call Henry on 07 5545 3523 and make arrangements to view his material.

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Vice President	Jeff Dyer	nichvi51@skymesh.com.au	07 5463 2312
Secretary	Paul Hutchinson	jphutch@tpg.com.au	07 3263 2694
Treasurer	Bill Meeken	menengai@tpg.com.au	07 3882 1213
Newsletter Editor	Malcolm Enright	male@co-opones.to	07 3356 7645
Librarian	Jeff Dyer	nichvi51@skymesh.com.au	07 5463 2312
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Mentor Co-ordinator	Alan Hazelton	jennifer.porter8@bigpond.com	07 3366 5491
Assistant Treasurer	Mike Ward	mg.ward@yahoo.com.au	07 3300 3468
Assistant Secretary	Michael Bauer	yabba24@bigpond.com	07 3868 2222
Committee Member	Alan Roberts	allan-r@bigpond.net.au	07 3277 7858

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

August 2010 Loctite and Seiko batteries and power packs: Company representatives

October 2010 Make a fake and Dodgy Repairs: by Michael Smith

December 2010 Talking Clocks:

Jim Dolan 07 5499 1556 jimmywombat99@yahoo. com.au has provided Mainspring with a list of tools he is selling, we don't have the room to expand further here. We suggest you call or email Jim with your details, he resides at Caboolture, north of Brisbane or go to: http://www.co-opones. to/male/viewer/images/ JimDolan-7pages.pdf

Chapter 122 Program to hand:

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

16 August 2010 AAHS Annual General Meeting + Movie if time permits

17 September 2010
Tony Roberts: Chapter
104 Queensland, visiting
and speaking on Electromechanical Horology - The
Australian Story + Clock
Cleaning Machines

30 & 31 October 2010 A Broad Arrow Look at Time in Australia: Rydges Eagle Hawk Resort Canberra ACT by Chapter 182

22 November 2010
Professor John Le Marshall:
Chief Physicist Commonwealth
Weather Bureau, Ex-NASA/
NOAA and DoD Joint
Centre for Satellite Data
Assimilation speaking on
Weather prediction via
satellite and time

20 December 2010 Informal Christmas get together and Movie 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

27 June 2010 Horological ephemera:

29 August 2010 Watches: Bring and Discuss your Favourite Watch

31 October 2010 Tools Auction

Early November 2010 Introduction to Clocks and Watches: Their care and maintenance (Workshop to be held in Roger's workshop)

Phil Smyrk has been in touch, he's restoring a Lancet Bracket clock and he needs the fine brass stringing. Any one able to assist please call him on 0418445882 or eamil at: phil@journeyjottings.com His cabinet full of great watches is on view at the Paddington Antiques Centre.



#### WANTED TO BUY:

Watchmaker's tools

Spare parts

Quality watches in any condition Best prices paid!



#### Contact Ronny:

Shop 23, Ground Level, Brisbane Arcade. 160 Queen Street, Brisbane 4000. Phone 07 32106722 or Mobile 0407676838

Email - sales@brisbanevintagewatches.com

Web - www.brisbanevintagewatches.com

