



Flitch 'n Chips

Issue No. 212

February 2015

Presidents Report



Hi Fellow Woodies,

Welcome to all our new members, please try to become involved in our activities and ask for any help you may need. There are many courses coming up, surely something to interest most members. There will be basic wood turning, squatters chair course, box making, basic router course and many others. Sheets are on the noticeboard. There will be a demonstration of deep hollowing on the lathe and a variety of workshops on machinery, CPR and a basic first aid course etc.

For anyone who would like to become involved and learn woodworking skills there are many projects under way. John Holland is at present making the benches for the Maleny Hospital Memorial Walk, Graham Bradford is making a coffee table for the club raffle, Tom Black is making a document box for the Salvation Army, Rob Otto is making a nest of coffee tables for Barung Land Care to raffle at the Chain Saw to Fine Furniture event to be held in May at the Maleny Show Grounds and John Muller is making a weaving loom. All would welcome anyone who would like to become involved in these projects and they would be excellent learning

opportunities with skilled Woodies.

A big thank you to Lionel Tilley for organising and running our display at the Australia Day event at the Maleny Show grounds and also to our members who helped out with the event. Also thank you to John Muller who represented and spoke on behalf of the Club at the Australia Day ceremony at Montville, spreading the message of what our club does within the community.

We have, what I consider, the best Woodies club in Queensland with the best group of members anyone could wish for so lets keep it that way by following all safety procedures, honouring our commitment by paying for timber and machinery use so that the club can continue to grow for the benefit of all members. The management committee is working on some big plans for the clubs future development and hopefully we can announce these in the near future.

Now for the social aspect of the Club. Next year we celebrate our 20th anniversary and are looking for ways to celebrate the occasion so put your thinking caps on! Any ideas would be

appreciated. This years Club Christmas Party will now be held on Friday, 11th December again at Flaxton Gardens. Be sure to put this date in your diaries for a good night out at a reasonable cost.

The Montville Sportsground Management Committee has decided to remove tennis court number 3 (nearest our club) which will then provide more temporary parking until we can come up with better use of the area. If you have any ideas, let me know.

To any members not feeling the best at the moment remember, we're thinking of you and wish you all a speedy recovery. If there's anything the club can do for you, please let us know.

Keep the wood pile low and the shavings high.

Happy Woodworking,
Frank McDonald
President



While collecting some Camphor stumps from a residence in Lawnton recently, the owner offered us his home made lathe for turning large items; generally large timber bowls and pot-plants.

It looks very sad in the photos I took but still works; just neglected. The base is a turntable from a crane connected to an electric motor via a gearbox from a post-hole borer. There is also an 8000 kilo crane to lift heavy stumps etc on to the turntable.

The turntable spins at about 10 RPM, very slow but the shaping is done by an Arbotec mounted on a frame. Rather ingenious!

If anyone is interested, you can contact Ray direct on 3285 7800; just mention this info came from Brian McTaggart of the BRWG.



Around the Shed this month

John Holland showed some of the differences with the new Makita Dropsaw following the General Meeting last Saturday morning.



Concentration is the key to success when Scrollsawing as Peter Morningstar and Jan Clements found during the Basic Scrollsaw course held at the Shed recently.



Beat this for a challenging Gazebo design!



WOODIES CLASSES FOR NEWER MEMBERS

Two community projects are about to start & teams are needed to complete the job.

They are ideal projects for newer members & cost nothing to join.

- ➡ Two outdoor bench seats for the Maleny Hospital &
- ➡ A nest of tables for the Chainsaw to Fine Furniture Event

If you are interested in helping please ring—

Bench Seats—John Holland on 54947084 (ring now)

Nest of Tables—Rob Otto on 0407466260 (ring late February)

More details on the noticeboard at the shed.



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Meet **KEITH CARTER** - Member No 272

This month we have great pleasure in introducing Keith Carter, a very popular and long serving member of the Blackall Range Woodcrafters Guild.

Best known for his quiet and unassuming approach to wood crafting, many of the Woodies don't know that Keith is an ex Aussie soldier, a Vietnam Vet, an ex member of the SAS and now a tireless member of B Company 2RAR Vietnam Vets, volunteering his time and support for others who returned from that conflict.



Keith at the Woodies Nov 2014

Who would be your most remembered mentor at the Woodies who helped you overcome your anxiety (about being inexperienced in Woodwork)?

I couldn't name names as there were so many who helped and guided me. To name one would not be right to all of the others who, through their patience and help, showed me so much and gave me the confidence to be able to say "I can do this!"

Where did you spend your early life as a kid?

Sydney. Well, Maroubra actually. Although I was not a surfer stereotype like the blond haired trouble making Bra Boys of later times, I did spend a fair bit of time in the surf on my board. Did I have a Kingswood wagon? Cut it out!

What made you come to live in Nambour?

Family actually. My dear wife's family and friends lived there. So why not go there?

What influenced you mostly in your life that was life changing?

The untimely death of my Mum, when I was nearly 12yo. This event was instrumental in many of the decisions I

made in the next 10 years of my life. We were very close.

When and where were you the happiest?

With Sharon in Nambour. But also in the army. But it really does depend on whom you are with. There were four of us who went over to Vietnam and we were close mates, and we had a happy time. Don't ask what we got up to. It was bizarre.

In one or two words, how do you describe yourself?

Genial comes to mind. Sociable maybe. I'm told I'm a nice bloke to know. Hard question for me. I'll let others advise you on that one. (OK Keith, we took you up on that! And we can confirm you're right.)

What is it about the Woodies that you enjoy mostly?

Being in the company of so many talented people, and being accepted unconditionally as one of them. I find it difficult to describe how I feel about this. Those that know me understand what I mean.

What was the first woodwork job you have made? We all get asked this.

A firewood box from camphor laurel. I admit that nearly everyone in the Woodies helped me make it but in the end, I am very proud of the achievement. It still takes pride of place in my dining room at home.

What's the worst job? Come on, 'fess up! We all get asked this as well.

I once made a wall mounted barramundi fish from white cedar, with a red gum backing board. Well I thought it was a fish. Friends keep asking, "What's that?" So I put it down to my worst woodworking effort. But it is a talking point. Reminds me I am now able to do a hell of a lot better!

What is the biggest thing you miss about being in the military?

Security & comradeship, which I now have at the Woodies.

Who do you think is your favourite leader?

John Howard. Even old Joh Bjelke-Petersen to some degree, except he ruined it later. Both these blokes, love them or hate them, were not afraid to stand up for what they passionately believed in; taking on the heavyweights in government and the trade unions.

What makes you smile?

Stupidity. A tattooed dickhead with a hat turned sideways.

What makes you laugh out loud?

More stupidity. Two tattooed dickheads with their hats turned sideways.

What music do you like? e.g. country, classical, hard rock (ACDC), popular, etc.

Popular/ Folk. The Animals – "We Gotta Get Out of This Place" – an anthem for many of us in Vietnam at the time. Also Shirley Bassey, Peter Paul and Mary, the Seekers, John Denver.

What do you read? Favourite topic?

I have been reading about the "choccos" who went to Kokoda in WW2, and this interests me greatly. These blokes were simply weekend warriors you know.

*What annoys the s**t out of you*

Blokes asking me too many questions. (Grin)

Do you think Australia needs to be made better?

Yes, definitely. Have a look at the joke it is today. Lacks leadership, and the courage of conviction in our present politicians of all persuasions. Seems there're not too many of them genuinely interested in Australia or know where we are headed.

If you had unlimited money and political position, how could you, would you, make Australia a better place?

Bring back National Service for the young people, all of them. Without exception, and not let those with excuses, (generally pretty slim excuses), dodge it. The country might have a better trained standing army, in bigger numbers than we have today. Don't get me wrong; I don't think the Army should be given the task of fixing the poor social issues of today's young people.

Suppose you had a handful of kids about you and were giving them advice today, what would you say to them?

Have goals, stay focused on your goals, and have a plan on how you will achieve them

What is your philosophy on life?

Enjoy it while you have it.

_____0_____

Each month we will be profiling a member of the Blackall Range Woodcrafters Guild to introduce all members to each other, and to newer members of the club. *ed.*

Tips and Tricks

By Warne Wilson

There are many little tricks that I have learned over the years and sometimes use automatically as part of my working process. For example, when countersinking screws I use a countersinking bit to accommodate the screw head before I drill the hole. In this way there will be no chatter or tear out and the hole will be self-centered.

THE COMBINATION SQUARE. One of the handiest tools to have in your own shed or to use at woodies. These squares are fine for marking a line at right angles and the 45 Degree angle can be useful at times also, but the most frequent use can be to use the sliding rule to set repeatable measurements both for marking out and to use as a depth gauge for

mortises and tenons – it can also be used for setting saw height. My trick a long time ago was to file a little nick in the middle of the end of the blade to stop my pencil slipping as I used the square to mark a line lengthways on a piece of wood.

90 DEGREE BOX JOINTS. From scrap wood I cut a number of square blocks 75mm X 75mm X 50mm and I keep them stacked on a shelf in my shed. (Size can be smaller for smaller boxes) Using two clamps at right angles on each block I can ensure that each corner is held accurately and firmly for joining.

SHARPENING TWIST DRILL BITS. A little job that some find difficult, chancy, or just plain impossible to get right. Just touch each cutting edge of the bit in turn to the side of the grinder wheel and in a smooth upward grinding motion, bring the bit away. A little practice and a gentle approach will give a perfect grind every time with clearance behind the edge.

Woodworking is a real pleasure with nice sharp tools

Safety Notes

By Warne Wilson and Dave Banister



We are pleased to report that we have not been advised of any safety incidents this month and this gives us an opportunity to impress upon all members the necessity of protecting ourselves when using machinery.

EYES: We tend to take our wonderful ability to see for granted and it is not until our sight is damaged that we realise we should have taken care. Please remember to use eye protection when you are making shavings, chips, sawdust, and even dust from sanders which can irritate the eyes.

EARS: How many times have we seen members using noisy machines and power tools without ear plugs or muffs? Sound is measured in decibels. At normal conversation level

– 65 decibels – no damage is done, but at levels above 85 decibels (The sound of an idling bulldozer, note idling, not working) permanent damage to hearing will occur. Tinnitus – ringing in the ears – is often an indication that hearing has been damaged permanently and damaged hearing cannot repair itself. Elderly woodies sometimes reply to our requests to wear ear protection by saying. “My hearing is shot anyway.” Surely we should protect what remains?

NOSE, THROAT AND LUNGS: Every one of us is guilty of this one from time to time. Dust can irritate these sensitive membranes; some woods are worse offenders than others and

can be carcinogenic. We recommend that you bring your own mask with you, but otherwise, economically priced masks are available in the meeting room.

THINK

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FOR SAFETY
WHEN YOU TRY TO
DO WITHOUT IT**



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WOODIES DEMO SCHEDULE 2015

FEBRUARY

Saturday 28th Update on safe use of thicknessers – 15 minutes (John Holland)

MARCH

Afternoons Rob Otto sessions on basic preparation of timber using table saw, thicknesser, jointer & creating a joint – 4 per session – maybe 4 sessions if required.

Saturday 14th Update on safe use of bandsaws – 15 minutes (John Holland)

Saturday 28th Demonstration on types of glue, how to glue, how to join the ends on window frames etc. (John Muller)

APRIL

Saturday 11th Demonstration on hollow turning by Ken Reays.

Saturday 18th Demonstration on sharpening wood chisels (John Holland)

Keep the Woof out of the Wood Shed!

Noun

woof (*plural Woofs*)

1. the set of yarns placed crosswise in a loom, interlaced with the warp, carried by the shuttle.
2. the distortion in timber induced by poor storage



Inspect the photo on the left of a stack of timber in our Wood Shed and notice how each piece of timber is supported at two points....its top and bottom. This leaves the centre of the board unsupported and therefore subject to bending which makes it more difficult to process for use and also more waste.

The photo on the right is the same timber restacked to make sure each piece is supported through its length and therefore minimising the amount of Woof in the board.

The other point illustrated in the right hand photo is the amount of floor space consumed by exactly the same amount of timber.

Please keep this in mind the next time you're hunting for the perfect board in the Wood Shed and help reduce the Woof!

Maintenance Report

by Brian Harris

- 17/1 Belt Sander - New belt fitted to sander as a result of a hole being made in the former belt.
- 21/1 Jointer - After seven months all 40 inserts have been rotated to give a new cutting edge to give a cleaner and quieter cut.
- 24/1 15" Thicknesser - 75 cutter inserts have been rotated to expose a new cutting edge to give a cleaner cut.
- 28/1 Laguna Band Saw - A new blade has been fitted to this saw.
- 7/2 Drop Saw - The Makita 300mm Drop Saw that we won at the Cooroy Competition nearly three years ago and has been in its carton up on the Mezzanine has now been fitted in place of the Bosch saw.



The Makita has a 'soft start' motor and is not as noisy as the Bosch.

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Shed Times 8.00 - 11.30	
Monday	General Activities
Tuesday	Turning & Carving
Wednesday	General Workshop & Toys
Thursday	Furniture & Joinery
Friday	General Activities
Saturday	General Act. & Demo's

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Who's Who in BRWG Inc. 2013-14		
Patrons - Andrew Powell MP, Mark Jamieson - Mayor SCRC and Cr Jenny McKay		
President	Frank McDonald	5435 2495
Vice President	John Muller	
Secretary	Graham Beaumont	
Asst. Secretary	Dave Edmond	
Treasurer	Brian Harris	
Asst. Treasurer	Hugh McKenna	
Newsletter Editors	M Barrenger, G Beaumont, T Jorgensen	0408 437 375
Website Editor	Dave Edmond	5478 6932
Publicity Officer	Gerry Zwart	5441 7433
Recruitment Officers	Dave Banister, Lionel Tilley, Tom Black, Jeff Harrison, Frank McDonald	
Activity Officers	Ray Curry, John Drew, John Clarke, Warne Wilson Dave Banister, Keith Muirhead, Brian Harris, Max Barrenger	
Safety Officers	Dave Banister, Warne Wilson	
First Aid Officer	John Drewe	
Events Organiser	Rick Vickers	5494 3555
Shed Managers	John Holland, Brian Harris	
Amenity Officer	Pat McDonald	
House Officer	Julie Breen	
Purchasing Officer	Rob Otto	
Training Officer	Lionel Tilley	
Librarian	Brian Holdsworth, Max Barrenger	
Timber Management	John Holland, Frank McDonald, Ron Donald, Phil Gibson	

Shed Captain Roster - March 2015

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
2	Brian Harris	3	George Blowers	4	Max Barrenger	5	Ted Martin	6	George Blowers	7	Keith Muirhead
9	John Muller	10	Tom Black	11	Hugh McKenna	12	Ray Bryant	13	John Muller	14	Graham Bradford
16	Dave Banister	17	Bruce Chapman	18	Rob Otto	19	John Drewe	20	Frank McDonald	21	Warne Wilson
23	Lionel Tilley	24	Frank McDonald	25	Leigh Boynton	26	John Holland	27	George Blowers	28	John Clarke
30	Brian Harris	31	George Blowers								

Shed Captain Roster - April 2015

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
				1	John Close	2	Ted Martin	3	John Muller	4	Keith Muirhead
6	John Muller	7	Tom Black	8	Max Barrenger	9	Ray Bryant	10	Frank McDonald	11	Graham Bradford
13	Dave Banister	14	Bruce Chapman	15	Hugh McKenna	16	John Drewe	17	George Blowers	18	Warne Wilson
20	Lionel Tilley	21	Frank McDonald	22	Rob Otto	23	John Holland	24	John Muller	25	John Clarke
27	Brian Harris	28	George Blowers	29	Leigh Boynton	30	Ted Martin				

BLACKALL RANGE WOODCRAFTER'S GUILD Inc. TIMBER MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL.

INTRODUCTION:

This document sets out the Timber Management requirements for the milling, drying, storage and sales of timber donated to the Guild. It is a guide for members to help them understand their obligations to assist the Timber Management Committee in supplying a good source of raw material for Guild usage.

LOG ACCEPTANCE:

Members are from time to time offered fallen logs for the Guild's use. Not all species and logs are acceptable and the following procedure should be adhered to:

- 1 Contact any member of the Timber Management Committee and advise them of the log/s available, the location and the owner's contact details.
- 2 The TMC member will arrange for an inspection of the log/s and assess their suitability for Guild usage.
- 3 A decision will be made by 2 members of the TMC and they will arrange collection.

As a general rule the Guild will only accept logs on the basis of:

- a The species,
- b The quality of the log,
- c The size, being a minimum of 350 mm diameter and minimum of 1.8 M long.

N.B. It is not uncommon for owners to request that they want the entire tree removed, including branches. As an organisation, the Guild does not have the resources to do this and the gift of the logs may have to be declined in these cases.

It is important to appreciate that all log inputs must be:

- * Approved by 2 TMC members;
- ** Collection and timing of collection is to be approved and arranged by the TMC Member.

MEMBERS OWN LOGS:

The Guild's band saw mill is available for cutting member's logs and the following procedures should be adhered to:

- 1 Approval for milling should be obtained from the TMC.
- 2 The TMC shall then advise when to deliver the log/s;
- 3 On delivery, the member needs to identify their log with a plywood marker nailed to the end of the log. Such identification should include a) member's name, b) cutting specification required.
- 4 When the log is milled, the milling team will assemble the cut boards and notify the member.
- 5 The member must remove the milled timber from the premises on the day of milling.
- 6 Milling of members logs will be charged at the following rates and are subject to change at the discretion of the TMC taking into account the species to be milled and the difficulty in milling:
a) Set up Fee \$5.00 and b) \$2.00 per metre of sawing.

*N.B. It is important to note that the Guild is not responsible for
a) Unidentified logs (approval must be arranged before delivery)
b) The Guild is not responsible for uncollected wood. If collection by the member is not practical, please arrange for a fellow member or friend to collect it.*

DRYING, AIR AND KILN:

In drying timber to EMC (Equilibrium Moisture Content), several basic rules apply to obtain the best results. EMC is the moisture content that wood takes on when it is ready to be used and is stable. This can vary from 10 to 15% and will change with atmospheric conditions.

Those basic rules are:

1. Green sawn timber should lose the free water in the cells slowly and air drying is best for this. A short period of air drying before kiln drying is beneficial.
2. Strip sticks used to separate the sawn boards should be of uniform thickness and 20 x 20 has been proven to be ideal.
3. Strip sticks should be placed at a maximum of 400 mm apart and all directly above each other.

At about 28% MC, the sawn boards reach FSP (Fibre Saturation Point) which means it has lost all the free water from the cells and the remaining water is held in the fibres. At this point it is ideal to kiln dry the remaining water out to as close as can be achieved to EMC.

TIMBER SALES:

All Guild timber is available to be used by the Members and the following procedures should be adhered to:

1. The Shed Captain is to assist the member in the selection of the timber to be purchased and is responsible for the tidying of the timber racks after the selection.
2. The Shed Captain shall measure and value the purchase based on the prices set by the TMC, not the individual member. The measurement shall be based on usable timber graded by the Shed Captain.
3. Permission must be obtained from the Shed Captain if a sale is to be made by docking a board or boards and returning the residual unwanted piece (a minimum of 1 metre) to the rack.
4. Timber is traditionally cut in varying thicknesses, and boards sawn from green logs can be sawn oversize to allow for shrinkage to the usable sizes which are:
25, 32, 38, 50, 60, 75, 100, 125, 150, 175, 200 mm etc. There is a tolerance for dried sizes of roughly - 7.5% so as an example, a board with a minimum thickness of 47mm would be sold as 50mm.
5. End splits on boards should not be included in the length charges. Loose knots should also be excluded.
6. Sawn slabs of uneven width should be sold by calculating the average width of usable timber X minimum thickness.
7. The grade of the wood shall be at the discretion of the Shed Captain in agreement with the purchasing member.
8. Guild members are welcome to purchase timber from the BRWG for friends but the price for purchases by non members shall have a 20% surcharge added to the base cubic metre price.