

# Flitch 'n Chips

Issue No. 218

August 2015



Hi Fellow Woodies,

## Presidents Report

I have been asked by Max to write this column whilst the new President is on holiday and the new Vice President is learning the ropes.

The AGM is now over for another year and we have a new President, John Muller and a new Vice President, John Henderson. The remainder of the management committee is Graham Beaumont as Secretary, Brian Harris as Treasurer and Bruce Chapman and myself as Shed Managers. Congratulations to everyone. I have had a great 3 years as President and decided it was time to take a rest. I was honoured to be awarded a Life Membership of the Club, thank you one and all. We don't do it for the glory but for the love of the Club, which can only continue to grow with the help of its members and there are a few I would like to make a special mention of, in no particular order.

Max Barrenger for the excellent job he does in compiling and printing the Flitch & Chips.  
Brian Harris, who, along with his position as Treasurer also maintained and repaired our machinery, not a small job.  
John Holland, always around to help other members, conduct demos and keep an eye on the milling teams as well as being a Shed Captain.  
Lionel Tilley, long time Training Officer, Shed Captain and free form box making mentor.  
Rick Vickers, club liaison officer over the long term despite his other commitments away from the club.  
Hugh McKenna, assistant treasurer and exceptional toy maker.  
Graham Beaumont for his job as Secretary and also for stepping in and compiling the Flitch & Chips when Max is away.  
Gerry Zwart for doing an outstanding job in publicity during my term as president.  
These are just a few of the special people who make up this wonderful club, thank you to all of you and to all club members for making my 3 years such a pleasure.

If any one feels that they have something to contribute to keep the club growing, please speak to a member of the Management Committee. Through collaboration the Club will move forward in a positive direction

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  
Immediate Past President

**A New Layout For Flitch and Chips!!!!**

Flitch & Chips as with most newsletters evolved from printed on paper layout using 2 or 3 columns which improves readability due to the eyes scanning ability. However as most readers use a computer or iPad to read this newsletter we will experiment with the design to make it more friendly. This month I'll try single column layout which hopefully makes it easier to scroll and read. If you have any suggestions or comments please let me know. Max

<b><i>New Members this month.....</i></b>	
601	Ian Malcolm Kerr of Woombye
602	Ben Champion of Nambour
603	Damian Fogale of Tewantin
"A Big Woodies Welcome"	

MIGHTY HELPFUL  
**MITRE 10 TIMBER and HARDWARE**  
**MALENY**  
*"For all your hardware needs"*  
**Phone 5494 2466**  
 10% Discount to BRWG

In the grounds of Blarney Castle - Ireland



**Thuja plicata**

This unusually shaped Western Red Cedar (*Thuja plicata*) is one of the most photographed trees on our estate due to its strong 'arms' either side.

The *Thuja plicata* is a fast growing tree with many visitors surprised to learn this example is only about one hundred years old. Indigenous to North America, they were introduced to Britain and Ireland in 1853 by William Lobb and thrive in our climate – usually doing better in shade or semi-shade.

They can reach a height of 40 metres/140 feet, so our 'big tree' may still have a few birthdays left to celebrate.

One point that should be noted is that many visitors believe the tree was somehow forced or trained into the shape it has become – this is untrue and the unusual shape of the tree is totally natural.

Phil Gibson shows his carving skills



The Gate Keepers at work.....

**CAMPBELL'S**  
**UPHOLSTERY**  
 Phone : 5494 0133  
 Fax : 5494 0133  
**Gary & Cheryle Campbell**

- Camper Trailers
- Vehicle Interiors
- Furniture Upholstery
- Boat & 4WD Canopies

Unit 7 / 47 Beerwah Parade, Beerwah 4519 Queensland

**DIGITAL SIGNAGE SPECIALISTS**  
 Bruce Allen  
 Director  
**ATL**  
 Graphix

atlgraphix@bigpond.com p 07 5494 0666  
 www.atlgraphix.com.au f 07 5494 0677

**ONLY LIMITED BY YOUR IMAGINATION!**

**ALL ABRASIVES**  
**INDUSTRIAL ABRASIVES SUPPLIER**

VSM  
 flexOvit  
 PFERD  
 NORTON  
 INDSA  
 3M

**DAVID BLACK**  
 PROPRIETOR

Phone: (07) 5443 9211  
 Phone: (07) 5443 9527  
 Mobile: 0413 945 798  
 Fax: (07) 5443 5714  
 4/20 Kayleigh Drive  
 Maroochydore Qld 4558

**MALENY**  
**GLASS & ALUMINIUM**  
 Robbie Palmer

**24 hour Fast Glass Replacement**

Mobile: 0427 943 733  
 Phone: 5494 3733 Fax: 5494 3473  
 6 Lawyer Street, Maleny

## Tips and Tricks

By Warne Wilson

**A router** is a very versatile tool in the Woodies armoury and the innovative woody is forever finding new tasks for it. Have you ever tried to use a router to cut a bed for a piece of veneer, perhaps for an arty decoration or a banded edge on a jewelry box? You would have found it almost impossible to set the depth exactly to bring your veneer flush with the surface. Routers have various knobs and levers, some of them spring loaded, which will try your patience when trying to set the depth for perhaps a millimetre thick veneer or mother of pearl inlay.



The trick is to set the depth to dead zero on a flat surface, tighten the depth control lever, then invert the router, release the depth stop rod, insert the piece of inlay between it and the stop and tighten the rod.

Stand the router right way up again on a level piece of scrap, release the depth control lever, plunge cut, and tighten the depth control lever. The router will cut to the thickness of the inlay – no measurements, no numbers and absolutely exact !

## Safety Notes

By Warne Wilson and Dave Banister



Firstly, a reminder to all members: Due to continuing problems with the drum sander, mainly due to the sanding of unsuitable wood, sanding glue lines and other causes, a key lock has been fitted. If you wish to use the drum sander, just ask the Shed Captain.....he will happily check your timber and unlock the machine for you.

**Safety on the lathe:** Whenever you're working on a lathe, please use a Perspex safety mask – the masks are provided for your use. When chucking a piece of wood, particularly an irregular piece, make sure it is as secure as possible and the tool rest is tight and in the right position. Start the lathe at slow speed, let it run for a few turns then give the tail stock live centre an extra tighten, not too much, enough to make sure it is bedded in properly and don't forget the little clamping lever on the tailstock! A mistake many beginners make – understandably – is to try to start on an irregular piece at low speed; this leads to frightening bumping and jolting which can be avoided by increasing the speed a bit, probably about a quarter speed. At this point make sure the live centre is still secure and start cutting. Use a sharp tool, hold it firmly with one hand at the tool rest and the other at the end of the long handle (Remember lessons about leverage in school science classes?) and make light cuts. If you are not sure if your lathe tool needs a sharpen, ask the Shed Captain or any of the long term members, they will be pleased to be able to help you. When your piece of sculpture has emerged, be aware of sanding dust and wear a dust mask, wood dust is dangerous and can cause lung complaints. Some woods contain silica (Miners complaint) or fungi (Found in spalted wood), or allergy producing toxins. Please be aware of these things; use safety equipment; and have a great day!

## Maintenance Report

by Brian Harris

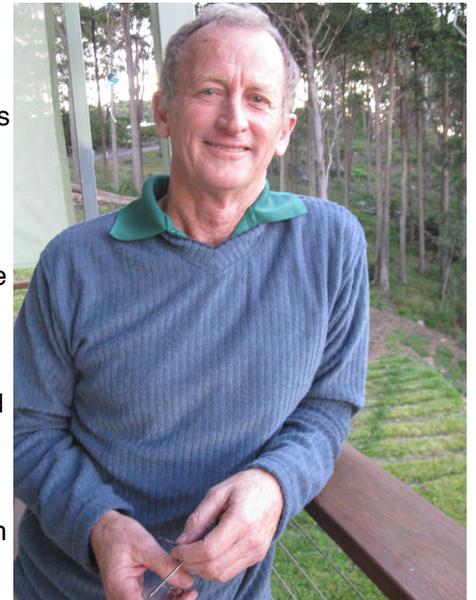
- 18/7 Bench Press Drill - A new keyed chuck has been fitted to the drill to enable easier tightening and loosening of the chuck. Cost \$76
- 5/8 A replacement bench drill press has been provided. Cost \$100
- Big Boy Belt Sander - A new belt has been fitted. Cost \$15
- The Jointer has been moved to a more suitable location together with the Drum Sander and Band Saw used for cutting blanks.
- 8/8 Dust extraction pipework has been rearranged to suit the repositioning of the Drum Sander and clean up hose.
- Jointer - All 40 cutting inserts have been replaced with new ones so will cut well and give a good finish. Cost \$160.
- 12/8 15" Thicknesser - All 75 cutting inserts have been replaced with new ones. One insert was found to be shattered with fragments of what appeared to be a nail, within the machine. So please be aware when thicknessing timber. Cost \$307.50.



## MEET JAMES PARSONS – Member No 393

James is one of those quieter members seen occasionally at the Woodies and is, when he is there, an absolute delight to talk to. What we have learned about James over his time with us at the Woodies is that he has had an extraordinary career. For over 40 years, James has been a pilot for Qantas, flying domestically and internationally, while living on and working his farm near Tamworth. Now retired, he has shifted his skill from flying the big jets to flying gliders as a hobby, soaring like a bird, sensing the freedom of silent flying, challenging himself to mastering the thermals and currents in the sky. It takes a very disciplined person to achieve this.

James came to the Sunshine Coast in 2009, having retired from Qantas and after selling his farm. Hearing about the Woodies not long after he arrived, James joined the group in 2010 as he had always enjoyed constructing in wood and metal since childhood, and welcoming the chance to use the facilities. The Woodies provided the hospitality and welcome at the door that is unique, opening up the opportunity to meet with great people, many of whom possess much skill and knowledge which they are very happy to share.



Just a few shared thoughts, James for the members:

*As a Pilot with Qantas flying all those years in the most advanced Jumbo jets, what were the most memorable experiences you recall?*

I have some very vivid images in my mind of stunning skies with sunsets over the Pacific, after volcanoes had scattered dust into the atmosphere, beautiful moon-lit nights with towering cumulous clouds and weaving around them to keep the ride smooth while watching the amazing display of lightning all about as we made our way across India with the monsoon pushing up against the Himalayas. I still get a thrill looking out of the window and watching the earth with all its varied topography, cities and manmade infrastructure passing by. I also remember many characters amongst the crews and passengers as well as the unusual incidents that can occur for all of us when we travel to exotic places.

*Any strange or memorable (good) landings experienced in a 747?*

The Jumbo is a lovely aircraft to fly without any bad habits. It has a lot of momentum, of course, so landing it well entailed setting up early on a stable final approach and continually making small adjustments to keep on track. We start rounding out quite high and the ground effect on the wings helps reduce the rate of descent and all my landings were as smooth as #@\$#\*\*!!! Well almost!!!

Interesting places to land included the old airport at Kai Tack, Hong Kong, where we were low enough to check out the specials at the restaurants on approach as we came around the corner. Johannesburg is also interesting as it is over 5000 feet above sea level and requires a different technique to sea level airports. Tehran is similar. Los Angeles needed attention, as there were four parallel runways, all with traffic on them.

*You are an experienced glider pilot, now having your own glider and spending many long hours flying in thermals. What are the main differences between flying a glider and a Boeing 747 (except for the obvious absence of engines)?*

A Jumbo is easier to get airborne. No towrope!

With an airliner you have a large support team that makes the whole operation work so well. On board there are at least 2 pilots and sometimes 4 to coordinate the task so it is a team effort with close cooperation and cross checks. The automatics do almost all of the flying and do it much better than us humans.

With the glider you are on your own and it's back to basics. It is all hand flying with many more minute by minute decisions to be made as you try to get the best out of the sky and the aircraft.

*What is it about gliding that gives you the biggest buzz?*

One of the most frequent challenges in gliding is flying cross-country. To do it well on a difficult day and return to the home airport is satisfying. The additional enjoyment comes from being able to maintain a high ground speed and beat all those other suckers. Well maybe one or two of them in my case. We often get low when we are searching for lift and to be able to climb away after being down in the weeds brings a smile to my face. I fly out of Gympie and Kingaroy with Kingaroy being the better for cross-country flying because of the large paddocks for outlanding and the thermals are also better most of the time. Last December one of our members set an Australian record by flying over 1500kms in the day, from Kingaroy to Victoria.

[Our Member Profile continues.....](#)

*Is learning to fly a glider difficult?*

We all have different aptitude for various tasks and if your finer motor skills and spatial awareness is good, gliding would not be difficult to master. However others struggle as with all activities.



*Some say they get a lot out of being a member of the Woodies? What is the most that you get out of being a member?*

The Woodies is a truly egalitarian organisation. I am very glad to see that it is open to both men and women, providing an equal opportunity for many to engage with others in a friendly and safe environment, while gaining woodworking skills along the way. There is such a wealth of knowledge amongst our members and it is shared with generosity and enthusiasm.

*What is a word that best describes you?*

Energetic and creative. But my girlfriend describes me as a good .....”woodworker.”

*What do you read? And what gives you the inspiration?*

Historical novels. Straight history books, philosophy, and the Woodies Flicht & Chips.

*And who is your favourite author?*

I like Patrick O'Brian, who wrote about the Royal Navy in Napoleonic times. I've just finished Thomas Keneally's "Commonwealth of Thieves" which covers the period when Arthur Phillip was the Governor of the colony. "Shantaram" by Gregory David Roberts I also enjoyed.

*What music do you like?*

Classical, jazz, and most other genres with the exception of heavy metal, and I can suffer some country.

*What makes you smile or laugh James?*

Laughter, as they say is a wonderful tonic. I laugh at word plays, puns, and satire, ridiculous farces and clever ridicule. I smile at children and people having joyful fun, dogs chasing their tails and many other happy events during the day.

*What is it that you most dislike?*

Ignorance and aggression and exploitation.

*What are your other hobbies and interests as well as woodworking?*

I enjoy bike riding and try to ride two or three times a week. I completed the last three annual Bike QLD rides of 10 days and 550 odd kms. Dancing is another pastime that gives me a lot of pleasure. Rock and Roll and Tango. I also spend a lot of time making stuff and playing around with art. Painting, mosaics, ceramics, anything that is going.

*What is your philosophy on life or the greatest lesson life has taught you?*

I am in this amazing dream with absolutely no idea how I got here, where I am going and why it is so. I accept that anything is possible about our existence but I don't believe that anyone knows absolutely. It is up to ourselves to decide what our attitude will be. Our transition can be joyful and rewarding and most people want to be good people if the world will allow them to be so. The attitudes I try to apply to all are respect, empathy and generosity, as long I am not taken advantage of. However doing that is nigh impossible but I think so long as we keep trying, mankind will keep improving. Be responsible for our own actions and thoughts.

*If you had the finances and the political position now, how could you, or would you, change Australia from what it is today?*

Education is the key to change. I would concentrate more on education of our young with arts, music and basic life skills such as knowledge of diet, health, financial skills and community service. Hopefully this would produce more balanced individuals, not only playing sport. This could flow onto adults as well.

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

Who's Who in BRWG Inc. 2013-14		
Patrons - Andrew Powell MP, Mark Jamieson - Mayor SCRC and Cr Jenny McKay		
President	John Muller	0418 871 946
Vice President	John Henderson	0481 339 814
Secretary	Graham Beaumont	0449 081 092
Asst. Secretary	Dave Edmond	5478 6932
Treasurer	Brian Harris	5445 7921
Asst. Treasurer	Lindsay Thomas	
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	0408 663 842
Shed Managers	Frank McDonald, Bruce Chapman(0422 927 032)	
Amenity Officer	Pat McDonald	
House Officer	Pat McDonald	
Purchasing Officer	Rob Otto	
Training Officer	Rob Otto	
Librarian	Brian Holdsworth, Max Barrenger	
Timber Management	John Holland, Frank McDonald, Ron Donald, Phil Gibson	

**MAPLETON HARDWARE**  
Your handy hardware store.

Come in and see us for all your hardware needs.  
Hand Tools, Sleepers, Power Tools, Drill Bits, Paint and Stains.  
Plus Plumbing and General Hardware

Open 7 Days  
Rob, Toni and Laurie

Cnr Obi Obi Rd & Emu Walk  
MAPLETON  
Phone 5445 7773



**ROGER LOUGHNAN**  
**REAL ESTATE**

Selling houses, land, farms in Maleny, Montville, Mapleton & beyond  
**Ph: (07) 5478 5288**

Shop 2 / Corner Post Office Road & Obi Obi Road, Mapleton  
sales@rlre.com.au    www.rlre.com.au    Open 7 Days

Shed Captain Roster - September 2015											
Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
31	Dave Banister	1	Tom Black	2	Rob Otto	3	John Drewe	4	Dave Edmond	5	Warne Wilson
7	Brian Harris	8	Bruce Chapman	9	Phil English	10	John Holland	11	John Muller	12	John Henderson
14	John Muller	15	Phil Gibson	16	Hugh McKenna	17	Spike Bettega	18	George Blowers	19	Keith Muirhead
21	Dave Banister	22	Tom Black	23	Max Barrenger	24	Ray Bryant	25	Dave Edmond	26	Graham Bradford
28	Brian Harris	29	Bruce Chapman	30	Leigh Boynton						

Shed Captain Roster - October 2015											
Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
						1	John Drewe	2	John Muller	3	Warne Wilson
5	John Muller	6	Phil Gibson	7	Rob Otto	8	John Holland	9	George Blowers	10	John Henderson
12	Dave Banister	13	Frank McDonald	14	Phil English	15	Spike Bettega	16	Frank McDonald	17	Keith Muirhead
19	Brian Harris	20	Tom Black	21	Hugh McKenna	22	Ray Bryant	23	Dave Edmond	24	Graham Bradford
26	John Muller	27	Bruce Chapman	28	Max Barrenger	29	John Drewe	30	John Muller	31	Warne Wilson