



Flitch 'n Chips

Issue No. 232

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Presidents Report

G'Day all Woodies,

Another month gone and we are drawing closer to the festive season. Some retailers started their Christmas campaigns months ago so it was not surprising to see the tree on the roundabout in Maleny decorated. The Santa shop will be on 3rd & 4th December so all members should have plenty of goods for sale to make this event a success.

We seem to have a significant stockpile of logs to cut up in the yard as we take the good species when they are offered. The timber cutting crew are doing an excellent job of milling, giving the club better quality timber stocks.

The last kiln charge is now out and we are allowing the moisture content to equalize. When testing the boards in the kiln, there was a definite gradient of MC from the core of the boards to the surface and we believe that in the past, this caused some stock to move about when later machined even when testing as dry.

Now a bit of trivia!

On our recent trip to NZ, Lorraine and I visited a beech forest (this was my second visit) and it reminding me of a bit of history of the naming of the New Zealand Beech specie. When the first European botanists reached these temperate rain forests, they believed the NZ beech to be a true beech and named the specie "fargus" after the Northern Hemisphere beech specie.

Many years later, another botanist disputed the fact that this specie was a beech and subsequently proved it. So a new specie was discovered and a new name provided (in Latin, of course); it was named "Nothofargus" which is Latin for "not a beech". Our temperate rain forests in Tasmania share a similar specie, *Nothofargus cunninghamii* (Tasmanian Myrtle Beech) which is of course, not a beech!

The new building is one further step in the right direction. We have been successful in obtaining a grant of \$15,000 from the Sunshine Coast Council to get the slab underway. The hold-up now is Council approval which is underway.

To all Woodies not feeling the best, look after yourself, get well and keep creating in wood.

Cheers,
John Muller

Around the Clubs

Pittsworth Woodcrafters Club Open Day was held on Saturday 22 October, 2016, which was attended by a contingent from the Club. It was a good example of what clubs can do when they support each other.

It was held in the Pittsworth Pioneer Village show grounds and was supported by the Historical Society. What a very interesting display of genuine historical engineering equipment, hand tools, tractors, buildings, motor and horse drawn vehicles, all very clean and tidy with pre-recorded commentary and explanations of each piece of equipment on display. There is an original railway station complete with rail line, and a school house, with slate iPads. It is a credit to the Society.

What is a credit to organisers of the Open Day is that there are only about 25 members of the Pittsworth Woodcrafters Club yet they were able to organise representation from other clubs as far away as Brisbane, Cleveland, Toowoomba, Chinchilla, Ipswich and Warwick to name some. There were approximately 12 outside clubs represented, including ourselves. Nine specialist demonstrators were giving first hand advice on "how to", including our very own Spike Bettega and Bill Rangott. Thank you very much to both of those members. The giving of their talents was greatly appreciated.

Demonstrations on musical instrument making, box making (which got a lot of attention), rocking horse making, pyrography, scroll saw, and wood and stone sculpture along with general woodturning were extremely interesting and well patronised. An open forum added to an interesting exchange of information between a panel of experts and the audience.

Displays from the visiting woodcrafters and trade companies added to the interest and the atmosphere of the day. They included model WW2 aircraft, epoxy finishes, woodworking machines, tools, craft supplies and veneers to add to the interest. And yes, the rain held off and some bald heads even received a bit of a sun tan.

On the way home the four amigos from the Woodies stopped off at the "pie shop" in Esk and were treated to pies with gelatine rubberised fillings while the only member who had the vanilla slice had difficulty cutting through the macadam road base which substituted for pastry. Easily digested it seems as they all arrived back home safely without stomach cramps.

A great day out and all from our club have been welcomed back next time by Jeff Wilson who is their hard working president. Thank you Jeff.



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Where were you lurking Hugh ? Or, is there someone else in the world with such skills ? Beautiful craftsmanship.





There are many little tricks I have learned over the years, usually as a result of a woodworking mistake or disaster and working out a way to prevent it happening again. For example, when countersinking screws, I use a countersinking bit before I drill the hole. In this way there will be no tear out or chatter and the hole will be self centered.

THE SLIDING COMBINATION SQUARE. One of the handiest tools to have in your own shed or to use at woodies. These squares are fine for marking wood at right angles and for 45 deg angles too, but the most frequent benefit can be to use the sliding feature to set repeatable measurements for marking out. It can be used as a depth gauge for mortice and tenon joints and also to set saw height. My little trick from a long time ago is to file a little nick in the middle of the end of the blade to stop my pencil slipping as I use the square to mark a line lengthways on a piece of wood.

NINETY DEGREE BOX JOINTS. From scrap wood I cut a number of square blocks 75mm X 75mm X 50mm and keep them stacked on a shelf in my shed. When gluing up a box I clamp them inside the four corners using two clamps at right angles for each block. This not only guarantees that the box will be square but it pulls the mitre or butt joints or even dovetails firmly together. Little blocks and little clamps can be used for jewellery boxes to achieve the same result.

SHARPENING TWIST DRILL BITS. A little job that some find difficult, chancy, or just plain impossible to get right. Once you learn to do this you will be able to sharpen a blunt drill bit in a few seconds as a matter of course. Before you start, have a close look at the cutting edges, note the angles involved, and the way the cutting edges have a little clearance behind them. Hold the bit at an angle matching the cutting edge of the bit and with the cutting edge horizontal, touch it lightly on the side of the grinder wheel and in a smooth upward grinding motion bring the bit away. Do the same to the opposite edge with the same gentle touch to keep the two edges balanced. A bit of practice will give a perfect grind every time without losing a lot of metal.



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Like driving a car, woodwork can be very rewarding but, like taking your eyes off the road and not taking care, our machines are powerful and can bite you in a nano second if you let your concentration stray. Show respect to other members when they are using machines and do not interrupt or distract them.

When using thicknessers, do not overload them. Bear in mind that a wide board needs a lot more power than a small section piece. If you are machining a wide board, spare a thought for the machine stress involved and advance the depth of cut a quarter of a turn each time or even less instead of the usual half a turn. Not only will the machine work more comfortably but you will be happier with the finished job.

Another thing, if you are machining a number of small section pieces, try to even the wear on the cutters by feeding them in different positions across the inlet. If we all constantly feed them through in the middle of the blades, that part of the cutter will become blunt first to the detriment of finished work.

Ear muffs. We constantly see people using routers, and especially the little trimmers, without hearing protection, or any other safety gear for that matter. Routers can operate at up to 28,000 revs per minute and the resulting high pitched noise can cause hearing loss. If your ears are ringing after using a router or a little trimmer, you have damaged your hearing and that damage is permanent and cumulative.





Club Events Calendar from Rick Vickers

The Festive season is rapidly bearing down on us, and it is time to think of all things Santa. For Woodies, that means finalising your items for Santa Shop, and for the Toy Boys & Girls, counting up the toys for the Season.

Don't forget, this is a major fund raiser for the Club, so for those offering their wares for sale, particularly multiple items, if you are making three for example, make one extra, with proceeds for the Club.

Allan Heaton has mustered his dogs for the adoption parade :





BLACKALL RANGE WOODCRAFTERS GUILD INC.

2016 SANTA SHOP

3rd and 4th December



**At St Mary Hall,
Montville Green**

In conjunction with the Lighting of the Christmas Tree, Sunshine Coast Band, Montville School, and of course Santa visiting the children on the Village Green, only on Saturday 3rd December from 5.30 to 7.30 pm.

Hand-crafted items –
Toys of all types, platters, jewellery boxes,
and other
decorative tableware

Ideal for Christmas presents

Tea and coffee

Delicious cakes

Sausage sizzle

Of course there's also our RAFFLE with a great prize





Lindsay diligently making a Christmas tree for the Santa Shop

Blackall Range Woodcrafters Guild

NEEDS YOU



Members are asked to put their names forward as helpers for the upcoming

**WOODIES CHRISTMAS SANTA TOY SHOP
AT MONTVILLE ON
FRIDAY SATURDAY & SUNDAY DECEMBER 2 to 4, 2016.**

SEE THE NOTICE BOARD AT THE SHED

Around The Shed

The Club Mascot dropped in for a visit, but had to be reprimanded for breaking fluoro tubes on top of the cupboards, and promptly left again.



Bob setting up his Lucas Mill, capably watched by Dave and Nigel



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Oops ! Nigel did not tell Bob about the wire in the log. Not good for the saw.



The children's chair class is drawing to a close, with the first chair completed, ready for the Santa Shop






1. New blade fitted to Wadkin bandsaw. Table realigned square with cut, stops adjusted and tilt mechanism lubricated.
2. Abrasive elements renewed on sanders as required.
3. Continuing with relocation and reorganisation of power and hand tool storage.
4. New blade fitted to Hammer saw.
5. Repairs to blade guard on Slab saw.

Members must ensure that abrasive discs and belts are cleaned regularly during use. This prolongs the life of the abrasive and minimises costly replacement. Leave the unit clean for the next user. The photo shows how one belt sander was left recently, which is totally unacceptable.



For your own benefit, always check that a machine is set up correctly before use. Recently the Wadkin bandsaw was adjusted for an angle cut, but not returned to its normal position after use. This machine has a lock mechanism for the table tilt and an adjustable stop for the normal 90 deg. cut position. If



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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

Who's Who in BRWG Inc. 2015 - 16		
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	Greg McCosker, G Beaumont	
Website Editor	Dave Edmond	5478 6932
Publicity Officer	Trevor Jorgensen	
Recruitment Officers	Dave Banister, Lionel Tilley, Tom Black, Jeff Harrison, Dave Edmond.	
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	Graham Bradford, Bruce Chapman(0422 927 032)	
Amenity Officer	Hamish Borthwick	
House Officer	Jan Clements	
Purchasing Officer	Rob Otto	
Training Officers	Sarah Odgers, Nigel Cundy	
Librarian	Brian Holdsworth	
Timber Management	John Holland, Ron Donald, Ron Rothwell. Bruce Chapman	

Shed Captain Roster - October 2016

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
										1	Warne Wilson
3	Lionel Tilley	4	Greg McCosker	5	AM Rob Otto PM Warne Wilson	6	John Holland	7	George Blowers	8	John Henderson
10	Dave Banister	11	Tom Black	12	AM Dave Banister PM Keith Carter	13	Spike Bettega	14	Hamish B/wick	15	Keith Muirhead
17	Brian Harris	18	Bruce Chapman	19	AM Leigh Boynton PM John Henderson	20	Ray Bryant	21	Dave Edmond	22	Graham Bradford
24	John Muller	25	Dave Southern	26	AM Rob Otto PM Warne Wilson	27	John Drewe	28	John Muller	29	Warne Wilson

Shed Captain Roster - November 2016

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
31	Lionel Tilley	1	Greg McCosker	2	AM Dave Banister PM Keith Carter	3	John Holland	4	George Blowers	5	John Henderson
7	Dave Banister	8	Tom Black	9	AM Max Barrenger PM Max Barrenger	10	Spike Bettega	11	Hamish B/wick	12	Keith Muirhead
14	Brian Harris	15	Bruce Chapman	16	AM Leigh Boynton PM John Henderson	17	Ray Bryant	18	Dave Edmond	19	Graham Bradford
21	John Muller	22	Dave Southern	23	AM Rob Otto PM Warne Wilson	24	John Drewe	25	John Muller	26	Warne Wilson
28	Lionel Tilley	29	Greg McCosker	30	AM Max Barrenger PM John Henderson						