

# Flitch 'n Chips

Official Newsletter for Blackall Range Woodcrafter's Guild Inc.  
Issue No. 145

July 2009

Postal Address: PO Box 150 Montville 4560

Website: [www.blackallrangewoodies.org.au](http://www.blackallrangewoodies.org.au)

Shed Ph: 0409 050 418

## President's Column



First of all I would like to thank all of those who helped with our recent Expo. This was a fine event which demonstrated the skills of many of the club members and made a good profit for the club. Congratulations to all those who gained awards and well done to all entrants - you provide a lot of incentive to other members.

Attendance at this month's meeting was good and lively participation made it a productive session with quite a number of issues resolved or tabled for more discussion. Don't forget to read the minutes of the meeting for all the details.

A few things deserve a special mention this month. The web site created and maintained by Peter Dallimore is a great way to get information out to the general public - a grand effort, Peter. Many thanks to Neil Strong for making some moulds which will add some dollars to the coffers.

Thinking of dollars, at the meeting it was agreed to purchase a P.A. system for use at the shed (giving demos; Christmas Party; raffle results; etc) and at our many Expos and other external events. We agreed to spend \$1,100 to purchase speakers to be installed in the shed and an amplifier, speakers and radio microphone with headset that can also be used externally. Thanks to Max Barranger for his expertise and recommendations in this field.

Harry Wood is recovering from a successful operation and will be back on duty soon. Unfortunately Gerry Zwart has had to pull out from being the writer of articles for the Flitch 'n Chips as Val has not been well. We wish her the best and thank Gerry for all his past efforts. Kay Chambers, Dave Edmond and Lionel Tilley will be working together to make sure that you get an informative and timely newsletter.

Don't forget that the election of office bearers for the next year is imminent. Please think hard about whether there is some area in which you would feel comfortable working for the good of us all. Rick Vickers is preparing job specs for each post which will make it much easier to know what is expected of the position. I cannot stress too heavily how much we need more people to put their hands up and help.

Lastly, don't forget that it is that time of the year! Time to pay your annual subscription.

*All the Best, Dave Banister*

## What's On When?

<b>Shed Times</b>	Mornings from 8:30 - 11:30
<b>Mondays</b>	General Activities
<b>Tuesdays</b>	Turning & Carving
<b>Wednesdays</b>	General Workshop & Toys
<b>Thursdays</b>	Furniture & Joinery
<b>Saturdays</b>	General Activities & Demos
<b>General Meeting</b>	2nd Monday of the month 9:30

## FUTURE EVENTS

Correct Use of the Bandsaws	Saturday, 25th July, 9am
Senior Members Review	Saturday, 25th July, 11am
Squatters Chair Courses	August and September
Wood Turning for Beginners	1st, 8th, 15th August
Open Day	Saturday, 5th September
MVA Gala Day	Saturday, 3rd October
Xmas Market	Late November
Xmas Party	December

## WHAT A WASTE!!!

Timber is being dropped off and left unmarked.

Please make sure all timber is labeled, otherwise it ends up in the firewood pile!

## TREASURER'S REPORT

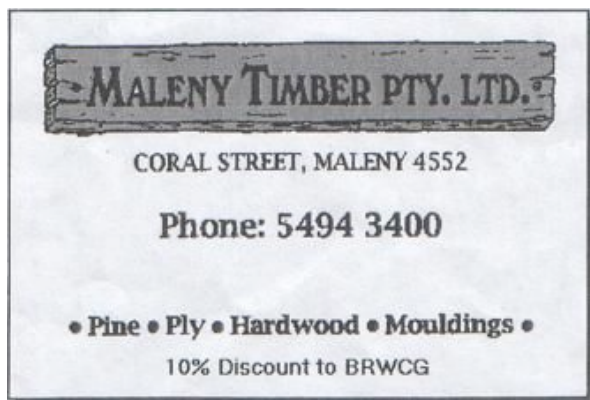
We have a healthy bank balance, boosted recently by the Expo which netted \$3,700 - a great result.

I have looked into getting credit card facilities but at a cost of \$60-\$80 a month it is not financially viable

**Keith Muirhead**

## SAFETY


**Don't forget the ear muffs and face masks and watch your fingers!**



#### NEW MEMBERS


- 394 Neil Strong, Crafters West
- 395 Bert Priest, Beerwah
- 396 Ray Blanchfield, Pomona

**A BIG WELCOME to you all**



*mmm...  
The food really is  
delicious!*

**Lyles of Montville**  
Open lunch and dinner  
Wednesday - Sunday  
**Phone: 5442 9407**  
128 Main St. Montville



#### SQUATTERS CHAIR MAKING

New courses are starting in August and September  
Contact Cec Wakerley, John Close or Leigh Boynton  
or put your name on the notice board

#### WOOD TURNING FOR BEGINNERS

Paul Siddell is starting a new course in August  
Contact him to join

#### FESTIVAL OF THE WALKS

This is a new incentive to promote the region and will be taking place on the weekends of the 29th August, 5th and 12th September. It has been agreed that the club will be open until 3pm on these Saturdays with the 5th September being made a special open day with demos, sausage sizzle, goods for sale, etc.

Check [www.festivalofthewalks.com.au](http://www.festivalofthewalks.com.au)

#### GIVE OUR BANDSAW A BREAK !

Our poor little 1/8" bandsaw cops hell from inexperienced users – are you one of them?

We break 10 times more blades on this unit than on any of the other bandsaws! Largely it's not the fault of the machine – rather the inexperience of the user.

Five causes of blade breakage are:

1. When the blade is blunt you keep pushing harder to make the cut – all this does is shove the blade against the rear guide, heat the blade and snap it.
2. Reversing the workpiece when the blade is still moving – this often pulls the blade from the top guide. Wait until the machine stops before reversing the workpiece.
3. To make a cut the workpiece must be moving forward – twisting the workpiece to go around a corner without forward movement twists the blade and bingo, another break.
4. When cutting a curve the blade must be perpendicular, not bent to the left or right. Have a look at the aluminium plate on the tabletop and see how much has been cut away by moving the blade away from the central position. You'd break too if we bent you that much!
5. The top blade-guide should be no more than a finger thickness above the workpiece – if its much more than this the blade can have too much lateral movement.

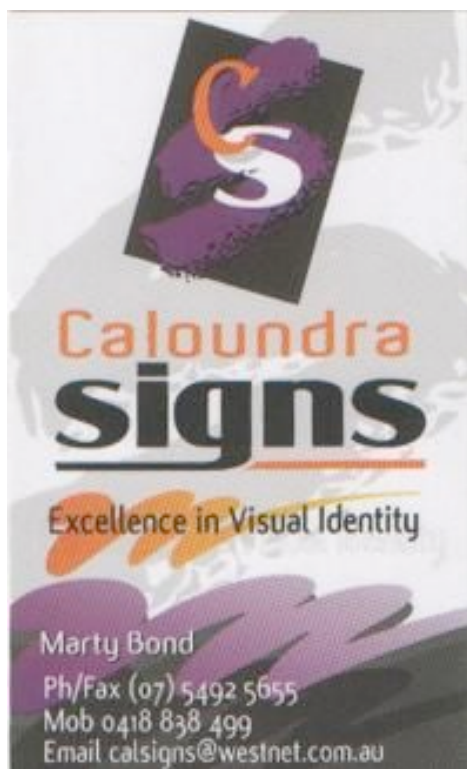
How hard is the piece of wood you are cutting and is the saw the right unit to be doing the job? Many members use the 1/8" saw when the larger-bladed saws would do a more efficient cutting job.

***We can't afford to keep supplying 1/8" blades at the present rate – either we improve our efficiency of use or members pay for blades they break.***

I will be conducting an education session on the proper use of this bandsaw on Saturday, 25th July at 9am.

***Lionel Tilley***





## SHED CAPTAIN ROSTER

### July 2009

Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
	1 Keith Muirhead	2 John Drewe	4 Warne Wilson
6 Harry Wood	8 John Close	9 John Clarke	11 Peter Simpson
13 Ray Curry	15 Bob Keyte	16 Lionel Tilley	18 Doug Skinner
20 Dave Banister	22 Cec Wakerley	23 Terry Crowson	25 Dave Banister
27 George Blowers	29 Keith Muirhead	30 John Drewe	

### August 2009

			1 Warne Wilson
3 Harry Wood	5 John Close	6 John Clarke	8 Peter Simpson
10 Ray Curry	12 Bob Keyte	13 Lionel Tilley	15 Doug Skinner
17 Dave Banister	19 Cec Wakerley	20 Terry Crowson	22 Dave Banister
24 George Blowers	26 Keith Muirhead	27 John Drewe	29 Warne Wilson

**TUESDAYS** are organized by carvers incl. George Blowers and Tom Black.

*If you can't make it on your day, please arrange for someone to swap with you!*



## CLUB EXPO

Despite the cold many members were there the whole of the two days.

June Phipps did a great job on the soup, which sold incredibly well; Gerry Zwart's effort on the publicity meant we had a large number of visitors; Alan Boag's snags were a success as usual; and our trusted treasurer, Keith Muirhead, worked hard both days making sure that the money was safe!

Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this such a great success.

## CLUB EXPO

*I wish to thank all those members who had entries in the competition..*

*Whilst the number was down on previous years, it is my opinion that the overall quality appears to be getting better each year.*

*Keep up the good work.*

*Thanks to all the Judges but a special thanks must go to our Mr. Nice Guy carver - Dave Southern.*

*Most of you would not be aware that when I approached Dave with a request to judge the carving entries, he withdrew his own entry from the carving section to enable him to judge the others.*

*That's what I call a sacrifice!*

*Our special thanks to you Dave.*

*Cec Wakerley*

*Co-ordinator.*

### **LUCKY RAFFLE WINNERS**

This was one of the most successful raffles yet with a record number of tickets sold. On the day of the Expo we sold 560 and in total 1645, that's \$3,290!

Special thanks to June Phipps, Elizabeth Vandernerff and their helpers for their efforts at the Expo.

**The lucky winners were:**

1st Prize - Blanket Box - **John Carr**, Nambour

2nd Prize - High Chair & Change Table - **Stan McCallum**

3rd Prize - Garden Bench - **Rebecca Beardsley**, Brisbane

### **CONGRATULATIONS**



And who was this good looking man with the pony tail showing off his turning skills???

## COMPETITION AWARDS

**GRAND CHAMPION Bob Keyte**

### **TURNING BETWEEN CENTRES**

OPEN SECTION	First	Peter Dallimore
	Second	Paul Kost
	Third	John Close

### **TURNING CHUCK & FACEPLATE**

OPEN SECTION	First	Paul Kost
	Second	David Collins
	Third	Don Kitson
NOVICE SECTION	First	Terry Maddison

### **LARGE JOINERY**

OPEN SECTION	First	Ron Fishwick
	Second	Bob Keyte
	Third	Ron Fishwick

### **SMALL JOINERY**

OPEN SECTION	First	Peter Simpson
	Second	Iain Green
NOVICE SECTION	No entries	

### **CARVING TRADITIONAL**

OPEN SECTION	First	Warne Wilson
	Second	Ron Fishwick
NOVICE SECTION	First	Elizabeth Vandernerff
	Second	David Edmond

### **CARVING USING POWER TOOLS**

OPEN SECTION	First	Dave Reynolds
	Second	Dave Reynolds

### **BOXMAKING**

OPEN SECTION	First	Ron Fishwick
	Second	Dave Reynolds
	Third	Don Kitson
NOVICE SECTION	First	Michael Ryan
	Second	Michael Ryan

### **CLOCKMAKING**

OPEN SECTION	First	Dave Reynolds
	Second	Paul Kost

### **WOODEN TOYMAKING**

OPEN SECTION	First	Ian Siemsen
	Second	Ian Siemsen
	Third	Hugh McKenna

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

OPEN SECTION	First	Dave Southern
	Second	Iain Green
	Third	Iain Green

### **JUST A THOUGHT!**

"I prefer the errors of enthusiasm to the indifference of wisdom", Anatole France



## CHAINSAWS

### Efficiency at “the business end”

Article 5 of 11

The performance of a chainsaw is, in the end, only as good as the saw chain. A poorly maintained, blunt chain is not only inefficient, it's also unsafe, because it can lead to kick-back.

A chain can become blunt very quickly if it's being used to cut timber covered in sand or dirt, or when the chain has been allowed to touch the ground.

You'll know the chain is blunt if you have to start exerting pressure to make the saw cut, or if you see smoke coming from the guide bar, indicating that the blunt chain is overheating the lubricating oil on the bar. The bar should always be at a temperature that allows you to touch it comfortably immediately after it has been operating for some time. Another sign of a blunt chain is fine sawdust rather than chips of wood being pulled from the cut.

Saw chain revolves around the bar at more than 15 metres per second, depending on engine type, size, bar length, etc. This means a lot of friction where any two parts rub - rivets or tie straps against drive links, drive links against cutters, and the whole chain against the bar. Without proper lubrication between the friction faces, the parts will rapidly wear out. All chainsaws have lubrication systems by which oil is pumped into the guide bar groove where it is scooped up by passing drive links.

Much has been written about sharpening saw chain, but your best bet is to follow the manufacturer's instructions. Don't wait until the chain is so blunt that it won't cut at all. Do your sharpening as soon as you notice the chain becoming dull. If you leave it until the hard chromium face is worn off then you might as well throw the chain away.

If the saw is “running off” in the cut - that is, cutting to left or right rather than straight ahead - this means the chain is becoming blunt on one side. This can cause wear on the rails of the bar. The rails can be flattened off by draw-filing across them to bring them to an even height. Most wear to a guide bar occurs on the under side. That's why, every time you sharpen the chain, you should also reverse the guide bar, so you get the top and bottom edges wearing evenly. It also means you will get twice the life from your bar.

Don't forget to tension your chain correctly on the bar. It should be just tight enough to move freely when pulled by hand (with gloves on of course!)

If you are in any doubt about your ability to sharpen or maintain either chain or bar, take both to your service dealer. It's well worth the small charge he will make. When it's time to replace either part, do the same.

Next month - Guide bars and chains

*Mr Ed*

## Timber flow and Storage

On June 13<sup>th</sup> we loaded the improved trolley with large very colourful green camphor slabs recently cut by Ron Donald. The new trolley design was a great improvement. Entry to the kiln is still a problem however as a running approach with six people pushing is very dangerous with a heavy load and we will have to work out a way to make it easier.

A week later a another stack of camphor slabs was loaded alongside by hand without a trolley and this proved a much less dangerous way to load and unload the kiln.

Our storage racks are full of timber of several popular varieties which is ready to use. This is a good thing at this time of the year as kiln drying slows for the winter.

George Blowers has done a great job cleaning up the yard with his trusty Dingo and the result is a large heap of firewood. Please help yourselves.

Ron Donald has been busy slabbing on fine Saturdays. We have a log of Black Wattle ready for slabbing, which will be welcome as cabinet timber, and a large amount of donated small black wattle logs which are still green. Ray Currie and the Porta Mill Crew have cut some Red Bean into various thicknesses including some thin slabs for the boxmakers.

George Blowers and his tree hunters have been busy again this month. Some large logs of colourful camphor laurel have come to their notice in Montville and approaches are being made to secure them for the Guild.

The the main timber racks are becoming mixed again and we must try to keep timber clearly identified for use. Not everybody can identify timber by sight and it is important to stack timber in the right section or if there is no room, to at least use masking tape and a Texta to make its identity clear.

**Warne Wilson,**  
**Timber flow and storage.**



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## SPOTLIGHT ON A TOY MAKER



Hugh McKenna only joined the Woodies a year ago and although he had previously made many toys he says that his skills have improved immensely.

His truck (bottom left) gained a Bronze in the recent Expo. It was so intricate that it even had a moving roller door at the rear!

Top left is his A Model Ford Utility made from camphor laurel and silky oak. Hugh reckons this took about 30 hours to make.

Congratulations Hugh!



Contact: Paul Smith Cr. Western  
Avenue & Gaden Rd. Montville  
Phone 0418 873183

### MACHINES

1. 2003 Trade Tools Drill Press 16 speed .75hp \$200.00
2. 1996 Carbatec 6" belt plus disc sander \$200.00
3. 2003 Trade tools Jointer 6" wide 1060mm long bed \$400.00
4. 2003 Trade Tools Table Saw 254mm with extensions \$400.00
5. 2003 Trade Tools Renegade Air Compressor Twin Cylinder RP13 300 – 190 air normal \$400.00
6. Abbott & Ashley Bench Grinder \$35.00

### TIMBER

1. 190 X 19 dressed hoop pine 180 approx metres \$3.00 per metre
2. VJ tongue & groove hoop pine 12mm X 132mm 50 approx metres \$1.00 per metre

### WANTED

Does anyone have an old sewing machine that they could donate to the club? It doesn't have to do any more than straight sewing as it will be used for perforating the raffle tickets. Your generosity will be much appreciated.



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*.....Rob & Toni.*

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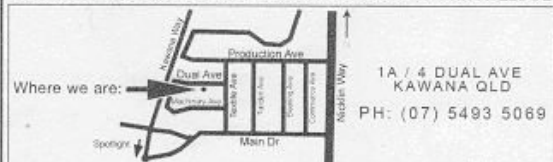
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## WHO'S WHO IN BRWG INC. 2008/2009

### Patrons Peter Wellington MLA and Jenny McKay

<b>President</b>	Dave Banister	5439 9113
Vice President	Cec Wakerley	5439 9862
Secretary	Jeff Harrison	5478 5692
Assistant Secretary	George Blowers	5441 1597
Treasurer	Keith Muirhead	5445 9037
Assistant Treasurer	Jacqui Porteous	5478 6572
	Tom Black	5478 5472
Newsletter Editors	Kay Chambers	5443 9631
	Dave Edmond	5478 6932
Publicity Officer	Gerry Zwart	5445 7212
Recruitment Officer	Dave Banister	5439 9113
Safety Officers	Peter Simpson, Dave Banister	
Activity Officers	Ray Curry, Cec Wakerley, John Drew, John Clarke, Warne Wilson, Dave Banister, Peter Simpson, Bob Keyte, Keith Muirhead,	
	Harry Wood	
Shed Manager	Alan Boag	
Amenity Officer	Ron Donald, George Blowers	
Timber Sourcing		
Timber flow, Storage		
& Kiln Officers	Warne Wilson, Ron Donald	
Purchasing Officer	Cec Wakerley	
Librarian	Brian Holsworth	

A stranger was seated next to a little girl on the plane when the stranger turned to her and said, 'Let's talk. I've heard that flights go quicker if you strike up a conversation with your fellow passenger.'

The little girl, who had just opened her book, closed it slowly and said to the stranger, 'What would you like to talk about?'

'Oh, I don't know,' said the stranger.  
'How about nuclear power?' and he smiles.

'OK,' she said. 'That could be an interesting topic. But let me ask you a question first. A horse, a cow, and a deer all eat the same stuff - grass. Yet a deer excretes little pellets, while a cow turns out a flat patty, and a horse produces clumps of dried grass. Why do you suppose that is?'

The stranger, visibly surprised by the little girl's intelligence, thinks about it and says, 'Hmmm, I have no idea.'

To which the little girl replies, 'Do you really feel qualified to discuss nuclear power when you don't know shit?'

## LOOKS LIKE NOT EVERYONE CAN BE TRUSTED

Our club runs on trust and for the most part it works really well. Sadly, at our EXPO a couple of items went missing - most distressing for the owners!

In particular a large Lazy Susan was not there at the end of the weekend and was not paid for. In the hope that it was not actually stolen by a visitor, would you all please check your boxes (just in case it was packed in the wrong place).

At the last monthly meeting it was agreed that future events should include a specific security plan.

## HERE ARE A FEW MORE OF THOSE AMAZING CARVINGS



I WONDER WHAT THIS  
MAN DOES IN HIS SPARE  
TIME?