

Flitch 'n Chips

Official Newsletter of the Blackall Range Woodcrafters Guild Inc.

Issue No. 150

December 2009

Postal Address: PO Box 150 Montville 4560

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President's Column

Well, Ho, Ho, Ho!

We've just had a most enjoyable Christmas Party. Over 120 people attended. That's about 30 more people than last year and nearly twice as many people as we had a couple of years ago. So the Shed was hopping!

We were a little bit light on for sweets, but there is no truth in the rumour that, next year, we're going to have sweets done by people with surnames from A to Z. Lots of people helped in cleaning up beforehand, in setting up, and in cleaning up again afterwards. Thanks to you all. Thanks also to all the people who prepared the salads and sweets. But some people need special mention: they are Alan Boag, Audrey Kelly, Jill Blowers, George Blowers, Cec Wakerley and Max Barranger.

Over a 1000 raffle tickets were sold. Sheila Aitken won the table. Veronica Urquhart won the chair and M. McGregor (who works for Ivan Yaksich) won the restaurant voucher.

I'd like to thank and acknowledge Warne Wilson and his kiln crew for their valuable contribution to the club in keeping up the timber supply throughout the year. Warne's crew includes Phil Gibson, Dave Edmond, Alan Boag, Roger Scott, Ron Fishwick, Rick Vickers, Roman Berlak and Barry Braithwaite. Your help and quiet dedication is greatly appreciated.

Warne Wilson says that we are running low on some timbers. We could do with some more White Cedar, if anyone knows of a tree that can be slabbed. We have enough pale hardwood in the racks at the moment, but some Rose Gum (Flooded Gum) or Blue Gum (Pink) would be very welcome.

The Caloundra Woodies Club has worked out an arrangement with Carba-Tec that allows its members to receive 10% off the price of any item in the Carba-Tec catalogue. Our club has agreed to participate in the scheme for a time to see whether members wish support it. See details later in the newsletter.

Christmas Day is a Friday this year, and we have decided not to open the shed on Boxing Day. So the Shed will be closed on the 25, 26 and 27 December.

*— A merry Christmas
and all the best for 2010,
Dave Banister*

Shed Times

Mondays	General Activities
Tuesdays	Turning & Carving
Wednesdays	General Workshop & Toys
Thursdays	Furniture & Joinery
Saturdays	General Activities & Demos
General Meeting	2nd Monday of the month 9:30

New Members

No 414	David Griffin of Brisbane
No 415	Christine Strange of Montville
No 416	Toni Lynch of Maleny
No. 417	David Bleakley of Nambour

A big BRWG welcome to you all

Safety Refresher

On the Saturday 9, January, John Holland will be running a refresher on the safe use of hand (small) power tools. We can all benefit from being reminded of basic safety issues

Missing DVD

A Club DVD is missing. It covers the Gifkins Dovetail Jig. If you have the DVD and forgot to write on the card, please return. If you didn't forget, then return the DVD anyway.



Shed Captain Roster

December 2009

Mondays		Wednesdays		Thursdays		Saturdays	
21	George Blowers	23	John Close	24	John Clarke	26	SHED CLOSED
28	Dave Banister	30	Bob Keyte	31	Lionel Tilley		

January 2010

Mondays		Wednesdays		Thursdays		Saturdays	
						2	Warne Wilson
4	Dave Banister	6	Keith Muirhead	7	John Drewe	9	Peter Simpson
11	Brian Harris	13	John Close	14	John Holland	16	Doug Skinner
18	Dave Banister	20	Bob Keyte	21	Lionel Tilley	23	Dave Banister
25	George Blowers	27	Cec Wakerley	28	Terry Crowson	30	Warne Wilson

February 2010

1	Dave Banister	3	Keith Muirhead	4	John Drewe	6	Peter Simpson
8	Brian Harris	10	John Close	11	John Holland	13	Doug Skinner
15	Dave Banister	17	Bob Keyte	18	Lionel Tilley	20	Dave Banister
22	George Blowers	24	Cec Wakerley	25	Terry Crowson	27	Warne Wilson

TUESDAYS are organized by carvers including George Blowers.

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



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For Sale:

- Moreton lathe plus turning tools, nova chuck and many extras. Old but still in good condition...\$550
- Contact Edsell Ward 54457956

10% off at Carbatec

A member of the Caloundra Woodies has developed a scheme whereby he visits Carba-Tec once a month with a list of catalogue items the members and the Club wish to purchase. He selects these items personally at Carba-Tec & receives 10% off the price of any item in the Carba-Tec catalogue.

He pays for the purchases himself then brings them to the club where members collect and pay him directly for their items. Our club is not involved at all in the finances.

Our club has agreed to participate in the scheme for a time to see whether members wish support it.

To participate you need to enter your name, the items you require & the catalogue price on the sheet hanging on the bookcase near our library. For December you need to indicate your needs by 17th December as the sheet will be sent away on the 18th. Normally the sheet will be sent about the 26th of the month but with Christmas holidays looming time is a bit tight for the December order.

Give me a ring on 5429 6629 if you'd like any clarification.

— *Lionel Tilley*



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10% Discount for Club Members

4 Paws Animal Rescue

<http://www.4pawsanimalrescue.org.au/>

4 Paws Animal Rescue is a non-profit organisation that provides refuge for homeless dogs and cats on the Sunshine Coast.



Here is a picture of Ed Kruger putting some finishing touches on shelving in the cat cages. This work was completed early this month as part of a club project.

Feeling Competitive?

The Cooroora Woodworkers Club has invited us to take part in a proposed inter-club competition, to be held at its Festival in Cooroy on May 8, 2010. There will be four different categories in which you can enter:

- Wood turning
- Cabinet making
- Wood carving
- Scroll saw, intarsia and pyrography

The winning club will be the one that gains the most points overall. Every submission will also be eligible for both the people's choice award and the Festival Champion award.

More details will be provided closer to the time.

Interested in Tasmanian Timbers?

Bob Aitken has been in touch with a friend associated with Forestry Tasmania regarding the supply of Tasmanian timbers to interested members. Timbers available are:

- Celery top pine
- Myrtle
- Sassafras (including black-hearted sassafras)
- Blackwood
- Huon pine
- Tasmanian oak
- King Billy pine (in shorter supply than other species)
- Other species such as Musk

The timber is sold by weight. Costs range from \$% to \$8.50 per kg. Orders must specify length in feet and thickness in inches (decimalisation hasn't reached Tassie yet). Quotes will be given for both supply and transportation. Contact Bob Aitken on 5494 3594 if you are interested.

Got Some Timber to Spare?

Warne Wilson says that we are running low on some timbers. We could do with some more White Cedar, if anyone knows of a tree that can be slabbed. We have enough pale hardwood in the racks at the moment, but some Rose Gum (Flooded Gum) or Blue Gum (Pink) would be very welcome.

Roller Doors

The Club would like to extend a big 'thank you' to Mark Haigh of Annerley, Brisbane for his donation to the Club of two roller garage doors. The Club will make good use of them. These were collected and delivered to the club by Brian Harris.

Birthdays are good for you - the more you have the longer you live

CHAINSaws: Choosing the Right Chainsaw

Article 10 of 11

Any chainsaw dealer will tell you that the first – and in many cases, the only – item of information the average first-time chainsaw buyer wants to know is the length of the chain guide bar. The customer doesn't want to know about the engine capacity or power of the machine, and when asked what he wants to use it for, will probably reply, "Cutting up a bit of firewood," or "Cutting down a few trees." The size of the firewood logs, the diameter of the tree trunks, the type of timber involved, are details which generally have to be drawn out by questioning, yet all are vital to the selection of the right saw for the right job.

With an outlay of anything from \$400 to more than \$2000 involved, and with prices rising roughly in proportion to engine capacity, the wrong choice can be an expensive mistake, with substantial overspending on too big a saw, or disappointment and waste of money on a machine that is underpowered for the job. As one chainsaw retailer put it: "With a lot of first-time chainsaw buyers, it's like buying a utility to do the job of an interstate truck – or vice versa."

Bar length is far less relevant than the question of optimum performance, although obviously a saw with a 30cm bar won't be much use in tackling a log 80cm in diameter. The frequency with which the machine is to be used is an important consideration, too, in determining the power and performance required of the saw.

In general, a 40cm guide bar is perfectly adequate for most people who are going out into the bush to cut firewood. Logs of around 75cm can be tackled by cutting from both sides – provided that the engine driving the chain has enough power. For this type of firewood cutting involving, say one day once or twice a year, a saw such as the Stihl 021, with a 35.2cc motor and weight of 4.5kg would be suitable for most household users. It can be fitted with a 30cm or 35cm bar.

A more powerful but still lightweight machine is the 023, with a 40.2cc motor, capable of taking bars from 30cm to 45cm, and for the serious firewood collector, the 026, with its 48.7cc motor, and power head weighing only 4.7kg is the ideal machine. The 026 will also suit the hobby farmer or other rural property-owner for light to medium applications such as fence construction and routine maintenance, including pruning and thinning.

At a higher level of use, and for general farm work, the Farm Boss, with engine capacity of 56cc and bar lengths up to 45cm is the ideal farm "workhorse", capable of harvesting timber on a farm plantation as well as general work.

As the supply of easily-accessible roadside bush firewood decreases in many areas, more domestic users are turning to more powerful saws to enable them to get at larger timber in the bush. On the other hand, many householders are buying firewood in small log form and cutting it to length in their backyards, using lightweight saws such as the Stihl 020. Other chainsaws are available up to 122cc engine capacity, but these are firmly in the professional category for forestry and timber harvesting work.

NEXT – Check the Features

– Mr Ed

Timber Flow and Storage Report

Due to the long spell of warm dry weather, the timber load in the kiln was showing very low moisture content readings and was emptied and racked on 28 November. The kiln crew also worked to clean up the storage area and to resort mixed timbers both in the racks and around that area into well-marked categories. Please remember the work involved in presenting the available timber in a way that is easy for you to access, and do not mix timber in the racks.

On that day and on the following Saturday, the kiln was reloaded with wide slabs of good colour camphor laurel and some jacaranda.

Every Saturday, Ron Donald has been providing accurate slabs with his rusty – sorry, trusty – chain saw, ably supported by Bob Rothwell. Unfortunately, the chain does not cut nails and screws very well, and they managed to put gaps in our fine-edged chisels, as they dug bits of steel and barbed wire out of tree trunks.

We are planning to make more use of the portable band saw in 2010, and I have asked Ron to cut side flitches off some of the smaller logs to prepare them to a 400mm maximum width to suit. George Blowers, aka the Dingo Cowboy, does a wonderful job shifting impossibly heavy logs into neat stacks and our timber yard is clean: a credit to George and to the Guild.

Merry Christmas to all.

– *Warne Wilson and the Kiln Crew*

Carving Classes

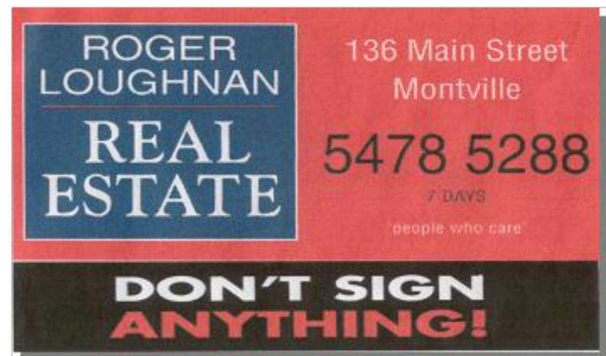
I am planning to restart carving classes about the middle of Jan 2010. The classes are held at my place in Witta.

The beginners class will take place on Monday mornings, and the advanced class on Wednesday mornings.

If you would like to take part, please contact me on 5435 8323.

– *Dave Southern*

"Anyone who believes that men are the equal of women has never seen a man trying to wrap a Christmas present." ~ Unknown



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Pilots!

They say that there are old pilots and there are bold pilots, but there are no old bold pilots.

One of these old pilots went into his local coffee shop, and as he sat sipping his coffee, a young woman sat down next to him..

She turned to the pilot and asked, 'Are you a real pilot?'

He replied, 'Well, I've spent my whole life flying biplanes, Cubs, Aeronca's, Nieuports, flew in WWII in a B-29, and later in the Korean conflict, taught 50 people to fly and gave rides to hundreds, so I guess I am a pilot, and you, what are you?'

She said, 'I'm a lesbian. I spend my whole day thinking about naked women. As soon as I get up in the morning, I think about naked women. When I shower, I think about naked women. When I watch TV, I think about naked women. It seems everything makes me think of naked women.'

The two sat sipping in silence.

A little while later, a young man sat down on the other side of the old pilot and asked: "are you a real pilot?"

He replied, 'I always thought I was, but I just found out I'm a lesbian.'

No Blonde or Irish Jokes, Please

OK, if you insist, just a few. But you'll be sorry.

Why does Irish chilli have only 239 beans?
Because if it had one more, it'd be too farty.

I told you you'd be sorry!

Two Irish couples decided to swap partners for the night.

After 3 hours of amazing sex, Paddy says "I wonder how the girls are getting on?"

Paddy and his wife are lying in bed and the neighbour's dog is barking like mad in its garden. Paddy says "To hell with this!" and storms off.

He comes back upstairs 5 minutes later and his wife asks "What did you do?"

Paddy replies "I've put the dog in our garden. Let's see how they like it!"

Two blondes living in Cairns were having a beer in the cool night air and one blonde says to the other, 'Which do you think is farther away... Brisbane or the moon?' The other blonde turns and says 'Hellooooooooooooo, can you see Brisbane ?????'

There's this blonde out for a walk. She comes to a river and sees another blonde on the opposite bank 'Yoo-hoo!' she shouts, 'How can I get to the other side?'

The second blonde looks up the river then down the river and shouts back, 'You ARE on the other side.'

A highway patrolman pulled alongside a speeding car on the freeway. Glancing at the car, he was astounded to see that the blonde behind the wheel was knitting!
Realizing that she was oblivious to his flashing lights and siren, the policeman cranked down his window, turned on his megaphone and yelled, 'PULL OVER!'

'NO!' the blonde yelled back, 'IT'S A SCARF!'

Machinery Maintenance Report

04/11/09	New blade fitted to No.1 Band saw to replace broken one.
04/11/09	New blade fitted to No.2 Band saw.
25/11/09	Belt renewed on a lathe.
28/11/09	Wood Wiz router serviced.
28/11/09	Band saw: broken blade replaced and thrust bearing attended to.
28/11/09	Compressor: Harry replaced leaking banjo bolt fibre washers with copper on the manifold.

— Brian Harris

Toys

Some 340 toys were on show at the Christmas Party.



Some of the toys



Some of the boys ('n' girls)



We said the Shed was hopping!



***Captain John Fidler of the Salvation Army
thanking the Club for its effort***



Christmas Party Photos



Accreditation Officers		
Tool	Authorised Officers	Remarks
Table Saws	John Holland, Doug Skinner, Harry Wood, Warne Wilson, Ray Curry, John Close, Peter Simpson, Don Kitson	Excludes large breaking down saw
Mitre Saws	John Holland, Doug Skinner, Harry Wood, Warne Wilson, Ray Curry, John Close, Don Kitson	
Jointer	John Holland, Doug Skinner, Harry Wood, Warne Wilson, Ray Curry, John Close, Don Kitson	
Band Saws	John Holland, Doug Skinner, Harry Wood, Warne Wilson, Ray Curry, John Close, Lionel Tilley, Don Kitson	Excludes Wadkin Band Saw and Slabbing Band Saw
Planers	John Holland, Doug Skinner, Harry Wood, Warne Wilson, Ray Curry, John Close, Don Kitson	
Routers	John Holland, Harry Wood, Warne Wilson, Ray Curry, John Close	Includes Router Table
WoodWizz	John Holland, Doug Skinner, Harry Wood, Ray Curry, Don Kitson	
Sanding	John Holland, Doug Skinner, Harry Wood, Warne Wilson, Ray Curry, John Close, Dave Banister, Don Kitson	
Painting	Dave Banister	
Hand Tools	John Holland, Doug Skinner, Harry Wood,	

	Warne Wilson, Ray Curry, John Close, Don Kitson	
Lathes	Cec Wakerley, Warne Wilson, Ray Curry, Paul Siddal, Frank McDonald	

Who's Who in BRWG Inc. 2009-2010		
Patrons: Peter Wellington MP and Cr Jenny McKay		
President	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	Peter Dallimore	
Newsletter Editors	Kay Chambers	5443 9631 (before 7pm)
	Dave Edmond	5478 6932
Publicity Officer	Gerry Zwart	5445 7212
Recruitment Officers	Dave Banister	5439 9113
	Lionel Tilley	
Events Organiser	Rick Vickers	
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, Brian Harris	
Shed Managers	Harry Wood, Doug Skinner, John Holland	
Amenity Officer	Alan Boag	
Timber Sourcing	Ron Donald, George Blowers	
Timber Flow, Storage & Kiln Officers	Warne Wilson, Ron Donald	
Purchasing Officer	Lionel Tilley	
Librarian	Brian Holsworth	



mmm...
The food really is delicious!

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