

Flitch 'n Chips

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Presidents Report

Hi Fellow Woodies,

For those of you who missed it, the club recently attended an Australia day event at the Maleny show grounds. It was an information "show and tell" event for local clubs and organisations to interact with the public. The organisers estimated that there were approx 54 clubs represented and a great deal of interest was shown in our stand thanks to demonstrations by Warne Wilson and Ivan Yaksich on the lathe and Dave Southern and Tom Black demonstrating their carving prowess. A special thanks to Lionel Tilley for his coordination of the event and to all the members who helped out. Volunteers are an important asset to this club and their value should never be underestimated.

It seems an opportune time to once again reinforce the fact that the club has a **TIMBER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** i.e. Frank McDonald, John Holland, Phil Gibson and Ron Donald. This committee was formed to regulate and access the quality of timber offered to the club and also to control the milling, stacking and drying of the timber. **Under no circumstances** is timber i.e. logs, tree branches, butts or boards to be acquired or delivered to the club without it first being approved by the **timber management committee** and this means everyone, **there are no exceptions**. We had an incident during the week when news of an impending load of off cuts was going to be delivered to

the club without the approval of the timber management committee. I contacted the member involved and instructed him not to go ahead with the delivery and even though the timber had not yet been dumped, he chose to ignore the directive. We now have a load of unwanted off cuts and rubbish pieces at the shed. Action is being taken to have it removed and may come at a cost to that member.



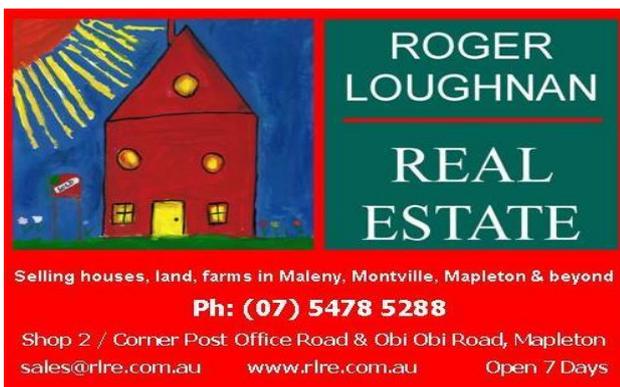
Other than this minor incident everything is running fairly well. Can some of the more experienced members watch out for our newer members and offer them a helping hand and a reminder to our newer members please try to get accredited on the machinery as soon as you feel confident enough. Please ask for assistance to gain your accreditation

To any of our members not feeling the best at the moment, remember we are thinking of you and wish you all a speedy recovery.

Keep the wood pile low and the shavings high.

Happy Woodworking,

Frank McDonald
President



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Timber Management Committee Report

By Frank McDonald

- Half the kiln has been unloaded of white cedar and hoop pine.
- Camphor laurel and liquid amber have been milled and are due to be loaded into the kiln on Tuesday.
- **Don't forget, there is plenty of timber for sale.**

Tips and Tricks

By Warne Wilson

You have to be careful installing brass screws. The brass is soft, at least softer than steel screws, so it's easy to ruin the slot or the Phillips head, or worse, twist the head right off, which will cause a frustrating hold up while you butcher around with chisels and pliers in attempts to remove the broken screw.

What to do? It goes without saying that you should drill a pilot hole for the screw, but how big? Some woodies use Vernier callipers, but the simplest way is to hold the shank of a drill bit up to the light with the screw behind it. If you can see the tips of the threads extending beyond the bit on both sides there will be enough thread to grip the wood securely.

Lubrication will pay dividends too; in fact I don't like to drive any screw, large or small, without a spot of oil or grease. (I keep a little jar of grease for this, it came in handy when we were fixing the top panels of the Community Centre doors, and just a touch of grease will do the same job without risk of running.) Be careful with it, you don't want oil or grease spoiling your finish. On jewellery box hinges I use a toothpick to introduce maybe a quarter of a drop of oil or a smidgeon of grease into the screw hole before I drive the screw. By the way, you will achieve best results by using a good old fashioned, hand held screwdriver, resist the temptation to use a battery drill/driver, the sense of feel is very important, with a hand held screwdriver you will feel when the threads bite home. A battery driver can drive past that point and strip the thread spiral in the wood. If that does happen to you, as it has happened to all of us on occasion with small screws, just strip a few long fibres off a match and place at least three fibres equidistant in the hole; the threads should then bite.

Maintenance Report

By Frank McDonald

- Fitted new roll of sandpaper on drum sander
- Small bandsaw blade replaced twice.
- Holland Mill blade replaced.
- Scroll saw placed in cupboard with a broken blade and top clamp missing. **Please report any breakages so they can be repaired!**



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Safety Notes

By Warne Wilson & Dave Banister

Be careful at all times with machines. If what you are doing causes stress in a machine, it will usually let you know loudly with a change in pitch of the noise it usually makes and it will slow down under the increased load. If that happens, turn the machine off immediately to save the motor from burning out and readjust the depth of cut.

Machines in our shed, such as thicknessers, which can be overloaded with an excessive depth of cut, are clearly marked "Half a turn only" regarding the depth adjusting wheel. Dangerous overloading can also cause injury when using simple machines such as drill presses and grinders. Lathes, innocuous in careful hands, have powerful motors which can cause injury with the speed of light. I heard a loud bang once and discovered that a member had broken a substantial scraper by presenting it at the wrong angle to a piece of spinning wood. In a contest of a polishing rag wrapped around fingers and the lathe, the lathe will usually win.

Recently I spotted a member brushing particles of burnt wood away from a slowly advancing piece of wood in the drum sander. The sanding cut was far

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too deep and the machine was heavily labouring. (I remember that the special little motor that drives the advancing belt had to be rewound a few years ago and the cost was very high, over \$200.00 as I recall.) Perhaps the sanding drum will not hurt you under normal conditions, but a smouldering motor or smoking sawdust in the dust extraction flue might well mean the loss of our shed and injury or worse to other people, perhaps in the middle of the night. In this case the worst that happened was wide steaks of burnt and clogged sandpaper on the drum which made it useless for other members. A replacement strip of sanding cloth costs the club about \$35.00. Please allow plenty of height for the infeed and gently adjust the drum down, running, until it barely touches the work, then not more than a quarter of a turn for each pass.

If you are not sure about any of this, please ask the shed captain for the day, he or she is there to help you.

Woodies Calendar

Chainsaw to Fine Furniture Wood Expo, Maleny...
Cooroy Interclub Competition...
Brisbane Wood Expo...
Club Expo, Montville...
Club Open Day, club house...
Christmas Expo, Montville...
Club Christmas Party, Flaxton Gardens...

3rd & 4th March
9th & 10th May
Exact date TBA May
4th & 5th July
7th September
6th & 7th December
12th December

Gympie Woodworks trip

By Lionel Tilley

We have organised a bus trip to have a look at the Gympie Woodworks museum & be given some demonstrations on **Wednesday 19th March** which will cost member's approx \$40 per person. Cost will include the bus fare, tour of the museum / demonstrations & a BBQ lunch. Due to the bus size & tour leaders we are restricted to 22 members, so first in first served. Interested? Put your name down on the noticeboard and put your money in the till.

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Australia day event



Vicky and Mal Brough showing off a beautifully crafted box



Woodies display of finely crafted pieces



Frank and Lionel proudly man the Woodies display



Dave and Tom showcasing their carving skills



Lionel and Phillipa doing some carving under the watchful eye of Dave



Tom and surprise visit from local politician Mal Brough

Timber of the month

By Graham Bradford

Grey Gums

The trees commonly known as Grey Gums occur as at least six closely related species of the genus *Eucalyptus* in the family Myrtaceae.



Species endemic to S.E. Qld. are:-

Eucalyptus propinqua.....
Grey Gum, Small Fruited Grey Gum.

Eucalyptus major.....
Qld. Grey Gum

Eucalyptus longirostra.....
Grey Gum, Large Fruited Grey Gum.

Tree description and natural occurrence. All are described as a medium to tall tree growing to 40 m. and 1 m. diameter, shedding bark in early summer to expose a cream to orange - coppery surface, and weathering over time to grey or grey/brown. Botanically, they are identified by differences in size and pattern of leaves, flower and fruit. On better sites, form is generally good with a straight bole extending for one-half or two-thirds of the height of the tree. Poorer sites induce lower branching.

Varieties of Grey Gum occur along the east coastal environs of Australia from Wyong, New South Wales to Maryborough and inland to the Carnarvon Ranges and Blackdown Tableland in Queensland, favouring the higher rainfall areas. They tend to occur in isolated

stands rather than as a general distribution. Locally, a substantial stand of *E. propinqua* grows in the Dularcha National Park, bordering the Old Maleny Road, and are currently shedding bark, exhibiting the attractive orange bole colouring. Stands of *E. major* are found in the Connondale area.



The foliage provides koala and flying fox food and the yellow bellied glider possum (*Petaurus australis*) and some honeyeaters eat the sap of the trunk.



Wood appearance.

Colour. Heartwood is blood red to red-brown, sapwood is distinctly paler.

Grain. Grain usually interlocked, with coarse but even texture. Occasionally marked by grub holes.

General wood properties.

Density. 1055 kg/m³ at 12 % moisture content; approximately 1.0 m³ of seasoned sawn timber per tonne.

Shrinkage to 12% MC. 7.0 % (tangential); 4.5 % (radial).

Durability above/below ground. Class 1 - life expectancy 40/25 years.

Lycine susceptibility.

Sapwood not susceptible to lyctid borer attack and is termite resistant.



Seasoning. Requires slow drying procedures, but little degrade occurs with good stability.

Hardness. Very hard (rated 1 on a 6 class scale) in relation to indentation and ease of working with hand tools.

Machining. Machines well, however, sharp tooling is necessary to avoid tearing of interlocked grain.

Gluing. As with most high-density species, machining and surface preparation should be done immediately before gluing, and the surfaces cleaned with solvent.

Finishing. Will readily accept stain and polish.

Uses. Used in the past for railway sleepers, power poles, butchers blocks and boat building and applications where long term durability was required. Now more commonly used for feature flooring and laminated beams.

Burning splinter test. A match size splinter burns to charcoal leaving no ash.

