



Flitch 'n Chips

Issue No. 201

March 2014

Presidents Report

Hi Fellow Woodies,

Our club is ticking over nicely with 4 new members joining up this month. Welcome to all of you. The number of members attending our daily sessions is steadily increasing again after the holiday season.

For those of you who were unable to attend the free to members CPR session last Saturday you really missed an exceptionally well presented short course that could potentially save a life. Peter and Glenys, two highly qualified people, volunteer their time to run these courses and made it fun but also very interesting. Hopefully we never have to use what we learned but it's great to think that, if necessary, we may be able to give a person a fighting chance until the experts arrive to take over. We learned a lot and it was much appreciated by all who attended. We will try and make it an annual event.

There are a few Saturday morning demonstrations coming up so keep a check of the notice board for these.

Everything is running along well at the club at the moment so let's keep it that way. Remember to respect the machinery and use it safely.

At the moment there's a great supply of timber available at the club so time to get stuck into all those projects you've been considering.

I'm now off for a few weeks holiday to recharge the batteries so if you have a problem see John Muller, Dave Edmonds or any other member of the management committee.

See you all in a few weeks' time and don't do anything I wouldn't do! Boy does that leave the gate open.

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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Remembering an old friend

Bill Hinman, one of our old members has regretfully passed away.

Have thy tools ready old friend. God will find thee work.

Tips and Tricks

By Warne Wilson

Working with pine.

There are many varieties of pine and the most common ones we work with: Radiata; Hoop; Bunya; are quite soft, particularly between the sap rings. Pine is very prone to dinting and must be handled with care. Before starting, clear your working space of offcuts, tools and other hardware. Give the bench surface a good sweep, or as John Holland does, give it a light going over with a belt sander – if there are any dried glue blobs or brad heads left protruding from a previous job, this will clear them. (Don't do this on the dining table at home!)

In most cases dints can be removed, the fibres will be compressed under the dint. Lay a damp cloth on the dint and apply a warm iron – the steam will expand the fibres again and Hey Presto! The surface will be restored. (Hopefully!)

Another problem we encounter with soft woods is when we drill holes in it. Often the drill bit will wander when harder sap rings are encountered, even when using a drill press. It is a good idea to drill pilot holes first. Another problem is tearing out, whether or not a newly sharpened drill bit or brad point drill bit is used – it's not much fun to see small chunks of carefully sanded surface torn from the edges of the drill holes. TRICK; If you are using a battery drill, start the hole in reverse. This will eliminate tearing.

Finally, Sanding. As the land between harder sap rings is softer it will sand easier, leading to dishing in the surface. (This often does not become evident until finishing or polishing is complete.) If sanding by hand, always use a sanding block. When using an orbital sander, be aware of this and straddle the sap rings as much as possible.

Timber Management Committee Report

By John Holland


- We have cut White Cedar, Liquid Amber, and Camphor Laurel logs, some of which have been placed on the outside racks. The remainder are inside awaiting the emptying of the kiln – this should be done this week.
- The log pile is getting smaller, but because of the large amount of timber already available and lack of storage, cutting will have to slow down. (Except for special logs we may be offered)

Maintenance Report

By Brian Harris

- 15/2 Hammer Table Saw - Resharpened blade fitted.
- 26/2 Disc Sander - Velcro disc re-stuck to aluminium disc.
- 28/2 Timber Trolley - New inner tube fitted to punctured wheel.

- 1442 Lathe #62 - Brand new lathe assembled and commissioned to replace #16 that was causing problems.
- 5/3 Orange electric cable not working - now repaired and terminal wiring colour code corrected.
- PLEASE REPORT ANY MACHINERY CONCERNS.




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Safety Notes

By Warne Wilson & Dave Banister

We have had a report that one of our members has been seen cutting small pieces of wood on one of the compound mitre saws. As this is a highly dangerous practice we thought we would make all members aware. If your fingers are closer to the blade than 100mm you must not attempt to use the saw. The blade could catch and kick your fingers into the cutting edge quicker than you could react.

As most small pieces are usually cut from a longer length of stock to make a box or a frame, cut the small pieces first and then the longer pieces. Keep your fingers away from the blade and you will not get hurt!

ALERT!! Some gorilla amongst us has been over tightening and mistreating our \$10,000 Hammer Saw. We found one of the knobs so heavily over tightened that multi grips had to be used to free it! On the same day we found the locking pin on the sliding table had been bent and made unserviceable by someone slamming the sliding table with the pin extended, trying to make it click into place. For goodness sake! If you are having any sort of difficulty with any machine, ask the shed captain, you will get courteous, helpful advice.

As safety officers we must say again – “Please treat our machines with respect and care.”

Woodies Calendar

Club Demo – The Hammer saw table
Cooroy Interclub Competition...
Brisbane Wood Expo...
Club Expo, Montville...
Club Open Day, club house...
Christmas Expo, Montville...
Club Christmas Party, Flaxton Gardens...

22nd March
9th & 10th May
May .. Exact date TBA
4th & 5th July
7th September
6th & 7th December
12th December

Demonstration on using the Hammer table Saw

By Lionel Tilley

Our Hammer table saw has many uses, many of which are not used by members. On **Saturday 22nd March** John Holland will conduct a demonstration of how to best use this piece of machinery so that we get the best value out of it. The demo could run for about 45 minutes but we urge all members who use this unit to attend if at all possible.

Joke corner

By Warne Wilson

What an interesting turn of events in Mt. Vernon, Texas...

Diamond D's brothel began construction on an expansion of their building to increase their ever-growing business. In response, the local Baptist Church started a campaign to block the business from expanding -- with morning, afternoon, and evening prayer sessions at their church.

Work on Diamond D's progressed right up until the week before the grand reopening when lightning struck the bordello and burned it to the ground!

After it was burned to the ground by the lightning strike,

the church folks were rather smug in their outlook, bragging about "the power of prayer."

But late last week 'Big Jugs' Jill Diamond, the owner/madam, sued the church, the preacher and the entire congregation on the grounds that the church ... "was ultimately responsible for the demise of her building and her business -- either through direct or indirect divine action.

In its reply to the court, the church vehemently and voraciously denied any and all responsibility or any connection to the building's demise.

The crusty old judge read through the plaintiff's complaint and the defendant's reply, and at the opening hearing he commented, *"I don't know how the hell I'm going to decide this case, but it appears from the paperwork, that we now have a brothel owner who staunchly believes in the power of prayer, and an entire church congregation that thinks it's all rubbish".*



CPR Session

By Frank McDonald

On Saturday 8th March Peter and Glenys volunteered to share their potentially lifesaving knowledge with us by holding a free CPR practical demonstration with the Woodies. The short course was fun, practical and has left our attending members with knowledge and skills which could potentially save lives.



A good turnout for the CPR session



Peter sharing his potentially lifesaving invaluable knowledge



The gang getting hands on



The guys getting stuck in face first





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Timber of the month

By Graham Bradford

Macrocarpa



Large specimen

Scientific name. *Cupressus macrocarpa*. Family. Cupressaceae. Genus. *Cupressus* (*Callitropsis*)

Common Names. Macrocarpa, Macrocarpa Pine, Monterey Cypress, Golden Cyprus.

Distribution. A species of Cypress native to the Central Coast of California. Some living trees of these stands may be as old as 2000 years. The species has been widely planted outside its native range, and is a plantation species in temperate climates such as Europe, South Africa, Southern Australia, and has thrived particularly well in New Zealand as a windbreak tree.

Description. *Cupressus macrocarpa* is a fast growing medium-sized coniferous evergreen tree, which often becomes irregular and flat-topped as a result of the strong winds that are typical of its native area. In perfect growing conditions it grows to 40m, and exceptional specimens can reach 3m in trunk diameter. The foliage grows in dense sprays, bright green in color. The leaves are scale-like, 2–5 mm long, and produced on rounded

(not flattened) shoots.

Seedlings up to a year old have needle-like leaves 4–8 mm long.



The species name *macrocarpa*, is a reference to the large seed cones which are globose to oblong, 20–40 mm long,

with 6–14 scales, green at first, maturing brown about

20–24 months after pollination. The pollen cones are 3–5 mm long, and release their pollen in late winter or early spring.

Properties. Macrocarpa is a softwood with short spiral grain of brittle nature, difficult to dry and grade due to presence of knots and pockets of resin inclusion. Some logs were recently milled at Woodies, and have provided users with considerable experience in repairing defects. Mechanical properties are similar to radiata pine.

Heartwood is yellowish golden-brown with darker grain patterns with a sweetish smell. Sapwood is lighter coloured. Density of about 485 kg/cu. m. or approx. 2.06 m3/tonne. Bark is dark greyish brown and stringy.

Macrocarpa is a relatively durable softwood above ground and is widely used in N.Z., Victoria and Tasmania in untreated form as an alternative to treated plantation pine for house construction in selected grade. The foliage is slightly toxic to livestock and can cause miscarriages in cattle due to the presence of



New Zealand samples

isocupressic acid. Sawn logs are used by craftspeople, boat builders and small manufacturers, as a furniture structural material and a decorative wood because of its fine colours. It is also a fast, hot burning, albeit sparky firewood, therefore not suited to open fires. In recent years in southern states, fungal attack has killed many trees.

Macrocarpa is a different species to the White Cyprus, *Callitris glaucophylla*, which is endemic to inland areas of Qld and NT.

Data and photos courtesy of CSIRO and Qld. DAFF.

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

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Who's Who in BRWG Inc. 2013-14		
Patrons - Peter Wellington MP, Andrew Powell MP and Cr Jenny McKay		
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Vice President	John Muller	
Secretary	Dave Edmond	5478 6932
Asst. Secretary	Jeff Harrison	
Treasurer	Tara Jackson	0438 880 805
Asst. Treasurer	Hugh McKenna	5476 1454
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Website Editor	Dave Edmond	5478 6932
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Recruitment Officers	Dave Banister, Lionel Tilley, Tom Black, Jeff Harrison	
Activity Officers	Ray Curry, John Drew, John Clarke, Warne Wilson Dave Banister, Keith Muirhead, Brian Harris, Max Barranger	
Safety Officers	Dave Banister, Warne Wilson	
First Aid Officer	Andrew Eberhard	
Events Organiser	Rick Vickers	5494 3555
Shed Managers	John Holland, Brian Harris	
Amenity Officer	Gill Blowers	
House Officer	Gill Blowers	
Purchasing Officer	John Holland	
Training Officer	Lionel Tilley	
Librarian	Brian Holdsworth	
Timber Management	John Holland, Frank McDonald, Ron Donald, Phil Gibson	

Shed Captain Roster - March 2014									
Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Saturday	
31	Brian Harris							1	Graham Bradford
3	Brian Harris	4	Tom Black	5	TBA	6	John Drewe	8	Warne Wilson
10	John Muller	11	Ray Curry	12	Hugh McKenna	13	John Holland	15	John Clarke
17	Dave Banister	18	Tom Black	19	Leigh Boynton	20	Phil Krisanski	22	Keith Muirhead
24	Lionel Tilley	25	George Blowers	26	John Close	27	Ray Bryant	29	Graham Bradford

**** All Fridays = Frank McDonald

Shed Captain Roster - April 2014									
		1		2	TBA	3	John Drewe	5	Warne Wilson
7	John Muller	8	Tom Black	9	Hugh McKenna	10	John Holland	12	John Clarke
14	Dave Banister	15	Ray Curry	16	Leigh Boynton	17	Phil Krisanski	19	Keith Muirhead
21	Lionel Tilley	22	Frank McDonald	23	John Close	24	Ray Bryant	26	Graham Bradford
28	Brian Harris	29	George Blowers	30	Max Barranger				