



Flitch 'n Chips

Issue No. 202

April 2014

Presidents Report

Hi Fellow Woodies,

Well here I am, back in harness, home from overseas to the beautiful green hills of the Backall Range and our wonderful variety of trees. Though we saw some incredible sights there certainly is "no place like home!"

We have a big month ahead starting with the Maleny Chainsaw to Fine Furniture Expo on the 3rd & 4th May coordinated by Bruce Chapman who still needs more volunteers to help out, we can never have too many. Remember many hands make light work for everyone. The following weekend, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 9th, 10th and 11th is the Cooroy Expo and inter club competition. We have extended the date for final selection of our entries to Friday, 2nd May in the hope that some of the unfinished projects will be finished and we can enter items in all categories to uphold the club's reputation for quality workmanship. We particularly need entries in the pyrography section so please help out the club if you can. It would be a shame if we had nothing at all in this section as it would pull down our overall points in the competition. Finally, the Brisbane Wood Show rounds off the month from the 16th - 18th May, Friday to Sunday.

Our treasurer, Tara Jackson, has taken up a new position in her career and will be moving to Brisbane. Consequently, we are looking for

someone to fill in as treasurer until the next annual general meeting in August. Please contact me directly at the club or via my email,

mcdonaldfp@gmail.com or

mobile 0417716367. I would like to thank Tara for all her dedication and hard work and wish her all the best for her future.

The club prides itself on community involvement so if anyone knows of a local community organisation that may need something making please bring it to the committee's attention for consideration. Club projects are a great way for all members to learn new skills and interact with other members, new and old.

To all new members, welcome, and please ask for help on the machinery so you can be accredited sooner rather than later. Remember you cannot use the machinery independently until you are accredited by the accreditation officers.

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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New Members this month.....

550	Dave Bowtell – Keil Mtn.
551	Martina Gordon – Maleny
552	Stuart Patterson – Maleny
553	John McDonnell – Palmwoods
554	Robert Otto - Landsborough

"A Big Woodies Welcome"

Maintenance Report

By Brian Harris

2/4 8" Jointer - Cutters rotated for new cutting edge.

Wood Wiz - The three cutters rotated for new edge.

15" Thicknesser - All cutters rotated for new cutting edge.

3/4 20" Thicknesser - Four newly sharpened blades fitted.

14/4 Belt Sander - Safety stop that had been broken through careless use has been repaired.

19/4 Jet Air Filters - All three primary air filters cleaned and replaced.

23/4 #15 Lathe - On/off switch not working - contacts cleaned and now working but the contacts are badly burnt and the switch will be replaced.

Tips and Tricks

By Warne Wilson

Some simple workshop tips, which will save you money:

Firstly: What do you do with your waste turps after you have cleaned a brush? It's expensive and it's a shame to have to throw it away. I keep a used turps bottle next to the fresh turps bottle and I recycle the used turps into it. In time, most of the cleanings sink to the bottom to form a sludge.

The remaining liquid may be decanted off to provide a "First wash", next time, and then returned to the bottle. A much smaller amount of fresh turps will be needed for the final wash. When you are finished, this should also be poured into the recycle bottle.

Secondly: Part used paint spray cans will be kept workable for a year or two if they are upended into 15mm of turps in the bottom of a


typical 400 gram diced tomato tin. For some reason the turps is very slow to evaporate out, and the spray cans may be left for two or three months. I take mine out when I think of it; I release a couple of short bursts of spray, check the turps level, and return them.

Thirdly: I always carry a couple of stubby pencils in my jeans hip pocket – a2b or softer, and a HB – They are easy to reach quickly when I need them in the middle of a job. The pencils can be sharpened down as far as 20mm, but they generally start at about half normal pencil length. When others sometimes comment, often smiling in a depreciating way about my use of stubby pencils, I have usually marked the job before they have found theirs.

More next month!

Timber Management Committee Report

We have a large quantity and variety of dry timber at the moment so please make use of it at our specially reduced prices.




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Safety Notes

By Warne Wilson & Dave Banister

A couple of minor incidents to report this month:

The Laguna band saw.

Please be very aware that this machine has heavy-duty cast iron wheels driving and carrying the blade. These wheels build up a lot of kinetic energy. Remember "Newton's first law of motion" from your schooldays? "Every object in a state of uniform motion tends to remain in that state of motion unless an external force is applied to it."

The Laguna band saw has a footbrake pedal, (Down low on the right hand side.) Please make sure you stop the blade with the footbrake after you have switched off. A member decided to test the sharpness of the blade recently, not realising that the blade was still running after the machine had been switched off. Fortunately, his thumbnail touched first, he reacted instantly and avoided serious injury – a close call!

Table saw note.

A member, very experienced with woodworking machines, reported the following; a person using the Hammer saw, was being assisted by a second person, who was seen to remove an offcut from the table while the saw was running. This is a bad practice. The person operating the saw should be able to concentrate without distractions. If another person's hand enters the operator's vision, especially near the blade, it will distract the operator's concentration. This can be the cause of an accident. In a similar way it is wise not to interrupt a person using any machine, you should wait until the cut has been completed, and preferably, until the machine has been switched off.

If you are "Tailing out", the pieces of wood being out-fed should be supported only, and not pulled or manipulated in any way.

Remember. An accident with a machine usually does not happen in a second – it can happen in a millisecond - before you can blink! Please take care, and enjoy your mornings at the shed.

Woodies Calendar

The Maleny Wood Show
Cooroy Interclub Competition...
Brisbane Wood Expo...
Club Expo, Montville...
Club Open Day, club house...
Christmas Expo, Montville...
Club Christmas Party, Flaxton Gardens...

3rd & 4th May
9th & 10th May
16th, 17th and 18th May
4th & 5th July
7th September
6th & 7th December
12th December

Cooroy Inter-club competition

There was some confusion with the members over judging date for the Cooroy competition, plus we just didn't have entries in every category as some members hadn't quite finished their projects. Consequently we extended the judging date to 9am, Friday 2nd May at the club to have sufficient entries to judge

So, if you have it in mind to make a submission, we will be having another effort at judging. This will be done next Friday morning (2 May). Please be there by 9am.

Maleny Wood Show

By Tara Jackson

Hello Fellow Woodies,

I am seeking volunteers to assist at our Woodies stand at the Maleny Wood Expo on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th May. As a number of our members will be selling their crafts that weekend, we need volunteers to help as cashiers and also to tissue wrap the wood crafts sold from our stalls. I am moving house that weekend and unfortunately I am unable to make it to the Expo.

Also, our Assistant Treasurer, Hugh McKenna, is away on holidays that weekend so we're in need of volunteers to help us out. The Expo runs from 9am until 5pm each day. It would be fantastic if at least one volunteer could be there to set up at 8.30am before the gates open. If you can volunteer some of your time that weekend, even if it's only for an hour, please kindly email me at taraj@hotmail.com and let me know which day and which time/s you can assist.

Ideally, it would be great to have two people on cashier duty at any given time; one person taking money /giving change and the other to wrap the wood craft item.

Thanking you in advance.



Timber of the month

By Graham Bradford

Liquidambar. (note the spelling.)

Family: Altingiaceae

Genus: Liquidambar

The genus liquidambar

exists as five species.

Liquidambar acalycina –

Chang's Sweetgum

(central & southern China)

Liquidambar formosana –

Chinese Sweetgum or

Formosan Sweetgum

(central & southern China,

southern Korea, northern

Thailand, Taiwan, Laos,

northern Vietnam).

Liquidambar orientalis – Oriental Sweetgum or Turkish

Sweetgum (southwest Turkey, Greece: Rhodes).

Liquidambar styraciflua – American Sweetgum (eastern

North America from New York to Texas and also eastern

Mexico to Honduras).

Liquidambar styraciflua 'Rotundiloba' – American variety

with round-lobed leaves but producing no fruit.



L. Styraciflua is the species most common as an ornamental tree in Australia.

Common Names. Liquidambar (Aust.), sweetgum, redgum, sappgum, storax (USA), satin walnut.

They are all large, deciduous hardwood trees, native to the northern hemisphere temperate climates of Asia and Nth.

America, 25–40 metres tall to 1 m dia., with palmately 3- to

7-lobed leaves arranged spirally on the stems and length of

12.5 to 20 centimetres, having a pleasant aroma when

crushed. Mature bark is grayish and vertically grooved. The

flowers are small, produced in a dense globular

inflorescence 1–2 centimetres diameter, pendulous on a 3–

7 centimetres stem. The fruit is a woody multiple capsule

2–4 centimetres in diameter popularly called a "gumball",

containing numerous seeds and covered in numerous

prickly, woody armatures, possibly to attach to fur of

animals. In autumn, leaves turn attractive orange reddish

colours. Both the scientific and common names refer to the

sweet resinous sap (liquid amber) exuded by the trunk

when cut.



Properties.

Density: 545 kg/m³ @ 12% m.c.

Janka Hardness: 3.78 kN.

Shrinkage: Radial: 5.3%, Tangential: 10.2%, Volumetric: 15.8%, T/R Ratio: 1.9

Color/Appearance: Wide sapwood is whitish to light pink or tan color, and is sometimes referred to as "sapgum" or "sweetgum." Heartwood is grey to reddish brown, and is commonly referred to as "redgum." Heartwood with darker black streaks is called "figured redgum." Quartersawn pieces have a ribbon-stripe appearance.

Grain/Texture: Grain is interlocked, with a very fine, uniform texture. Good natural luster, this wood has sometimes been called "satin walnut."

Odour: No characteristic odour.

Rot Resistance: Heartwood sections are rated as moderately durable to non-durable regarding decay resistance, while the sapwood is perishable, also susceptible to insect attack.

Workability: Generally easy to work, though planing can produce tear out due to interlocked grain. Known to warp and distort badly during initial drying. After initial drying, distortion is significantly less, but the wood still experiences an appreciable amount of movement in service. Turns, glues, stains, and finishes well. Responds moderately well to steam bending.

Uses. L. styraciflua is historically widely used as a general lumber timber in North America and the resin from the tree trunks is processed for commercial uses. Elsewhere, it is planted in temperate climates as an ornamental. In Australia, the wood has gained favour for furniture, interior finish, plywood veneers, and turnery. The heartwood once was used in furniture as imitation mahogany or Circassian walnut. The hardened sap, or gum resin, excreted from the wounds of the Liquidambar can be chewed like chewing gum. The sap was also believed to be a cure for sciatica, weakness of nerves, etc.

In Chinese herbal medicine, lu lu tong, or "all roads open," is the hard, spiky fruit of native Liquidambar species. It first appeared in the medical literature in Omissions from the Materia Medica, by Chen Cangqi, in 720 AD. Bitter in taste, aromatic, and neutral in temperature, lu lu tong reportedly promotes the movement of blood, water metabolism and urination, expels wind, and unblocks the channels. It is an ingredient in formulas for epigastric distention or abdominal pain, anemia, irregular or scanty menstruation, low back or knee pain and stiffness, edema with difficult urination, or nasal congestion.

There are good supplies of this attractive timber currently available at Woodies. Sorry, no fruit in stock.



Around the shed

By Graham Beaumont

**Some excellent work as always by our
Hugh McKenna**







Flaxton Gardens



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Joke corner

By Graham Beaumont

Jack, an older gentleman woodworker, feared his wife, Becky, was getting hard of hearing.

So one day Jack called her doctor to make an appointment to have her hearing checked. The Doctor made an appointment for a hearing test in two weeks, and said that meanwhile there's a simple informal test the husband could do to give the doctor some idea of the state of her problem.

Here's what you do, said the Doctor, "Start out about 40 feet away from her, and in a normal conversational speaking tone see if she hears you. If not, go to 30 feet, then 20 feet, and so on until you get a response.

That evening, the wife is in the kitchen cooking dinner, and he's in the living room. He thinks to himself that he is about 40 feet away. "Let's see what happens," he mutters. Then in a normal tone he asks, "Honey, what's for

supper?" No response. So Jack moves to the other end of the room, about 30 feet from Becky and repeats,

"Honey, what's for supper?"

Still no response.

Next he moves into the dining room where he is about 20 feet from Becky and asks, "Honey, what's for supper?"

Again he gets no response.

So he walks up to the kitchen door, only 10 feet away.

"Honey, what's for supper?"

Again there is no response. So he walks right up behind her.

"Honey, what's for supper?"

She replies, "For God's sake, Jack! For the FIFTH TIME. CHICKEN!"

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		
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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
Newsletter Editors	Max Barrenger & Graeme Beaumont	0408 437 375
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Publicity Officer	Gerry Zwart	5441 7433
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 Barrenger	
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 - May 2014

						1	John Drewe	3	Warne Wilson
5	John Muller	6	Tom Black	7	Hugh McKenna	8	John Holland	10	John Clarke
12	Dave Banister	13	Ray Curry	14	Leigh Boynton	15	Phil Krisanski	17	Keith Muirhead
20	Lionel Tilley	20	Frank McDonald	21	John Close	23	Ray Bryant	24	
26	Brian Harris	27	George Blowers	28	Max Barrenger	29	John Drewe	31	Warne Wilson

**** All Fridays = Frank McDonald

Shed Captain Roster - June 2014									
2	John Muller	3	Tom Black	5	Hugh McKenna	6	John Holland	7	John Clarke
9	Dave Bannister	10	Ray Curry	11	Leigh Boynton	12	Phil Krisanski	13	Keith Muirhead
15	Lionel Tilley	16	Frank McDonald	17	John Close	18	Ray Bryant	19	Brian Harris
21	George Blowers	22	Max Barrenger	23	John Drewe	24	Warne Wilson	26	John Muller
28	Tom Black	30	Hugh McKenna						