



Flitch 'n Chips

Issue No. 215

May 2015

Presidents Report

Hi Fellow Woodies,

I am standing in for President Frank who is off cruising the world with his wife, Pat. No doubt we will hear all about it shortly on their return. Others off touring the world are Brian Harris, Max Barranger and Lionel Tilley. Rest assured gents, the Guild still runs like clockwork in your absence so enjoy; although ripping saws flying to bits and making frightening noises may mean Brian should not be away too long.

The "Chainsaw to Fine Furniture" show went off well in spite of the horrible weather preceding the opening. The deluge that hit us Friday before the show did hinder attendances on the Saturday; the strange thing is the numbers were well up on the Sunday but our takings were about the same as Saturday; cannot figure! Thanks to all the members who assisted to make the event go like clockwork. Thanks also to Barung for the extra space which meant we could spread out to the point we had wheelchair access to all display tables; something we have not been able to do previously.

A special thanks to Brian McTaggart for his donation of the Palm Cockatoo Intarsia for the "quickie" raffle. This probably put an extra \$400 + into the receipts for the weekend.

The Guild was asked by the Maryborough Woodies to provide Judges for their competition which goes on display at the Maryborough Agricultural Show. Ivan Yaksich, Spike Bettega and I spent Saturday 16th doing the judging. It was not an easy task and in this instance this was true. The standard of work in some categories was exemplary and choosing first, second and third was, for me anyway, both

difficult and stressful. On Sunday morning, Spike gave a well prepared demonstration on building a Ukulele. The event was well attended and could kick-start interest in musical instrument building in the club.



The Maryborough Club is holding their open day on 11th July at the Maryborough Show Grounds if anyone is interested in a day out to sample some Maryborough hospitality and see how their Club operates. It should be an interesting day out.

Don't forget about the June demonstrations. On Saturday 13th, Bill Rangott will demonstrate veneering and box making. Bill is a very accomplished box maker and this is a must-see demonstration. Also on Saturday 27th, the ambulance people will be doing a refresher on CPR and general first aid; instruction that we all need.

Our next major event is the July Expo. We want plenty of entries into the competitions and lots of good quality wood objects for sale.

On a housekeeping note, Ted Martin rebuilt a box trailer for waste disposal with the idea that we will not dump any more wood waste on the site (the MVA is not happy about our dump at the back of the toilet). The trailer is there to be used so if any member decides to empty shed wood waste bins, could you please place it in the trailer.

Good news. Club member, Ted Martin, badly injured in an accident is well on the road to recovery and could possibly be transferred to a hospital closer to home in the not too distant future.

To any members not feeling okay, have a speedy recovery. If the Club can help in any way, just let us know.

Keep the wood pile low and the shavings high.

Happy Woodworking,

John Muller

Vice President

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Maintenance Report

By Brian Harris

15/4 Rexon 12" Saw - The broken cast iron lever within the saw fence was unable to be resourced so a copy has been fabricated from hard engineering plastic. Unfortunately as you can see in the adjacent image the shaft housing broke forcing us to replace the whole saw.



Drum Sander - The printed circuit control board has been replaced \$190, also the sand paper platen has been replaced with the latest plasticised belt so tracking should more controlled \$160.

18/4 Wood Wizz - Cutters rotated to new edge.

Jet Air Filters - Primary filters washed and replaced.

21/4 Belt Sander - New belt fitted.

20/4 Sand Flee - New sanding belt fitted.

4/5 15" Thicknesser - New set of three belts fitted and starter has been replaced as the stop button had broken.

Tips and Tricks

By Warne Wilson

A few ideas for turners: Before you start turning it is a good idea to check your lathe; check to ensure that the tool-rest slides easily on the lathe bed. If it catches anywhere make sure the bed is free from drops of sanding sealer or other material then get the tin of SUPERGLIDE from the fridge and give the bed a quick wipe (A slight film is all you need). Also ensure the tailstock live centre and the chuck move as they should, a little lubricant on these parts can help a lot if movement is not smooth.

TOOL REST HEIGHT: As you turn you may have to adjust the height of the tool rest to suit the thickness of different tools. The cutting edge of a gouge in contact with the wood should generally be at, or slightly above, centre, and the tool rest should be adjusted to allow for a tool of a different thickness. Scrapers should make contact a little below centre to minimise any chance of a catch and the scraper must be kept level. I often advise a learner to "Keep your elbow up." When I see the angle steepening to take the cutting edge above centre. (This not only increases the chance of a catch, it will reduce the cutting efficiency of the tool.)

TOOL SHARPNESS: Some woods carry silica and can be abrasive, meaning that carefully ground cutting edges can lose efficiency quickly. If you find that you are using pressure to push the tool into the spinning wood to get a cut, inspect the cutting edge; a brief pass on the grinder will work wonders and improve your control. The experienced wood turner will recognise a poor cutting edge immediately and sometimes make trips to the grinder part of the turning process. Tool sharpening by hand is easy when the principles are understood – if this art presents a mystery to you, I am usually at the shed on a Saturday morning and I would be pleased to show you, or on any other day, ask the shed captain to arrange a one on one tool grinding session for you.

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Timber Management Committee Report

By John Holland

Not much to report on the timber scene, as nothing has been cut in the last month. However, we have acquired a few logs (including a Tallow Wood) which are waiting to be cut. Some good news – Ted Martin of the Thursday team has been released from hospital after his horrific accident and will be spending a long time recuperating at home. All the best mate!

Safety Notes

By Warne Wilson & Dave Banister

A caution about cold weather clothing. A club member reported recently that his loose jacket sleeve caught on the blade guard when he was using the Hammer saw. Fortunately, he was able to release it before anything happened, but this thoughtful member reported the incident because, with the onset of winter we all wear heavier clothing and jackets and jogger tops are common. In industry, many a gruesome injury has been attributed to a worker getting clothing caught by a power tool or machine. Make it a habit to be certain that no part of your clothing is loose enough to get caught.

Wear safety gear. It distresses us to see a member using a power tool such as a router, power saw or other high decibel emitting equipment without ear and eye protection. The standard answer from an older member when reminded is - "My hearing is shot anyway and I never bother." Surely whatever is left of damaged hearing should be protected warily from deteriorating further?

Eye protection should go without saying; we tend to take our eyes for granted, but imagine how the loss of sight of an eye through carelessness would affect your world. With high revving tools a bit of flying metal or a chip could damage an eye in a microsecond, quicker than you could blink.

Woodies Calendar

General meeting
Box making demo by Bill Rangott
CPR and basic first aid course
Club Expo, Montville...
Christmas Expo, Montville...
Club Christmas Party, Flaxton Gardens...

6th June
13th June
27th June
4th & 5th July
5th & 6th December
11th December

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Graham working on one of his excellent rocking horses



Around the shed

By Graham Beaumont

John Muller's installing the new ripping saw
Last Saturday we took delivery of this 'Little Ripper'



John showing where not to put your fingers



Time for the saw's maiden voyage



John Holland praying to the Ripsaw gods during his very Informative demo on Saturday morning

John Holland would like to point out a couple of important features

Firstly, the saw has an on/ off switch and an emergency stop switch. If either of these are pushed, they must be manually pulled out before the machine can be re-started. Secondly, the adjustment wheels for blade height and angle have a locking knob in the centre of the wheel. Loosen these before making any adjustments, and re-tighten prior to use. Please do not try to turn the wheel with the locking knob tightened.

John Holland

Shed Manager

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Member feature

By Trevor Jorgensen

Monthly Feature - MEET URSULA DOOHAN – Member No 526

The Blackall Range Woodworkers Guild (BRWG) has quite a number of lady members, of various age groups, who are becoming very skilled in woodcraft and who, through their membership, have added a gentler touch to what can be thought of as a boy's club. Not so. Many of our ladies (of whom we are very proud) have added a special talent to the Woodies that is as unique as the club itself. Here's one of our ladies.



Ursula Doohan
October 2014

Ursula is a Brisbanite from early school days but has spent a good number of years away in rural Western Australia, and North Queensland mainly on cattle stations mustering, child caring and educator, and a valued assistant to the management of the stations.

Ursula moved to the Blackall Range in 2008 and found the perfect place to live. *"Beautiful outlook and it has all I need. A garage for woodwork, a pottery area, a craft area, an outside bath and peace and quiet."*

What would be the greatest challenge you have successfully overcome?

I once took a BMW 650 road bike on a trip around Austria. For a month! If that's not a challenge to some then those people have not ridden a motorbike on the motorways and back roads of Austria. It's wild. The challenge is to stay on the right hand side of the road. Beautiful country but boy they drive fast.

Some say they get a lot out of being a member of the Woodies? What is the most that you get out of being a member?

I love how mature minded people with similar interests can make me laugh.

And the best piece of woodworking you personally prize?

I once made a clock with twelve different timber species that went together as one. I received praise from my friends at the Woodies and that really made me feel good.

Ursula has been with the Woodies since 2010, joining the club to experience the use of woodworking machines and tools combined with the smell of machined wood, *"denied of me when I was a kid."*

"My brothers had the run of the woodworking shed my father had (he was a boat builder) so when the opportunity arose for me to have a go later in life, I jumped at it. I have tried a lot of activities including knitting, and many other crafts and find woodwork a very satisfying hobby."

"I have always been able to identify what power tools are what, but can only name them when I hear the noise they make. Got a laugh at Bunnings recently when I bought a router bit and tried to describe to the sales bloke what I wanted by making the same noise. You know, I want to buy a thingo for a yeeeeeoow!!" (Please explain?)

What about the mistakes in woodworking? We all make them. What is your worst one?

Measuring 20 times and cutting as many times as you like to count. If there is enough timber to go around, I'll measure and cut heaps. I'm good at making large single pieces of wood into many, many smaller bits

What is a word that best describes you?

Loving, helpful. Crazy, in the nicest way.

What do you read? And what gives you the inspiration?

Bryce Courtney. "Potato Factory" and "Tommo and Hawk". Inspiration for me comes from the stories of female and male convicts who were sent from London to the convict settlement of Van Diemen's Land. They were sent there (they didn't volunteer) and had to survive. They learnt the strengths and weaknesses of others in order to manage survival. Fictional history built on fact.

What is your favourite music?

"Remember the Days of the Old Schoolyard" Cat Stevens: "Top of the World", "Rainy Days and Mondays" The Carpenters: "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" Cyndi Lauper.

And what would be your most personal extravagance?

When travelling in Ireland, Tuscany and Rome I indulged in a massage every day. Bliss. Haven't been able to indulge like that for a while.

What is the most overrated virtue? Not necessarily yours.

I think of myself as a fairly virtuous person. I am honest, I am generous, I am kind. (Yes Frank, it's all true!) But when it comes to patience I find myself wondering: is patience really a virtue? Because if patience is indeed a virtue, it is one that I am surely lacking. All the other virtues feel so good, but to me, patience feels horrible, excruciating. Most likely, because I don't have it. So the most overrated virtue, for me, is probably patience.

What is the quality you most like in a woman?

Open, genuinely friendly and helpful.

What is the quality you most like in a man?

Supportive men, and someone who is willing to have a go. Reliable comes to mind.

What is the greatest trait that you deplore in yourself?

I'm too trusting. And believing in what others say. Well sometimes.

What makes you smile?

When something you plan all comes together. Success.

Do you think you are an assertive person?

You know, that's hard. Wasn't once. I used to be meek and mild –still am (Yes Frank I am). But being able to now confidently express an opinion when asked, and be heard, and respected, gives me a buzz. I don't think I am over assertive but it is very comforting to be asked my opinion. I thank the Woodies a lot for this opportunity.

What is your current state of mind?

I don't have one – it is all over the place. When you find it let me know.

On what occasion do you tell fibs?

Birthdays. And it depends on what you call a fib. At the Woodies "Did you measure this before you cut it?" "Of course I did!!" Now that's not a fib.

Do you draw inspiration from anyone in particular, that you have either read about or met?

Politically "No"!No!!". There have been no political leaders in my time that are worthy of trust.

I draw inspiration from my daughter. She is a real goer. Maybe takes after her mum, but certainly is tenacious, determined and knows where she is going.

I love her to bits.

Turning to another point, do you think Australia today needs to be made a better place?

Yes. As does the rest of the world (need to be made a better place). We live in crazy times.

What would you do, if you had the means, to make Australia a better place?

Reform the media. All media outlets and their reporting staff should accurately explain both sides of a story, without bias. And held to account. That does not seem the way it is today.

If you had a handful of kids about you and you were giving advice, what would you say to them?

Be good to your mother and keep your nose clean.

My father used to say "Don't think you know everything. You learn something every day of your life. And if you don't, you die."

Thank you Ursula for adding a gentler touch and a special talent, to our Woodies family.

-----O-----



The Gang enjoying one of the memorial benches with Mal Brough

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 - Andrew Powell MP, Mark Jamieson - Mayor SCRC and Cr Jenny McKay		
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Vice President	John Muller	
Secretary	Graham Beaumont	
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Website Editor	Dave Edmond	5478 6932
Publicity Officer	Gerry Zwart	5441 7433
Recruitment Officers	Dave Banister, Lionel Tilley, Tom Black, Jeff Harrison, Frank McDonald	
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	John Drewe	
Events Organiser	Rick Vickers	5494 3555
Shed Managers	John Holland, Brian Harris	
Amenity Officer	Pat McDonald	
House Officer	Julie Breen	
Purchasing Officer	Rob Otto	
Training Officer	Lionel Tilley	
Librarian	Brian Holdsworth, Max Barranger	
Timber Management	John Holland, Frank McDonald, Ron Donald, Phil Gibson	

Shed Captain Roster - June 2015											
Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
1	John Muller	2	Frank McDonald	3	Max Barranger	4	Ray Bryant	5	Dave Edmond	6	Graham Bradford
8	Dave Banister	9	Tom Black	10	Leigh Boynton	11	John Drewe	12	John Muller	13	Warne Wilson
15	Lionel Tilley	16	Bruce Chapman	17	Rob Otto	18	John Holland	19	Frank McDonald	20	John Henderson
22	Brian Harris	23	Phil Gibson	24	John Close	25	Spike Bettiga	26	Dave Edmond	27	Keith Muirhead
29	John Muller	30	Frank McDonald								

**** All Fridays = Frank McDonald

Shed Captain Roster - July 2015											
Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
				1	Phil English	2	Ray Bryant	3	Dave Edmond	4	Graham Bradford
6	Dave Banister	7	Tom Black	8	Hugh McKenna	9	John Drewe	10	John Muller	11	Warne Wilson
13	Lionel Tilley	14	Bruce Chapman	15	Max Barranger	16	John Holland	17	Frank McDonald	18	John Henderson
20	Brian Harris	21	Phil Gibson	22	Leigh Boynton	23	Spike Bettiga	24	Dave Edmond	25	Keith Muirhead
27	John Muller	28	Frank McDonald	29	Rob Otto	30	Ray Bryant	31	John Muller		