



Flitch 'n Chips

Issue No.251

May 2018

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



G'day all Woodies.

CHANGE:

Somewhere I have heard, or read, that a wise person once said we (Homo Sapiens) don't like change; but change happens continually for all of us. So too do organizations and countries change as we have seen in this Country's history. We have seen change in our measuring system, our currency and of course political change, ever dynamic to suit the times.

The BRWG has changed since its inception, growing from a membership of 20 in 1996 to the current fluctuating numbers of about 170 to 180. Policies, rules and direction adopted 22 years ago have been blended, amended, and modified to suit the times and it seems that not all changes have been welcomed by all members, and indeed our rules have been highlighted by another similar organization as far too restrictive.

Specifically, comments have been made that the BRWG currently places too much emphasis on raising money. Perhaps this could be taken as a reflection on the current management however I make no apologies for the direction the Guild has taken during my Presidency because in 2015 it was clear the Guild needed more workshop space and up-grades on facilities generally. That was the vision and task for the current management and to be realistic, in three years, a lot of that vision has been achieved. To do this, dollars were needed.

Last year, this Guild raised a handsome income in excess of expenses, an achievement which has contributed to the additional facilities members will enjoy into the future.

It is my intention at the AGM in August to stand down as President (and do some woodwork and perhaps play with grand-kids) and I will be making a clear point at that time of the fantastic support I have enjoyed from the management team and the membership during this Presidency.

Money, though considered an evil in our current leftist political environment or in some ideologies, is necessary in this society if goals are to be achieved.

"Change" will always happen and you the members can influence that change by involvement in the organization.

There will be several positions vacant on the management committee at the AGM in August so I ask all members to consider taking on a committee role for the next year.

Please get involved in the Guild. It is the most wonderful organization I have been involved in, and you can play an important part !

MALENY WOOD EXPO:

As I write this report, the Wood Expo has just concluded for another year and a very big thank you and acknowledgement of all those who contribute with patience, understanding and persistence in manning the kid's workshop, the display in the pavilion and of course the sales stand. Well done! You are all heroes, especially Rick Vickers who took on the coordinator's role. Well done Rick.

2 of 15

I would like to pay tribute to an unsung hero of the Guild who has contributed in vast measures (with the assistance of many members who help to display his goods and pack up afterwards), and that is Brian McTaggart. A tireless worker who lives away from the Range but has contributed enormously in kind ever since becoming a member. His disability has contributed this year to his non-appearance at the Expo but his contribution has been as always significant: a raffle prize and of course 15% of his takings to the Guild's coffers which each year is significant. Thanks, Mate! Well done.

SAFETY:

More will be said about safety in this newsletter further on but I would like to make a point about my theory as to why accidents with woodworking equipment happen. Having worked in wood since I was about 14, up until two weeks ago, I had all my fingers and I considered myself as an experienced hobbyist who had a great deal of respect for spinning saw blades.

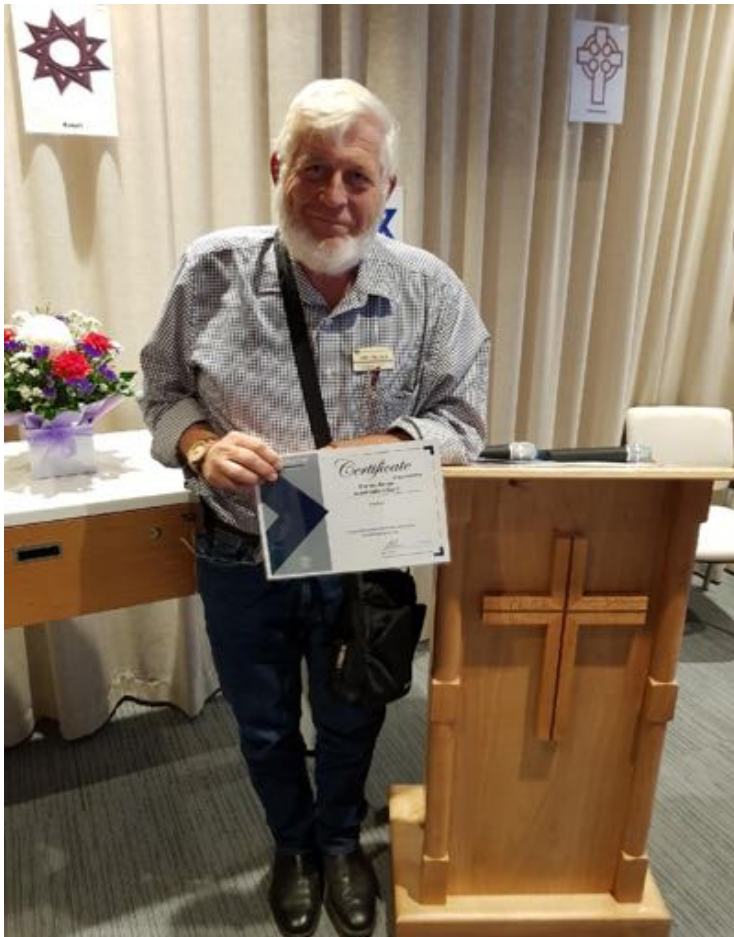
Fortunately the little bit I lost off my left index finger has turned out to be inconsequential, however it could have been much worse; I was lucky. The inconvenience of sitting around in hospitals waiting for treatment is really lost time. Get real !

When using any piece of equipment which can bite the operator, the most important attitude to adopt is to **concentrate** on the operation. Lack of concentration (thinking about beer-o'clock), external interruptions (beer-o'clock again) and haste (bugger, beer-o'clock again) can lead to injury, especially for the experienced woodworker. Of course it helps if you can keep your hands well away during these operations. (NB the time of day is important - not after 5.00 pm !)

To all members not feeling the best (Keith included, so glad to hear you are now such a well balanced individual), we wish you well and look forward to seeing you at the shed soon. Take care !

John Muller
President.

As Winston Churchill said :
You will never reach your
destination if you stop and throw
stones at every dog that barks



John accepting a Certificate of Appreciation from Sunshine Coast University Hospital for the furniture made by the Guild, under John's very capable stewardship.



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Maintenance Report by Terry O'Connor



Three small bandsaw blades changed.

The large linisher belt and both round sanding discs were changed. Sanding pads are regularly left uncleaned. Please ensure you clean them as soon as you finish using them. If you don't know how to use the cleaning stick, ask the Shed Captain.

The cutters have been rotated or changed on :

Both Thickeners - Both Jointers - Wood Wiz.

Many thanks to Michael Brosnan and Tony Gallwey for the many hours they spent doing this task.

The large thicknesser was stripped down a second time by Michael to replace broken cutters, and to clean out the grooves on the infeed roller which will stop it from slipping. Again, a big thanks goes out to Michael.

A new blade was fitted to the Hammer table saw.

Members using the Jessem router table are not vacuuming the dust from the top of the router, which results in the top bearing jamming with fine dust. Please help us by thoroughly cleaning it every time, AS SOON AS YOU FINISH USING IT.



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This is an image which accompanied a list of safety tips in an on-line forum. Maybe it was not intended to be the central focus of the article, if you get what I mean, however, what does it convey. Well, first is that there is nothing covering the cutter head, and secondly the posture is totally wrong, particularly with so much cutter exposed.

Note the position of the right thumb, and left little finger. Good chance they will be medically modified, and the inappropriate gloves will not help. If grip is needed, use an appropriate push block.

Eye and hearing protection is great (not sure of the hair hanging down which may not be an issue for many of our members, but I suppose it goes to the photo, if you get what I mean) but saving the body parts which might come in contact with that spinning thing in the middle should take priority (if you get what I mean).

The take-away is that maybe those promoting safety should think about the full picture when including photographs.

At the General Meeting 12 May, we discussed way to improve the work we all turn out. Inherent in that is the design element, which some may well be born with, but others can develop. We are considering offering extended training, most likely over three consecutive days, by professional teachers, at a cost to the attendees, but at no cost to the Guild. If anyone would like more information, please let me know.

"If you're not prepared to be wrong, you'll never come up with anything original".

Given the sustained focus on safety and how un-welcome incidents can happen, and just getting enjoyment from your wood work, the following thoughts by Robert Howard, the 2018 Barung Wood Expo Wootha Prize winner, "Zen Rules for Woodwork" published in Australian Wood Review February 2015 (if you want the complete story, let me know), may be useful :

Woodwork is brutally logical

In the long run, the slow way is the fastest way

Creep up on the desired result, don't rush at it

Several small cuts are better than one big one

True speed means getting the desired result quickly, but
not by hurrying

True speed comes with time and practice, and results when
technique and discipline become normal work habits

Practise basic skills

Focus on the details; small improvements add up to a
large improvement overall

Develop feedback: see, analyse, adjust

Accept that making mistakes is a necessary part of
learning

Expect to have to learn something many times in order to
totally 'get' it

Enjoy the process and forget about getting finished

Give yourself a fair chance: use good tools and good
materials in a good workspace



I regret to advise that two accidents occurred this month; one in the shed and the other at home.

Earlier this month a member's finger came into contact with the rear of the blade of the Woodman saw. He had completed the correct procedure and pushed the live stock past the blade. A momentary lapse, which resulted in his right index finger being injured, and subsequently the tip being amputated. He had completed 8 identical cuts, with 80 mm stock, and was most likely thinking of the next stage of his project. He is recovering well.

This could have been a momentary lapse or perhaps habit and lack of attention taking over after seven successful cuts. The lesson here is never to take your eye off the ball; it can lead to disaster in sport, and especially in woodwork. As Rob Otto says, "Always know where your hands are". Be very aware of that fearsome blade.

About 2 weeks prior to that, another member at home, late in the day and wanting to get something finished, caught his left index finger on the blade. Medical staff were able to patch it and it is now healed, albeit with a nasty scar.

The lesson to all of us is to block out all distractions and forget about time. I know we all start a job expecting to have it finished within a certain time frame but, if Father Time is beating you, it is best to close down and come back tomorrow. Ray Currie, a long respected elderly member who has passed on would say "You can save a lot of problems with a cup of tea". In other words, calm down, chill out and tackle the job later or another day; it's the safe way.

Any tool, powered or unpowered, can leave its mark. Harry Wood, a founding member, once showed me a scar on the palm of a hand. He had done it many years earlier, with a screwdriver!

A reminder to everyone that Rob Otto has concluded his series of familiarisation sessions with the new Vicmark lathes and members who have not been brought up to date with these machines must not use them. Please see your Shed Captain for the day if you would like to be accredited; particularly in regard to speed selection – not only does every lathe have stepped pulleys for basic speeds but an electronic control that works effortlessly to vary speed in each pulley setting. Hands off and please don't touch unless you know what you are doing!

We are still finding tools left out and offcuts lying around at the end of each session. A clean shed is a safe shed, and we would sincerely appreciate it if you could sweep not only your working area, but someone else's as well.

Club Events Calendar



Next event is our mid-year Expo, combined with our Club Competition. Set-up will be Thursday 5 July; competition judging on Friday 6 July; and the Sales Expo on Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 July, 2018.

We need a Co-Ordinator for the event. If you can help, please contact Rick Vickers.

Also needed are three Judges for the competition. If you know of anyone with suitable qualifications, again, please advise Rick (and in turn, the Co-Ordinator).

It has been decided that raffle prizes will be confined to a size suitable to place in a vehicle for ease of collection for winners. Suggestions have been a jewellery box, turned in-laid bowl, in-laid lazy susan, nest of tables etc. If you have any ideas, please contact Rick (or Co-Ordinator). It would be nice if the prizes could be made by members, preferably as a training exercise. If you would like to volunteer to lead a team to make an item, that would be great. Given the limited time available, and our earlier pre-occupation with the new shed, we will not be able to post raffle books to all members as previously, however books will be available at the shed, and all members are encouraged to take a book home for sale.



Around the Shed



What a remarkable body of talent resides in our membership. He is a little painting Philippa whipped up when she had a spare ten minutes, for Dave's 80th birthday. Thank you Philippa, and may there be many more birthdays Dave.



As you may be aware, Dave recently spent some time in hospital, followed by a spell in Eden Rehabilitation Centre in Cooroy. Typical of Dave, he found out what the hospital needed, and set about making a range of aids, very capably assisted by Ray. Fantastic effort boys.

Our Library

The move into the New Shed was the ideal time to tidy up our old library. New shelving was constructed for the books and magazines and a new TV and DVD were installed. Books have now been catalogued, categorized, and generally tidied up. You'll notice that every book is numbered and the first number refers to the category to which it belongs.

The card system that existed before has gone and now every book, magazine and DVD has its own card placed in a holder inside the front cover.

When borrowing any of these items, please remove the card and write your name and the date on the card before placing it in the "Borrowed Books" box. When you return the item, find the corresponding card in the "Borrowed Books" box, write the date returned on the card and then place the book in its rightful place in the shelves.

In the next few weeks, the library will become available online for everyone to be able to check the catalogue to see what is available.

The re-catalogueing of the books and magazines has highlighted the fact that some books and magazines are missing. Would every one please check to see if any books, magazines or DVD's they have borrowed may not have been returned. If anyone has any books they would like to donate to the Club, now would be a good time so they can be catalogued etc while we are working on the library.

Several training videos have been digitized and are now available on DVD. They may also be supplied to individuals on flash drives if anyone would like their own copy. There will be a list of what's available produced and circulated to all members in the near future.

Max Barrenger - Librarian

Feature Article - from the Editor

A few short weeks ago, I emailed all members with my concerns in respect of safety, having observed five incidents within 10 days where members had walked away leaving machines operating, creating a huge risk to the next person to approach the machine.

I have been a member of the Guild for four years, and in that time injuries have been few and far between, and nothing as serious as the excision of digits. Then within a very short time, two members lost finger tips in table saw incidents.

As the Editor of your monthly newsletter, and Deputy Amateur Shed Manager and Floor Sweeper, I am also Vice President of the Guild, and these incidents have troubled me such that I started to think even more deeply as to whether two actual and five potential mishaps in a short time is an aberration or a sign of more systemic safety issues, particularly when that is coupled with the apparent inability of an increasing number of members to clean up the mess they create.

As both members who recently experienced digit-reduction most willingly advised their injuries resulted from ever so momentary lapses of concentration, I thought this might be a clue and started researching the causes of loss of concentration, and that also led in to forgetfulness, ergo the mess-on-the-floor issue.

Being of simple mind and always eager for a quick fix, when I found an article with The Top Ten Causes of Loss of Concentration, I felt I was on the path to a helpful solution. But alas, that was not to be, as after I got past Depression and Sleep Deprivation, I reached Hormonal and then Menopause causes, and quickly moved on.

What I did discover is that tiredness, stress and head injuries are amongst the most common causes, but you can't imagine my relief when I found that it naturally occurs after the age of 50. Not wanting to let those over that magical number off the hook for forgetting to turn machines off and clean up, I pushed on, but there is no simple, one-hat-fits-all answer, and I came to the conclusion that it is the responsibility of the individual to stay alert, and concentrate solely on the task at hand, particularly when whirring blades are involved.

As it is the very strong desire of the Guild to never again have any member suffer any injury at all, if anyone has any ideas as to how we can stimulate concentration (or encourage members to clean up so the Shed Captains do not need to inflict a head injury), please let me know.

For those who have an inkling such conditions might be connected with dreaded illnesses know to afflict the community (I can't remember the name ??), please see over leaf.

If you are unable to read this, you can apply for an exemption from floor cleaning duties for the fourth Sunday of each month

I cdnuolt blveiee that I cluod aulacilty uesdnatnrd what I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in what oerdr the ltteres in a word are, the olny iproamtnt tihg is that the frsit and last ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can still raed it whotuit a pboerlm. This is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the word as a wlohe. Azanmig huh? Yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt!

This is said to be even more difficult, as it uses random numbers with letters, however my suspicion is it will be a doddle for those used to measuring once and cutting thrice

7H15 M3554G3
53RV35 7O PR0V3
H0W 0UR M1ND5 C4N
D0 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5!
1MPR3551V3 7H1NG5!

Einstein is quoted as saying
" Everything should be made
as simple as possible, but
not simpler "





Sunshine Coast Council is a strong supporter of the Guild, and Maleny Library staff kindly provided a cabinet for the display of members work during the month of April, which is a timely prelude to the Maleny Wood Expo.

Can anyone pick the problem here ?
Correct for all those people who recognized that the concrete blocks were not secured to the table !
But that said, the person employed appropriate ladder protocol by not standing on the top rung, which would be just plain silly.



From this to this
The new lathe area and dust extraction is finally commissioned !



Timber Tales by Bruce Chapman



Flame Tree, Liquid Amber, Silky Oak and Quandong have now been stacked. The Quandong is a nice looking timber, white to cream-white in colour. It machines and turns well to a smooth surface. The logs we milled were predominantly from the base of the tree giving us good boards. There is more coming through so watch for good boards.

We have some Camphor Laurel now in the kiln so not too long now for stock to be available. There is a large amount of Camphor yet to mill. Half of the stack of logs near the mill is Camphor and the rest is Silky Oak. Along with the pile of camphor in the car park area, there is camphor in the stacks air drying.

Shed Captain Roster - May 2018											
Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
		1	Tom Black	2	AM Ron Fishwick PM Warne Wilson	3	John Holland	4		5	Graham Beaumont
7	Lionel Tilley	8	Bruce Chapman	9	AM Leigh Boynton PM Terry O'Connor	10	Ray Bryant	11	Dave Edmond	12	Warne Wilson
14	Dave Barister	15	Dave Southern	16	AM Rob Otto PM Keith Carter	17	John Drewe	18	Dave Edmond	19	Keith Muirhead
21	Brian Harris	22	Greg McCosker	23	AM Max Barranger PM Warne Wilson	24	John Muller	25	Don English	26	Graham Beaumont
28	John Muller	29	Tom Black	30	AM Ron Fishwick PM Terry O'Connor	31	John Holland				

Shed Captain Roster - June 2018											
Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
								1		2	Warne Wilson
4	Lionel Tilley	5	Bruce Chapman	6	AM Rob Otto PM Keith Carter	7	Ray Bryant	8	Hamish Blwick	9	Don Lear
11	Dave Barister	12	Dave Southern	13	AM Ron Fishwick PM Warne Wilson	14	John Drewe	15	Dave Edmond	16	Keith Muirhead
18	Brian Harris	19	Greg McCosker	20	AM Leigh Boynton PM Terry O'Connor	21	John Muller	22	Don English	23	Graham Beaumont
25	John Muller	26	Tom Black	27	AM Rob Otto PM Keith Carter	28	John Holland	29		30	Warne Wilson



The beautiful bowl made and kindly donated by Bruce for the Wood Expo raffle. Trish was the very happy winner.

Innovation Corner



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Who's Who in BRWG Inc. 2017 - 18

Patrons - Andrew Powell MP, Mark Jamieson - Mayor SCRC and Cr Jenny McKay

President	John Muller	0418 871 946
Vice President	Greg McCosker	0418 746 420
Secretary	Graham Beaumont	0449 081 092
Asst. Secretary	Dave Edmond	5478 6932
Treasurer	Brian Harris	5445 7921
Asst. Treasurer	Lindsay Thomas, Julie Breen	
Newsletter Editors	Greg McCosker, Max Barrenger	
Website Editor	Dave Edmond	5478 6932
Publicity Officer	John Andrews, Hamish Borthwick	
Recruitment Officers	Dave Banister, Tom Black, Dave Edmond, Keith Muirhead	
Activity Officers	John Drew, John Clarke, Warne Wilson, Dave Banister, Keith Muirhead, Brian Harris, Max Barrenger	
Safety Officers	Dave Banister, Warne Wilson	
First Aid Officer	John Drewe	
Events Organiser	Rick Vickers	0408 663 842
Shed Managers	Greg McCosker, Terry O'Connor	
Amenity Officer	Hamish Borthwick	
Purchasing Officer	Rob Otto	
Training Officer	Rob Otto	
Librarian	Max Barrenger	
Timber Management	Ron Donald, Bob Rothwell, Bruce Chapman	

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Saturday	General Act. & Demo's