



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



G'day all Woodies.

### PRECISION:

I have just finished reading a book titled "Exactly" by Simon Winchester (How Precision Engineers Created the Modern World ). I found it a fascinating read, one of those books I did not want to put down.

It had me reflecting on what we do as woodworkers and the development of our skills when eventually we recognize the need for accuracy and consciously aspire to it. Those skills for me are a lifetime of development. When I first started making stuff under the house when I was 14, I used a basic measuring tool, a Rabone folding 1 yard (3 feet for those who have forgotten Imperial) wooden rule. Its accuracy was a reflection of my skill level. At that time I did know what a vernier was but would never have dreamed that one day a vernier gauge would be an essential part of my measuring kit; yes, to do woodwork !

Nowadays it has become important to do the very best I can in my woodwork and that will always require accuracy and some of the tools we use do not always measure up. Take for instance the combination squares, and yes even some solid squares we can buy. I have found some to be **not square!** How can manufacturers produce an article which is not fit for purpose and sell it ? I do believe we as consumers have for far too long accepted mediocrity and poor quality.

### MALENY WOOD EXPO:

The de-briefing of the Expo took place this week and was attended by Rick Vickers. It seems Barung is very happy with the BRWG's contribution to the success of the event and has offered us the same venues next year.

This will need earlier planning on behalf of the next Management Committee to improve the display in the main pavilion, the sales area in the cow pavilion and perhaps an earlier start on making pieces for the children's workshop.

On the subject of the workshop, this has proved very successful and next year Barung is happy for us to install a donation box to assist in recovery of some of our costs. Thanks to Combined Saw and Knife for their support, Carbatec and Barung for the donation of a pyrography burner each and to all the dedicated members in manning (and womanning) the event.

## **SAFETY:**

Leaving equipment running ! This is a safety issue which all members have to be aware of. The new Hammer jointer / thicknesser is so quiet when running one could be forgiven for walking away and forgetting to switch it off; forgiven, maybe ? But bandsaws make a fair bit of noise so it does seem strange that an operator could walk away and leave it running.

Believe me, this is very dangerous and does suggest maybe those responsible should not be using equipment which can bite and be very nasty. Whilst all Shed Captains should be aware of this safety issue and be watchful, they cannot always be hovering around the machinery that does bite so it does mean that all members should be aware and diligent in, a) using the equipment properly and, b) be ever watchful and aware of this potential safety issue. Do not assume !

It was decided by the Management Committee some time ago that the best way to get members to operate equipment properly was to withdraw accreditation on specific machinery if the member is found to be operating equipment incorrectly and / or unsafely.

Please treat the Guilds equipment with respect.

## **JULY EXPO & COMPETITION:**

Our July Expo and Competition is set for 7th & 8th July in the new venue at the Montville School. Keith Muirhead has taken on the task of being the Coordinator for the event; thanks Keith for stepping up to the plate.

With the competition this year, there will be another two categories, Intarsia and Pyrography added to the list. Those members doing this sort of work are asked to bring forward their work to enter in the competition. There is a whisper that the Coordinator is looking at rustling up prizes for the winners. Watch this space.

The new venue means that we will have a lot more space so there should be more display space for sales items. This year, we have secured more tables for displays, therefore more sales perhaps ?

## TIMBER:

Timber stocks are high and in particular, the stock of Liquid Amber is not moving. This could be the bargain of the month as the price has been dropped to \$1000 / M3 for members. This specie has a common name of Sweet Gum and is an important forest resource in USA. It is renowned for difficulty in drying so some boards in stock may have some collapse and drying degrade (which of course you will not be required to pay for) but generally it is a good timber for woodcraft.

I do believe we have a couple of varieties of Liquid Amber growing on the Range hence the variation in colour and grain.

At \$1000 / M3, you could say this is an end of financial year clearance sale price.

There is now an excellent stock of good dry Silky Oak, a lovely wood to work with.

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.

### Maintenance Report by Terry O'Connor



- (1) Makita Sliding Compound Saw has been removed for repairs, and has been replaced with the spare Bosch Saw. Many thanks to Keith Carter for transporting the faulty Makita unit to the repair shop in Nambour for us.
- (2) The Electric Winch in the Milling Area needs some repairs, and Ted Martin has offered to advise us on the procedure to keep it in top order. Many thanks Ted.
- (3) Several members have reported seeing a tan coloured residue on the Woodman Saw blades. Don't be concerned , it won't affect the performance of the cutting action. It is merely a residue caused by cutting a great quantity of laminated pine beams to make new benches for the Guild. When we complete this task in a few weeks, we will remove and clean these blades.
- (4) The Jessum Router is away at the repair shop for repairs.
- (5) Many thanks to John Holland and his merry band of helpers who are more than half way through upgrading the work benches in the main building. The new bench is complete and ready for use. We will replace the work tops on the remaining 3 benches in the coming weeks. We again acknowledge Hyne Timbers for the their generous donation of the materials for this project.

## Club Events Calendar



The next major event is the Club Competition, with entries to be submitted by **Thursday 5 July, in preparation for judging on Friday 6 July.** If you have any questions, please speak with the Coordinator, Keith Muirhead.

That is followed by the Sales Expo on **Saturday 7 July and Sunday 8 July.** If you have not already done so, please register on the Roster at the shed. A gentle reminder that it is a condition of displaying your goods for sale that you also assist at the Expo.

### *Date Claimers*

The date is yet to be confirmed however we have asked for the Turning on of the Lights at Montville to be **1 December** in conjunction with our Santa Shop so note that date for now and it will be confirmed in due course.

What is confirmed is that this year we will not be having the customary Christmas dinner, but instead will be having lunch in our new shed on **Saturday 15 December** so you can lock that one in to the diary.

## Around the Shed



This month has seen two excellent Saturday morning demonstrations with in excess of 30 attendees on each occasion.

The first was on the much vexed issue of finishing, and as is common with this subject, a lot of members left with more questions than answers, even after the huge amount of great information provided by presenters Max Barrenger and Rob Otto. Both spent a lot of time preparing for the demonstration which made it all the more realistic and valuable, and a very big thanks goes out to Max and Rob.

Max demonstrated the more traditional finishing products, which provide an excellent outcome, however such products can be perilous in terms of health, storage, fire vulnerability etc. Rob has a passion for what might be called the new age of finishing and is on a never ending quest for the latest and best products. In particular, he is concerned about the health aspects with what is ingested, either by way of fumes or through the skin. He demonstrated three new water based (or is that water borne - those who attended can tell you the difference) products which are very easy to apply, dry rapidly to a natural finish, with no smell, and provide durable finishes.

The Guild has funded an order of three of the products. If you missed out, but someone convinces you of their merit, a second order is always possible.



The best three finishes Rob identified in his search for user-friendly and safe products

Some of you may have heard of the discussion around finishing your entries for the annual Club Competition, in particular that the Member should be 100% responsible for the entry submitted, which of course includes the finish.

The Management Committee has determined that finishing by others will not be enforced this year due to the lateness of the hour, and the prospect that some members may have already completed their entries with assistance from others.

**However**, from 2019, ALL entries must be exclusively the work of the entrant, so you have plenty of time to develop your finishing skills.

The second demonstration was by Paramedic Scott Bradford who gave up his Saturday morning to give an excellent presentation on CPR and use of a defibrillator as part of the CPR procedure. The Guild is looking to buy a defibrillator to hold at the shed or at away events, and Scott's presentation certainly showed they are a life saving device as time is of the essence. A patient without oxygen suffers brain damage at the four minute mark, and will generally lose the battle at the ten minute mark. Such are the advances with CPR that the sole focus is now on the compression element, and mouth-to-mouth is no longer taught. Scott has never given mouth-to-mouth in his 22 years as a paramedic. Everyone who attended the demonstration left much more knowledgeable as to the procedures to be followed in such an emergency, for which we thank Scott enormously. No one knows when it is their turn, as the patient or the first aid provider, and knowledge is the key.



President John presents Scott with the traditional token of our appreciation for his very professional presentation.



Philippa and Allan have been off working again, this time in the far, far north. They discovered Milingimbi Manapan Fine Furniture, under the umbrella of The Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation, which has about five young local men and one furniture-maker, Rob, who is training them. The whole set up is funded by Mark White from Melbourne where the furniture is shipped for sale They are also developing a small range of painted turned bowls. A wonderful initiative.

A happy poem from the late, great Spike Milligan

Smiling is infectious, you catch it like the flu  
When someone smiled at me today I started smiling too  
I walked around the corner and someone saw me grin  
When he smiled I realised I had passed it on to him  
I thought about the smile and then realised its worth  
A single smile like mine could travael around the earth  
So if you feel a smile begin don't leave it undetected  
Start an epidemic and get the world infected.



## Hand plane Maintenance (That Most People Forget)

By: Christopher Schwarz | Populars Woodworking February 2, 2018

Metal-bodied planes require so little maintenance (aside from sharpening) that it's easy to forget that they do need some love every year to work smoothly. Recently I borrowed a friend's smoothing plane to demonstrate a cut and was struck by how easily her iron adjusted. It was like silk. I thought my plane was in good shape, but I was way off the mark.

I stripped down my planes to give them some long-overdue cleaning. Take the plane entirely apart. Remove the adjuster from its threaded post. Pull all the screws from the frog.

Clean the threaded post with a wire brush until you get it down to bare metal. Even a little bit of rust or gunk will foul the adjuster and make it difficult to advance and retract. Then take a wire pipe cleaner and screw it into your adjuster's nut (it's reverse-threaded) to remove any gunk in there. I was shocked at how much crap was in my threads. It was like forgetting to floss for a year and finding last Christmas's bacon....

Coat the threads with a light machine oil. Heavy bodied oils are OK, but they seem to attract more dust in my experience.

Now perform the same routine on all the other screws on the plane, including the screws that hold and adjust the frog. And don't forget the main adjusting screw that holds together the cap iron, iron and lever cap. That thing gets filthy. Wipe down everything with an oily rag and reassemble the tool.

Your will be shocked and amazed at how much easier adjusting the tool will become.





**Save face!** How many times have we seen members avoiding use of the acrylic face guards? Particularly on the lathes, but during any process where a bit of flying wood could make a Woodie's face look as though it had been hit with a brick. Sorry to be dramatic but the face guards were purchased for your use. By avoiding them you may lead yourself into lingering regret.

**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 flying chip of wood could damage an eye in a microsecond, quicker than you could blink.

**A caution about cold weather clothing.** A club member reported 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 little trimmers are the main culprits) The standard answer from an older member when reminded about noise is "My hearing is shot anyway and I never bother." Surely whatever is left of damaged hearing should be protected warily from deteriorating further?

**Do not lift an item that is too heavy for you** – do not be afraid to ask someone to help, that's what we all do in the shed – we help.

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## Timber Tales by Bruce Chapman



The area in front of the pines has been cleared and we have started to relocate the outside drying racks there to allow for the fill recently delivered to the back area to be levelled. We will then clean up the small Jacaranda logs in that area.

We slabbed a Fiddlewood which was near buried and a small amount of Fiddlewood has been added to the racks for sale.

We have good supplies of silky in the rack as half a stack from outside of air dried silky has been added.

The kiln is due to be unloaded and it contains some Camphor Laurel at long last with a lot more to follow. We have eight or so Silky Oak logs to get through before we get into the camphor on the front driveway.

We have lots of green timber currently air drying for the turners. We are progressively cleaning up the old storage area and one bay is done. The slabs in here are being cut into sizes for the turners but there is very little inside space to display these for selling. The last of the new shed box timber has been sold, which will create more space for turning blanks.

\*\*\*\*\*

Now, for a little conflict. Or is it really, as we turn timber which would otherwise be wasted in to objects of great beauty (most of the time !). This is a story from the ABC Organic Gardener Magazine about our giant Tasmanian trees, and the effect of nature on our health.

Australia is a nature-rich continent with more than **900 kinds** of eucalypts to explore, including a breathtaking array of wildlife. It's home to the **tallest flowering trees** on Earth, along with a handful of other **eucalypts** ranking among the top 10 tallest on the globe.

Did you know we are all powerful explorers that evolved to look around ? Some parts of the adult brain remain as malleable as a baby's. We are able to grow new connections, strengthen existing connections and even create new neurons. Hence, humans are **lifelong learners**. Discovery brings us joy. We discover because we are curious.

When we observe nature it evokes awe. There's no better place to re-connect with nature than Tasmania's Styx Valley and its **giants**. Located 100 kilometres northwest of Hobart, it's home to the 'king' of all the eucalypts, mountain ash.

Renowned conservationist [Dr Bob Brown](#), the [Wilderness Society](#) and others saved the tallest ones from a chainsaw massacre. Ancient trees within a magnificent stand of old growth, just north of the Styx River, are as [tall](#) as London's Big Ben. These humongous cathedrals reach almost 100 metres towards the heavens.

They are home to a symphony in the sky of rich melodic birdlife. The feet of these giants are adorned with 500-year-old prehistoric-looking tree ferns. Look around the under storey and you'll see sassafras trees. They've been growing here for 65 million years. Quietly walk the easily accessible trails with your family; marvel at nature's finest masterpieces!

Incidentally, awe lowers the circulatory inflammation marker cytokine IL-6, which is linked to depression, stress and poor muscle-repair. Awe is also believed to cause humans to reinforce social connections. Awe-inspiring nature experiences can change a person for a long period of time, sometimes permanently. While touring Tasmania make the effort to investigate the northwest corner, the [Tarkine](#). It's the cleanest air on the planet. It, too, is home to majestic temperate rainforests, equal to the area of Queensland's tropical jungles. The diversity of wildlife is astounding, including rare Tasmanian devils and critically endangered orange-bellied and swift parrots.

Along the hillsides near the [Frankland River](#) and elsewhere are very tall alpine ash, or, white-tops. Some of these beauties are as tall as 28-storey skyscrapers. It's about a three-hour drive from Burnie to the confluence of the Frankland and Arthur rivers. Stop anywhere in the ancient forest, take your re-usable water bottle and trek up a hillside to meet the tall ones.

Pick up a fallen leaf, break it and inhale deeply. Its invigorating peppermint scent is nature's free medicine. The salubrious forest air is filled with compounds that the tree leaves and bark manufacture to protect against insect attacks. Those aromatic compounds, collectively called [phytoncides](#), heal humans.

Bush walking and climbing up hillsides, to be amongst the tall ones, melts away stress. It also boosts human natural killer cells that safeguard the body, by as much as [40 per cent](#), from both infections and cancers.

It's of paramount importance to [protect](#) all remaining ancient forests from [chainsaws](#). They are nature's [flawless](#) CO2 warehouses, oxygen generators, air conditioners, bastions of fresh water, irreplaceable homes for animals and colossal [medicine chests](#) for people.

At the end of the day, we are all drawn to nature's tall trees because they make us feel good.

# The Life and Times of ....

This month, Stuart talks with Philippa about her life, and how that influenced her love of art, making puzzles and pyrography.

Q - What's your favourite activity at the Woodies ?

A - Definitely jigsaw making. That's what I do most of. It combines a love of drawing, pyrography and scroll saw work.

Q - Where and when did you learn your craft ?

A - I was living in Canberra in the 1990's and I first got into it after trying to buy an Australian gift for a friend in the U.K. The only wooden jigsaw of a kangaroo I could buy was made in Israel. My response was to immediately go out and buy my own scroll saw, work out how to use it and make my own. That started my enthusiasm and I am still going strong today.

Q - What brought you to Queensland ?

A - Having holidayed in the area and liking the weather, I moved up in 2005.

Q - You're obviously arty; where's that originate ?

A - I was born in New Zealand. My formal training was as a high school English teacher and I worked in a boys high school in Christchurch, New Zealand before teaching in Canberra. As a child I was taught to draw and paint by my father who was an avid hobby artist using the mediums of oil and pen and ink. Today I paint and am a member of the Blackall Range Visual Artists based in Mapleton. I paint and draw there weekly and also run my own drawing class at home.

Q - Do you sell your work ?

A - Yes, over the years I have sold quite a few drawings and paintings, especially through the group exhibitions which BRVA hold in Montville.

Q - What do you think of the newly constructed shed ?

A - It is satisfying to have a roomy, light and quiet area where members can work on the projects which by their nature are quiet activities such as pyrography, carving and hand tools work.

Q - Have you any ideas for the Woodies for the future ?

A - Being a teacher, I always like to encourage those who have particular skills, and there are many such people in our club, to teach others. It builds up a body of people with a wide range of abilities and shares the role around for the good of everyone. I am particularly interested in a revival of hand tool skills and am grateful to Dave Edmond and Rob Otto for facilitating this.

Q - Are you planning any classes soon ?

A - Yes, some more jigsaw-making classes without doubt. Allan and I are going away a fair bit though this year so it will have to be in between trips - a matter of getting myself better organised !



Shed Captain Roster - July 2018											
Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
2	Lionel Tilley	3	Bruce Chapman	4	AM Leigh Boynton PM Warne Wilson	5	Ray Bryant	6	Hamish B/wick	7	Don Lear
9	Dave Banister	10	Dave Southern	11	AM Ron Fishwick PM Terry O'Connor	12	John Drewe	13	Dave Edmond	14	Keith Muirhead
16	Brian Harris	17	Greg McCosker	18	AM Max Barranger PM Keith Carter	19	John Muller	20	John Muller	21	Graham Beaumont
23	John Muller	24	Tom Black	25	AM Rob Otto PM Warne Wilson	26	John Holland	27		28	Warne Wilson
30	Lionel Tilley	31	Bruce Chapman								

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

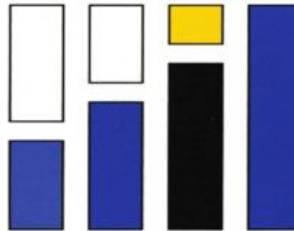
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A Tassie giant. Wonder if Bruce could handle it.  
(Must repel such wicked thoughts !!)

**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
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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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Monday	General Activities
Tuesday	Turning & Carving
Wednesday	General Workshop & Toys
Thursday	Furniture & Joinery
Friday	General Activities
Saturday	General Act. & Demo's