



# Flitch 'n Chips

Issue No. 259

January 2019



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi all.

Things are starting to get going again after the Xmas period. I hope everyone had a great holiday and looking forward to a great year.

Catriona, our treasurer, has found full time employment and will be unable to continue as treasurer. We thank her for all the work she has given to the club and wish her well in her new position.

We have a new lottery started, and the Management Committee has decided to put the previous \$100 towards the purchase of an Incra Precision Mitre Gauge for the Woodman table saw. This gauge should help to improve safety when making crosscuts and provide precise cuts for the box makers.

John has replaced the worn out table top in the morning tea area with a silky oak top. Great job John.

There are two woodturning courses starting shortly, and Greg is taking names for a repeat of his course "From Rough Board to Fine Furniture".

A table making project will be starting soon, so anyone wishing to be involved may like to put their names down. John will be looking for volunteers for making a cabinet for the Wish List office at Sunshine Coast University Hospital. This project will be most beneficial for gaining cabinet making experience.

A shed captains' meeting was held during the month to discuss problems that have arisen over the last six months. Fruitful discussion resulted in effective analysis of some difficult issues.

Following on from a suggestion by a member, the Management Committee has decided to implement a month's trial of having a special afternoon for Shed Captains. Because Captains give up their valuable time and accept considerable responsibility in their role, it was decided to give them sole use of the shed on Tuesday afternoons, with equipment use for free.

It promises to be a very busy year, with the Australia Day event first up. Members are encouraged to put their names down to help in setting up and spending some time on the stand.

Rob Otto  
President.

Official Newsletter of Blackall Range Woodcrafters Guild Inc. PO Box 150 Montville 4560

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## Maintenance Report *by Terry O'Connor*

1. There was an unfortunate incident that has left the 20inch thicknesser with badly damaged cutter blades. A member has tried to machine timber that had screws still in it, causing 13 cutter blades to be destroyed. Unfortunately this unidentified member did not report the incident to the Shed Captain and it was some time before the damage was discovered. There has been a long delay in repairing the machine while we wait for replacement parts to arrive. It was most annoying that the expensive blades which were damaged were brand new.
2. There has also been extra expense incurred in the last 6 weeks replacing Band Saw blades that have prematurely failed because of the incorrect setting on the machines. Unfortunately each of our Band Saws has a different operating design, so it can be confusing for Members when moving from one machine to another. There will be an updated training schedule introduced soon to refresh members knowledge of these Band Saws, which should reduce the operating costs in the longer term.
3. The lock on the sliding carriage has been reinstalled to the Hammer Panel Saw after it was kindly modified by Micheal Brosnan .
4. The Jet Air Filters suspended above the drop-saw area was diagnosed with a faulty starter capacitor. John Isles has kindly fitted a replacement. Thank you John for your help.
5. A new cash drawer has been installed under the Sign-on Desk to allow the Shed Captain to secure the larger notes separately from the the coin tray situated on top of the desk. Please refer to the Shed Captain when you need to make a cash transaction of \$20 or more.





There seems to be firm evidence to show that loud noises are contributors to the loss of hearing we sustain as we grow older. Also, there are so many conditions attached to being able to prove it does. Fact is we know it does, but to be able to pick on one thing and prove it, then tabulate it would indicate that there are a lot of deaf people out there who have contributed to the study and tables following.

For example we know that the sound of a router is annoying, even excruciatingly so to some, and not others. But to say that it produces 70 -80-100dB of sound is “probably” true but is it damaging to our hearing? Well it appears to depend on how close you are to the noise source (machine), if your routing hardwood or softwood, if the cutter is blunt, if you are standing in an echo chamber, like a small tin shed, how long you were using the machine, and the speed of the router and are you sensitive to loud noises anyway. So many variables.

So hearing loss caused by loud sounds is not easily categorised. But we just know loud noise does hurt.

Recently I was at the shooting range standing beside my friend, both of us firing off our weapons. I completed my target and without thinking took off my earmuffs to see how my friend was going. He was about 2m from my side facing down range as I was. Then he fired off his last round. I was deafened by the noise from the blasts. Even though it was only a 9mm pistol shot I was left deafened for about 8 hours. A wake up call to me of how important hearing protection is. Cured my tinnitus at the time.

**But this was instant deafness I experienced and it was sudden. Imagine though if deafness was brought on slowly over a matter of time. Still the same deafness, but more spooky as deafness brought on over time creeps up on you. Remember the frog in the boiling water story? Deafness is permanent. Yep, there are “aids” to assist in hearing loss, but degrees of deafness are PERMANENT.**

Work-related hearing problems may take years to develop and can be associated with your working conditions, but how many years depends on the individual. Even if you have been exposed to loud noise only for a short while you may not automatically associate the potential damage to your hearing. Some say, “Loss of hearing is an ol’ age thing”. Wrong.

The degrees of hearing loss include:

mild (21–45dB)—some difficulty hearing soft sounds and soft speech in conversation

moderate (46–60dB)—hard to hear conversational speech, especially if there is background noise (such as a television or radio or a room full of people)

moderately severe (61–75dB)—very difficult to hear ordinary conversation

severe (76–90dB)—cannot hear conversational speech

profound (91dB)—almost all sounds are inaudible

**We have included a list of some sound sources for you to consider. Sound sources are measured in decibels (dB). Have a look and see if any fit your situation.**

Any noise above 85dB is considered to be in the danger zone and hearing protection should be worn. Some sounds can be “tolerated” for short periods, eg 10 to 15 minutes or so, like hairdryers or motorcycles, but repeated or sustained over exposure beyond this is dangerous.

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### Decibel Intensity and Sound Sources

dB level	Sound	dB Level	Sound
0 dB	threshold of normal hearing	100 dB	Walkman headset
10 dB	normal breathing	103 dB	Jet flying over at 35 metres
10 dB	quiet wilderness	105 dB	Whipper sniper
20 dB	mosquito (20-40dB)	110 dB	car horn (100 – 110dB)
20 dB	rustling leaves	110 dB	electric concrete drill
20 dB	ticking clock (wind up type)	110 dB	power saw
20-30 dB	soft whisper	110 dB	symphony orchestra
25 dB	quiet country night	110-125dB	stereo (when I play it!)
40 dB	refrigerator	110-140 dB	football crowd
50 dB	rainfall	115 dB	chainsaw
50-60 dB	quiet office <b>(comfortable sound)</b>	120 dB	rock concert <b>(hearing damage 8 seconds)</b>
50-65 dB	normal conversation	120 dB	thunderclap
70-80 dB	vacuum cleaner	125 dB	ambulance siren
70 dB	hair dryer	130 dB	shotgun blast
75 dB	washing machine	130 dB	semi trailer air horn
80-90 dB	city traffic	140 dB	<b>physical pain felt</b>
85 dB	petrol lawn mower	140 dB	CAN SHATTER GLASS
88 dB	motor cycle	145 dB	gun shot
90 dB	(some) hair dryers	150 dB	train horn
98 dB	farm tractor	160 dB	<b>perforation of ear drum</b>

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Instant loud noise can contribute to hearing loss. How do you avoid loud noises and hearing loss?

**WEAR EAR MUFFS.**

AND REMEMBER YOUR COLLEAGUES WORKING NEXT TO YOU. YOU MIGHT HAVE HEARING PROTECTION ON. BUT DO THEY?

**CONSIDER OTHERS.**

**SIMPLE!!!**

**Safety** Tips. Over-**protection** may cause wearers to remove **hearing protection** to communicate or miss warning sounds. **Safety** spectacle side arms and certain hair styles may affect the air seal of an earmuff. Using earplugs in addition to earmuffs may add up to 3 decibels to the earmuff rating.

**Wear Hearing Protection. You may hear the difference.**

*Tips and Tricks* from the Editor



## **The French Cleat: A Great Way to Hang Cabinets or Shelving**

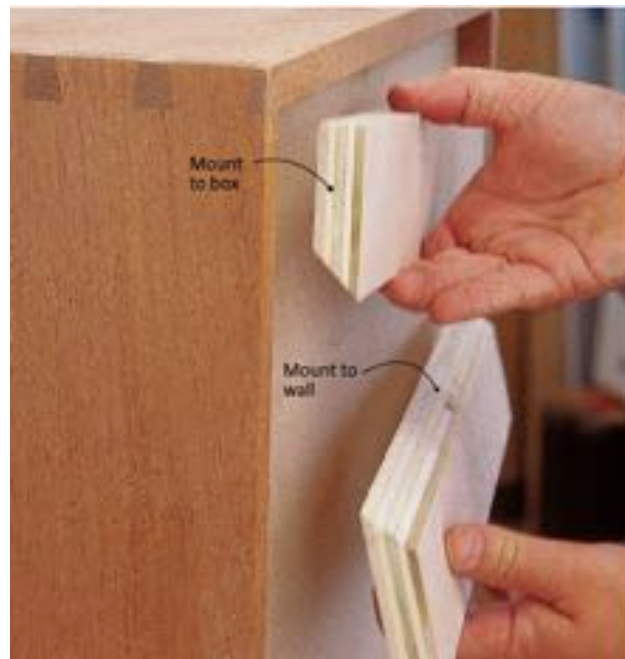
By: David Thiel of Popular Woodworking Magazine

You may already know about the French cleat, but if you haven't heard of it, this neat trick is a great simple way to hang cabinets, wall racks or shelving.

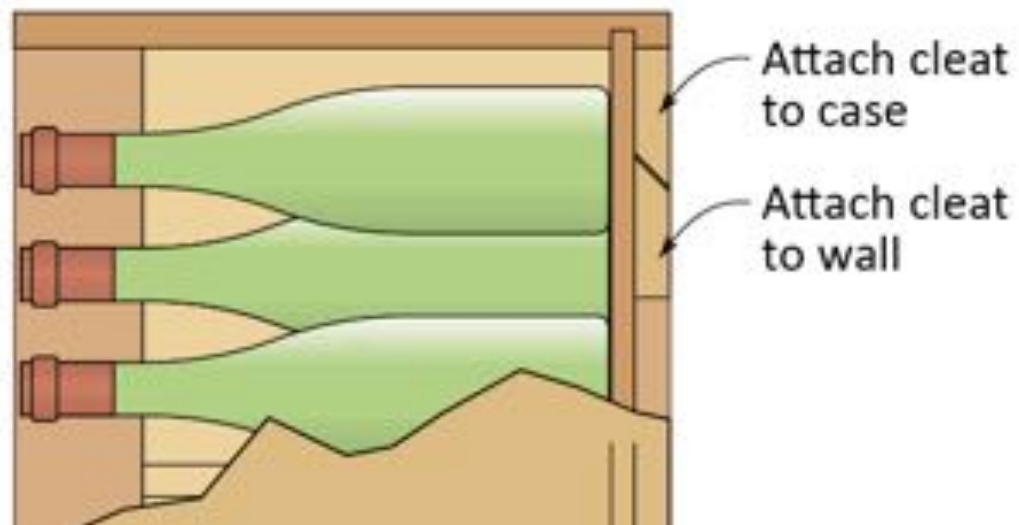
I used a hidden French cleat to hang a dovetailed wine rack that I created. This is so simple I'm surprised it doesn't get used more often. The cleat is made by cutting a 5" wide piece of 3/4" plywood to fit between the two box sides. Then simply set your table saw blade to a 45° angle and rip the piece in half lengthwise.



By attaching the top half of the cleat (widest-width facing out) to the case and the lower half to your wall (use drywall anchors if that's not possible) you simply can slide the case down onto the wall cleat using the 45° angle and lock it tightly in place. The photo above shows the two parts of the cleat pulled away from the recessed back of the box.



This diagram shows how the two parts of the French cleat are attached to the case and to the wall respectively.



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## Club Events Calendar



The next event is Australia Day at Maleny Showgrounds. Volunteers are needed to assist with the set-up, which must be completed any 7.30 am; and then to meet and greet visitors and tell them of the wonderful things we do at the Guild. If you can help, please register on the board in the shed.

Next after that is the Maleny Wood Expo. We now have volunteers for the Children's and Fine Furniture areas, so we only need a Co-ordinator for the cow shed. Again, please register at the shed, or contact Rick Vickers.

## Around the Shed



My fervent hope for 2019 (as it was with 2018 and 2017) was that I could present a newsletter without having to rave on about safety, or particular safety events, but sadly, two weeks in to 2019, and I will not achieve that with this edition.

On one day, a router was put away with the switch left in the on position; and the trimmer router was put away with the cutter bit not tightened. With both machines, when a member plugged them in to power, very dangerous situations arose, and fortunately no one was injured.

So where is the blame ? The member who put them away without restoring them to their default setting as required by the Guild Rules is primarily at fault, as the machines were in their control. The member using the machines next should have checked that they had been restored to default. Of most concern is that an innocent bystander not using the equipment, or able to influence their safe use, could have suffered a serious injury.

PLEASE, never leave ANY piece of equipment after use without restoring it to its default settings.



On a much happier note, this beautiful multi-denominational sculpture for the Sunshine Coast University Hospital Chapel has been carved by Tom Black, Kaz Depczynski and Dave Southern, and finished by John Muller. It has been a long time coming, but well worth the wait. Well done by all.

Lorraine Muller, capably assisted by John, has done a fabulous job collating all of the Guild's records, which are now tidy and arranged in order. This included Flitch & Chips, which revealed we are missing the following eight editions :

**91, December 2004; 92, January 2005; 93, February 2005; 106, March 2006; 115, December 2006; 129, February 2008; 133, June 2008; and 134 July, 2008.**

If by any chance you have any of those editions, whether it is in digital or paper form, could you please let me know, as it would be lovely for the members in 2219 to see how we did things in this enlightened age.

\*\*\*\*\*

And one of the things we do in this enlightened age is publish what we produce on FaceBook, but Sarah cannot do so unless you are sending her photos and explanations of your work. So show the WHOLE world wide what you are capable of ! And that includes all the student box makers who are turning out some lovely work.

\*\*\*\*\*

No doubt you will agree that Rob Otto and John Muller are the smartest looking roosters in the shed, as they parade their shiny new Oxford Blue (NOT chambray) Guild shirts replete with the Guild Logo, and as an option, your name. Rob has chosen a Bisley brand shirt from Lowes at \$29.99 (make sure you get the 1 cent change !); and the logo is \$8.80, plus \$4.40 if you want your name. You buy your own shirt, and make the arrangements with Coastal Monogramming at 5/82 Sugar Road, Maroochydore (5443 8448) for the rest. If you have your name included, it will cost you \$43.20 for a very smart shirt.

\*\*\*\*\*

With the new accreditation procedures now well established, we remind members to please make an appointment for accreditation. The names of the Accreditation Officers are in the sign-in area, and also on the board in the main shed.

If the Shed Captain of the day is an Accreditation Officer, you may ask him/her if they are able to assist, and if it is quiet they may be able to do so, but please be conscious of the myriad duties the Shed Captains have to undertake.

\*\*\*\*\*

Late last year we announced new procedures fore effecting purchases from Carbatec, with one significant change being members are to pay Carbatec direct for their purchases.

The Guild has offered similar arrangements with other vendors, most notably Combined Saw & Knife and Coastline Distributors, and sometimes Gregory Machinery. Each time a member completes a purchase request at the shed, another member has to attend the establishment in their own time in their own vehicle, then deliver the items to the shed. The Treasurer then has to complete and forward an invoice to the member, and when payment is made, reconcile each invoice with the banking and as is not uncommon, follow up for payment.



The Guild receives no benefit for such arrangements, and indeed it is common that it costs the Guild money when members pay by card as a fee is incurred.

The Management Committee has decided, with immediate effect, that members are to make their own purchase arrangements with all vendors.

\*\*\*\*\*

On a very sad note, we advise that long standing member and former Assistant Treasurer Lindsay Thomas passed away recently. Our thoughts and condolences are with Lindsay's wife Margie and family.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Management Committee has decided that the charge for lathe use will be \$3.00 for up to one hour; and any period over one hour will be deemed to be a session, either morning or afternoon, and the flat charge will be \$9.00 per session. That charge includes the use of ancillary equipment such as the bandsaw for cutting blanks, drill press for boring, sharpening equipment etc.

Members using Guild lathe tools are not to sharpen the tools, however the sharpening equipment is available for use to sharpen privately owned tools.

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You may have noticed at the Santa Shop there was a food safe notice on the tables for the information of the public. A member asked if the Guild could have a standard for food-safe finishing with a view to having members using a common product.

Extensive research resulted in a decision that Mineral Oil, which is edible, odourless, colourless and flavourless, with an indefinite shelf life was the most suitable. Rob Otto did a demonstration with mineral oil Saturday 12 January, when members were suitably impressed.

The intention is for any member offering products for sale which will be exposed to food, such as bowls, cutting boards, spoons etc to complete a standard form to be supplied with the item at sale, advising which finish has been applied.

The Guild will buy a 5 litre container of mineral oil for re-sale to members. Another attractive feature is the price; 5 litres costs \$44.00, with out freight, it is anticipated the cost to members should be around \$6.00 with your own container for 500 ml.

It was also suggested that the Guild investigate selling small bottles of oil, eg 250 ml, with items at sales events.

For those unfamiliar with mineral oil, following is a description by the Melbourne vendor, which specialises in food-safe oils :

STELLA Food Grade Mineral Oil is NSF H1 \ Food Grade \ Food-safe for the use in HACCP Certified Food and Packaging Manufacturing Plants. Colourless, odourless and tasteless, STELLA Food Grade Mineral Oil range meets FDA 21 CFR 172.878 and 21 CFR 178.3620(a) regulations for direct food contact and USDA H1 food processing lubricant standards.

Recommended for use in a wide variety of food processing and packaging operations where lubricating oil is used as a processing aid, food packaging materials and where direct contact between the lubricating oil and food or packaging materials may occur.

Typical applications include sealing wooden food utensils, butchers blocks, chopping boards, bread boards, salad bowls, wooden spoons, pan release oil, equipment cleaner, protective coating, divider oil and the manufacture of paper intended for food packaging.

## Timber Tales by Bruce Chapman



The kiln has been done this week. The timber unloaded and resting was predominately Silky Oak with a small amount of Jacaranda. Silky Oak, Camphor Laurel, Mango and Paulownia was loaded into the kiln.

Australian Paulownia is descended from native Asia and is now an Australian Plantation timber. Paulownia is light in weight and pale blonde in colour with its own character grain but approximately the same strength as Cedar. It feel like a firm balsa wood. It is very light and can be painted or stained to resemble any timber. Because Paulownia resembles Western Red Cedar in weight and strength it is increasingly being used in the marine industry.

With the weather and the Christmas period, no milling has been done for a month so the log pile has remained unchanged.

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## Did you know ????

It's time again for the annual " Stella Awards"! For those unfamiliar with these awards, they are named after 81-year-old Stella Liebeck who spilled hot coffee on herself and successfully sued McDonald's in New Mexico, where she purchased coffee. You remember, she took the lid off the coffee and put it between her knees while she was driving. Who would ever think one could get burned doing that, right?

That's right; these are awards for the most outlandish lawsuits and verdicts in the U.S. You know, the kinds of cases that make you scratch your head. So keep your head scratcher handy.

This year's runaway First Place Stella Award winner was: Mrs. Merv Grazinski, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, who purchased a new 32-foot Winnebago motor home. On her first trip home, from an OU football game, having driven on to the freeway, she set the cruise control at 70 mph and calmly left the driver's seat to go to the back of the Winnebago to make herself a sandwich. Not surprisingly, the motor home left the freeway, crashed and overturned. Also not surprisingly, Mrs. Grazinski sued Winnebago for not putting in the owner's manual that she couldn't actually leave the driver's seat while the cruise control was set. The Oklahoma jury awarded her, are you sitting down?

**\$1,750,000. PLUS a new motor home !** Winnebago changed their manuals as a result of this suit, just in case Mrs. Grazinski has any relatives who might also buy a motor home.

Maybe that is why I prefer nature ?



We often hear that death and taxes are the only certainties in life; but we can add change to that. Here is a piece from the ***Institute of Industrial & Systems Engineers*** (of the US) as to how they see change.

Change is something that presses us out of our comfort zone. It is destiny-filtered, heart grown, faith built. Change is inequitable; not a respecter of persons. Change is for the better or for the worst, depending on where you view it. Change has an adjustment period which varies on the individual. It is uncomfortable, for changing from one state to the next upsets our control over outcomes. Change has a ripping effect on those who won't let go. Flex is the key. Even a roller coaster ride can be fun if you know when to lean and create new balance within the change. Change is needed when all the props and practices of the past no longer work. Change is not comforted by the statement 'just hang in there' but with the statement 'you can make it'. We don't grow in retreat, but through endurance. Change isn't fixed by crying, worrying, or mental tread milling. Change is won by victors not victims; and that choice is ours.

Change is awkward -- at first. Change is a muscle that develops to abundantly enjoy the dynamics of the life set before us. Change calls own strength beyond anyone of us. Change pushes you to do your personal best. Change draws out those poised for a new way. Change isn't for chickens. Change does have casualties of those defeated. Change will cause us to churn or to learn. Change changes the speed of time. Time is so slow for the reluctant, and yet it is a whirlwind for those who embrace it. Change is more fun to do than to be done to.

Change seeks a better place at the end and is complete when you realise you are different.

Change is measured by its impact on all who are connected to it. Change is charged when you are dissatisfied with where you are. Change doesn't look for a resting-place; just the next launching point. Change is only a waste to those who don't learn from it. Change happens in the heart before it is proclaimed by our works. Change chaps those moving slower than the change itself. If you can change before you have to change, there will be less pain. Change can flow or jerk, depending on our resistance to it. Change uses the power invested in the unseen to reinvent what is seen. Change is like driving in a fog – you can't see very far, but you can make the whole trip that way.

Change is here to stay.

So the lesson is if you can't change it, go with the flow, and enjoy the ride !

## Who's Who in BRWG Inc 2018 - 2019

Patrons - Andrew Powell MP, Cr Jenny McKay SCRC

President	Rob OTTO	0407 466 260
Vice President	Greg McCOSKER	0418 746 420
Secretary	Don LEAR	0437 533 561
Asst Secretary	Graham BEAUMONT	
Treasurer	Catriona CHALK	0417 778 918
Asst Treasurer	Julie BREEN	
Newsletter Editor	Greg McCOSKER	
Website Manager	David EDMOND	
Publicity Officers	John ANDREWS & Hamish BORTHWICK	
Recruitment Officers	Sarah ODGERS, John MULLER, Dave BANISTER, Julie BREEN & Keith MUIRHEAD	
Training / Demo Officers	Rob OTTO	
Safety Officers	Trevor Jorgensen, Rick Vickers, Warne Wilson	
Welfare Officers	Julie BREEN & Keiran SIMPSON	
Events Organiser	Rick VICKERS	
Shed Managers	Terry O'CONNOR & Michael BROSANAN	0409 050 418
Providor	Hamish BORTHWICK	
Purchasing Officer	Keith MUIRHEAD	
Projects Officer		
Librarian	Max BARRENGER	
Social Media	Sarah ODGERS & Micheal BROSANAN	
Timber Management	Bruce CHAPMAN, Ron DONALD, John MULLER & Steve SQUIRES,	
MVA Sportsground Committee Representatives	John MULLER & Hamish BORTHWICK	

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General Workshop & Toys

Thursday

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Friday

General Activities

Saturday

General Act. & Demo's