

Flitch 'n Chips

Issue No 273
April 2020



PRESIDENT'S REPORT (LOCKDOWN EDITION)

ANZAC DAY:

As I sit writing a contribution for the April 2020 Flitch & Chips edition, it is 5.55 am on Anzac Day, and I appreciate that I should be at the Montville Memorial Gates for the Dawn Service about to lay a wreath on behalf of the BRWG in place of Dave Banister who was to be holidaying in Europe. It is not to be, all due to the current awful circumstances the whole country (and world) is in.

In some small way, a lot of Australians are making an effort to say thank you to our diggers. Our neighbour has his vintage Citroen on the driveway with a wreath on the grill.



My 12 year old granddaughter is learning the trumpet and along with a neighbour, are planning to play the Last Post from their driveways in Graceville Brisbane this morning. Can't wait to see that video!

CORONAVIRUS:

I'll bet you are getting "virused-out" by now and wishing the shed could be opened up tomorrow.

What can one say? As a baby boomer born in 1946, I have not experienced any period in my time like the circumstances we are in now. Yes the recession we had to have in the 90's with 17% mortgage rates and the GFC in 2008 which was bad financially for a lot of us, were troubling, however this health crisis, apart from the suffering and loss of life will be an economic burden on future generations. I feel that when this is over, our lives could be changed forever. Let's hope not too much change.

Enough of that!

PROJECTS:

I usually mention here the projects on hand but that is not appropriate at this time.

I have completed several projects and have more to do before times are back to normal. Fortunately I have accumulated timber stocks over the years and have a good workshop to keep busy in.

For those members with their own workshop at home, the lock-down could be beneficial.

As mentioned previously in an email, if any member wants timber for a project, there are means available for them to get some timber, keeping in mind social distancing is now a way of life.

TIMBER SUPPLIES:

More Silky Oak logs have come in, compliments of Mike Bradley. For the milling crew, there is a stack of logs to mill when the club reopens.

We cannot accept any more as the log deck is full.

Self-isolation is the current lock-down phrase and it can become a mental health issue. I spoke to a member of the Mapleton Men's Shed recently and he is finding it very difficult not being able to meet others and have face-to face conversations, and Zoom is not the answer for him. There may be some of our members who feel the same way so if you want to just talk, pick up the phone and call a member or a friend. It helps.

To all Woodies not feeling the best, stay clear of others please! Get well soon of course.

Cheers

John Muller
President

Tips and Tricks

THE FANTASY SHIP:

The creative wonders of our members never cease to amaze me. This is what has kept James Parsons busy during the shut-down, although he would have had to visit a lot of Op shops prior to shutdown to collect all of the bits and pieces needed to make this work of art.

This creation is the fantasy ship made from all sorts; fishing rods, whisks, tea strainers, old vases, a handle from some fancy cutlery and note the warp engine; the stainless-steel core is a shower hose.



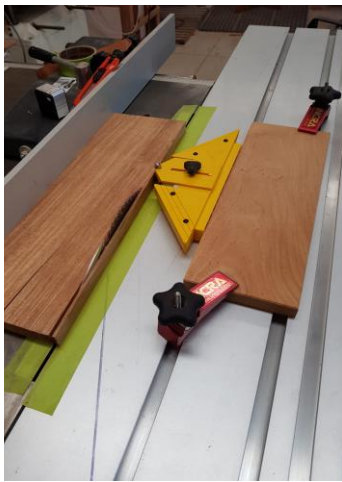
I am not sure what category in our competition it could qualify? Maybe Miscellaneous.

WORKSHOP JIGS:

One thing we have been up to recently is to sort out the BRWG office which has been seen of late to become the dumping room for anything that members cannot find a ready home for. In the process, I found bits of two jigs which, in their current format were of no real use so with a bit of modification, they are now ready to be used.

Firstly, there was a part missing (the most important part) of a Thin Strip cutting jig. With the addition of something to hold it on the sliding table on the panel saw, it is now useful.

It is used by being clamped on the sliding table when it is in the fixed position, prior to the saw blade, fixed with the Incra clamps.



Step 1. Set it to the thickness desired and it may take a couple of test runs first to get the exact size required.



Step 2. Have your machined stock (accurately dimensioned width wise) against the fence and move it up to the bearing. Fix the fence in position.



Step 3. Cut the strip then reset the fence by the same method in Step 2

More Steps. Continue on this process until the board remaining is only waste and it is no longer safe to cut any more.

Couple of points to note:

You will need a zero clearance on the saw. (I used masking tape to achieve this).

The thickness of the cut pieces will vary on the pressure applied to the blank wood against the bearing when adjusting the fence. I was not very careful cutting the strips in the photo above which resulted in a variation of 0.4 mm. For my purpose, that was fine.

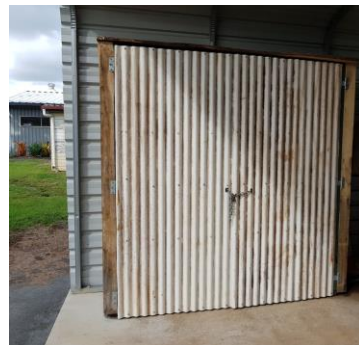
The other jig I found is used to hold boards against the fence in a vertical position very accurately. Unlike a feather board, this holds the board firmly against the fence.. With the addition of a base which allows it to be clamped on the sliding table on the panel saw, this allows accurate grooving as shown in the photo below.



MILLERS CAVE:

The Miller's Cave cupboard is finished at last and is very rustic. Great job fellows!

Graham Miskin
Ron Donald



Ron, is it being done right?

15" Planer Blades:

Just upgraded my 15" Jet thicknesser to a Shellix spiral cutter and it is wonderful.

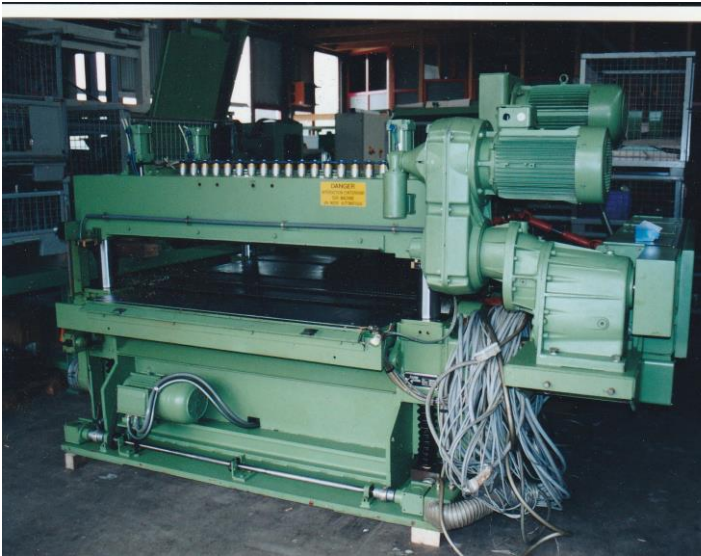
Now the question is "what does one do with the old head?" I know the ferris metal scrap is pretty much worthless but the blades are worth something, particularly if another Woodie has a 15" straight cutter block planer. Of course, they can be cut back to fit other machines such as jointers etc. They are also good to make special chisels because they are HSS.

So, Sims Metal may get the cutter block but if any member would like the cutter blades, let me know. They are free.

John Muller 0418 871 946

Found the perfect scroll saw for members: not only can they cut scroll saw work but you can keep fit at the same time. It probably is as good as an exercise bike but you can do something useful at the same time.

Day 27:
The garbage man
stuck a pamphlet
for AA on my
recycling bin.
Judgmental prick
mind your own
business.



1300mm 4 sider planer – too big for us?
Could we fit it at the BRWG?
Capacity 1300 mm x 200

**I put my scale
in the bathroom
corner and
that's where the
little liar will
stay until
she apologises**

How long is this social distancing supposed to last? My husband keeps trying to get in the house.

MEMBER'S PROFILE:

John Muller – A condensed version!

Early Years:

John was born in Maryborough Qld in 1946.

At age 11 John had a David and Goliath moment with a D4 on Fraser Island only this time Goliath won. John spent 6 months in hospital recovering and for those members who wonder about John's strange gait and built up shoes, this is the reason.

Private Life:

John and Lorraine were married in 1970 – yes 50 years in May. They have 3 children, Tiffany born in Townsville 1974, Julian born in Maryborough 1975 and Cyndee born in Ipswich 1976. Lorraine was not moving south again, especially after the doctor in Ipswich asked if she falls pregnant on the way home from hospital. All three, together with the 7 grandchildren (6 boys, 1 girl) live within streets of each other in the western suburbs of Brisbane so visiting is a breeze.

Working Life:

During his teenage years John spent his time cane cutting in Bloomsbury Mackay, picking fruit in Victoria, working as a cadet surveyor for MRD, fluffed around a bit more before working for a timber company, Wilson Hart & Co in Maryborough.

John and Lorraine moved to Townsville where he again worked for Wilson Hart before becoming Manager in 1972 of Besser (Qld) Ltd at Garbutt (concrete block manufacturers) . After a stint in the tropics he moved to Brisbane as Production Manager of the Besser plant at Darra.

Fast forward: John accepted a position in Rocklea as Manager of Kauri (Qld) a laminated beam manufacturing plant. He was later appointed General Manager of Kauri Timber Co at the head office in Smithton Tasmania. John was the inaugural President of the Glue Laminated Assoc of Aust, which was formed to standardize the glulam industry and to develop a quality assurance system for the Australian industry.

Once a Queenslander always a Queenslander and when the opportunity came for a management buyout of the Kauri Queensland plant at Rocklea, John accepted and moved back to Brisbane. Kauri Qld became Tasbeam Pty Ltd. The business was primarily beam manufacturing, commercial building and timber sales. The company existed for about twenty years (including the Kauri years) before being sold to Hyne Timber in 2006.

Since the sale of the business, John has worked as a consultant for the Glulam industry both in Australia and South east Asia.

When working as a teenager for the MRD at Flaxton, John decided that the range was where he would like to retire. He and Lorraine bought a property in 1998 in Balmoral Ridge and moved up permanently in 2006.

John can be seen most mornings social distancing at the Maleny IGA.




AND ON A LIGHTER NOTE:

Language Matters

Why English is so hard to learn

Marlene Davis

YOU think English is easy? Check out the following.



1. The bandage was wound around the wound.
2. The farm was cultivated to produce produce.
3. The dump was so full that the workers had to refuse more refuse.
4. We must polish the Polish furniture shown at the store.
5. He could lead if he would get the lead out.
6. The soldier decided to desert his tasty dessert in the desert.
7. Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present to his girlfriend.
8. A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
9. When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
10. I did not object to the object which he showed me.
11. The insurance was invalid for the invalid in his hospital bed.
12. There was a row among the oarsmen about who would row.
13. They were too close to the door to close it.
14. The buck does funny things when the does (females) are present.
15. A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
16. To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
17. The wind was too strong to wind the sail around the mast.
18. Upon seeing the tear in her painting she shed a tear.
19. I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
20. How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

Heteronyms
These are brilliant. Homonyms or homographs are words of like spelling, but with more than one meaning and sound. When pronounced differently, they are known as heteronyms.

Experts recommend keeping your daily rituals even while working from home



THEY SAID A MASK AND GLOVES WERE ENOUGH TO GO TO THE GROCERY STORE

THEY LIED, EVERYBODY ELSE HAD CLOTHES ON



How many squares in the above? Answer in next F&C.