

Flitch 'n Chips



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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G'day Woodies,

2021 should be the Year of the Woodworker!

To quote Wikipedia.....

“Woodworking is the activity or skill of making items from wood, and includes cabinet making (cabinetry and furniture), wood carving, joinery, carpentry, and woodturning.



Ancient Egyptian woodworking

Along with stone, clay and animal parts, wood was one of the first materials worked by early humans. Microwear analysis of the Mousterian stone tools used by the Neanderthals show that many were used to work wood. The development of civilisation was closely tied to the development of increasingly greater degrees of skill in working these materials.”

With all the advances in technology, there are still woodworkers who gain great joy from working mostly with their hands but harnessing that technology to create beautiful items and we have seen this in recent months with a huge increase in members at the Club. This, of course, places strains on the Club to find tutors, timber supplies and equipment to sustain the interest of members.

Fortunately our Club has been guided through the years by very dedicated people and we are in a very sound position, both financially and facility wise to cope with these demands.

One of the most used pieces of equipment at the Shed has to be the Hammer Panel Saw and after 11 years of heavy use it's now requiring too much attention and it has been decided to replace it with a new saw. While a replacement is being chosen (and delivery may take some time), please treat it gently. The braking system is faulty and the blade takes more time than it should to stop. Please wait until the blade has stopped spinning completely before moving near it and **don't** restart the machine until it has completely stopped.

Our new smaller panel saw and Dado blade setup should be delivered very soon. This will reduce delays when box making courses are using the machine for long periods.

Our timber supplies are building up again and we have received some interesting logs recently. Mexican Bean Tree is an invasive weed and the council removed one from the nature strip at Viv Hawkes property recently (Viv reports that after 4 weeks in hospital he is now able to do rehab as an outpatient and is home). We have received the trunk to try out as to whether it's useful for any thing. A truckload of Paulownia or Princess Tree, an Asian tree similar to, but with a higher strength to weight ratio than Balsa, has been delivered and that will be interesting to work with.

The Management Committee have been working to formulate our events this year but there is so much uncertainty at the moment it is difficult to make any plans. The Barung Wood Expo at Maleny is normally held in May but may be delayed until the long weekend in October which is when we would have held our open days again. We will keep in touch with what's happening but in the meantime keep preparing those items for sale.

I have sent reminders to several members recently who have had books from the library for long periods and forgotten to bring them back. In checking the library, there are quite a few books missing which suggests people have borrowed them without removing the card from the book, filling it in and leaving it in the box provided. Please check if you have anything from the library at home and return it for the use of other members.

To anyone not feeling 100%, or with family in the same condition, our thoughts are with you.

Max Barrenger
BRWG President
0408 437 375

Maintenance Report *by John Isles*



- I changed the blade on the Wadkin Saw to 1TPI to cut the timber for the Bus Stop Project. I experienced a lot of glue and resin build up on the blade and tyres. I had to clean the blade and tyres on 2 occasions to complete the project. If using this machine and you notice any build-up of resin or glue on the blade, please report it to the Shed Captain.
- Looks like the bearings on the Jessem Router motor are failing. The motor will need replacing. The Management Committee are to decide which options to take on this.
- I replaced the broken blade on the Hammer bandsaw.
- I replaced 2 Blades on the Laguna bandsaw. A similar problem is occurring on this machine as on the Wadkin. Depending on the type of timber being cut, resin builds up on the blade which causes the saw not to perform as it should. People are then forcing their cut. Would the user please check the blade after they finish using this bandsaw and report it to the Shed Captain if there is a build up of resin. We probably can save some blades by doing this as Dave the painter has some magic stuff for cleaning resin from saw blades.
- The Hammer K3 Panel saw is starting to frequently require some attention due to the very high rate of usage. Some proposals are being prepared for the Management Committee to consider. If any member has any issues with this saw, please let the Shed Managers know.
- The material for the extensions for the timber storage area has arrived so this work can continue.
- The area behind the paint shed has been concreted. Dave is very happy.

***** Don't forget to turn off the machine after you have finished using it *****

[This letter was recently sent to us from Keith and Sharon Carter](#)

To the Members of the Blackall Range Woodcrafters Guild.

Sharon's Cancer.....on behalf of Sharon and Myself

We would like to thank the members over the last few months for their support during this period of time. For those that didn't know, Sharon was diagnosed with cancer to the back of her mouth in September 2020. The cancer was removed, but it left a hole at the back of her mouth.

The specialist said it could heal by itself, but as of now it hasn't, but it has closed a little bit. Sharon is now weighing up what avenue to take as the specialist has given her three options, and that is Sharon's decision.

I would like to thank everyone for their support to us, by doing my Shed Captains roster during this time. I don't know of any other club that I have been associated with that would do what this club has done for me. There are a lot of people who I know went the extra yards, asking if there was anything they could do.

This was much appreciated, and I'm proud to say I am a member of the Blackall Range Woodcrafters Guild. Again thank you for all your support during this tough time. We are now starting a new life with trips back and forth to the RBWH to make sure Sharon is ok, and Sharon is now getting better each day.

Best regards

Keith and Sharon Carter

[And we're still thinking of you both and wishing you both a speedy recovery for Sharon](#)



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5 Tools every woodworker should own and use religiously.

Not every woodworking task calls for a tool with a plug or a battery. Sometimes, the best tool for a job is powered by your own two hands

Peek inside the WOOD® magazine workshop and you'll see nearly every stationary and hand-held power tool imaginable. But open the drawers nearest our workbenches, and you'll find them filled with well-used hand tools ranging from utility knives to block planes. That's because even the greatest assortment of the best power equipment can't handle every woodworking task.

A simple card scraper, for example, has no speed adjustment, no accessories or attachments, and barely even an instruction manual. But it can peel off an old finish faster and cleaner than a random-orbit sander, and leaves an almost-burnished smooth surface when used on bare wood.

Some of these hand tools (see **Sources**, listed below) require a bit of skill and practice, but most produce excellent results right off the bat. All of them deserve drawer space near your workbench.

Bench chisels

Like a trusty pocket knife, you'll reach for a sharp chisel to help with a host of odd jobs. Ours get a regular workout smoothing the walls of mortises roughed out on a drill press. For this task, you'll want a chisel at least 1" wide to pare the walls, as shown below, and a 1/4 " or 3/8 " chisel (or the nearest metric equivalent) for the ends. We prefer chisels with beveled edges, which can reach into tight corners or between hand-cut dovetails.



Chisels flatten the walls and square the rounded corners on this drilled mortise. A guide clamped to the workpiece keeps the chisel at a 90 degree angle.

Other uses: Keep a set handy to tweak the fit of all kinds of joints, not just mortise-and-tenons. We also use bench chisels for everything from trimming off tiny bits of glue squeeze-out, to squaring router-rabbeted corners on the backs of frames, to shaving finish flaws from flat faces.

Success secret: Tougher steel generally costs more money. So buy the best quality you can afford, even if that means settling for the smallest available set or buying individual chisels as needed. Then learn how to hone a razor's edge on them. To see a free video explaining a no-fuss sharpening technique, visit woodmagazine.com/sharpeningvid.



24 hour Fast Glass Replacement

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6 Lawyer Street, Maleny

Contour sanding grips

Look around your shop long enough, and you may eventually find some object the right size and shape to use as a temporary backer for sanding a profile. Instead, skip the search, and get a set of these pliable grips. Their varied contours sand everything from crown moulding contours to 1/8 " round-overs without altering the profile. A full set includes angled, concave, and rounded shapes.

Foam sanding pads work well on broad curves, but contour sanding grips reach into and around tight curves and V-grooves.

Other uses: Use the narrow handle to reach deep into grooves. Or flex the handle against a gentle concave profile in place of a foam sanding pad.

Success secret: The small sanding surface area wears quickly, so frequently rewrap the grip with fresh abrasive. Small sanding tools have a way of disappearing; keep them organised in a kerfed scrap block, as shown *right*.



Card Scrapers

Because it takes off so little wood, card scrapers smooth wildly figured woods without tear-out. On straight-grained wood, they also can eliminate at least one of the coarser sandpaper grits needed to remove tool marks. Use curved or goose-neck scrapers to shear tool marks off gently rounded profiles.

Other uses: Try removing a defective or damaged clear finish by sanding it away, and you'll quickly discover "corning." That's when finish turns into hard globs that clog sandpaper and mar a surface. A card scraper quickly peels off film finishes -- including polyurethane, which resists abrasion, as shown *right*. If necessary, follow up by finish-sanding at 180 or 220 grit, and you're ready to refinish the surface.

Success secret: Card scrapers work by planing off wisps of wood (or finish) using a tiny hook along the edge. To get a hook that's just right, see a free video at woodmagazine.com/cardscraper.



Low-angle block plane

You'd need a stack of sandpaper to produce the smooth surfaces left by a few strokes from a well-honed block plane. Keep a sharpened one handy to perfect mating faces before edge-gluing joints.



With the blade set to remove shavings less than paper thin, a basic block plane peels away burn marks in a couple strokes.

Other uses: Try a low-angle block plane to cleanly trim proud end grain from a butted corner joint or through-dovetail joint. Unlike sandpaper, a block plane removes an even amount of wood when chamfering a sharp edge.

Success secret: Tune up any new plane by first flattening the sole using 180-, 220-, 320-, and 600-grit wet/dry abrasive sheets lubricated with WD-40 on a piece of plate glass. Rub the sole back and forth, rotating it end for end periodically, until it's uniformly shiny. Then hone the blade using tips from the sharpening video mentioned earlier. Keep it sharp by storing the plane immediately after use.

Flush-trim/dovetail saw

With no tooth set, these saws help you trim plugs or dowels flush without scarring the surrounding wood. As an added precaution in soft woods, such as pine, first push the exposed plug through a hole in a worn-out sanding disc, as shown at right. Then sand flat the remaining nub.

A disc placed abrasive-side down around the plug prevents minor saw tooth scratches should you accidentally pivot the blade.

Other uses: At least one saw (see **Sources**, below) includes two interchangeable blades -- one for flush-trimming, and the other with a rigid back for making super-thin kerfs for hand-cut joints, such as dovetails.

Success secret: For flush-cutting, flex the saw body to keep it pressed firmly against the wood surface, and cut on the pull stroke. Don't rotate the saw handle in a way that angles the teeth enough to dig into the surface.



Sources

Bench chisels: Boxed set of six bevel-edge chisels (1/4 ", 3/8 ", 1/2 ", 3/4 ", 1", 1 1/4 ") by Irwin Marples no. 30033, Rockler, 800-279-4441, or rockler.com

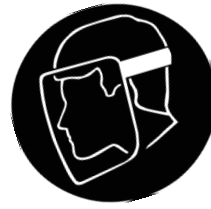
Contour sanding pads: Set of 15, no. 68Z82.10, Lee Valley Tools, 800-871-8158, or leevalley.com

Card scrapers: Set of two BAHCO Swedish scrapers, no. 02Z10, Woodcraft, 800-225-1153, or woodcraft.com

Block plane: Veritas Apron Plane no. 05P27.01, Lee Valley Tools.

Flush-cutting/dovetail saw: Dozuki flush-cut/dovetail saw set with two blades and one handle no. 22305, Rockler

Safety Notes *by Russ Middlecoat*



Now 2021 is well underway we hope it will be a much better year than last. Our club has commenced the year without any serious (reportable) incidents. Good one.

Fire Drills: The requirement for the club to carry out fire drills and training will commence at various times over the next few weeks. I anticipate that the drills will be conducted in two ways.

Firstly, a talk about what actions are to be taken in the case of fire, evacuation and chemical spills. (eg. Paint shop). This can be conducted during a morning tea break.

Secondly, a simulated fire emergency when the shed will be evacuated, all members proceeding to the evacuation point. Presently this point is located on the grassed area at the eastern corner of the tennis courts. Look for the sign. This training will be conducted by myself or Sarah Odgers on various days so we can train as many members as possible.

What is it?



I love hunting around old equipment at museums, and you can find some really intriguing treasures in rural areas which gets you wondering "what the heck was that made for?"

Found at the museum at Stanthorpe recently was an old rusty bit of equipment which intrigued me no-end; what was it used for?

Clearly it had a flat belt driven arbour which had once held a large circular saw with a tipping table in front of it. There was a circular guard around the back of this imaginary saw, for all the good it would do. Such a guard nowadays would not cut the mustard with any Work-place and Safety Officer.

It seemed that a piece of milled wood could be loaded on the table and then the table tilted into the turning circular saw. Still not sure if one is on the right track but the design pointed to a docking saw of a very dangerous design, a "Heath Robinson" design for sure.

I finally concluded it could be for docking railway sleepers to length. Does anyone else know?

John Muller

Around the Shed



Jackie was repairing a second hand stroller for her childcare centre. A VERY handy lady!



Results of a recent resins course.



A much safer area for Dave to work in
At Last!





Men at Work - as usual, a lot of talk before construction. Thanks guys for all your hard work. It is much appreciated.





GUESS WHO JUST GOT MARRIED?

Jae and Pete McBeth were married on 19th December at Obi Obi.

WHOOPEE!!!!

Congratulations from all of us here at BRWG

I was sanding my third box at the verandah table yesterday and my king parrot friend (wild) was watching and chattering away. He then hopped up on the lid and yawned several times! Looks as though he is speaking about it I think.
(Phillipa Friend)



UPCOMING COURSES

On Monday January 18 Phil Lane will be commencing a Box Making Course. It will be conducted each Monday and Wednesday until completion. This usually takes about 8 weeks. Course cost will be \$30 with all proceeds going to the Club.

On Wednesday January 20th at 12.30pm, an Intarsia Scrollsaw Course will begin. Intarsia involves using cut out pieces of different coloured wood to make pictures. We are restricted to 4 people with no scroll saw and 3 people with their own saw. Cost will be \$30 for patterns and supplies. This is not a scroll saw beginners' course and should run for 6 weeks.

Introduction to the Lathe with Leigh Boynton. This starts on Wednesday, 27th January.



**DOES ANYONE KNOW
WHICH PAGE OF THE
BIBLE EXPLAINS HOW TO
TURN WATER INTO WINE?

ASKING FOR A FRIEND.**

Who's Who in BRWG Inc 2020-2021		
Patrons - Andrew Powell MP, Andrew Wallace MP, Winston Johnston (Local Councillor)		
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