



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

G'day Woodies,

Max is dressed by Bizley in a pale shade of Oxford Green, featuring an embroidered BRWG logo.

The members' badge is an essential part of the wardrobe to be worn with pride whenever one steps into the Club.

The Club hasn't specified a colour for shirts, and if you would like your shirt embroidered, bring it to the Shed and when we have a few, we'll take them to Coastal Monogramming and have a batch done. The cost is \$10 for the logo and \$10 for your name on the opposite side.



Busy times at the Club with training courses and lots of new members signing up. This adds to the requirement for trainers, accreditation officers and machine instructions to suit our equipment and a lot of work is being done in this area. Many thanks to Steve Squires for his introductory courses which get new members heading in the right direction.

At the last MC meeting we discussed the idea of members doing a course, eg Box making, being accredited on the main piece of equipment involved, eg table saw, before doing the course. This of course throws more emphasis on getting people accredited on lots of machinery to maximise their ability to enjoy woodworking at the Club. The Training Team are working hard to achieve this and John Isles has spent considerable time digitising our accreditation records for easier access.

As you know we are now a member of the Australian Men's Shed Association and we have just taken out the insurance that they organise at a saving of over \$1000. Many thanks to Tony Gallwey for completing the negotiations on our behalf.

Many thanks to Kev Devlin and John Isles for braving the roof of the Henderson Shed to apply a sealing membrane to the leaking joins in the metal roof. When we get rain like this.....

it's no wonder that some things leak.



Our new Hammer Panel Saw will be delivered in a couple of weeks which means that the existing saw is being auctioned. A separate form is attached to the F&C email in case you, or someone you know, may wish to bid for it. Just remember that it needs 3 phase power.

To all Woodies and partners not feeling up to scratch at the moment, our thoughts are with you.

Regards

Max

And from Kev Devlin.....

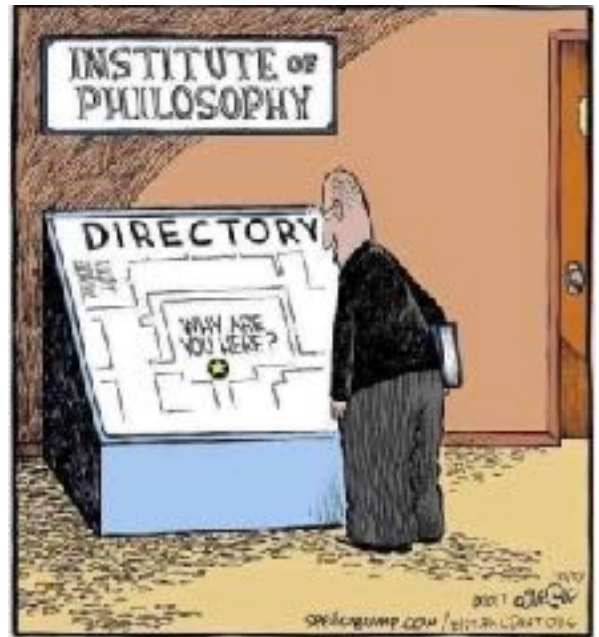
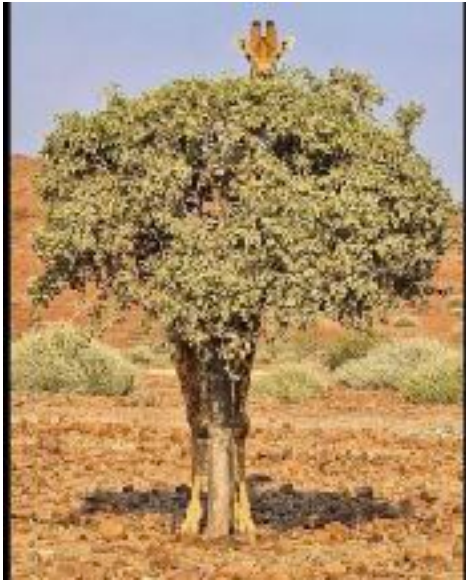
Outdoor setting now complete, with a range of mood options. You can sit at the boring conventional table, or you can unleash your inner caveman and use the more 'out there' table. One thing you can be sure of is that no-one has a set of tables just like ours. They are truly original. We also have the potential problem of theft solved. Unless someone can get a crane in, they are going nowhere.



All students have now finished the second curly legged table course. You can see the pride in this product from Peter Webb. It was worth waiting for. There has been a bit of enquiry about another course, so if you are interested, let the Management Committee know and we may think about running it again.



Timber Bits by Bruce Chapman



For Sale - A list of the timbers available in each bay.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1- Quandong | 14- Blue gum (new) |
| 2- Norfolk Island Pine | 15- Pink Cedar (low stock) |
| 3- Unknown species from local rainforest | 16- African Mahogany / White Walnut (low stock) |
| 4- Silky Oak | 17- Paulownia / Atherton Oak |
| 5- Silky Oak | 18- Jacaranda |
| 6- Silky Oak | 19- Camphor Laurel |
| 7- Silky Oak | 20- Camphor Laurel |
| 8- Silky Oak | 21- Camphor Laurel |
| 9- Silky Oak | 22- Camphor Laurel |
| 10- Swamp Cypress | 23- Mexican Bean |
| 11- Swamp Cypress | 24- Silver Ash |
| 12- | 25- Mango |
| 13- | 26- Mango |

Outside the green shed is wood for the turners and some slabs.

Slabs available are: Avocado, Jacaranda and Silky Oak

Drying Rack –

NOT AVAILABLE for purchase. Timber here is stabilised after taken from kiln. Generally moved to sales area in one week. Please keep the front of this area clear. We need to access the timber here every Friday. Silky oak in rack will be available within a week.

Kiln

Silky oak

Mitre 10

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Shed Managers Report February 2022

by John Isles and Kev Devlin

- **KICK BACK on TABLE SAW:**

What is table saw kickback?

Kickback is a situation when wood gets picked up by the blade and violently thrown at you, which happens way faster than you can react. This usually occurs when the workpiece pinches the blade or gets stuck between the blade and the rip fence.

Table saw kickback usually occurs under these sets of circumstances:

- A board can kick back during a rip cut when it goes halfway through the saw and the kerf starts pinching the blade. At best, this will lead to the stalling of the saw. If your table saw is powerful enough, the blade can propel the board right at you or flip it up and hit you in the face.
- A workpiece can also get stuck between the rip fence and the back of the blade. As the blade spins, it can throw the workpiece back at you. Avoid this by making sure that the fence of your table saw is perfectly aligned in relation to the blade.
- When a piece of wood makes contact with a tooth at the back of the blade. It then gets lifted up on top of the blade and thrown back at you with great force. Worst of all, your hand can get drawn into the blade and cause an amputation. This happens way faster than you can react.

How to avoid kickback on a table saw

Follow these tips to reduce the risk of hurting yourself from kickback on a table saw.

1. Have basic safety features in place

[Modern table saws](#) come equipped with safety features that are designed to keep you out of harm's way.

One of those features is a riving knife. A riving knife is a piece of metal that stays close to the teeth at the back of the blade. It prevents the workpiece from pinching the blade or touching its teeth on the back. The good thing about it is that it goes up and down together with the blade, providing support regardless of what height the blade is set at.

A riving knife should be installed at all times, even if you are just making singular cuts. The only time when you should remove the riving knife is when you use a dado set. Fortunately, as per [Underwriters Laboratories UL 987 Standard for Stationary and Fixed Power Tools](#), all table saws produced after 2008 must be fitted with riving knives that rise and fall with the blade.

For older saws, you will want to at least use an insert with a splitter that will act similarly to a riving knife and keep the workpiece from squeezing the blade. Splitters are not as effective as riving knives, though, because they don't rise or go down as you adjust the blade height.

Lowering the blade will create a very wide gap between the blade and the splitter. This way, your workpiece can get caught by the blade on the end.

The blade guard is another piece of safety equipment that was created to reduce the chances of you getting hurt. A common misconception is that the purpose of a blade guard is to keep your fingers from touching the blade. While it does act as a reminder to keep your hands away, the blade guard is actually designed to keep you from dropping the workpiece on top of the blade.

Some woodworkers tend to remove the blade guard as it can obscure the view and lead to inaccurate cuts. If you are yet to get the hang of how to correctly operate a table saw, you should better keep the blade guard on.

2. Never make free-hand cuts

Free-hand table saw cuts are only made by stupid people in stupid TV commercials. There should be no free-hand table saw cuts in your workshop. All table saws come equipped with [rip fences](#) and miter gauges for a reason. For rip cuts, you have a rip fence to support your stock while you push it through the blade. A miter gauge works as a support to help you make crosscuts.

With that being said, do not crosscut using the miter gauge and the rip fence at the same time. If you do that, your workpiece can get jammed and cause kickback. This leads us to rule #3.

3. Do not crosscut with the rip fence

We value the table saw because it allows us to easily make rip cuts. But what if you need to make a few quick crosscuts to cut a board into several pieces of identical length? If that's the case, do NOT use the rip fence as a supporting barrier for crosscutting.

If you do that, the workpiece can get stuck between the fence and the blade. As we've discussed earlier, this can lead to the board getting thrown back at you by the spinning blade. The problem can get exacerbated even further if your fence is out of alignment with the blade, pushing the workpiece onto the back of the blade and lifting it up.

You also have to understand the dynamics of dimensions of your workpiece if you crosscut and use the fence as support. Basically, the width of the board (i.e. the distance between the blade and the fence) cannot exceed its length.

If the length of the board is lesser than its width, the torque generated by the blade can cause the workpiece to spin towards the back of the blade. Kickback is actually the least bad thing that can happen here. What's worse, your hands can get drawn into the blade which will lead to an amputation.

There are many ways to safely crosscut on a table saw. You can clamp a stop block to the fence, but well to the front of the blade, for accurate measurement of length and use the miter gauge to guide your stock through the blade. This way, you eliminate the risk of your workpiece getting squeezed between the fence and the blade.

Another popular option is [building a crosscut sled](#). A crosscut sled is a moving platform that you insert into the miter slots to guide your workpiece through the blade. This is by far the safest, fastest and most convenient method of crosscutting on a table saw.

4. Use a push stick

Truth be told, no single measure will give you 100% protection from kickback. With that said, it is smart to use a push stick or a push block whenever you make a cut. A push stick will keep your hands further away from the blade. In case kickback does happen, you can be sure that your hand won't get drawn into the blade. Additionally, a push stick itself will act as a kickback counter-measure because it gives you better control of the stock. This is because the push stick should contact the board in two places, behind the board and on top from the front finger. Both are important.

Now, there are a few things you have to know about using a push stick. First of all, place the stick in the middle of the board laterally. Pushing the stock on the side can make it twist and move towards the back of the blade. Apply more force in the direction towards the fence, and not towards the blade when pushing stock.

Take special care when pushing wood which is hanging off the side of the table saw. Do not apply downward pressure to the end of the stock. This can cause it to rise on the other side, get lifted up by the back teeth of the blade and smack you in the face. You can even use two push sticks to guide the board on both ends.

5. Do not cut crooked stock

The uneven surface of the board does not allow for continuous contact with the rip fence or miter gauge. As the saw goes through the crooked grain, this can release pressure at the spot where the board is warped, crooked, or twisted, then press on the blade and cause kickback. Additionally, take extra care when working with boards that have a lot of knots as they can also lead to pinching of the blade.

6. Check your blade

A dull saw is an unsafe saw. A dull blade will have trouble with cutting stock, which will lead to overheating and warping. This leads to misalignment between the blade and the fence. In short, never use a blade that is broken or warped.

7. Be attentive

When you don't feel your best, be it due to common cold, bad night's sleep or getting cut off (no pun intended) by some a-hole on the road, don't touch the table saw. Personally, when I don't feel like I'm not in my best shape physically or mentally, I tend to stay away from any tools that can make me lose my appendages.

Imagine your cut before you make it. Visualize the movement trajectory of your workpiece and have a plan to push it all the way through the blade. If the cut feels weird, don't do it. Take a step back and come up with a way to complete the cut safely. Do not stand in an awkward position where you may lose your balance.

Anticipate how the dimensions of your workpiece and your method of guiding it through the saw can lead to kickback. Don't let your guard down and be attentive. If you feel sleepy or groggy, allow yourself some rest and return to the workshop tomorrow. Also, make very sure that both you, and anyone surrounding the machine is clear of the potential kickback path.

The final kick

Kickback is by far the most dangerous event that can occur on a table saw. Without proper care, you can get hit with a flying piece of wood or get severely hurt by a spinning blade. It is paramount that you do everything possible to prevent kickback from happening.

Following the steps in this guide should help you reduce the risk of kickback in your workshop. I really hope you follow these steps and make a conscious effort to maximise the table saw safety when woodworking.



An interesting piece of timber found in the shed. Looks like kickback may have occurred with this piece of timber.

Click on the link below and see what a demonstrated video on table saw kickback is

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCgydCjZ-0>

**** REMEMBER IF THE RIVING KNIFE ISN'T IN PLAY WHEN USING THE TABLE SAW YOU INCREASE THE CHANCE OF KICKBACK ****

If riving knife isn't in play when cutting your timber stock, then stop and assess how you can do the cut safely. Using a push block such as the gripper ripper is a good choice. Remember to push the timber stock well clear of the cutting radius of the saw blade. Make sure no-one, including you is in line with the back of the blade.

****REMEMBER IF UNSURE THEN ASK THE SHED CAPTAIN FOR ASSISTANCE****

**** IF YOU HAVE AN INCIDENT ON ANY OF THE MACHINES PLEASE REPORT IT.**

- Replaced broken blade on the Laguna Bandsaw
- Adjusted the blade guides on the Hammer Bandsaw
- Rotated the 100 cutter inserts on the Carbatec 20" thicknesser. Also adjusted input table to try to reduce snipe on lead in edge of timber.
- Disassembled the Festool Drop saw to clear an obstruction preventing dropping of the blade, and retraction of the guard.
- Accreditation: If you are not accredited to operate a piece of equipment then don't use it unless you are supervised. It is up to you, the operator, to get yourself accredited. See the shed captain who will be able to tell you who is an accreditation officer
- Replaced blade and adjusted on Wadkin Bandsaw. Test cut some timber.



This is how the drum sander was left after Wednesday 09/02/2022. Yes, it had to be replaced for the next person to use. Please clean it after you use it.



John Muller has this Rexon 16 speed pedestal drill that he'd like to sell for \$200. All that is wrong with it is a broken handle (see photo)

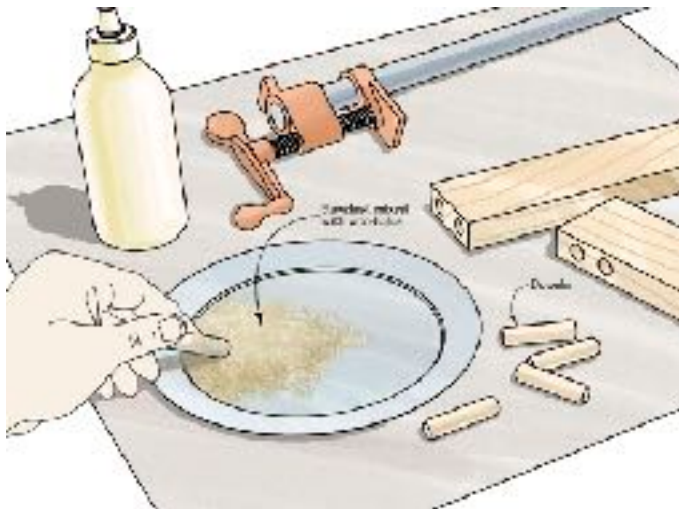
A PESSIMIST sees a dark tunnel
 An OPTIMIST sees light at the end
 of the tunnel
 A REALIST sees a freight train
 The TRAIN driver sees 3
 idiots standing on the tracks.

**IF WE WANTED TO BOLDLY SEND
 BILLIONAIRES WHERE
 NO BILLIONAIRES HAVE
 BEEN BEFORE, WE
 COULD HAVE JUST
 SENT THEM TO
 THE TAX OFFICE**



Chip dip for dowels solves sloppiness

When using dowel joinery, it's not uncommon that one of the holes fits the dowel a little loosely. The hole might be too large or misshapen for a proper fit.



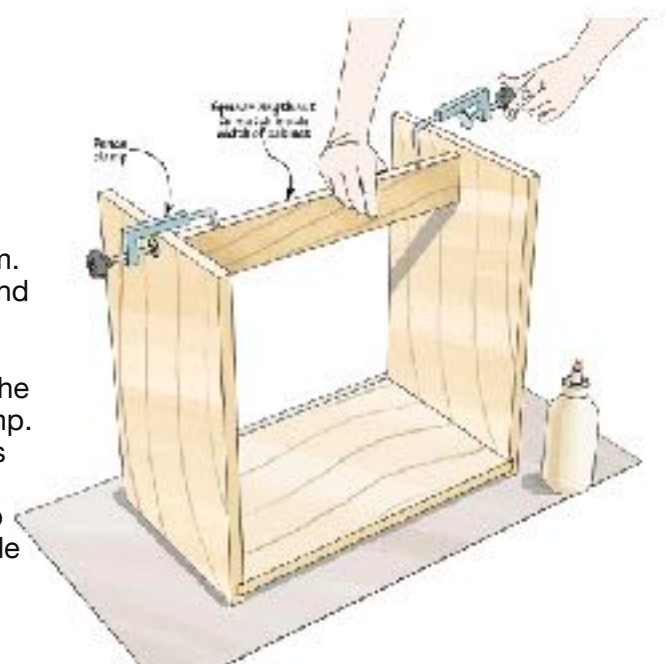
When using dowel joinery, it's not uncommon that one of the holes fits the dowel a little loosely. The hole might be too large or misshapen for a proper fit. Here's an easy fix: Mix some fine wood chips and sawdust with wood glue to make a paste. Roll the dowel in the mixture and insert it into the hole. The sawdust acts as a filler for any gaps around the dowel.

— Johnny Mitchusson, New Hebron, Miss.

Custom clamping spacers for consistent cabinet construction

When building cabinets, I found an easy way to guarantee parallel sides that sit square to the bottom.

When building cabinets, I found an easy way to guarantee parallel sides that sit square to the bottom. The simple solution utilises a pair of fence clamps and a wood spacer during cabinet assembly. First, cut a spacer to length that equals the inside width of the cabinet. Drill a $\frac{3}{8}$ " hole in the edge of the spacer near each end to fit the rod of the fence clamp. During glue-up, clamp the spacer between the sides at the open end of the cabinet. The fence clamps make it easy to clamp one end at a time. This clamp assembly holds the sides in the correct position while the glue dries.



Who's Who in BRWG Inc 2020-2021		
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Timber Management	Bruce CHAPMAN & Ron DONALD	
MVA Sportsground Committee Representatives	Keith CARTER, Max BARRENGER	



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