

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The June General Meeting was held on Saturday in the John Henderson Shed and the subject of Club Fees was discussed. Although the cost of living is rising and alarmingly so in some sectors, the Club is in a sound financial position and it was decided to hold the fees at current level of \$40 annual subscription, \$3 daily fee and \$5 machine use fee. Timber charges will be held at the current cost of \$1500/cubic metre for general timbers.

June has turned out to be a very positive month for us financially. Firstly we applied for a grant from the Sunshine Coast Council Grants Program to purchase a new Blade Guard for the Hammer panel saw. Successful and installed.



Next we had applied for a grant from the Federal Volunteers Grants Program last year and \$1500 all of a sudden was approved and delivered. This will help with the upgrading of the winch for hauling logs into the saw.

Last week we were offered a Wood Wiz by a woodworker in Landsborough who is down sizing and that has been picked up and stored. It is bigger than the one we have and has a larger cutter driven by a 3 phase, variable speed motor powered by a single phase converter. Very nice.

The lady whose table we restored is extremely happy with the effort and will make a donation of \$300 to the Club. Unfortunately the carriers returning it to her home damaged the top and its now back for more repairs. Its having a rough time that table but we will win in the end!

August is the month of our Annual General Meeting and that is when the next committee will be chosen. We have definite needs to replace our President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Shed Manager so far and that means the rest of the membership must come up with replacements. The next few weeks provide an opportunity to canvas the membership to find people willing to shape the Club by taking on these positions. Let's go early on this so that the new committee can receive help from those retiring.

Work has commenced on building a wall of cupboards and drawers in the 'Reception Room' which will contain equipment and all consumables in one area. This not only provides new storage space but the opportunity to learn some cabinet making skills from John Holland and the Project Team on Thursdays. The mouse plagued cupboard at the entrance to the Shed will be demolished and replaced with something more appropriate.



The Hyne Cart has become the centre of our display of old hand tools along with some mesh panels on the walls. Contributions of tools for display are welcome and those interested in restoring tools are invited to help.

And now the rain has stopped and the ground is getting a chance to dry out its a little easier to move around outside. The heavy rain has pointed out some failures in our drainage system around the Club so some new drains will need to be dug before the soil sets like concrete again.

The Three People Rule was discussed at the GM on Saturday and requires that at all times 3 people must be present in the Main Shed for any machinery to be used. The rostered Shed Captain will be present at the start of the day and at least two others. The Shed Captain then has other duties and may be out of the Shed, however 3 others must be present. This is of importance around Smoko time when most people leave the Shed.

Frank Bizley's Mum donated a Love Seat that she had no more use for and we can decide what we want to do with it. A couple of members thought the "Bus Stop" was back and couldn't wait to try it.

That's it folks, to all Woodies and family not feeling up to scratch, we send our thoughts and love.

Regards

Max



SHED MANAGERS' REPORT

John Isles / Kev Devlin

Replacements:

1. **Festool Drop Saw** - The blade was replaced. The old one will be sharpened.
2. **Hammer Band Saw** - There was a very bad kink in the blade which required a blade change. No-one has fessed up to this incident, but it was presumably caused by either backing out of a cut while running, a badly supported workpiece, or upper guides too high. Please watch for these behaviours.
3. **Woodman Saw 1.** After the kick back incident last month, this saw was fitted with a longer riving knife, to ensure that the knife is engaged at a small cut depth. Please forward any feedback on this to the shed captains. If it is well accepted, we will make the same modification to the other Woodman saw.
4. **Woodman Saw 2.** The badly chipped blade on this saw required replacement. As above for the Hammer, no-one has fessed up to causing this. **Please only cut wood.**
5. **Hammer Thicknesser and Jointer.** The cutters were replaced.
6. **Carbatec Jointer.** The cutters were rotated.

Modifications

Hammer Panel Saw. Was fitted with a Harvey Shark Universal Guard (from the largesse of the SCRC). This guard is to be lowered on to the table before any cuts. It automatically rides up over the workpiece, and is designed to resist lifting of the workpiece, reduce the opportunity for kickback, and remove dust. For particular cuts such as high blade angle cuts, it can be rotated forward by loosening the handle on the bottom of the post. **Please do not attempt any other adjustment.** On Wednesday after morning tea someone using the panel saw made adjustments to this guard fitted to the panel saw which caused the guard to become misaligned to the blade. Please if you don't understand the workings of something, ask someone that does.

Gifkins Dovetail Jig. New backing boards have been made for each template to allow this to operate as designed. The backing board is intended to avoid breakout at the back of the cut. However, this only works if the correct board is used for each template. They are clearly labelled, and stored on the wall above the jig box. The shims for the straight cut side of dovetails have also been calibrated by Rob Forsyth and are noted on the boards. Use the right backing and shims, and watch your dovetails improve.

Blanket Box Jig: Thanks to Graham Bradford we now know how to use this jig to cut dovetail joints for a Blanket Box. Max measurement for a blanket box is 450mm x 900mm. So if you want to make a blanket box using this jig let us know and you will be shown.



Can someone please teach me how to make one of these? (Ed.)

Mitre 10

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In 17th century Europe the dye was tinged with magic as a prized cure-all and love potion

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VERY trendy across Sydney, the Dragon's Blood tree is a cross somewhere between spectacular and bizarre.

Endemic to the Yemeni island off Socotra, near the Horn of Africa, Dragon's Blood (*Dracaena cinnabari*) trees have an eerie, prehistoric aspect. Their bizarre shape, like umbrellas blowing inside- out, helps them to survive on the arid, thin soil that covers the island's granite mountains and limestone plateaus.

Rainfall is rare, but occasional mist condenses and runs down to its branches that slope downwards, directing tiny trickles of water towards the trunk and eventually the roots.



The large, packed crown also provides shade and reduces evaporation. This shade also aids in the survival of seedlings growing beneath the adult tree, explaining why the trees tend to grow closer together.

The eerie demeanour of the Dragon's Blood is heightened by the tear drops of translucent blood-red resin that ooze from wounded limbs. Local residents encourage the flow by carefully incising the bark or prising apart existing fissures and returning later to collect droplets and small chunks of resin. As much as half a kilogram can be harvested from a single tree.

Heated, dried and formed into small slabs that have the creepy, powdery quality of dry blood, it is also thought that the dye 'dragon's blood' was responsible for the intense colour of Stradivarius violins.

In 17th century Europe this strange 'dragon's blood' was tinged with magic and prized as a cure-all, prescribed for serious conditions and a reassuringly expensive ingredient in love potions and breath-fresheners. The resin contains anti-microbial and anti-inflammatory compounds and is still used locally as a mouthwash and for treatment of sores.

Why Dragon's Blood? Socotra was an important stop on trading routes between India, the Middle East and the Mediterranean.

'Dragon's blood' was prized as a medical cure-all. The origin probably lies with Indian merchants who brought the resin to market along with their Hindu myths. One of these involved a legendary fight in Socotrian soil between an elephant and a dragon during which the dragon gulped the elephant's blood before being squashed in the melee spilling the blood of both animals.

The story reached a wider audience in the first century AD. Some 2000 years later and the scientific name *Dracaena* derives from the Greek for female dragon and the resin is called 'dragon's blood' in many languages.

Dragon's Blood trees have been economically important for centuries as a food for livestock improving the health of cows and goats.



Look at this magnificent stallion recently expertly carved by Dave Southern

Irony overload



From Philippa Friend

New Sub-Species?

Over the past couple of years citizen-scientists have discovered some individuals of the creative species *Woodus Woodiae* engaging in specific scavenging behaviours which appear to be passed on from some individuals to others in their social group, much as some crows educate their offspring. The area in which these observations have been made is very specific - a small area in the Blackall Ranges on the Sunshine Coast of Australia: the premises of the BRWG. Further study is needed to ascertain if this trend is observable further afield.

Certain birds will linger, even loiter, around indoor rubbish bins where offcuts of timber are discarded. Their keen eyesight, lively intelligence and obvious hunger for offcuts is rewarded on a daily basis with finds of such value as strips of red cedar, skerricks of huon pine, scraps of jacaranda and tantalisingly perfumed pieces of camphor laurel. Individuals with longer legs can sometimes be observed diving into outdoor rubbish skips as well, often collaborating with shorter legged members of their species to bring treasures to the surface. Both males and females have been observed in cooperation with some vocalisation of a cackling, celebratory sort, on the part of females particularly. Males can be observed bringing some scraps as an offering to females on occasion or, much as the butcherbird, stashing offerings in safe places for later retrieval by the group. It must be said that no instance has so far been observed of scavenging for edible rewards.

This is an example of the author's work, herself using scraps from the rubbish bin



Once their finds have been safely moved to a workable area they can be seen manipulating them with their forelimbs, shaping and positioning them to fabricate structures thought to be of value to their extended families back in their home dens or hollows. This fabrication occurs almost exclusively in the John Henderson Shed and the "noisy shed" where the sounds of their activities can reach extremely loud levels.

There are two possible factors influencing the development of what seems a small sub-species of Woodus Woodiae. Climate change may be causing a raised awareness of the value of wood scraps for survival. The global pandemic could also have contributed in that individuals have begun looking inward, particularly into rubbish receptacles, for happiness and healthy lifestyle. Whatever the factors, further research will continue and perhaps this sub-species can be encouraged to develop further extraordinary skills and powers by offering them competitive opportunities to display their products.



Methinks this is another example of garbage bin retrieval for the manufacture of a gorgeous box by Ron.



Did this beautiful piece also benefit from offcuts found in the garbage bin, Ron?



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KUMIKO DEMONSTRATION COMING SOON.



GARY EMMETT has kindly offered to demonstrate how to make this delicate Japanese form of woodwork on Wednesday, 6th JULY, starting at 9AM.

He will be showing us the special jigs used, as well as the tools.

If you are interested in pursuing this type of work in the future, Gary has offered to mentor members in the following weeks. If you would like to do this can you please text Gary on 0413 997 621.

Kaz has done it again! This is his latest work of art, carved from red cedar



And for the Toy Boys & Girls, some inspiration from the Maryborough Woodies. If you have scroll saw expertise you can make this ark with all the animals

COURSES

1. Philippa Friend's pyrography course has commenced on 10th June. Put your name down on the sheet in the main shed if you wish to participate after the present course. It's on a Friday.
2. Leigh Boynton's turning class is ongoing on Wednesdays
3. Don't forget the Kumiko demonstration on Wednesday 6th July.
4. Kev Devlin is still offering to help members if they want to build a curly legged table.



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PO Box 150 Montville 4560
Email newsletter@blackallrangewoodies.org.au
Shed Phone: 0409 050 418
www.blackallrangewoodies.org.au