

Flitch'n Chips

Issue 301 - July 2022



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

G'day Woodies,

Once again we are experiencing horrible weather that prevents our Millers from doing what they love doing...milling timber for us to use. These cold and wet days not only stop the millers working but prevent the timber that is cut from drying.

Our thoughts go out to the Club members who are experiencing Covid or Flu at the moment. It's pretty difficult to avoid it so don't feel at all embarrassed if you wish to wear a mask at the Shed.

It's July in case you have forgotten and in August our Annual Meeting will be held and a new committee formed. Thank you to those who have volunteered for positions and have already begun work on the next years projects. There are still quite a few positions to be filled and time is getting on so make up your minds to get involved and spread the load.

To save work for our purchasing Officer, the Management Committee has decided to reduce the amount of product that is purchased by the Club and sold on to members. Woodworking glue has been removed from the list and members are asked to carry a bottle of glue in their toolbox. Bunnings have a range of glues for general woodworking. If you want Titebond, Carbatec and Timbecon both supply it and will post it to you. Check their website to work out which to use.

https://titebond.com.au/products/

While on the subject of toolbox's, what else should be in there?



I'll kick it off and you can all add to it.....

First up and most important is SAFETY GEAR, and the following items should definitely belong in your toolbox:

- Gloves: Your protective gloves should be thick enough for cushioning purposes, yet tight enough to help your fingers operate your tools.
- Eyewear: Protective goggles should shield your eyes from any flying particles, bright lights, fumes and sparks.
- Ear protection: Whether you are sawing or hammering, DIY work can be very noisy. Investing in a pair of construction earbuds, or heavy-duty earbuds for the most complex of projects is recommended.
- Face Mask.....not just for Covid protection but dust and fumes associated with wood machining and finishing.



Next most important I feel would be measuring tools - tape measure and a couple of rulers of various lengths.

And of course pencils, marking pens etc to lay out your work and make notes. A good marking knife is handy for marking where you will be cutting with your saws and chisels. For getting into tight spots (like dovetails) and making very accurate lines (which is vital for tight fitting joints) you need just the right marking knife.





Having a square is absolutely necessary to check an angle on your board or calibrate your table saw. There are many different types of squares. For a beginner, a 12" combination square should be enough.

Masking tape has countless uses in woodworking, it keeps things together, you can write on it, it doesn't leave any residue, and it's easy to remove, making it one of the most useful woodworking tools.





Block planes have become one of the most oft-used tools in a woodworker's workshop. Some traditional woodworkers even keep them in their aprons! These little planes can be used to trim your joints, put chamfers on board edges, trim end grain, etc.

We have already mentioned Woodworking Glue but Superglue is important for those quick little repair or filling jobs.

Now its your turn...email what else you feel is important <u>president@blackallrangewoodies.org.au</u>

The Rangebow Festival is coming to the range in early August and the organisers have approached us to help with 160 wooden serving platters to be used for the sweets at one of the events. The platters are to be 200mm x 100mm x 6-8mm. We will use up lots of scrap wood from around the Club and if you are cleaning up your woodpile and find any wood that would be useful, don't throw it out but drop it at the Shed to be used. We want as many species as possible.

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

Regards

Max

carbatec.

Mitre 10

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SHED MANAGERS' REPORT John Isles / Kev Devlin

Replacements and Adjustments:

- 1. **15 inch Thicknesser** Cutters replaced, after this machine was leaving longitudinal marks in timber. We think this may have been from angled cutters. It is working well now.
- 2. Festool Dropsaw this somehow had moved so the saw back guides were no longer proud of the bench back guides. This is most likely the result of some bad kick back incidents. The timber guides have now been adjusted to the correct position. We ask anyone who has a kickback on this saw to report it to the shed captain, so it can be recorded and subsequently checked. Or better still, make sure the timber is solidly against the machine back guide, so any possibility of kickback is minimised.
- 3. 8 inch Jointer 2 cutters had to be replaced on this machine, after they were found to be very chipped. The AL bed edge on the feed-in table was also badly scored. No-one owned up to this one either.
- 4. Wadkin Bandsaw. This machine has not been getting much use of late, as it has been cutting very erratically. The blade was replaced, and it now seems to be as good as new. So, see the shed captain if you want to cut deep material and don't have accreditation. When it works well, it is one hell of a gadget.
- 5. Panel Saw. The new guard seems to be working well, and in use by almost all members on this saw. Perhaps even more pleasing is that it has survived many weeks without a single mark. Well done all. We did notice, however, that the slide has received a couple of decent cuts on the saw side, presumably from the blade being seriously deflected by off-cut slices being drawn down beside the blade. This has also damaged the plastic saw insert. This is difficult to avoid sometimes, but is worth thinking about if you are setting up for a cut. Short triangular offcuts just wider than the saw clearance on the cut side are the issue. Please avoid them if you can.
- 6. Hammer Jointer/Thicknesser. The hold down clamps for infeed and outfeed tables are worn. They have been adjusted so as to clamp the tables in place. Please do not over stress these clamps when locking the tables - just firm pressure.

Modifications

Holland Mill. - The more observant of you will have noticed some work going on in the Millers Cave. We have fitted a new winch, and are in the process of getting the boom of the lifting device modified. This should make the whole set-up safer, and give the capacity to pull logs from the end of the wood pile.

Sign-on Room Cupboards - John Holland has been leading a small team putting a full set of cupboards in the back of this room. The driver for this project was the wish to get rid of the mouse cupboard in the main shed. We are still discussing what would be the best use of that space once it is gone. Any suggestions, please see any of the management committee. The small Thursday team have really enjoyed watching and learning from the Little Master, and hope that we can remember all the little tricks.







"Emergency Plus" App by Ann Lear

At a recent First Aid course, I learnt about a new method of precisely determining a location.

What3Words -

The entire map of the world has been divided into a map of 3-metre grid squares. Each square has been allocated three words. So, it is possible to navigate precisely to, say, our lounge room, our front gate or the north western corner of our backyard. These each have a discreet three-word label.

This is a plus for a rural organisation, like the Woodies. If an ambulance is needed, tell the operator the three words and the ambulance will know precisely where to go. This means there is no need to send somebody to the front gate to wave them down.

The main entrance to the shed – I've just looked it up is "permit-parodied-cardigans" Here is the link:-

https://w3w.co/permit.parodied.cardigans

It was suggested that at a workplace, the three words could be posted, up on a wall, in plain sight. Meanwhile, don't take my word for it. Look up "what3words.com" for yourself.

While you are at it – why not download the Emergency Plus app on your phone. Especially helpful if you do a lot of rural driving or walking – which we all do. It gives easy access to the emergency services, without the need of typing in numbers. Just hit the icon.

You can share your location using the three words.

(Safety Officers please note)



Fasteners for a lasting, firm hold

By WOOD Magazine Staff



Your basic common screw isn't quite so common anymore. The ever-changing climate of tools, bits, and materials has led to an explosion of specialised designs. The greater use of dense hardwoods, the development of composite materials, and changes in preservative treatments also have exerted their influence.

To begin with, the density of composite materials creates problems of splitting, mushrooming (when material is pushed up and out around the screwhead), and screws "spinning out" (when threads lose their bite) before the heads are fully countersunk.

Rentational entering had not

While better for the environment, the changeover from the old CCA wood treatment to the new ACQ treatment has proven to be far more corrosive on fasteners. Many experts recommend only stainless-steel or hot-dipped zinc fasteners for use with ACQ; however, many other screw types are billed as suitable for ACQ. Currently, the fastener industry is self-governed and sets its own standards for what constitutes an ACQ-rated screw for treated stock.

(ACQ is a water based treatment that uses copper to protect timber from fungi and a quaternary compound to protect timber from copper resistant fungi and insects. It is applied by vacuum pressure. CCA is copper chrome arsenate.) Ed.

Choosing suitable fasteners

Finally, as a means of maintaining outdoor projects, we rely on all kinds of chemical solutions. We use bleaches and cleaners to kill mildew and revive surfaces. On the downside, we sometimes add salt to dissolve ice on a deck and improve traction. But while these additives may well keep outdoor wood looking good or make it safer to walk on, they abuse and destroy the protective coatings on fasteners. So, after pondering the type of project you're building, carefully read the following pages on screw features and the chart located at the end of the story, to choose suitable fasteners for the job. If using screws, consider going with an impact driver.

Lubricate: Extra lubrication reduces torque and helps save protective coatings. Beeswax works, and the cheapest and easiest source for the lubricant is a toilet wax ring. Just be sure to clean off the excess wax with mineral spirits before finishing.

Predrill and plug: If you don't have hundreds of screws to drive, it's worth your time to predrill. For a furniture-quality look, counterbore to hide screwheads deep in the wood. Then fill the counterbored recesses with plugs made from leftover scrap. Doing this improves appearance, and protects the fastener as well.

Anatomy of a screw

Close examination of screwheads reveals a whole world of engineering that governs their design. The more you know, the easier time you'll have choosing the right one.

Material: Exterior fasteners are made from various grades of case-hardened or stainless steel. While stainless-steel products are left bare, all others have layers of electroplated zinc coatings and sometimes a polymer coating for colour or lubrication. Or they're dipped in molten zinc to prevent corrosion. Note that yellow zinc and black screws (not shown in this article) are often not suited for the rigours of exterior use.



Head size: With large-headed screws, your fastener's visibility increases and countersinking becomes harder and time-consuming. Further, the chances of splitting the wood increase. Many types of trim-head exterior screws, such as GRKs, come with head sizes similar to a same-size finish nail, making them less noticeable. (*GRK stands for Gebruder Reisser Kunzelsau I.e. the Brothers Reisser from Kunzelsau {Germany})Ed.*

Screw driving basics

Countersink cutters: Many exterior screws have countersink cutters on the underside of the head that aid in sinking them. The number and prominence of the ridges tell how effective they are in that task. One screw, Titan's Splitstop (shown right, has aggressive cutters to both countersink the head and minimise splitting.



Thread pitch and count

Thread pitch and count: As a general rule, the steeper the thread pitch and the lower the thread count, the faster you can drive a screw. However, such screw designs demand more torque, placing more stress on tools and users, and increasing the chance of snapping screws and stripping heads. One screw, has a secondary set of threads inside the main threads that reduces the torque demand on the drill and the need for predrilling, particularly with softer woods. (right)



Designed for driver ease

Driver shape: Exterior screws come with square (Robertson), combination, star (Torx), and Phillips drives. Those that tend not to slip: star and square drives. However, it's not only the shape of the driver bit that plays a role in driver ease, but also the depth of the recess. The deeper the pocket, the better the bit's bite.



Shank specifics

Shank size: Shank size affects a screw's sheer strength and pull-out power. A wider shank means the screw threads can be more aggressive. In general, use #10 screws for heavy-duty projects, such as deck building, and #7 or #8 for lighter-duty tasks, such as outdoor furniture construction. **Shank slot:** Look for screws with a shank slot like those shown. This feature improves a screw's ability to auger into a hole, improving self-tapping capability without having to predrill.



Know your threads

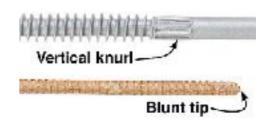
Thread shape: Threads are changing rapidly. A composite screw's shank usually has opposing threads designed to keep the lower threads from spinning out in less-dense natural material (i.e., a wood floor joist). Spax, a composite screw, even has serrated threads (shown) to improve cutting ability and reduce torque.



Salt spray and splitless

Salt-spray specialists: If you live in a coastal environment, make sure your fasteners can withstand salt corrosiveness. Key West lumber dealers recommend hot-dipped galvanised and stainless-steel screws.

Splitless features: Predrilling and counterboring are still your best bets to prevent splitting your material, particularly along the ends and edges of stock. However, these methods take time. Trimhead screws help greatly in this area, but other features also have been developed. In addition to the aggressive countersink cutters mentioned earlier, Titan's screws have a vertical knurl above the threads (shown below) that helps hog out a hole to make room for the shank. If you choose nails instead, consider the ring-shank type. The blunt tip on the ring-shank nail reduces splitting.

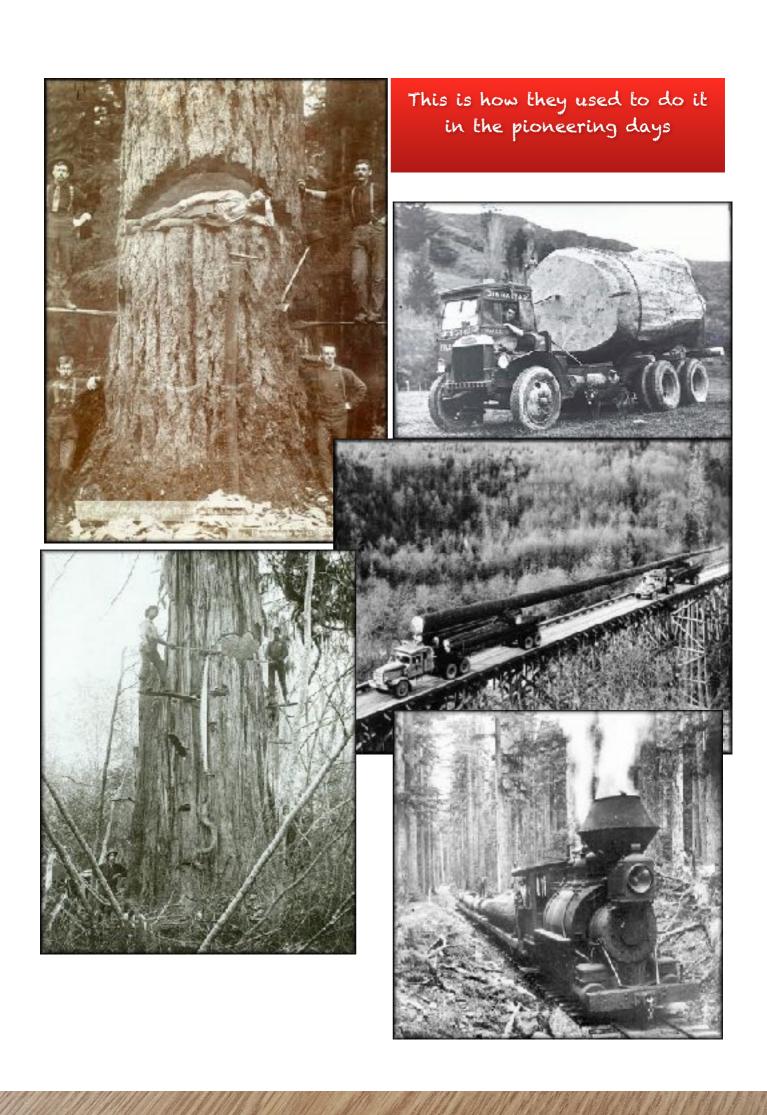


RECENT DEMONSTRATION ON KUMIKO run BY GARRY EMMETT



Several of us attended this really interesting demonstration where Garry showed how to construct Kumiko using hand tools and also the jigs he uses to do this. I must say, doing this would really help one's development of patience and concentration. A big thank you to Garry. For anyone interested in following this up, Garry is happy to mentor you on a Monday or Wednesday.







What an amazing work of art this is! Created by Bob Callinan, who judged last year's competition at the club





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