

The Official Newsletter of the SHIRE WOODWORKING CLUB Inc. Reg. No. Y2889524  
 "The WORKSHOP", 2B Turriell Bay Road, Lilli Pilli. NSW. 2229  
 Workshop Phone 0490 861 606 Membership Enquiries: (02) 9522 7674 Newsletter Editor: Phone 0414 538 475

**2020 Excellence Award Winner  
Ray Tregoning and a magnificent  
Dining Room Table**



Ray's table was Overall First Prize and First Prize in the Furniture Section

Dining Table - closed it seats 6, extended it seats 10

Ray reports "After making the 10 dining room chairs in 2015 part of the plan was to have a table to go with them. I had the drawing for the table as a full-size set out on, as usual, on a large sheet of cardboard for a lot of years to workout how to make this work.

I had 2 slabs of Murray River Red Gum with live edge 3170x700x55mm, approx 80kg each under my house for over 20 years. I cleaned them off and took them to a joinery works at Wetherill Park which had a machine able to dress to thickness and sand up to 1620mm wide boards.

The legs are made up with Black Butt in the centre and cheeks of 12mm thick Murray River Red Gum.

The rails are Black Butt. The two end rails slide

*(Continued on page 6)*

**2021 Excellence Award Winner  
David Edwards and an amazing  
3D Chess Board**



David reports on his amazing project:

"I made this 3D Chess Set for my grandson's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday following the concepts of sets seen on Star Trek and the Big Bang Theory. This timber version is totally my own design including the way it packs up for storage.

**Chess Pieces**

The chess pieces were adapted from a YouTube design and were all made on the table saw and sized according to chess standards (height & base dimensions). They are also weighted to make them more tactile.

**Boards**

The board squares are glued onto a plywood base for strength. The main boards slot into the "Tower" and the

*(Continued on page 6)*

**CLUB COMMITTEE:**

President: Ian Rudd  
Vice President: Malcolm Armstrong  
Secretary: Graham Ethell  
 Telephone 9522 7674  
Treasurer: Alan Ritchie  
Committee Members: Roger Dixon, David Edwards  
 Maurice Smith

**SUB-COMMITTEES & Auxiliary Positions**

Assistant Secretary: Roger Dixon  
Assistant Treasurer: Roger Walsh  
Project Sub-Committee: Barry Gardner, Alan Ritchie,  
 Ray Tregoning & Bob Quigley  
Librarian: Roger Walsh  
Safety Officers: Roger Dixon, David Edwards, Graham  
 Ethell, Ray Tregoning, Alan Ritchie & Bob Quigley  
Welfare Officer: Peter Mott  
First Aid Officers: Graham Ethell & Alan Ritchie  
Newsletter Editor: Maurice Smith  
Assistant Newsletter Editors:  
Catering Officers: Richard Cain, Steve Lansley, Trevor  
 Lewis, Neil Matthews & Ray Tregoning  
Equipment & Training : Roger Dixon, David Edwards,  
 Neil Matthews, Terry Murphy, Alan Ritchie, Bob  
 Quigley, Ray Tregoning, James Windschuttle &  
 Maurice Smith  
Raffles: Peter Mott  
Exhibitions Sub-Committee: Malcolm Armstrong,  
 Graham Ethell, Bob Davis & Mike Green  
Property Sub-Committee: Richard Cain, Roger Dixon,  
 Graham Ethell, Bob Quigley, Ian Rudd, & Ray  
 Tregoning  
Toymaking: Malcolm Armstrong, Barry Gardner, Gary  
 Halder, Steve Lansley, Lynn Messenger, Glen Reeve,  
 Reno Scriberras, Maurice Smith, Ken Tyson, Neil  
 Matthews & Roger Walsh  
Woodcarvers' Liaison: Don Williams  
Facebook: Alan Ritchie

**Librarian's Report**

Club Librarian reports that we haven't received any new magazines this month. But, he has reminded us that the Club has a library of books and magazines. They are located in 2 places in the Gallery.

**Firstly**, in the store room adjacent to the kitchen—this room has lots of books and magazines, and guess what, they are all to do with some aspect of woodworking.

**Secondly**, in the cupboard adjacent to the kitchen and behind the lunch table is a selection of new books.

It's worth your time to explore what the library has to offer, you'll be pleasantly surprised. You might even find your next project there.

If you would like to receive this Newsletter please email the editor at [theshirewoodworkingclub@gmail.com](mailto:theshirewoodworkingclub@gmail.com) or if you have an article that you think would be suitable for publication in this newsletter your Editor would be most pleased to receive it.

**MAXIDAY:  
 SATURDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2022  
 AGENDA**

8:45am	Open Lilli Pilli Workshop & Gallery
9:00am	Monthly Meeting
9:30am	Excellence Awards Certificates Presentation
10:00am	Morning Tea
10:30am	Feast Watson presentation
12:30pm	Lunch
1:30pm	Show & Tell
2:00pm	Raffle Draw
2:15pm	Members projects
3.00pm	Workshop Close

**President's Report**

The Shire Woodworking Club Excellence Awards for both 2020 and 2021 were judged in January 2022 and I would like to thank all members who submitted entries in this competition. The standard set by our members was outstanding and is another example of the skills and craftsmanship to which all of our members aspire. Every year the bar is raised and the winners and their entries are all shown in this edition of Sawdust and Shavings. Congratulations to all who entered the competition.

The Club will be making another delivery of items to The Children's Hospital Randwick prior to Easter. If you are able, please join in on the last Thursday in each month for our Toymaking day. We have numerous books in the library where you can find plans for children's toys and there are a number of members who will readily give their time to assist you in making items. In addition, there will be a number of Easter themed items that will require assembly.

A reminder to all members to please clean down benches and machinery when you have completed your visit. Workspace is at a premium and keeping the workshop tidy is a must for all members. Please work safely and if in doubt ask for assistance.

Safe woodworking

Ian Rudd, President

# BANDSAW BOXES

Have you ever had a go at making a bandsaw box? Well if not or would like to make another one or two then our upcoming **Maxiday on Saturday 12 March 2022** is for you. It is the theme of the day. We will have wood with designs ready for members to test their skills on our band saws.

Bandsaw boxes can be stately, fashionable, quirky or down right comical. The design is only limited to ones' imagination and the limitation of the size of ones' band saw. Most such boxes are made from a single block of wood between 60mm and 100mm thick. However the wood block can be made up of laminating wood pieces or plywood together.

There are 8 simple steps to make a band sawn box.

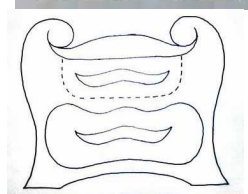
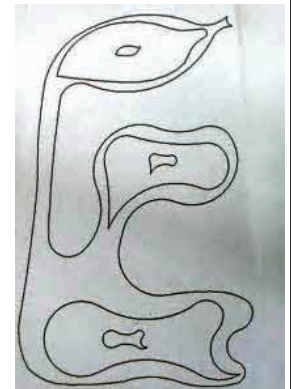
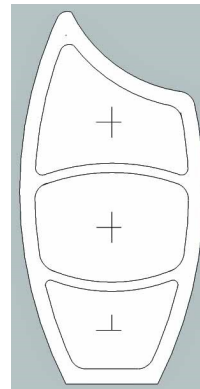
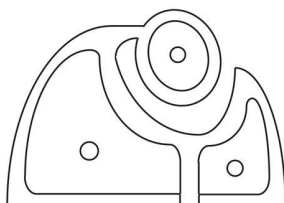
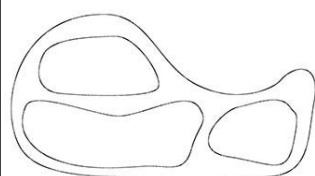
1.	Once the wood block has been selected choose the face and cover it with masking tape. Then paste your box design on the masking tape
2.	Cut the outline of the box.
3.	Slice a piece about 5mm thick from the back of the outline and set aside.
4.	From the reduced thickness of the outline cut the internal design and drawer(s).
5.	Take each drawer and slice about 5mm from both front and back and set these slices aside.
6.	Take each reduced thicknessed drawer and cut the internal of the drawer leaving about 5mm thickness for each drawer.
7.	Sand up all pieces. Fancy up to your liking. Glue drawer back and fronts to drawer bodies (5). Then glue back (3) to body
8.	Final sand, design and install drawer handles and finish with your preferred finish

If you have not got a preferred design then there will be at least 16 templates ready for your use available on the day.

Bandsaw boxes can also be made on the scroll saw, However they are limited to a thickness of around 45mm and need prethickened wood to enable laminating assembly. We will have some blanks also available on Maxiday for members to have a go at a "bandsaw scroll saw box". One plus with the scroll saw is that one can produce more intricate designs.

Look forward to seeing you at the Club on Saturday 12 March.

*Barry Gardner*



# Royal North Shore Hospital Children's Ward

The photos below were received just before 2021 Christmas, alas space constraints meant that the photos were held over.

The November 2021 edition of Sawdust & Shavings had photos and a report about the delivery of "Space" themed toys delivered to the Royal North Shore Hospital Children's Ward. Guess what, the children there got busy and decorated the toys. The photos below tell the story. What a lot of fun was had by so many.



The toys as delivered.



See the bottom of page 5 for the remainder of the photos.

# 2021 Plank Competition Certificates Handed over

Some of the 2021 Plank Competition winners were not on hand in December 2021 to receive their certificates and their Bunnings gift Cards. However, those members attended the Excellence Awards Day in January and thus were able to receive their certificates and gift cards.



Roger Dixon winner of Class A with his Light House



Geoff Tong, third prize winner in Class A



Ray Tregoning, winner Class C



Gary Healey, second prize Class C

Photos from Page 4 continued. The children certainly had fun.



# Excellence Awards 2020 & 2021

## Ray Tregoning's report continues (from page 1)

out on rollers underneath the slide with a track I designed, routed into the side rails to support the weight of the extension leaves which are 24kg each. Because of the irregular shape of the slabs the only way to make the table extendable was to cut the ends off and store them away on a trolley in a specially prepared section of our sideboard and attach them when needed.

The table is finished with Polycure Gloss which is a modified Tung oil used to coat floors. The table top weights in at 76kg, extensions 24kg each, legs, rails, etc at 78kgs. To be able to move if needed it can be dismantled with a Philips head screwdriver down to 10 pieces, the heaviest of course being the large table top.

Thanks to the Excellence Award judges who visited my home to view the table on site. At over 200kg I won't ever want to move it very far, certainly not to the Gallery for the Awards judging."

## Some photos of other entries in the Excellence Awards



Malcolm Armstrong's Huon Pine Nesting Tables



Gary Mitchell's Cutting Board, Rocking Horse and part of the Wedding Bower for his daughter.

## David Edwards' report continues (from page 1)

attack boards are on posts that are secured onto the corners of the main boards. The attack boards are moved during play, so the method of attachment reflects this requirement.

### Tower

The tower is split into three so that it can be easily packed away. The angle of the tower and the slots for the main boards is very precise as the vertical orientation of the boards to each other is critical. The box serves as the base and the bottom section of the tower fits into a socket within the box when assembled.

### Storage Box

The storage box has specific compartments for all the pieces of the set which are packed up to the same level with toolbox foam and are secured in place when the lid is closed. The box is also the base of the tower when assembled and has a 'snugging screw' with its own screwdriver to prevent any rocking during play.

Component	Timber Used
Boards	Tasmanian Blackwood and Sugar Maple with plywood backing
Tower	NZ Pine (I think) with Red Gum sockets
Box	Jacaranda and Merbau. The Jacaranda from a neighbour's tree and air dried for 12 months
Box Compartments	7mm ply
Lid	Pacific Maple, Tasmanian Blackwood and Sugar Maple

The lid is removable so that it doesn't interfere during play and for this lift-off hinges are used. The chess board pattern on top of the lid is decorative only and is not used during play.

### Finish

OSMO Hard Wax Oil (satin finish) and Black Flocking

### Star Trek Original Concept

For the total nerd, search for chessvariants.com then look for 3d chess which discusses the Star Trek version of chess."



# Excellence Awards 2020 & 2021

## Geoff Tong has Spilt Honey

This project received First Prize in the Art section of the 2020 Excellence Awards.



Geoff reports "There are many fascinating ideas on YouTube for wood workers if you have the time to search. Covid lockdowns provided me with ample spare time and the spilled honey project is the result of one of the searches.

Initially I thought the most difficult task was fixing the honey pot to the top of the honey spill but because I couldn't get access to a big band saw, cutting away the waste timber at the base of the honey spill was a bigger challenge. Using a hand saw for this task was not easy. The cut has to be at 90 degree for the honey to sit snugly on the mounting block.

The honey spill was created by first turning a Jacaranda branch off centre. Contour at the top of the honey should match as close as possible to the inside of the honey pot or adhesion would be difficult. The spill down the front of the block was shaped using the Dremel.

Three coats of polyurethane gloss completed the project."

## David Edwards has a lovely 3D cutting Board

This project received First Prize in the Utility section of the 2020 Excellence Awards.



"My cutting board is a design from Alex of MTM Wood in Russia. Alex is a brilliant cutting board designer, his website and YouTube channel are both worth looking at. See [mtmwood.com](http://mtmwood.com).

The 3D effect of the board varies depending on the viewing angle and can be seen as a block of chocolate or a waffle. To get this effect, the plan which runs to 36 pages, must be followed very carefully and the cut tolerances and angles need to be extremely accurate. For example, one panel needs to be 27.6mm thick and in the plan, it says; "I know this is impossible but try..."

### Plan Summary

- Choose three contrasting wood types. For mine: Tasmanian Blackwood, Cherry, and Sugar Maple
- Make up panels to an exact thickness for each timber type
- A few steps in between have been omitted
- Plane this new panel very carefully to exact thickness required in the plan
- A few more steps omitted
- As it's now all end-grain, flatten the board using a router sled and then finish with drum sander and Mirka sander
- Round over corners and rout handholds
- Apply finish
- **QED!!! It's simple really (not)**

It was a very challenging project and the plan needed to be very carefully followed to ensure success and I am very pleased with the result.

The timber used was purchased from Anagote.

### Finish

Mineral Oil and Bees Wax"

# Excellence Awards 2020 & 2021

## John Fallon's Fabulous Carved Box

This fabulous item won First Prize for the 2021 Collectable section of the Excellence Awards.



John is a member of the Woodcarvers group. He reports: "The Southside Woodcarving group decided on a Christmas theme challenge for 2021. Amongst a number of sculptured figures, I chose a presentation box as a project. As with many of my carvings, I made a maquette [Editor here: "maquette" is a preliminary model] from a block of old timber and a ribbon. Once the required look was achieved, the ribbon was sprayed heavily with a lacquer to fix its shape. A telephoto shot from above was then used to capture a plan view. This was then scaled to fit my block and a pattern produced which was ultimately transcribed onto the top of the block.

The block of carving wood was cut from a length of Camphor Laurel with the intention of using the contrasting colours from core to outer rings as a feature. Initially the block was left whole so that it could be easily held whilst carving the ribbon. This process involved cutting away all the unwanted timber from around the ribbon; as described in the plan view; down to the finished height of the box lid. The ribbon was then sculptured onto the remaining timber with a variety of gouges and chisels whilst referring to the maquette for shape and form.

A great deal of sanding using many custom formed sanding sticks was then undertaken. Here I find ways and means by using bits of bent metal, leather strap, shaped dowels, flat sticks, all with double sided tape and the chosen grade of sandpaper.

When the ribbon was pretty much complete, the block was then cut through to provide a lid and bottom sections. A jig was made to hold the ribboned lid upside down so that timber could be removed to create a cavity in the lid. The bottom piece was similarly sculptured to provide the box cavity. To complete both pieces, bent gouges and flat sanding sticks were used.

The bottom and top pieces were then textured with a narrow gouge and then lightly sanded. A drilling jig was fashioned to ensure correct alignment of the 8.5mm holes for the two 8mm barrel hinges. Once all assembled, more detailed finishing was undertaken. Finally the box was finished with three coats of Cabots water based polyurethane, not a preferred finish for carvings, but its intended future use suggested something other than a more typical wax finish.

How long did it take? Hard to ascertain as its done over many sittings but probably 40+/- hours. And thanks again to the Shire Woodworkers for inviting our participation."

## Geoff Tong with a Twisted Flower Stem and Flower



Geoff's "Flower with Twisted Stem" won First Prize in the 2021 Art section of the Excellence Awards.

Geoff reports "This is another Covid lockdown project. YouTube has many videos on spiral wood turning. Quite a few have step by step tutorial for beginners.

After completing the spiral stem I was quite pleased with myself. It was the most delicate task I have done and I didn't throw away any mistakes.

I did not know how to finish the project so I asked my wife, the adviser. She suggested a flower on top of the column and I agreed. I decided on a flower with six layers of petals plus the stamen.

I used all the material from the same piece of timber to maintain consistency in the colour. The first layer has a down turn curve to represent the fully opened flower and the second layer is similar but with a smaller diameter. The other four layers are turned "bowl" shape with gradually reducing diameters. Petals in each layer were shaped using the Dremel.

The entire project is finished with polyurethane gloss."



# Excellence Awards 2020 & 2021

## David Edwards' Rocking Chairs are a delight to behold



David received First Prize in the Furniture section of the 2021 Excellence Awards for these rocking chairs. David reports: "These rocking chairs are in the style Gary Weeks, a U.S. furniture maker who sells his chairs for between US\$2175 and US\$4750 depending on the timber species.

No plans were available but there were sketches that I downloaded and used to dimension the chairs. I then made my own bending forms, templates, and jigs, and developed my process for making the parts and for assembling the chairs.

The rockers, back legs, splats, and crest rail are all glue laminated and templates were used for final router shaping of the back legs and arms. The front legs were turned and have round tenons where they fit into the arms and rockers, with the top having wedges for additional strength. Rabbits were cut into the front and back legs to accommodate the seat, and the seat carving was done on a table saw utilising a jig, the design of which I adapted from YouTube.

After completing the full-sized chair, I decided to make the child-sized chair and after researching typical dimensions for children's furniture, I scaled the sketches down to suit.

### Finish

OSMO Hard Wax Oil (satin finish)

### Sketches

Used to develop my plans and my build methodology (sourced from Gary Weeks website)

See the sketches opposite."

## Ray Tregoning has made a superb Jewelry Box



Ray received First Prize in the Utility section of the 2021 Excellence Awards for this 3 drawer box. He reports "This box is just a different way of hanging a drawer which exposes the runners and drawer sides.

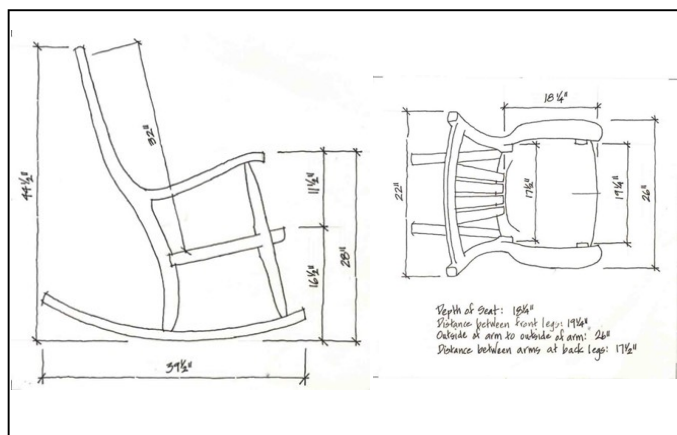
The box I designed on my usual drawing medium, a sheet of cardboard full size.

The drawers are mitred, but I cut a spline down the mitre of dark timber so when I cut the "v" groove in the drawer side you can see the spline. To make the handles I machined a piece of timber with a trench and a piece to fit the trench and glued it in leaving a square for the bar of the handle simply cut off in pieces with an angle on one side. One drawer has an egg crate design insert which is just each piece 1/2 cut to notch over each other.

The box is made from Murray River Red Gum and hoop pine. There are no metal fixings at all. Drawers are lined with suede pig skin splits burgundy colour and finished with Anchor 100% gloss spray clear.

If anyone would like to make one, I will lend them the cardboard set-out and jig for the splines in the mitres, along with the cutters."

*Editor here: Ray, once again, makes the beautiful results look so easy. Only a lifetime of wood-working is needed to achieve this skill level.*



# JIGS, JIGS & Yet More JIGS

## What is a Jig, in the woodworking context?

A Jig is a device that holds a piece of woodwork while you do something to the wood.

The Club has quite a few jigs. From the simple to the complex. Over the next few editions some of these jigs will be featured here.

Many, if not all, of the Jigs have been built by members.

You may even be surprised to find that we have a Jig that is new to you. That's great, that's what these articles are intended to achieve.

## Mitre Spline Jig

What is a Mitre Spline? See the photo below for an example.



These splines can be purely decorative or can be an important structural component of a mitred corner.

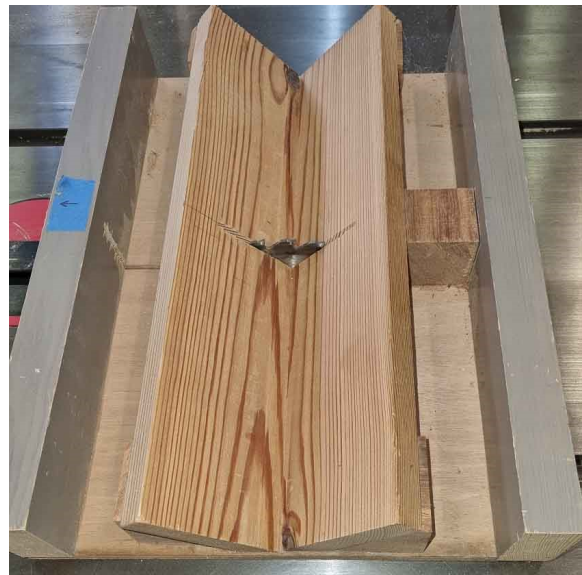
Courtesy of Ian Rudd: "This jig is designed to be used on the SawStop table saw. There are two underneath guide rails that locate in the grooves on the

saw table.

Using the jig requires the saw's overhead blade guard and dust extraction hose to be removed to allow the jig to pass over the saw. When cutting the spline grooves the saw needs to be adjusted to the required depth and this is best achieved by doing some sample test cuts on scrap timber. There is a clamp and square guide supplied with the jig that allow the square guide to be positioned to locate the slot distance from the saw blade.

Please make sure you determine how far you need to push the jig to obtain a full cut and when cutting splines remove your workpiece before you bring the jig back to the start position, When finished please leave the clamp and square guide attached to the jig for storage."

## Mitre Spline Jig (cont'd)



Side view of Mitre Spline Jig on the table saw



Front view of Mitre Spline Jig.. Note one of the Guide Rails running in the Mitre Gauge slot on the table.

The most important part of this Jig is, where is it located when not in use? This is not one of those situations where if we tell you we have to shoot you to keep it secret! Not at all.

It's stored adjacent to the large table saw on the left side of the entry aisle, behind the small table at the entrance."

# JIGS, JIGS & Yet More JIGS

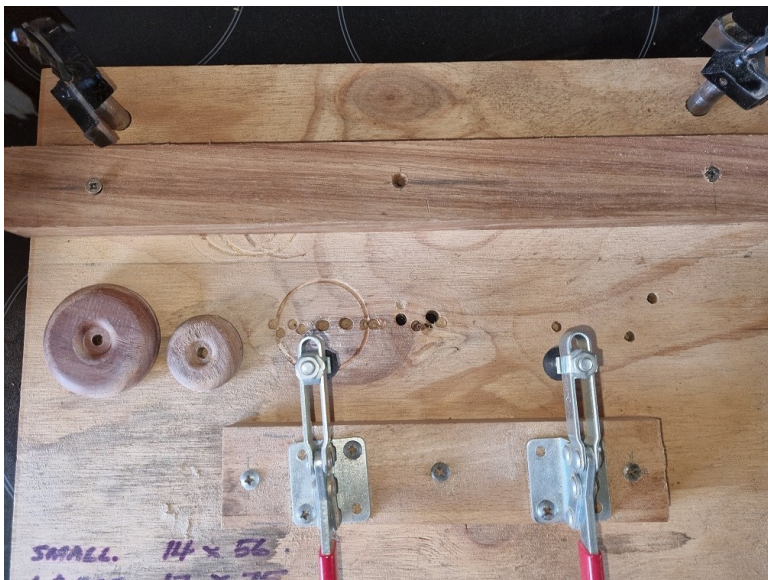
## Wheel Cutting Jig

Ian Rudd advises: "The wheel cutting jig is designed to be used with a Pedestal Drill and the best Pedestal Drill to use is the variable speed Nova as you can readily set the spindle speeds without having to change belts and pulleys.

Always make sure you set the spindle speed to a minimum of 200 RPM and depending on the timber being used slowly increase the speed if necessary. The spinning wheel cutters pose a real danger to fingers so ensure the jig is firstly securely clamped to the worktable and secondly the workpiece securely clamped with the toggle clamps supplied with the wheelmaking jig.

The jig allows wheels to be made either 60 mm dia or 40 mm dia. The axle hole is 1/4" dia and we have a stock of suitable dowels for axles. When making 60mm dia wheels you will need to pre thickness the wood to 17 mm x 70mm minimum width. For 40 mm dia wheels use 14mm x 50 mm prepared stock.

When cutting the first side of the stock the depth should be set at the point where the cutter has cut half the stock thickness. The next step is to turn the stock over and then cut through from this side. Continue to the point where the wheel is fully cut. You then clean up the wheel as needed on the Disc sander."



The jig to hold the timber to be used to make wheels



The circle cutter in action



Circles cut half way through, ready to be turned over for the second pass

Where is the Jig stored?

It's stored in the Store Room on one of the rear shelves.

# Coming Up!

## Club Calendar

February 2022							2
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28						

March 2022							3
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

### Legend:

	Committee meeting 12.30 pm
	Club Days—members own projects
	Toy Making—No own projects
	MaxiDays
	Club Day & Woodcarvers' evening
	First Saturday is Woodcarvers use of the Workshop

## Welcome to our new member

Please join me in welcoming the following new member to our wonderful club. We look forward to working with you.

#370 Figen Erdem

## NOTICE BOARD

# SAFETY

**SAFETY FIRST: Members are asked on all club days to bring along and use their personal safety gear. ie. hearing protection, dust mask, eye protection, ensure they are wearing good sturdy protective footwear and no loose fitting clothes.**

### February 2021 MAXIDAY THEME

Feast Watson - Waxes, Varnishes, Stains and related issues



Is it a wine bottle from a little known label?



Actually, it's a pepper grinder!  
Made by Ian Rudd. Ian might oblige with a report for next month.

### Raffle winners for January

1. Malcolm Armstrong
2. David Edwards
3. Neil Matthews
4. Graham Ethell
5. Gary Healey
6. Roger Dixon

Peter Mott will be back to run the February raffle.

### Members with Birthdays in February

Day	Member
2	Les Symonds
8	Alan Stubbs
9	Peter Kluegel
12	Peter Howard
22	David Johnson
25	Graham Ethell
25	Don Williams
26	Greg Crossling

Hope every one of you have a wonderful birthday and lots more of them.



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