

The Official Newsletter of the Shire Woodworking Club Inc | Reg No Y2889524 | ABN 15 974 163 667

🏠 “The Workshop” - 2B Turriell Bay Road, Lilli Pilli NSW 2229

📞 Workshop: 02 9145 0308 Mob 0490 861 606 | Membership: 0414 538 475 | Editor: 0408 240 514

## EXCELLENCE AWARDS - MAXIDAY 13TH JANUARY 2024.....



The Al Usherwood Award was first held in 2002 to recognise the work of Al Usherwood. Al was an excellent craftsman and a close friend of the then President. The Award was named after him after he died at a relatively young age in September 2001.

Congratulations to all our club members who presented to this year's Excellence Award. The standard of all of the entries was exceptional, perhaps the best we've seen. There were 3 categories - furniture, utility and art. Our judges were Neil Matthews, Barry Gardner and Maurice Smith. The winners in each category were: David Edwards - furniture, Ian Rudd - Art and Gary Healey - utility.

The unanimous decision of the judges was that the 2024 Shire Woodworking Club Excellence Award should go to David Edwards for his magnificent Lectern which was built using re-cycled church pews from Saint Phil's in Caringbah.

A full explanation of each of the entries is provided in the following pages.



## TOY MAKING



While our club is highly regarded within our local community for the making of all sorts of timber pieces, it is our toy making experience that has allowed our club to provide a contribution to our community, both locally and further afield. The last Thursday of each month (except April and December - third Thursday) is devoted to Toy Making. All members are encouraged to attend to make toys that are then either donated to the hospital or sold to raise funds necessary to benefit our club.

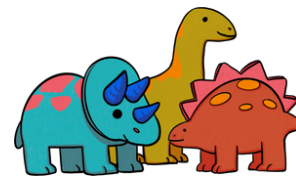
## MAXIDAY - 10 FEB '24

8:45	Monthly Meeting
9:00	Open Lilli Pilli Workshop
9:30	Ian's Videos
10:00	Morning Tea
10:30	Show and Tell
11:00	Guest Speaker - Peter Warren Cronulla Mall Development Update
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Raffle Draw
1:30	
2:00	

NEXT MAXIDAY 9th March 2024



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## EXCELLENCE AWARDS

### Geoff Tong - Art Category



#### Segmented Pillar Vase

There are 2293 pieces of various wood in this project.

One of the common question I get asked about my projects is “how long did it take ? “

I don't normally keep a time sheet but curiosity made me think about it while constructing the pillars.

Not counting the top and the base each pillar has 12 layers of 12 segments. To complete one layer of the 12 pillars took approximately 2 hours so 24 man hours were required to complete the pillars before turning can begin. All the pillars had to be 70 mm tall to fit in the gap of the feature ring.

The segments for the remainder of the vase are much larger and much easier to handle.

The finish is several coats of water based polyurethane, light sanding between each coats.

### Ian Rudd - Art Category



#### Jewellery Box

#### Category Winner

The box is made from Silky Oak and incorporates 2mm square brass to inlay some features in the lid. The brass is soft and does bend relatively easily. A jig was made on the Laser to get the correct bend for half a heart and then these were fitted into the already engraved lid. Super glue was used with the assembly and then the lid was put through a drum sander to get the lid assembly flat.

The box was stringed with the White Ash edging before the lid was cut off and hinges fitted. The box was then fitted with the brass push catch and finished with a number of coats of Osmo Oil. The box is lined with a blue leather suede.



### Axel Tennie - Utility Category



### Tongue Drum

Top, base & sides are all 450mm x 130mm x 4  
Ends 130mm x 90mm x 2

The Tongues are cut by jigsaw or scroll saw then spend hours with lengths of strip sandpaper smoothing the cuts.

Tune the Tongues....or not!

By thinning the undersides of each tongue and keep testing the 'vibe' !! as you turn wood to sawdust. The musically minded can use their phones to test the tuning pitch, Stick the together with dominos, biscuits or just glue.

Sand & oil and drill a couple of holes in one end to squirrel away the drum sticks.

## Ray Tregoning - Utility Category



### Serving/Cutting Board

This board can be used on both sides – one side for cutting, one side for serving. A slightly different design this time, with a mix of timbers and an insert of Norglass Clear Liquid Gloss.

Timbers used in this board are American White Oak, Merbau, Black Butt, Murray River Red Gum, with the center a piece of Himalayan Cedar which had a hole right through, just right for filling with the Liquid Gloss. Standard cutting and glue-up with biscuits, dominos and Tightbond Glue.

Before pouring in Liquid Gloss, I had to tape up the back to stop any leakage of Gloss then make a piece to form a dam around the top. After mixing Gloss carefully so as to not make air bubbles I poured it into the cavity to overfull a little, then occasionally waved a gas torch over the top to pop any air bubbles.

The board is finished with the usual coatings of food safe oil and bees wax brushed on and sanded in with 600g then 1200g wet and dry paper every day over about two months.

## Ray Tregoning - Art Category

### Oregon Box

Here is another jewellery box with a lift out tray. This box is made from second hand Oregon from rafters taken out of a renovation last year at a house two doors up the road from our home.

By ripping and book matching to make the widths, I needed four sides and a lid which are all mitred in including the lid so as not to see any end grain. The tray has egg crate divisions for rings and earrings and is lined with pig skin suede, some plugs cut from Murray River Red Gum for a bit of decoration and a piece of silver acrylic mirror in the lid with brass pins and handle to break the timber look.

The box is coated with my usual Anchor 100% Gloss, three coats.



## Gary Healey - Utility Category

### Category Winner



### Chess board

My aim was to not use any fasteners in the construction but I decided that the top may need to come off if the chess pieces got jammed in the draw so I used some screws to hold the top onto the sides, accessible through the base.

The top and sides are joined using mitre joints and splines, the squares are glued to a plywood base rebated and glued into the top frame and the sides are rebated and glued into the top frame.

The draw is held in the closed position with magnets, this is to stop the draw from sliding out if the board is tilted up. The number of magnets was decided through trial and error along with the gap between the metal strip and the magnets, approximately 2mm.

The board is coated with satin Anchor Clear Lacquer, 3 coats.

Chess Board Materials: Top, side and draw – Tasmanian oak. Board squares – Huon pine and Iron bark (I think). Splines – Red cedar. Draw and board base – plywood. Draw lining – Felt.

### Chess pieces

The chess pieces were turned from coachwood (I think) and iron bark (an old roof beam). The turning of the iron bark was difficult, but when I slowed the lathe speed down better results were received and the edge on the tools lasted longer. The knights (horses) were done by turning a cylinder and making a jig, a square block, to screw the chess piece horizontal to to cut the horse head shape on the bandsaw and finished with the Dremill.

The pieces were finished with Anchor Lacquer with felt on the bases. The turning of the pieces was a good way to hone your turning skills.

**Bench seat.**

Need – a place for schoolbags, grocery bags etc inside the front door to keep things off the floor.

The size was governed by the space available and height so that grandchildren had somewhere to sit to remove their shoes.

The original leg design was with simple straight leg, but under pressure this had to be redesigned to suit the existing furniture in the area, a coffee table with curved legs.

The bench seat was constructed from spotted gum donated by a local resident.

The aim was to not use any screws, and as such dominoes were used on the brace and seat supports and the legs were rebated into the seat and glued.

The spotted gum was quite hard to cut shape, particularly the shaping of the legs but give a nice smooth finish.

The timber appearance came up well with the several coats of Anchor Lacquer satin finish, sanded with steel wool between coats.

**Gary Healey - Furniture Category**



**David Edwards - Furniture Category**



**Category Winner**

**Excellence Award Winner**

**Lectern** The style is based on images found during internet searches and selected by the chaplain, but with no plans available, the design is completely my own. I used Sketchup to draw a virtual model, and this helped me in getting all the correct dimensions and angles. I first built a full-scale cardboard mock-up so that I could be certain that it “looked right.”

I built a one-third scale model with all the exact angles so that I could practice the joinery and determine how best to bring it all together.

The angles in this project were crazy as it tapered in from top to bottom at the front and sides, and the sides tapered in from front to back. And of course, the top of the lectern had a slope to it as well. All of this had to be joined, and for example, the long taper and bevel joints at the front come together with at least three different angles.

For mobility, the lectern is mounted on quality castors, and on completion, several tests were conducted to ensure its stability. These tests were successful and the addition of weights under the base (plan B) was not required.

The timber is meranti (or maple) and the lectern has good “provenance” as it was built using recycled church pews from St Phil’s in Caringbah.

The cross and wave motif on the front is merbau and was designed in Lightburn and cut on the CNC Laser from a photo of a similar motif in the chapel.

Festool dominos were used for all joinery. As meranti is relatively soft, I had to devise the method of attachment to the base so that it could sustain any heavy and enthusiastic use of the lectern and I achieved this by using a combination of hardwood plates, dominos, and bolts.

The taper cuts were done with the use of a micro-jig tapering jig (now donated to the club), and the bevels were machined on a jointer with the fence laid over to the correct angles.

The finish is OSMO Polyx Hard Wax Oil which is easy to apply and provides an exceptionally durable surface, which, if necessary, can be easily repaired. I am an advocate of this finish and use it on the majority of my projects.

A strength of our club is that members are very generous with their time and their expertise, and my thanks go to those who gave me invaluable advice along the way.

### **Plant Stand**

### **Gary Mitchell - Furniture Category**

I used the Golden Ratio to arrive at a pleasing shape and size that also accommodated our plants.

Final design; 3 towers, heights of 880cms, 1400 cms and 2240cms. The legs were 40 X 40mm; shelves 450mm long X 350mm deep. Shelf frames are 40mm X 20mm.

Each tower is assembled with hidden bolts through the shelves into insert nuts in the inside faces of the legs. Extra insert nuts allow for future shelf adjustment.

Legs and shelf frames are Spotted Gum with 6 Merbau strips (24 X 20mm) trenched into the top of each shelf to rest the plants on. The gaps between the strips matched the 24mm Merbau.

My first effort trenching the end pieces of the 13 shelves for the Merbau was a shocker. I toyed with the idea of inseting toughened glass instead of the Merbau strips. A quote of \$350 killed that idea. I wish I had spent the money!

To avoid the adjacent legs looking too chunky I aligned the legs with the inside edge of each frame (i.e., 20mm from the edge). This gave a more pleasing 40mm gap between the centre and adjacent legs. The towers bolt together with furniture bolts through the legs plus blocks of leg timber to hide the bolts into cap nuts.

I decided to apply the finish to all timber prior to gluing (Osmo's Hardwax Oil Rapid - very forgiving and very expensive).

I used epoxy and on each glue up I used masking tape to limit the spread of epoxy on the timber. Lot's of masking tape.

Adjustable feet allow for floor unevenness.

As well as the usual suspects I had very helpful assistance/guidance from other members in various parts of the build Without the generosity of spirit of other members I wouldn't be able to make the things that I attempt.



### **Children's Climbing Frame**

### **Gary Mitchell - Furniture Category**

Family babies = baby toys. I decided to make climbing frames as a toy with greater longevity than a baby toy.

The frames consist of 4 ply legs, housed out at the top with a bolt and metalworking insert nut acting as a hinge. Each side has a plastic handled bolt that screws into an insert nut, to either lock open or closed.

The 14 rungs (7 per side) were to be captured inside the legs, screwed and nailed through each leg. In drilling out the rebates for the rungs, I drilled half of the legs from the wrong side.

There's something about making lemons into lemonade. To disguise the ends of the rungs I asked Ian Rudd to cut sets of 32mm ply discs with numbers 1 to 7 and with letters A to G. I used the discs to cover the ends of the rungs. So the kids have climbing frames with numbers on one side and letters on the other. This improved the original design by making the frame an opportunity to learn numbers and letters.

The legs were primed under Porters Milk Paint (Shaker Blue with red over the top) then distressed to show the two colours and primer to disguise the inevitable knocks. Rungs had water-based dye with different strengths for colour variation. All timber then waxed as an easy way to maintain the frames.



## GUEST SPEAKER - BARRY GARDNER

### Clocks, Clocks & More Clocks

It was a privilege to be asked to talk about clock and weather station making at our January 2024 Maxiday. I am very much an amateur in this area but have made a few over the past 25 years or so. Why do we need a clock? The sun rises in the morning and sets at night. A simple sundial should suffice. This was the case up until the late 1600's when the nations of the world accepted that the world was not flat and the European nations such as Spain, Portugal, the Dutch, French and British got on sailing ships to explore (and plunder) the world outside the Mediterranean. While the sextant could give the latitude of a ship at sea, longitude position was another issue. This is where accurate time became imperative. All nations were searching for accurate marine clocks. Pendulums tend not to work at sea. In 1714 the English government offered a reward of 20,000 pounds for the person who could find the solution. John Harrison, a carpenter, was his name and his H4 chronometer, seen in the photo at right, was the solution. This is the clock that did change the world. This took place in 1759.

If readers are interested, may I suggest you view on Youtube "The Clock that changed the World" and maybe read the book "Longitude" by Dava Sobel. Remember the 1 O'Clock gun that used to be fired from Fort Denison each day was to allow all ships in Sydney Harbour to set their chronometers.

We woodworkers can make a clock by taking a block of wood, drilling an appropriate size hole in the block, buy a Clock insert (see photo) and fit it in the hole. One can convert the block of wood by inserting a barometer, thermometer, hydrometer or tide clock insert to create a weather station. It is that simple.

The next step up in clock making is using quartz movements (see photos), hands, numbers, face styles, bezels and clock shapes. Come up with your own design. Both the fitouts and the quartz clocks are relatively cheap to make with the movements and parts costing from \$10.00 to \$50.00.

Following quartz movements is to use mechanical clock movements as seen in grandfather, grandmother and Vienna style clocks (see photo). Such movements will cost from \$600.00 to over \$2,000.00. One can buy the grandfather clock pictured at far right complete, however, there will be very little change out of \$22,000.00.

Of course one can always make a wooden movement clock. There are plenty of plans available.

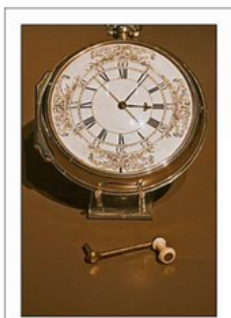
Clock parts are readily available in Australia and some of the suppliers are listed below.

- timberbits.com.au
- jknowles.com.au
- cwsonline.com.au
- Carbatec, McJings, Ebay and Amazon

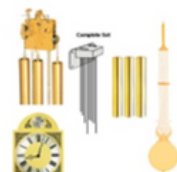
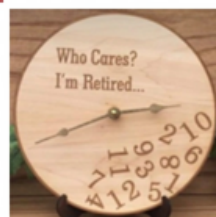
I have accumulated considerable clock fitouts, quartz movements (various size shafts), hands, numbers etc. These are available free to members who wish to make a clock or weather station. Maybe make a clock(s) for a Club sale in our Gallery.

As we all now have mobile phones, electronic watches the traditional clocks have lost their necessity but now have become a decorative or art item.

Our clock accuracy is now apparently within 1 second in one million years. Barry Gardner



now merrily carving away. Be

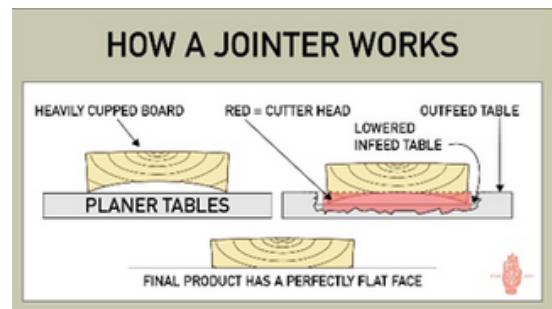
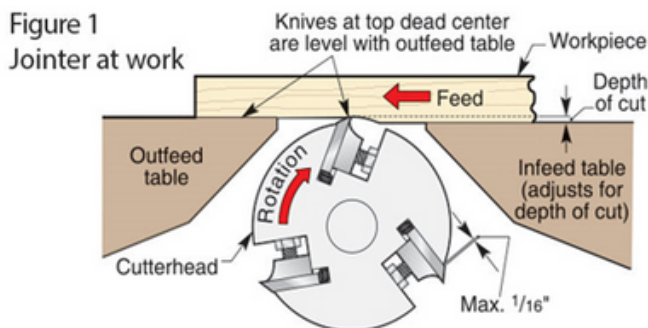


# WORKSHOP EQUIPMENT - SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Each month we will be including a section in our Newsletter covering all the workshop equipment. Last month it was the Sawstop Table Saw. This month we are covering the Jointer.

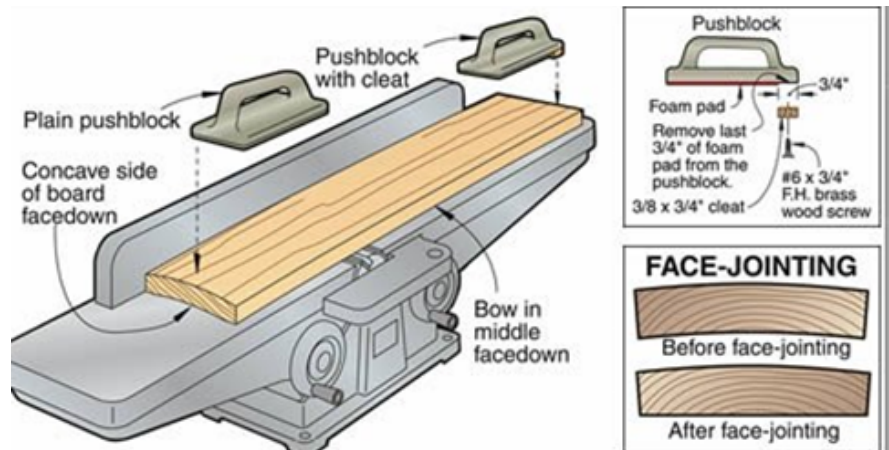
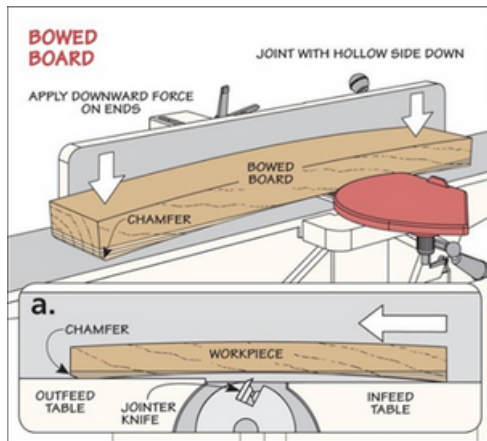
## What is a Jointer?

A jointer is a woodworking machine used to flatten, smooth, and square the edges of a timber board. The jointer has four main components; an infeed table, an outfeed table, a fence and a spiral head cutter. The infeed table can be lowered below the height of the outfeed table and this difference is the resultant depth of cut. The board to be processed is fed along the fence and across the infeed table to create a flat surface. The fence is normally set a 90 degrees to the table and this allows machining of two faces to create a board with exact 90 degree square configuration.



## What to look for before starting

Always feed your board according to defects. Sight down the edge of the board to reveal any bowing or cupping. For stability when feeding the board place with the cup or bow facing downward making sure the piece has two points of contact as it passes across the tables.



Pay attention to grain direction. Avoid grain tear-out by orienting the board so the cutter head rotates in the same direction as the slope of the grain. If the grain is very cranky make sure you only take very light cuts.

## Safety Tips

Always wear eye and ear protection. Periodically use some candle on the infeed and outfeed table surfaces. This allows your boards to glide smoothly across the machine. Adjust the guard to allow the board to pass over the cutter while leaving no cutter heads exposed. Always use push blocks and feather boards where appropriate. Do not mill pieces shorter than 300 mm and do not overreach

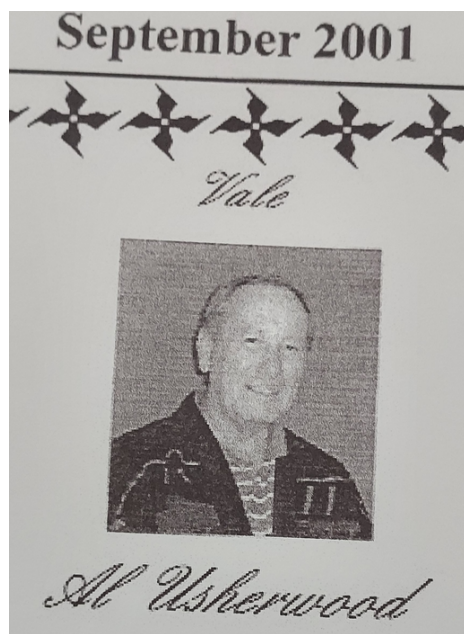
## WAY BACK WHEN

*This year the Club celebrates its 26th birthday and our longer term members have seen many changes over the years. However a quick look at the membership statistics shows around 50% of our members have been with the Club for less than six (6) years.*

*With this in mind, Graham Ethell suggested to our Editor that it might be useful to provide a periodical item for the Newsletter titled eg "Way Back When" to highlight for the benefit of newer members some interesting, useful, or simply quirky things that have happened over the years.*



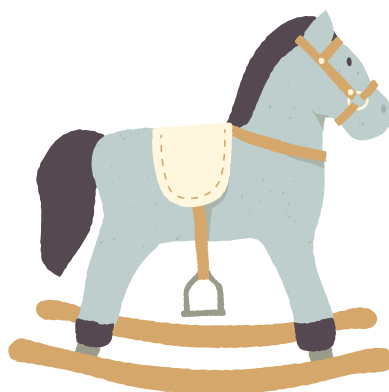
The original competition name (after a couple of changes) was "The Triton Owners' Club (Oyster Bay) Inc. Annual Woodworking Competition", and the winner would receive the "Al Usherwood Award". Al Usherwood was an artisan of the original Triton Club. He passed away in September 2001. Al was known as "Mr Perfection". Everyone admired the craftsmanship in his Rocking Horse which featured in the Working With Wood Show. Sometime later the competition name was shortened to the "Al Usherwood Award for Excellence" and subsequently shortened again to just the "Al Usherwood Award". A few years ago the name was changed again to its present "Shire Woodworking Club Excellence Award".



Our records for 2002 show the late Trevor Nicholson won the Award in that first year, with a chest of drawers. Unfortunately I can't locate any other information or a photo.

However in 2003 the Award was won by our late Treasurer Bill Lewis for a work bench built from recycled hardwood and European softwood from the Elizabethan Bowling Club in Rockdale. This bench is still in the Workshop today and is just as sturdy as it was when first made.

The above photo shows the work bench with all the other entries. These include category winners of a (partially obscured) furnished doll's house made from plywood and recycled timbers by the late Fred Seligmann, and a glass fronted cabinet by Peter Mott. This was made from pine and fitted with Federation style glass doors with miniature glass objects. Barry Gardner entered a small clock set in a piece of Tasmanian blackwood and a tide clock.





## **WORKSHOP - WIP - TOY MAKING**

The pictures below reflect just a few of the members who attended on Thursday 25th January. It was an organised hive of activity.

**Steve Lansley  
Racing Cars**



**Reno Sciberras  
Easter Egg Baskets**



**Gary Healey  
Mushrooms \***



**Maurice Smith  
Front End Loader**



**Ray De Marco  
Racing Cars**



## **MAXIDAY SHOW & TELL**

**Roger Dixon**



### **Kookaburra Money Box**

On the way to pick up our caravan I called in to my nephew's place at Noraville to deliver a ladder. We stayed for a cup of coffee and during our visit we exchanged photos. I showed him the two previous money boxes I made for our next door neighbour's kids & the response was by his wife "do you take orders". What could I say?

- The band saw cut out was from a piece of 45mm plywood. The money hole was cut with the scroll saw after slicing 5mm off the back
- The slice was then glued back. A rebate was cut in the front using the router to accommodate a acrylic cover & fixed with screws at each end
- The sanding was done using spindle, Mirka & hand
- The engraving was done using Pyrography unit & painting by hand with Posca paint pens
- Final finish was with several coats Acrylic gloss spray

### **"That's not a knife this is a Knife!!!!!"**

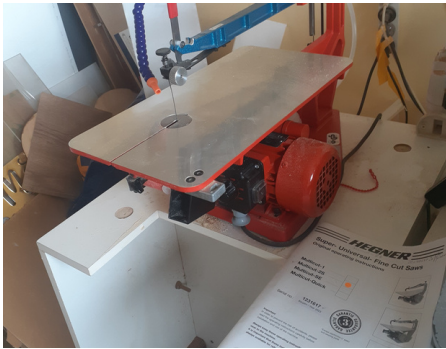
One of my fellow residents at Aroona at Yowie Bay just before Christmas asked if I could replace a broken handle on a family heirloom carving knife. The knife as seen in the photo is of great quality and has great patina. Its tang obviously was hand forged by a blacksmith on an anvil many years ago. The handle that needed to be replaced was a replacement in the past sometime. Never having had to undertake such a task previously, as usual, a question of how at a trip to our Club workshop elicited how. Many thanks to Ray T and Bob Q. The knife is about 450mm long. The resident is now merrily carving away. **Barry Gardner**



## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT - FEB '24**

Every month the Shire Woodworking Club produces another edition of Sawdust & Shavings that allows all our members to keep updated on what has been happening at your club. It also is distributed to many of our supporters and friends throughout the community and each issue is another addition to the archives of the Shire Woodworking Club. Looking back at some of the earlier editions shows numerous projects that have been carried out by members for their own use but also highlights the many club inspired projects that have been donated to worthy entities such as Hospitals, Vision Australia, Sutherland Council requests and local charitable organisations. Over the years Sawdust & Shavings have had three hard working editors who each month have devoted a considerable amount of their time to produce the next issue. I acknowledge the previous contribution made by Barry Gardner and Maurice Smith and our current editor Roger Walsh.

The Club has now installed a new Hegner Scroll Saw that was made possible by the Federal Government Stronger Communities Programme Round 8. The Hegner Scroll Saw is a premium quality German made machine and has numerous features our members will appreciate. It will be a reliable asset and will last for many years.



A reminder to please clean up after you have used a machine and do not leave surplus offcuts lying around. When leaving please ensure the bench space is left clean and without any half-finished projects taking up valuable space. Before you go, get acquainted with a broom and herd the sawdust and shavings to the nearest floor sweep.

## **LIBRARIAN UPDATE**

We have received the latest edition, February 2024 No 308 of Fine WoodWorking magazine. Lots of useful plans and advice. Take a look at the Woodpeckers page with list of tools available. Check out the Workshop Tips . There is an article 'Turn Sketches into CNC Files.' Which may have some relevance to the club's printer. For the artists in the club there are plans on 'An Artful Easel'. Plans for a crosscut sled. We all need one of them. Interesting article on Shopmade Banding – Add striking geometric patterns to your furniture pieces'. Tips for Turning Spalted Wood and plans for Building a Classic Ming Table. Magazine will be in the Gallerys book slot from today. Happy Woodworking – Roger Walsh Club Librarian

## HAVE A LAUGH

The following provided by Neil Matthews

**One Percenters.** Your perspective on this piece may change based on your actual age.....  
99% of people born between 1930 and 1946 (GLOBALLY) are now deceased...

If you were born in this time span, your ages range between 77 and 93 years old (a 16-year-age span) and you are one of the rare surviving one-percenters. You are the smallest group of children born since the early 1900s. You are the last generation, climbing out of the depression, who can remember the winds of war and the impact of a world at war that rattled the structure of our daily lives for years.

You are the last to remember ration books for everything from tea to sugar to shoes. You saved tin foil and poured fried meat fat into cans. You can remember milk being delivered to your house early in the morning and placed in the "milk box" at the front door. Discipline was enforced by parents and teachers.

You are the last generation who spent childhood without television and instead, you "imagined" what you heard on the radio. With no TV, you spent your childhood "playing outside". There was no city playground for kids. The lack of television in your early years meant that you had little real understanding of what the world was like. We got "black-and-white" TV in the late 50s that had 3 stations and no remote.

Telephones (if you had one) were one to a house and hung on the wall in the kitchen (who cares about privacy). Computers were called calculators; they were hand-cranked. Typewriters were driven by pounding fingers, throwing the carriage, and changing the ribbon. INTERNET and GOOGLE were words that did not exist. Newspapers and magazines were written for adults and your dad would give you the comic pages after he read the news. The news was broadcast on your radio in the evening. The radio network gradually expanded from 3 stations to thousands.

New highways would bring jobs and mobility. Most highways were 2 lanes and there were no Motorways. You went downtown to shop. You walked to school.

Your parents were suddenly free from the confines of the depression and the war, and they threw themselves into working hard to make a living for their families.

You weren't neglected, but you weren't today's all-consuming family focus. They were glad you played by yourselves. They were busy discovering the postwar world. You entered a world of overflowing plenty and opportunity; a world where you were welcomed, enjoyed yourselves. You felt secure in your future, although the depression and poverty were deeply remembered.

Polio was still acrippler. Everyone knew someone who had it.

You are the last generation to experience an interlude when there were no threats to our country. World War 2 was over and the cold war, terrorism, global warming, and perpetual economic insecurity had yet to haunt life. Only your generation can remember a time after WW2 when our world was secure and full of bright promise and plenty. You grew up at the best possible time, a time when the world was getting better.

More than 99% of you are retired now, and you should feel privileged to have "lived in the best of times!" If you have already reached the age of 77-years-old, you have outlived 99% of all the other people on this planet. You are a 1% 'er!

## GET TO KNOW US

### PROFILE: Malcolm Armstrong - Vice President



My wife of 51 years, Valerie, and I, have 2 adult children, and 4 grandchildren. My working life is a tale of 2 cities and a tale of 2 careers.

From the back blocks of Sutherland; dirt road out the front; plenty of cricket matches with friends, with a fruit box for a wicket; cracker night bonfires and climbing trees for birds eggs; I had no idea what was ahead. Influenced by my accountant father who was pretty handy with tools and DIY and two brothers way ahead of me age-wise; I learnt some practical skills and artistic knowledge that would come in handy in the years ahead.

I was educated at Sutherland primary school in the fifties and Jannali Boys High in the sixties. I obtained an apprenticeship in the electrical industry. I was required by my employer to study 2 courses at St. George Technical College, the Electrical Fitter Mechanics Trade course, and the Electrical Engineering Certificate, concurrently. My employer was Braybon Brothers, Electrical Engineers and Manufacturers, then located at the bottom end of Bathurst Street in Sydney's CBD. I spent my time there in both the drawing office and the workshop for 4 years. From there I was employed with the Department of Motor Transport as an Electrical Draftsman working on traffic signal installations. After a couple of years at DMT, I moved to an Engineering Assistant role, working with the engineers on various items of equipment, ensuring compliance. This required me to apply for an Electrician's Licence since I had already done the required Trade Certificate study. I have memories of assisting one of the Engineers in measuring the chromaticity of traffic signal lenses. This was to determine if they were within stipulated colour of red, amber and green. Measurements were taken in an optical tunnel under the UNSW at Kensington. Results were entered into a special formula and recorded in a report that I authored for 'passing up the line' for assessment.

Next was a move to our second city Brisbane, where I secured a job with the Southern Electric Authority of Queensland, in their drawing office. First at Northgate, then at head office in the CBD. My work involved preparation of wiring diagrams for transmission substation control panels, and then, in the city, preparing schematic diagrams that were then sent to Northgate!

Back in Sydney I secured a job with the Electricity Commission of NSW as a Draftsman in their Power Plant Design section. I never made it to the drawing board as they gave me a position as a Technical Officer, moving up to Tech' Officer, Grade 1, working on cabling contracts for various power stations; Wallerawang, Vales Point and lastly Eraring power station. I have memories of several flights to Eraring, by light plane, and walking around many cable tunnels under the plant, plus being assigned the task of presenting talks to the drafting team on how the cable management system operated.

In becoming a Christian at 16, I knew I was to take my faith seriously, so this led, eventually, to another move to Brisbane to attend the Baptist Theological College of Qld to study for pastoral ministry. Twenty-two years in the electrical industry dramatically changed to over 22 years in church ministry, pastoring 4 churches; one in Brisbane and 3 in NSW. My ministry experiences were various, including visits to North America, Ethiopia and the Dominican Republic, memories that won't leave me. I retired in 2013.

A tale of two cities and two careers; a long way from growing up in the back blocks of Sutherland!



# NOTICE BOARD



The club has a defibrillator located in the cabinet in the office in the workshop

## Member Medical History

Members please be aware that there is a member Medical History sheet that we should all complete. This was useful when Graham had his recent episode with visit to hospital. It would be very useful if we all took the time to complete. Alan Ritchie can give you the blank form.

## New Members



President with newest honorary member Sullivan Nate Rose ('Sully')

## Apology

In our January Newsletter the editor omitted to recognise Richard Cain (chief Chef) for his fantastic work in organising our Christmas lunch. Thanks Richard. It was a great day due in no small part to your efforts.

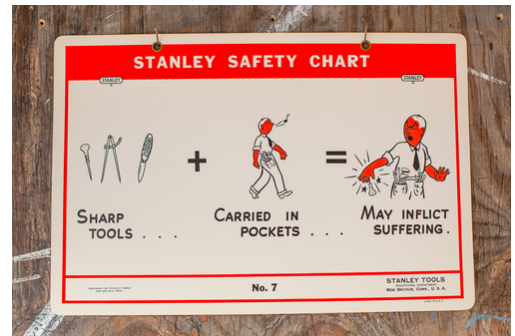


## SAFETY NOTICE

**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.

David Edwards

Safety messages from the past.



## Birthdays in February

- 2nd Gary Freitas
- 8th Wanda Moura
- 8th Greg Crossling
- 9th Graham Ethell
- 12th Peter Howard
- 22nd David Johnson
- 25th Peter Kluegel
- 25th Alan Stubbs
- 25th Les Symonds
- 26th Don Williams

## FIND US ONLINE

**Website:** <https://shirewoodworking.com.au/>

**Facebook:** Search for Shire Woodworking Club

 **2024 CALENDAR**

**Shire Woodworking Club 2024 Calendar**

January 2024							1
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
	PH	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	PH	27	
28	29	30	31				

February 2024							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	29			

March 2024							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	PH	PH	
PH							

April 2024							4
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
	PH	2	3	4	5	6	
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	PH	26	27	
28	29	30					

May 2024							5
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		

June 2024							6
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
						1	
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9	PH	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30							

July 2024							7
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				

August 2024							8
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
				1	2	3	
4	BH	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	

September 2024							9
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30					





October 2024							10
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	PH	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

November 2024							11
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
					1	2	
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 2024							12
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	PH	PH	27	
28	29	30	31				

**MAXI DAY**  
**9TH**  
**MARCH**

**TOY MAKING**  
**28TH**  
**MARCH**

LEGEND	
	Club Days - Every Tuesday to Thursday + Saturdays except 1st Saturday
	Committee Meeting 12:30pm - Tuesday, prior to 2nd Saturday. Note: Own projects catered for before & after meeting
	Maxi Day & General Meeting - 2nd Saturday.
	Toy Making Day - Last Thursday (Except April & December- 3rd Thursday) - No own projects

- Note: Last club day for 2024 is Saturday 21 December. Resume Thursday 2 January 2025
- Note: Minimum of 3 members present on any day to operate machinery. No exceptions unless for maintenance.
- **Note: Wood carvers attend 1st Saturday + 3rd Wednesday (Evening)**

## CLUB COMMITTEE, SUB COMMITTEES & AUXILIARY POSITIONS

President	Ian Rudd
Vice President	Malcolm Armstrong
Secretary	Maurice Smith - Ph : 0414 538 475
Treasurer	Alan Ritchie
Committee Member	Roger Dixon, Gary Healey Graham Ethell

Assistant Secretary	Roger Dixon
Assistant Treasurer	Roger Walsh
Project Sub-Committee	Ken Brunner, Ray Tregoning, Roger Walsh
Librarian	Roger Walsh
Safety Officers	David Edwards, Gary Healey, Axel Tennie, Bob Quigley
Welfare Officer	Malcolm Armstrong, & Kevin Gowen
First Aid Officers	Graham Ethell & Alan Ritchie
Newsletter Editor	Roger Walsh
Catering Officers	Richard Cain, Steve Lansley, Trevor Lewis, Neil Mathews, Lynn Messenger, Ray Tregoning, Axel Tennie, Roger Walsh
Equipment & Training	Roger Dixon, David Edwards, Neil Mathews, Kevin Gowen, Gary Healey, Ray Tregoning, James Windschuttle
Raffles	Gary Mitchell
Exhibitions Sub-Committee	Graham Ethell
Property Sub-Committee	Graham Ethell & Alan Ritchie
Toymaking	Malcolm Armstrong, Barry Gardner, Steve Lansley, Maurice Smith
Facebook	Alan Ritchie
Webmaster	Maurice Smith
Woodcarvers' Liaison	

### USEFUL WEBSITES

1. RobCosman.com
2. Paul Sellers.com
3. Epic Woodworking  
- Tom McGlaughlin.
4. Wood and Shop
5. Wood by Wright
6. Andy Rawls
7. EN Curtis
8. Mathew Cromona
9. Mitch Peacock
10. Mitch Cremona

Thanks Mike Green

Free Vector Files for Laser and CNC

<https://www.freevector.us/>

Box Designs for Laser

<https://www.festi.info/boxes.py/>

<https://en.makercase.com/#/>

Woodworking Tips and Plans

<https://www.woodcademy.com/>

<https://canadianwoodworking.com/project-plan/>

Thanks Dave Edwards

search youtube for "how an engineer breaks an egg"

Ref [youtube.com/watch?v=gYcF9ELNW6U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYcF9ELNW6U)

[v=gYcF9ELNW6U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYcF9ELNW6U)