

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 website : <https://shirewoodworking.com.au>

## 2024 PLANK COMPETITION RESULTS

### Maxi Day - 12 Oct '24

8:45	Open Lilli Pilli Workshop
9:00	Monthly Meeting
9:30	Ian's Videos
10:00	Morning Tea
10:30	Show & Tell
11:00	Guest Speaker Norglas- Specialty Finishes
12:30	Lunch
1:00	Raffle Draw



Hoping you enjoy the following photos and explanations from some of our creative members who took part in the Plank Competition this year. Firstly an overview of many of the toys followed by individual photos. Enjoy!



If you would like to receive this newsletter or have an article / idea for the newsletter, please contact the editor via email on [theshirewoodworkingclub@gmail.com](mailto:theshirewoodworkingclub@gmail.com).

Find Us On Facebook .. Search for “Shire Woodworking Club”





## **PLANK COMPETITION 2024**

### **IAN RUDD Cat A - 2nd**

### **HARPS**

During the last visit to the Children's Hospital, I was inspired by the work the Therapists do with music being a large part of the care for the child patients. The children are engaged with music from click sticks, simple three string cigar box guitars and basic drums.

I decided to make some harps and found that Amazon had harp strings and pegs for Lyre Harps at about \$20 per set. From photographs of various Lyre Harps, I drew the basic shape using Lightburn and made laser cut templates. From the plank I was able to make two harps and chose to make one a 7-string model and the other a 16 string. The harps are made in three layers to allow a sound box to be made.

The harps were cut out using the bandsaw and finished with the router. The final shape was smoothed using a sander and hand sanding. The pegs are screwed in and used to tune the strings. Hopefully these will be given to some needy children at the Children's Hospital.



### **GRAHAM ETHELL**

### **BEACH BUGGIES**

I've made a few of these beach buggies over the past few years from a plan I bought on the internet for \$8. They were always made from plywood and have been good sellers. After some planning I worked out I could get 5 from the plank if I was careful about the cutting out. So after slicing the plank in half on the large bandsaw I ended up with two lengths each thickened down to 5mm thick, which was about the right thickness for what I wanted.

Then all cut out on the laser and glued together. The parts mostly click together, but I elected to glue them as well to give extra strength, particularly as there are some quite small parts.

Using the pine on the laser provides a much better finish. You can see the cuts have brown edges, not the burnt black that we get from the ply. The only disadvantage is that some parts get broken clicking them together, as the pine doesn't have the strength of the ply particularly with small parts that can easily break. I had to redo a few, fortunately not significant and I still managed to obtain all the required parts from the two lengths of timber. There was no usable timber left over at the end.



## **TOM CROUCHER**

## **Tipper Truck**

I was keen to make a Tipper truck and took to google for ideas. I found one image that appealed to me and came with a good set of plans.

The first challenge was that I was going to use a set of existing wheels with a 45mm diameter. This meant converting the dimensions from imperial to metric and then scaling the measurements down by one-ninth. Thank you Excel.

The second challenge was that I was making this toy for the first time, and simply did not know what tolerance exists in the size of each part. So, I updated the plans with the new measurements to figure out where I had to be precise and where I could sand off any excess.

The third challenge was coordinating the making and assembly of 58 pieces in all, but 29 different parts.

There is a sense of satisfaction seeing it all come together in the end. But there is also the frustration, experienced only by perfectionists, of seeing mistakes that I would hope not to make if I made a second tipper truck.



### **3 Racing Cars**

With the left-over plank, I chose to make three racing cars. Back to the internet, and after looking at many images I finally found one that was good enough to get an idea of the relative size of each of the components.

There were multiple challenges in making these cars, for the first time, with no model or plans to work with:

- Making my own set of plans.
- Deciding on the dimensions that get the component sizes right and fit within the remaining timber.
- Making air intakes that look realistic.
- Making the air foils and attaching them securely to the body of the car while still looking slim and elegant.

This was a very satisfying project as I had not made anything similar before and the whole project was all my work: from getting the mental picture of the car, drawing the plans and thinking about how to make it.



*Printed as a community service at the office of*

**SIMON KENNEDY MP**  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR COOK





**ROBERT LEAKE**

**Truck with tray, truck with ladder, truck with trailer and small airplane.**

The proportions for the trucks were taken from Ingvar Nielson's book called "Wooden Toys". His designs were then modified to suit. The build process involved was - Cut and plane timber to thickness and length. Cut miters for trays/trailers/cabins and drill holes for fitting the wheels/lights etc. Cut timber for the wheels then shape using 12inch disc sander and lathe. Cut wheel axels/hubs and lights etc from dowel using table saw and lathe. Glue trays/trailer/cabins together. Color all pieces with water dyes. Glue all pieces together. Apply oil and wax finish. Robert Leake



**RAY DE MARCO**

**RACINGS CARS**

I was prompted to enter when I saw a large number of planks available. Spoke to Ian to check that I could make unpainted racing cars for the Children's Hospital and a coloured entry for variety as well. He was happy with that not being a competition entry as I was not concerned about making a winning entry. My main feeling and motivation were for the children. I witnessed them on our delivery visits and additionally when I was a patient, I also saw them with their sad parents at treatment times in the radiation area.



So, the aim was to provide a variety of them different in design as unpainted racing car toys, one stained and two trucks for the children. The stained one was to be in design with differing dual back wheels abstract to the point that I was continually coming back to describe them as "arty-crafty". Oops! I just misspelt the word I mentioned on Saturday. I was also asked that one of the trucks looked like a bus.

.....

**Sept Maxiday Nose Bag lunch Menu**

**Vintage Cheddar Macaroni Beef & Pork Bake**

- 180 Day aged ground gallaway beef from the Scottish Highlands
  - "Gloucestershire (a breed of pig) old spots" pork mince.
  - Spanish 'Allium Rouyi' caramelised onions.
  - Hand harvested - ground Triticum Durum Wheat for the hand fashioned macaroni swirls
  - An infusion of aged cheddar from the village of Cheddar in Somerset. Topped off with an accompaniment of bespoke secret relishes, spices & herbs that make 'Formosan Rock mac aques' 'monkey spit coffee beans' look common place'
- BON APPETIT**

**PS** If the catering team are bored and want to add a salad!?! 1. Finely chop up a cabbage, 2. Combine: jar salad cream or egg mayo with apple cider or white wine vinegar & dijon mustard and celery seed if you want to be really flash! Mix ingredients and taste continuously until 6 of you can agree that the flavour balance is nice on a bogan palate! Then mix it into the sliced cabbage. - Axel Tennie

## **GARY HEALEY Cat B 2nd**

After much pondering and searching the internet for possible toys to make for the Plank Contest I ended up in the club's library, with a book, Animated Animal Toys in Wood. What do kids like? Last year I made the dragon, they were not popular, lack of market research. This year I spoke to the grandchildren. Brawny Brontosaurus looked like it might be the go as all kids seem to like dinosaurs. I printed out the templates for the parts and cut the timber. What to do with the leftover plank, worry about that later. I persevered and made all the components including the "pegs" for the joints in the limbs which was done with some dowel and glued the head onto the dowel and turned the head.

Wheels were cut with the hole saw and the rough OD turned in the lathe.

Ready for assembly:-

But what about the rest of the wood? Got it! I will make Brawny a friend, Solar Stegosaurus from the same book.

Following the same process and cut out the components, still leftover timber, worry about it later.

I glued the body together and started with trial assembly, Brawny went well but Solar had a problem, the assembled photograph did not agree with the template components. The label "front" on the body template was the rear in the photograph.

Followed the template, minor modification to the upper limbs as they clashed with the wheels when the toy walked. All assembled ok in the end. I used some of the leftover plank to "fatten" up the animals, I fitted infill panels around the bodsies and used walnut stain on Brawny's panels. With Solar, I left the body panels natural and stained the limbs to highlight the movement. With leftover I decided to make a stand to mount them on with wheel stops to hold them in place. The coating I used was Anchor Clear Lacquer Gloss finish sanding with steelwool between the 3 coats.

## **BRAWNY BRONTOSAURUS**



## **PETER WARREN Cat C 2nd**

## **MY LITTLE ZOO**

My Little Zoo is a small suitcase containing 6x2 zoo animals and a small lean-to shelter, assembled with magnets. The case was made using the plank sawn in half. Finished with food safe oil mixed with bees wax. It can be personalised with a child's name using the laser. Learnings include cutting the animal shapes on the bandsaw and using magnets for the case clasp and shelter assembly.





**MAURICE SMITH****Catalina Flying Boat**

The genesis for my project occurred when my wife and I travelled to Lord Howe Island earlier this year. For many years after-World War II, there was no airport on the island thus the fastest mode of mass transport there was via Catalina Flying Boat which were sold as surplus after the end of the War. Qantas operated them from a base in Rose Bay in Sydney Harbour. The aircraft landed in the large lagoon on Lord Howe Island. I'm sure that the entire population of the island would have been aware of the flight landing and take-offs as it was a very noisy aircraft. One crashed on Lord Howe Island, and I've seen the small amount of wreckage in a field there.

I started researching the aircraft and discovered that while they had, for their time, quite long endurance of around 4,000 km, they were slow with a cruising speed of around 200 kph and had a maximum altitude of around 4,800 meters.

Consequently, enemy fighters found them easy pickings. However, they had numerous niches to which they were well adapted when well camouflaged, including search and rescue operations and anti-submarine patrols. There were over 4,000 manufactured during their production life cycle.

There are numerous intact (but not flying) Catalina's on display in Australia, including at Lake Boga, Albion Park and Longreach. When you see them up-close it is quite surprising to see how wide the wingspan is at 32 meters and how stubby the body is at 19.5 meters. My version reflects this, while the real-life version has several cupolas my version has omitted these. My version is the matte black version which was used in various WWII campaigns for nighttime missions against enemy facilities.

If you want to learn more about these aircraft there are quite a few good sources on the internet, just start with Wikipedia and then follow their various links.

As usual I've enjoyed the process of making my entry. I'm already contemplating what I'll work on in next year's Plank Competition.



## PIRATE SHIP

### RAY BYWATER Cat B 1st



After making many cars and trucks, I wanted to try and make some type of boat, finally deciding upon a pirate ship. While I had no formal plan, I found a photo of a suitable ship on the internet.

Rather than have a slab sided boat, I separated the boards on the sides by strips of veneer. The wheels were added to give more stability and to make it more "toy-like". The hull is hollow, which allowed the fitting of the wheels and gave me off cuts with which to finish the cabin. It also enabled the fitting of a base to support the mast. There was a lot of waste and I was able to use these pieces to make the cabin and stair, etc before almost running out of plank.

The square edges of each board on the side were then rounded off and finished with 100 then 240 grit paper. The mast, sails, stairs, handrails, etc. were then added. Gary Healey kindly turned the crows nest for me with the Club lathe.

Of course it would not be a pirate ship without a pirate and cannon, which were added to complete the model.

## PUZZLES

### ALAN RITCHIE



My plank competition is a set of wooden puzzles, each able to be broken apart into individual pieces and, as an interesting and challenging task, reassembled. The designs were found by searching the internet. Most designs had to be adjusted in size to fit the plank dimensions. The first is a dice puzzle which, when correctly assembled, shows a standard dice with the values of 1 through 6 on the individual faces. These 9 pieces were cut to size and drilled for laser cut coloured acrylic dots to be inserted. 4 base pieces were cut to hold the finished puzzle. The pieces were finished with urethane satin spray. Two different cube shaped puzzles were cut to length and various rebates formed on the table saw using the club's flat toothed saw blade. Two different sized cross style puzzles were also cut to length and rebated on the table saw. One of these was stained using some of the club's stains. All of these later puzzles we finished with a Feast Watson hard wax and buffed to a satin finish. The puzzles will be sold with instructions if you need help in putting them back together

## BIG TOY PLANE

### ROBERT STEEGE Cat C 3rd



I have made these planes before for friends' grandkids. They are very strong and little kids can sit on them and push along. I cut the shapes out of the plank and fastened it together with glue. I feel these are useful and I am making another for sale. I'm not good at woodwork but am improving and hope to make harder things in the future.



## **RACING CARS**

## **STEVE LANSLEY Cat B 3rd**



This year after taking a plank, could not find something interesting to construct.

So I set myself a challenge to make as many toys as possible from the plank, achieved ten racing cars six for the hospital and four for the gallery.

Wheels 3D printed , gallery items stains and finished on clear gloss.

## **AXEL TENNIE Cat C 1st**

## **MECHANICAL DIORAMA**

The inspiration for this mechanical diorama came from making Japanese moving paper models with grandkids. My feeble attempt to implant some cranial mental glue into their grey matter on how things they use and encounter in their every day lives ‘TICK’.

Based on my favourite Japanese Philosophy, these are all ‘Wabi Sabi’ models.

One off first prototypes that are far from perfect a bit like their maker! Probably not in keeping with the Excellence Criteria set out in the Plank Competitions judging criteria. But Hay! I had a lot of fun putting them together. Some of it is trickier than it looks.

By slicing the 19 mm plank length ways I managed to squeeze 10 models out rather than just 5 from the one plank.

I never did master slicing even one piece of the plank dead centre on the bandsaw hence some of the models are a tad thinner than others!. I also learnt that E plys R equals+0



## STEAMWHEELER



## ROGER WALSH Cat A 3rd



My entry is taken from "Great Book of Wooden Toys". It's designed with the paddle wheel that revolves as you push or pull the boat across carpet or sand. I believe it is not suitable for water as the Timbers would swell and the paddle wheel will most likely lock up as the wood swells.

The construction starts with the hull in two pieces and uses the linisher to achieve the 45 degree angle. I tried using the scroll saw to cut out the portholes but reverted to a Forstner bit and tidy up with Bandsaw. Making the top level required accuracy to align the vertical pieces and glue in place. The paddle wheel required some precision to cut the slots and glue the paddles in place. The Smoke Stacks are in two pieces and glued to the base. The cabins use a simple butt joint. The mahogany colour was achieved using a Wastle stain and varnish with 3-4 applications. The overall finish uses the Anchor spray lacquer. I have used Selleys quick set wood glue and Tite Bond yellow labelled wood glue.

## STEAM LOCOMOTIVE, COAL TRUCK & CARRIAGE

## TIM DODDS Cat A 1st



## FEATURES

- Locomotive – furnace comprises 9 u-shaped pine pieces pine (centre cutout), glued and sanded to a smooth finish. Furnace chimneys, pressure valves, bell, steam whistle, etc made from various dowels, & flat circles - sanded to shape with bases sanded to fit curved furnace. The bell was sanded from a piece of 18-20mm dowel.
- Coal wagon – what is the coal? – its actually laser detritus (offcuts) from various sources. Glued onto an old piece of foam cut to fit into a baking paper lined mould (using Gorilla Glue), then subsequent glue, sprinkling of laser offcuts, glue, offcuts, etc. until desired height achieved. Once dry, then coated with approx. 50ml of slightly diluted timber glue which was poured/brushed on. Check no loose pieces then black matt spray over top. The coal "piece" is easily removable providing a place for all sorts of toys – eg farm animals, etc.
- Carriage – used window laser cutouts to elevate seats and sanded back to give slight lean-back. Roof opens for kids to peek inside, place toy people or other existing toy items they may have.
- lasered windows glazed with lasered clear Perspex. Laser used for precision on door cutouts, train wheels, cow-catcher, carriage-coal wagon-loco connections.
- Lasered name panel cutouts to add definition to name. SWCC = south western Choo Choo's (Shire Woodworking Club)
- Colour - children love colour – many coats to achieve a bright mid green, red highlights, yellow lights, imitation copper, bronze, brass and silver finishes on locomotive, timber stained doors, chairs and inside rooves.



## COMEDY CORNER



Six retired Irishmen were playing poker in O'Leary's apartment when Paddy Murphy loses \$500 on a single hand, clutches his chest, and drops dead at the table. Showing respect for their fallen brother, the other five continue playing standing up.

Michael O'Connor looks around and asks, 'Oh, me boys, someone got's to tell Paddy's wife. Who will it be?' They draw straws. Paul Gallagher picks the short one. They tell him to be discreet, be gentle, don't make a bad situation any worse.

Discreet??? I'm the most discreet Irishmen you'll ever meet. Discretion is me middle name. Leave it to me.'

Gallagher goes over to Murphy's house and knocks on the door. Mrs. Murphy answers, and asks what he wants.

Gallagher declares, 'Your husband just lost \$500, and is afraid to come home.'

Tell him to drop dead!', says Murphy's wife..

'I'll go tell him.' says Gallagher.

**I need a day between every day to recover from the day before and prepare for the upcoming day.**



You come from dust and you will return to dust. That's why I don't dust. It could be someone I know.



## NOTICE BOARD



### Birthdays in October

*Happy  
Birthday!*

2nd David Hughes  
5th Anthony Boyd  
6th Simon Pike  
8th Peter Edwards  
9th Daniel Blythe  
31st David Whitney

### Raffle Winners 21/9/2024

1st Peter Warren  
2nd Brian Harwood  
3rd Ray Bywater

*Thank you*

**On the 14 Sept - Local Council Election Day**  
the Club had Open Day Sales.

Excellent result and a big thank you to the many club members who were there to set up, sell and encourage sales to the passing traffic.

### New Members

Ron Bell

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Wed 25 Sept

Visit to club by Simon Kennedy, Federal Member for Cook

#### Fri 27 Sept

Toy Delivery to Childrens' Hospital

#### Sun 27 Oct

Gymea Fair

#### Sat 23 Nov

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

#### Sat 7 Dec

Bunnings Sales Desk

### *Letter from The Family Co.*

Dear Ian,

On behalf of Jedda and all our staff at The Family Co. we wanted to extend a heartfelt thank you to you and the entire Shire Woodworking Club at Lilli Pilli for the beautiful gifts you've made for us. The craftsmanship is truly wonderful, and I know these pieces are going to bring great joy to the children in our art groups.

The wooden houses, pencil cases and car that the club made are particularly special and will make fantastic gifts for children this Christmas. These creations will certainly bring smiles and happiness to many families.

Your generosity and effort will make a meaningful impact, and we are so grateful for your support.

Kind Regards,

Theresa



### Shire Woodworking Club 2024 Calendar

January 2024 <sup>1</sup>							February 2024 <sup>2</sup>							March 2024 <sup>3</sup>						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
	PH	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3						1	2
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
21	22	23	24	25	PH	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	PH	PH
														PH						
April 2024 <sup>4</sup>							May 2024 <sup>5</sup>							June 2024 <sup>6</sup>						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
	PH	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	PH	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	PH	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
														30						
July 2024 <sup>7</sup>							August 2024 <sup>8</sup>							September 2024 <sup>9</sup>						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	BH	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					
October 2024 <sup>10</sup>							November 2024 <sup>11</sup>							December 2024 <sup>12</sup>						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	PH	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	PH	PH	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

#### 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. Note: Sep changed to 21st
- 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: There must be a minimum of 3 members present on any day. No exceptions.

**Note: Wood carvers attend 1st Saturday + 3rd Wednesday (Evening)**

**NEXT MAXI DAY  
12TH  
OCTOBER**

**TOY MAKING  
26TH SEPT**

## CLUB COMMITTEE, SUB COMMITTEES & AUXILIARY POSITIONS

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

Assistant Secretary	Roger Dixon
Assistant Treasurer	Roger Walsh
Project Sub-Committee	Gary Healey, Ray Tregoning
Librarian	Roger Walsh
Safety Officers	Gary Healey, Ian Rudd, Ray Tregoning
Welfare Officer	Malcolm Armstrong, & Kevin Gowen
First Aid Officers	Graham Ethell & Alan Ritchie
Newsletter Editor	Roger Walsh
Catering Officers	Axel Tennie Richard Cain, Steve Lansley, Neil Mathews, Ray Tregoning,
Equipment & Training	Roger Dixon, Ray Tregoning, Maurice Smith, Ian Rudd
Raffles	Gary Mitchell
Exhibitions Sub-Committee	Graham Ethell, Ian Rudd, Malcolm Armstrong
Property Sub-Committee	Graham Ethell & Alan Ritchie, Maurice Smith
Toymaking	Malcolm Armstrong, Steve Lansley, Maurice Smith, Ian Rudd, Axel Tennie, Reno Sciberras
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://youtube.com/watch?v=gYcF9ELNW6U)