

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

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September 2025



This newsletter is being issued a bit earlier than usual in order to capture what was a very enjoyable Maxiday 09 August as summarised below.

- AGM with the re-election of the existing committee. Refer President's Report page 2
- A great Show & Tell with presentations from six members. Refer pages 4 & 5
- An excellent Guest Speaker Greg de Moore. Refer page 6
- A very professional presentation by club member Simon Pike on the 3D Printer. Refer page 8.
- A beautiful Morning Tea and an even better soup for lunch prepared by Axel and the catering team.
- Ian presented a video about an older gentleman by the name of Ralph Affleck who built his own Saw Mill. It is well worthwhile having a look at it. Ralph reminded me of an earlier club stalwart Bill Lewis. Refer following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/v=677013766492375>

Our next Maxi Day on the 13 September will be devoted to the judging of entries in our Plank Competition. I believe we will have over 10 entries. Good Luck to all.

Maxi Day 13 Sept 2025

8:45	Open Lilli Pilli Workshop
9:00	Monthly Meeting
9:30	Plank Competition Judging
10:00	Morning Tea
10:30	Plank Competition Judging
12:00	Plank Comp Results
12:15	Lunch
1.00	Show & Tell
1.30	Raffle

Future Events

- Sat 23 Aug - Bunnings BBQ
- Wed 27 Aug - Toy Delivery to Children's Hospital
- Sun 26 Oct - Gynea Village Festival - Main street location
- Thu 20 Nov - Woollooware Shores Market day
- Sat 6 Dec - Bunnings Front Foyer
- Delivery to Family Co - TBA

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.

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President's September 2025 AGM Report



I would like to welcome you all to the 2025 AGM meeting. The Shire Woodworking club has enjoyed another year of success that was driven by its members, and we can look forward to future years of making sawdust and creating toys and other wooden items.

I think that all would agree that the club is a great place to be able to attend and share the camaraderie, learn new skills and pass on your skills to others over sawdust and coffee. Our current membership is 95 members.

Charity Work

This year we have donated over 1000 toys to The Royal Children's Hospital as well as other charities, The Family Co. at Jannali and Sutherland Hospital. Our club has been associated with The Family Co. for about 15 years and the Randwick Children Hospital for over 20 years and our toys and other therapy items are still in demand.

As well as the benefits that the toys bring to the children in long term stay it brings an uplifting spirit to our club. We look forward to continuing these associations with these charities.

Fund raising

This year's fund-raising events included GyMEA Village Fair, the location was not the best, but it was a success, Woollooware Shores Retirement village stalls, Bunnings sausage sizzle, Easter and Mother's Day stalls, Sutherland Hospital stall as well as doors sales at the club. We also participated in the Cook Community Raffle, thanks to all who purchased tickets from the club.

Thank you to all that assisted in making these events a success.

Financials

I can report that the club is still operating on a surplus as Alan will discuss in the financial report.

Equipment

Equipment upkeep is a constant chore and 2024-25 saw the replacement of the dust extraction system motor which had become very noisy due to failed bearings.

The laser machine had a new laser module fitted.

This year we applied for grants from the Local, State and Federal governments for club improvements. We were successful in obtaining a State Government grant that allowed the club to purchase the CNC router. Alan and David E are learning the ins and outs of the machine and will transfer their knowledge to other club members.

We have modified the layout in the gallery to give better access to the display items to potential customers.

Sub committees

The success of the club is dependent on the members of the Clubs Committee, Sub Committees and patrons of the club.

I am appreciative of the assistance I get from committee and subcommittee members

Special mentions

If I have missed mentioning others I apologise up front. There is a list in the Sawdust and Shavings newsletter showing the names of the subcommittee members who work tirelessly for the club, toymaking, Fundraising and Exhibitions etc and without these members the club would suffer. A big thankyou to these members.

Roger Walsh, Vice President, who reviews my reports, arranges guest speakers, prepares the Sawdust and Shavings (along with his editor Jan) and other behind the scenes tasks.

Maurice Smith, Secretary who prepares all the correspondence and secretarial items and keeps all the paperwork up to date to satisfy the various Government Departments.

Roger Dixon, Assistant Secretary, records the minutes of the club meetings as well as other subcommittee hats.

Alan Richie, Treasurer, who keeps the finances in place, sales, door entry and annual fees and equipment/consumables invoices to keep the club going.

Richard Cain has retired from the catering duties and handed the golden spatula to Axel Tennie. Thank you, Richard, for keeping everyone fed and happy. It will be a hard act to follow; I think you will still see Richard wandering the kitchen making sure all is in good order.

Ray Tregoning, safety, catering, equipment and training.

Ian Rudd, (all things laser), Malcolm Armstrong and the toymaking team, creating new ideas for toys and other items for sale.

Thank you for your support during the year.

Support your committee.

Discussions for the coming year: With increasing membership, we may need to open on a Monday if there is a need for it. Replacement of aging/more versatile equipment for example the 12" disc sander.

·Lobbying for more government grants.

Election of Office Bearers for 2025/2026 The AGM resulted in the re-election of all current committee members. Refer to page 12 for the table of office bearers.

An important moment in time

Flight of the Concorde. We all receive text messages from mates/friends with interesting info. This one caught my attention. Thought you might also find it interesting.



"In April 1985, high above the Irish Sea, a rare and breathtaking event unfolded—one that would never be repeated.

The Concorde, the world's most advanced passenger aircraft, was cruising at 50,000 feet and twice the speed of sound. Just behind it, riding the edge of fuel limits and physics, was a Royal Air Force Tornado fighter jet—its afterburners lit, matching the supersonic pace for only a few moments.

In the back seat of that Tornado sat British photographer Adrian Meredith, gripping his camera, knowing he had mere seconds to take the shot. No retakes. No second pass. Just sky, speed, and instinct.

What he captured became legendary: a gleaming white Concorde piercing the stratosphere, framed by the curve of the Earth. It remains the only known photograph of the Concorde at Mach 2 in full flight.

That single image froze in time an age when the sky wasn't the limit—it was just the beginning. And though the Concorde retired in 2003, the photo endures as a soaring tribute to human ambition, precision, and the sheer thrill of chasing the impossible.

A blink of history. A symbol of speed. And a reminder of what we dared to do."

MAXIDAY SHOW AND TELL 09 August

Whirligig



A whirligig is defined as a toy that spins or whirls. Our toy is of the push-a-long variety with the wooden ball whirls friction driven by the wheels of the toy. I made a batch of four of these toys, one for sale in the gallery and the remainder for the children's hospital. The toys for the hospital are largely unpainted for the children to finish off. I have also not glued the handles on so these can be removed if the toy is to be used in bed and I hope these will provide some entertainment for kids who receive them.

Toys like this also present assembly problems that need to be solved. How do you hold the blue ball on top to drill a 10mm hole in it without damaging the 25mm soft wooden ball? I did this by drilling a 25mm hole 25mm deep in a piece of scrap wood and cutting a slot through this hole with a screw at the end to make a clamp. This held the ball while it was drilled.

Neil Matthews

David Johnson

The wood is pieces left over from making cutting boards which had faults, were too short or not big enough in one dimension. The position of the pieces was based on the size and condition of the timber. Decided on the shape to be a bit of an eye catcher.

Fish Shaped Pizza or Serving Board



Ian Rudd

The July Toy Making Day had a number of members making a Parliament of owls. Roger Dixon had previously used the large dished cutter to create the hollowed bowl that is under the wings. My thanks to all the members who cut out the owl shape, sanded the owl and special thanks to Nilgun who fixed all the eyes and wings

PARLIAMENT OF OWLS



Curved Shaped Abrasive Pads



These sanding devices are used to sand irregular shapes. They can smooth curves and sand grooves and slots that cannot be sanded using the drum sander or Mirka sanders.

Several club members have been using the sanding mops, but members recently have been surprised to see me using the mops to sand wooden items. Sanding mops can be used with an electric drill or drill press, but in the club are used on the Sand Flea located near our lathe and our big bandsaw. The mops are on the sand flea near the lathe. The wheel flaps are with the dremel accessories in the storeroom.

Alan Ritchie

There are three different grit grades for these sanding mops, 80, 120 and 200 to clean-up and then complete the sanding process to the desired finish. The sand flea rotation speed is ideal for smoothing timber items. When using these sanding mops, try to keep your hands away from the spinning mops as they are efficient devices for removing skin from your hands!

The sanding flap wheels are used in the hand-held Dremel type devices. The flap wheels can be different grit grades. The ones we have are 120 grit. They are found with the Dremel type tools and their attachments in the storeroom.

Graham Ethell

These two beach buggies were made from plans I bought some years ago. They had files for 3, 4 and 6mm timber. I had previously made some smaller ones, these two are from 6mm ply. After a few small modifications to the file, they fitted together perfectly with snap fittings, but I glued the parts together for extra strength.



Beach Buggies



Gary Healey

When I was cleaning out my old toolbox a couple of months back I found the lazy susan swivel plate so I decided to make a lazy susan for the kitchen table at home, it was readily accepted. Trouble was it was always covered grandkids craft items, so I said I would take it to the club and we may be able to sell it, NOOOO. That was that. Why don't you make another one.

So, I purchased another small swivel plate at Bunnings and found some pine in the clubs wood shed, added a couple of stringers to brighten it up and it worked well. I had a circular plywood template but when I tried to router the diameter the grain kept tearing out at slow rev's and fast rev's so I sanded the diameter on the disc sander.

I sanded the surfaces with the Mirca to what I thought was a good finish and sprayed it with clear gloss lacquer sanding between coats. I won't use the gloss again as shows up the sanding mark that I did not get out, magnified them would be a better description. Next time I will use the satin finish I used on the first model.

Lazy Susan



Ray Tregoning

After viewing something like this for sale on the internet Gayle made the suggestion that one of these would be suitable for our verandah. Having looked at the pictures, the price and the quality I decided to measure it up for our space in a foldable design for storage. I raided my timber store and chose Western Red Cedar, Australian Red Cedar, Hemlock and plywood on edge for a feature and strength. It is coated with Polycure Gloss which is Tung Oil modified so it dries to a hard finish as it can be used for a floor coating.

I liked the idea of a folding trivet to enable storage after seeing some David Edwards made on the CNC. I made a pattern and cut some out of Red Cedar with Hoop Pine timber plugs for decoration. It is finished with 2 coats of Anchor 100% Gloss.

Handrail Hanging Table



Folding Trivet



GUEST SPEAKER

Greg de Moore

Greg de Moore is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry based at Sydney's Westmead Hospital. Born in Melbourne of parents who migrated to Australia from Sri Lanka, Greg has lived in Sydney for more than 30 years. He has written and co-written three previous books—the biography Tom Wills (Allen & Unwin, 2008 & 2011), A National Game: The History of Australian Rules Football (Viking/Penguin, 2008) and Finding Sanity: John Cade, Lithium and the Taming of Bipolar Disorder (Allen & Unwin, 2016). The biography of Tom Wills was based on meticulous research unearthing original medical records, letters, textbooks and notes previously believed to have been lost or destroyed. This book was short-listed for the National Biography Award.

“Tom Wills - The Insubordinate Life of an Australian Sporting Legend”

Tom Wills, more than any other man, was responsible for the game we call Australian Rules football.

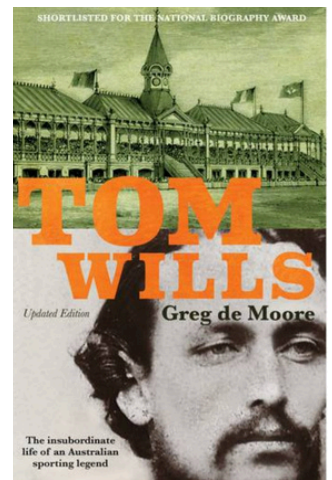
It is not often that we think of a footballer as a revolutionary. But Tom Wills was a revolutionary.

It was ten years ago that I first came across the name of Tom Wills in a short article on the origins of Australian Rules football. Towards the end of the article my eyes settled upon a single line: *on an autumn day in 1880 Tom Wills took his life. He was 44 years old.*

It took me 10 years to uncover the life of Tom Wills and then write his biography. Like Ned Kelly and Don Bradman, the life of Tom Wills is a national story.

Birth near the nation's capital

The people of the Australian Capital Territory can justly lay claim to Tom Wills for it was near Canberra, next to the Molonglo River, that he was born in the year of 1835. You can still walk on the land where Tom Wills took his first breath. I did so not long ago when researching my book on Tom Wills.



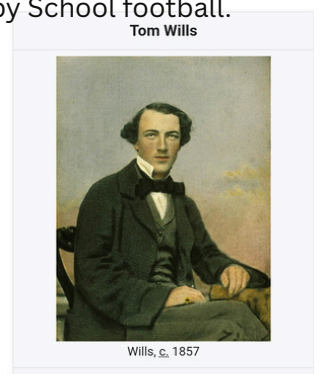
I left Canberra, drove through Queanbeyan and followed the Molonglo River towards Captains Flat. At a sharp bend in the river I got out of the car. What I saw was a beautiful but hard landscape – blustery and cold. This was roughly the spot where Tom's parents settled in the 1830s on a sheep station Burra Burra.

At the age of 4 Tom Wills overlanded with his parents from the ACT to Mount William, in the Grampians, in Western Victoria.

The blueprint for Tom's sporting life was set when his father, Horatio Wills, sent him to Rugby School, England, in 1850. His father wished him to attend Cambridge University and return to Melbourne as a lawyer. Rather, Tom became one of the finest young cricketers in England and learnt the game of Rugby School football.

A New Game - When Tom Wills returned to Melbourne he was the most beautiful of all athletes and his appearance caught envious and admiring eyes. Wills immediately became the darling of the Victorian social set and he captained the Victorian cricket team to repeated victories over NSW.

On 10 July 1858, Bell's Life in Victoria published a letter written by Tom Wills in which he called for the formation of a foot-ball club in the colony. It remains the most important letter in the history of the game. On 7 August 1858, the famous game of football between Scotch College and Melbourne Grammar commenced on the Richmond Paddock, near where the MCG now stands. Tom Wills umpired this game.



The following year, on 17 May 1859, Tom Wills met three other men James Thompson, William Hammersley and Thomas Smith at the Parade Hotel, near the Melbourne Cricket Ground. The outcome of this meeting was the oldest surviving written rules for Australian football.

Tom played football in Melbourne for the next three years. He was the game's sharpest tactician and a man bequeathed a creative mind focused on winning at any price. He was instrumental in adopting the rugby shaped ball in early games and his experimental tactics as captain won admiration and praise.

Tragedy in Queensland - In 1861, Tom and his father travelled to Central Queensland to take up a new family property. Days after arriving on the property, on 17 October 1861, as Tom's father and the settlers rested on a hot afternoon, local aborigines attacked the party. Horatio Wills and 18 other settlers were murdered. It was the largest single killing of white settlers by aborigines in this country's history. Fortunately, Tom Wills was away from the campsite and survived this attack.

Ironically, only five years later in 1866, Tom Wills coached a Victorian cricket team of Western District aborigines. The players spoke the same language that Tom had learnt as a child and from the start he was seen as closely allied to the team. Tom Wills led this team on to the MCG, on Boxing Day 1866, to the applause of 8000 curious spectators.

Tom Wills continued to play football with the Melbourne Football Club and the Geelong Football Club and cricket for Victoria. At his peak, he rubbed shoulders with the most eminent men in sport and society.

The legacy of Tom Wills - After his sporting career ended Tom's life rapidly declined. In 1880 he was an alcoholic living on the outskirts of Melbourne. And in autumn of that year he took his life while in a state of delirium tremens. His funeral was private as his family sought to protect the name of the family. Tom Wills was the first captain of the Melbourne Football Club. He was the game's first great leader of men on the field, and a man of unquenchable optimism.

There are many ways to see Tom Wills. One way is to see him as the man who connects the Rugby and AFL halves of our nation. For it was Tom Wills who brought the Rugby School rules to the Richmond Paddock next to the MCG and who helped modify the rules to create the game of Australian football.

If Tom Wills had been born in America, every schoolgirl and schoolboy would be taught his story – to learn something of his legacy. Movies and documentaries would have been made and someone, long before me, would have delved to write his full biography.



TO SAVOUR YOUR PALATE

Menu for September

At our August Maxiday we had a fantastic “Pulmenti” with enough left over to provide for the following couple of days. Axel provides the following for September.

It's rumoured the Pom colonists in India thought the height of fashion was a cucumber sandwich. QE II had hers patted down with paper towels before being pettily placed on buttered crustless bread with a pinch of black pepper & chopped fresh mint. However, the good news, these insipid historical offerings will not be served! But you may bring your own if you feel so inclined for a trip down memory lane !?

In lieu there of, we'll try for some up market more nutritious and appetising Sourdough, Wraps and Wholegrain Rolls with Red Salmon, Free Range Chicken & Ham off the Bone with accompaniments of: Pickles; Relishes; Mayos & assorted dressed greens. Bon Appetit.

Axel



3D Printing Demonstration

Simon Pike

At our AGM on 9 August, I presented and demonstrated the use of my Bambu Labs X1C 3D printer. I was able to complete 2 small demonstration boats during the morning and showed the club some short one minute time-lapse videos of another two prints being completed. To those who missed the presentation – there's a metal print nozzle which heats to 210 deg C to melt the PLA plastic. The nozzle is mounted above a heated bed on and moves in an X-Y axis. After depositing the first layer, the bed drops down in small increments on the Z axis and allows additional layers to be placed on top, gradually adding more and more layers until the finished product takes shape. If you want to see it in action, you can watch it on someone else's machine on this link; <https://tinyurl.com/3Dprintout>.

I also brought along several finished products for the members to look at and manhandle. Fortunately, no one broke anything, which is either a testament to the strength of the printed products, or the lack of strength in club members. I will let others be the judge. I also talked about the types of filament to use, the properties of different materials and their respective costs. I covered how users could download a multitude of existing designs from websites like 'Thingiverse', or move to designing their own components in a free website called 'TinkerCAD'; a simplified and free version of similar professional AutoCAD (Computer Aided Design) type programs.

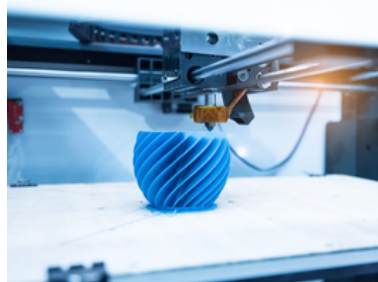
Some member asked about scanning existing objects to then build on a printer. Although I didn't cover this in my presentation, there are several products on the market which can perform a scanning role and at various price points. You can check them out yourself here; <https://tinyurl.com/3Dscanneroption>. I haven't used one before, so I can't vouch for the accuracy of any reproductions.

Gary Mitchell presented one of the finished boats to our morning's other guest speaker, Greg de Moore, before we wrapped up for lunch. If the club does consider using a 3D printer in future then I'm always available to offer advice and training on setting up a club printer and helping members learn how to use it.

Bambu Labs X1C 3D printer.



X,Y axis print head, above the heated Z axis heated bed



Additional scanner option



Alexa / Echo Spot in 3D printed ceiling mount



Kitchen sponge holder



'Benchy' boat - a 3D benchmark test print



NOTICE BOARD



Safety Notice



Safety is the responsibility of every member of the club

Birthdays in September



03 Sept	James Windschuttle
04 Sept	Tom Croucher
07 Sept	Lloyd Kirkland
12 Sept	Barry Gardner
14 Sept	Ken Bruner
22 Sept	Ian Knight
23 Sept	Glen Reeve
25 Sept	Brian Harward
28 Sept	Roger Dixon

Raffle Winners 9 August Maxi Day



1 st	Maurice Smith
2 nd	Alan Hendry
3 rd	Ray Tregoning

Buy Swap Sell

We have introduced a new agenda item to our maxiday events. If you have tools and equipment that you no longer use and you want to get rid of them we can advertise them in the newsletter. Just drop me a line (copy in Maurice Smith) and we will try to sell them.

COMEDY CORNER



Shire Woodworking Club

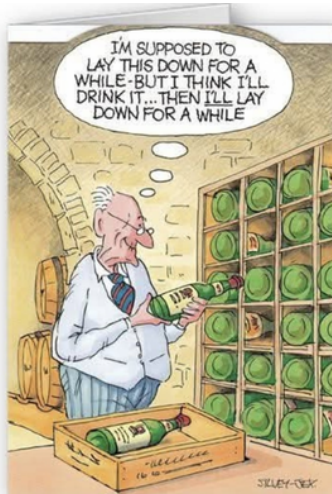


Some things to ponder on...

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?

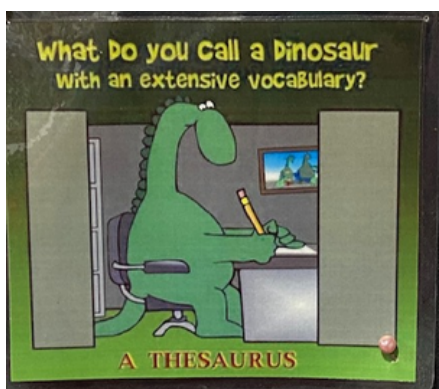
HOW DID THE MAN WHO MADE THE FIRST CLOCK, KNOW WHAT TIME IT WAS?



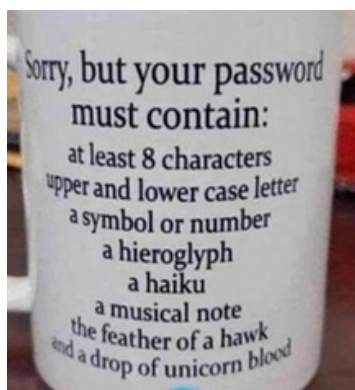
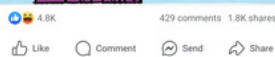
the correct place for the phone is below and slightly to the left of the bread plate



Ok.. I'm not a bird specialist, but I'm pretty sure that this couple just had a fight.



I see people around my age mountain climbing, I feel good getting my leg through my underwear with out losing my



A CLOCK FOR RETIRED PEOPLE!



Every time we try to eat healthy, along comes Christmas, Easter, summer, Friday or Tuesday and ruins it for us.



SHIRE WOODWORKING CLUB 2025 CALENDAR

January 2025 1							February 2025 2							March 2025 3						
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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 December- 3rd Thursday) - **No own projects**

Note: Last club day for 2025 is Saturday 20 December. Resume Tuesday 6 January 2026

Note: There must be a minimum of 3 members present on any day. No exceptions.

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

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 and Jan 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
FundRaising & Exhibitions	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	