Shire Woodworking Club

SAWDUST & SHAVINGS

August 2026

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

August 2026

NEWSLETTER

Corey from the Police Rescue Squad receiving 13 toy police rescue trucks on July 21.



Maxi Day 8 Aug 2026

8:45	Open Lilli Pilli Workshop
9:00	Monthly Meeting
9:30	Ian's Videos
10:00	Morning Tea
10:30	AGM
11:00	Guest Speaker - Adam Schreiber- Manager Security Long Bay Jail
12:00	Show and Tell
12:30	Lunch
1:15	Raffle
2:00	Close

Adam Schreiber is a prominent Australian former professional squash player and coach who achieved a career-high world ranking of No. 26 in 1993 and was later inducted into the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sports Hall Of Fame. Adam is now Governor at the Long Bay Correctional Centre.

Future Guest Speakers anf Events

12th Sept - Plank Comp judging

10th Oct - Don Parker - Steam Boats

14th Nov - David Edwards
- A hodgepodge of Aviation

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**.

Find Us On Facebook .. Search for "Shire Woodworking Club"

President's Report August 2026



A warm welcome to our new club members.

A huge thank you to all the club members who have contributed to the large array of sale items in the gallery.

The closing date for the plank competition is approaching. Good luck to all participants.

During the month, the club had a visit from The Police Rescue Unit. Many thanks to Ian Rudd for co-ordinating the manufacture and assembly of the toy police rescue trucks. A working rescue truck was parked outside the Gallery, and a "show and tell" was carried out for our members.

Roger Walsh organized batches of toys for Lilli Pilli Public School for their Kindergarten class. Thanks, Roger, and to the members who contributed with their time and skills.

A big thank you to our Guest Speaker - Jennifer Gowen. Jennifer visited Afghanistan in 2011 as part of an Art Exhibition. A lot has changed, and she shared some interesting tales.

Reminders:
· If in doubt, ask.
· Please switch off the machine and clean it down when you finish your work.
· Safety starts with you.

Gary Healey - President

Notice of 27th Annual General Meeting

The Twenty-seventh Annual General Meeting of the Shire Woodworking Club Inc. will be held on Saturday 08 August.

At: The Gallery, 2D Turriell Bay Road, Lilli Pilli 2229
On: Saturday 8 August 2026
At: 10.30 am.

AGENDA

1) To confirm the Minutes of the 26th Annual General Meeting held 9 August 2025.
2) To receive the President's Report for the year ended 30 June 2026.
3) To receive the Financial Reports for the year ended 30 June 2026.
4) To elect Office Bearers and Ordinary Committee Members for the ensuing year.

By Order

Maurice Smith
Secretary
8 July 2026

Show & Tell



ART DECO MAHOGANY BOX

Malcolm Armstrong





"A few years ago I remember seeing a member make this box, designed by Ian Rudd, so I asked Ian if he would guide me through making one for my granddaughter's birthday (November). My sincere thanks to Ian. I learnt how each step needed to be well thought out.

I had a 95 x 95 piece of mahogany.

We decided on the box dimensions - 240 wide x 135 wide by 68mm high sides. The base was 3mm ply. I resawed it to make 4 x 18mm boards and 4 x 13mm boards which were finished down to 15mm (for front, rear and lid), and 12mm (for side panels and hinge 'wings'). The lid needed 2 of the thicker boards to achieve the correct dimensions. A thin piece of Rock Maple was used to make the lid feature and my granddaughter's name was inlaid with the same wood. Ian guided me through making a sanding jig and profile templates that were created on the laser. The jig and templates are now located above the work bench adjacent to the laser for members to use. The mahogany had a number of imperfections/voids which needed to be filled plus I had trouble with a split hinge wing that I was able to restore with glue and dowels to retain strength. The template shape was transferred to the box and the box was clamped to the jig. The linisher was adjusted to the vertical position for profiling. I applied a few coats of Shellac - sanding with a 3000 grit pad between coats. The internal space was coated with flocking powder prior to assembling the lid using 3mm aluminium rod....from one of my wife's knitting needles! Thanks to Ian the box looks fantastic so hopefully my granddaughter Leah will treasure it into the future. Now I'll try and make another Art Deco box using the knowledge and techniques I've learnt from Ian. The second one I'll use Jacaranda and will be for my other granddaughter's birthday in April 2027,...plenty of time...I think!

PALING FENCE STOOL

Neil Matthews





My grandson saw a stool in my workshop & said “That would be ideal for me working on my motor bike”, & said “Grandpa could you make me one?”

I knocked down a 60-metre paling fence a couple of years ago, theoretically 600 palings. After cutting a lot for firewood, building things and having white ants eating a stack of about 30% I still have a lot left, so a paling stool it was!

The stool turned out OK, so to lose more palings, I considered that his girlfriend needed a seat while she was watching. These are workshop furniture so they are glued and screwed together and finished with machine oil that was painted on.
Hope he likes them.

BOWLS MACHINED ON THE CNC ROUTER David Edwards





These two bowls were machined on the CNC router to the design which I had developed within the Vectric VCarve CAD software program.

The starting point of course is the timber blanks, and critical to the process is the finished thickness of the blank as this is a key parameter for Vectric.

The designs are two sided, in that the top of the bowl is machined first, and then the work piece is flipped and the bottom is machined. To ensure correct orientation on the CNC bed when the work piece is flipped, 6mm dowel pin index holes are drilled into the top of the work piece and mirrored into the spoil board, thereby creating very accurate location

The toolpath operation used was a “moulding toolpath” which allows you to design quite intricate moulding shapes. For the bowls, the moulding is the internal and external curvature of the walls… in concept fairly simple but in practice it takes a bit of getting it right.

In the design, you start off with a couple of circles, being the top inside and outside bowl diameters. You then need to design the internal and external moulding toolpaths (called drive rails) to create the curves for the router bit to follow.

These drive rails need to be quite precise, otherwise the bowl wall will either be penetrated, or be too thin, and it’s here that the accuracy of the blank thickness also is key. And through trial and error, I’ve found it easier to design the drive rails in Lightburn, and to then export into Vectric as an SVG file.

It is a good way to use up offcuts, but for the smaller bowl, I glued sacrificial pine strips around the blank so as to provide space for clamping, to maximise the area of the “good” timber, and to prevent tear-out along the boundaries.

The base of the bowl has a recess designed into it, and I’ve used this to enable the bowl to be set up on the wood lathe for final sanding. The wood types are a mystery to me, and the finish is Osmo Polyx Hard Wax Oil.

PLANK COMPETITION

We have the following members scheduled to present on the **Maxi Day 12th September:**

David Edwards, Neil Matthews, Robert Leake, Tom Croucher, Peter Warren, Michael Peebles, Alan Ritchie, Tim Dodds, Roger Walsh, Ian Rudd, Ray Bywater, Bob Winwood, Maurice Smith and Steve Lansley.

We still have 3 planks available. Given the large number of presenters we will need to be brief with each persons’ presentation. It would help us in the preparation of the newsletter if you could come prepared with a description.

Good luck to everybody.



TOY DELIVERIES THIS MONTH

TOY DELIVERIES TO LILLI PILLI SCHOOL

We have successfully assembled a collection of toys for **Lilli Pilli school** Kindergarten and have now presented them. Please see the pictures below.

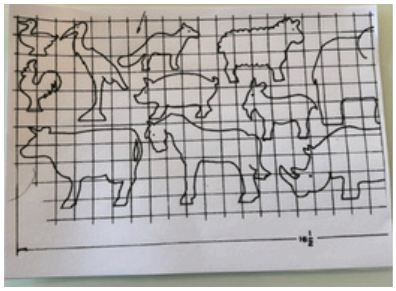
A heartfelt thank you to Bob Q, Malcolm, Steve, Ian, Alan, and Roger for their dedication in completing the toys. The school has received them positively, and it is likely that there will be additional orders for years 1-6.



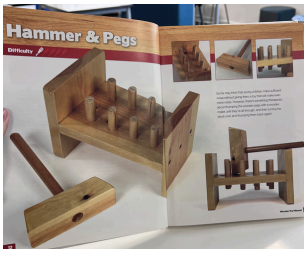
Balancing people - 1 set
Steve Lansley - *Complete*



Geared puzzle - 2 sets
Ian Rudd - *Complete*



Farm Animals - 3 sets
Gary Healey - *Complete*



Hammer & Pegs - 2 sets
Bob Quigley - *Complete*



Tangram puzzles - 6 sets
Gary Healey - *Complete*



400x300x100 boxes
Alan Ritchie - *Complete*



Balance with Weights
Malcolm Armstrong -
Complete



Montessori Rings - 2 sets
Roger Walsh - *Complete*



Soccer Boards - 2 sets
Complete



Wooden Building Blocks
Neil Matthews & Tim Dodds - *Complete*



Assorted Blocks
Complete

TOY DELIVERIES TO FAMILY CO ON FRIDAY 17TH JULY

2 acrobat toys, 1 articulated rabbit, 26 assorted animal shapes, 16 boomerangs, 12 soccer balls and 28 heart shapes (picture below)



A big thank you to Malcolm Armstrong for co-ordinating all of the above.



Some of the team at Family Co Friday 17th July.
Left to right - James, Linda, Annette and Andrea.
Jedda took the photo.....Cheeers!

TOY SALES DESK BUNNINGS - SAT 1ST AUGUST



A very successful day thanks to volunteer members Roger Dixon, Ian Rudd, Ray Bywater, Steve Lansley, Tony Browne and co-ordinator Gary Healey. Thanks Guys

TOY DELIVERIES TO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL 11 AUGUST.

Ian Rudd has been diligently working with his team preparing the toys featured in the pictures below, including several produced by Ian's Bamboo Lab 3D printer. A heartfelt thank you to all the members who attended Toy Day on July 30th.









VISIT FROM POLICE RESCUE SQUAD

On July 21, we welcomed Corey from the Police Rescue Squad, who came to receive toy police rescue trucks.






A moment in time !

Delivery of the Qantas Long Range A350 aircraft.

I received the following news item from a Qantas colleague of mine. While it is not wood related I thought some of you may be interested in Qantas' future plans to offer non stop services Sydney to London and/or Sydney to US. Would you be prepared to sit on an aircraft for 20 hours !!!!

Specifications

Wingspan: 64.75m
Length: 73.79m
Height: 17.8m
Cruise speed: Mach 0.85



A350 aircraft

Subject: VEGA at 0550 EST

Morning Ladies and Gents.

I never thought I'd see the day when a large twin could or even would be able to operate from western Europe to MEL/SYD non stop.

The 16000kgs of extra fuel in the new tank aft of the CWT is obviously the difference.

Interestingly Airbus went down a different path here than Boeing, who found space for another 10,000kgs of fuel in the Horizontal Stabiliser on their B744's.

I wonder if there are airframe limits in this option which dictated the additional fuel go into the fuselage, or whether they're keeping the HST option up their sleeves for another day. If they could squeeze another 7,000kgs into an HST, then that's another hour's endurance for the 2 Trent XWB-97 engines.

They must have some very clever software on board to help manage fuel usage to keep the aeroplane's C of G close to the aerodynamic Centre of Pressure. The last thing they want is to have to use large stabiliser settings to manage a displaced C of G, because of the drag penalties involved.

Make no mistake, this is a BIG aeroplane, though we might dismiss it as just another "big twin"

It has a 3 – 3 – 3 fitment

It's wingspan is about 10' greater than Boeing's first shot at it's new B747, and the Airbus's fuselage is also longer.

Today's flight departed TLS weighing 322000kgs, about the same as a B741's MTOW

Using synthetics in the fuselage Airbus has been able to offer its clients a cabin altitude of 6000' against the traditional 8000' on offer since we entered the Jet Age.

I think that's going to make a huge difference to the zombie-like queue of pax traipsing off after a long haul flight.

Anyway, as I press the SEND button on this email, the jet's got about 2hrs 30 mins to run for an ETA 8 mins late, at 1038EST. She's tooling along at FL410 and a ground speed of 573kts. Not too shabby at all. Those 2 big Trents, each with an intake diameter approximating the cabin diameter on Boeing's early B737 models, rumbling away quite happily. One on each wing I hope.

Truly amazing

Guest Speaker
July - Jennifer Gowen









Jennifer is a local artist, living in Caringbah and has been involved in the Arts for 50+ years.

In 2011, as a self-funded volunteer she travelled to Afghanistan with another female artist to set up The First Exhibition of Australian Art ever to be shown in the war-torn country.

They took with them 50 small artworks by prominent Australian artists which was opened by a representative of the Australian Embassy in the capital.

Afghanistan is one of the poorest countries in the world and there had been no tourism for 30 years following the first brutal reign of the fundamentalist Taliban.

We were guests of Prof. Rahraw Omarzad and his wife and daughter in their family compound in Kabul for our time in the country.

We also worked with young Afghan female artists at the Center for Contemporary Arts Afghanistan, which was a very insightful and interesting experience.

This field trip to Afghanistan was life-changing for Jennifer and one that will remain in her memory forever.



Noticeboard

Safety Notice

Safety is the responsibility of every member of the club

Birthdays in August

Rakesh Shah	2 Aug
John Barker	12 Aug
Arthur Tilley	13 Aug
Axel Tennie	17 Aur
Robert Winwood	24 Aug

WHATSAPP

Recently we introduced WhatsApp as an additional means of communicating between members, e.g., if you want to know who is coming on a given day or if you have a question you want to share with members of the “Shire Woodwork Club.”

We have invited most members who regularly attend, but if you want to be included, contact the Editor.

It is easy and quick.

Buy Swap Sell

If you have tools and equipment that you no longer want, we can advertise them in the newsleter. Just drop me a line (copy in Maurice Smith) and we will try to sell them.

Vise



Recently, the Club received a generous donation of a Joplin bench vise. Since we already have the necessary vises in our workshop, this donated item is available for sale to anyone in need of a quality bench vise for their home workshop.

Jaw Width: 4.5 inches (114 mm).
Condition: Sold on an "as is" basis.
If you would like to inspect the vise before making an offer, it can be found in the foyer of the workshop. Please note, if it is not sold within a week, I will seek to sell it elsewhere.
The Joplin vise of this type is highly desirable and typically sells for over $100. You can acquire it for just $50

Both of the following are available for purchase. Contact the Editor



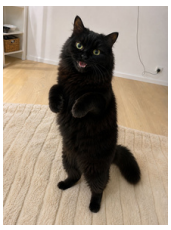


To Savour The Flavour

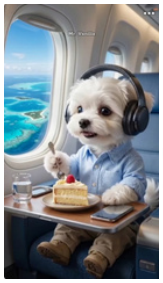
August Maxiday Nosebag

Drumsticks and Potato Bake

"Feel Good" Happy Snaps











If you have any “feel good happy snaps” send them to the editor

WATCHWORDS FOR August

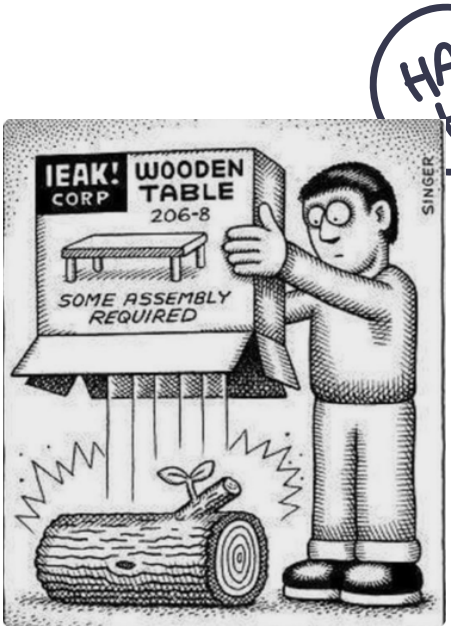
Why is it unwise to share your secrets with a clock? Well, time will tell.

Comedy corner

Shire Woodworking Club



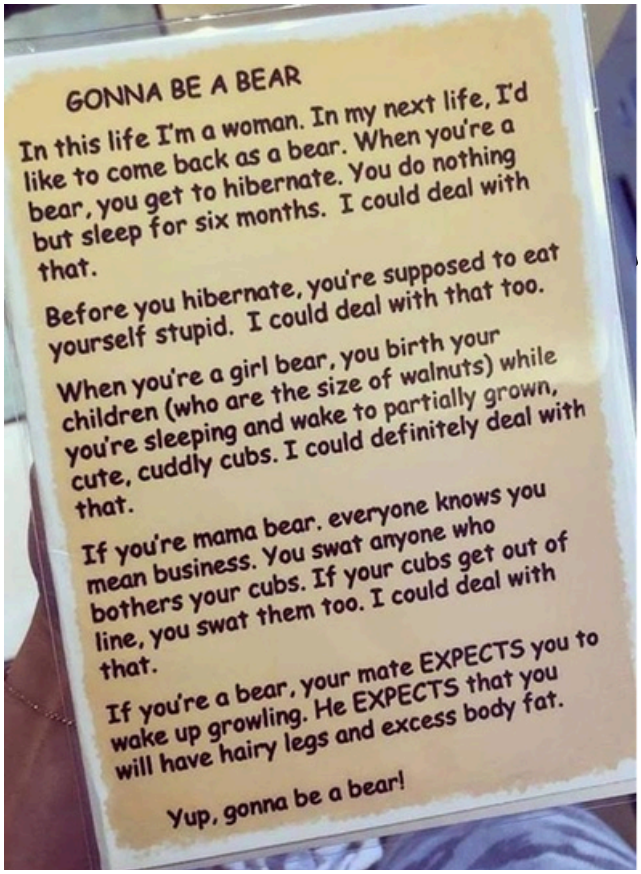
A woman noticed her husband standing on the bathroom scale, sucking in his stomach. "Ha! That's not going to help," she said.
"Sure, it does," he said. "It's the only way I can see the numbers."













Early attempts at the table saw.

Shire Woodworking Club 2026 Calendar

January 2026 (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 2026 (2)

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

March 2026 (3)

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

April 2026 (4)

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	PH	PH
PH	PH	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	PH
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026 (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 2026 (6)

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

July 2026 (7)

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	

August 2026 (8)

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	BH	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					

September 2026 (9)

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			

October 2026 (10)

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	PH	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

November 2026 (11)

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					

December 2026 (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	PH	29	30	31		

LEGEND:

- Club Days - Every Tuesday to Thursday + Saturday (**except 1st Saturday-** see note below)
- Committee Meeting - Tuesday, prior to 2nd Saturday. Also own projects catered for 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 2026 is Saturday 19th December. Resume Tuesday 5th January 2027
Note: There must be a minimum of 3 members present on any day. No exceptions.

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

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	