

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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MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER

Come Join Us on Maxi Day

Our Maxi Day provides an opportunity for our members to get together to share information on both woodworking skills as well as general interest subject matter.

To this end over the past 12 months we have had the following woodworking based guest speakers, “Clock Making”, “Boomerang Design & Manufacture”, “Boat Restoration”, “Norglas Surface preparation”, “Paints, Sealants & Abrasives”. And on the subject of General Interest we have had “Cronulla Mall Development Plans”, “Activus Transportation”, “Olympian Peter Hadfield”, “Leonie Le Cornu Stain Glass” and “Woollooware Shores”. Over the next week a small group will be visiting Japanese Tools Aust and later in the month, a representative from Carbatec equipment supplier to discuss a possible Guest Speaker. In addition, the Maxi Day includes “Show & Tell”, “Videos on workshop practices” and a bit of humour. We always enjoy the benefits of a great lunch, the opportunity to win a raffle and a cup of coffee & cake with our mates.

We will continue in 2025 to arrange a similar mix of Guest Speakers and video instruction. We will issue the Newsletter earlier in order to allow members to plan their attendance at the Maxi Day. We encourage all members to attend and provide us with feedback on future Guest Speaker participation and agenda. Join us next Maxi Day 8th March.

*Come
Join
us!*

Next Maxi Day 8 March

8:45	Open Lilli Pilli Workshop
9:00	Monthly Meeting
9:30	Ian's Videos
10:00	Morning Tea
10:30	Show & Tell/Buy Swap Sell
11.30	Guest Speaker Axel Tennie Antarctic Explorations
12:30	Lunch
1.30	Raffle



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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Sale of Old Tools

Maurice Smith

As part of the team cleaning up the accumulated donated tools sitting in the Gallery, I've managed to sell several hundreds of dollars worth of tools that the Club no longer needs. A few items are still available for sale viz scroll saw in picture below.

The process originally started when I used GumTree to advertise various items for sale. Although, in general I was successful, I found that the prices achieved on GumTree were lower than I achieved elsewhere.

Although I'm not a FaceBook user, my wife has an account and is quite active in several groups on FaceBook and she has sold various items on MarketPlace in FaceBook. So, with her guidance and ok I used her account to advertise some of the other possibly problematic donated items, such as a large, carpet covered toolbox. Surprisingly this toolbox sold quite quickly and with that success under my belt I managed to sell other items using the same process.



Changing the Gallery Layout To Help Improve The Sales Process.

Maurice Smith.

At the February committee meeting I tabled a proposal to change the layout of the Gallery to improve the sales process. The proposal was put together with the help of President, Gary Healey, and Vice-President, Roger Walsh.

In essence we propose to change the layout, to have each sales table with a particular focus, for example, "Small, wheeled toys", and so on. The proposal calls for changing the physical layout, putting in bright large signs, all with the aim of making the sales process much easier for our customers.

In addition, we are looking to place large advertising signs on the front wall of the buildings leased. To do this we need Council consent as the Council owns the buildings. The necessary application for owner's consent has been lodged with the Council; we are awaiting approval.

While waiting the approval we are proceeding with the internal layout changes. We look forward to seeing improved sales as reward for our efforts.

SHOW AND TELL

Neil Matthews

To finish off the Automatic Blast Gate project, I needed three more blast gates. Roger found that our original dust extraction supplier no longer made steel blast gates and substituted these with cast aluminium gates that we couldn't use..

I suggested that we could make our own as we didn't have to re-invent the design.

I decided to make 4 blast gates instead of the three that I needed. I felt I needed assistance and called John Lischeld and suggested he had an opportunity to learn a new skill as a "tin basher". John accepted and turned up the following day Wednesday and also on Sunday to finish the project. We started by clamping the panels between two pieces of 10mm steel in the vice and bending them with a hammer. Next was using a 100mm hole saw to cut them out. This proved a problem until we figured out the best way of clamping and lubricating the cut. We then used a piece of 6mm plate steel to make up a drilling jig for holes to assemble the blast gate. The next task was fitting the 20mm x 3mm spacers to allow clearance for the slide. We cut a piece of 3mm ply 1mm wider than the slide as a spacer, then clamped, drilled & tapped the spacers M4 to mount them. Next task was to fold the ends of the slide and also to cut a hole in it. I chose a 110mm hole saw to allow easier alignment. Next, we needed to mount the magnetic quick adaptors to each side of the panels. These hold themselves in place with built-in magnets, but we also secured them with M4 CSK screws. The units were then assembled with M5 screws, nuts, & spring washers. Finally, a 4mm aluminium panel to mount the Automatic Blast Gate actuator and electrics was drilled and bolted on. Job finished!



Geoff Tong

Segmented "oops" bowl and vase

Over the years since I have been doing segmented wood turning I have made my share of mistakes. They were usually completed rings and were too good to throw away so I kept them in a bucket hopefully I might use them one day.

Cleaning the workshop a couple of months ago I decided to make use of the rings.

The large rings made into a fruit bowl and the smaller rings for a vase.

Shapes and colour are beyond my control as I'm restricted by available rings.

Finished with water based satin polyurethane .

I'm donating the items to the club hopefully they can make a few dollars with them.



David Johnson

The wood used: the dark wood is Rosewood from my son-in-law's mother's table supporting timbers. The light wood is Tassie Oak from high stool legs from the hospital.

I glued the sections together at home, then sanded the board at the club house. Took it home and using 600 wet and dry and using the bee's wax and food-safe mineral oil mixture as the liquid solution to raise the grain while sanding, then finished with a clean final coat of the wax mixture.

Cutting Board



Jan Westerhof

Jan presented the two cabinets purchased approx 50 years ago and represented the "Ikea" style used back then.



Gary Mitchell

In order to make it easier to climb and easier on the feet I put some timber on top of the rungs. On some advice from Ray T I cut a groove in the timber, thicker piece so it had 3 sides encasing the rung, to allow it to slip over the rungs. I also drilled some holes at the ends to allow it to go around the side of the rungs. Have coated them in Anchor spray paint in satin with some Antislip material on top of the rungs

Bunk Bed Ladder



I used an old unit from my physio. I kept the ball on the bottom and added a coffee table round from Bunnings on the top. It is a good way to build core strength.

Balance Board



Squatty Stool

I used a board from the club. I used 4 self locking hinges. The main feature was the height. My knees weren't quite around my ears but high enough to be uncomfortable. I can use it with the legs folded and I'm deciding whether to make a new stool or not at the correct height for me. The moral of the story is measure your legs on your own crapper to see what height your stool should be.



Automatic Blast Gates from 30/5/24 to 12/2/25

Our Club had each machine connected to a ducted dust extraction system via a manually operated Blast Gate. To improve the efficiency and forgetfulness of some members, we decided to automate each Blast Gate. As each machine is switched on its Blast Gate automatically opens and closes automatically after a short delay when the machine is switched off.

This Automatic Blast Gate Project has been a 100% in-house project in design, construction and installation I would like to specially acknowledge Roger, Ray, & John for their continuing support and being essential parts of a "Think Tank" in solving service and application problems.

The Woodies Automatic Blast Gate Project as I have said is a 100% in-house project so when I am no longer available, you can't ring-up for service. We need to be self-sufficient and I plan to conduct regular sessions on Basic Troubleshooting.

To successfully troubleshoot the Automatic Blast Gate, is a good idea to know how it works.

The machines in our workshop originally all had manual blast gates to control sawdust, and now they are automatically controlled by a 12vdc Linear Actuator that is driven by a small dc gear motor. This device drives the blast gate open when the machine is switched on and closes the gate when the machine is switched off. The actuator has inbuilt limit switches that turn it off at the end of each stroke.

The automatic Blast Gate has been designed to be economically affordable and had an initial budget out at around a little over \$100 per machine. The assembly is relatively simple, consisting of four major components.

- 1) Linear Actuator: A 12volt motor drives a shaft at a rate of 35mm/second to 100mm to open the Gate. On larger gates, the stroke is 150mm.
- 2) A 12volt DP/DT relay, wired that when de-energised closes the gate and when energised opens the gate. The relay chosen is an industry-standard LY2 relay that can be purchased locally.
- 3) The module to switch the relay on is an interesting device called a Current Switch. This device has no external electrical connections and is powered by the 240vac active cable that powers the machine passing through the device. When it detects a certain amount of current it closes an electronic internal switch to control the relay.
- 4) All of these devices are powered by a 12vdc 2amp power supply. This is the same device that powers domestic appliances such as radios etc.

These components are housed in an abs dust proof plastic box mounted on a piece of 4mm aluminium that is bolted to the Blast Gate. At one end of this box, there is a conventional 3-core flex and a 3-pin plug. At the other end is a 3 pin 240v socket.

The flex is plugged into a power point, and the machine is plugged into the 3-pin socket. The only other requirement is to remove the existing manual Blast Gate and to replace it with the automated system.

At present I have completed 16 ABG units, and 12 installed on machines in our workshop. The original prototype unit ran OK from May 2024 to December 2024 when it was replaced with a new current design unit in December 2024. One of these units will act as a spare and can be used for troubleshooting practice or to replace a unit that can't be repaired. This can be done by simply drilling-out the pop rivets swapping over the plugs. Another unit will be used for training in troubleshooting. Some of the Automatic Blast Gate systems feature a Delay-off relay, usually set from 10-20 seconds to keep the Gate open for a preset period after the machine is switched off.

A full instruction and service manual is currently being prepared

Work in Progress

**Ray T installing
new shelf in
gallery**



**Roger D & Gary H
making "Library Box"**



**Alan R ongoing work
on the CNC**



**Typical
Blast Gate
Module**



**CNC Dust
Extraction**



**Some of Ian's toys
ready for
delivery/sales**



**Ray Bywater has been
busy**



Workshop Safety Instructions

During the month of February we had a couple of incidents on the Table Saw resulting in some minor injuries and a scrapping of the cassettes. Roger Dixon has been able to obtain a free of charge replacement of the cassettes. It is most important that we re-visit our operation of the Table Saw. To this end I am providing a copy of the Machine Induction Procedure for the Table Saw prepared by Roger Dixon. All members should re-visit these procedures and if need be, Roger is more than happy to run us through the correct use of the procedures. The injuries suffered by myself and one other member were minor but could have been worse. A very loud noise does shock the system somewhat and reminds us to make sure we adopt the procedure exactly. If you are not fully comfortable with the process you are about to engage, ask for help and do a trial run before you start. The following pictures represent several of the devices referenced in the instruction sheet. Fig 1 refers to the "non kick-back pawls" step 9. Figs 2-3 refers to devices you should use as appropriate to your job. Fig 4 is the on/off switch, Check proper use of the flashing lights. At the 1st Maxi Day Roger Dixon did a complete review of the saw operation, with most attending to better understand what went wrong in the accidental operation that caused the incidents. Very useful.



Machine Induction Procedure									
Saw Stop Profesional Table Saw									
1	Dust Gate Operation. Automatic on start up								
2	On/Off switch operation. Main On /Off Yellow switch to be lifted up. Complete sequence of "Get Ready" initialisation showing solid green LED before starting machine. Green light flashes as saw slows down.								
	Warning: Always make sure the blade has come to a complete stop & the coast down status mode has cleared (solid green) before touching the blade								
3	Red Paddle lever is lifted out to start, pushed in to stop. Can be stopped using knee if required.								
4	Removing and replacing zero clearance insert. Correct storage of accessories such as spanners ,riving knife & mitre gauge								
5	Saw Raise and lower hand wheel. Always undo lock knob before raising and lowering saw. Firm tighten lock knob. Clockwise UP anticlockwise DOWN								
6	Saw Tilt Handle position. Undo Lock knob ,adjust Saw then firm tight lock knob. Understand use and storage of digital angle gauge								
7	Recommended saw height when cutting. For through cuts blade should be about 15 mm max above timber thickness.								
8	How to remove and replace riving knife or overhead guard . Ensure Quick Release Clamp handle is tightened when replacing Riving knife/blade guard.								
9	Understand how blade guard works. Be aware of non kick back pawls on guard assembly. Make sure guard does not touch fence when ripping narrow widths.								
10	How to set Rip fence and use width settings off the tape measure.								
11	Call for assistance when cutting large sheets or long lengths.								
12	Correct use of push sticks and featherboards								
13	How to leave machine for next operator. Switch off Main Yellow Switch and brush down Do not leave tems on extension table.								
	Note: Do not cut timber shorter than width of exposed blade								

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

March 2025



The February maxi-day was attended by 28 members, with 2 apologies. The sales of the Cook Community Raffle netted the club \$2,015. Thanks to all who sold and purchased tickets, hopefully a club member will get rewarded with a prize.

The “show and tell” segment was well received, with examples of the club members quality items.

Neil Mathews gave a talk on the intricacies of the dust gate that he and John have been installing, thanks Neil.

The safety segment with emphasis on the stop saw was well received, thank you Roger W and Bob for going through the operation of the stop mechanism and review of the induction by Roger Dixon.

Thank for the lunch prepared by Axel and the catering team.

Roger W has arranged a visit to Japanese Tools Australia for a demonstration of their tools and equipment on 24/02/2025 at 10:00am at 29 Production Ave Kogarah. Parking in the street is difficult and it would be best if people car pooled. The web site is shown below.

<https://www.japanesetools.com.au/collections/jta-workshops>

The next Maxi-day speaker is Axel giving a talk on his recent adventures to Antarctica, should be interesting.

Toy making day is 27/02/2025. Ian has prepared a quantity of laser cut boxes and other items for assembly; members assistance would be appreciated. Also playdough rolling pins and “mushrooms” are always in demand.

Earlier this year our club submitted an Expression Of Interest (EOI) with the office of Simon Kennedy, the Federal Member for Cook. The EOI was in relation to obtaining funding to improve the security of our building. Installation of new lights and security cameras that will hopefully act as a deterrent against theft, damage to building and graffiti. Simon Kennedy is supporting our bid and is actively working to source the funding needed.

Use the following link to demonstrate your support in obtaining funding.

<https://form.jotform.com/250481423308855>

Safety – Safety is the responsibility of every member of the club. If in doubt ASK.

Looking forward to the next Maxi-day meeting

Gary Healey

President



PRESENTATIONS FOR SERVICE

Ian Rudd 8 years
2017 - 2024



Graham Ethell 16 years
2007/8 - 2022/23





NOTICE BOARD

• Raffle Winners



- 1st - Gary Healey
- 2nd - David Johnson
- 3rd - Bob Quigley
- 4th - Malcolm Armstrong



• Birthdays in March



- 06 Mar - Ian Rudd
- 06 Mar - Shane Stevens
- 09 Mar - Richard Cain
- 18 Mar - Zdena Vondra



Peter, Geof & Roger enjoying lunch in the sun



Drumsticks with Diane's secret 11 herbs & spices
Baked spuds with a coating mix of seed mustard, sour cream & egg mayo
Cold slaw drenched in white wine vinegar
Dijon mustard & mayo
The next lunch will feature Jungfrauen making Durum wheat pasta!!!

COMEDY CORNER

When I say "the other day,"
I could be referring to any
time between yesterday and
15 years ago

One thing no one ever
talks about when it
comes to being an adult,
is how much time we
debate keeping a
cardboard box because
it's, you know.....
a really good box.

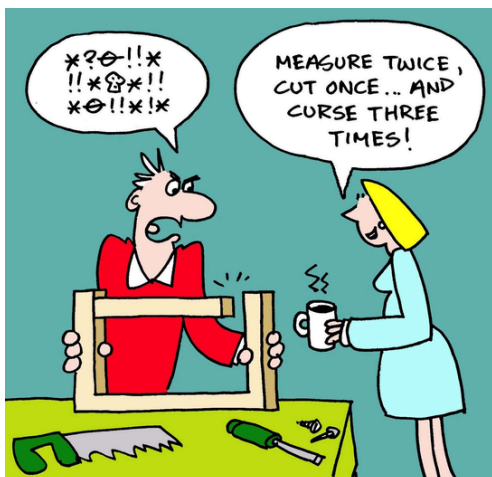


"I didn't want to waste the good
stuff, so I used the oldest bottle
in your wine collection for the
spaghetti sauce."

I LIKE TO MAKE LISTS.

**I ALSO LIKE TO LEAVE THEM
LAYING ON THE KITCHEN
COUNTER AND THEN GUESS
WHAT'S ON THE LIST WHILE
AT THE STORE.**

FUN GAME.



**AT MY AGE, ROLLING OUT
OF BED IN THE MORNING
IS THE EASY PART.**

**GETTING OFF THE FLOOR
IS A WHOLE OTHER STORY.**

**I SPEND A LOT OF TIME
HOLDING THE REFRIGERATOR
DOOR OPEN LOOKING FOR
ANSWERS.**

**You think you know
stress? When I grew
up, if you missed a TV
show you just missed
it. Forever.**



SHIRE WOODWORKING CLUB 2025 CALENDAR

January 2025 1							February 2025 2							March 2025 3						
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							1							1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	PH	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
														30	31					
April 2025 4							May 2025 5							June 2025 6						
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	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	PH	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	PH	PH	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
PH	PH	22	23	24	PH	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					
July 2025 7							August 2025 8							September 2025 9						
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
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	BH	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
							31													
October 2025 10							November 2025 11							December 2025 12						
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							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
5	PH	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	PH	PH	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
							30													

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 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	