Shire Woodworking Club

SAWDUST & SHAVINGS

March 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
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March 2026

NEWSLETTER

Our club had it's first Bunnings BBQ for the year last Saturday the 28th February.



We were very fortunate to have very good weather. It is an important event for the club in terms of our contact and visibility with the public, our relationship with Bunnings, the opportunity to gather some funds for the club and also for members to have a bit of fun together.

Although it is a long and busy day, starting at 7 and finishing at 4, we always have great customers with a smile and sometimes a short story while we get their sanga with tomato sauce, bbq sauce or mustard plus a drink. Well done to all our club members who could join us.

Maxi Day 14 March 2026

8:45	Open Lilli Pilli Workshop
9:00	Monthly Meeting
9:30	Ian's Videos
10:00	Morning Tea
10:30	Sound Systems-Peter Warren
11:15	Anthony Cordina - Crime Prevention Officer at Sutherland Police
12:15	Show & Tell
1:00	Lunch
1:30	Raffle Draw
2:00	Close

Future Guest Speakers

14th Mar	Anthony Cordina-Crime Prevention Officer at Sutherland Police
11th April	Bob Kearney – "Fishing in the Good Old Days"
9th May	Michelle Fairweather CEO (Interim) FAMILY CO

Upcoming Events .....

Sat 21 March time tba - Woolooware Shores Open Day

Thu 26 March 6pm-8pm - Sales table at Bunnings for their Easter Event

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"

Show & tell

TABLE WITH SINGLE CURVED LEG

Neil Matthews





I wanted to build a wedding present for my grandson and sketched a side-table with a single curved leg support for the top 500mm high, with 50-degree angles at each end and a shape that would fit into my 140mm wide stick of brown gum tree (I don't know which species). Using the edge of my bench as one end of my drawing to make it easy to get both ends parallel, I marked out the support and cut it on the bandsaw. I jointed & thicknessed the top, and cut dominos on the top, support, and base. The base was a piece of similar gum tree, 180 x 350 x 30mm. Everything went perfectly (no stuff-ups) until glueing. I used a combination of wood blocks and many clamps to line things up. The base to vertical support was good a 90-degrees, but something stuffed-up and the top had a 10mm list to starboard.

This was then cut off with a Japanese flush-cut saw (not designed for this purpose) that also damaged the top. To cover the damage, I made an alignment block 230x60mm with a 115x20mm slot to fit over the top of the vertical support. This was then, aligned, clamped and glued. Then when the glue dried attached to the top. Balance was the next problem. The bottom of the base had 0.5mm woof. So back to the Jointer. Also, the table could easily tip over and to fix this I made up an oval-shaped 270x460x15mm base stabiliser, glued to the base. All Fixed! The project was then painted with many coats of Anchor Satin Clear Lacquer.

TOAST TONG JIG



Most of you are familiar with the Toast Tong. This device sells well and since we are out of stock, I undertook to make a new batch. We start with a block of hardwood 25 x 19 x 180 mm with a 19mm hole 15mm from the end. The important point of construction is to get this hole exactly in the centre of the block. I updated a device used to make toy acrobats

The result was a simple jig that is clamped to the table of my pedestal drill. The Jig is two 30 x 30mm pieces of hardwood glued at right angles to a piece of 80 x 20mm hardwood, designed to hold the toast tong block while being drilled. The block is placed in the jig, accurately lined up with the drill then clamped to the drill table. A test drilling is then done to confirm accuracy. Once this is confirmed, drill through the block and while the block is held, drill about half way through the base of the jig. Once this is done, drill the remaining blocks.

The Forstner drill will now drill clean without any breakaway as it drills through the block. The block now has the ends rounded on a sander then transferred to the bandsaw with the edge guide set so that the cut will finish at the edge of the hole. This will result in a flexible tong edge of about 2.5mm

Timber, this hardwood came from a piece of (as defined by my English friend) Dunnage. The 75x75mm timber that goes under a load on a truck for fork lift access

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PERPETUAL CALENDAR

Tony Browne

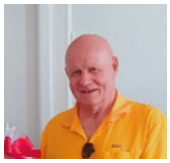




Mum used to have a bulky version and i had a go drawing this wooden calander up on the Lightburn lazer program. It turned out OK, looking to improve design with curves.its a great calander as you can have it for a lifetime.

TALLOW WOOD TABLE

Axel Tennie







In the 1980's the Tamworth no one football grandstand built in 1890 succumbed to white ants, except for the Tallow Wood seating which was salvaged by the BMX club (we had a kid who raced in state titles) as seating for their race track.
Four surplus 3m boards turned into our 12 seater outdoor table for the next 41 years.
Then in January Derby & Joan found a loss of muscle mass created an inabilllity to move the bloody thing!
So we down sized it to a more manageable product. It's now a 6-8 seaster!

David Johnson

MULGA TURNED BOWL

The wood was very dry and hard, with dark reddish-brown centre and much paler sap wood outer. I asked Ray Tregoning and he suggested it might be mulga. I checked on the internet to confirm that it is mulga, commonly known as Creekline miniritchie / red mulga (Acacia cyperophylla). Info from the www.wood-database.com

I turned the base and outside until I got the shape I hoped would look good and tried not to turn off all of the contrasting pale outer sap wood. Then reversed the timber holding it in a chuck, and turned the inside.
Finished with EEE - Ultra Shine cut-n-polish friction wax then Shellawax Cream friction polish from UBeaut Polishes which is food safe after drying, as stated on their website



VINTAGE BIKES & CARS

Steve Lansley



You often see Steve in the shop and these photos are very typical of the fantastic toys he makes, Steve's abilities on all of the shop's machines sets a very high standard. This time, with motor bikes and vintage cars. Well done Steve.

THREE CRAFT BOXES

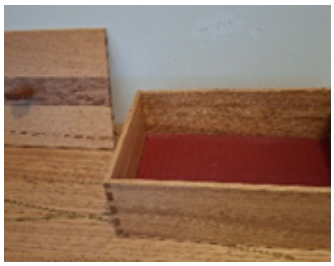
Maurice Smith



My project was to construct several craft boxes using recycled timber, that we can sell in the Gallery. The recycled timber was Tasmanian Oak and Australian Rosewood. The colour differences make for a lovely contrast.

Each of the boxes has differing designs. I didn't have plans for any of them; I made them up as I went. Two of the boxes also feature using leather, although it looks like crocodile skin, it's in reality pig skin, dyed then embossed; but the result is lovely. I purchased the leather from Birdsalls Leather in Taren Point.
They are all finished with multiple coats of blonde shellac.









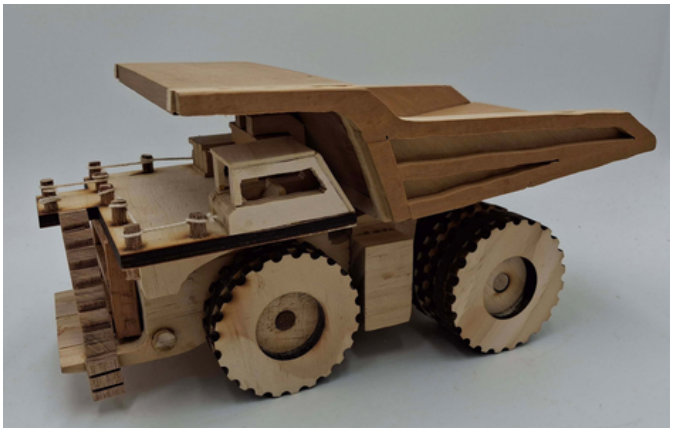




MINING DUMP TRUCK MODEL

I came across the plans for this mining dump truck and thought that it would be a interesting project to undertake.

Most of the body was OK to make, however, the wheels were supposed to cut on a scroll saw. My response to that was "no way", I made them on the laser instead. This gave me a much cleaner set of wheels.



Where I had considerable challenges was in the cabin assembly. I ended up making that assembly several times before I was happy with the result. The plans required that the fence around the cabin area be made using 2mm slivers drilled through the vertical posts. I tried that but the result was terrible. In the end I used string superglued to the posts. The result was satisfactory. Where I have a staircase up to the cabin, the plans called for a ladder made with extremely flimsy wood, however, a child playing with this truck would cause the ladder to collapse.

The dump truck will be given to a young child who has had some major family issues.
I will make another copy, maybe half size, for the Sydney Children's Hospital now that I have worked out the major complications.

WOODEN STOOL TOPS

Roger Dixon



Before

This club project originated with our pest controller spotting my woodworking equipment during treatment
They were cut out from a bed head stored in the timber shed

Dimensions 330mm diameter X 25mm Pine
Marked for cutting from a template made by Ian on the laser, cut close to the line on the band saw & finished rounding using the new Edge sander. The top edges were rounded over with half inch router bit

Prepared for painting by sanding using 120,150,180,220,240,320 & 400grit

Final finish with 2 coats Norglass marine clear varnish



After

Gary Healey

LIVE EDGE BOWL

I am slowly honing my turning skills. This bowl started as a piece of Jacaranda branch about 250mm diameter and about 300mm long, which I cut down the centre of the piece leaving two pieces. I have previously turned the first half of the piece by turning the bowl base from outside of the tree, this time I turned the base from the sawn face. Turning the bowl base worked out well.
To turn the internal part of the bowl had its issues with a lot of the bark breaking off, I managed to salvage some of the bark for reinstalling it on the live edge later. The internal part of the wood was quite soft and had a lot of tear out due to intermittent cutting, but with running the lathe fast and keeping the tool sharp the finish was good.
The sanding was difficult due to the uneven shape of the live edge. After a few skinned knuckles I got a good finish. I reshaped some pieces of the bark and superglued them back on and cleaned the edges up with the aid of my Dremel.
The finish is Anchor Clear Lacquer, maybe a stronger coating may have been better, time will tell.
I will definitely try this method of turning again.





To Savour Your Palate

February's lunch



Wessex saddle back ham, Australorp honey soy drenched drumsticks, Bega sharp vintage cheese slices and accompaniments of a green and bean salad

March Menu

In the interests of waste not want not .....
The catering committee will attempt to draw down the Bunnings Bque residual bangers in the freezer before their used by date and turn them into an Aussie inspired Hungarian Goulash stew accompanied by Richard's crusty bread rolls for our March Maxi Lunch

President's report March 2026



President's Report – March 2026

I hope everyone is healthy and coping with the hot humid weather.

Welcome to our new members. If you see new faces around the club make them feel welcome.

The new "Edge Sander" is a welcome addition to our range of equipment reducing the demand (queue up) for the disc/belt sander. Ray T highlighted a possible safety issue with the exposed return pulley and fitted a removable cover, well done Ray. All members must ensure that they have been inducted and details recorded on the edge sander induction sheet prior to using it. Please clean down the machine when finished.

Last month we had our first Bunning's Sausage Sizzle of the calendar year. The day was hot and humid but did not hinder the chef's Ray, Axel and Bob keeping up with the sales team of Alan, Maurice, Gary, Roger D, Neil, Roger W, Ian, Richard and David. Well done to all the team on the day.



We have received raffle prizes from the good people at WWS village Cafe and The National Maritime Museum Sydney thanks to Dave and Ray.

Upcoming Event: We have a Sales table at the Bunnings Store at Taren Point for their Easter Event on Thursday 26th March, 6-8pm.

Gary Healey
President

Librarian Update



We have received the March 26 issue 130 of the Australian Wood Review. There is a very interesting story on a tool called the ***Travisher***, "a specialised curved hand-tool, similar to a spokeshave, designed for shaping, hollowing and smoothing concave surfaces like Windsor chair seats".

Take a look at a very useful story on how to operate the "gifkin dovetail jig"

A great story on Korean Angojigi Door Joinery.

Magazine is in the Gellary - take a look at the magazine that is now in the gallery. RW

GUEST SPEAKER

WOODEN BOATS

Terry Lancaster



The Australian National Maritime Museum has a collection of wooden boats, some of which are over 100 years old. There is a dedicated group of shipkeepers and shipwrights who maintain these vessels so that they can be appreciated by the public.

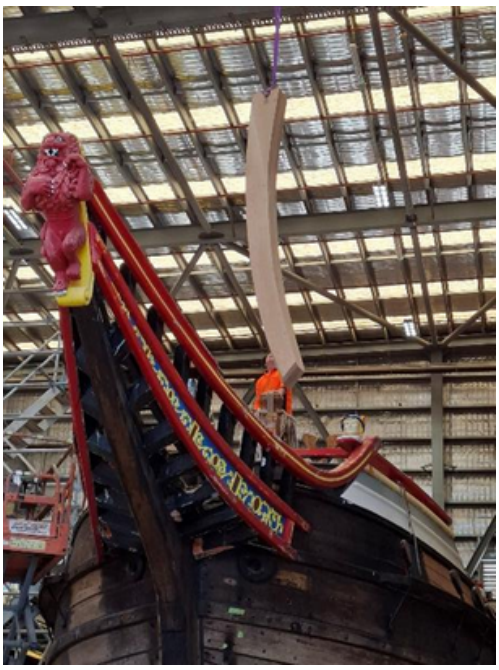
My presentation on the Museum's wooden boats briefly discusses some of these vesells and gives more detailed insight into some recent, major repairs to the replica of the Duyfken. This replica of a Dutch VOC ship was taken to dry dock for what seemed to be minor work but turned out to reveal serious rot in some important timbers.

The presentation goes into a detailed discussion of the construction of the replica Endeavour and the timbers used.





When the replica Endeavour was being planned it was decided to use Australian timbers as much as possible. The hull was constructed from jarrah, knees, blocks and other parts were made from various eucalypts. The decks were made from cyprus pine sourced from USA. At the time these timbers were being sourced, Bunnings was a timber supplier in WA rather than the hardware chain we know today. They became the major supplier to the replica team. They resurrected some old equipment in order to saw the very large and long beams required.



The team planning the construction of replica Duyfken, decided to use similar timbers and methods to what the Dutch would have used when the original Duyfken was built, Latvian oak and Portuguese pilaster pine. The pine was grown in WA from seeds brought from Portugal.

Whether it was the choice of oak rather than jarrah, or the finish used, the jarrah of Endeavour has lasted much better than the oak of Duyfken. When Duyfken was being prepared for dry dock in November, some very serious rot was discovered in some parts of the boat, in particular, the apron. It was necessary to fabricate a replacement which was about 3 metres long, 300mm wide and curved.



Get to know us

Axel Tennie



Executive Zusammenfassung Axel T.

1956 world tour in an ex WW2 troop ship aged 7 : Bremen, Port Said, Suez Canal,Perth,Melbourne, Bonegilla,Villawood, Stroud,Taree, Burrell Creek.

At 13 I left the family dairy/ beef farm. Spending the next 5 years incarcerated in a boarding school. Final report card mentioned the word recalcitrant a bit. Nothing's changed.

Followed by the breakout years of 'all care no responsibility' doing Ag Sc / Ag Engineering.

Post WW 2 the Government ran GTE's, commercially based 'Government Trading Enterprises' to f ill a market gap that was of little interest to the private sector at the time. I jagged a traineeship with one.

The SCS (soil conservation service) ran a fleet of 120 D4- D5 dozers rehabilitating the excesses of poor land management , associated rabbit plagues and accelerated water & wind erosion. An array of innovations evolved including: minimum & zero tillage combined with strip cropping farm layouts; domestic farm water supply & water harvesting to aid drought proofing and capping & piping the free flowing bores of the GAB (great artesian basin) to curtail 200 years of water wastage and pressure loss.

In later years a cacophony of complaints from the private sector about GTE competition ultimately saw its demise.

I subsequently worked under contract on a variety of projects that included :

Regulating outflows from the state's major dams for stock, domestic, irrigation & rural town water. Implementing country town sewerage and drainage projects which included wrangling the egos of 50 odd engineers!

Coastal erosion mitigation and the civil legal shit fights that ensued from accretion/ erosion boundary disputes .

Concluded my working life overseeing contract surveillance & compliance on a number of motorway projects on the South & North Coast dealing with soil, water & foundation engineering.

Had a side hustle in the 80s co driving 3 tier livestock body trucks with dog trailers into East Germany , Poland & Russia before the Berlin Wall came down. Churchill was on the money when he said "democracy is the worst form of government except for all the rest" ;

"Th-th-th-that's all folks"

BAILEY'S BIKE



The origins of this story reminds me of Richard Cain. A friend of ours, (wife of our presenter Peter Hadfield,) Marilyn found this bike on the side of the road in a clean-up and took it home for her grandson. I dismantled it, sanded it, painted it and with some difficulty re-assembled it. Painting it red; it goes quicker that way! Bailey loves it.



EVE'S CHOPPING BOARD (35CM X 25CM)



Greg De Moore is well known to our club as a presenter earlier in the year. He asked if we could make a kitchen chopping board for his daughter Eve engraved "Eve's chopping board" and a small wooden doll's cradle. Axel made the chopping board and Graham the doll's cradle. Greg is visiting the club on 17 th March to collect both.



Dolls Bed for teddy bear or baby doll - for granddaughter turning one in July

STAINED GLASS ARTWORK



My wife Lorena and myself have celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary this month. Lorena fortunately didn't want any diamonds.
So we decided on a stained glass artwork featuring the small birds that no longer inhabit our garden. We talked to Leonie Le Cornu who gave us a talk at a Maxi Day last year on how to make stained glass items.

We gave her just the bare outline, ie featuring small birds, about 300 mm diameter and with a chain to suspend it from a hook.

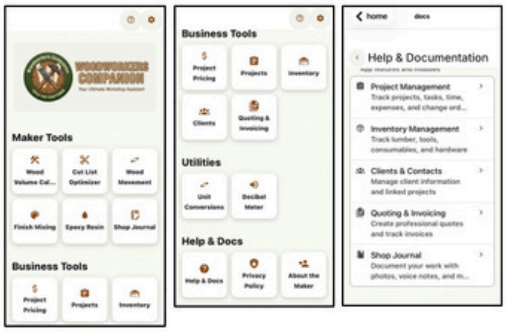
Leonie designed and then made the artwork shown in the photo. She added a diamond at the top for special effect! We mounted it in a niche shelving unit I had made a few years ago to infill a large hole when we replaced an obsolete air conditioner. With a dimmable light behind, and an acrylic panel to diffuse the light, the photo shows the final result.

Leonie has her business and studio in a Heritage listed house on the Kingsway at Woolooware, which is well worth visiting if you want anything similar. Graham Ethell.

Woodworkers Companion App

I came across this Woodworkers Companion app that may be of interest to club members, particularly those who like to record the detail of plans, measurements, and processes.

Here are a few screenshots to pique your interest, but download it, and try it for yourself.



David Edwards

Notice board

Safety Notice

Safety is the responsibility of every member of the club

Birthdays in March

6 March	Ian Rudd
6 march	Shane Stevens
9 March	Richard Cain
10 March	Ben Shipman
18 March	Zdena Vondra
19 March	George Lycakis

Raffle winners February

1st Lloyd Kirkland - voucher to Woolooware Shores cafe - thankyou)
2nd Ray de Marco
3rd Gary Mitchell
4th Alan Stubbs

New Members

Luke Di Palma
Lorenzo Di Palma

IAN'S MaxiDay videos

Glue Clean Up

https://www.wwgoa.com/video/cleaning-up-squeeze-out-040242?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=020826reg

Jointer Safety

https://www.wwgoa.com/video/using-a-jointer-safely-000284

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.



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

"Feel Good" Happy Snaps





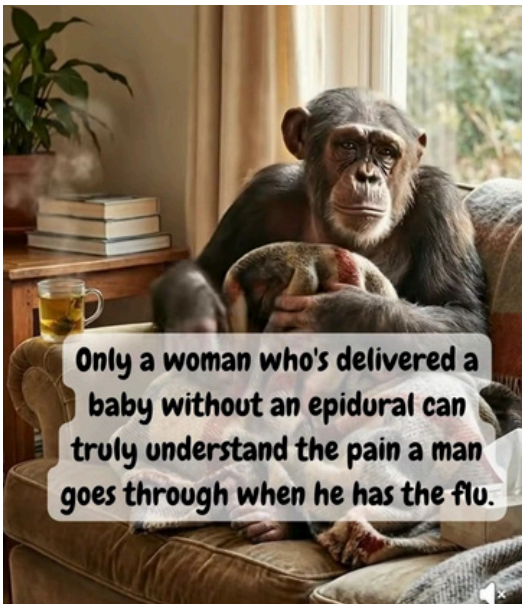
Comedy corner

Shire Woodworking Club

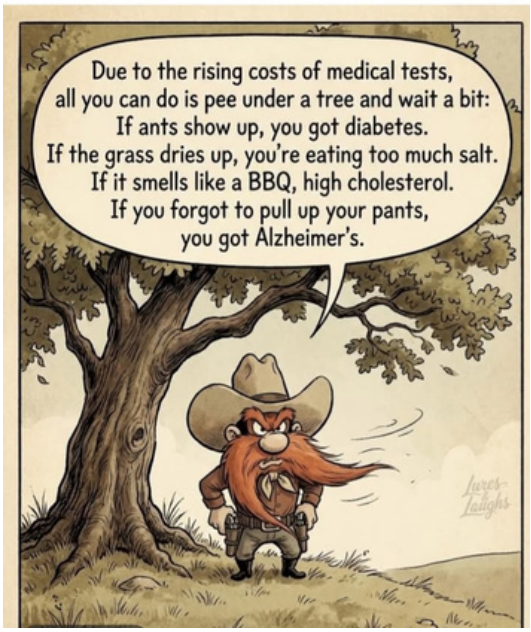


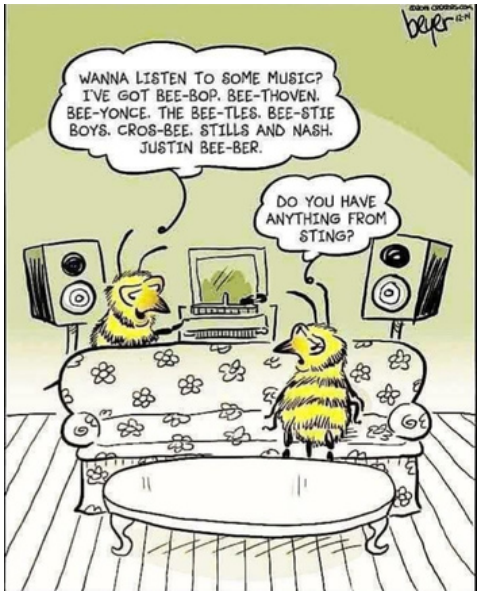
An oldie but a goodie

I tried to come up with a carpentry pun that woodwork. I think I nailed it but nobody saw it.



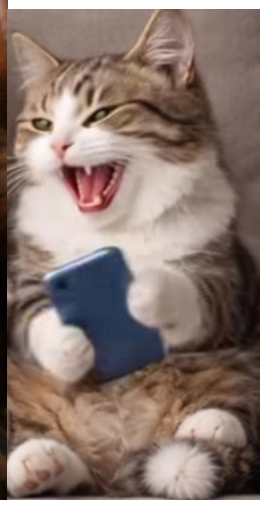
Finally, a medical plan I can afford.











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
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	PH	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026						2
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March 2026						3
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April 2026						4
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May 2026						5
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31						

June 2026						6
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28	29	30				

July 2026						7
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August 2026						8
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30	31					

September 2026						9
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October 2026						10
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November 2026						11
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December 2026						12
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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	