



# Flitch 'n Chips

Issue No.250

April 2018



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

G'day all Woodies.

Monday 16th April and I arrived a bit after 8.00 am at the Club; my first purpose was to move the chairs from the space in the shed from our event on Saturday.

I did expect to see Woodies using the new space burning wood, scroll sawing making intarsia and chipping away carving, but no, it was deserted. Instead just two members drinking coffee and telling each other tall stories.

For all the purposes for which it was designed, the new building is both functional and operational so it is there to be used.

The official opening of the John Henderson Building went off seamlessly on Saturday and except for one dignitary being absent, we had over 100 people attending.

## MALENY WOOD EXPO:

Plans are well under way for the Barung Wood Expo and the children's workshop.

There will be a further planning meeting this week with the Maleny Men's Shed, Barung and the BRWG to finalize the event. Rick will have roster notices up in the shed this week.

We have been fortunate to have be allocated space in the main pavilion this Expo. It has been decided to use this space as a display area showing just what the Guild members are capable of as woodcrafters. Generally, items displayed will not be for sale and we not have sales facilities there.

However, items could be sold if there is significant interest by having the buyer being referred to the epfos facilities in our main stand in the cattle pavilion.

We will be looking for items for display so if you would like to have your work involved, please contact any of the organizers.

## TIMBER STOCKS:

Plenty of Silky Oak, Blue Quondong and Liquid Amber is available to use. There will be Camphor Laurel in the future.

It seems the Silver Ash was very popular and has mostly been sold.

To all members not feeling the best, we wish you well and look forward to seeing you at the shed soon. Take care!

John Muller  
President.



Michael Brosnan was commissioned by Timber Queensland to make trophies, and what a fantastic job he did !



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Well, for the last six months, EVERYTHING has been about the John Henderson Building, and we now have a building constructed by members, for members, which everyone can be extremely proud of.

The building has a special place in the history of Australia. It was designed specifically to support our troops in a theatre of war overseas, but it never got to serve that purpose. Instead, fifty years on, it now serves to support a wide cross section of our community, in peace.

It has now been officially opened, and it is time to use it (for other than refreshments !).





Councillor Jenny McKay and Maria McMaster, John Henderson's partner, unveil the naming plaque (apologies for the quality of the photo).

s  
Some of the excellent number who attended the opening



A fabulous spread was provided for the visitors, very capably organised by Lorraine Muller. The Guild greatly appreciates the efforts by those involved.

## Maintenance Report by Terry O'Connor



Modifications have been made to the winding handles on the Hammer Panel Saw. Ian Colpoys kindly machined provision for retaining screws in a metal rise and fall handle that needed modification. And Ted Martin completely fabricated a replacement steel handle for the blade angle adjustment.

So both of the black plastic handles that spent most of the time falling on the floor have been replaced. Thank you fellas for your big effort in helping the Guild out.

Last year, a Daily Maintenance Schedule was introduced in an effort to ensure basic maintenance was undertaken to avoid failures due to simple procedures not being followed. It was spread over the week so the work was not an increased onus on Shed Captains, or Shed Managers, and was to be performed by the members who had used the equipment.

Unfortunately it appears that the entire program has fallen by the wayside, which is disappointing. The Guild has expended considerable funds purchasing quality equipment, so members get to experience what it is like to use good gear, and in the hope that it would outlast cheaper equipment. That will not happen if it is not cared for.

Recent inspections of the table saws revealed they were choked to the top with saw dust. It is a relatively simple task to clean them. If you are at the shed on the day they are to be cleaned, and do not know how to do it, ask for assistance. DO NOT assume they are self-cleaning models. We are still searching for those.

Instead of \$70 vacuums for hand tools, we bought \$550 mobile machines, for your pleasure of use, and YOUR SAFETY, as they have twin dust protection. They cannot protect you if they are choked with dust. Again, if you do not know how to check or clean them, ASK.

The second thing to do when ou arrive at the shed, after registering, is to check the notice on the storage cupboard immediately inside the door and see what equipment is to be serviced that day. Come 11 am, check with the Shed Captain what you are required to do.



## Reading Grain Orientation

### Proper feed direction is important

The grain in wood is one of its most attractive features, but one that can also make it difficult to work with. If wood is machined in the wrong direction, the edges of grain lines can lift or separate, requiring additional sanding to achieve a smooth surface before finishing. In more severe cases, a cutter catching the edge of a grain line may contribute to kickout or even a fracture. Both situations can turn the piece into scrap, but more importantly, both can represent a danger to the woodworker.

Wood grain actually consists of bundled fibers that can be up to 100 times longer than they are wide. These bundles are aligned along the tree's vertical axis, but their path is never perfectly straight.

While present everywhere in wood, the most visible grain is at the growth rings, developed annually as each season's growth adds to the tree's circumference. Because we can readily see growth rings, they are the landmarks we use to determine grain orientation in a piece of wood.

### Up, Down, With or Against

The first thing to understand is the terminology used to describe the meeting of cutter and grain. When the cutter is working down, or with the grain, the bundles are sliced cleanly, leaving a smooth surface with minimal defects. If the cutter is working up, or against the grain, the grain can snag or lift. The resulting surface could be rougher than anticipated and require considerable sanding to correct.

It is also important to remember that the portion of the cutter actually meeting the wood turns against the direction of feed. That is a constant with routers, jointers, planers, table saws and their hand-held equivalents.

Though not as quickly, belt sanders can also raise grain edges, making orientation important in their use as well.

While this story admittedly focuses on the interaction of power tools and wood grain, the same principles are equally important with similar hand tools. A sharp hand plane cannot cut as cleanly when working against the grain as it does when travelling in the proper direction.



Think of the brush bristles as the grain. If the grain slants down (left) towards the cutter (which always turns against the feed direction) the cutters grab the end of the grain and lift it, causing chips and splits. If the grain is angled in the same direction as the cutting motion (right) the cutters can make clean slicing cuts.

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## Safety Notes by Warne Wilson and Dave Banister



This month, a note about hand tools. "Hand tools!" you say, "Hand tools should be safe enough!" Yes, they should be, and they are, in the right hands and with understanding. But hand tools have sharp edges, they have to have, and very sharp too, to cut and shape wood in all of its varieties from soft pine through to very hard and cross grained hardwood. But fingers too can be reshaped or scarred if the woodworker is not careful.

Plane blades to be effective must be honed to razor sharpness. They do their job well but they can remove skin effectively too, such as when removed for resetting. Chisels, particularly for carving, can be dangerous, especially when they fly when presented to the buffing wheel the wrong way. Ask any carver, they always have a packet of band aids handy.

Hammers and thumbs have an attraction until a woody learns to keep his or her thumbs out of the way.

An old woodie once showed me an ugly scar on the palm of his hand; a slip with a screwdriver.

We have a first aid box in the old shed and one has been ordered for the new shed. They contain dressings, antiseptic and various other first aid items. By the way Shed Captains, after an incident, even a small one, a note must be made in the incident book kept there for that reason.

A small incident happened this month when a woodie was using a Japanese saw. These saws are very thin and flexible and will create an accurate, straight cut. They have razor sharp backward facing teeth which work on the *pull stroke*. The push stroke must be made gently to allow the saw to reposition for the next pull without flexing. All that was understood by the woodie but he pulled the saw past the end of the cut he was making, and the saw broke free to cut the web between thumb and forefinger. A band aid, a drop of antiseptic and he was back at the bench, but it could have been worse.

Have a care everyone – hand tools can bite!

## Club Events Calendar



The next event is the Maleny Wood Expo, on Saturday 5 May; Sunday 6 May and Monday 7 May, 2018, at Maleny Show Grounds. We shall be calling for volunteers to assist with loading and unloading the event equipment, setting up the displays, manning the members sales in the cow shed; the kids area on the oval; and the display area in the main pavillion (which is a first this year). You have two weeks to finish your finest pieces for display and sale, so back to work.

On 12 May, 2018, commencing 9am, will be a General Meeting open to all current members, followed by a Committee Meeting. If you have any ideas on how to improve the Guild, or even some gratuitous advice for the Committee, please come along.

### Around the Shed



Some members have reportedly been concerned as to the source of funds being expended by the Guild. Well, unfortunately, it seems the secret is now out, with an early arriving member snapping some photos of the latest fund raising initiative. So I suppose that brings us to the next question; which bandsaw to use ??



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Some happy members using the quiet shed for its intended purpose; playing with hand tools. First official function !



Great days work by the Landscape Team, with a great outcome.  
Watch this space !



And there is the first official use of the wood carving facilities !

Some of you may have recognized that a particular member has a certain penchant for Glue Laminated Timber (so when he says “GluLam” this is what he means), and this is why as it is the building product of the future :

## The University of Queensland's advanced engineering building is an inspirational showcase of a 'living building'.

Designed by Richard Kirk Architects in partnership with Hassell, the 5 Star Green Star rated building is an award winning demonstration of Australian excellence in environmental architecture. As cars, phones, computers and digital devices are getting smarter, so too should buildings. This was the Architects motivation.

The building is also home to the GHD Auditorium; an engineering masterpiece set to inspire those who learn within its walls for decades to come. The decision to construct the auditorium entirely out of timber was not only to achieve the aesthetic interaction between the natural environment, but also the structural functionality and environmental impact of the building. The auditorium's 215-tonne roof is supported entirely by impressive timber members that span the entire 30-metre-wide space.

Hyne Timber's prefabricated GLT components, all Responsible Wood certified, were grown, harvested, milled and engineered in Queensland. The hardwood beams were Hyne beam 21 which are unique to Hyne Timber.

Rob Mansell, Hyne Timber's Commercial GLT Business Development Manager said this was a great example of working closely throughout the design phase, “Where an average project might involve a few pages of drawings, this particular project involved over 2000 pages of drawings.

“Being involved with the detailing prior to fabrication allowed for early discovery and resolution of conflicts, and coordination with other building components and services.

“Our offsite prefabrication service also ensured accuracy and time efficiency with the onsite installation – cutting down the overall construction phase timeline considerably.

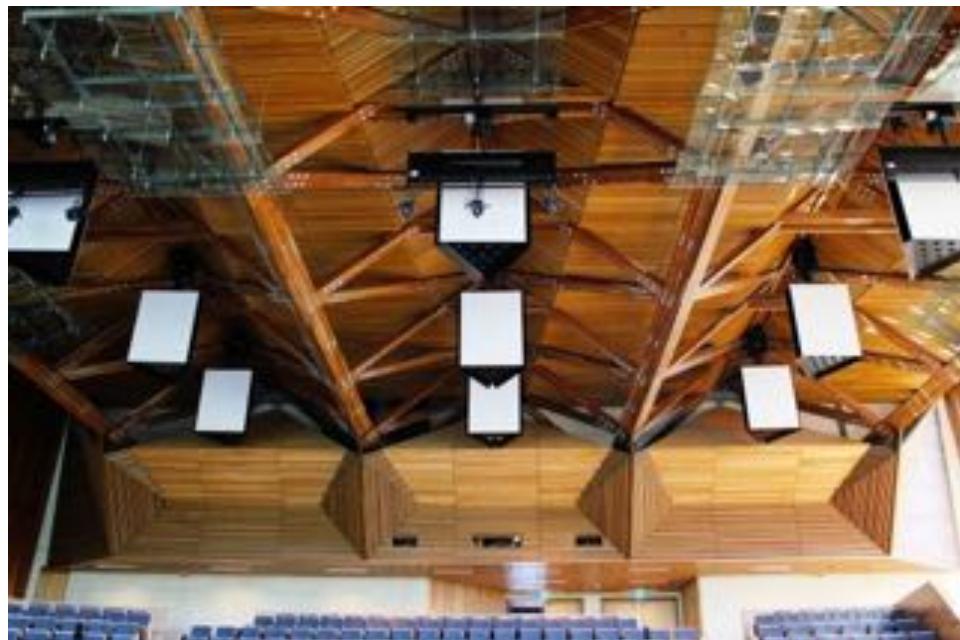
“The assembled trusses were so large that they had to be transported in the middle of the night but they could be assembled in place and when completed, lifted in a single day!” Mr Mansell concluded.

The project Architects won the Engineered Timber category in the Australian Timber Design Awards and later took out three categories in the National Architecture Awards for:

- Public Architecture Awards – The Sir Zelman Cowan Award;
- Interior Architecture – The Emil Sodersten Award; and
- Sustainable Architecture – National Award.

In the latter, jury awards citations acknowledged the use of Queensland timber, the 5 Star Green Rating of the building and acknowledgement that this “spectacular use of timber makes the auditorium a delightful space to occupy – radiating geometry”. The jury went on to further acknowledge a softness more usually associated with residential architecture because of their use of timber.

The Advanced Engineering Building at the University of Queensland's St Lucia campus was a collaborative project funded by the Australian Government, Queensland Government, and The University of Queensland, with philanthropic support from GHD.



Now, admittedly, that is a mighty fine timber building, for a University !

But not a patch on our beautiful GluLam benches, with materials donated by Hyne Timber, and constructed in the John Muller School of Benching



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## Innovation Corner

Who uses scrapers ? Have problems getting them sharp ? Maybe this is the answer.

“Sometimes it’s not you. Sometimes, it is the tool that is causing the problem; especially if we are talking about burnishers. Despite the fact that we can put a space probe up the blowhole of a distant asteroid, we are still plagued by bad burnishers or too-hard scrapers. Back in the day, when scrapers were made from softer steel (usually scraps from an old handsaw), you could turn a hook with the back of a gouge, a chisel or a really fine screwdriver.

But now that scrapers are much harder, sometimes into the 50s on the Rockwell “C” hardness scale, you need a harder burnisher. I’ve even encountered scrapers that are much harder than a chisel.

And even if you get a hard burnisher, it might not be smooth enough to do the job. I’ve seen new burnishers that looked like they were dressed with coarse sandpaper. If the burnisher isn’t as smooth as a baby otter’s belly, your hook is going to be jagged, fragile and worthless.

So if your burnisher is working fine, disregard the remainder of this blog. Go back to the shop and sharpen your scrapers. You’re done.

OK, for the rest of you, I recommend the French-made Arno burnisher. It is the only burnisher I have used (and I’ve used them all) that will always turn a hook on all scrapers all the time (yes, even underwater, in a box, with a fox etc.).

The Arno has two very smooth carbide edges that are mounted in an aluminum handle with a leather pouch. (Use the leather pouch to protect your tool, carbide can get chipped and otherwise mangled.)

I usually use only the rounded edge of the Arno, though I have used the pointed edge on occasion when I am dealing with steel that is crazy-hard. Of course, the problem might also be your technique. I’ve written a bunch about sharpening scrapers on the *Popular Woodworking* web site. Check out [this video](#). *Christopher Schwarz* “

You can buy Arno Carbur 2 Carbide Burnisher for \$49.00 from :  
Henry Eckert Toolworks



***Who's Who in BRWG Inc. 2017 - 18***

Patrons - Andrew Powell MP, Mark Jamieson - Mayor SCRC and Cr Jenny McKay

President	John Muller	0418 871 946
Vice President	Greg McCosker	0418 746 420
Secretary	Graham Beaumont	0449 081 092
Asst. Secretary	Dave Edmond	5478 6932
Treasurer	Brian Harris	5445 7921
Asst. Treasurer	Lindsay Thomas, Julie Breen	
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Publicity Officer	John Andrews, Hamish Borthwick	
Recruitment Officers	Dave Banister, Tom Black, Dave Edmond, Keith Muirhead	
Activity Officers	John Drew, John Clarke, Warne Wilson, Dave Banister, Keith Muirhead, Brian Harris, Max Barrenger	
Safety Officers	Dave Banister, Warne Wilson	
First Aid Officer	John Drewe	
Events Organiser	Rick Vickers	0408 663 842
Shed Managers	Greg McCosker, Terry O'Connor	
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Tuesday	Turning & Carving
Wednesday	General Workshop & Toys
Thursday	Furniture & Joinery
Friday	General Activities
Saturday	General Act. & Demo's

**Shed Captain Roster - May 2018**

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
		1	Tom Black	2	AM Ron Fishwick PM Warne Wilson	3	John Holland	4		5	Graham Beaumont
7	Lionel Tilley	8	Bruce Chapman	9	AM Leigh Boynton PM Terry O'Connor	10	Ray Bryant	11	Dave Edmond	12	Warne Wilson
14	Dave Banister	15	Dave Southern	16	AM Rob Otto PM Keith Carter	17	John Drewe	18	Dave Edmond	19	Keith Muirhead
21	Brian Harris	22	Greg McCosker	23	AM Ron Fishwick PM Warne Wilson	24	John Muller	25	Don English	26	Graham Beaumont
28	John Muller	29	Tom Black	30	AM Leigh Boynton PM Terry O'Connor	31	John Holland				

**Shed Captain Roster - June 2018**

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
								1		2	Warne Wilson
4	Lionel Tilley	5	Bruce Chapman	6	AM Rob Otto PM Keith Carter	7	Ray Bryant	8	Dave Edmond	9	Don Lear
11	Dave Banister	12	Dave Southern	13	AM Ron Fishwick PM Warne Wilson	14	John Drewe	15	Dave Edmond	16	Keith Muirhead
18	Brian Harris	19	Greg McCosker	20	AM Leigh Boynton PM Terry O'Connor	21	John Muller	22	Don English	23	Graham Beaumont
25	John Muller	26	Tom Black	27	AM Rob Otto PM Keith Carter	28	John Holland	29		30	Warne Wilson

*A few more military reviews :*

He has the wisdom of youth and the energy of old age.

This Officer should go far and the sooner he starts, the better.

In my opinion this pilot should not be authorised to fly below 250 feet.

The only ship I would recommend for this man is citizenship.

Couldn't organise a woodpecker's picnic in Sherwood Forest.

Works well when under constant supervision and cornered like a rat in a trap.