

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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Editor: 0408 240 514 Website : <https://shirewoodworking.com.au>



June 2025

Guest Speakers coming up

June 14th Alan Stubbs - Customs

July 12th Carbatec - Mark Thomas

August 9th Greg De Moore - Psychiatrist, Historian & Author

Sept 13th Michael Green (Club member) - Saws & Planes

I would welcome suggestions from club members to support an agenda that allows a mix of both woodworking and general presenters.

Future Events

- Tue 24 June 10:30 - Interactive video session in Gallery with ID Care regarding Scam avoidance..
- June TBA Visit to PolAir Bankstown
- Sun 26 Oct - GyMEA Village Festival - Main street location

Maxi Day 14 June

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	Alan Stubbs - Customs
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.

Find Us On Facebook .. Search for “Shire Woodworking Club”

PLANK COMPETITION

The Plank Competition has been a foundation event in our club for many years. Following are pictures of some of the history going back to 2005. The rules were changed in recent years to restrict the plank competition to toys only in order to overcome difficulties we had in fairly scoring entries between various categories eg a piece of furniture vs a toy vs an art piece. The following rules apply for 2025.



PLEASE READ THE RULES BEFORE YOU START WORKING ON YOUR PLANK COMPETITION ENTRY.

TOYMAKING PLANK COMPETITION RULES FOR 2025

- The purpose of the Competition, open to all members of the Shire Woodworking Club, is for members to enhance their woodworking skills, creativity and to have fun making toys .
- The Competition will be conducted in three categories. Eligible members in each Category will be published in "Sawdust and Shavings". All entrants will be supplied with a plank of Radiata Pine approximately 1500mm x 290mm x 19mm or equivalent.
- There is no restriction on the number, size, type and design of the entry providing it is used to make one or more toys for the Club. It is to be made predominantly from the timber supplied. Full use of the timber supplied should, where practical, be attempted and any remaining pieces are to be returned to the Club.
- Any item submitted for judging in the competition that is not a toy, as determined by the Committee, will not be included in the judging process.
- Finished entry/s are to be made available for judging on the September Maxi Day 13 September 2025. Entries in the Competition shall become the property of the Club to sell, or to dispose of, at the Club's discretion.
- At the conclusion of the judging process a member submitting an entry may offer to purchase that entry for a nominal fee of \$50.
- Any member who takes a plank and does not submit an entry will be asked to, either: (a) return the plank, or (b) reimburse the Club a nominal fee of \$50.
- Members present on the judging day will be entitled to vote on the entries in categories for which they have not submitted an entry. Procedures for the judging will be determined by the Committee and advised to members on the day, however members will be asked to award marks under three criteria:
 - Is it a good creative design including the entrant's creative design input?
 - Is it well made?
 - Is it well finished?
- The winner, runner-up and third placegetter in each Category will be awarded prizes of a \$50, \$30 and \$20 respectively Bunnings Warehouse voucher.
- Winners will progress to higher categories as follows:
 - The 1st and 2nd prize winners in Category C will progress to Category B in the following year's competition.
 - The 1st prize winner in Category B will progress to Category A in the following year's competition.
- In the event of a complaint, the complainer is directed to Clause 1 of these Rules.

GET TO KNOW US

Alan Stubbs



As you are probably aware, I have received the OBE earlier this year. It was a bit of a shock, not as bad as my 20th when I thought I was going to be on my way to Vietnam.

I grew up in Oatley, but went to Mortdale public school, something to do with excess pupils. I then proceeded to Sydney Technical High at Bexley, ready for a technical education. Unfortunately I was forced to do latin instead of woodwork and metalwork, which meant, unfortunately that I did not do as well as I should have.

After the leaving certificate in 1962 I got a job with H. B. Selby chemicals, left after a year (1963) and joined the old DMR in 1964 in the materials laboratory at Milson's Point. After about two years started the Chemistry Certificate (now the diploma) at TAFE Ultimo. Over the years I went through various sections, ending up in geotechnical, giving away chemistry when I was nearly burnt to death. In 1988 it became the RTA, and we were under constant review by management consultants, looking for ways to sell us off or make us redundant.

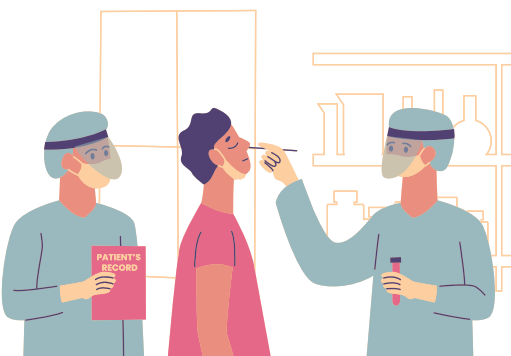
I retired early in late 2003 and settled down to retirement. In late 2004 I got a call from my old boss to say could I come and see him, which I did. He offered me a job as a contractor to sort out an unholy mess on a project I thought was finished. This happened again in 2005, so went back finishing up in 2006 working on and off. In the labour hire company I worked for, there were (So I was told) 31 retired and redundant RTA staff members were back working. Their succession planning and new recruiting left a lot to be desired

In 2007 it was suggested to me that I should apply for a job in Quarantine at Sydney Airport, which I did and was successful in getting the job. I was there for almost ten years, which, overall were the happiest working days of my life. It was a real eye opener, I met and processed people I never knew existed. This included fellow workers and passengers. My talk on maxi day will cover this.

I have been married to Narelle for 56 years, and have one son Chris. We have moved three times, to Gympie Bay, to Gympie Bay, to Gympie Bay. We like the place and have lived here for 50 years. (Almost Shire locals).

For my 40th birthday present I was given a cabinet making course with Leo Sadubin, a high end cabinet maker at Thornleigh. I made a bookcase out of Tasmanian blackwood, which did not fit into our new furnishing layout, and was donated to the club for recycling.

Besides my father, who taught me basic woodworking, I owe Dr Draper at TAFE for one very important thing. In my last year he gave me my yearly project, which counted to my final mark in analytical chemistry. I was to get a can of pineapple juice and a fresh lemon, analyse and compare the vitamin C content and write a technical report on the findings. I said to him I didn't have a clue how to do it. His reply "Our library is up the street. Go there and find out its there". I have followed this philosophy ever since. Build a deck? Consult span tables for various timbers and designs. Go to the library, its sure to be there (The reagent used for vitamin C is 2chlorophenol indolphenol)



MAY ACTIVITIES

Election Day Stall ... 10 May



An excellent day with a lot of interest by people on their way to vote, with good sales results. The Needle Cases prepared by Ian got a lot of interest. We had plenty of club members in attendance. Thanks to you all.

Woollooware Shores Open Day ... 15 May



Bunnings Mother's Day Stall - 8 May

Thank you to Gary Healey and Bob Quigley for taking care of business. Good result.



MAXIDAY SHOW AND TELL

Alan Ritchie



Alan continues to develop his skills on the CNC Router. The pictures reflect his latest creation

Ian also continues to refine his skills on the Laser machine. The pictures reflect Ian's latest product line called "needle/pin" cases. They have been very popular at our May sales venues.



Ian Rudd



Tony Browne's Brackets

Some pictures of brackets made by Tony for a friend's daughters heritage house at Engadine using treated pine.



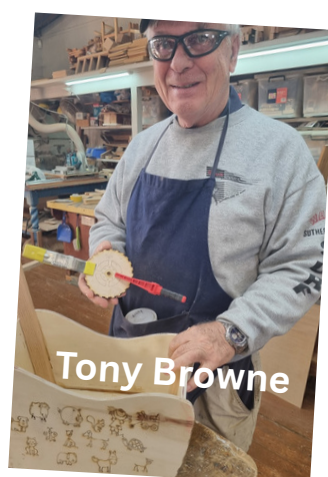
Table Saw Safe Practices

At our Maxi Days Ian presents a series of videos explaining Safe Practices/Techniques that we all could use. Last Maxiday the video was relating to the avoidance of "kick back". I have captured the main points in the following list.

- Always use push sticks and a feather board
- Don't set blade too high over the stock
- Don't stand behind the stock
- Don't reach over the saw
- Don't pull short pieces through the saw
- Keep stock against the fence
- Never try free hand
- Keep stock flat on table
- Caution with ripping narrow pieces
- Have someone support end of long stock

WORK IN PROGRESS / TOY MAKING

The last Thursday of every month is dedicated to Toy Making. A big thankyou to everyone with a few notables below.



GUEST SPEAKER

Brett Degenhardt - PolAir

Last Maxi Day 10th May we had the great pleasure of having Brett Degenhardt from PolAir NSW Police Force Aviation Command.

The Aviation Command is more commonly known as PolAir, and provides aerial support to police across New South Wales.

Its strategy is to serve from above, statewide, as a force multiplier, adding value at any incident that impacts on officer or public safety. Its duties include:

- Search and rescue (including missing children, the elderly and lost bushwalkers).
- Patrol support (searching for offenders)
- High visibility operations for special events (e.g. New Year's Eve, Mardi Gras, City to surf, Vivid, etc.
- Reconnaissance tasks.
- Counter terrorism operations.
- Transport of dignitaries and specialised police.
- Displays / demonstrations and charity events.
- Maintenance and servicing of police aircraft.

The command utilises state of the art specialised technology such as rescue winches, Forward Looking Infra Red (FLIR), high definition video camera system, PA system, beam searchlights, downlinking of live video, digital radio systems and Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) navigation systems.

Its current fleet consists of five helicopters and three fixed wing aircraft. The command also maintain the fleet of NSW Police Force's Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA).

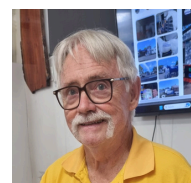
Visit NSW Aviation Command Facebook page (<https://www.Facebook.com/PolAirNSWPF/>).



PolAir - NSW Police Force Aviation Command



PRESIDENT'S REPORT June 2025



The Club had excellent results with three stalls during the month of May, Election Day at the Gallery, Bunnings Mother's Day, and Woollooware Shores. I would like to thank all those that helped out on the day and those that have made items for the sales at the events.

Winter is now upon us, please take care of yourselves and have the necessary vaccinations. If you are unwell, please stay home or wear a mask at the club, Covid is still in the community.

Maurice has applied for a stall at GyMEA Village Fair and he has managed to get a main street locating this year, (October) further details will be advised at a later date.

Thanks to all members who attended the May toy making day.

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

Gary Healey
President

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TO SAVOUR YOUR PALATE

Axel Tennie

Menu from May Maxi-day

Vegetable & Satay Chicken Stir Fry

Chicken: 'sauces' From the Kingaroy Flo & Joh Bjelke Petersen Estate where chickens are directly Satay Infused as they forage in peanut legume planted runs. (Joh is fondly remembered for his Brown paper bag transactions ,Gerrymandering electorates but first and foremost for his " Feed the chooks " quotes , extremely fond of them!!)

The seasonal vegetables: were hand picked in the UWS's Hawkesbury Campus atmospheric controlled hydroponic greenhouse and delivered in Ethylene blocking 1- Methylcyclopropene infused containers to optimum same day freshness.

PS don't believe anything you read & only half of what you see!



Menu for June Maxi-Day

Hungarian Gulyas

June Maxi Day A La Carte

Beef Wellington..... just kidding, sourcing death caps out of season is problematic at this time of year .

In lieu thereof : Peasant Food for the winter weather.

Hungarian Gulyas (yes that's how the locals spell it , not Goulash)

Whether it's soup or stew on the day will depend on the numbers and how far we have to stretch it!

All ingredients will be ethically sourced & flown direct from Hungarian organic certified farms to ensure traditional peasant authenticity , taste, texture & mouth feel. Apologies, I plagiarised the last bit from Master Chef!!



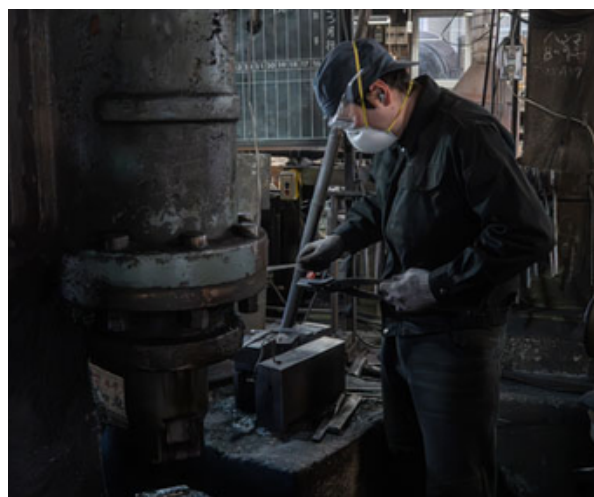
LIBRARIAN UPDATE

We have received Issue 127-June 2025 of Australian Wood Review. It is an excellent issue and rather than try to provide a precis I am providing a copy of the contents below. Take a look at the Tools & Equipment section which deals with a visit to the Toolsmiths of Miki Japan and writes about the future of their craft. Also some useful advice in the Machinery & Tools reviews. Take a look.



Machinery & Tool Reviews :

- Woodfast PT410A planer-thicknesser
- Heritage rip and crosscut backsaws
- Blue Spruce router plane
- Laguna Fusion 1 tablesaw
- HNT Gordon plough plane
- Gilly's chopping board oils



← This picture shows the techniques/processes used by the Japanese forging houses that was explained during our visit to JTA.



NOTICE BOARD

Raffle Winners 10th May Maxi Day



1st - John Field
2nd - Ray de Marco
3rd - Barry Gardner

Birthdays in Junel

03 June Ben Jansen
05 June Ray Tregoning
06 June Geoff Tong
12 June Gary Healey
13 June Bob Steege
18 June Roger Walsh
22 June Robert Leake
26 June Michael Sladek
29 June Max Abeleven
30 June John Field



Safety Notice



Safety is the responsibility of every
member of the club



New Members

Michael Taure

Fees

Annual Fees of \$50 are due by end of June

BUY SWAP SELL

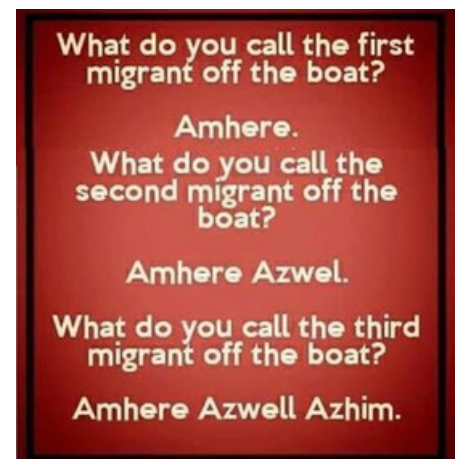
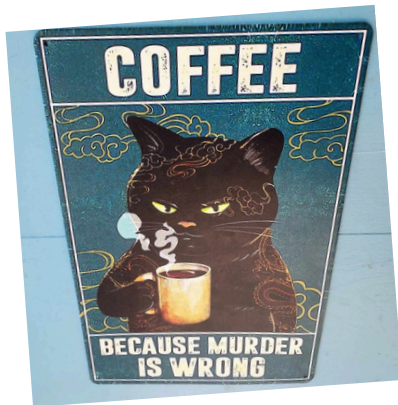
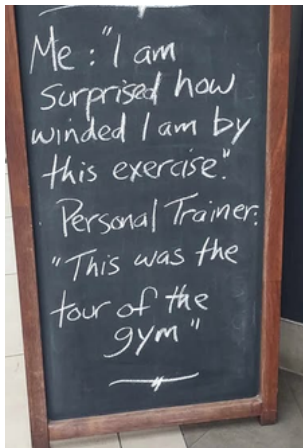
We have a number of pieces of
equipment that are available for sale.
Just drop an email to
mauricesmith2230@gmail.com and he
will endeavour to sell.



COMEDY CORNER



Shire Woodworking Club



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	