

The Official Newsletter of the SHIRE WOODWORKING CLUB Inc. Reg. No. Y2889524  
"The WORKSHOP", 2B Turriell Bay Road, Lilli Pilli. NSW. 2229  
Workshop Phone (02) 9526 8654 Membership Enquiries: (02) 9522 7674 Newsletter Editor: Phone 0414 538 475

*Our members have been really busy this month—this edition showcases their skill*



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**CLUB COMMITTEE:**

**President:** Ian Rudd  
**Vice President:** Malcolm Armstrong  
**Secretary:** Graham Ethell  
 Telephone 9522 7674  
**Treasurer:** Alan Ritchie  
**Committee Members:** Ray De Marco, Roger Dixon & Barry Gardner

**SUB-COMMITTEES & Auxiliary Positions**

**Assistant Secretary:** Roger Dixon  
**Assistant Treasurer:** Roger Walsh  
**Project Sub-Committee:** Bob Davis, Barry Gardner, Alan Ritchie & Ray Tregoning.  
**Librarian:** Roger Walsh  
**Safety Officers:** Ray De Marco, Roger Dixon, David Edwards, Graham Ethell, Alan Ritchie, Ian Rudd & Ray Tregoning.  
**Welfare Officer:** Peter Mott  
**First Aid Officers:** Graham Ethell & Alan Ritchie  
**Newsletter Editor:** Maurice Smith  
**Assistant Newsletter Editors:** Ray De Marco & Roger Walsh  
**Catering Officers:** Richard Cain, Michael Green, Steve Lansley, Trevor Lewis, Neil Mathews, Lynn Messenger & Roger Walsh  
**Equipment & Training:** Roger Dixon, David Edwards, Neil Mathews, Terry Murphy, Alan Ritchie, Ian Rudd, Ray Tregoning & James Windschuttle  
**Raffles:** Peter Mott  
**Exhibitions Sub-Committee:** Malcolm Armstrong, Roger Dixon, Graham Ethell, Steve Lansley, Lynn Messenger, Maurice Smith & David Whitney  
**Property Sub-Committee:** Richard Cain, Roger Dixon, Graham Ethell, Bob Quigley, Ian Rudd, & Ray Tregoning  
**Toymaking:** Malcolm Armstrong, Barry Gardner, Gary Halder, Steve Lansley, Lynn Messenger, Glen Reeve, Reno Scriberras, Maurice Smith, Ken Tyson & Roger Walsh  
**Woodcarvers' Liaison:** Ron O'Malley

**Presidents Report September 2020**

Since this Covid 19 pandemic was declared our daily life has changed dramatically and thus the activities of the club have been curtailed. In past years the September Bunnings Sausage Sizzle was held the day before Father's day. This has been a very significant fundraiser for the Shire Woodworking Club. This year it did not happen. The club continues to look for new ways to raise funds and we have had some success with products produced on the laser mainly for items requested from some local schools.

I believe that the various rules that have been put in place regarding Covid 19 and social distancing, hygiene and recording of temperature and attendance have been successful but all members need to continue to observe these protocols. I would like to thank everyone who has attended the workshop for abiding by these rules. As the country's leaders are saying "We are all in this together"

Thanks to members who have created another batch of toys and items for delivery to our usual hospital recipients. Barry Gardner has kept in touch with Kerry Crannis whom for many years was our contact at The Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick. She is now based at the Royal North Shore Hospital and requested some farmland themed items for distribution to children at North Sydney. Steve Lansley put his hand up and in a very short time made a great range of farmyard animals and items using the laser engraver. Thanks to all members who have dedicated time to toymaking.

The club has been fortunate to have had a large range of very select and expensive timber donated to the club. Amongst this donated stack are boards of Huon Pine, Black Heart Sassafras, Tasmanian Blackwood, Silver Ash and various other special species. **Please ask before taking it for your own use and please pay half the price that is clearly marked on each piece.**

Finally, remember to concentrate when working with the various machines, where possible do dry runs prior to the actual operation and if in doubt, please ask for assistance. Safety is your responsibility.

Happy Woodworking.

Ian Rudd

President.

*Pictured below is some of the donated timber, referred to in President Ian's report, above.*



If you would like to receive this Newsletter please email the editor at [theshirewoodworkingclub@gmail.com](mailto:theshirewoodworkingclub@gmail.com) or if you have an article that you think would be suitable for publication in this newsletter your Editor would be most pleased to receive it.



# Our Major Fundraiser for 2020

## An Important Message

### Cook Classic Raffle Tickets

#### An important message from Club Secretary Graham

We have now received a supply of the Cook Classic Raffle tickets for this year. Prices are the same as in previous years, ie \$2 per ticket, \$20 per book of 10 tickets. There are new and different prizes (see box below), including first prize of 4 economy tickets with Qantas to anywhere in Australia.

This will be our major fund raiser for the year with the Gynea Village Fair and Bunnings BBQs cancelled, and our Maxi days also temporarily suspended. So if you can see your way clear to support your Club that would be appreciated. It is only through the fund raising efforts over the last few years that we have been able to afford the excellent equipment that is available for all

members to use as often as you like.

So please consider taking one or more books for yourself or your family /friends /workmates. Please see Roger Dixon or myself whenever we are at the Club to obtain books of tickets.

Please note that if you take one or more books away, please treat it/them as you would cash as we have to account for every unsold ticket and every sold ticket stub for audit purposes.

The organisers have supplied the below list of sponsors. It's only through their generous support that the event is able to go ahead, and we have been asked to suggest if there is a choice, you may wish to support the sponsor's businesses.

Thanks in advance for your support  
Graham

#### Proudly supported by:



### 1ST PRIZE

'Destination Australia' – Flying Qantas, four return economy airfares from Sydney to anywhere on the domestic Australia network.

*Donated by Qantas.*

PLUS \$1,000 spending money.

*Donated by McDonald's Sutherland Shire Restaurants.*

### 2ND PRIZE

Weekend away at Bannisters by the Sea Mollymook.  
Two nights' accommodation at Bannisters by the Sea – Ocean Deluxe room.  
Dinner for two at Rick Stein's valued at \$250.  
Continental breakfast daily at Cupitt's Estate in Ulladulla.  
Beer and Cheese exploration for two and \$100 voucher to spend.  
*Donated by Australian Hotels Association New South Wales.*

### 3RD PRIZE

A VIP tour for up to four (4) people at Sydney Airport. The tour includes a helicopter flight and a unique behind-the-scenes look at the inner workings of the airport.  
Valued at \$550 per person.  
*Donated by Sydney Airport.*

### 4TH PRIZE

\$1,000 worth of Westfield Gift Cards for the ultimate shopping or dining experience.  
*Donated by Westfield Miranda.*

### 5TH PRIZE

Cronulla Experience. Two nights accommodation in a one bedroom apartment for two people at Quest Cronulla Beach.  
*Donated by Quest Cronulla Beach.*



# Children's Hospital Toy Collection

## Children's Hospital, Randwick Therapy & Toy Collection.

We were pleased to have a visit from Janet Burke, Joint Manager Child Life & Music Therapists, and Matt Ralph, Music Therapist, from the Hospital early afternoon on Wednesday 12 August, 2020 to collect 312 items being our Club's latest offering of goodies for use by the Hospital's team of Therapists. It is interesting that with the Covid-19 restrictions we were all masked up with Janet and Matt remaining outside our Lilli Pilli Workshop at a distance. Our members packed up the items and took them out of the workshop, placed them on the ground where Janet and Matt collected them and packed the items in their car. We were sorry we could not sit and have a cuppa and chat with them.

However, Janet did advise that Monica is ecstatic with the white boards delivered last March. It has revolutionised the therapy of the traction patients in the orthopaedic ward.

The most significant item with this collection was Adam's parking station and heliport with of course a helicopter and car. The parking station did have some pipework and a boom gate. See story in last issue of Sawdust & Shavings.

There were also 13 items, 5 Fairy Houses, 6 T model Ford Trucks, 1 Large Fairy door and 1 small Money box house each with a particular patients name engraved on each item.

David Edward's wife, Julie, has been busy over this Covid period and provided 12 crocheted wool rugs which were included in the pickup.

Looking at the 312 items included in this pickup we assessed that at least 15 of our members contributed in the making of them. Many thanks. Our next delivery/pickup for the Children's Hospital should be around mid November this year which will be a delivery of not just our regular items such as boxes, rolling pins, etc but also Christmas related items. So members it is time to get into the Christmas spirit and start making those Christmas related items.

However we do have another delivery to make within the next 6 weeks. This is a request from Kerry, Child Life Therapist at the Royal North Shore Hospital Children's Ward. The request is for a significant quantity of farm animal and equipment cut outs approximately 200mm x 150mm. We have ordered new 1/4" blades for the Laguna Bandsaw, This saw with the Hafco bandsaw, the two scroll saws and the laser cutter engraver should be able to produce the cut outs. All we need are members to operate the equipment.

The following are the photos of the items delivered.

These therapy items are even more important in these Covid times as the hospitalised children can only have one visitor a day and siblings are excluded from visiting. Visits are now virtual.

Barry Gardner

### Items delivered to the hospital:

Worry Boxes	7	Named parking station & heliport	1
Keepsake Boxes	34	Named Helicopter pilot seat	1
Memory Boxes	4	Named T model Ford small	1
Fairy Door Lge	3	Named Fairy Houses	5
Fairy Door Small	2	Named T Model Fords	6
Money Box House Lge	1	Named Lge Bunny Box	2
Money Box House small	2	Named Money Box House small	1
Trucks various (MS)	37	Named Fairy Door lge	1
Helicopter Lge	3	Pig cut outs standing	6
Helicopter small	1	Jigsaw Puzzles	2
Helicopter pilot seat	4	Animal cut outs small	10
Car T model Ford stained	1	Small guitars	82
Cut out shapes lge	4	Duck cut outs	9
Cut out shapes small	19	Horses on wheels	5
Flintstone motor bikes	2	Dogs on stand small	6
Flintstone cars	2	Rocking Horses small	4
Play Dough Rolling Pins	10	Dogs & Horses on stands lge	16
Small vases	14	Rabbit cut outs lge	6
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>312</b>





On 28 August we received the following brief email regarding some of the items recently delivered to the Children's Hospital.

*Dear Shire Woodworking group, wanted you to see how your creations are appreciated by the children.*

*Thank you so much*

*Regards*

*Nicola*

*Child Life Therapist MDU/ICU*



Editor here: I recognise each of those items painted by a patient. Many members had a hand in the production of those items. It's so pleasing to see the results of our efforts appreciated by a child in the hospital.

## VIRTUAL SHOW & TELL

### **Regina's Learning Tower**

Recently I completed another project in the Woodworking Club. I attempted to build a 'Learning Tower' for my grandson.

On the internet I saw several versions, but I decided to make my own pattern to fit the board I bought from the hardware shop.

The idea of the 'Learning Tower' is to have young children to participate in activities on the kitchen bench without the danger of falling off a bench or a chair.

Because kids grow very quickly I designed a platform that can be lowered to a different height. Shown is Tobias making good use of the 'Learning Tower'.  
Regina McGrillen



### **Roger Walsh's Teepee Bed**

Several weeks ago our Facebook editor, Alan Ritchie, was approached by a neighbour mum (Courtney) asking if we would make her a teepee bed. Historically, the teepee has been used by indigenous peoples of the Plains in the Great Plains and Canadian Prairies of North America. In this instance it is a fun bed for kids similar to the original teepee.

I had made a trundle bed several years ago and thought I could give it a go. We got in contact with Courtney and she brought the plans to my home. Her plan revealed a queen size bed, a bit bigger than I had expected (took up half my garage), and it was planned for her two, turning three, year old. It was mostly simple in structure and was to fit directly on the floor without any legs. It measured 208 cms long and 160 cm wide. The floor frame was made from 89 mm x 19 mm pine, the vertical frame from 63 mm x 19 mm pine with a rod connecting the front and back frames in 20 mm square piece.

Courtney supplied the timber. She wanted the bed made so that it could be delivered to her in a unassembled kit that she could then re-assemble at her home later in the year.

So, no gluing. She wanted the joints to be rebated. I achieved this at home on my table saw rather than at the club on a router. Not too easy but turned out OK. Job finished and she picked it up on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> Aug. A two week job. A good donation made to the club.

Roger Walsh

*See photos on the following page*

# VIRTUAL SHOW & TELL

## Roger's Teepee Bed Frame



Most club members would not believe that it's possible to have a clean garage with no sawdust present!

## A new tool kit for the Editor



All made from chocolate. Yum, still working on the taste testing.

## Malcolm Armstrong's Nested Huon Pine Tables are finished

Malcolm reports "In the April issue of S&S I wrote this about my Nesting Tables project..." "I've made progress with my Unique Nesting Tables, but they've come to a standstill since I need to do some Laser engraving on the tops...so...they're in the dining room covered up until we are out of the restrictions."

So now I can say they are finally finished and are in use. It was great to have use of the laser to engrave some gum leaves on each table. The original design as I mentioned previously is a Canadian design which used one, two and three dots to identify each table and the order in which they are to be stowed, and also set up. I used one, two and three gum leaf motifs to identify each table. When not in use, table one is placed in a selected location in the room; table two slides under it and lastly, table three slides under the other two as shown in the photographs. To use the tables, table number three must be slid out first, then table two, leaving table one free.



The advantage of this design is that each table top is the same size. Usually nesting table tops are large, medium and small. I finished the tables with multiple coats of Cabot's oil based Carbothane Clear Satin pressure pack. The finish enhanced the Huon pine's colour and grain, as well as giving the tops some degree of protection against wayward coffee and tea drinkers who don't use coasters!! It was a pleasing result. Again thanks to all who helped me, I learnt a lot!"





# VIRTUAL SHOW & TELL

## Robert Peake's latest Marquetry masterpieces



Robert reports: "Two boxes I have just finished. Both boxes were made using silky oak timber for the box sides and various veneers for the marquetry. The lighter coloured timber came from a tree off a farm near Canberra. The darker timber is recycled from my wife's demolished family home. The Japanese marquetry design is one available from "The Marquetry Society" online library of line drawings.



The bike design is from "Artistic Intarsia Designs" by Garnet Hall. The finish is several coats of shellac followed by wax polish. The box construction has miter corners with veneer splines in a dovetail pattern for added strength. The various marquetry veneers were cut with a scalpel using the window method."

## Using up small scrap timber pieces



not sure that it's working yet.

Your editor found a use for lots of small scrap pieces of timber. This wall hanging is now hanging above my workbench to inspire me.  
H'm

## Chair Making with David Edwards

*David reports:* My daughter needed two additional dining room chairs for her growing family, and was unable to buy the same design, I volunteered to make them for her.



*Photo opposite shows the finished chairs with the original in the centre.*

So using an existing chair as a template, and starting with recycled radiata pine from a staircase I had replaced, I ventured into my first attempt at chair making. I made an MDF story board and templates for the curved backs and legs. The story board was necessary as Festool dominos were used for all joinery and it provided a square face on the curved sections for cutting the mortises. The templates were used for pattern routing the curved legs and backs.



I searched YouTube for ideas to make the seat contour (see photo opposite) and found a way to do it all on a table saw utilising a fairly simple jig which I modified for my saw (see <https://youtu.be/5SveP71RLs4>).



Time will tell how robust the pine proves to be, and although mistakes about they'll only ever be known to me!! (See photo opposite for the completed chairs before staining) The chairs were finished with Bondall Monocel Baltic Pine, an oil based stain and varnish."



# VIRTUAL SHOW & TELL

**Tim Dodds has built a chess board and a set of chess pieces—a sight to behold**



Tim advised: "For years I've had an interest in acquiring a chess set that was unique and interesting. I should have bought an Egyptian one years ago - the chess pieces were various iconic Egyptian themes - pyramids, Anubis, Isis and so on.

Upon joining Shire Woodworking - I realised I had the opportunity to create something special. I started off with the board - I used some Merbau decking offcuts and some Tassie Oak. After a false start I soon worked out (thanks to Ian) that it is imperative to get all the square of identical size. He created a little jig that allowed me to re-cut all the square on the table saw, and the fit was virtually perfect.

Next I started with something simple - a set of checkers/draughts with a piece of the opposing colour slashed through. My first finger joint box ended up as the ideal size to house the pieces.

Next came the chess pieces. I spent weeks looking for ideas for the shape of the chess pieces, and how I could come up with something different. I saw one chess-set that has gold top with perspex/glass bases - which gave me the idea for the centre perspex pieces. I purchased 2 lengths of perspex (cut on site) from a 25mm thick sheet from the perspex shop on Princes Highway, Banksia. Really helpful

and in expensive. I cut these lengths into about 40-50 pieces (to allow for flawed cuts) on the drop saw. To get the finished product required hours and days of sanding - starting at 120 grit and working up to 1200 grit before using a special perspex polish.

The pieces were cut over many weeks - first using drop saw on lengths of timber. I used merbau offcuts and some Silver Ash. After drawing up the designs, these were printed and stuck to the timber lengths and cut to size on the bank saw, and sander of the disk sander. To get the right finished product also required hours of sanding - working up to 800 grit, and numerous coats of a hardwearing floor polyurethane.

The final step was to build a box to just the right size to house all the pieces. I had my first go at dovetails, an interesting challenge, and as always found a few errors.



# Work in Progress

This is a new section to highlight some of the work being done by members in the workshop.

**Lynn Messenger is working on a doll's cradle**



**David Edwards is working on building a box**

Look closely to see where David's glasses are.



**Spencer Ramsey, advised by Roger Dixon, is working on part of his year 12 HSC Woodworking project**

If you've been in the workshop in recent times you will have seen Spencer, our youngest member, working on his Year 12 HSC woodworking project. With any sort of luck I will have a detailed report about his project in an upcoming edition of this newsletter.



**Alan Ritchie is working on a top for a box**

Alan was struggling with this because his template was at home!



# coming Up!

## Club Calendar

September 2020						
					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 2020						
						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

## Two really useful websites for your browsing pleasure

### woodworkforums.com

This is a comprehensive Australian-centric site, whose depths I have not yet plumbed. Lots of great information to be found here. It has a really good section for buying and selling just about anything which involves wood. If you look closely you may find some club members on there buying and selling items. Highly recommended

### lumberjocks.com

This is a US based site, with a great deal of international membership. I have only just discovered this site courtesy of a member of the Woodwork Forum to whom I sold an item. You will find a many Australian contributors to this site. Again it deals with all aspects of working with wood.

### Get well soon to Richard Cain

Richard is being treated for a lingering infection. Get well soon, we want you back in the workshop so that we can trade insults with you again (all done in good humour, of course).

## NOTICE BOARD

# SAFETY

**SAFETY FIRST:** Members are asked on all club days to bring along and use their personal safety gear. ie. hearing protection, dust mask, eye protection, ensure they are wearing good sturdy protective footwear and no loose fitting clothes.

### For Sale—Breezway Louvers

Normally \$50 plus per gallery – now \$20 each

4@ 1095 long

2 @ 1005 long

1 @ 915 long

Cream with beige clips, black handles.



### Who's knee is this?



Ray Tregoning sent me this photo. My op was a unicompartmental (half knee)(R inside) replacement. I'm progressing well and looking forward to catching up with my Club friends soon.

### Members with Birthdays in September

Day	Member
3	James Windschuttle
4	Tom Croucher
9	Paul Kennedy
12	Barry Gardner
23	Glen Reeve
25	Brian Harward
28	Roger Dixon

Hope every one of you have a wonderful birthday and lots more of them.



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