

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: 0490 861 606 | Membership: 0414 538 475 | Editor: 0408 240 514



PRESIDENTS REPORT

I was unable to attend our October Maxi Day however I believe Gary Mitchell gave a very informative talk on Estate Planning and the steps you should take to set up a successful retirement. Thank you, Gary, for passing on your knowledge to all our members. The Shire Woodworking Club was recently approached by Lisa Black who is the Community Engagement and Fundraising Manager for the Sutherland Hospital. Her request was to see if our club could assist the Hospital in making a Donor Board. We made a few samples of different size boards and after a couple of meetings the request was for some 44 different boards to be made from numerous species of wood. Ray Tregoning immediately began sourcing the various timber and cutting the pieces to size. These were all fine sanded and finished and supplied in time for the 65th anniversary of the hospitals opening. The pieces have now been installed on the Donor wall at the Hospital entrance and various boards now have the names of the many donors. This month's Sawdust and Shavings shows pictures of the finished donor wall. I believe this type of interaction with our community is why this club is so unique. Well done to all concerned. Please continue to work safely and think about how your movement throughout the workshop may affect fellow members. Remember that you are responsible for safe working practices.

Happy Woodworking
Ian Rudd, Club President

MAXIDAY - 11 NOV '23

8:45am	Open Lilli Pilli Workshop
9:00am	Monthly Meeting
9:30am	Video - Ian's Select
10:00am	Morning Tea
10:30am	Show & Tell
11:00am	Guest Speaker - Nader Ghazi, 'Voxelab Aquila X2 3D Printer'
Noon	Lunch
1:00pm	Raffle Draw
1:15pm	Tool Demonstration
1:45pm	Members Projects
3:00pm	Workshop Close



LIBRARIAN UPDATE

We have received Fine Woodworking Magazine Issue 306 December 2023. Check out the useful tools available @ Woodpeckers. Interesting workshop tips incl 'fresh take on board-stretching'. Further developments Mitre Express turns mitre gauge into a crosscut sled and larger article on Mitre Gauges. Projects - 'Build a Classic Ming Table', Custom Clamping Blocks, 'Red Oak vs White Oak' and 'A Riff On The Faceted Glass Door'. Magazine in the gallery now. FYI we will be changing our subscription from Fine WoodWorking magazine to Australian Woodsmith for a trial period.

Cheers,
Roger Walsh, Club Librarian.



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.

MAXIDAY PRESENTER 21 OCTOBER 2023 GARY MITCHELL, ESTATE PLANNING

Gary Mitchell had been asked to do a presentation on estate planning. He made sure we knew that he's not a lawyer. However in his life as a financial adviser it was a critical issue to address. It soon became obvious that not only is this a complicated issue, but also that our cognitive capabilities play a big role. He used cartoons to good effect to bring home this issue.

Gary spoke about the 3 main documents that everyone should have:

- A will
- An Enduring Power of Attorney – this allows someone – called your attorney – to look after your finances and assets and make decisions as though they were you
- An Enduring Guardianship – allows someone to make lifestyle decisions for you, when you can't, it may incorporate instructions about medical treatment.

So far, everyone was reasonably comfortable. Then Gary explained some complexities with:

- Have backups to your chosen executor, attorney and guardian, so they can act if your chosen person isn't able to act.
- Blended families – how do you provide for your current spouse and not disinherit your children?
- Gary discussed the pitfalls of helping kids to buy a home, what happens if that relationship breaks up?
- Is there any beneficiary who could be a 'vulnerable person' (an alcoholic, drug addict or mental health issues)?
- If you're over 70, remove your spouse from these roles. Why? If something happened to you, then is it fair to have the responsibility on her/his shoulders when they're stressed or grieving? Time for all members to look to the second generation.

Gary talked about cognitive decline. It's a slow process that we don't really notice. He showed some slides with statistics about the rates of dementia. It's the largest cause of disability in people over age 60 and it is the leading cause of death for Australian women:

- Over 60 yrs, 10% have Dementia,
- Over 85 yrs, 30% have Dementia,
- Over 90 yrs, 50% have Dementia,

"Whether Dementia is in our future or not, we inevitably suffer cognitive decline, which typically starts when we're 50. We find it harder to remember things (perhaps not quite like the fellow in the cartoon) and we take longer to do mental tasks. If we're really 'lucky' this will be measurable as Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI).

If you need to sign legal documents, you need to have cognitive capacity. You need to be able to explain what it is you're signing and why. If you don't meet the 'test' then you can't change or update your wills etc.

Cognitive decline is with us, so it pays to make sure you have your 3 estate planning documents reviewed asap.

The key to all this are your wishes. Sometimes it can be difficult to have a serious conversation with family about your wishes.

Gary spent some time discussing the free guides available from:

- The Conversation Project <https://theconversationproject.org/>
- He also showed some videos that dealt with 'having the conversation' <https://www.youtube.com/@conversationproject>

Gary strongly encouraged all members to use these free resources as a starting point to review their estate planning needs. In the words of Dr Atul Gawande, "Our ultimate goal, after all, is not a good death but a good life to the very end."



MAXIDAY SHOW & TELL

Neil Matthews - Chisel Scraper

This is an experimental tool designed to scrape dried glue from workpieces without damaging the timber. I started with an old 25mm chisel and started by grinding and sharpening the chisel, then cut the handle off. I had then planned to drill a hole in the chisel & attach it to a wooden block handle with a screw. Have you ever tried to drill a hole in a chisel? Impossible! I measured the angles on the sides of the chisel at 30° and set my bench saw to this angle and cut a groove in a block of 25mm hardwood to match the chisel. The chisel was later glued to the block with 'super strength' Araldyte. Before assembly, the back of the chisel needed to be ground flat on my linisher. How do you do this without burning or cutting your fingers? Simple!

I attached the chisel to a piece of square steel tube with 4 magnets. The object of grinding is to have a perfectly flat base, about 1/2 the thickness of a sheet of paper below the cutting edge of the chisel. This allows the chisel to slide over the timber, cutting off the dried glue without damaging the timber (I hope!)



Neil Matthews - Wedding Card Box

I had never heard of these, but my next-door neighbour who is getting married towards the end of the year asked me if I could make one with a 150 x 16mm slot cut in the top. Apparently, you collect well-wishing cards and invitation acceptance cards, and polyester gifts inside cards. The box is made from recycled western red cedar weatherboards salvaged from next door's recent house renovations. The recycled boards finished up about 80 x 15mm & joined together. Alan Ritchie guided me in making my first finger jointed box, and also provided the laser-cut sign on 3mm ply, "Wendy & Matt". Making this box, I found a small hasp in the store at Woodies and some small hinges, but no little screws at home or at the woodies.

The lid of the box is now held by 4 magnets and secured by the hasp. The laser signs are held on by double-sided tape so that they can be removed after the wedding. The box is finished with 5 coats of Anchor satin lacquer. Hope they like it!



Alan Ritchie - Box Making Skills

Alan has been improving his box making skills / software as follows. I have been trying to simplify designs for finger-jointed laser-cut boxes for the hospital and for general sale. The current hospital pencil case boxes require many separate steps including laser cutting of the box sides and base, routing of the lid groove in the sides, and shaping of the sliding lid before final assembly. I have been using a box designing website <http://festi.info/boxes.py> to investigate various box designs. This internet site can generate customised files that can be opened by our laser software and that considers the kerf of the laser beam so that the resulting boxes pieces fit perfectly without any need for tweaking the design. You need to input the box wood thickness, the required box dimensions and the design type and the site generates the required file. I have now found an alternative design for pencil cases which requires no routing and following cutting the box pieces on the laser, just needs assembling. This was one of the boxes I showed at the meeting. Also, I found an interesting design for a hinged lid box which can be customised to any size. This was another one of the boxes I showed at the meeting. The boxes can be made from plywood for general purposes, but also can be made from furniture grade timber such as cedar, and from other specialised plywood boards such as the bamboo the club ordered as part of the recent grant we received to purchase laser grade supplies.



WHAT HAPPENED LAST MONTH!

Sutherland Hospital Wall

The Sutherland Hospital requested the club's help in making a Donor Board to be installed in time for the 65th Anniversary. The plaques were prepared by Ray and presented by Ian and Ray earlier in the month.



Gymea Fair

Heavy overnight rain and continuing rain on the morning of Sunday 5th November didn't augur well for the first Gymea Village Fair in four years. As we set up the IMB Bank tent in the rain and got the displays in order we wondered if we would have any customers at all. However, the weather gods relented and by 9am the rain was easing off and the first pedestrians started to wander past our stall.

In short order we had made our first sale (a Ray Tregoning made Santa sleigh) and we were kept busy as more and more customers came by. By 10am the clouds had retreated and no further rain was received. During the day members of the Club arrived to assist with talking with passers-by and customers telling them about our Club and the wonderful work done for Sydney Children's Hospital. We had a great many people admiring the work of our members. One of the visitors later in the day was the NSW member for Cronulla, Mark Speakman, our local member. He has posted our photo on his FaceBook page.

In all, the day was a great success and the funds generated by the Fair will be used to good effect. A great many thanks to all the Club members who were involved in making the day such a success. Members worked on the process starting many months prior to the Fair, in the final few weeks leading up to the event as well as those who assisted on the day. I have to pay particular thanks to Richard Cain who has a line of patter to get customers interested in our products.



Graham's kookaburra Playing Connect 4 🤔

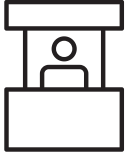
After making the Connect 4 games for the Plank Comp I had more orders - 2 for the Club, 2 for family requests.

They were sprayed and left in the back yard to dry. A local kookaburra took a liking to them, and wasn't inclined to move even when we came very close to it.

Raffle Draw

1st Prize	Gary Mitchell	'Woody' car
2nd Prize	Trish - Kirrawee	Jewellery Box
3rd Prize	Michael - Gymea	Woodturning Vase

WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT MONTH !



Spray Booth

First mooted several years ago and then delayed for multiple reasons the Club is looking to purchase a small spray booth, ideal for lacquers, paints, stains, etc. Keep tuned for progress reports.

CHRISTMAS DELIVERY TO THERAPISTS AT SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, RANDWICK

Another date to also put in your diaries is that the November 2023 dedicated toy making day will now be on Thursday 23 November 2023. If you can provide some time in help making the items for this delivery your services would be greatly appreciated. Items that we will be making for this delivery will include Christmas related items such as

- **Christmas Trees** - We are looking to deliver around 100 at least. To this end our laser cutter/engraver will have preference over members private work over next couple of weeks.
- **Hanukkah Tree** for children of the Jewish faith.
- **Star Wands** for children of the Muslim faith.
- **Santa Claus, Mrs Claus, Elves, Reindeer, Snowmen** and whatever your imagination comes up with cutouts etc for children to decorate.

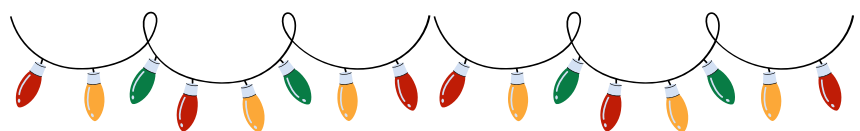
We will receive a list of names, ages and interests of some of the patients within the next week or so for us to associate with a toy or box and engrave the child's name on the item. Alternatively, it could be an acrylic display name. The hospital has also asked for play dough rollers patterned with Christmas items etc. If any member has any other ideas bring them along.

It is important to mention that at our previous delivery made on 30 August the therapists asked if we could make amongst other items toy skateboards. This was a first and so Malcolm and Ray put their heads together and with the assistance of other Club members have produced 50 for this forthcoming hospital delivery.



Maxiday Christmas Party

Our next Maxiday will be our Christmas Party ! Details to follow shortly.



WORKSHOP - WIP

Gary has been busy making some more toys and guitars. Ian had asked Roger if he could make another 6 guitars, and Gary volunteered to help. Finished and on sale at Gynea Fair. No sale yet but will probably to Children's Hospital at Christmas.



Bob has been working away in his corner of the shop making some reversible bedside tables for this niece. Bob says it is made from pine and is 'stuck together' using some hand cut finger joints. Impressive Bob. Not sure about the legs !



GET TO KNOW US

Ian Rudd

I grew up in Melbourne and went to a Primary School in Moorabbin and then to Sandringham Technical School to Intermediate level. I then had two years at Royal Melbourne Technical College before entering the workforce in 1958. I began work at Joseph Lucas Pty Ltd in the drawing office and then went to the UK to work and study Production Engineering in Birmingham while still employed by Lucas. I remained in the UK for almost 5 years and returned to Melbourne. My training and study in the UK were extensive as it took me through practical toolmaking, tool and machinery designing and then Methods Engineering in many facets of manufacturing.

I met my wife Donna in 1964 and we were married one year later. We moved to Sydney in late 1965 and built a home in Gymea Bay in 1968. We have three children and eight Grandchildren. I was involved with numerous companies when I came to Sydney and spent much of my career involved with managing companies involved with plastics packaging. I was fortunate enough to experience many visits to Europe and the USA to witness first hand the new developments in machinery and processes in the plastics industries.

Since my school days I have always had an interest in woodworking and over the years I accumulated some tools and machinery and made items of furniture. I learnt about The Shire Woodworking Club when visiting the Wood Show and joined in 2012. I have been able to see the great progress the club has made since 2012 and enjoy being part of this special club.

 NOTICE BOARD

SAFETY ARTICLE by Dave Edwards

Old safety posters still relevant today

Recently I had occasion to visit Major Woodworking Equipment in Condell Park. High up on the wall behind the counter, an old safety poster caught my eye, so I took this photo as the message it portrays is still very relevant to us at the club. On looking more closely at the photo, I noticed the attribution at the bottom, "Issued by the Department of Labour and Industry NSW. Factory and Industrial Welfare Board No 1218.E."

I entered those words into Google and found that this old poster, along with a lot of others, are part of a collection at the Powerhouse Museum. To see other posters, have a look at

<https://collection.powerhouse.com.au/object/8519>

The machinery might change with improved technology, but the old safety messages are as true today as they were way back when...

 SAFETY NOTICE

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.



FIND US ONLINE

Website: <https://shirewoodworking.com.au/>

Facebook: Search for [Shire Woodworking Club](#)



Printed as a community service at the office of

THE HON. **SCOTT MORRISON** MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **COOK**

 [scottmorrisonmp.com.au](https://twitter.com/scottmorrisonmp)





2024 CALENDAR

January 2024 1							February 2024 2							March 2024 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	5	6				1	2	3						1	2	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
21	22	23	24	25	PH	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	PH	PH
														PH						

April 2024 4							May 2024 5							June 2024 6						
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	PH	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
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28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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July 2024 7							August 2024 8							September 2024 9						
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28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

October 2024 10							November 2024 11							December 2024 12						
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		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	PH	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	PH	PH	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

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 April & December- 3rd Thursday) - No own projects

- Note: Last club day for 2024 is Saturday 21 December. Resume Thursday 2 January 2025
- Note: Minimum of 3 members present on any day to operate machinery. No exceptions unless for maintenance.
- **Note: Wood carvers attend 1st Saturday + 3rd Wednesday (Evening)**

CLUB COMMITTEE, SUB COMMITTEES & AUXILIARY POSITIONS

President	Ian Rudd
Vice President	Malcolm Armstrong
Secretary	Maurice Smith - Ph : 0414 538 475
Treasurer	Alan Ritchie
Committee Member	Roger Dixon, Gary Healey Graham Ethell

Assistant Secretary	Roger Dixon
Assistant Treasurer	Roger Walsh
Project Sub-Committee	Ken Brunner, Ray Tregoning, Roger Walsh
Librarian	Roger Walsh
Safety Officers	David Edwards, Gary Healey, Axel Tennie & Bob Quigley
Welfare Officer	Malcolm Armstrong, & Kevin Gowen
First Aid Officers	Graham Ethell & Alan Ritchie
Newsletter Editor	Roger Walsh
Catering Officers	Richard Cain, Steve Lansley, Trevor Lewis, Neil Mathews, Lynn Messenger, Ray Tregoning, Axel Tennie & Roger Walsh
Equipment & Training	Roger Dixon, David Edwards, Neil Mathews, Kevin Gowen, Gary Healey, Ray Tregoning & James Windschuttle
Raffles	Gary Mitchell
Exhibitions Sub-Committee	Graham Ethell
Property Sub-Committee	Graham Ethell & Alan Ritchie
Toymaking	Malcolm Armstrong, Barry Gardner, Steve Lansley & Maurice Smith
Facebook	Alan Ritchie
Webmaster	Maurice Smith
Woodcarvers' Liaison	