

**The Official Newsletter of the SHIRE WOODWORKING CLUB Inc.** Reg. No. Y2889524  
"The WORKSHOP", 2B Turriell Bay Road, Lilli Pilli. NSW. 2229  
Workshop Phone 0490 861 606 Membership Enquiries: (02) 9522 7674 Newsletter Editor: Phone 0414 538 475

## **Doug Wickens Centenarian Woodworker**

Congratulations Doug on achieving a huge milestone.



*Above photo courtesy of St George & Sutherland Shire Leader newspaper showing Doug with his congratulation card from Queen Elizabeth.*

Your editor here: Several years ago our President, Ian Rudd, called for a group of "apprentices" to work with him in making a lovely box of Ian's design. Doug was one of the apprentices. Doug in his quiet dry wit joked "I hope it's not along apprenticeship otherwise I won't live to see the results." Fortunately for Doug the apprenticeship was not along one and he completed his lovely box well before his 100th birthday.

In preparing this edition of the newsletter your Editor search through past issues of Sawdust & Shavings looking for references to Doug. What I found was that Doug was an active member of the Club's Catering Committee for many years. He was also a frequent prize winner in the MaxiDay raffles demonstrating his keen interest in keeping in touch with the club and participating in the comradeship so enjoyed by our members.

Doug served for 6 years in the Royal Australian Navy prior to and during World War II. Like many of his fellow sailors his service on board ship was extremely varied, he did have the unfortunate experience of his ship, HMAS Nestor, being sunk. To view the transcript of an interview with Doug about his Naval experiences, in your favourite internet search software type:

**<http://www.oatleyhistory.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/ohg201111-Exservice-Oatley.pdf>**

Go to page 33 to read of that document to read the interview.

The club's celebration of Doug's birthday will be held on 14 May, so you can expect lots more photos and stories about Doug in next month's edition.

**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

**Editor's Musings—**

As we head into the cooler seasons we are generating lots of sawdust and shavings. As a regular workshop attendee its good to see lots of members working on various projects. I note that that some of those projects are related to the Plank Competition. Its great to see members enthusiastically participating in this important event.

The news about our successful application for a Federal Government grant was indeed very positive. We can soon expect to make progress in having a new hot water service installed in The Gallery to replace several jugs will make life easier for members. The installation of solar panels will make a huge difference to our power bills for many years to come.

If you would like to receive this Newsletter please email the editor at **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.

**MAXIDAY:  
 SATURDAY 8 MAY, 2021  
 AGENDA**

8:45am	Open Lilli Pilli Workshop & Gallery
9:00am	Monthly Meeting
9:30am	Video — Our centenarian Doug Wickens Video—special jigs
10:00am	Morning Tea
10:30am	Show & Tell
11:00am	Jigs, jigs & more jigs hosted by David Edwards
12:30pm	Lunch –
1:00pm	Revisit the operation of our table saws
1:30pm	Raffle Draw
1:45pm	Members projects
3.00pm	Workshop Close

**Presidents Report May 2021**

I am pleased to report that the Shire Woodworking Club has been successful in obtaining a grant through the Federal Government Stronger Communities Programme. This funding will allow our club to have solar panels installed on our workshop and this will result in greatly reduced energy costs in the future. This is a significant grant for our club and I acknowledge the excellent work our Secretary has done in preparing our application. The grant also covers the purchase of the TV for the Gallery and the installation of a hot water heater in the Gallery kitchen.

The consolidation of Land Titles for the Workshop and Gallery is progressing and the next step will be to determine how our two buildings can be joined and how to meet the necessary building codes. This will be a very long process and as each step is taken your Committee will give feedback each month.

We now have a number of new members and would ask that all members make them welcome and wherever possible assist in showing them where various items are stored. We have introduced a mentoring process where an existing member will help a new member for the first few weeks to ensure that they are assisted where ever possible. Thanks to all members who are mentoring other members.

Finally, a reminder to all members who have not picked up their plank. Please collect the plank and begin making some toys for our competition. The Plank Competition judging will be held at our September Maxi Day and this year I am sure the bar will be raised again. Every year the quality and craftsmanship are taken to a new level.

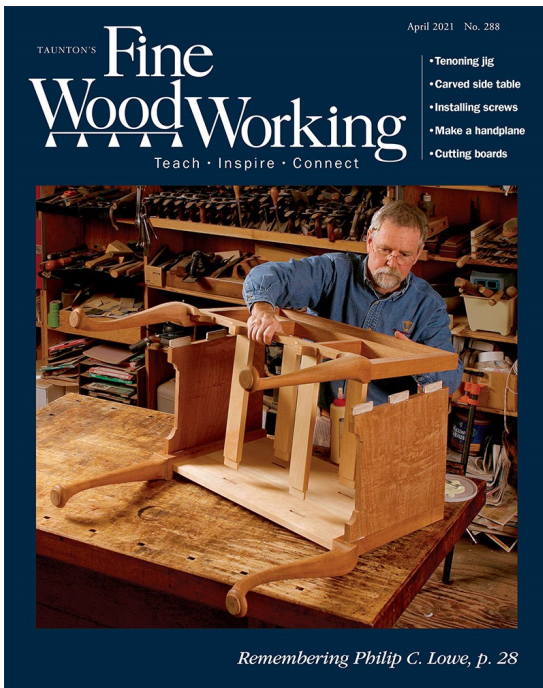
Happy Woodworking  
 Ian Rudd President

## Librarian's Report

Club Librarian, Roger Walsh has advised "We have received the latest issue of the Fine WoodWorking Issue 288 April 2021. Some good reading and plenty of ideas / projects / techniques. Workshop tips are always interesting, Tools and Materials section with a 'Router For The Router Table'.

Try your hand at some carving on 'green woodworking'. A couple of projects to test your skills, 'End Table with Delicate Details', 'How to Drive a Screw', 'Artistic Cutting Boards', 'Ship-Inspired Wall Shelf', make your own plane that you pull instead of push !!

The magazine is in the club's magazine rack."



## Recent Timber Donation

On 8 April 2021 the club received a timber donation from a nearby resident (aged in his 90's) who was no longer able to woodwork in his home workshop. Several of our members went to his home to collect the timber. The photo below shows some of the haul. A great deal of the timber had a heavy dust layer.

However, the metal detector was used to check all of it; most of it ended up in the workshop stock. Some items had various ends removed as it those ends were unusable, those off-cuts ended up in the scrap bag.

We say thanks to our friendly neighbour.



## New inductee into the elite OBE group

Member, Sam Simmons, was inducted into the elite OBE group of club members. Sam was given his OBE badge by President Ian who is also an OBE member. Pictured below is Sam with his OBE badge along with President Ian Rudd.



## Some 2021 Plank Competition planks have not been collected

Did you submit your name to be an entrant for the 2021 Plank Competition? Have you collected your plank? They are on hand.

At last count there were 11 uncollected planks waiting for members to collect.

Remember entries close early September 2021 with judgement mid September. Don't leave it to the last minute, there is still plenty of time to produce your finest work. Don't forget the toys produced become property of the club to sell or donate. If you want you can of course purchase your work from the club.

Not sure what to make? The club's library has plenty of books with ideas and plans. Also there are an incredible number of internet websites that have a vast array of items for your consideration.

## Easter Show Woodworking and Woodturning Exhibits

The recent Sydney Royal Easter Show had a small exhibit of items entered in various classes of woodworking and woodturning. The small number of items on display was disappointing and most of the items displayed appeared to be well executed. Below are photos of some of the exhibits.



# SHOW & TELL

## Maurice Smith made a lamp inspired by Asian culture

Maurice reports: "This lamp is the third lamp I've made inspired by East Asian culture. The frame is made from recycled Radiata Pine and the lamp panels are made from plywood all cut on the laser cutter. The frame was finished with two coats of gloss varnish, while the panels are raw. The backing to the panels is Japanese rice paper, purchased from Eckersley Art Supplies, Captain Cook Drive Caringbah.

The lamp top is a friction fit and is removed to allow access to the interior to place a tea candle or small battery powered LED candle. The frame is square so it doesn't matter which way the top is placed on; it fits properly.

There are many very small details that I'm not totally happy about, but overall the quality of these Eastern Asian inspired lamps is trending for the better. This lamp is for the club to sell in the Gallery."



## Graham Ethell and his birthday gift

This tray was made by my brother Trevor in Tasmania for my recent significant birthday. He is very involved at the New Norfolk Men's Shed in making coffee tables, platters etc with Tasmanian timbers, enhanced with resin. See the article in last November's "Sawdust & Shavings" to see how he does it.

This tray or charcuterie tray is made from segments of a large Tasmanian Myrtle burl, then one piece turned around to give the effect with the edges in the middle, joined with the resin.

It has already been much admired, and we think we should keep it under lock and key in case it is souvenired.



## Ray Tregoning Flush Cut Saw Cover

Ray said: "My flush cut saw is one of the saws Carbatec sell. It comes in a cardboard and plastic cover but as you use it the packet gets cut and falls into pieces which means you need to keep taping the cover together to stop the blade being damaged.

The cover was simple to make. I took 2 pieces of plywood, separated by some veneer which is the same thickness as the blade. By using 2 x 6mm rare earth magnets set in the back which keeps the saw in place. Ian laser engraved "Ray's Flush Cut Saw" on the top face after which I sprayed a couple of coats of polyurethane spray to finish the piece."



# SHOW & TELL

## Ian Rudd's Tensegrity Toy

Ian reports: "I have seen a number of designs using the Tensegrity principles where items such as chairs, tables and even bridges have been made. I managed to find a simple design that could be made using the laser and decided to make two versions as an experiment. The first version uses fishing line as the central holding wire and as long as gravity is pulling the top section down this wire remains in tension.

For the second version (on the left in the photo below) , I chose to use rare earth magnets to replace the central wire and the result is the illusion that there is nothing holding the two pieces apart. This was a fun project and relatively simple to make."



## "A" Frames for Mobiles at Hospital

Ray Tregoning reports: "Matt from Randwick Children's Hospital has asked for some more "A" frames for the baby mobiles.

I used some pine planks donated by Marianne and Vanessa who live around the corner. This allowed me to make 4 new frames. I used the patterns and jigs that were stored away – as we know things get broken.

They were finished with gloss Polycure, a hard floor coating, so the frames can be washed down.

Hoping these frames make babies happy."



## Alan Hendry is very puzzled

Alan reports : " A friend of mine gave me the drawings for the puzzle. I acquired a piece of Pine machined it to 34mm x 34mm and with the drop saw I cut 6 pieces of 102mm.

Mainly using the Bandsaw I cut the shapes for the puzzle. To assemble I had to file and sand the pieces to give sufficient clearance,

Finally I gave one coat of Cedar varnish which I lightly sanded to give a piebald effect, which distracted from the gaps. My grand children enjoy playing with it."



## Sam Simmons made 2 flexible horses

Sam told the meeting how he spent a great deal of time cutting shapes on the bandsaw and then a lot more time sanding the shaped pieces. After that, it was time to glue the assembled pieces to a thick piece of fabric so that the assembled horses flex quite well.



# SHOW & TELL

## Graham Ethell and assembling doll's beds

Graham reports: "Over the years the Club has made hundreds of doll's beds and cradles which have either been given away or sold. As our stocks of assembled beds were getting low, and as (deceased member) Fred Seligmann's wife, Val, had kindly made five sets of bedding, I made five of these beds to go with Val's handiwork.

The reason I showed this bed (pictured in the right hand column) is to let our many new members know about these items. We have most of the parts already cut out, just need a bit of adjusting to get a perfect fit. Assembling them is fairly painless so if any member wants to make a few it would be very much appreciated.

If you're interested please talk to me or a number of other Committee members and we can show you where the parts are stored and how to assemble them. Part of the deal is that



you then take the finished item(s) home and paint them! (I painted all five with one undercoat, and two coats of the colour. Each of the three stages took about an hour so it's not all that onerous).

We also still have supplies of bedding which various lovely wives of members have made over the years, for when the beds and cradles are finished."

## Barry Gardner built an Abacus but can't use it

Barry told us that his daughter is a teacher in Queensland and she requested the construction of the Abacus to assist in her teaching duties. Barry is a retired former accountant, amongst other skills, and has undoubtedly used many a calculator or adding machine in his glory days. However this ancient calculator defeated Barry, it's too difficult to use.

Your editor is sure Barry's daughter is pleased with the result of Barry's woodworking skills.



## Barry Gardner made a sign for Anzac day

Barry and his wife live in a large complex and Barry was advised of the plans to hold an Anzac Day ceremony. To assist with the ceremony Barry made the "Lest We Forget" sign pictured below.



# 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.**

### Club Calendar

May 2021							5
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	31						

June 2021							6
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	PH	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

### Legend:

	Committee meeting 12.30 pm, members welcome
	Club Days—members own projects
	Toy Making—No own projects
	MaxiDays
	First Saturday is Woodcarvers use of the Workshop

### Timber & Tools Show 11 – 13 June 2021 is not proceeding

The club has received advice that the above referenced show is "postponed". If we receive further news about the lifting of the postponement members will be advised of the relevant details.

This is the show that in recent years has been held at Rosehill Racecourse.

**5 June 2021 MAXIDAY THEME**  
Woodcarving and Whiting

### New Signs for The Gallery

Courtesy of Richard Cain's son Michael Cain (no not the British actor) and his business Central Signs in Caringbah we now have some new signs, as pictured below. In case you're wondering that's Richard holding the lovely new sign.



April MaxiDay Raffle winners	
1.	Alan Hendry
2.	Peter O'Connell
3.	Graham Ethell
4.	Doug Wickens

### Members with Birthdays in May 2021

Day	Member
10	Steve Shakeshaft
11	Tyla Veney
14	Conal Downey
26	Peter Mott
29	Matthew Stuart

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