



# WOODCRAFT MATTERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF WOODCRAFT MANNINGHAM

NOVEMBER 2021

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to the new world with living with covid. While the government does not allow unvaccinated in the club at the moment (who knows how long) when that changes the club will change who is allowed.

### Building

We are in the middle of changing the phone & internet to NBN. Though having trouble with finding wires and connection points Bill Wood is busy trying to liaise with Telstra to get this done. As many of you know it is not easy. Thanks Bill.

### Groups

Richard Fyffe will be finishing up as leader of the Friday afternoon box making group. Richard joined the club 12 years ago attending Reg Orr's group on Tuesday night, taking over Ken Morrison's group on Friday afternoons about 7 years ago. I have seen Richard in action helping new members with all the aspects of box making, spending the whole session helping patiently. Richard does not do his own boxes on the day just helping others. Thanks Richard on behalf of all members.

### Christmas gatherings

No club party will be held but individual groups may organize something.

### OH&S

Included in this newsletter is the Safe Working Procedure (SWP) for the bench saw. As you all know that the saw will stop if part of your body comes in contact with the blade. Tested by a member. Also wet timber or a metal object will set it off.

Australia day bird box making will not be happening. There has been no information from the organisers and when I try to contact them there is no answer. Last year they told me that the event organizer went from 30 staff to 4, this year?

*John Paine*

## GET IN EARLY

It's not next week! it's not next month! it's next year! **The Royal Melbourne Show.**

Next year's Royal Melbourne Show opens on the 22 September 2022 and closes on the 2 October 2022. Entries need to be in sometime during July, so there is plenty of time to complete your latest master piece. It doesn't matter what type of woodwork you do, just fill out a form when they are available and submit your entry.

Wouldn't it be great to have lots of woodwork at the show, especially from Manningham, to celebrate being COVID free.

*BryanThompson*

## Woodcraft Manningham

[www.woodcraft-manningham.org.au](http://www.woodcraft-manningham.org.au)

Opposite 8 Anderson St, Templestowe  
Behind the Manningham/Templestowe Leisure Centre  
Clubroom Phone 9846 8148

**President:** John Paine 0411 451 234

**Treasurer** Bill Wood 0403 329 577

**Secretary** Bob Edwards 0417 230 026

### Committee Members

David Cretney 0430 020 548

Trevor Jenkins 0407 825 474

Alan Way 9459 9049

Stuart Watson 0425 713 012

**Membership Secretary** Bill Wood

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**Newsletter:** Woodcraft Matters

**Editor** Mel Forbes 0417 104 197  
melvyn.forbes@gmail.com

Members' contributions to the Newsletter are always welcome. Please note that contributors are responsible for the accuracy of any information they send in for publication. The Editor takes no responsibility for correcting spelling and punctuation errors.

*Our clubhouse was once Templestowe Primary School, originally built in 1874. It is situated on the lands of the Wurundjeri people and we wish to acknowledge them as traditional owners. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.*

Front Page logo image: Valerie Forbes, 2016

## HAND TOOL PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

The HTPAA will be holding a Tool Market at the National Steam Centre in Ferntree Gully Road Scoresby, just off Eastlink, on December 12.

In order to gain entry you will need to show proof of vaccination status.



Owl carving, in Basswood, by Bob Edwards

## CLUB ROOM EMERGENCY RESPONSE

**IF AN AMBULANCE IS CALLED TO THE CLUB ROOMS, QUOTE THIS LOCATION:**

**OPPOSITE 8 ANDERSON ST, TEMPLESTOWE, BEHIND THE MANNINGHAM/TEMPLESTOWE LEISURE CENTRE.**

**MAKE SURE SOMEONE IS WAITING AT THE STREET TO GUIDE THE AMBULANCE IN, AS THEY MAY MISS THE ENTRANCE. (These directions are also posted above the phone in the foyer of the club rooms)**

## WORD OF THE DAY

I've recently learned a new word - "tensegrity", made from two words, 'tensile' and 'integrity'.

If you want a proper definition, try this for size ...

"Tensegrity is a design principle that applies when a discontinuous set of compression elements is opposed and balanced by a continuous tensile force, thereby creating an internal pre-stress that stabilizes the entire structure." (Source: Wikipedia)20210817\_093343 None the wiser? Well, to be honest, neither am I, much!

I made this tensegrity model from a design on the Internet - I think the bits of wood act as the 'compression elements'

referred to in the definition above, and the 'tensile force' is supplied by the three bits of string, which in this model are in tension.



This model will support a light item, although I wouldn't recommend that you use it as a display stand for your priceless 1400 AD Ming Dynasty vase.

There are lots of other tensegrity models illustrated on the internet but the design principles aren't just to amuse bored wood workers during Covid lockdowns. Major

tensegrity structures have been built since the 1960s, including the Kurilpa footbridge over the Brisbane River (below) and the gymnastics hall for the Seoul Olympics. (I'm guessing that steel cables, rather than string, were used in these projects, though). An interesting concept?



If any reader is interested to find out more about the design principle of 'tensegrity', I'd recommend Google as a starting point.

*Neil Wakeman*

## FROM HANK TYLER

My big, major projects for 2021 were carving two tables in Cedar of Lebanon logs 43 cm high and 45 cm high. The first one completed in October was 43 cm high and had a large branch projecting from the table's top that was hollowed out. The logs were cut through branches resulting in noticeable yellow flares of wood on the table's surface. The table's surface was sanded to #600 and finished with Tung Oil. The legs and base are unfinished, showing the chisel cuts. The wood is very aromatic, and the unfinished wood emits a very pleasant aroma of cedar. These tables may be some of my last big projects.



# Woodcraft Manningham – Safe Work Procedure

## 3.1 CIRCULAR BENCH SAW

**DO NOT use this equipment unless you have been instructed in its safe use and operation and have been given permission**

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Safety glasses must be worn



Long and loose hair must be contained.



Hearing protection is recommended



Sturdy footwear must be worn at all times in work areas.



Close fitting/protective clothing must be worn.

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Locate and ensure you are familiar with all machine operations and controls.
- ✓ Check workspace to ensure no slip/trip hazards are present.
- ✓ Ensure all guards are fitted, secure and functional. Do not operate if guards are missing or faulty.
- ✓ Ensure rise/fall, and angle adjustment locks are securely tightened.
- ✓ Ensure table and work area is clear of all tools, off-cut timber and sawdust.
- ✓ Ensure mains power is turned off before putting hands near saw blade to measure blade height adjustment or blade to rip fence clearance.

### OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Keep a proper footing and balance while operating the saw bench.
- ✓ Allow the saw blade to reach maximum speed before making a cut.
- ✓ Have safe control over the timber at all times. Options include:
  - To control any kickback use featherboards, etc to firmly hold the timber against the fence. These must be placed before the blade (not opposite)
  - Use a scrap piece of wood to apply vertical pressure on the timber as the cut enters the blade.
  - Use a push stick to guide timber through the blade.
- ✓ Always stand to one side of the line of cut.
- ✓ Hold the timber horizontal to start
- ✓ Have the concave side down when sawing bowed timber
- ✓ Before making adjustments, switch off and bring the saw blade to a complete standstill.
- ✓ Remove the rip fence when using the mitre gauge.
- ✓ Use someone to “tail out” when cutting long material.

### ENDING OPERATIONS AND CLEANING UP

- ✓ Switch off the machine when work completed.
- ✓ Retract saw blade below surface of bench.
- ✓ Leave the machine in a safe, clean and tidy state.

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND INJURIES

- ⓘ Kickback: wood may catch or jam and be flung back violently.
- ⓘ Airborne dust.
- ⓘ Eye injuries.
- ⓘ Contact with blade at point of operation.
- ⓘ Reaching over blade.

### DON'T

- ✗ Reach over blade.
- ✗ Do not use faulty equipment. Immediately report suspect equipment.
- ✗ Do not cut irregular stock, branches or wood with embedded nails or screws.
- ✗ Do not cut freehand.
- ✗ Do not cut pieces with shattered ends.
- ✗ Never remove off cuts or sawdust from the saw table while the saw is running.
- ✗ Never leave the machine running unattended.

Revised by  
David Cretney  
Rob Hartig  
Renato Simionato  
John Wheeler

6/3/19

## MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR LIBRARY

Our Club has a library which must be the envy of other clubs around the country. Not only is the collection comprehensive, but it is catalogued and indexed according to a superb, easy-to-use system devised many years ago by former Librarian Sandra Tarry.

### Library Catalogues Updated

The library consists of books, instructional DVDs, and a number of magazine collections. The articles in the magazines have now been indexed up to the end of June 2021, and each of the entries in those indexes is in turn cross-indexed to related skill areas. So, there are indexes for Carving, Turning, Box Making, Pyrography, Scrollsawing and Furniture Making, as well as a combined index of all magazine articles of interest. There are hard copies of these indexes in binders in the Club Library, as well as searchable pdf versions which you can download from our website.

There is also a catalogue of library books and DVDs.

The Club subscribes to three magazines: Australian Woodworker, Australian Wood Review, and Woodcarving Illustrated. If you want to see the contents of any of these magazines for issues after June 2021, just go to their individual websites and use their search facility.

## How to Use the Magazine Indexes

It's easy! Let's say you're a box maker and you're looking for information on how to mount hinges on your box. Just go to the Boxmaking Index, either the hard-copy version in the Library, or the online version on our website, search through to the Hinges entries, and select one of the articles listed. For example, you might decide on this entry:

AW	144	Mar-09	Hinge Application
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The article is in (AW) Australian Woodworker, Issue 144, March 2009. You can then look through the appropriate magazine holder for Australian Woodworker and, with luck, find Issue 144 and either read through it at the Club or borrow the magazine to study at home. If that issue is missing for whatever reason, you can look through the Loans book to see who borrowed it most recently, and try to contact them. Or, you might be able to find it at a local library – at least you will know what issue you want.

*Mel Forbes, Librarian*

## A SELECTION OF WOOD PORN

[Victorian Men's Shed Newsletter](#)

[Australian Wood Review Maker of the Year 2021. You're guaranteed to find inspiration in this one.](#)

[A sort of netsuke for people who don't carve](#)

[Excellent video on how to use the jointer safely](#)

[Tracing the mystery of the origins of the timber used in the shipwrecked Batavia](#)

[Spindle sander mounted on a lathe](#)

[How to make boards from a log](#)

## SUPERGLUE - BEWARE!

To wood workers, and especially wood turners, Superglue can be a handy addition to their toolkit, for repairing cracks and splits in timber.

Last night, I exposed some small cracks and splits in a bowl that I was working on, and was advised by the gurus in my group to try filling the cracks with Superglue. I toddled off across the road to IGA and bought a tube of glue made by a well-known chemical company, and dribbled some glue into the splits in my bowl.

After allowing the first coat to cure, I picked up the tube to apply a second coat. The tube must have had some spillage on the outside from the previous coat and my finger was immediately glued to the tube. There was no way that I could separate my index finger from the tube without tearing off the outer layer of skin.

My fellow turners were very helpful (?) with advice - one suggested, gravely, "It looks like a scalpel job, to me", whilst the others offered a few less radical solutions. From the dark depths of my memory, I recalled reading somewhere that Superglue can be dissolved with acetone, and that acetone was a constituent in some brands of nail polish remover, so I set off again to buy some nail polish remover.

I arrived back at IGA just as the staff were shutting up shop - waving my finger with the tube of Superglue stuck to it, I pleaded to be allowed to buy some nail polish remover, but all I got was "we've balanced the till for the night", and the sound of the roller door slamming shut in my face. Thanks for nothing, IGA!

Two young women arrived in the carpark as I was leaving so I had a bright idea - as they were leaving their car, they were accosted by an old bloke with a tube of Super-

glue stuck to his finger asking whether they had any nail polish remover in their voluminous handbags. They did not, but they tried hard to help with advice about late night chemists in the area and other places where some NP remover might be purchased. (In retrospect, if I'd been 60 years younger, that might have been quite a successful pick-up line, as they were both very sympathetic and helpful, and didn't laugh at my pathetic plight!)

Bunnings in Nunawading was my eventual salvation. Andrew in the paint shop produced a small bottle of acetone and a rag and we stood at the paint counter, dribbling the acetone on my finger and the glue tube and gently easing the two apart without any injury whatsoever. Worked like a charm.

In the past, I've only used Superglue purchased from a \$2 Shop, 5 tubes for a couple of dollars. Never had a problem before, probably because the \$2 Shop glue is of inferior quality. The brand name glue certainly stuck though - as 'they' say, it pays to spend a little more if quality is your aim!

Subsequent investigation on the internet revealed a variety of solutions that I could have tried - the acetone was close to the top of the list but others included soap and water, lemon juice, butter and oils and pumice. See <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/323532#removing-super-glue-from-the-skin>

I'm pleased to report that there was no mention at all of any need for a scalpel.

*Neil Wakeman*

**P.S.** After this episode Stuart Watson said he would buy a little bottle of acetone for the first-aid kit at the Club, in case someone else decides to glue their finger to something.

## What's on Around the Traps

Dec 12	HTPAA Tool Market, National Steam Centre, Scoresby (Ferntree Gully Road)	Proof of vaccination required for entry
May 2022	Baccus Marsh Wood carving weekend	Bob Edwards
September 2022	Royal Melbourne show Woodwork competition. Entries close July 2022	TBC
October 2022	Wood carving weekend @ club rooms	Mel Forbes