



WOODCRAFT MATTERS

THE NEWSLETTER OF WOODCRAFT MANNINGHAM

OCTOBER 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The changes that are happening with reduction in covid restrictions mean that we will soon be back at the club. I checked on the clubrooms last week and everything is still the same waiting for our return. Will email once groups can start again

Safe operating procedure included this month is Bandsaw use. We all have had a close call when wood working with something we do all the time. THAT IS WHEN WE REALLY NEED TO BE CAREFUL.

No news for Australia day bird box making from the organizers, so that doesn't look hopeful.

In the last newsletter I reported that the my nativity collection had 10 out of 15 pieces done. Have now finished! Now for the painting.

John Paine

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS



Toy Group members met recently for lunch.

Zorica Platts

News Flash

Ken Morrison (2nd from right) celebrated his 90th birthday last Friday! Happy Birthday Ken.



The Thursday Morning Carvers, like everyone, are looking forward to the week that we are allowed back in the Club workshop. We have missed the companionship and motivation to produce our own brand of wood carvings.

We have maintained contact through a weekly Zoom meeting where we have had some show'n'tell from the dedicated carvers in the group. It has been good to keep in contact and hear what others have been up to, distracting themselves during our current predicament. We hope that everyone is well and, like us, eager to return to the club.

Mark Heland

Woodcraft Manningham

www.woodcraft-manningham.org.au

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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

New Wood Work Group

Monday mornings, on the 2nd 3rd and 4th Mondays of the month

The group will allow you to focus on your own projects primarily using hand tools, limiting the use of machines and therefore the associated noise.

Please contact me if you are interested in being part of a group that will meet on Monday mornings

I am hoping that the group will start on November 8th, as long as the restrictions have been lifted.

Mark Heland - 0411820921

FROM FIREWOOD TO SCULPTURE

My October project is a sculpture of Three Sandpipers in a piece of Red Box measuring 20 cm high and 35 cm in diameter.

Hank Tyler



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)

THIS OLD REDGUM SLAB...

became these two bowls

Ernie Gmehling



Small Bentwood Boxes

It was our wedding anniversary in August and my wife had bought me the book by Doug Stowe called 'Tiny Boxes'. One small box grabbed my attention straight away. It was called a 'Bentwood Box'. I have tried steam bending and hot water bending before to produce Shaker style boxes so I can see why this box appealed.

My first thought was that I could use the American Cherry that I had purchased from a company in Mitcham for Shaker Boxes. I have used it a lot in the past with reasonable success. For the tiny box however I had to reduce the thickness of the cherry from approximately 2.5mm to 1.8mm. This involved using double-sided tape to attach the strip to a piece of solid timber to feed it through the thicknesser.

I tried with the grain running around the box and that failed. I finished up with the grain running vertical and I have had no further failing with the five boxes I have made.

Once I had cut to size, I heated the strip in a saucepan of hot water for about 12 minutes to soften the lignum in the timber. I then wrapped the flexible timber round a 35mm diameter (approx.) dowel to give it a sized shape. I removed it straight away and clamped it to give an oval shape and left it to dry. For later boxes I made a shaped former out of timber.

Once dry I glued the shaped timber and made the base and the lid guide from cedar. The lids are made from various timbers including Blackheart Sassafras and Red Gum. Finishing off involved rubbing down with various grades of sandpaper and giving final coats of Poly.

I have made five boxes so far and am pleased with the results. Overall length is approximately 50mm and height 45mm.



Austin Polley, Friday Box Making



This burl I turned for a Woodturning friend as his lathe was not big enough. I was told it was yellow box. It was nearly 500mm in diameter. He is going to polish it with Rustin's Danish Oil.

From Stuart Watson



This item from what I have been told is called a Grazing Board. It is very useful for carrying dishes to the table, and makes a nice display for hot foods, salads or savouries etc. The timber is recycled packing material.(T and G flooring)

This board measures about 700x 250x12mm but could be made any size. It can be coated in Grape seed oil or Mineral oil food safe). I put small supports on the underneath corners. It would make a nice present.



Owl in waxed American Basswood, by Bob Edwards

Woodcraft Manningham – Safe Work Procedure

2.1 BANDSAW

DO NOT use this machine 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 bandsaw operations and controls
- ✓ Manningham Woodcraft Standard Blade for use on this machine is 12mm. The Minimum Radius using this Blade is 100mm. REFER CHART NOTICE ON FRONT OF THE SAW. Only change the blade if you are qualified to do so. Kerf cutting is an acceptable alternative. The 12mm blade MUST be reinstated at the completion of your work. Speak to leader if not sure.
- ✓ Ensure all guards are fitted, secure and functional.
- ✓ Check workspaces to ensure no slip/trip hazards are present.
- ✓ Ensure push stick is available.
- ✓ Raise the blade guide and guard about 10mm above the work to be cut.
- ✓ Start the dust extraction unit before using the machine.

OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Allow the saw blade to reach maximum speed before making a cut.
- ✓ Keep hands away from the blade and cutting area.
- ✓ Feed the workpiece forward evenly and hold it firmly on the table to ensure effective control during cutting, while keeping hands in a safe position.
- ✓ Consider getting someone to help you guiding the work piece when cutting large pieces of timber.
- ✓ Use a push stick when feeding material past the blade if your fingers are closer than 50mm.
- ✓ Before making adjustments, switch off the bandsaw and bring the machine to a complete standstill.
- ✓ Be very careful when attempting to back the work away from the blade. This can cause the blade to be pulled off the guide wheels.
- ✓ Stop the saw immediately if the blade develops a 'click'. Report it to your supervisor.

ENDING OPERATIONS AND CLEANING UP

- ✓ Switch off the machine when work completed.
- ✓ Wind the blade guide down onto the table when you are finished with the bandsaw. Leave the bandsaw in a safe, clean and tidy state.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND INJURIES

- ⓘ Saw may grab and jam in the workpiece.
- ⓘ Flying chips and airborne dust.
- ⓘ Contact with moving blade.
- ⓘ Eye injuries.
- ⓘ Noise.

DON'T

- ✗ Do not use faulty equipment. Immediately report suspect machinery.
- ✗ Attempt to cut very small items.
- ✗ Cut cylindrical or irregular stock without approved jig.
- ✗ Never cross hand over hand trying to feed timber.
- ✗ Never leave the machine running unattended.
- ✗ Do not force a wide blade to cut a tight radius. Use relief cuts when cutting sharp curves.
- ✗ Do not change blade unless authorised. 12mm Blade must be reinstated if changed

Revised by
David Cretney
Brian Thompson

28/11/2019

KEEPING GRANDDAUGHTER BUSY

Our 2 year old granddaughter is moving into a new house and the garden needs a bit of work, so after seeing me, (Grandpa) with his wheelbarrow it was only appropriate that she had her own. The design is a bit tricky arriving at the right proportions for the "operator" a bit of trial and guess was called for. The handles are made of Eucalyptus, hard wood, the "bucket" is radiata pine. I planed the bottom edges of the 3 sides to provide an angle of about 15 degrees. I was originally thinking of having wooden legs, but struggled with making them strong enough to withstand being dragged along the ground. I couldn't arrive at a design I was happy with so went with steel legs. I needed to be careful of the position of the bends and angle of bend to make both sides the same, and ensure the wheel barrow height was correct.



I turned the wheel on the lathe, and mounted it on a wooden axle. So we have had a lot of fun with it. Everytime il use my wheelbarrow, I seem to have a helper. (But typically the job takes longer?) Paint colour/type was what was available in the workshop.



With the create home activities regime we are under, I was looking for an inside toy so I hit upon (pun intended) the idea of a peg knocker. A couple of pieces of old decking Merbau provided the frame and some pieces of hardwood for the pegs. I drilled the holes of the different sizes and then proceeded to turn the pegs to fit the holes with a firm



fit. A coat of Estapol added to the amount of effort required to bang the pegs through. Turn the frame over and bang through from the other side. That was probably about the middle of the year. So now I have the problem that the finish is a bit thinner and the pegs literally "fall" through the holes. I am looking for ideas as to how to make the wood stay "expanded" so that an interference fit is available for the life of the toy. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

Phil Leach, Thursday night turners.

MORE FROM THE WEB

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1qxrG2pHNE>

An interesting turning project

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RTpfCALs0WY>

Textured box

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xs0xt_wvx2s

Great show-off joinery

Dust Protection at Home

This article is about protecting yourself from the effects of wood dust in your home workshop.

I'm pretty fit and healthy, but a couple of years ago I noticed that I was becoming a bit short of breath when fine-sanding furniture in my home workshop prior to finishing. I customarily sand to about 320 grit, so I can generate some pretty fine dust. I was a bit surprised at first, and of course ignored it as us blokes tend to do. This year I did a big project with blackwood, which is noted for its carcinogenicity. For that reason I took my workpieces out to the carport for sanding and wore a mask, but it was bloody cold out there, my glasses kept fogging up, I left dust all over the cars etc, and had to sweep up after each session. Added to that was the fact that although my mitre saw, linisher and router table were all connected to my powerful shop vac, I could see that a lot of dust escaped capture and was being thrown all over my workshop.

I decided to get a bit more serious about controlling dust in my workshop, since I'd like to prolong my woodworking life as much as possible. I did a bit of research, and for better or worse came upon an article by a Bill Pentz (URL at end of article). Although his article is a bit heavy and rambling at times, it did cause me to face up to some home truths about dust, the two salient ones being that all activity which causes the rupture of wood fibres (sawing, planing, drilling etc) throws wood particles into the air around the operator's face; and the particles which damage our lungs, in the micron range (1/1000 of a millimetre), easily float around in the air. From his and other articles I learned the difference between the uses and relative strengths of a shop vac and a big high-volume dust extractor – the former being effective for removal of dust right at the site of generation, such as an orbital sander or a domino machine and the latter being effective when dust is thrown over a larger but enclosed area, such as a thicknesser.

After my online research, augmented by consulting a few people I trusted, I concluded that I needed to be willing to invest in my health. First of all, I needed to bite the bullet and wear a respirator with P2 cartridges whenever I did anything that generated dust, no matter how uncomfortable it might be. I bought a 3M respirator with a nice soft facepiece and I've now become used to the damn thing.

I needed to extract dust more effectively from equipment which was not adequately served by the shop vac – the linisher, the mitre saw, router table, and a sanding station, so I decided to buy a 2HP Sherwood dust extractor from Timbecon. I went for the 2HP rather than 1HP because the former is capable of being fitted with a 1 micron filter; it obviously has more throughput; and the 1HP unit is a bit top-heavy. If I had a planer or a thicknesser this unit would be capable of handling the huge volume of dust and chips that these machines generate. So far, the greatest benefit of buying this extractor is that it has enabled me to set up a sanding box so that I can do all my hand-sanding indoors with no perceptible dust leakage. I made my own sanding box using materials from my "stash", and it works great (URLs below). Later on, I'll build a portable hood to move between my mitre saw and router table, so that I can remove more of the dust that they generate.

Finally, I've installed an air cleaner up near the ceiling, like the ones we have at the club only a bit smaller. It circulates room air through a 5 micron and then a 1 micron filter. I run it during any

session which might generate dust, and then for a couple of hours afterwards. It's quiet and only uses about 150 watts.

I now feel a lot safer in my workshop, won't have to go outside to sand any more, and I'm expecting to achieve a higher finish quality when using brushed finishes due to having much less dust around the workshop. Ultimately I will have spent about \$1,200 on this upgrade – that's small change compared to what we might fritter away on a holiday or buying a fancier car than we really need, and I believe I've taken a giant step to protect my health. I just wish I'd done it years ago.

Mel Forbes

Bill Pentz' comprehensive article on dust	http://billpentz.com/woodworking/cyclone/dc_basics.php
A small sanding box	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0XWk1kW4XU
A seriously fancy sanding box	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFGyoEfhS8E

