

# *Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild Inc*

## **MEMBERS NEWSLETTER**

**May 2019**

### **President's Report**

Hi everybody, I hope you are all well and enjoying the lovely weather we are having. Now that the election is over we can refocus our attention on other things again like reshaping wood. Also the River of Art festival is currently running again in which some members are involved in some shape or form. In Durras we have an art exhibition which is a yearly event and part of the River of Art festival. The organizers of the exhibition set a theme which was this year "Tracks" which one can interpret as one wants and express in photos, paintings, sculptures or whatever comes to mind. With some slight pressure from my better half I entered a slab of timber which was beautifully sculptured by the grub of the longhorn beetle. The tracks look like an ever widening track which is equivalent to the size of the growing grub. My only modification was to highlight the tracks with some chalk paint and finish with stucco wax supplied by Rick. The piece of timber was set into a handcrafted wooden frame which will eventually turn into a coffee table. The whole preamble above is to say that I won the 'Unpacker' prize from the curator of the art exhibition which was a bit of a surprise as grumpy old engineer. (see page 2)

Thinking of grumpy and matters in hand we have had some issues in the workshop over the last week. It was noted that on Wednesday during cleaning that the dust collector bags associated with the Thicknesser were overflowing and I found that I had a very unhappy member of the guild. I was informed that the machine was in use the whole day by members. Consequently one has to ask himself why nobody not one would find it necessary to check the dust bag. Furthermore why would anybody believe there is a cleaning fairy in the evening to empty all the bags and clean the machine for everybody to use again the next time. We all share the enjoyment of working and creating things made from wood which include the cleaning and maintenance of the machinery. Obviously some members have different technical abilities and would not be required

to maintain and repair machinery but everybody is able to clean their own rubbish. We are very blessed to have some members who do little for themselves but help others, clean, maintain and so on but we should never and I mean never taken advantage of or take for granted. It also would help if we inform a committee member of any abnormality of machinery. So please consider others and clean up after yourselves immediately if you made a mess or before you go home and that includes dust bags.

Last weekend we opened the workshop for the River of Art festival which resulted in some disappointing sales results, low participation from visitors but a high request for membership forms. Thank you to everybody who helped on the weekend. We hope next weekend will be better for us but the access to machinery in the workshop was fantastic and my nesting box production was outstanding.

Our application for the community grant was completed and forwarded to the state government and is assessed for suitability. We proposed the purchase of a Lukas Mill to assist and ease the workload of our aging slabbing crew. Thank you to Mark and Nick for all their work on the proposal. The main emphasis of our proposal is on safety compared to our current system. If we are successful and overcome the first hurdle then all proposals are advertised and the public votes. We will keep you abreast of the development and progress of the proposal. The Lukas Mill we proposed has a petrol engine as main drive with a circular saw plate working horizontally and vertically to cut posts and boards. A slab cutting attachment has been included and is able to cut up to 160cm logs.

I hope everybody filled out the forms for the Tilba exhibition and I look forward to seeing all the outstanding work.

Keep well and see you soon, Helmut



The River of Art Festival held at South Durras Community Hall (titled Tracks—The Feel of Footfall) attracted a huge variety of entrants over the ten day event. Above is Helmut's slab of Spotted Gum with the grooves or tracks made from the Longhorn Beetle and beautifully highlighted by light blue chalk paint (inspired by Mrs H.) Helmut deservedly won the "Unpacker Prize" on the opening day of the event.



Also supporting the River of Art at South Durras was Malcolm McDonald with a totally different and somewhat outside of the box approach, which really tested those grey cells. My fascination with wood (in this case Monterey Pine) and the love of the beach gave way to interpreting bird tracks in the sand meandering from one place to another.



Our workshop at Mogo was open over two weekends as part of the River of Art Festival with a variety of woodcraft on display. Although not a lot of the general public visited our workshop, those that did were very impressed and also complimentary on our workshop and woodcraft.





# Sales Days



Over the Easter holiday weekend our club attended the Durras Hand Made Markets on the Saturday. It's always a busy day with a sausage sizzle, coffee and scones, face painting for the kids, live music, as well as a variety of stalls selling handmade craft. Our tables were very well attended all day and Durras markets together with the Tilba weekend are one of our most profitable events.



On Easter Sunday our club attended the Mogo Gala Day just down the lane from our workshop. Plenty of people coming and going with enthusiasm stirred up by the local Minion from the Lolly shop. I think this photo was taken during one of those rare quiet moments.

## Membership Renewal

Just a reminder that your annual membership subscription is due for renewal next month in June.

You can contact Linda our treasurer any workshop Wednesday at Mogo.

## Machinery Demonstrations for June

Drill Press      Eric Simes      Wed 12th June  
Belt Sanders      Peter Brotherton      Wed 26th June

## Dates for Your Diary

Workshop Days Each Mon & Wed	Mogo
Workshop Toy Days 1st & 3rd Wed	Mogo
Workshop Demonstrations 2nd & 4th Wed	Mogo
<b>Next Monthly Meeting — Sat 1st June</b>	<b>Mogo</b>

### Proposed Sales Days 2019:

8/9 June (long weekend)	Tilba Woodshow
5 October (long weekend)	Sales Day BB Village
9 November	Hospital Handmade Market, BB RSL
30 November	Sales Day BB Village

**NOTE:** Members seeking further information contact **Secretary Eric Simes (02) 4471 5086**



# SHOW & TELL



These Goblets were crafted by Pete McDowell as a raffle prize for Tilba show. Pete made the goblets from Tas-sie Blackwood with Huon Pine inlay as a feature and finished with food safe polyurethane.

Toys - the new variety of toys Sharon Morrison has been developing. They are a Hen, a Seahorse, a Fish and a Triceratops Dinosaur which Gary Muldoon made and contributed to the collection. Sharon is now looking for member support to help develop them further.



Len Newman made this Card Box for his granddaughter and partner from N.G. Rosewood for body and lid, in-layed with Cedar and Celery Top Pine, and gusset and corner in Huon Pine.







Len Newman also had on display for show and tell a variety of pens he turned from various timber Burls and River She Oak. He also had a few made from coloured Carbon Fiber which Len admitted were very hard to turn.

Sharon Morrison is seen here with the progress made on the River She Oak table top, which has become a work in progress being shared and supported by various club members throughout its development. Seen here is Sharon discussing the project with Sue Page. This will certainly become a beautiful piece of furniture to be proud of.



Ann Salmon has made two Toy Boxes as part of Peter McDonell's SIG on Box Making. Ann made one for home and one for our Club sales table. The box above is made from Banksia and Silky Oak with the corners and trim from Mahogany.

The second box is made from River She Oak and trimmed with Spotted Gum. Ann could not decide which box to keep and which to sell.





Ron and Ingrid Green wanted to surprise their son-in-law with something special. As he is a member of a band and plays the guitar in that band the idea of a pen embossed with a guitar came about. The pen blank (Kallenshaan Woods with personal laser engraving) and sierra pen were sourced from Timberbits.com. Now, how do you put all the bits together, turn the blank without wrecking it and finally assemble the pen? With the help of club members Ron has achieved this and their son-in-law is the owner of something special.

Barry Fenning was given the task of replicating a finial to replace one weathered on a gable end of a friend's home. Barry turned on the club lathe exactly the required finial out of pine. The picture at right shows work in progress.



New club member Rick Stanford bought a kayak for the grand children to use but the kayak didn't come with a paddle, so why not make one.... with the help of Pete McDowell and Eric Simes and some recycled Oregon from the Broulee Surf Club, Rick took on the project of shaping a wooden paddle using Eric's templates a small block plane and spoke shave plenty of enthusiasm and elbow grease to produce the paddle. On completion Rick added seven coats of clear varnish. The completed paddle will be entered in the Tilba show next month.



## EQUIPMENT DEMONSTRATION

At the workshop on Wednesday, 15th May, Peter Brotherton reviewed the procedures for using the workshop's four bandsaws. He explained the various bandsaws in the workshop are suited to different applications, i.e.

The two outside bandsaws are ;

14" Laguna portable has a small blade and is ideal for cutting small shaped pieces, e.g. curves etc.

14" Carbatec has a larger blade and is used for general straight cutting or larger diameter curves (not severe shapes or curves)

The two internal bandsaws are :

21" Carbatec near the turning room. This is used for straight cutting larger pieces greater than 50 ml thick.

14"Laguna near the side entry door. Used for general straight cutting or larger diameter curves (not severe shapes or curves).

For **ALL** bandsaws—DO NOT LEAVE THE SAW UNTIL THE BLADE HAS STOPPED !

### BANDSAW

#### SAFETY & USAGE GUIDELINES

- Only persons who have signed the Competency Form are authorized to operate this equipment
- Wear safety eye & ear protection
- Make sure dust extraction system attached to saw is operating
- Check band saw blade tension & upper & lower guide adjustment before use
- Adjust upper guide height to suit work
- Check materials for nails
- Generally there must be 2 to 3 teeth in the timber while cutting
- Do not force timber through blade - let the blade cut. Do not reverse timber out whilst turned on. Turn off unit and wedge the back of the timber slightly to open the gap up, then carefully pull out timber ensuring the blade does not bend or come out of the guides
- Have assistance when cutting long lengths of timber
- Keep fingers away from blade
- Use push sticks when cutting
- If dark marks appear on the cut or dark dust appears, then something is wrong. Get assistance from the workshop supervisor before proceeding. It could be the blade is blunt, etc.
- Do not cut round pieces of timber without proper preparation as this is dangerous. If a round is to be cut ensure a flat surface is on the saw table. This can be done by several means such as adhering a flat piece to the side using double sided tape or creating a flat surface on the underside of the piece
- Turn power off after use
- Leave dust extraction on for 5 minutes after use
- Clean up bandsaw after use
- If any problem is encountered before starting or during operation contact a committee member before proceeding
- Only authorized committee members permitted to service machine



# MEMBERS CORNER

## Eric's New Boat

My new boat is called "Epyllion", meaning a miniature epic ( from Greek, diminutive of Epos)

The epic part was the construction of the rather full canoe stern which resulted initially in several broken steam bent planks.

I started the project on 2/1/2018 and have spent to date 950 hours and quite a sum of money.

In an earlier contribution to the newsletter I described the method of building temporary frames to construct the actual boat frame. Perhaps I should have continued with a blow by blow description of all stages but I have seen peoples eyes glaze over when I wax lyrical about such esoteric details, so I refrained.

Those of you who attended this month's meeting will have seen the final offering. I am reasonably happy with the result, although "Epyllion" has yet to be tested in her natural element.



To explain the timbers used :- The framing is all of Celery top pine, a brilliant Tassie timber and Australia's heaviest conifer. It is great for steam bending, fairly hard as the locals down south like to make their trawlers out of it, it works easily and holds screw, glues and finishes well.

The planking is in 2 layers, the inner one only 4mm thick and laid diagonally. The outer layer is 8mm thick of Huon Pine. The plans actually called for 3 layers of 4mm, but that means you have to build the hull 3 times. You know me impatient until death (nor for death). With all the framing which I was advised was not actually necessary, but looks good, there is an excess of strength. To top all of that off I have fibreglassed the bottom of the hull to the waterline. This I believe to be necessary for a trailer boat as they bang around on their trailers a lot. I have towed timber boats all over for about 10,000kms.

The deck is of 2 layers of 4mm Western red cedar followed by 1 layer of Queensland white beech with Brazilian Mahogany inlays.

The engine box is ply with WRC layed over and capped with Huon Pine seat slats. The small backrest is King Billy pine.

The "sole" or floor to land lubbers is 12mm ply finished with an all weather carpet.

The hull has been finished with 2 layers of undercoat and 2 topcoats of 2 pack paints by Norglass.

The trailer was assembled by Spitfire trailers at Batemans Bay is made from anodised aluminium and 316 stainless steel. All parts being imported from China.

Eris Simes