



REDWOOD

Newsletter of the Redcliffe and District Woodcraft Society Inc.

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Redcliffe and District Woodcraft Society Inc.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to my February report, trust you have all settled in and prepared for a busy year ahead.

Our committees and sub committees have been busy working together to keep our club up and running. Several competency training sessions for new and existing members have been organised and scheduled throughout the month with assessors once again being called upon to assist.

On top of this we have had another of our very popular lathe courses run by Barry Spillman and Bob Longland with some added help from Graham Sprott.

Thanks to the members who assisted Ernie Anderson with the annual electrical Test and Tag on 24th February. A big job made a lot easier with a group of willing workers. Thanks also to Doctors Maurice & Betty Coutanceau for their time and willingness to address our members on healthy eating.

Members of the show subcommittee have been busy with the ongoing preparation and some of them recently spent a whole day learning the computer program used to record the necessary data. The raffle prizes are nearing completion ready for photographing before the raffle books can be prepared.

Our Grants officer Shona McKay has been busy preparing submissions and applications for various available grants. We have already been successful with a local Community Grant which will allow us to purchase some much need equipment. Well done Shona and hopefully there are more to come as the year progresses.

With the upcoming refresher courses for machine competencies, it is important for all members to check their current status and be sure to attend the required courses to extend their competency status for a further three years.

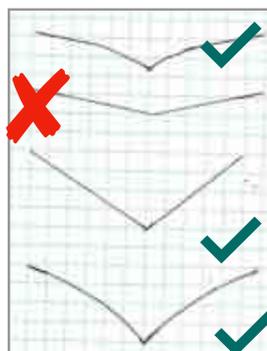
Ernie Hobson
President

The Redcliffe Show will be held at the end of June and there is need for members to turn about 400 spinning tops with the proceeds going to Care Flight. *Barry Spillman's* article below offers some very helpful tips on making a GOOD SPINNER

Make a Good Spinner



There needs to be a definite **tip** which must be in the exact centre and which must be smooth.



Sharp tools are particularly important for small scale woodturning, so give tools a touch up before starting.

Good tool technique is required. Fine cuts by rubbing the bevel give the best results and also minimise the chance of snapping off the fine shaft.

If the above two practices are followed, sanding is minimised. Always do a final check on the tip and give it a fine sand to make it smooth.

Measurements need not be precisely followed. What is necessary is a good proportion between the various parts of the top.

Centre of gravity needs to be in the bottom half. Experiment to find what is the best distribution of mass for a good spinner.

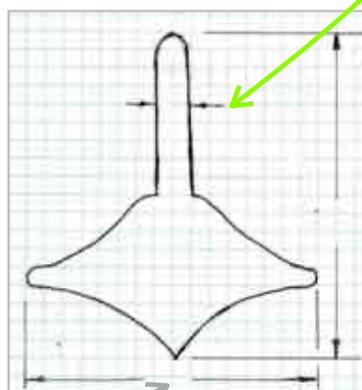
Here are some approximate measurements for a good spinner.

Width: about 40mm .

Height: 40mm to 50mm.

Stem: aim for about 5mm diameter.

[Thicker can start an early wobble and shorten the spin time. Thinner makes it harder to get enough torque with the finger snap.]



Some ideas for this article came from *Making the Finger Snap Top* by Rod Zimmerman, AAW Woodturning Fundamentals



Bas

Member Profile

Maureen Kowalski



Maureen was born 1959 in Bundaberg with her schooling finishing in year 10 focusing on sport rather than academic pursuits, with casual work during years 9 and 10 at a bakery.

After leaving school Maureen trained as a Seamstress, after which she then worked for Olsen's Wholesale Fruit in Bundy.

Moved to New Farm in 1979 and joined the RBH as a Seamstress looking after the supply of uniforms.

Maureen and her sister purchased a house at Rosalie in 1980, later purchasing a house in her own name at Enoggera in 1985.

Maureen says that her practical sense comes from her father as he was a fixer of many things and she would gladly assist inheriting the "have a go" gene.

One job that Maureen is particularly proud of was with the Wesley Mission running their 'men's shed' introducing practical means for residents to successfully find a sense of purpose and fellowship.

Joining the Caboolture Woodcrafters about 15 years ago when living in Albany Creek she enjoyed the many disciplines of woodcraft and was a member of the Ferny Grove Women's Shed where she met Wendy Hillhecker and learned about RDWS and joined in May 2023 and states that she is "loving all aspects" our club generates.

Maureen's woodworking pursuits will make her a strong contender for the inaugural Ted Eales Novice Trophy for the RDWS annual WOODCRAFT Competition held in conjunction with the Redcliffe Show.



Maureen on the lathe and three of her recently turned bowls.

What tree is that?

Acacia melanoxylon **Australian Blackwood**, also known as black wattle, blackwood, hickory, mudgerabah and Tasmanian blackwood.

Blackwood is native to Tasmania and eastern Australia; also it has been introduced to Africa, South America and southern Asia either as an ornamental shade tree or as a plantation for lumber. In many areas the hardy tree has become an invasive species. It grows 20-30 m tall with a .6-1.0m trunk diameter.

Timber appearance: Sapwood may range in colour from straw to grey-white with clear demarcation from the heartwood. The heartwood is golden to dark brown with chocolate growth rings. The timber is generally straight grained but may be wavy or interlocked. Quartersawn surfaces may produce an attractive fiddleback figure. The wood is lustrous and possesses a fine to medium texture.

The name of the wood may refer to dark stains on the hands of woodworkers, caused by the high levels of tannin in the timber and not the timber colour.

Workability: It is easily worked with both hand and machine tools though figured wood and pieces with interlocked grain can cause tearout. Blackwood turns, glues, stains, finishes well and readily responds to steam bending.

Common uses: Veneer, furniture, cabinetry, musical instruments, gun stocks, turned objects and other specialty wood objects.



Blackwood bark.



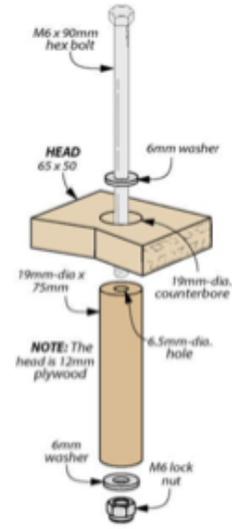
Cross section of blackwood log.



Fiddleback blackwood guitar.



A handsome jewellery box in blackwood.



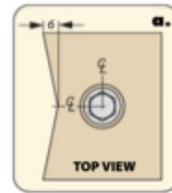
V-SHAPED BENCH DOGS

I get a lot of use out of my bench dogs, but they don't always cooperate with odd shapes. When it came time to rout a round piece, I made these bench dogs to hold it.

The head of each dog is just a shaped block of plywood that's counterbored to accept a short length of dowel. The

shallow "V" allows the head to grip round workpieces, while the dowel fits into the dog holes of the bench. A hex bolt runs through the head and the length of the dowel with a counterbore in the top. A washer and lock nut thread on the bottom hold everything together.

Marc Anderson



DOWEL CUTTING SLED

Cutting dowel pins can be tedious, but a simple sled speeds things up. This sled doesn't take long to make, and even has a tray to keep the cutoffs corralled.

Begin by cutting the fence, sizing block and base to size. Drill a hole

through the sizing block of the same diameter as the dowels you'll be cutting.

Next, cut the tray sides to width, but leave them as one extra-long blank. Bevel the top, then cut and mitre the pieces. Once they fit neatly on the

base's end, glue up the sled.

To use the sled, first cut a kerf to determine length of the dowels. Push a dowel through the hole in the sliding block until it's flush with the end and make the cut. Repeat for as many as you need.

Len Urban

This looks good to perfectly cut dowel hinge lengths and for toy making. *Ed*

Show and Tell



Andy McIntyre presented two purpose made sewing boxes beautifully crafted in a variety of crafted timbers, the embroidery box in WA She Oak. Appropriate for Elly to keep some of her creations in.



The six bowls created from the two pieces of firewood supplied below.



Kerry Cameron spoke on the difficulties turning very dry spotted gum and the necessity to continually sharpen tools with one bowl breaking apart, glued together and a bit of faux fractal burning to disguise the join.



John Rogers produced a bit of nostalgia with his carved possum emerging from a turned sphere.



Warrick Kings strip fluted vase.



Ken Rays WIP basket weave plater and some of his miniature threaded lidded boxes accompanied with two egg cups made for his granddaughters.

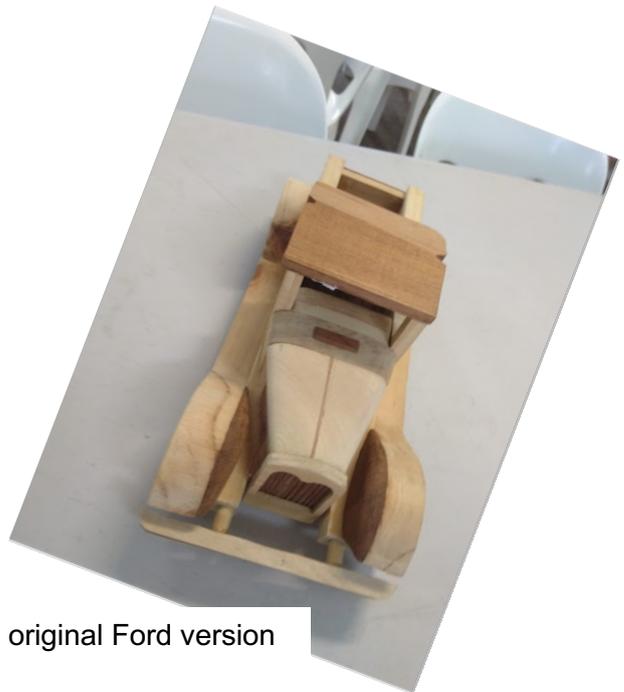
Show and tell continued



John Picard's relief and in the round carvings of frogs.

The extra-large frog in jacaranda was done for Shona McKay

A selection from Barry Spillman that he created emphasising design applications.



Peter Rohan's WIP model pick up truck based the original Ford version



Kerry Cameron had three recently made boxes commenting on his re-visit to his box making journey where he needed some *refresher training* to bring his skills up to date.

From L to R: A simple box , then a bit more complicated with a insert tray and finally using a variety of techniques using a AWR maker of the year entry as inspiration.

More Show and Tell

Copied from the Redcliffe Woodcraft Facebook Photos by Shona McKay



Wendy Hillhecker with examples of her achievement of participation in a resin workshop at Albion with www.naturaledgetimber.com



Graham McDougal showing his WIP of his scrolled sawed scene that will be a prize for raffle conducted in conjunction with the Redcliffe Show



Ken Rays with two of his latest creations, one complete and other requiring a lot more work to complete the faux basket weave pattern



John Picard and his beautifully finish **Frog**



Kerry Cameron talked about the various techniques in making dowel for hinges



Marilyn Kunde in full demonstration mode of her approach to achieving a perfect finish.

Refresher Training 2024 Information

RDWS Members

As you are aware your status with machine competency as an operator or assessor will expire after 3 years from your last training session as an operator or assessor. The annual refresher training courses are held to keep your status up to date and will remain current for a further 3 years.

All members are welcome to attend all or any of the sessions, however, if you are not already an approved operator, attending this course will not give you operator status.

Assessors running the sessions during this refresher training will have their status updated for a further 3 years, while the status of all other assessors will only be updated after they conduct a future training course.

Ernie Hobson

Competency Training Coordinator

Day 1 Tuesday 26th March 2024

| Machine | Starting Time | Assessors |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Hitachi Bandsaw | 8.30 am | Graham Anderson & Marilyn Kunde |
| General Bandsaw | 9.00 am | Richard Scriven & Peter Rohan |
| Jointer/Thicknesser | 9.30 am | Barry Stevens & Ed Tulacz |
| Morning Tea | 10.00 am | Tea & biscuits provided |
| SawStop Table Saw | 10.30 am | Graham Anderson & Neil Evans |
| Triton Router Table | 11.15 am | Ernie Hobson & Duncan Elliot |
| Lunch Break | 12.00 | BYO |
| Drum Sander | 1.00 pm | Warrick King & Roger Teague |
| Radial Arm Saw | 1.30 pm | Warrick King & Roger Teague |
| Compound Sliding Saw | 2.00 pm | Kerry Cameron & Duncan Elliot |

Day 2 Thursday 28th March 2024

| Machine | Starting Time | Assessors |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Lathe | 8.30 am | B Spillman & B Longland |
| Morning Tea | 10.00 am | Tea & biscuits provided |
| Tormek Grinder | 10.30 am | Barry Spillman & Andy McIntrye |
| Woodmizer | 11.30 am | M Kunde, E Tulacz & T Thistleton |
| Chainsaw | 12.00 | K Cameron T Thistleton & M Kunde |
| Discussion/Review/End | 12.30 pm | Ernie Hobson |
| Lunch Break | 1.00 | BYO |

Please Note. The starting times are approximate only and sessions will move from one to the next as soon as possible. Be sure to arrive well before the designated starting time as some sessions may start before these approximate times.



Peter Rohan discussing the making details of his model Ford pick up truck with a very interested Barry Spillman.



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| Utopia Woodcraft , Marilyn Kunde 31 Beech Drv, Cashmere | 0403216317 | email: zakk@tpg.com.au |
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| Stevie Redback Pest & Termite Control Unit 4 66-67 Snook St Clontarf 4019 | 1300 665 665 | https://stevieredback.com/ |
| The Tradesman's Toolbox Unit 1,1 Garfield Street, Morayfield 4506 | 07 549 8000 | https://tradesmanstoolbox.com.au |
| Sunstate Timbers 72 Lipscombe Rd, Deception Bay 4508 | 07 3204 2533 | http://www.sunstatetimbers.com.au/ |
| Traditional Funerals 17 Anzac Ave, Redcliffe 4020 | 07 3284 7333 | https://www.traditionalfunerals.com.au/ |
| Vicmarc Machinery Pty Ltd 52 Grice St, Clontarf 4019 | 07 3284 3103 | https://vicmarc.com/ |

The Redcliffe and District Woodcraft Society Inc. - General Information

The aim of the society is to promote, foster and practice the art of woodcraft and kindred arts. As at 30 June 2023 the Society had 119 financial members. Meetings and Workshops in woodturning, woodcarving, scroll sawing, pyrography, general woodworking, timber preparation and musical instrument making are held in the Woodcraft Centre at 463 Oxley Avenue, Redcliffe. The Society is administered by a Management Committee of eleven members who report to the general membership.

Members meet on Tuesdays for general workshop activities and for toy making, which is a major activity of the Society. Members also meet on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. The Society has a large range of tools and machinery for members use and offers regular tuition in different aspects of woodcraft. Less experienced members are tutored by more experienced members in a self-help program that is sponsored by the Society.

The Society also conducts a comprehensive system of competency in the operations of its machinery. ALL NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME