



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 May report,

Our Top Turning Day on the 30th April was a great success with all the lathes being used to produce a large variety of tops. Several members assisted with the decorating while Shona, Darryl and Val provided a welcome sausage sizzle lunch. Several members have manufactured tops at their home workshops, and we are still open to receiving more. Thanks to all members who contributed in any way with the Top Turning event. Thanks also to Kerry and Barry for organising top turning lessons and coordinating this fundraising event. All monies received from the sale of these tops at the show will be donated to Careflight.

Members are reminded that membership renewal is due by the end of this month and early payment is much appreciated. A big thank you to the members who have already arranged payment. Please remember that if your membership lapses and you wish to continue you will be required to reapply for membership. Insurance cover automatically ceases at the end of June if membership is not renewed.

The show preparation is on schedule with new stands being manufactured, raffle prizes on display at Red Poppy and arrangements being made for the competition judging and show display. The show preparation is a big task, and any assistance will be greatly appreciated. All members are encouraged to assist with this fund-raising event by selling raffle tickets to family and friends.

Ernie Hobson
President

Recent Support for our Club

In the last couple of weeks we have received three grants from the City of Moreton Bay Council. Firstly, we received a grant for equipment and training. The second grant was to support our social connections by hosting monthly get togethers for members, their friends and families.

The most recent grant was a discretionary grant from Councillor Winchester to help with Redcliffe Show expenses. We are grateful to the council for their ongoing support of our club.



Members and guests enjoying fellowship.



Daryl, Shona and Val cooking the Sausage Sizzle

How it all started - John Picard

Some 50 years ago I ruptured my anterior cruciate ligament while playing basketball. This required a stainless steel implant and having a plaster cast from ankle to groin and spending a few months at home. During that time a local storm blew down a small pine tree in my front yard and in my boredom I thought I could turn the tree trunk into a hat stand, so I stripped the bark off with a large knife and gave it a coat of poly and for many years it was part of the household. At about the 2m mark the tree had a couple of branches in a Y shape that I had sawn off, and I thought, if I inverted that, it could be shaped into a person's head and shoulders. So with the trusty knife I made an Easter Island type head which we still have today guarding Mrs P's garden. My first carving.

I didn't do any more carving until retirement about 20 years ago. I had bought several books on how to carve but never had any instruction until I attended some classes of the U3A in Townsville. This was only a small group that unfortunately shut down after a few months due to the instructor's ill health. Still, I learned the basics, bought some more books, and carried on using any pieces of local timber I could scrounge from the neighbourhood. My carvings generally were in the round, that is a statue form, as distinct from relief carving, which is flat like a painting. Not having had many carving lessons I didn't know what not to do and so was game to try anything and I carved a classical greek/roman woman, Easter Island men and various animals and birds. Some worked well others not so well.



I moved to Brisbane 7 years ago and was lucky after a few years here to find the club. I am sorry not have found it earlier as it has been a great find and the people, the atmosphere, are terrific. This is a marvellous club, very supportive and so many great talents. I am glad to be a part of it.

One of John's inspirations for carving in the round.



John with one of his latest creations



A collection of some of John's carvings

Men's Shed 10

Sussex Inlet, NSW

A lovely welcoming group, we spent a long time there. These guys are very innovative and had so much to share.

The club opened in 2007 (they think) and they currently have about 30 members and operate out of a large shed with spaces for painting, welding, metalwork and woodwork. They are open three mornings per week (M/W/F) but the members can also go in on Tuesday and Thursdays as long as there are two people. As a Men's Shed they have members opposed to having women there so the council worked with them on a compromise, that sees ladies using the club on Tuesdays and Thursdays, mainly for leadlighting. Some training can occur on these days too if required.

They use Computer Aided Drawing (CAD) to create designs for their many projects. They have a CNC machine and we saw them experimenting with etching onto ceramic tiles - very cool!

They also have a BIG CNC router that they use to do custom designs and engraving for them but also for local organisations. They are open router also does the fine details on the toys they make and sell.

They have a few lathes and some other gear that they have picked up from the local high school who stopped doing ITD studies.

The grounds are covered with:

Community garden - locals can hire a plot and unaired plots are used by the Men's Shed where the produce is given to members and leftovers given to a local organisation.

Nursery - the rest of the grounds hosts a large nursery run by the Men's Shed and this is how they make most of their money as it is the only nursery in town and sells to the public. They also sell goldfish!

They make swords and shields to sell at the annual Viking Festival - apparently a big hit.

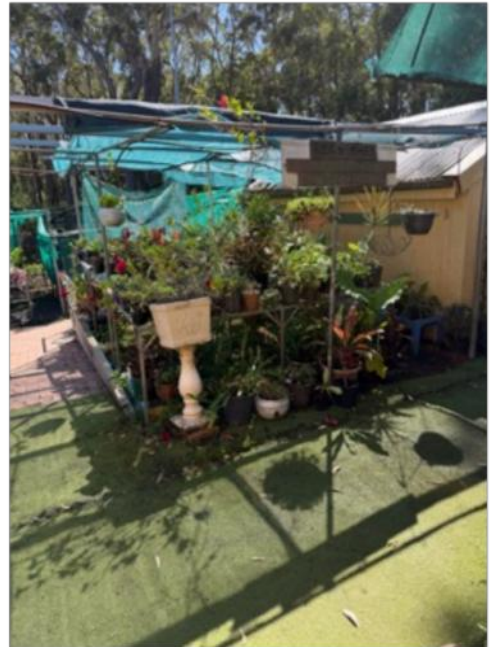
Some outstanding innovation:

1. They have designed and installed automatic gates on all dust extraction machinery - Kevin Pull (electrical contractor/electrician and electrical engineer-club pay for his contractor license - he does all their electrical work for that) This means you can't operate the machine unless the extraction gate button has been activated - genius!
2. Stopper in extraction - vacuum - wooden plug with hose attached put in extraction funnel and this creates a vacuum for the machine - simple but really clever
3. Welding area make custom made fire pits and sell them to the community
4. Work with the Department of Veterans Affairs, not grants as we know we don't meet their criteria, but support for individual members and programs for them.

The Shed:



The Garden and Nursery:



The CNC Router:



Toys (Storage for Matchbox Cars)



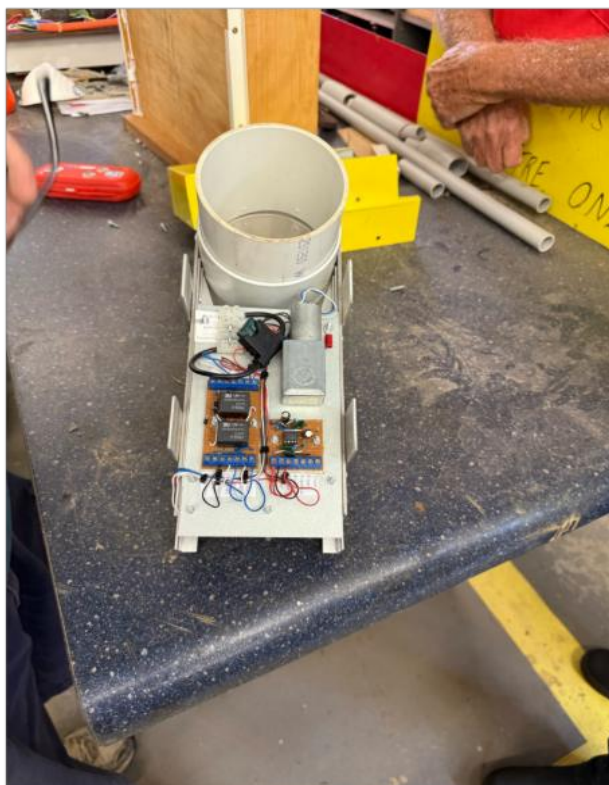
The CNC Router:



The Simple Vacuum idea:



Automatic Gates:



Stabilising a rotting piece of White Cedar

By Kerry Cameron



I had this white cedar bowl blank sitting around for several years with a rough turned banksia pod inserted in a large knot void that I had planned to set in place with a tinted resin. This achieved I then turned the base with a suitable chucking tenon. Unfortunately, a major rotten area emerged. My thoughts, firewood or continue, as you can see, I chose the latter.



The wood was stabilised with Nitro Cellulose sanding sealer and dam walls were made around the rotten area with hot glue. Then tinted resin was poured over the faulted areas.

After it was set and cured it was turned and sanded to a satisfactory finish,



The bowl section was turned out requiring more sealer and resin fill.



Scalloping was applied to the rim in readiness to create a faux natural edge with a pyrography pen.



The finished bowl with a carved Banksia leaf pattern embellished on one side of the rim. Gesso paste was applied to create a 'bottle brush' flower.



Diameter is 280mm x 55mm high.



Three feet were shaped on the base.



Showing the Banksia pod coffee resi

What Tree is That?

White Cedar- *Melia azedarach* also known as chinaberry tree, Pride of India, bead-tree, Cape lilac, syringa berry tree, Persian lilac, and Indian lilac. It is a species of a deciduous tree in the mahogany family, *Meliaceae* that is native to Australia and South East Asia. A large tree, often grown as a shade or street tree. The flowers are lilac, about 2cm wide, and are held in large clusters in the forks of the leaves. The leaves consist of numerous bright green leaflets 2.5–7.5cm long and 1–4cm wide, with coarsely toothed margins. Its flowers are a respiratory irritant and its leaves bark, flowers and sometimes fruit are poisonous. The adult tree has a rounded crown, and commonly measures 7–12 metres tall, however in exceptional circumstances it can attain a height of 45 metres. As the stem ages and grows, changes occur that transform its surface into bark



Bark changes and the timber

The main utility of white cedar is its timber. This is of medium density, and ranges in colour from light brown to dark red in appearance. The timber is of high quality, but as opposed to many almost-extinct species of mahogany, it is under-utilized. Seasoning is relatively simple, in that planks dry without cracking or warping and are resistant to fungal infection.

In Kenya the trees have been grown by farmers and used as fodder trees. The leaves can be fed to cattle to improve milk yields and improve farm incomes.

In Australia, particularly the suburbs of Melbourne, the tree is often used in nature strip plantings by local councils. The councils will often plant such trees for amenity reasons as well as environmental, social and economic benefits. It can be very invasive and has a tendency to sprout in unwanted spaces. (I have several self-seeded trees in various stages of growth, they are quick growing and almost impossible to kill....KC)

The timber is easy to turn, work and finish. It can have some very interesting grain features

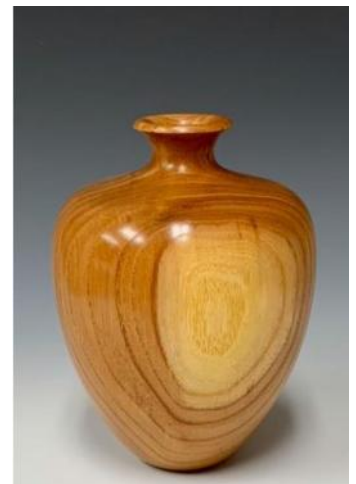
Typical grain Leaves A highly figured piece.



A typical backyard tree,



Leaves and 'flowers'



Typical grain and colour

SHOW AND TELL



Frankie McGuigan's beautifully crafted pens



Des Leonard with his latest bowl



Ken Rays showed a WIP "fire ant" inspired embellished vase



Peter Clifton talked about and showed his latest 3D printer corner routing jig



Kevin Watts and his recent Tissue Boxes



Wendy Hillhecker talked through the processes associated with resin work and the different types of resin with other members sharing their own work



Thanks to the City of Moreton Bay sponsorship we welcomed and enjoyed vibrant Guest Speaker Di from our local U3A, Members and guest were thrilled with Di's presentation and the courses available at U3A



Show and Tell (continued)



Ian Hunter with his latest Ukulele and Drum Box in camphor laurel



John Rogers brought along a 'tea pot' created from an Emu egg and a pierced vase with a marine theme.



Tamara Curtis showed her scroll sawed creations that she had fun making



Neil and Ernie after promoting the planned Clubs activity for the Redcliffe Show on local radio

SPONSOR HONOUR LIST

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The Redcliffe and District Woodcraft Society Inc. - General Information

The aim of our society is to promote, encourage and practice the art of woodcraft and similar arts. Workshops in woodturning, woodcarving, scroll sawing, pyrography, box making, musical instrument making, toy making, general woodworking, and timber preparation 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 our weekly "show and Tell" at morning tea where members can show and discuss their creations and be inspired by the work of others. Our Club is also open to members on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings.

The Society has a large range of tools and machinery for members to use and offers regular tuition in different aspects of woodcraft. Our club also conducts a comprehensive system of competency in the operations of its machinery. ALL NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME