



# REDWOOD

Newsletter of the Redcliffe and District Woodcraft Society Inc.

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## Redcliffe and District Woodcraft Society Inc.

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### Management Committee

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### Committee Members

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to my July report, great to see the recent increase of membership applications with 8 applications on one Tuesday and 5 on another. I trust that the new members are settling in and getting to know more about our club and the wonderful talent displayed by individuals.

Thanks to Peter Smallhorne and Bill Charlton for the time and effort setting up our new Xero accounting system. As of the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, all monies are now being processed through square and banked with the Bendigo Bank. The new system is up and running and saving hours of work. All money transactions made on card means less cash to count and saves more time. While cash payments will always be accepted, I would encourage all members to use card payments where possible as it greatly assists with the accounting.

Thanks to everyone for your patience with our daily Login system. We have now overcome the dropping out issue by using a tablet which has proved to be much simpler to use and less prone to problems. The next step is to get a larger touch screen to improve it even further.

Our long awaited new Woodmizer is scheduled for setup on 5<sup>th</sup> August, and I am sure Marilyn, and her band of helpers can't wait to put it to good use. With our new accounting system, we now have some changes to the procedure when purchasing timber: Members wishing to purchase timber must first see Marilyn who will record the details in a specific folder. Members are then required to pay the amount at the office where it will be recorded on our square system. (Continued page 2)

**President's report** (continued) Our competency training program is in full swing with member new and old lining up to update their knowledge and skills. A big thank you to Robyn, Rainer and all the assessors involved with this program. More assessors are needed for most of the machines to help share the load and Robyn is always willing to add your name if you are willing to assist. Money from the recent Men's Shed Grant will allow us to make training videos for the various machines.

Ernie Hobson

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*The old **Woodmizer** being readied to move on to its new home with the space cleared for Marilyn's new 'baby' that will arrive and installed the first week in August.*



## Men's Shed 15: Cairns

The Cairns Men's Shed was awesome. Eric, a Committee member, spent an hour showing us around and sharing what they do – such nice guy.

At the club they have around 175 members and about one third of them are regulars. They open the club from Monday to Saturday 8am to 12 noon. We are told that there are a significant number of young men who have joined the club because they are open on a Saturday.

The clubhouse is two storey, it used to be a Scout Hall and originally the Men's Shed hired out the downstairs from the scouts. But the scouts needed to sell so the Men's Shed received a government grant and bought it. They own everything and they love not having to answer to anyone.

The metal and wood workshops, metal fabrication, laser cutter, office, model train room, library, kitchen and recreation areas are downstairs. The woodworking area has similar equipment to us, but they have extraction on each machine rather than multiple machines (photo). Upstairs is the meeting room, kitchen and committee room. They hire out the meeting room and adjoining kitchen and have pay-as-you- go air conditioning.

There are security cameras throughout the downstairs both inside and outside and they comment on how useful the cameras are when they need to find out what has happened in the club.

Members play cards on Wednesdays and mahjong on Thursdays. They also have access to a non fiction library for book swaps and three desktop computers with printers in the library room.

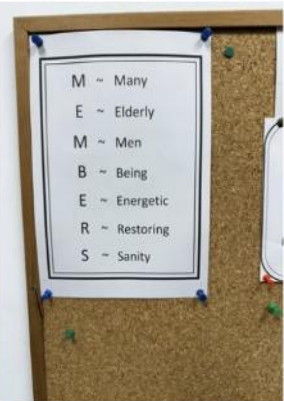
A group of members run the nurseries to provide opportunities for locals to purchase the plants. The club purchased a Ute to pick up and drop off goods and we are told it is used regularly.

The club does so much to raise funds for operational and logistical costs, these include:

- Making and selling minor bird and cat traps – very popular!
- Car boot markets where locals hire a spot and the club sells plants and the MANY donations they receive. The donations fill up a shipping container. They run three every year.
- Recycling bottles and cans – about \$400 per year
- Working as 'volunteers' at the annual Iron Man Competition - \$9000
- Monthly Bunnings BBQs - \$3000 per month
- Undertaking jobs for community @ \$20 per hour but they don't do work that local tradespeople could do
- The local hardware business donates off cuts – many quite large
- A Tablelands timber business donates local timbers

We were also told that they used to have problems with members not signing in and paying their \$3. They introduced a system where the member gets a token when they sign in and there is a draw at morning tea for a bottle of wine or chocolates etc.

Shona



# WHAT TREE IS THAT

## Desert Oak

Some years past we did a caravan adventure to Central Australia and on our way out of Ormiston Gorge we pulled into an overnight 'free' camp and decided to venture over the sand dunes for our overnight stay. When we crested to dune the vista was of rolling red sand and scattered Desert Oaks, a very memorable experience. *Kerry Cameron*

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The desert oak *Allocasuarina decaisneana* is a slow-growing tree found in deep sands. ... Young desert oaks look like Christmas trees, while mature trees form large, spreading canopies. The adult trees have a furrowed cork-like bark that protects them from fire. It typically grows to a height of 10 to 16 metres. Young trees have a narrow trunk and form with grey/green feathery foliage. The mature to adult form with spreading limbs and bushy foliage.

The roots have nodules that contain nitrogen fixing bacteria, which allows them to survive in sandy soils with low nutrient levels. In the first few years, the slow growing tree develops a fast growing tap-root that can reach a depth of over 10 metres and can reach any sub-surface water.

Often found in swales between sand dunes they grow well in deep red sand. The species is distributed through the deserts of the eastern part of central Western Australia, in the southern portion of the Northern Territory, and in northern South Australia. It is often the only tree species to be found in these areas where the dominant form of vegetation is spinifex.

The tree was particularly useful to Indigenous Australian peoples who used the trees as a source of water. Water can be collected from tree hollows but surface roots could also be broken off in sections to provide potable water by draining the root when held vertically or by directly sucking the water out. The Aborigines also used the hard wood of the trees for making boomerangs, shields and clubs. A boomerang that is 10,000 years old made from *Desert Oak* wood was found in Wylie Swamp in South Australia.

The trees played a vital role for desert dwelling aborigines in the story of human survival as heavy dew and the lightest shower of rain deposits water in small cavities and hollows in the trees' gnarled trunks, and indigenous nomads, using a fine tube of bark as a straw, sucked it out to quench a desperate thirst.

*The following is courtesy of [www.ttiti.id.au](http://www.ttiti.id.au) a website that covers a lot of timber identities. It is well worth checking out.*

Desert oak is close grained, heavy and very hard once dry, the timber appears fairly stable while air drying but will still split slightly if left in the round. Works very well if turned green to final thickness and allowed to dry – very little movement and only very fine cracking. It machines and sands well and takes an excellent finish with waxes or oils.



## Show and Tell

From John Rogers archives two pierce bowls and a beautifully figured platter, all in Huon Pine



Bill Dommett Showed and talked about his CNC made trays and his journey so far with the techknowledgey he is using



Graham Anderson talked about making these jigs from Incra components recently purchased and their construction using offcuts.



Ken Rays has been doing some 'small turning' once again with two threaded lidded boxes and a replica of Eli Avisera's spinning top in a box.



Michael Culwick made this belt from a branch from his garden, very creative Michael



Barry Spillman spoke on his WIP, the making of his walking canes



John Picard had his finished cranes carved from some beautifully figured camphor laurel



*Above and below:* Wendy Hillhecker has created magical boxes within a box in various timbers, three dimensional cutting of a whale and chess pieces all on a scroll saw. Very adventureess Wendy and beautifull executed.



Geertruda Window was using her new carving platform made by her son to hold her latest creation as she patiently carved the intricate detail





Our musical instrument group is in full swing introducing new members to the techniques of making instruments as well as fine tuning song and play.  
Excellent performances prior to morning tea on Tuesdays.

## **SPONSOR HONOUR LIST**

Please give your support to these businesses because they support our Club



<b>Aussie Escape Caravan Repair &amp; Service Specialists</b> 40 South Pine Road, Brendale 4500	07 3205 7738	<a href="http://www.aussieescapecaravans.com.au/">http://www.aussieescapecaravans.com.au/</a>
<b>Abrasiflex</b> Unit 1 22/24 French Avenue Brendale Qld 4500	07 32937001	<a href="http://www.abrasiflex.co..au">www.abrasiflex.co..au</a>
<b>Combined Saw and Knife</b> 105-107 Kabi Circuit, Deception Bay 4508	07 3204 0977	<a href="https://combinedsaw.com.au/contactus">https://combinedsaw.com.au/contactus</a>
<b>Eales Concreting</b>	0407 372 324	
<b>Ernie's Electrical Service</b> 13 Hughendon Crt, Deception Bay 4508	07 3204 9866 0419 388 945	<a href="https://ernieelectricalservice.business.site/">https://ernieelectricalservice.business.site/</a>
<b>Lindsay Meyers</b> 11 Grice St, Clontarf 4019	07 3284 5281	<a href="http://www.lindsaymeyers.com.au/">http://www.lindsaymeyers.com.au/</a>
<b>Moreton Bay Regional Council</b> PO Box 159, Caboolture 4510	07 3205 0555	<a href="https://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/contact/">https://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/contact/</a>
<b>Utopia Woodcraft, Marilyn Kunde</b> 31 Beech Drv, Cashmere	0403216317	email: zakk@tpg.com.au
<b>Red Poppy Art Collective</b> 95 Redcliffe Pde. Redcliffe 4020	0455963554	<a href="http://www.redpoppyart.com.au">www.redpoppyart.com.au</a>
<b>Signs &amp; Designs</b> 3/16 Paisley Dr, Lawnton 4501	07 3205 4544	<a href="http://www.signsanddesigns.com.au/">http://www.signsanddesigns.com.au/</a>
<b>Stevie Redback Pest &amp; Termite Control</b> Unit 4 66-67 Snook St Clontarf 4019	1300 665 665	<a href="https://stevieredback.com/">https://stevieredback.com/</a>
<b>Sunstate Timbers</b> 72 Lipscombe Rd, Deception Bay 4508	07 3204 253	<a href="http://www.sunstatetimbers.com.au/">http://www.sunstatetimbers.com.au/</a>
<b>Traditional Funerals</b> 17 Anzac Ave, Redcliffe 4020	07 3284 7333	<a href="https://www.traditionalfunerals.com.au/">https://www.traditionalfunerals.com.au/</a>
<b>Vicmarc Machinery Pty Ltd</b> 52 Grice St, Clontarf, 4019	07 3284 3103	<a href="https://vicmarc.com/">https://vicmarc.com/</a>
<b>Woodland Shopfitting Pty Ltd</b> 13 Bult Street, Brendale, 4500	07 3205 4188	<a href="https://woodlandsshopfitting.com.au">https://woodlandsshopfitting.com.au</a>

### **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