



# REDWOOD

Newsletter of the Redcliffe and District Woodcraft Society Inc.

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Issue No.

284

September 2023

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## *PRESIDENT'S REPORT*

Welcome everyone to the September edition of the Redwood. After a break touring the Red Centre of Australia it's a case of back to the grind. I would like to thank Vice President Ernie Hobson for the admirable job he has done in taking the reins for the last 10 weeks or so. A great job done in what was a busy period. My sincere thanks.

We are again fast approaching our Annual General Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> October. I will not be nominating for President this coming year, having decided I need to step back for a bit of a break for my own health and wellbeing. I have enjoyed my time as President for the last two years and appreciate the support I have received from my fellow committee members, and the membership in general. I will be putting my name forward to remain on the committee.

It's been another busy month of competency training, and I am pleased to see new members getting on board with training to enable them to explore their disciplines of choice. A key aspect of training of course is safety, which has been at the forefront in recent months with a couple of incidents reminding us that even experienced users can have an accident in a moment's lapse of concentration. The other aspect of training is the care taken in using the machines to reduce downtime and maintenance requirements. Remember if you see an issue with any machine, please talk to Captain Woody.

## **President's Report – September 2023 (cont'd)**

We had a good turnout for our visit during the month to Trevor and Kay Gaskell's place to look and drool over the great variety of timbers available for sale. They once again put on a great spread for morning tea with some chat about the availability of timbers and the way things were going in the industry with reduced logging etc.

Don't forget that you don't have to be on the committee to contribute in some way around the club. The posted list of allocated duties lists those members taking on duties in the day to day running of the club. Check out the list and see where you may be able to help in some way, even as a backup to those already listed.

**“Treat Machines with the greatest respect, as they will have no respect for you.”**

Enjoy your woodworking and stay safe and healthy.

Regards,

Neil Evans

## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS FOR BOB SUTCLIFFE



Although we don't usually announce birthdays, Bob recently celebrated his 90th Birthday. He is always quietly happy to have a chat, share a very clean joke, and just seems to enjoy life. He is also a member of the local Gem Club.

On the morning of his birthday, he and Mrs Sutcliffe visited a 97 year old friend to deliver a piece of birthday cake. This friend is soon to move to a care facility where Bob will undoubtedly regularly visit.

When asked if he received something special for his birthday, his answer was a bit surprising. As his birthday and Father's Day fall within a short time of each other, the family decided on a larger and very practical gift. He was very grateful and, yes, he has used his gift already. His special present was a battery operated mower complete with not just one battery, but two, which will afford him about an hour and a half of mowing time. Just enough time for some gentle exercise in the fresh air.

Our best wishes to Bob on his 90th and we look forward to sharing more in the future.

## LIFE AFTER RETIREMENT

Shona McKay recently joined our Club following her retirement, after twenty (20) years as Principal, from the Redcliffe State High School. She transferred from Mareeba in North Queensland to take on the role at Redcliffe and, during this time, her son and daughter attended the high school. Since leaving, Shona has been enjoying the occasional lunch and dinner celebrations.



During her time at the school, a large amount of parquetry flooring was removed from a hall. The Kwila pen shown, turned by a mother of one of the school's students, is one of many being created for special occasions, such as retirements, using the dismantled flooring.

Shona has been creating trivets and adding her personal touch with the Redcliffe High School's emblem or a small bee. In her spare time, she is an apiarist.



There are several bins of the small pieces of timber, complete with sticky backing, at the school. Shona organised for our Club to utilise some of the timber. It is located in the pale blue bin at the rear of our main building.

We wish Shona well in her retirement and look forward to seeing her creations and learning a bit about her interest in bees.

## TURNER RETURNS



Before joining our Club many years ago, John Rogers was a member at the Cooroora Club at the Sunshine Coast.

While he and his wife, Sue, lived at Narangba, John joined the Bribie Island Woodies where he shared his extensive knowledge of turning with many people. He is pictured with one of his pieces created some time ago. Unfortunately, following a stroke a couple of years ago, he was advised that it would not be safe for him to continue using various pieces of machinery, particularly the lathe.

Fortunately though, during his time at the Bribie Club, he ventured into pyrography sessions which he attended weekly on Tuesday afternoons with a dozen or more like-minded people. He has produced many pieces which have been sold through galleries in the Dayboro/Samford area.

Following his move with Sue to the Redcliffe area, John has been able to visit our Club with the kind assistance of Peter Clifton who has provided safe travelling to and from our premises. It was only a couple of weeks ago that he decided he would rejoin our Club to pursue his pyrography. We wish John well on his return and look forward to viewing his creations.



## SHOW AND TELL



**John Bright** with the scrollsawn chess set recently completed along with the delicate piece incorporating a branch, some leaves with a bird to his right

John has commenced his next chess set

**Ken Rays**, following his recent trip to North Queensland, showed envious members his prized possession, a piece of NQ Maple. (Sorry, but the photo does not do it justice with some of Ken's turned threaded containers)





**Vanessa Jackson**, since recently purchasing a drop saw, has been busy at home working on new projects. Her workbench certainly created some interest amongst members.

Roger Teague offered to show off the unit for Vanessa with her supervision. He's holding pictures of Vanessa's Rocking Horse handiwork repairs.

Prior to being unfolded out, this piece resembles a rather tall unit with three shelves on castors but, with a bit of gentle persuasion, converts to a very convenient workbench. A few changes had to be made for it to fit through Vanessa's door at home.



The small pony to the right is one of Vanessa's first scrollsawing efforts complete with some pyrography to resemble the plastic pony's colouring.

Congratulations to Vanessa. Everyone agreed she had done an absolutely great job. Please see Vanessa if you would like to create something similar. She will be only too happy to provide details of plans etc and any pitfalls she encountered.

As Roger is heading overseas to meet up with Mrs Teague for some tourist adventures, followed by a cruise, we all wish them both a very safe and enjoyable vacation.





**Michael Culwick** holding his carving of a Rufus Fantail

Timber used was Lime, complete with some nails and copper wire and, of course, some paint to highlight

The photo of a real Fantail was used for his creation



During stormy weather some time ago, a young lady who lives close by, visited Michael to check on him to make sure he was okay. The floral arrangement, complete with the lady beetle, set in a Banksia is John's "thank you" to her. A lovely gesture.





**Warrick King** stressed to those present for his Show and Tell that his Red Cedar creation was not for showing, a gift or for sale. It is a piece of timber he managed to turn into an interesting example of what can be achieved with a bit of thought and much patience. As you can see it is not the best piece of cedar but provided a bit of a challenge.

The pinkish resin was added to facilitate easier management for turning.



# TASMANIAN ADVENTURES WITH KERRY CAMERON

As all members are probably aware, Kerry Cameron, our well respected Editor and creative extraordinaire, is having a well earned break with his wife, Jo, on an extended caravan trip to Tasmania. It was suggested to him that he may like to forward some photographs/stories for the Redwood. He has exceeded all expectations.

## **Review of MONA** *Museum of Old and New Art, Hobart Tasmania*

*A visit to MONA was on our 'to do' list from the time that we started to plan our Tasmanian travel, our visit did not disappoint.*

*The architecture of the complex is the first visual impact as you drive in through the bordering vineyards and then on entry the engineering complexity of construction to me becomes a major feature, it appears as a single level building at street level but as you enter a stunning spiral staircase accompanied by a glass lift that extends to three cavernous display spaces, built and tunnelled into the sandstone cliffs of the site.*

*Visitors are advised to start from the lower basement level and work their way upward through ramped tunnels and walkways.*

*Some of the art content can be confrontational, displays are not detailed by number or description, instead you are given the option of free headphones and an iPod or download a MONA **O** app to your smart phone that senses your location and displays the information available on the chosen art nearby.*

*In summary; a very memorable visit, coupled with the mental stimulation of creativity generated by the overall experience was greatly enjoyed.*

*It is the largest privately funded art museum in the Southern Hemisphere and over 4 million visitors since its opening in 2011*

*PS: For further information particularly on MONA'S creator, Google, David Walsh MONA Hobart. The stories make fascinating reading.*

*Kerry Cameron*

*A wondering Woodies observations.*

## **Three Tasmanian Trees**

**Myrtle, Sassafras and Blackwood**

**Myrtle** *Nothofagus Cunninghamii* also called myrtle beech or Tasmanian myrtle.

It ranges across Tasmania and southern Victoria, most common in Tasmania, occurring in most regions except the drier midlands and the east coast.

Visiting and walking in the Tarkine cool temperate rainforests there are amazing tracts of giant trees with massive girth and height living to 500 years; they are regularly accompanied by sassafras and giant tree ferns.

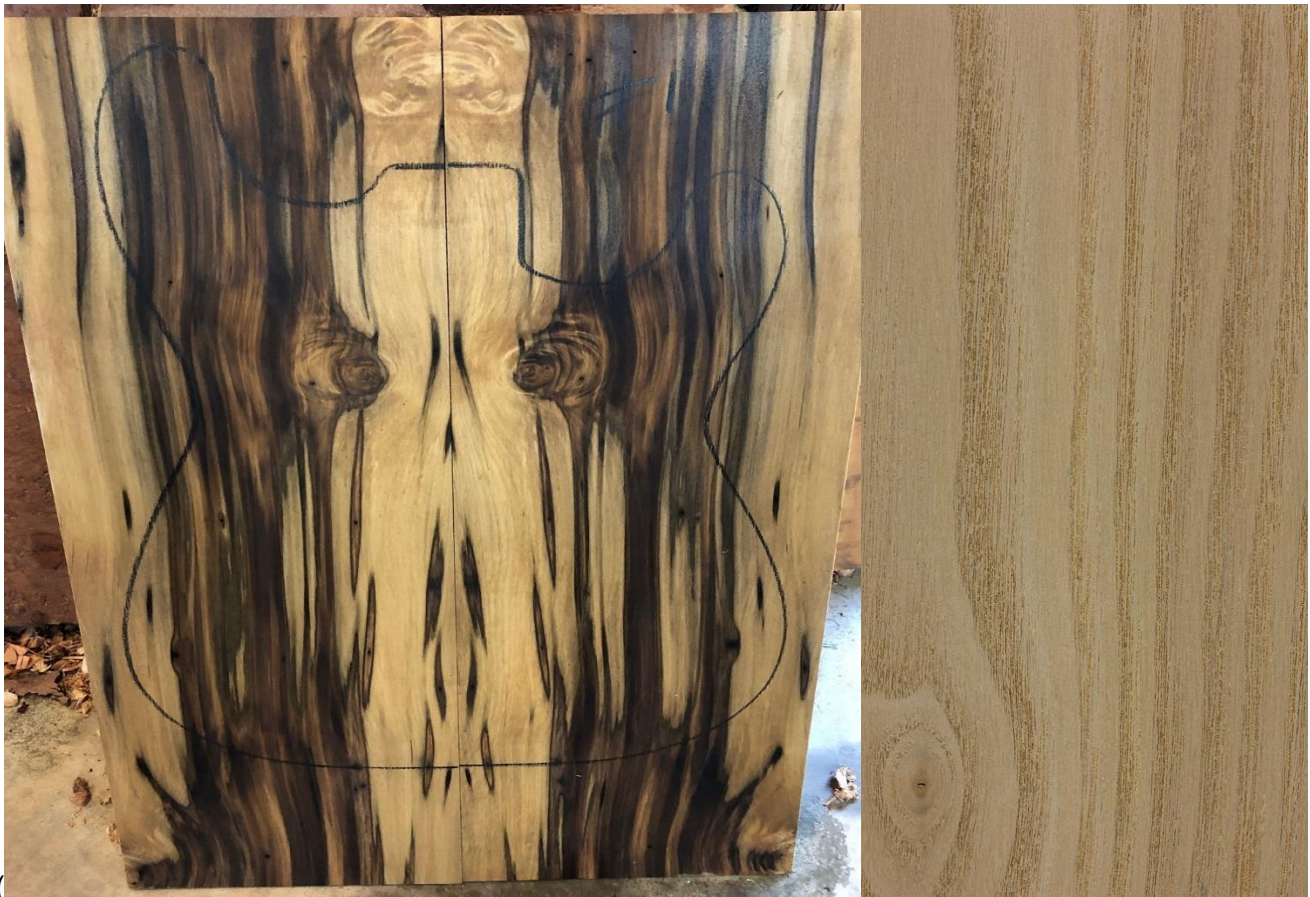




**Sassafras** *Atherosperma moschatum* also called southern sassafras or blackheart sassafras.

The distribution of sassafras again is the cool temperate rainforests but does extend to Victoria and NSW as far north as Port Macquarie.

They stand out in comparison to the rougher bark and size of myrtles in the Tarkine with their smooth grey to dark brown bark that generally has patches of green mosses and lichens of the rainforests. The average size of the trees that I saw was approximately 250mm and about 30 to 40m tall. The fallen flowers of the tree easily identifiable as sassafras.



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

Its native range extends from Tasmania and the east coast of Victoria, NSW and Queensland and the south coast of SA.

However the largest trees are found in Tasmania particularly on the fringes of the cool temperate rainforests. They make a spectacular sight when in full bloom with bright yellow wattle blossom. We have experienced hillsides of bright yellow blackwoods and around the next corner beautiful fence green foliage of wattles that have not had sufficient sun to generate the blossoms. The size of the Tasmanian trees is the standout feature in comparison to their northern family.



**Uses:** All three trees produce excellent timber from veneers, furniture, boxes, joinery and turning. They complement each other when combined in a project, particularly furniture.

**This piece of Blackwood shouted “take me home” .....how could I refuse?**

As I explored a camp site near Coles Bay Tasmania, I came across several cut logs of Tassie Blackwood that had obviously been pruned from an area marked for development. Rather than leave a bit that I could handle and carry home to rot away it made its way into our caravan boot.

I have already planned the end result of its travels.

The plan is to get 2 NE bowls from the top half and two plain from the bottom after using the clubs bowl saver to cut the smaller bowls after externally shape the first two.

I also hope to have sufficient left to make several small turned lidded boxes.

400 x 250 diameter.

Kerry Cameron





## SPONSOR HONOUR LIST

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



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<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>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>The Tradesman's Toolbox</b> Unit 1,1 Garfield Street, Morayfield 4506	07 549 8000	<a href="https://tradesmanstoolbox.com.au">https://tradesmanstoolbox.com.au</a>
<b>Sunstate Timbers</b> 72 Lipscombe Rd, Deception Bay 4508	07 3204 2533	<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>

### 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 the use of members 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**