



WAVERLEY COMMUNITY
MEN'S SHED INC.

SCUTTLEBUTT

WCMS MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

Patron - The Hon. Marjorie O'Neill MP, Member for Coogee

Volume 4 Issue 3

MARCH 2023

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IF YOU ARE NOT WELL, YOU ARE NOT WELCOME AT THE SHED!



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Contrary to last month's information in my column, the Committee has decided that renewals this year will again be by cash or direct deposit, sorry but credit card payments will not be accepted!

Renewal is \$60.00 for the year, and if you wish, cloth badges for your work shirt are still available at \$5.00 each. Please assist, if you have not already done so, by renewing as soon as possible so that our hardworking Treasurer can get on with the reason he joined the Shed, namely to do work with timber and not just banking and book-keeping.

It is hard to believe that this issue marks the 3rd anniversary of the beginnings of this newsletter.

During that time the nature of the content has changed markedly, we have lived through one of the worst (if not the worst) pandemics in human history, but there has been one constant ... the lack of contributions at all levels by most of the Waverley Shedders.

The attitude of LABDI (*Let Another Bloke Do It*) is palpable and it seems that no amount of urging (and in most cases begging) changes that attitude.

To keep this newsletter going, we will have to resort to repeating articles from prior issues that continue to have relevant content.

On a more positive note, the collaboration between the Waverley Shed and Mark Moran Vaucluse is continuing with very positive response by a few of our Shedders and the nursing home residents. This pilot programme is likely to result in a very positive outcome for the residents and the charities that will be receiving the toys. This is a trial collaboration that could be attempted also with other institutions but were that to happen it would require a lot more thought and input by more members.



Tom

WE NEED YOU



TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!!



WOODWORKING SAFETY 101 -

Staying safe by using PPE

By Neil Barnard

The use of personal protective equipment (PPE) should be an important consideration when members are actively engaged in woodworking activities. The Shed encourages and advises all members to engage in safe work practices, but it is **YOUR** responsibility to follow the guidelines. By following common sense rules you can reduce the risk of serious injury to yourself and others.

SAFETY GLASSES- are most important in protecting your eyes. Safety glasses will protect against eye impact, especially from splinters and other tool and machine generated wood chips and dust. Prescription glasses with polycarbonate lenses are also protective.

HEARING PROTECTION: The machine room generates a high decibel level and hearing loss can creep up. However, very few members wear protection. Ear muffs or expandable ear plugs will offer that safety protection.

FACE MASK: Even though our machines have dust extraction, dust still accumulates around machinery, on the floor and in the air. When hand sanding or operating machinery, wearing a suitable dust mask for that application will reduce fine particles from entering your lungs. People using machinery, for example the table saw, need to be aware that disabling the dust extraction for certain applications generates unacceptable levels of dust. Machine generated dust particles stay suspended in the air for longer periods and this can pose problems for other workers. Hardwoods, plywoods, MDF (which is not permitted to be used anyway), particle board and treated timber are the most dangerous particles to inhale.

So remember, woodworking can be a dangerous activity and Waverley Community Men's Shed members need to develop the habit of using PPE whilst engaging in woodworking and related activities



NEW RULE

(OR IS IT THE OLD RULE BEING ENFORCED?)

The Committee of WCMS considered various safety matters at its meeting and resolved that:

From March 1st 2023, all members, while using the machines in the machine room and elsewhere in the Shed, are **required to wear both eye protection and hearing protection**. All machines will be moved into the machine room as soon as it can be arranged. This rule **applies to all visitors as well** while work is in progress.

NO PROTECTION - NO ENTRY.

The shed has some **safety glasses** and some **noise reducing headphones** which can be used. These are **not to be removed from the Shed**.

Members are required to purchase their own safety equipment. Some SINGLE USE soft yellow earplugs will be available in the Shed for a short time.

SINGLE USE soft earplugs are available, with or without attached strings from various hardware and \$2 shops.

Protective glasses need to have been manufactured with shatterproof plastic for obvious reasons. Full face masks are also acceptable and will be made available.



THE SMILE SAYS IT ALL!!

If you ever need proof of how well received your work is, this is perfect!

As we previously reported, **Mo Dhanoya** made **door nameplates and signs** for all his grandchildren's rooms.

ARJAN'S SMILE SAYS IT ALL!! (and yes, we did get permission to publish Arjan's image from his parents, but we request that it not be improperly used or re-published in any form)





VISIT BY LOCAL MEMBER

The Hon. Matthew Thistlethwaite MP, Federal member for Kingsford Smith visited the Shed on 25th January 2023 to see how it functioned.

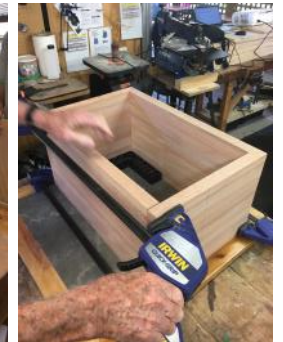
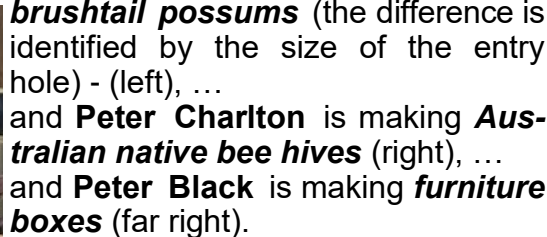


Matt spent a considerable period being shown about and viewing the various projects being carried out by Shed members, he showed quite some interest in the work we carried out for the community.



BOXES, BOXES, BOXES

It must be that time of the year again, **Peter Black** and his team of willing helpers are making possum boxes again, for *ringtail and brushtail possums* (the difference is identified by the size of the entry hole) - (left), ... and **Peter Charlton** is making *Australian native bee hives* (right), ... and **Peter Black** is making *furniture boxes* (far right).



THE POLYNESIAN CANOE

Dave Colwell is putting the final touches to his Polynesian *canoe model*. Like all modelling projects, the model is never finished but merely abandoned at this time. Unlike other models that are built up with planks on a frame, each half of the model hull is carved from a single piece of laminated wood.

IT IS EXHIBITION STANDARD, WELL DONE MATE!!



ONE FOR THE SENIORS GYM:

A happy customer

Darius, one of the physiologists from the Uniting Seniors Gym next door, wanted a back for one of their shelves to stop it blocking and damaging the auto-opening door. We took on the task and delivered the finished product, all within 2 hours.

The photo shows **Ray Tajer** (the Shedder) with Darius (the customer) and the product.





JUST LIKE GRANDPA?

Arjan Dhanoya, Mo's grandson has clearly learned some skills from his grandfather.



Assembling a flat-pack, he positions the drawer slide expertly and screwing all those difficult screws into place poses no problems.

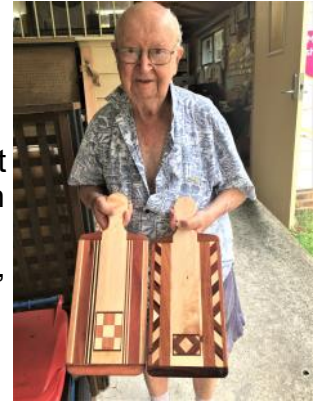
And what's next? ... Just like grandpa, a well deserved rest of course!!



THE ORDER IS DONE, BUT HARRY WON'T STOP!

Harry Jacobs has finished the *charcuterie boards* ordered at the Showcase, he's seen here with the last 2 orders that have now been delivered to a very happy lady..

Harry enjoyed making them so much that he has kept on making them, this time for his grandchildren.



UPHOLSTERY 101

Martin Przybylski has been busy *re-upholstering his family heirloom chairs* owned from before he had children.

Conquering a steep learning curve, he is well advanced on the project.



THANK YOU RICHARD!

During one of the lunch breaks we discussed how an LED light would improve the visibility (and the use) of the new *scroll saw*.

Not needing much more encouragement, within days **Richard Cortis** came up with a lighting system that is fantastic.

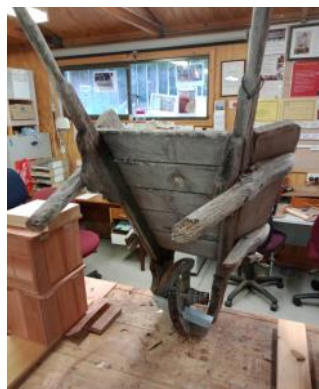




THE OLD GARDEN WHEELBARROW

Readers will recall that over the past few months we have been reporting on the progress made by Graham Ely in the restoration of an old garden wheelbarrow that was obviously a family keepsake for the lady who brought it in for repairs. We made the comment that at one stage Graham was sorry that he took on the project, but finally the day arrived when he finished it and the owner came along to pick it up!!

Here are photos of what it looked like when it came to the Shed, as well as Graham at work:



And this is how the restored wheelbarrow looked before it "walked out the door":



THE WOODEN TOY DIGGER

You can't help being anything but amazed at the design, technical difficulty and precision of the **wooden toy digger** (above) made by **Ian Dawes**. Everything works with clocklike precision.

BEAUTIFUL WORK!



So, you may ask what's Ian's next project? Staying in the construction business, Ian has started work on a **wooden concrete truck** designed with pre-se accuracy and just about ready to pour concrete at your house!!

Now, that is something to look forward to ... yet again!!

RATTAN CHAIR REPAIR

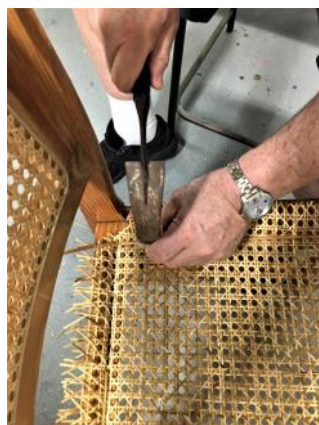
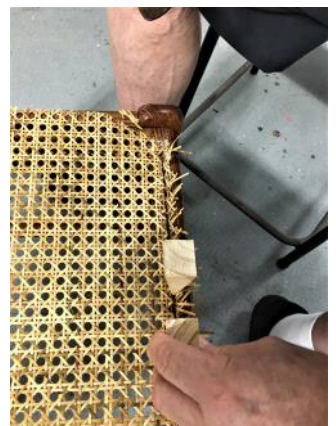
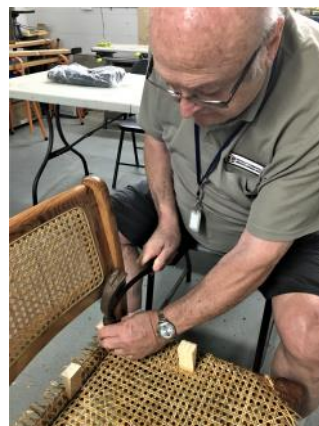
Report by Tom Wolf

In late November we (at the **Mark Moran Village Men's Shed**) were requested to **repair a rattan chair** for a resident. One of the grandchildren tried standing on the chair and went right through its seat. Initially we thought of repairing it by replacing the seat with a padded vinyl covered seat, but we decided that it would be a real challenge to replace the seat with rattan, so in mid-December, **Tom Wolf and Dach Hall**, with the help of **Ralph Hirst**, removed the old torn rattan and restored the groove free from old glue and cane, keeping just the spline for later use.

Tom then ordered the correct sized rattan on eBay from China for a few cents under \$20.00 (delivered), and when the rattan arrived in late January, it was time to instal the rattan.

Neither Tom or Dach had ever done this kind of project previously, so a few lessons on u-Tube were in order, and PRESTO!!

The new rattan was soaked for 30 minutes in lukewarm water, then placed into position and the 4 sides were secured with wedges, then a wedge was driven all around the groove in the chair. Finally, glue was applied all around and the spline was driven back with a wedge. The excess rattan was cut away and the chair was left for over 24 hours to allow the rattan and the glue to dry and set. The photos speak for themselves.





KOKESHI DOLLS AT COWRA

Report by Ian Dawes

On our recent trip to the Flinders we came back via Cowra. The trip itself was one to remember given the scenery and the floods that followed us, but one part was memorable and of interest to members of the Men's Shed given our making these dolls with Mark Moran Vaucluse.

The Japanese gardens in Cowra, built as a memorial to the Japanese prisoners of war who died while trying to escape from the prison camp, is a very beautiful place worth a visit. In it is a museum containing items of Japanese culture including a large collection of **kokeshi dolls**. It was interesting that the style of the dolls reflects the region in which they are made as seen in the photos of part of the collection to illustrate the wide variety of dolls that are on display.



WOOD LATHE LAMP

By Richard Cortis

Some thoughtful donor left some LED lamps on the shed door step. This delivery initiated discussion with the wood turners on options to better illuminate the work when deep bowls were being turned on the lathe. Various options were discussed.

The initial prototype had the lamp attached to about 30cm of coat hanger wire which was attached to a loudspeaker magnet which acted as a magnetic base for seating on the lathe bed. This arrangement was simple to set up and locate and the coat hanger wire, though sufficiently stiff to support the lamp during use, could also be bent to accommodate detail illumination needs.

More lamp assemblies were requested but there was a lack of reclaimed loudspeaker magnets so reclaimed rare earth magnets from junked computer hard drives were substituted from my home stock. These are shown in the photograph. Power for the lamps is provided by plug packs reclaimed from junked electronic devices. There was quite a lot of work to achieve rigid coat hanger wire connections to both the lamps and the magnets so they do not become loose and wobbly in use.

I have a request to shedders. If you are about to dispose of an old computer, may I please have the hard drive so that I can reclaim the very strong rare earth magnets inside. The actual hard discs are destroyed in the process of extracting the magnets. Also, may I have a few junked stereo loudspeakers so I can retrieve the magnets for future projects?





KOKESHI DOLLS AT MARK MORAN VAUCLUSE

markmoran
VAUCLUSE

In a recent report of activities being carried out by the residents of the Mark Moran Vaucluse Village, we reported about the co-operative endeavours of the Waverley Shedders with creating Kokeshi doll blanks for the residents to paint.

We thank **Jeff Silberbach** for making many of the Kokeshi doll blanks in various sizes and shapes while practicing his lathe skills.

Aside from looking like Japanese women, men, and children in traditional wear, a key characteristic of Kokeshi dolls is their lack of arms and legs.



Their features are painted on, usually with vivid colours like red, purple, blue, or green and defined by black ink.

The wooden dolls are then sealed with a layer of wax so the design won't fade over time. Kokeshi dolls also usually bear the signature of their creators on their backs or bases.

While Kokeshi dolls are mostly used as children's toys, they are also symbols of hopes for bountiful harvests, wishes for good luck and fortune, and great appreciation for craftsmanship and culture.

Kokeshi dolls continue to be popular. Nowadays, they're even considered a symbol of traditional Japanese fashion among locals (mostly women) and tourists alike.



HANDY HINT - STUBBORN LONG SCREWS

What do you think? Have you had trouble with long screws even after a pilot hole? Has your screw jammed as you were trying to screw it all the way in? Here are 2 remedies you can try. Firstly, try rubbing your screw against soap, or secondly, try putting some olive (or any other) oil into your pilot hole.

It works!!





This article was in issue #5 in 2020 and is reprinted as it is just as relevant at this time.

WOOD DUST DANGER

By Graham Ely

How often have we heard said:

“I will only be there for a little while. “

“I am only cutting three pieces of wood. “

“I will be quick I just need to sand these few pieces on the edges.”

Of course we have air cleaners now, but do they take much dust out of the air? This is a rhetorical question, as we do not exactly know, what we do know is that members in these circumstances often do not put on face masks or hearing protection.

Our Induction Process requires that face masks and hearing protection are supplied for working in the machine room. So, why do we make excuses and forget vital messages? Far too many of our members (almost everyone) do not wear masks in the machine room (including myself). The air filters and extractors help a lot but we should be aware of the dangers of wood dust and what it can do to you.

Until recently I was not aware that **ALL** wood dust is classified as **CARCINOGENIC** (liable to cause cancer), and I'll bet that this information will catch most (if not all) members by surprise. It doesn't help the situation when most (if not all) wood glues contain **FORMALDEHYDE** - also a carcinogen.

The Woodworking Australia website states:

“In Australia all wood dust is now classified as carcinogenic (liable to cause cancer). This list has been compiled to give woodworkers a little bit of an insight into the potential health hazards posed by some of the timbers that are used.

This list is not meant to discourage you from woodworking just as a guide to help identify some of the problems you may be having with your health or may possibly have in the future. It is a wise investment to purchase a good respirator especially if you are a woodturner or do a lot of sanding. You may also need to look at putting a dust extractor into your workshop and even a small particle dust extractor which can eliminate particles as small as 1 micron in size (invisible to the naked eye).”

The URL <https://www.ubeaut.com.au/woodstuf.htm> takes you to the home page of Woodworking Australia. You can click on the words **"BADWOODS"** which will take you to an alphabetic list of all common (and not so common) timbers used in projects, and whilst it is not a comprehensive list of timbers, their hazards are listed. The list is too long to be reproduced here, you should look for more information at:

Cancer Council Australia: Cancer information and support - www.cancer.org.au

Go to the Cancer Council website search for Wood Dust, click on the first item – **“wood products”** - locate and download the wood dust fact sheet PDF.

Alpine ash

Australia

Irritation to nose, eyes

This is an example of what to expect:

REMEMBER. It only takes 1 cigarette or 1 visit to the machine room without a mask.....



FIJI SURF HOLIDAY

By Peter Chapman; photos by Rob King, wildlife photographer

Fiji, a fabulous place to go. Our close Pacific neighbour, the island nation of Fiji, is a fabulous place for Aussies to go for a holiday or visit. Fiji is made up of 333 islands, 106 of which are inhabited.

There are beautiful resorts on the main island of Viti Levu as well as island paradises just off-shore and on other bigger islands. A longstanding destination for Australians, it still provides outstanding holiday venues and services.

The main destinations are the pristine coastal hotels and resorts easily rivalling those in Bali or The Maldives. And it's only an easy, 4-hour flight away.

Savusavu, the tourist hub on Fiji's second-largest island, Vanua Levu provides plenty of beautiful accommodation options. This large island remains relatively untouched by modern tourism and commercial development.



Frances and young Flynn

The people are beautiful - a unique mix of Melanesian Fijians, Indo-Fijians and a small number of Europeans, Chinese, and other Melanesians.

To celebrate my 70th year, I was lucky to stay a week on the tiny tropical island of Namotu, with my wife Lyn, son Chris (Chappo), partner Frances and their two kids Flynn 5 and Neve 3. Namotu is a 20-minute fast boat ride from the little village of Momi Bay, 30 km south of Nadi, that also boasts the superb new 5-star Marriot Hotel.

Namotu excels in providing the best of what Fiji has to offer the visitor – a pristine tropical marine environment and vistas, snorkelling activities and scuba diving on healthy,

colourful coral reefs, swimming in warm crystal-clear ocean, relaxing by the pool, fabulous food and cultural events. Kava consumption is also a must. Bula!

My thing is surfing and Namotu is world class, providing suitable surf breaks for all abilities but beware, they are all coral reef breaks although some are nice and friendly. We were lucky to get great waves at the premiere spot, Cloudbreak where I let my son catch the big ones while I went for the old-man-friendly ones. As a member of the Shed, I am encouraged to look after my health through exercise and physical activity.

Travel and experiencing other cultures are great ways to do this.

Another good reason to visit Fiji is that it helps the locals by providing employment in the all-important tourism industry adding to the economy.



Peter surfing the Tavarua reef



Chris (Chappo) in a big Cloudbreak barrel



Peter (Chappo senior) more modest Cloudbreak

Not only do we get a lot out of going there, so do the Fijians by us spending money there and offering useful Aussie gifts such as new clothes items for adults and kids, as encouraged at Namotu (Fijians have lots of kids).



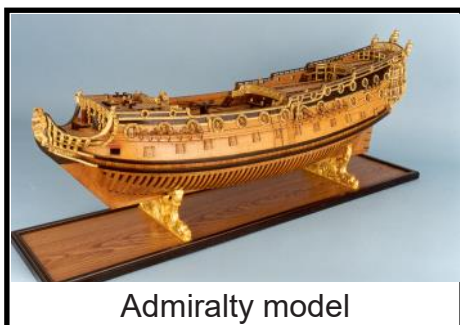
AN INTRODUCTION TO MODEL SHIP MAKING

by Tom Wolf

Models of ships have been made for the past 4000 years and survivors of these ancient examples can be seen in many museums around the world. They were made as religious artefacts, decorations or toys and we are able to see the advances of the societies from the sophistication of the models. The modelling of ships as we make today, to a scale, started in about 1650 when the British Admiralty required shipbuilders to produce a scale model of a ship that was intended to be built so that it could be examined by the Admiralty Board before it was to be ordered, many of these models also are housed in museums.



Model ship found in the tomb
of Amenhotep II



Admiralty model

Because livelihoods were at stake, and because the actual designs were not put to paper but relied solely on the model, the accuracy and precision to scale were of a very high standard. Even after drawn designs came to exist most shipyards continued the practice and had model making workshops within the shipyard where they employed highly skilled craftsmen to make model replicas, mainly of warships. This was time consuming and expensive requiring many hours of patient and skilled work

Today we have a choice of various media in which to model, either timber or various plastics and metals, but modelling for our private purposes is no less time consuming or expensive, although the media selected will determine both the time and expense that will need to be expended. It is for the individual modeller to determine the degree of accuracy and precision that will be used, but any modelling still takes time and patience and should not be undertaken unless the modeller is willing to put in that effort. It is foolish and a waste of time to encourage somebody into the hobby if that person does not wish to expend the effort required, it will only result in disappointment. However, once a model is completed, as frustrating as the process will inevitably be, the self-satisfaction is unbelievable.

For the beginner there are model kits readily available from hobby shops and the internet to select from and there are Clubs easily found with members who are only too happy to assist the novice to select a suitable model kit. The novice modeller should make contact with a Club or an experienced modelmaker before purchasing a model kit that may have a degree of difficulty which will drive the modeller away from a very worthwhile pastime. It has been said that a Club is a modeller's most valuable tool.

A very relevant matter to be considered by the modeller is what it is intended to do with the model when it is finished. For example, if the modeller lives in very modest surroundings with little available space, the available workshop space may well determine the model's medium, as well the finished model's size. Since ship models are scale replicas of real ships, the size of the finished model will be dependent on the scale of the model. Therefore for every inch/foot of the original ship the replica will be:

Proportional Scale:

$\frac{3}{8}$ in = 1 foot

$\frac{1}{6}$ in = 1 foot

$\frac{1}{8}$ in = 1 foot

1 in = 50 feet

1 in = 100 feet

Fractional Scale:

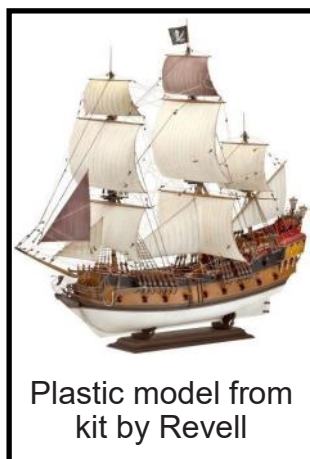
is a scale of 1:32

is a scale of 1:72

is a scale of 1:96

is a scale of 1:600

Is a scale of 1:1200



Plastic model from
kit by Revell

It must also be borne in mind that the larger the finished model, the more detail and precision is expected to make it look right, and the longer it will take to build the model.



DINNER AT SEALS

Seven members (some along with their spouses and family) had dinner at Maroubra Seals in late January. The dinner was organised at very short notice and was particularly appreciated by the ladies who otherwise put up with our grumpy members when they are not at the Shed.



From John Mills,
Midlands Men's Shed



Billabong, Bogan River at Nyngan

Photo by Richard Cortis, July 2022