

**OFFICE BEARERS:**

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**Vice President:** Alan Ritchie  
**Secretary:** Graham Ethell  
Telephone 9522 7674  
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**Assistant Treasurer:** Alan Ritchie  
**Project & Training Sub-Committee:** Bob Davis,  
Stan Kirkman, Peter Mott, Alan Ritchie,  
Andrew Ryan, David Whitney & Warwick  
Tame.  
**Librarian:** Roger Walsh  
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Warwick Tame, Ken Tyson, Ian Rudd & Bill  
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**Welfare Officer:** Peter Mott  
**First Aid Officers:** Graham Ethell & Alan  
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Seligmann (media) & Kevin Winter  
**Property Sub-Committee:** Richard Cain,  
Malcolm Armstrong, Graham Ethell, Bill Lewis  
& Peter Mott  
**Toymaking:** Malcolm Armstrong, Barry  
Gardner, Roger Dixon, Ian Rudd, Ken Tyson  
& Kevin Winter  
**Woodcarvers' Liason:** Kevin Winter



## *Our Day at Gymea*



We had a most successful day at the Gymea Village Fair held on Sunday 26 October, 2014. Most thanks must go to the efforts of Secretary Graham for organising our Club's participation in the Fair. Also many thanks to the 9 members who looked after the stall all day starting from around 7:30am to 4pm and endured the heat. The Gymea Village Fair has been held for many years. The main strip shopping street from President Avenue to The Kingsway becomes a Fair Ground with over 200 stalls and possibly over 40,000 people. It is a great day out.

It is thought that members and persons interested in our Club would also be interested in the vast variety of goods our members have made and presented for sale to the public to help with maintaining our Club finances. Very rarely we see this range of items made because most things seen at our Lilli Pilli Workshop are bits of wood being works in progress. The following photos show what was on offer at Gymea.

....Continued  
page 3



## Member Profile: RICHARD CAIN

### Member No.234

During the Blitz, Richard was born in Liverpool, England on 9<sup>th</sup> March 1943. His siblings were two sisters, Anastasia died aged 2 years and 9 months and adult Patricia died during December, 2013.

Richard's mother Anastasia survived the death of Richard (his Dad) killed in a work accident on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 1949.

(Our) Richard became the virtual male head of the house when just 6 years old. In 1947 Richard contracted poliomyelitis when only 4 years of age and was in treatment for 8 years followed by outpatient treatment for serious varying lengths of time.

Richard began his few years of education at Saint Anthony's, Scotland Road, Liverpool in 1951. He continued at St. Oswald's from 1954 to 1958 when he left school at 15 years of age. He then undertook a trade course as a Boiler Maker when just 16 years old. Following 5 years of study he qualified and began working at English Electric using his Boiler Maker skills.

1964 was a very busy year for Richard. At the 'ripe' age of 21 Richard married Linda (18). The newly married couple moved to New Zealand, arriving at Wellington.

Almost immediately Richard was employed by the Shipping & General Engineering Firm of Cable, Price & Downer.

Son #1 Michael (now Director of Central Signs, Taren Point) was born in 1966 at Wellington NZ. Richard, Linda and baby Michael moved from New Zealand to Sydney in 1967.

Within 2 days of his Australian arrival Richard worked for the next 12 months for Joy Manufacturing, Kent Street Mascot, making and fabricating Mining Equipment.

Another career change in 1969 took Richard to the makers of boilers and pressure vessels :- Bernard Smith at Alexandria. He was made Shift Charge Hand in 1969 and then Shift Foreman the following year.

Son #2 (Tony) currently a very busy Refrigeration Contractor was born in 1970. Three years later saw the arrival of daughter Jillian. The Cain family was growing and consolidating.

Richard's final employment change came in 1976 when he joined the Shell Company (Australia) at the Clyde Refinery. Richard was Refinery Operator continuously for the next 25 years until made redundant aged 58 years in 2002.

Being unsatisfied with his working life achievements Richard undertook TAFE courses in Ceramic Tiling and Woodwork supplemented by general house maintenance and assisting on occasion his 2 sons in their Businesses. Occasionally he finds himself the extra hand in each of his son's Works.

Richard joined the Shire Woodworking Club (SWC) in 2008. He is a highly valued member who takes small and large challenges in his stride. The Club appreciates his 4 years running the SWC Catering Corps.

With Ian Mc Rae & Graham Ethell he is one of the prime movers of the Bunning's BBQ fund raisers.

Richard's accomplishments in the woodworking area include a steady and remarkable rise in quality and variety. These units include Jewelry Boxes, Bread Boards, Tables and Chopping Boards usually for family members.

Richard Cain is a man intensely proud of his 3 children and 5 grandchildren. He delights making wooden things for them and seems to always be available at problem times. Richard's aim is to continue honing the skills he has learned at SWC. He appreciates the guidance & help generously given him, particularly from Bill Lewis, Ian Rudd, Roger Dixon, Barry Gardner and all who make time to listen to his problems.

**No Council clean-up is safe from Richard's scrutiny. ! ! !**

*Fred Seligmann*



### Raffle Prize Winners

#### **OCTOBER 2014 MAXIDAY**

<b>1st Prize:</b>	<b>Bill Riley</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>2nd Prize</b>	<b>Ron O'Malley</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>3rd Prize</b>	<b>Ron O'Malley</b>	<b>\$ 5.00</b>
<b>4th Prize</b>	<b>Warwick Tame</b>	<b>Bottle of Wine</b>

If you would like to receive this  
Newsletter please email the editor at  
**shirewoodworking@bigpond.com**

### **MAXIDAY: SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER, 2014...AGENDA**

8:45am	Open Lilli Pilli Workshop
9:00am	Monthly Meeting
9:30am	Video Laminating & Glues
10:00am	Morning Tea
10:30am	Show & Tell
11:00am	Laminating with Bob Davis
12:00noon	Lunch
12:45pm	Boree Log Resawing
2:00pm	Raffle Draw
2:15pm	Members own projects
About 4:00pm	Close





We were pleased to welcome our Local State MP Mark Speakman to our stall at the GyMEA Village Fair. The photo above shows Richard, Graham, Gary, Warwick and Mark with Fred bringing up the rear.

Our Raffle winners on the day were:

1st Prize: The Warwick Tame produced Model Truck went to ticket B42 Karen Edwards. Congratulations Karen.

2nd Prize : The large knitted doll went to ticket C40 Mark Speakman. Mark advised that he doesn't have any grandchildren (or not that he knows of) so would like to donate it to the Children's Hospital, Randwick which we will do at our next delivery of goodies to the hospital. Many thanks Mark.

## Library Matters

We have received the December 2014 Issue 243 of Fine Woodworking. As usual some good reading available:

**Methods of Work:** Easy jig for squaring tablesaw miter gauge,

rubber-band brush wiper, magnetic vise-jaw pads prevent bite marks.

**Tools & Materials:** Rikon's table saw, tenon saws, simple setup jigs for lock-miter joints,

**Handwork:** Making custom mouldings

**Feature Articles:** Build a Blanket Chest, Custom Cauls For Tricky Glue-Ups, Add a pull-out desk to any chest of drawers, Make a table from a board, The Windsor Chair

**Tool Test:** Midsize fixed-base routers,

**Master Class:** Housed double tenons – strong and simple

We also have received the latest **"Tools and Shops Annual"** Issue from the Fine Woodworking people. Some good reading with feature articles as follows:

Chisel handles that fit your grip, 14 inch Bandsaws, A mini-bench that has all the features of a full-size bench, a comparison of eight models of miter gauges, easy to build router table, a review of spindle sanders and an adjustable work support.

Also some good articles in the methods of work, tools and materials, fundamentals and maintenance sections

The Magazines are available from the club library.

Happy woodworking.

*Roger Walsh, Club Librarian*

## AROUND THE BOREE LOG



*"The years have turned the rusted key, and time is on the jog; Still, spend this fleeting night with me around the boree log."*

These are the last two lines of an Australian Classic ballad by John O'Brien (alias Father Hartigan). The word "Boree" is not uncommon around Australia. It is the name of roads, businesses, parks even towns and many other things. There was even a silent movie made of the poem in 1925.

Well what is a "Boree Log". Barry Gardner managed to obtain a Boree Log (see photo above) from friends in Narrandera and will bring it down to the Club for all to see and maybe do some resawing to see what it is like under the bark..

Boree is the common name of a wattle tree. It is also known as a "Myall" tree. Obviously being a Wattle its botanical name is *Acacia Pendula*.

What does the tree look like?

It grows to around 13m high, with a rounded crown of drooping, grey-green foliage and rough grey-brown bark. The Leaves are leathery, densely hairy when young and the tree produces small, sparse, globular yellow flowerheads, 2-4 per cluster; flowering mainly winter to spring, but irregular depending on season.



The timber is hard, heavy, dark and fragrant and is used for fence posts, fine joinery, turning and makes excellent firewood.

The wood being as excellent firewood was the inspiration for the John O'Brien poem. Many a yarn can be spun around a campfire at night with a wood that continues to give good light and heat for long periods.

Also the foliage of the Boree is palatable to livestock and therefore becomes very useful in drought conditions. Our Parrots also enjoy the Boree seeds.

*Do you have the PDF File or a hard copy of the November 2006 edition of SAWDUST & SHAVINGS*

If so may I ask you to email me the PDF copy or lend me the hard copy to enable me to scan it so I can complete my files on past copies of this Newsletter. My November 2006 files have somehow been corrupted.

Many thanks

Barry Gardner, Editor  
shirewoodworking@bigpond.com

## The Al Usherwood Award of Excellence Honour Roll

**2013 Warwick Tame**



**2012 Warwick Tame**



**2011 Bill Riley**



**2010 Bob Davis**



**2009 Trevor Nicholson**



**2008 Barry Gardner**



**2007 Gavin Wenham**

**2006 Ray Schofield**



**2005 Ken Phillips**



**2004 Barbara Willemsen**



**2003 Bill Lewis**

**2002 Trevor Nicholson**

## The Al Usherwood Award of Excellence

Each year for the last 12 years we have honoured one of our late members with an **Award of Excellence** in his name. This award sponsored by our Club was offered to members of the Clubs who were resident at the Cubby House at Oyster Bay. Your Committee in 2012 determined that in future years the award will be offered to members of Clubs who reside at our Lilli Pilli Workshop. Members therefore of these Clubs are offered to submit one or more wood items they have finished during the 2014 year at our meeting at the Lilli Pilli Workshop this year

on Saturday, 13 December, 2014 for judging by the panel of judges. Please see the rules below.

So we look forward to you submitting that masterpiece and getting your name on the honour board for posterity.

### THE RULES

1. The competition will be held annually and will be called
2. "The Al Usherwood Award for Excellence".
3. The judging panel will be Bill Lewis, Ron O'Malley and Alan Shoebridge.
4. Should any of the judging panel enter any category of the competition or a casual vacancy exists, a replacement judge will be appointed by the other members of the judging panel for that occasion.
5. Without precisely defining "Excellence" the entries will be judged according to the very highest standard and no award will be issued if, in the opinion of the judging panel, those standards are not met.
6. The competition will be open only to financial members of the two clubs which are:
  - 4.1 The Shire Woodworking Club Inc
  - 4.2 The Woodcarvers Club
 and includes their successors and assigns.
6. Any item(s) made primarily of wood is eligible for entry but must have been made by the member and been finished within the previous twelve months and can only be entered once.
7. Items are eligible for entry to any section of the competition and entrants are to nominate the category for each entry submitted.
  - Best toy
  - Best item or setting of furniture
  - Best art piece
  - Best utility piece
8. The Al Usherwood Award for Excellence will be given to the winner of one of the four categories above if the standard is considered to be high enough.
9. Prizes will be as follows:
 

The name of the annual Excellence award winner will be recorded on a plaque mounted on a large wooden shield affixed in a prominent position on the wall of the Shire Woodworking Club premises.
10. The winner will be presented with a Certificate of Excellence. A Certificate of Merit will be awarded to the winners of the other categories.
11. Entries are to be submitted to the Shire Woodworking Club Inc at the Lilli Pilli Workshop on, or before, 10:00AM on Saturday 13 December 2014. Suitable security arrangements will be made with the owners while the entries are with the Shire Woodworking Club. Judging will be completed on that date. Items are to be collected after the judging on that day.
12. Each entrant should complete an entry form which will include the details required in paragraphs 6 and 7 above. Entry forms will be available from the Secretary.



## FROM THE BARREL TO THE PLATE (platter)

Annette & I enjoy a mid week break in & about wineries during the year, not big on wine tasting, except over dinner. Have noticed several interesting "things" in tasting rooms made from recycled barrels, things I thought "I could do that". By process of gauging others reactions to "things", platters seem most popular.

### How to make a platter?

A barrel will generally make 7 platters, depending on your choice of width and 2 ends, for lazy Susan's or clocks.

Obtain a barrel preferably one not too well used, for max. stave thickness. I buy from a contractor in the Hunter Valley who can offer a variety of barrels. It's COD and pick up only.

Caution. Moist barrels are nearly impossible to dismantle, they need to stand in the sun for 3 to 4 days to have the stave shrink enough to slip/belt the hoops off. Make sure a barrel can fit in your vehicle or ask if power is available & take an angle grinder and cut the hoops off. eBay is an alternative but often \$ asked are too high &/or barrels are very old.

A platter proportion, of about 460mm long x 320 to 360mm wide (finished size) looks good to me.

Mark the centre of the length of the staves, mark 240mm each side of the centre mark (i.e. giving 480 platter lengths) and b/saw the end off each stave. Don't worry about clean up of this b/saw cut end at this stage.



Staves will have a crystallised residue on the inner surface and on some staves 'blisters' from the ingress of the wine. I use a 40grit carbide chip disk in my 100mm angle grinder; Disc cost \$10.00 from a tool shop. Lightly grind off the residue and smooth the "blisters". Smoothing the blisters may uncover a cavity in the stave. This can be glued down and filled with coloured putty or discarded. Your choice.



### Caution.

Grind only lightly. Hold the grinder at a low angle r/hand up, move from left to right. DON'T go back with the leading edge of the disk moving into the wood this will cause a "dig in" and can spoil the stave. Don't grind out the entire colour.

With a smoothing plane, plane the sides of each stave till no light can be seen when holding two staves together. This is my personal choice, I like to see a no gap finish in the finished platter. For myself, I check the fit of a joining staves for a gap of no more than .002 thou. using a feller gauge. A sheet of 120 grip s/paper between each stave can also reduce the gap. (now we are getting fussy).

Lay the staves out on the floor and select staves to give the desired platter width. Number each stave i.e. for platter 1, - 11, 12, 13, 14. Platter 2, - 21,22,23,24 etc. This enables you to select staves again quickly before you glue up for the correct bowl width you have chosen. I choose to put the wider staves in the centre, narrower to the outside.

Next cut 2 biscuit joints in each stave, only into adjacent faces, not the outer edge of the platter. I use #0 biscuits. I place the biscuits at about 100mm from each end of the stave, this helps stave alignment on glue up. Position the biscuit about 1/3 in from the convex side of the stave, this gives plenty of sanding/finishing thickness. Hold the biscuit machine flat against the now smoothed edge of the stave to make a square to edge cut so the biscuits are on the same plane & aligned. Check biscuit slots from time to time to ensure depth of cut, length alignment & correct angle of slot. I have built a gauge to cut biscuit joint holes at the correct position along the length of the stave. Check for damage to staves adjoining faces, any burrs etc.

Lay staves out in their correct order and group, in preparation for gluing.

### Gluing

This can be tricky. Don't try to glue too many staves into 1 platter at a time. I prepare each adjacent stave, have supply of biscuits ready and I use Titebond 111 glue, two ratchet straps, supply of "Cling wrap", to ensure the ratchet strap does not become a permanent part of the platter. Plenty of newspaper. Apply Titebond to stave edge, fit biscuit, fit the next stave and apply the clamp. If you try to glue too many staves together at one time you can pull the joint open on the convex side of the platter. Keep the clamp pressure on for a half hour or so, unclamp but don't stress the joint for 24hrs.

When the glue has set; Cut each end of the platter down to your desired length (460) on the band saw maintaining a 10 or 12deg. angle to the base. I have built a jig to complete this element. Remove excess glue, sand the convex side of the platter to remove band marks, smooth joint and achieve a reasonably clean finish. I use an orbital sander here.

..... Continued Page 6

## FROM THE BARREL TO THE PLATE (platter) *continued from page 5*

Use a flexible disc in the angle grinder. Smooth the inside of the platter, levelling adjacent staves and trying to leave some wine stain. Sand each end of the platter on a belt sander.

Cut out 2 short legs from the stave off cuts, I discard the croze ends, my personal choice, shape legs to match the platter convex side, splay these legs out at 10 to 12 deg. Glue in place with Tighbond with each leg taper opposite to the other.

To finish off the inside of the platter: It's your choice as to how much work you want to put into this element and who you might gift it to. For the best result I have used various s/paper grades and finish off with fine wet and dry 'burnishing' the concave surface only.

*Consider:* leaving a few 'dings' & 'blemishes' in the platters concave surface. You are producing a recycled item, consider character and 'old world charm'.

Finish off all over with a bees wax. Coat & buff well after the burnish coat is dry.

### THE HEADS (ends)

Heads are slightly oval, when released from the barrel, they relax into a convex shape and remain intact if handled carefully.

The back face. I leave the back face as is.

Make and screw 20 x 20mm hard wood battens to the back face to hold the head together and pull front face relatively flat. Depending on head curvature you may need to make slots in the battens to allow for movement in pulling the head flat. Pull flat slowly, over a few days. Fit at least 2 battens to each head – horizontally, shorter battens may be needed to the top and bottom of the head so as to pull the head flat and hold together.

Sand the outer head face and edge to a degree you choose. What you do now with the head is up to you. Any number of suggestions on the internet.

I prefer to make clocks, incising roman numerals which can be all done with different sized straight chisels, incising typical 'barrel / wine' decorations &/or appropriate quotes.

Sand to finish & apply any finish, I use bees wax usually. Applying with a tooth brush to carves numerals/features. Buff to finish. Fit an appropriate hook to the back face. All done.

*Don Williams*

PS What can you suggest to use the off cut stave ends?



## A Father's Day Gift.

Barry Gardner reported at the last meeting and in the October Newsletter of having received a Father's Day gift from his youngest daughter and family of 5 large very heavy, very dirty, very wet and very smelly logs.

The story behind them was that apparently convicts cut down an Ironbark tree in 1840 to use as a pylon on a bridge along Cowpastures Road near Camden. This pylon was some 170 years later dug up when Camden Valley Way was being constructed. The logs have been housed under cover at Mt. Hunter for the past 5 to 6 years. The photo at right shows some of the wood resawn and a log in its delivered state.

It is amazing to see this timber having been buried in the ground for so long not having any sign of any termite or other insect infestation.

This, we have been informed, would have been due to the total lack of oxygen available in the wet subsoils where the wood had been buried.



However as it dries out it tends to fall apart along the growth rings. Barry advised he tried to dry some of the wood in the microwave oven in the hope the microwaving may bind the wood fibres together, but to no avail. The photo shows the results.

Since the October Newsletter nobody has come forward with a solution to this problem regrettably.

A search on the "net" offered a possible solution of impregnating the wood with a resin. This system required a vacuum method where the wood is immersed in a vacuum tank with the resin and over a matter of hours or days of operating the vacuum pump hopefully the resin is drawn into the timber replacing the water. The resin then hardens and gives a solid piece of wood. However one major problem. The resin system only works with porous woods. Not with heavy fine grained hardwood, particularly Ironbark.

Oh! Well back to the drawing board.





## MAGAZINES & MORE MAGAZINES

We have received a donation for our library from John Reagan of many issues of various magazines:

AUSTRALIAN WOODSMITH  
(issues 80-91),

ROUTING UK Version

(issues 5- 64),

THE ROUTER (issues 22-41),

AUSTRALIAN WOOD REVIEW  
(issues 27-48)

THE AUSTRALIAN WOOD-  
WORKER (issues 73-161).

The library has a full collection of THE AUSTRALIAN WOODWORKER and we subscribe to FINE WOODWORKING so I don't think we need any of the above additional mags. We would like to remove from the library area to conserve space. Have a look and take as you need. We will hold in the library till 08 November after which they will be dispatched to that library in the sky.

Happy woodworking.

Roger Walsh, Club Librarian.

This major Community project is based in the Federal Electorate of Cook with the Hon. Scott Morrison, MP its patron. The major prize raffle the Classic provides is a fundraising platform for local Shire community groups – including sports clubs, local charities, school P&Cs and other community organisations – without themselves having to attract sponsors, arrange prizes, organise events and generate publicity to support their efforts. By pooling resources and holding one annual event smaller organisations can raise significant funds and awareness for their cause through the combined efforts of the Classic's organising committee. Our Club receives 100% of the proceeds from raffle tickets it sells.

Also please note your executive have determined that it would be a good idea to have a stall at South Cronulla Beach Park being the day of the

**“COOK COMMUNITY CLASSIC”.**

This day is on Sunday 23 November, 2014 from 8:00AM to 3:00PM.

We need members to help with this stall. So if you can spend a few hours at the beach then please see Secretary Graham. Our Club will appreciate your help.



## THE SPEAKER BOXES

Finally we are pleased to report that despite floods, rain, storms, technical and design problems and hospitalisation the Speakers seen at right were delivered to Lyn Mason-Norman at Bundeena on Tuesday 28 October, 2014 by President Ray and Barry Gardner.

One might well ask what is this hospitalisation, floods etc. all about. Well it has been well documented previously on some of the early problems we had finding the correct design for the speaker housings. The making of them to the final design was a breeze for Bill Lewis and his fellow cohorts. The electronics proved a little more difficult than first thought but was organised. An initial testing found that one Tweeter speaker was faulty so we had to replace it. Then came delivery. The initial delivery was arranged for Tuesday 21 October with Don Williams and Barry Gardner were to do the job. However that day saw major storms around Sydney with the Audley Weir flooded and the alternate route to Bundeena through the Royal National Park closed to traffic due to fallen trees. Then the delivery was rescheduled but Don could not make it as he was required to have a Hernia operation. So Ray thankfully stepped into the breach. Lyn was very pleased with our efforts and sent along this email.

*“Hi Barry*

*I was just about to contact you re bank details. (Lyn had offered initially to reimburse our Club for the timber costs)*

*I have sent the money across. Plus quite a few extra dollars, which I hope you might spend on a gift for the club members...*

*I can't imagine what, but I know you will know what to do with it*

*I can't thank you enough, and when the Honeybees can get their act together, they (we) will perform at the handover of the speakers, and you will all be invited.*

*There is just a small delay as the Director of the choir's wife is due to have their second child, so he's anxious about committing to dates after mid November.*

*Again, amazing thanks to all of the guys...Roger loved the club soooo much. He always came home happy and brimming with stories about what everyone was up to on their projects.*

*Big hugs to all of you*

*Lyn xxx*

*PS look for your photo on Facebook...its there!”*

(The money we received from Lyn was \$500.00 for which we are most grateful. Many thanks Lyn)



# SHOW & TELL OCTOBER 2014



Richard made these money boxes for his Grandsons. They were made to an Ian Rudd design.



it was made from a piece of Camphor laurel Trevor Lewis brought in with the help of Ian

Rudd we cut the sides out and I cut the top off I used (2) small pieces of a piano hinge and made a small draw for the inside the finish I used (4to5) layers of Cabot's Danish Oil-(oil rich-clear interior-finish) the first couple of coats I used a cloth for the others I used a fine ladies makeup brush a fine rub with (400) Wet& Dry between coats (recommended by Warick) and that is about all –all the best for now –from Peter M



Have you ever noticed the amount of sawdust and shavings that are spread around when using a drop saw. This is despite the dust extraction system generally as part of the manufacturers design and/or what additional dust extraction systems we use.

Well Neil Mathews came up with the idea of keeping the sawdust and shavings spreading around the workshop like confetti with a skirt of heavy canvas that moves with the saw and directs the sawdust and shavings to just the top of the workbench for easy clean up.



Trevor is another member who has taken the plunge into box making. With the help of Ian Rudd and some nice pieces of wood has produced this jewellery box.



When next practising to fold one of our band saw blades think of these poor guys.



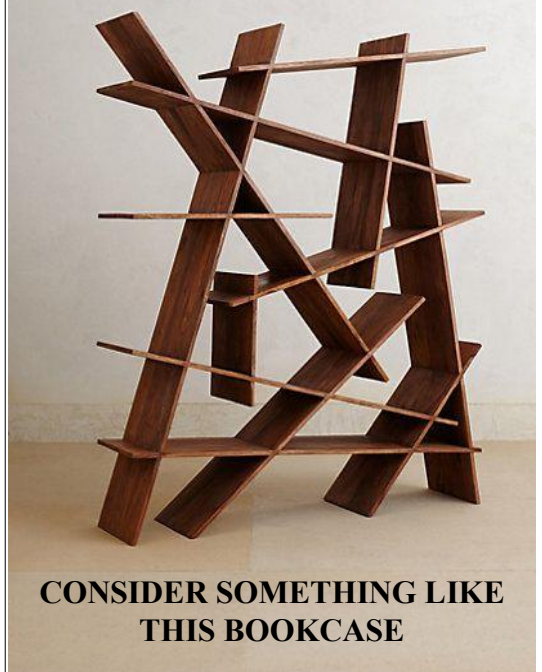
## SHOW & TELL OCTOBER 2014



Secretary Graham produced this "Car Run" and advised "I saw a (very small) photo of this somewhere and thought it looked

good. Decided that curved tracks would look better, even though they were harder to make. Lots of trial & error assembling the tracks on the uprights to ensure the car would work properly. One lesson learnt is that the car wheels have to protrude in front of the car so when it drops down to a lower level, the wheels take over and it doesn't nosedive. The car had to have some running repairs to achieve this."

### WHEN NEXT PLANNING WHAT TO MAKE FOR THE 2015 PLANK COMPETITION YOU MAY



CONSIDER SOMETHING LIKE  
THIS BOOKCASE



Terry showed us some percussion sticks he has made for the Sydney Children's Hospital. Now these sticks are made from a wood called

#### "DEAD FINISH".

You might well ask what is Dead Finish?

Well it is a tree common to the floodplains and along watercourses in arid and semi-arid areas throughout Western Australia, South Australia, southern Northern Territory, and east to near Charleville, Queensland and Brewarrina, New South Wales. Its Botanical name is *Acacia tetragonophylla*. It is also known as Curara.

Where did the name "Dead Finish" come from? It is suggested it comes from Pidgin English "When this tree die, this country, him dead - finish" showing that the Aborigines were aware of the drought hardness of this tree.

The range of colour and figure in some dead finish can be spectacular. It has very little movement during drying and little splitting if the end grain is sealed. The timber is very hard, close grained and heavy but still works well as proved by Terry. It gives a high finish just by sanding.

This tree grows up to 4 metres tall and it is said that the leaves (phyllodes) will remove warts.



## Toymaking

As members know Christmas is coming very soon and during this month we will be putting together toys for the Shire charities we support including

- Project Youth
- Sutherland Shire Family Services
- The John Franklin Christmas Lunch

In addition we hope to make another delivery to the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick this month also.

With these charities in mind and our fund raising stalls on each Wednesday in November at our Lilli Pilli Workshop we have some considerable work ahead of us.

So Members if you have some spare time we can find some toymaking ideas for you to get woodworking or painting items already made by other members.

Please see Barry Gardner to get started.

CHARITABLE  
TOY DELIVERY COUNT  
for 2014 to date

916

## WHAT'S ON!

**Saturday, 8 November, 2014**

*Laminating  
 Show & Tell*

**Tuesday, 11 November, 2014, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Wednesday, 12 November, 2014, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop  
 Lilli Pilli Market Stall*

**Saturday, 15 November, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Tuesday, 18 November, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Wednesday 19 November, 2014**

*9:00am Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop  
 Lilli Pilli Market Stall*

*7:00pm Woodcarvers Meeting*

**Saturday, 22 November, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Tuesday, 25 November, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Wednesday 26 November, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop  
 Lilli Pilli Market Stall*

**Saturday, 29 November, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Tuesday, 2 December, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Wednesday, 3 December, 2014,**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Saturday, 6 December, 2014**

*Woodcarvers Meeting*

**Tuesday, 9 December, 2014**

*Committee Meeting*

**Wednesday, 10 December, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Saturday, 13 December, 2014**

*Al Usherwood Award Judging  
 Our Christmas Banquet  
 Show & Tell*

**Tuesday, 16 December, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Wednesday, 17 December, 2014**

*9:00am Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop  
 7:00pm Woodcarvers Meeting*

**Saturday, 20 December, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Tuesday, 23 December, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

**Wednesday, 24 December, 2014**

*Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop*

## PRESIDENT'S 2014 REPORT

During the October month our members experienced another hot day like the Bunning's day in September where a small number of dedicated members represented our club, this time at the GyMEA Village Fair.

I would like to pass on an appreciation again to those who helped namely Richard Cain, Barry Gardner, Warwick Tame, Alan Davis, Doug O'Hara, Bob Davis, Fred Seligmann and Gary Mitchell. It was a great effort.

However a very special mention needs to be given to Graham Ethell. Graham on top of his active participation in the club and his Secretarial duties made this day a great success with his organisation and detailed planning. Graham, on behalf of all our members, thank you again.

Following on from our Committee and Maxiday meetings of the late we are very close to finalising a new concept for the "Plank Competition". Warwick Tame outlined our ideas and we received some encouraging feedback at our last Maxiday meeting, in particular from one member who based on this new concept heartily advised he would now be an entrant. As previously mentioned our aim was to move our club forward in making the competition more appealing to a broader membership, one of differing skills and readiness to participate. Based on the feedback from members it was very encouraging to get positive responses.

Our next important consideration that we will take over the next few months is in relation to a centralised dust extraction system. I have previously mentioned that with our stable membership numbers we have encouragingly experienced an increased patronage by members on our open days. This puts pressure on the effective utilisation of the limited "open space" in the workshop, the clearing of waste and safety with air flow despite having a number of extraction units assigned to equipment. We are at very early stages as there are a number of technical considerations in terms of the capacity of a centralised unit, its noise output, ducting design with air flow, single and dual connection to equipment, motor sizes and filters as an example. As well there are the financial considerations however we are fortunate that we have a number of experienced business heads that will take us through to ensure we select the best supplier, realise value and have capacity for the future.

This will mean that on installation we will be able to remove the number of free standing extractors around the floor that do take up valuable space. We have received some quotes however due to the not so small differences in price and performance as I prefaced above, it will take a few months. Will keep you informed.

*Ray De Marco*

## Spread the Word.

**Again this year, just in time for Christmas, our Club is having a market stall out front of our Lilli Pilli Workshop selling our wares.**

**This Market Stall will be held on each Wednesday during November 2014 from 8:30am to around 3:30pm each day.**

**The first of these stalls will be held on 5 November 2014**

**Please tell your family and friends.**