

OFFICE BEARERS:

President: Ray De Marco
Vice President: Alan Ritchie
Secretary: Graham Ethell
 Telephone 9522 7674
Treasurer: Bill Lewis
Auxiliary Positions:
Assistant Secretary: Roger Dixon
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
Safety Officers: Roger Dixon, Alan Ritchie, Warwick Tame, Ken Tyson, Ian Rudd & Bill Lewis
Welfare Officer: Peter Mott
First Aid Officers: Graham Ethell & Alan Ritchie
Newsletter Editor: Barry Gardner
Assistant Newsletter Editors: Ray De Marco & Fred Seligmann
Catering Officers: Richard Cain, Trevor Lewis, & Kevin Winter
Equipment Officers: Bob Davis, Alan Ritchie; Roger Dixon, James Windschuttle Ian Rudd, Bill Lewis & Ken Tyson
Raffles: Peter Mott
Exhibitions Sub-Committee: Bob Davis, Ian McRae, Graham Ethell, Fred 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

An Editor's Dilemma!

There were so many things happening in November and the early part of December that it was impossible to decide which should take pride of place on the front page of your Newsletter. So as a compromise photo teasers fill the front page hopefully with the idea they will induce the reader to go to the article in the later pages. *Ed.*



See page 3



See page 2



See page 2



See page 8



See page 5



See page 9



Merry Christmas
and a Happy Woodworking New Year
to all.

St. GEORGE HOSPITAL MRI SIMULATOR



You may recall that back in June this year we were visited at our Workshop by two members of the St. George Hospital staff namely Ms Kim Clinen, the Clinical Nurse Educator and Mr Stuart Ford the Nursing Unit Manager from the Medical Imaging Department. It was then say, a “final inspection” for the MRI simulator constructed by Bill Lewis and upholstered by Doug O’Hara. It was made with some specification input for a slightly enlarged version compared to the one we delivered to the Children’s Hospital at Randwick. In early July and with the help of our members Kim took the MRI back to the hospital.

Kim and Stuart very much appreciated the time, effort and skill in making the simulator and appreciated the expense involved in this project. Through them we were introduced to Ms Mona Dimitry who is the Business Manager in South West NSW for Radiology and Interventional for Bayer Healthcare, a large German based organisation. Mona advised us that she was “delighted to be a part of such a great cause, with Bayer also understanding the benefits to patients”. Bayer through the efforts of all three managed to donate some funds to defray some of our costs, abiding by the Medicines Australia laws under which they are governed. We happily agreed for Bayer to place a plaque on the MRI.

On Friday 15th November Bill Lewis and I met with Mona, Kim and Stuart at the Radiology Department at the hospital to see the installation at its final stage. It was mounted on a large matching platform made by the hospital’s Engineering Department. The initial reception was enthusiastic and it continues today. Stuart informed us that it had effectively reduced both patient and administrative times and even had some adults experience an “initiation” where they expressed concerns about undergoing the procedure.

Recently they had a little boy come in for an MRI and Kim advised us that he climbed into the simulator and then his dad pushed him in and out at the same time listened to MRI sounds they made available for such an occasion. The little boy had his 20 minute scan with only minimal head movement. Kim reported “Success all round! He especially liked that he could see through the tunnel”.

Pictured above from the left is yours truly, Mona, Bill and Stuart with Kim in front of the MRI and platform that is located at the entrance of the Imaging Department.

Ray De Marco



Again this year our November Workshop Wednesday Toy Market proved most successful thanks to the Secretary Graham’s major efforts. Our Club coffers benefited by over \$800 from the market despite the ravages of a major storm that curtailed any selling on the first November Wednesday.



Our friends at Gloria Jeans, Gymea have kindly donated this gift pack to be part of our Christmas Lunch Raffle. You have to be at our Christmas “Banquet” on Saturday 13 December to have a chance of winning it.

Many thanks, Hayley.



Raffle Prize Winners

NOVEMBER 2014 MAXIDAY

1st Prize:	Bill Riley	\$25.00
2nd Prize	Warwick Tame	\$15.00
3rd Prize	Ron O’Malley	\$ 5.00
4th Prize	Ian McRae	Bottle of Wine

**MAXIDAY: SATURDAY
13 DECEMBER, 2014...AGENDA**

8:45am	Open Lilli Pilli Workshop
9:00am	Monthly Meeting
10.00am	Morning Tea
10:30am	Show & Tell
11:00am	Al Usherwood Award entrant introduction and judging
12:00noon	Christmas Banquet courtesy of our Catering Corp.
2:00pm	Raffle Draw
2:15pm	Announcement of Al Usherwood 2014 winners
About 4:00pm	Close



Fred, Malcolm and your editor made another delivery to the Play & Music Therapists at the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick on 17 November. Kevin has made two additional deliveries since then. There were another 553 items some of which are seen in the photo above delivered. This now makes 1,369 items delivered to the Hospital this calendar year.

This list of items were

- ◆ 2 x Difficult jigsaw puzzles
- ◆ 6 x Scroll Saw jigsaw puzzles
- ◆ 2 x Children's books
- ◆ 17 x Playdough rolling pins
- ◆ 6 x Sets of "Dead Finish" Percussion Sticks
- ◆ 1 x Rabbit
- ◆ 1 x Stamp Pad Storage Pidgeon Hole Cabinet
- ◆ 13 x Fendered Cars
- ◆ 20 x Steam Engines
- ◆ 34 x Ladybird Boxes
- ◆ 8 x Keepsake Boxes
- ◆ 1 x Large Knitted Doll (result of raffle at Gymea Village Fair (see Sawdust & Shavings November 2014))
- ◆ 10 x Knitted Hand Puppets courtesy of Barbara Taffe
- ◆ 11 x Knitted Bears courtesy of Barbara Taffe
- ◆ 7 x Bags of Ribbon, Lace, Material and Wool
- ◆ 60 x Percussion Sticks
- ◆ 100 x Bell and Star Christmas cutouts
- ◆ 20 x Star wands
- ◆ 20 x Candles in Saucer
- ◆ 50 x Boomerangs
- ◆ 50 x Guitars
- ◆ 14 x 12" Christmas Trees

Many thanks to all members who contributed again to this cache of goodies to help those sick children make their stay in hospital a little more bearable.

Just as a note a quick look over the past 10 years our Club have provided over 8,000 items to the Sydney Children's Hospital. These items include MRI Simulator; Hope trees; Tables and chair sets; Dolls Houses and Rooms; Worry, Keepsake and Memory boxes; Cars, Trucks, Engines etc.; Knitted and Crochet items, Wooden dolls of all sizes; Guitars; Wooden Rattles; Jigsaw Puzzles; Percussion Sticks; Cutouts; Dolls Beds and Cradle Sets and many other items.

What happens to our wooden dolls?



Our visit to the Sydney Children's Hospital reported elsewhere on this page we were shown a couple of dolls decorated by the children. The one on the left is a "Super Hero" and dedicated to Super Hero Kerry and presented to Kerry Crannis Deputy Manager of the Play & Music Therapy Dept. These are two of the dolls made by our members



Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.

The history of the therapists is most interesting. The first play therapist was employed by the hospital some 39 years ago. Janet the present Manager welcomed 4 of the 5 former managers and commended them for their efforts in bring this fledgling profession into existence.

She continued "As many people here today can attest - Some days it is hard to be part of an emerging profession – it can feel like you have to constantly fight for recognition, for legitimacy ... here at Sydney Kids we are incredibly lucky to have amazing colleagues who embrace our teams skills – and recognise how our presence is an essential component to the journey of the kids and young people in our care.

We would like to particularly thank Professor John Beveridge, Jan Kingston, Virginia Binns, Michael Brydon and Les White for their support, encouragement and belief over many many years – which have seen the team evolve from 1 to 12. There are many others – too many to mention who have and continue to support and advocate for our roles.

Also all of the services who we work so closely with to provide Starlight, Clown Doctors, our Allied Health, Medical and Nursing Colleagues, amazing Admin staff especially Cecile and Jane and our amazing supporters at the Foundation and our Public Affairs Department

I couldn't be prouder of my team here at Sydney Children's Hospital – they have remarkable skills and are a genuinely wonderful group of people to manage. I am especially proud of them for embracing this new title – it wasn't the first choice for many of us – we have a strong history as Play Therapists ... but the team were unanimous in supporting the premise that unity of title around the country will be the first step to strengthening and developing our role in paediatric healthcare – and potentially in other realms.

So thank you all for being here today to celebrate with us ... please join us in our activities throughout the week."

Our Club congratulates the "Child Life Therapists" in forming their Australia wide association and we look forward to continue our support for their efforts in adding some fun for children in their care.

The Al Usherwood Award of Excellence Honour Roll



2013 Warwick Tame



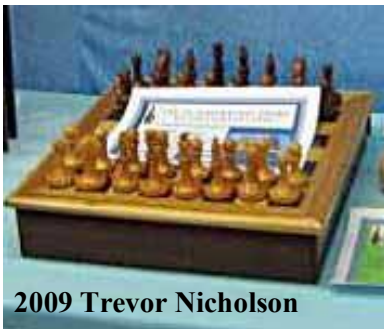
2012 Warwick Tame



2011 Bill Riley



2010 Bob Davis



2009 Trevor Nicholson



2008 Barry Gardner



2007 Gavin Wenham



2006 Ray Schofield



2005 Ken Phillips



2004 Barbara Willemssen
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 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.

Xmas Toy Give Away 2014

At our Workshop on Thursday 4th December we held our third "Xmas Toy Give Away" from Lilli Pilli. We spent time and effort preparing for the day and were rewarded again as it was a great occasion seeing the smiling and appreciative representatives from the three Shire Charities. There were some member wives along with three official guests and members.



Displayed and assembled for distribution were 145 items less than last year as a result of us supplying to the specific requests and needs of the three charities. There were 23 items for The John Franklin Christmas Lunch at Sutherland, 66 items for the Sutherland Shire Family Services at Jannali and lastly 56 items for the Project Youth at Miranda.

Our President Ray opened the get together to an attentive and relaxed audience by extending a very warm welcome on behalf of our executive, committee and members. He then followed by introducing our special guests from the three charities, member wives and official guests.

Starting with the three shire charities Ray introduced Kellie Checkley, the Executive Officer with Kevin their Operations Manager from Project Youth at Miranda, next was Lola Hearn, Administration Manager from Sutherland Shire Family Services at Jannali and lastly Dianne Batty and Margaret Morters from the John Franklin Christmas Lunch at Sutherland.

Next to be introduced namely Councillor Carmelo Pesce, Deputy Mayor of the Sutherland Shire Council, Mark Speakman our State MP for Cronulla and David Ackroyd Manager of Community & Strategy Unit.

Ray gave a background of our Club for the 2014 year covering our total toys count of 1,514, special requests of today, our large size MRI simulators and his recent visit with Bill Lewis to the St George Hospital, The Hope Tree etc.



Carmelo, pictured left, introduced himself and said that he had no idea what to expect but was delighted to see the community and our members taking the time to help those in need. Carmelo started off as a cabinet maker and then became a builder and remarked on the detail and workmanship in the items produced. He then congratulated us all and wished us a very merry Christmas

Mark, pictured at right, introduced himself and expressed his pleasure in being part of today and his gratitude to the club and the 3 recipients for their work in the community. He then wished everybody a merry Christmas



Ray then gave recognition to Barbara Taaffe as our special guest. Barbara is the knitter of all our stuffed dolls and animals given to us during the year and that means working around the clock to produce them in large quantities, 47 of which were on display. Ray later presented a card to Barbara, the card reads:

"For one person you do a huge amount of good to give disadvantaged kids a better Christmas. Thank you so much. Best wishes for a happy Christmas and New Year, from all of us at the Shire Woodworking Club Workshop"



Ray gave the three charities an opportunity to say a few words.



Dianne from John Franklin Xmas Lunch introduced herself and started with thanks to Barbara for the fantastic knitted dolls. Dianne advised that they provided 800 meals last year and that the kids really appreciated the toys provided by the club. She also wished us all a Merry Christmas.



.....continued next page

Xmas Toy Give Away 2014continued from previous page



Kellie from Project Youth introduced herself and explained what they do and that includes housing homeless young parents' age 16-24, run a supportive parents playgroup with young women and provide gifts to teenagers who can't afford to buy their younger siblings a present. Project Youth is very proud to be a partner with our club. Thanks again and Merry Christmas to all.



Lola from Family Services introduced herself and thanked us for the past 4 years of wonderful presents that has helped over 150 families.



Also thanked Barbara for the knitted dolls ending with a Merry Christmas to all. The club was also presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.



Ray invited all to stay on for tea/coffee and cakes and mingle but first a surprise cake presented to club member Bill Lewis on his 93rd birthday.



CHARITABLE TOY DELIVERY COUNT for 2014
1514



Thanks to Roger Dixon & Ray De Marco for this article. Ed.

MOUNTAIN ASH. (Eucalyptus Regnans).

Secretary Graham received a call from a gentleman at Yowie Bay on Wednesday 3 December advising he had some quality Tassy Oak for the Club if we were interested. Richard Cain and your editor ventured to Yowie Bay to have a look and returned to the Club with 36 pieces of wood approximately 1200x150x25mm in packs of 6. 2 of which are seen in photo bottom left.



Your Editor together with Don Williams and Peter Mott processed each chopping off the bolt hole ends and putting them through the thicknesser peeling off sixty years of grime. The result is seen at right. This is beautiful quartersawn Mountain Ash. The timber apparently was installed as a conveyer belt at WD & HO Wills, Rosebury some 60 years ago and was saved from the tip when the factory was demolished. We have stored this timber for use in the 2015 Plank comp



ANOTHER SOLUTION TO A DUST PROBLEM.

Our inventive nonagenarian, Bill Lewis, like most of us in the Club were annoyed at the inefficiency of dust collection around our Makita Compound Cut Drop Saw. We had tried various methods over the years with varying degrees of success. None of which to date had been that satisfactory.

Early last month there was some activity on one of the work benches by Bill and Peter Mott. Questions were asked what were these two up to? It was suggested by one of our members that a "PUNCH & JUDY" stage was being built. Then the question was asked whether this would be the



entertainment at our Christmas lunch. See photo at left.

No it was not a Punch & Judy set but a new dust collection system for our Drop Saw.

The next photo show the saw in the compound cut mode. While the photo at bottom is in

standard cutting mode. Please note the board inserts on either side of the hood. These inserts direct the dust to the collector when the saw is cutting in 90 degree mode.

However when cutting angles and compound cuts these panels need to be removed to allow the saw to swing.

Great job Bill,
Many thanks.



BOB GIVES US A LESSON IN LAMINATING AT OUR NOVEMBER MAXI - DAY



Laminating is the process of using long or straight grain timber, cut into thin pieces, to bend and glue to form the lamination. The pieces are approximately 2-3mm thick and this thickness will vary, dependent on the amount of curve. Therefore, the tighter the curve the greater the need for thinner cut pieces to reduce the possibility of breaking.

Some hints

- Prepare a drawing for a twofold benefit, one to get your design and bends as intended and secondly help to create a template to form the bends.
 - Allow for spring back on removal from the bending template. As a guide only, allow around 5% for thin pieces of say 2mm remembering this varies with different timber species
 - Make an auxiliary fence and a purpose built push block, identical in width, for use on your Triton Workcentre to help create consistently thin pieces (slats) of say 2 & 3mm
 - Use double sided tape on the auxiliary fence positioned past the splitter for better grip
 - Make the push block handle "tall and narrow" for safety when moving through the cutting area. See image lower right with a sample stop/heel profile (for better viewing)
 - Use of a fine circular blade with a narrow kerf to achieve a consistent thickness & less wastage
- Where practical use thinner pieces rather than a smaller number of thicker pieces
- Mark your piece of timber so the slats laminate in the same order,
- Run a test slat and measure against the saw teeth (hard against the auxiliary fence).
 - Pieces should all come from the same timber board to enhance the consistency in timber colour and grain outline; however, use of say, 2 timber species when glued can give a greater visual impact. For example, glue two 2 of the same species and alternate them in your lamination.
 - Remove saw marks to maintain a consistent thickness
 - Use water to soak the timber, preferably overnight

Our Model Maker, Warwick, has been at it again. He has produced, arguably his best to date, a model of a
1911 Mercer Type 35R Raceabout

What is a Mercer you might ask. Well it is an American made motor car. It was built by the Mercer Automobile Company (Est 1909). Specifically it was a car with a 301 cu. in. T-head four-cylinder engine, three-speed manual transmission, solid front axle with live rear axle, and two-wheel rear mechanical drum brakes with a foot-operated transmission brake. Its wheelbase was 108 in. One sold by auction in August this year for a meer US\$2,530,000.



Warwick has advised “The plans I originally purchased were for a Mercer Runabout or close to it. So with a little help from various Mercer web sites I modified the plans to build a 1911 Mercer Raceabout. Working with Australian Red Gum, Jarrah wood and

Mountain ash proved a challenge in making a model 710mm long and weighing around 5kg. The added use of copper I believed enhanced the model although in 1911 it was the age of brass. Many thanks to Richard Cain for supplying me with bits of copper.

The construction over a two and a half month period started with a basic frame layout. The bonnet was made of five pieces of red gum glued and shaped with a pocket plane and finished off on a belt sander. Seats, a back, two sides and a base constructed from Red gum and Jarrah wood. I achieve the contoured shapes using a flexible ruler. The fuel tank next was cut in seven sections, dowelled, glued and turned on a small lathe. In detail I spent all morning at the Club using the drill press fitted with a 95mm bi-metal hole saw to cut these piece out of 25mm Red gum and 10mm jarrah. The reason was to highlight

the end grain rather than veneer the completed piece.

The last part of the

construction prior to making the two guards was the fuel tank support and rear end. This was an unusual shape given the fuel tank rested on a concave support and the rear end had rounded sides and sloping back. When finished a comment by a Club member who shall remain nameless suggested that such a shaped piece would make a good toilet roll holder!! The two guards were perhaps the easiest part of the project cut out on the band saw and finished on the bobbin sander. Making the 165mm spoke wheel was fun. I cut out six wheels and ended up with four. Any person wishing to make spoke wheels I am only too happy to assist. Too much detail to include in this article. I thought the model would not be complete without suspension and a diff. Four leaf-springs were made from Red gum cut along the grain. The diff was constructed out of jarrah and held in place by two leaf- springs. A tail shaft was added along with a muffler and tail pipe. The model was finished in several coats of spray polyurethane and polished with carnauba wax. The only exception being the seats and dash which were finished in a matt/satin varnish.

Any person interested in the history of the Mercer and the Roebbling family, a detailed overview can be found on the Monterey auction web site.”





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.”*

Following on the story in last months Sawdust & Shavings, Barry, at our November Maxiday got stuck into resawing the above log on our 20inch bandsaw. The saw knew it had a job on its hands. The photo below shows the resawn pieces.



As this Wattle had only been cut down within the last six months it still had a very high moisture content. Barry advised that he would rough turn a bowl out of one piece immediately and dry it in his workshop’s old microwave oven. The following photo on left is the bowl before microwaving and photo on right is the bowl after a 10 minute and 5 minute bout in the oven.



Microwaving is a good way to rapidly reduce the moisture content of wood. However it is not advised that you use the kitchen microwave. You might find yourself in strife with your spouse. This is the oven in Barry’s work-shop.



The Club had a stall at the IMB Cook Community Classic Carnival at South Cronulla Beach on Sunday 23 November.

“The Cook Community Classic is in its 7th year. The event has enabled community groups to raise over \$500,000 in that time. It includes a raffle over the preceding months and a carnival at Cronulla Beach on 23 November. This year 50 organisations participated in the raffle, including 10 new ones who

hadn’t participated before, (all together raising \$56,000) and about 15 of these had a stall at the carnival.

The raffle was a significant fund-raising event for the Club. Thank you to the 32 Club members who embraced this raffle so willingly and sold tickets, either to friends and acquaintances or themselves. By the time you read this, the raffle will have been drawn. Good Luck! A vote of thanks again to the sponsors who donated prizes, &/or provided the funds for the administration of this raffle.

Although the financial results for the carnival were below expectations, it was a fun day for those there, and on a hot Sunday it was very pleasant sitting under the trees (between customers) enjoying the nor-easter while the rest of Sydney sweltered. One thing we learnt was that most people went to the beach for a swim and/or to escape the heat, not to spend money at a carnival. The organisers have told me that with the exception of last year, when it poured rain and the carnival was abandoned at 11am, the carnival in previous years showed excellent results as the temperature was in the mid twenties each year and the locals were more out and about.

However, the Club was happy to participate to show support not only to the Patron, but also to the major sponsor IMB and the other sponsors. It was only because of their financial support that the event was able to go ahead.

Thanks to the helpers on the day, Richard C, David W and Ian McR in the morning, and Ray De M, Roger W and Gary M in the pm.

Graham Ethell



As you could guess we have a Rabbits supporter in the Club. Ian Rudd has made this box using the “Origami” method. Are there any more Rabbits supporters?



SHOW & TELL NOVEMBER 2014



Malcolm Armstrong showed us this Rocking Horse and advised "I decided to attempt this

"Antique 1890 Rocking Horse" for the grandkids to ride when they visit. Little did I know what was ahead of me in making it a reality! Trying to get the painting right took as long if not longer than preparing the wooden parts! The plans come from a USA source, www.toymakingplans.com; the cost was US\$14.95 comprising 73 pages of which 47 needed to be printed actual size on the printer. Some are used as an assembly guide and the others are used as templates for cutting out the individual parts.

I kept to the colours indicated on the plans with the exception of selecting a brighter green and red for the rockers to make it look like a "happy horse" for the kids! Other departures from the plan were addition of glass eyes sourced from Colvin Rocking Horses at Kingsgrove (see their web site

www.colvinrockinghorses.com.au).

The plans just had a through hole for the eyes and didn't look right to me; and next, I dowelled the legs to the body as well as glue to make sure there were no unfortunate accidents with legs coming off during a ride!

Overall I enjoyed the project and learnt some valuable lessons on the way. Thanks to the kind club members for sharing their expertise and techniques. Thank you to all those who helped me!"



David produced this Dulcimer and then provided us with a musical interlude to brighten our workshop. He advised "As our members would know I previously displayed my first Dulcimer and gave a short talk. To re-cap, this is an adaptation of the German Zither by the folk of the Appalation Mountains in the USA. There are 3 styles; the elliptical (my first effort and probably the one with the best sound), the hour-glass and the tear-drop which is shown in the photo. The timber used was from the club's own stockpile. A hardwood top and bottom will give a loud sound projection while a softer wood such as cedar or mahogany will give a softer more mellow note. My choice was limited to what I could find in the loft. So much of sound quality also depends upon the set-up of the strings and frets. That is, the frets must all be level and at the 15th fret, the strings must be 2.5 mm higher. I know what is required but do find it very exacting making all the adjustments to get a proper "set-up". On this one, a fret or two is a little out of "correctness". I think this will be my last dulcimer."



Neil Mathews provided photos of his saw bench and advised "We have a weekender "kangaroo farm" property at Rylstone NSW. My workshop shed is about 30 metres from the house.

I needed a saw bench for my drop saw that was easily moved, but rigid when in use. I had some upcoming jobs in the house, & soon to construct a timber framed woodshed. The movable saw bench needed good size wheels that would enable me to move it easily across the yard.

The saw bench was constructed from 75x75mm pine legs (forklift packers) and recycled mattress support planks from an old bed. The top was a scrap of yellow-tongue flooring. The wheels were salvaged from an old golf buggy, and the handle was bent up from an old 16mm towel rail. My only expense was the bolts to hold the bench together.

I cut slots in two of the bench legs to take the wheel axle. This is located between washers & split pins either side of the legs. The axle is secured in place by two loose-fitting 3" gal nails to ensure it doesn't fall out during transit.

The axle & wheels are stored on two slots on the cross members of the bench when not needed.

The system works well, recently traversing the yard to the house, being used to cut architraves, then having to move the lot inside urgently due to a sudden thunderstorm.

The wheel axle can be installed in seconds. Could be quicker if the washers on the axle were fixed. (bit of araldite?)

Works as desired, & no mods or alterations needed. However a bit of paint might make it outlast me."

Don Williams recovering from a hernia operation showed how he is obeying doctors orders by buying a collapsible trolley cart to carry all that wood around.



SHOW & TELL NOVEMBER 2014



Peter has made another tool investment showing us this Twister-a-saw he purchased via a TV commercial in November.



He had not had a go at using it when he brought it along to Show & Tell. It looks an interesting tool

that could be described as an oversized Dremel. Hopefully Peter will give us a report on it when he gets to using it in anger.



Barry showed us this fleet of fendered trucks. The trucks were a combined effort with the fenders cut out by Ray De Marco, the wheels by Bill Riley, the boxes by Ian Rudd with the truck to a Barry design who also built and finished them. The interesting thing is what looks best, the painted or natural wood, or a combination of natural and paint, or blackened or natural wheels. What do members think. The trucks are for sale at our stalls and for giveaways to our Christmas Charities. Likewise was these painted trains. Bodies by Bill Lewis, wheels by Bill Riley and finished by Barry Gardner.



Ray showed this old hand made plane cleaned up by Brad Van Luyt



As members would know Malcolm Armstrong, Gordon McDonald and Gary Halder have taken on the task of making three of the models in the in the "Road Crew" Toys. Because these plans call for different size wheels so Bill Riley volunteered to make them. He provided enough wheels to make ten models of each of the six plans. Many thanks Bill.

There are still three models to make that need builders. If you would like to have a go then let the Toymaking Committee know and they will get you started. The models that need builders are



The first of these toys was made by Malcolm pictured at left (the tipper) and Gordon (the Road Roller)

pictured at far left far left.

The Official Newsletter of the
SHIRE WOODWORKING CLUB Inc. (Reg. No. Y2889524)
"The WORKSHOP", 2B Turriell Bay Road, Lilli Pilli.
NSW. 2229 Workshop Phone (02) 9526 8654
Newsletter Editor Contact: Phone (02) 9541 3018
Email: shirewoodworking@bigpond.com

WHAT'S ON!

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 closed

Wednesday, 24 December, 2014
Club closed

Saturday, 27 December, 2014
Club closed

Tuesday, 30 December, 2014,
Club closed

Wednesday, 31 December, 2014,
Club closed

Saturday, 3 January, 2015
Woodcarvers Meeting

Tuesday, 6 January, 2015
Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 7 January, 2015
Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Saturday, 10 January, 2015
*Pyrography
Show & Tell*

Tuesday, 13 January, 2015
Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Wednesday 14 January, 2015
Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Saturday, 17 January, 2015
Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Tuesday, 20 January, 2015
Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Wednesday, 21 January, 2015,
*9:00am Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop
7:00pm Woodcarvers Meeting*

Saturday, 24 January, 2015
Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Tuesday, 27 January, 2015
Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Wednesday, 28 January, 2015
Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Saturday, 31 January, 2015
Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Tuesday, 3 February, 2015
Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

PRESIDENT'S 2014 REPORT

We have had a busy few weeks of late. There was our participation in the Gymea Village Fair in late October, our Workshop Frontage displays of "Toys for Sale" for Xmas during November and the Cook Classic at Cronulla Beach on the 23rd November. These were followed up with our annual "Xmas Toy Give Away Day" on Thursday 4th December, held at our Workshop.

On reflection, they were successful from the viewpoint that they were evidence of how well our members work together. We experienced great organisation and saw a devotion of time and teamwork in a harmonious environment. The commitment in the production of all these different and sometimes special request items is great. In addition, we have with these events some commendable members who are involved in long hours. These times with early and late finishes, are sometimes not evident to the broader membership.

The Cook Classic was held on a very hot Sunday and it was not one conducive to the public investigating ours and other stands to what we had to offer. They were spending their time in the sea and Graham Ethell remarked how hard it was to receive money for our items on display when costumes do not have pockets. It was a long day for some like Graham who packed his car with items, was there for the 7:30 start and was present all day to the finish. As a follow-up Graham and I attended the Cook Classic presentation at the Council on Saturday 6th. The Hon. Scott Morrison MP recognised our Club for all the toys and charity work we do when presenting our club with a Certificate of Participation "in recognition of our participation in the IMB Cook Classic 2014".

As reported earlier in our newsletter our annual "Christmas Toy Give Away Day" was another relaxed and friendly day. The charities, represented by Lola Hearn, Administration Manager from Sutherland Shire Family Services in Jannali, Kellie Checkley, the Executive Officer Project Youth in Miranda and Dianne Batty, The John Franklin Christmas Lunch in Sutherland were the same very grateful people of last year. I have spoken to all three subsequent to the day and discussed their needs and special requests for the 2015 year. They were again, very thankful to say the least.

We had our Official guests; two from the Sutherland Shire Council namely Councillor Carmelo Pesce representing the Mayor and Community Manager David Ackroyd. Carmelo mentioned when I welcomed him that he had no pre-conceived ideas of our club and asked a number of questions that showed a genuine interest in what we do and Carmelo was pleased to see our members taking the time to help those in need. David was happy to be with us again as a valued regular visitor to our club. We also had the presence of Mr Mark Speakman State Member for Cronulla. Mark is similarly a valued and regular visitor and spends time with us at the Workshop and at various events. A number of members complimented him saying they thought he was relaxed and like "one of the boys". Both Mark and David have been very supportive in the past.

In closing, best wishes to Bill Lewis our Treasurer on his 93rd birthday at our Christmas Toy give away and to Graham, a big thank you again for your organisation and effort for the for the Cook Classic Gymea and Toy Sale activities mentioned above. Also thank you to the others who were present on these days.

Ray De Marco

