

# SAWDUST & SHAVINGS

## OFFICE BEARERS

Convenor - Peter Stanbury

Deputy Convenor - Fred Seligmann

Secretary - Barry Camper

Asst. Secretary - Roger Dixon

Treasurer - Bill Lewis

Training Officer - Barry Camper

Librarian - John Lischeld

Safety Officer - Jan Westerhof

First Aid Officer - Barbara Willemsen

Catering Officer - James Traeger,  
Doug Wickens & Lester McKenzie

Newsletter Editor - Barry Gardner

Equipment Officer - Barbara Willemsen

Raffles - Peter Mott

Project Committee:  
Roger Dixon, Barry Gardner,  
John Lischeld, Peter Mott

Fund Raising Committee:  
Bob Davis, Fred Seligmann,  
Barbara Willemsen

Management Committee:  
Kevin Winter, Jan Westerhof,  
Keith Conolly

## Finger Jointing via Triton Jointer

Jim Traeger ably assisted by Barry Camper demonstrated the use of the Clubs Triton Finger Jointer. This included setting it up and adjusting the fit of the fingers.

Prior to the demonstration a number of members cut wood to size to make finger jointed boxes and these boxes were completed after Jim and Barry's demonstration proving the quality of their presentation.

Thanks Jim & Barry.



## 2004 Plank Competition Under Way



Don't forget the member who is judged as having the best item(s) made from their plank scores half a dozen bottles of wine while the two runners up each get 3 bottles of wine.

All items will be put up for sale at the Cubby House Craft day to be held later in the year with the proceeds either going to a chosen charity or to Club funds for future works.

So get woodworking!!!

The photo above show the planks awaiting the ballot for them. There are 20 starters for the competition and the Club has 2 planks available to other members who may wish to have a go at the competition.

The rules were set down in our March 2004 issue of Sawdust & Shavings . You have until our Maxi day 14th August, 2004 to complete your masterpiece(s).

### New Item of Equipment:

Our property officer, Barbara has advised that as a result of problems experienced when constructing those magnificent kitchen cupboards the Club is now the proud owner of a right angle chuck. Which like all the Clubs other items of equipment are available to members for their personal use. See Barbara.

*In the  
"Good Old Days"  
we were told to  
think about the  
future; but if a  
fellow stops to  
think these days,  
the future is  
already here.*

## PROFILE: DOUG WICKENS No. 168

I was born in Bankstown in 1921 when Bankstown had plenty of paddocks, trees and open spaces. In 1926 started school at Bankstown Central and the Belmore Technical College. I hated school, loved sports days, woodwork, metalwork and tech drawing and wished to forget the rest.

1935 was when I left school when jobs were scarce but obtained at night shift job in an engineering shop.

Apprenticeships were practically unobtainable. I moved to other engineering nightshift jobs at 15/- per week. So in 1938 being fed up I joined the Navy. After the first 8 weeks of rifle drill and little else with the exception that "in December 1938 we were fighting bush fires, we settled into learning some seamanship. Ropework, knots & splices, bend & hitches, anchor work, mooring ship, steering by gyro compass and then magnetic compass, rowing, sailing, navigation, lights, flags, semaphore, Morse by flashing light, rules of the road at sea (yes, there are international laws of the sea), gun drill, torpedoes, mine laying and mine sweeping, in between trips to sea in an old World War 1 heavy cruiser "The Australia". In June 1939 we got 2 weeks leave and a free pass home, wonderful. August 1939 finished our 10 months of training, drafted to a ship based in Sydney.

Always wanted a motor bike, shopped around second hand bike shops, hundreds to pick from, needed a few more pounds deposit, however, but it was not to be. Hitler threw a spanner in the works, war was declared on 3rd September, 1939. I was recalled that night, Mum was most upset. Things changed dramatically, a race to get the ship on a war footing. Sailed to New Zealand (hurrah! I've been overseas), then Brisbane, Melbourne, Freemantle, Albany, Colombo, Bombay, Capetown, Freetown, Scotland, Scapa Flow, Artic Ocean. I now had the honour of working both day and night shifts, 4 on 4 off. The ship in need of repairs, docked in Liverpool, UK. Germany was not happy with us, liked to light fires every night. Home late 1941, quick upgrade and off to the Med. Given a draft to a new state of the art destroyer, HMAS Nestor, 2000 tons, 34 knots, 40,000hp. All the good gear, radar, new but effective. More trouble, Japan wants a piece of the action. Out of the Med into the Indian Ocean, June 1942, back to the Med. Big operation to get supplies to Malta. Off we go (I now have the honour of working all the time, closed up in action stations all the time. 15th June near miss by two 1,000lb bombs, one of which hit the mast, went down the ships side and blew a large hole in No.1 boiler room, flooded 2 watertight compartments and started fires and we lost all power. We were now in big trouble. Fires out by 1800 hours, taken in tow by RN destroyer, HMS



Javelin. Too much water on board, kept snapping tow lines and the towing ship in great danger. 0700 the next morning abandoned ship. Our new ship 15 months old gone forever (a night to remember). So they gave me another ship HMAS Norman. (I would have much rather gone home to Mum). Out of the Med to Cape of Good Hope convoys with big losses to long range U boats. More convoys up to Bombay, Ceylon, Durban, Free Town, Walvus Bay. 1944 home again, into hospital, discharged medically unfit.

Married Betty 18th August 1945, very hard to settle down, in and out of hospital, I don't know how Betty put up with me, but we made it. Son Colin was born in 1951 and daughter Rhonda born 1954. Now have 4 grandchildren. Had numerous jobs, finished up in retail, retired early due to ill health. In 1985 had By-pass surgery under Dr Victor Chang, 2000 saw another bypass operation followed by back surgery.

My hobbies are gardening, stamps, amateur radio, woodturning and last but not least the Triton Club where I get help and advice freely, you're a wonderful crew.

We still have a 7th destroyer Flotilla Association, but we are getting very thin on the ground. I have some wonderful, long standing friendships with some of my shipmates.

The Navy still keeps in touch with us, we get invites to sea trials, commissioning of new ships etc. Complex pieces of machinery now, the gun ships have gone, ships now have only close range weapons and guided missiles.

PS: What Doug failed to mention in the above is that HMAS Nestor is credited with the sinking of the German U-Boat U127. Doug is also one of the most important persons in our club being part of the catering crew.

**Raffle Prize Winners— April Maxi Day**  
**1st Prize** Casten Schmitz-Peiffer  
**2nd Prize** John Steadman  
**3rd Prize** Barry Camper

### EMAIL ADDRESSES

Get your copy of "Sawdust & Shavings" in full glowing colour each month. Simply provide Barry Gardner, your Editor, with your email address so that a copy can be e-mailed to you when published.

### Al Usherwood Award

This Triton Club initiative is a most prestigious award and will again be given in October this year for excellence in woodworking.

Entries are open to members of the Triton Club, The Woodturners and The Wood Carvers. So start making that something special for entry into this competition.

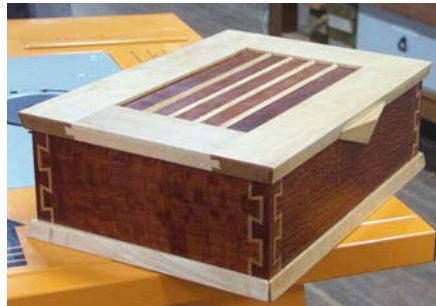
## MAY SHOW & TELL



Barbara Willemsen showing her newfound expertise in marquetry. Barbara also brought along the veneer press to show how it was done.



The small clock at top of photo is Fred Seligmann's finished product from our January Maxi Day theme "Clocks from Scrap". Fred also displayed his round picture frames with his wife's excellent needlework. The large clock is Jim Traeger's presentation.



John Steadman displays his relief framed figurine jazz band.



Bert's trays with Barbara's pyrography



Members will recall Jim Govan's Incra Jig presentation at our December 2003 Maxi Day. Well Jim is proud to present the double dovetailed and wooden hinged box he started on that day. The double dovetailed joints really do look smart as do those hinges.



## WOODTURNERS HONOUR BOARD

As can be seen from the following photographs, work has started on the Honour Board. The board is Australian Red Cedar and is to be framed with Silver Ash



## TRITON CLUBS 3 DAY CONVENTION

The Convention will be held at the Canberra Institute of Technology—Bruce Campus from Friday 24th September to Sunday 26th September.

### PROGRAM

**Day One**—Speakers, experts in their fields presenting on a range of topics with demonstrations of Jigs, pyrography, woodturning and scroll-sawing.

The Convention Dinner will be held later in the evening.

**Day Two** - Practical demonstrations and presentations. A Triton hosted demonstration and sausage sizzle will be held this evening at a major retail outlet. This event will feature a number of selected Triton products at discounts on normal retail prices.

**Day Three**—Presentations and practical demonstrations including a special presentation on setting up and getting the best from your Triton work-center and selected attachments.

### CONVENTION FEES

All attendees receive Lunch, Morning and Afternoon Tea on each day.

**\*3 Day Option** (Attend all 3 days) \$140 (pay by 1 September \$130) **Note:** Includes Convention Dinner on Friday night

**\*2 Day Option** (Attend any two days) \$100 (pay by 1 September \$95) **Note:** Convention Dinner **not** included

**\*1 Day Option** \$55 (pay by 1 September \$55) **Note:** Convention Dinner **not** included

**The Convention Dinner.** Guests and casuals are welcome (\$25.00 each). Full details can be obtained from site:

[www.toact.org.au/convention\\_main.html](http://www.toact.org.au/convention_main.html)

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***Whats On?***

**Saturday, 12th June, 2004**  
*Unusual Timbers, Coconut's etc  
& their uses*  
*Bill Lewis*

***Show & Tell***

**Wednesday, 16th June, 2004**  
*Kitchenalia*  
*Ken Long*

**Committee meeting**  
**Monday, 5th July, 2004**

**Saturday, 10th July, 2004**  
*Exotic & Unusual  
Boxes*  
*Jim Govan*

*Picture Framing  
Demonstration*  
*Phil Frisardi*

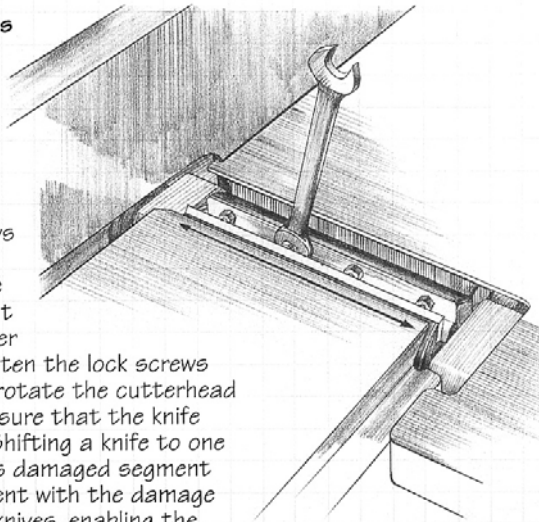
***Show & Tell***

**Wednesday, 21st July, 2004**  
*Exotic & Unusual  
Boxes*  
*Jim Govan*

## SHOP TIP #18

### Shifting knives for longer life

To prolong the life of a set of jointer knives that have been nicked, loosen the lock screws securing one knife and slide the knife about 1/8 inch in either direction. Tighten the lock screws and carefully rotate the cutterhead by hand to ensure that the knife turns freely. Shifting a knife to one side moves its damaged segment out of alignment with the damage on the other knives, enabling the set to continue cutting smoothly.

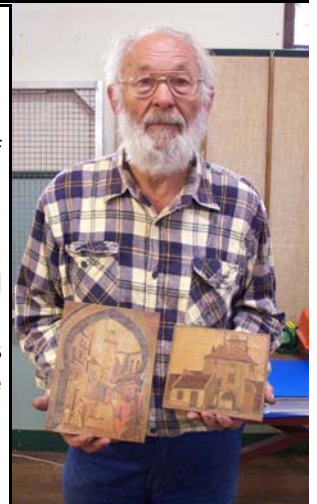


With thanks to "The Art of Woodworking" Time Life Books

## Wartime Marquetry!

As part of the May Maxi Day Show & Tell Jan Westerhof brought along two pieces of marquetry that he made with a pen knife and little else while hiding from the Germans in a cubby hole between the roots of a tree in a forest area during the Germans occupation of Holland during World War II.

Jan's skills are even more remarkable in that not only was he a teenager at the time when he made them, they have survived to this day in excellent condition.



**JOHN REAGAN**  
demonstrates his  
alternate finger  
jointing jig at our  
May mini day.



## CONVEYNOR'S MESSAGE

There was a great response to the plank competition and a few planks still remain so let's see some more entries, not forgetting that these items are eligible for the Al Usherwood award. One member was taking the easy way out by making a diving board. Well to each his own. As this competition is all about having fun I am sure that there will be some unique items come out of all of this so go for it

GOOD WOODWORKING.

Peter Stanbury. Conveynor