



REDWOOD

Newsletter of the Redcliffe and District Woodcraft Society Inc.

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Redcliffe and District Woodcraft Society Inc.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to my November report, our new data projector and screen has been trialled with the screening of our recently completed Training and Safety Video. This will be a great asset to our club and put to good use throughout the year. More videos to come with the bandsaw already a work in progress.

Our Competency Training Program has finished for the year and will resume in January. Coordinators, Assessors and Trainees have been very busy throughout the year with many members gaining operator status. Great to see that we also gained a few new assessors to assist with this important aspect of our club. Thanks to all who assisted in any way. All members will be encouraged to attend our annual refresher courses scheduled for March next year.

Our last workshop day for this year will be Tuesday 16th December. This will be a combined Working Bee and Cleanup day with no working on personal projects. The aim is to be finished by 10.00 when we will have a special morning tea to celebrate the end of a busy and successful year of comradeship and making the odd woodcraft item. The morning tea will only be partly catered for, so are asking for some members to bring a few goodies to help in the celebration.

Our Christmas Lunch scheduled for Wednesday 17th December is not far away, and I hope to see many members attending this great social event. Please ensure your name is on the list if you intend to be there. Once again, we will have lucky door prizes, and several raffles so bring lots of change (preferably 5- and 10-dollar notes) and join in the fun. We have already received some outstanding items for the raffles and encourage all members to support our club by donating an item or two by the end of November for the hampers. Lunch menus will be available on arrival after 11.30am.

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Presidents report (continued)

This will be the last Redwood for 2025 to give our hard-working editor a break and I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing contributions to our club and committee. I wish you all a happy and carefree time during the Christmas break. 2026 is going to be a busy year so enjoy your break.

Ernie Hobson
President



And the band played...

Musical Instrument Makers Coordination at RDWS

In a band/orchestra, you have different instruments (strings, brass, percussion) each contributing unique sounds.

In a woodcraft club, members may specialize in carving, turning, scroll-sawing, box-making, toy-making, pyrography, musical instrument making or finishing — each skill adds to our collective craft.

Musicians must play in sync to create a unified piece.

Woodwork clubs also need to be in sync so that members can create and work together like parts of a symphony!

This year, in response to increasing numbers of Musical Instrument Makers (MIM) and to further improve our harmony and coordination as the club, our RDWS Management Committee has recently established a new MIM Coordination Sub Committee consisting of: Chris Taylor, Ian Hunter, John Gorrett, Richard Scriven, Steve Baker and Thad Ikihega.

This initiative has been warmly welcomed and supported across the club. It acknowledges and celebrates the outstanding and generous contributions of both Richard Scriven and Maurice Coutanceau in establishing and running the MIM section over many years.

Over the past few weeks the new MIM Sub Committee has focused on:

- Developing new MIM orientation/induction documentation and processes;
- Creating a consumables and small tool inventory;
- Researching improved cupboard organisation options;
- Clarifying purchasing processes for use of funds from the new MIM Group levy;
- Preparing a basic woodworking skills & orientation course for new members;
- Reviewing MIM mentoring and instruction processes;
- Establishing a maintenance protocol for MIM tools;
- Coordinating with the RDWS Management Committee by attending Monthly Meetings and providing updates and requests when needed;
- Keeping MIM members involved and informed of coordination developments and progress.

It is still early days yet, but the band is beginning to play and be in even more sync with new and experienced Musical Instrument Makers across the club. With your help and continued support we look forward to lots of good music! Stay tuned!

Ian Hunter



Multiple Plugs



DRAWING BY MELANIE POWELL

Faced with cutting hundreds of plugs for a big project, I came up with this idea: I cut the plugs a little deeper than needed. Then I ran strips of masking tape down the faces of the plugs. When I cut them free on the bandsaw they stayed stuck to the tape instead of scattering all over the floor.

— Geoffrey Peake (Wyoming, Ohio)



Some of our new shelving units in place and re-stacked with Marilyn supervising 😊



Marilyn singing the praises of the advanced turning workshop conducted by Barry Spillman accompanied by participant fellow members.

Show And Tell



Michael Lederman with his latest Wall Art creation.



Barry Spillman with his rejuvenated walking staff and another magic wand.



Franie McGuigan explaining how he prepares and makes a Celtic design pen blanks



Rod Meier admires his first box



Tamara Curtis with her beautifully crafted stork sculptures and her latest adventure with toy cars and a snowman for Christmas.



Kevin Watt's is very happy with his first box achievement.



Geertruda Window and her yarn bowl turned from mango with the thread hole cut out using a jigsaw.



Michael Culwick displayed and talked about the carving of this wine bottle, grapes and the reason for the holder and the 'drip' catcher



Ken Rays with his multi axis burl bowl creation, carve and coloured rim.
Ken's WIP Celtic design inset walking cane inspired by Jim McConnachie (FNQ)



John Bright displays his scroll sawed cat face.

Definition of a box:

A box (plural: boxes) is a container with rigid sides used for the storage or transportation of its contents. Most boxes have flat, parallel, rectangular sides (typically rectangular prisms).

As I closedown my workshop in preparation to downsize I realised that I have a need for boxes to hold items that I will need to continue in my woodcraft journey at club activities.

Fortunately I still have some good timber offcuts (and timber) in my stash.

- **Box for router bits:** Selected NG rosewood and WA she oak a box to hold my selected router bits,



- **Box for Leigh Dovetail accessories:** This started out as test pieces to insert dovetail splines and ended up a box using rough saw Bunya Pine from a small tree that I cut from my garden and off cuts of cottonwood (refer **What Tree is that?**)



- **Box for Pyrography equipment:** Rounded up and selected offcuts of NG rosewood



All securely stored and ready for 'mobility'.
Kerry Cameron

Men's Shed 6

Eden, NSW South Coast

The club is only open on Wednesday and Friday mornings but they are trialling opening on Saturday mornings to cater for working men - so I was lucky. According to President, Aaron, the trial is going well. The Men's Shed do wood and metal work, pool is played, and cooking in their fully equipped kitchen and members room.

They do ongoing community projects eg. prizes for fishing clubs and other charitable organisations, including the construction and installation of 10 benches in the wharf precinct surrounding the Eden Visitors Information Centre on behalf of the Eden Port Authority.

They have a focus on supporting men and providing a social setting to get together and reach out to the community in a variety of ways - taking in men with disabilities (special needs, dementia or ambulatory). They have 24 members, but they are not all active.

They are very stern about their philosophy that as a member, yes, you can do your own projects but you must also contribute to club projects. You cannot just come to the club to do your own projects. They have a stall with items for sale when the cruise ships visit and the President Aaron, was preparing trivots for sale. He showed me the range of goods they sell at the stall and pointed out that all members have contributed in some way to producing these items. He pointed out that it is a good fundraiser and I bought a whale chopping board to contribute.

To fundraise they also have a Garage/Car Boot Sale and end of year raffle (with donations from local businesses), a stall at the Eden Whale Festival as well as the stall to sell to cruise ship visitors.

The club are working with the council to build a brand new Men's Shed which will be bigger than their current shed and have a mezzanine area for timber storage.



What tree is that?

Hibiscus tiliaceus, commonly known as sea Hibiscus, Cottonwood, Coast Cottonwood is an evergreen species of tree in the mallow family, Malvaceae, with a pantropical distribution along coastlines. It has also been introduced to Florida and New Zealand. It has been debated whether this species is native or introduced to Hawaii. (Wikipedia)

Like the Moreton Bay Fig, Cottonwood is a common tree in our area, particularly on the foreshores. It is largely ignored by woodworkers as it is not a commercial species, however it has many notable features for a woodturner.

The large heart shaped leaves are shiny dark green on the top surface, light green and hairy underneath, and the flowers are large and yellow. The tree itself is a tangled mass of trunks and branches going in every direction, some of quite useful diameter, but never straight. It is this feature that makes it of interest to turners. It is fast growing and of light to medium density, about 500kg per cubic metre.

The most notable feature of the timber is its colour, when freshly cut it is a medium grey with a greenish tinge. This fades to a light grey as it dries, however when it is finished and oiled it comes up a dramatic dark grey, almost black. The sapwood is a light fawn colour and contrasts nicely with the heart timber. Whilst the sapwood is only 10 or 15% of the timber, it has a sharp delineation with the heartwood and can be very attractive if incorporated in the finished turning. If left in log form it will crack radially from the heart (but so will most timbers), but if slabbed or quarter sawn, and then end grained sealed, it will dry without any major hassles

It turns easily when wet, and responds well to rough turning when drying. When dry it is surprisingly hard and takes a good finish



A typical tree specimen and a jewellery box in the timber.



SPONSOR HONOUR LIST

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



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Abrasiflex Unit 1 22/24 French Avenue Brendale Qld 4500	07 32937001	www.abrasiflex.co..au
Combined Saw and Knife 105-107 Kabi Circuit, Deception Bay 4508	07 3204 0977	https://combinedsaw.com.au/contactus
Eales Concreting	0407 372 324	
Ernie's Electrical Service 13 Hughendon Crt, Deception Bay 4508	07 3204 9866 0419 388 945	https://ernieelectricalservice.business.site/
Lindsay Meyers 11 Grice St, Clontarf 4019	07 3284 5281	http://www.lindsaymeyers.com.au/
Moreton Bay Regional Council PO Box 159, Caboolture 4510	07 3205 0555	https://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/contact/
Utopia Woodcraft , Marilyn Kunde 31 Beech Drv, Cashmere	0403216317	email: zakk@tpg.com.au
Red Poppy Art Collective 95 Redcliffe Pde. Redcliffe 4020	0455963554	www.redpoppyart.com.au
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Sunstate Timbers 72 Lipscombe Rd, Deception Bay 4508	07 3204 253	http://www.sunstatetimbers.com.au/
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Vicmarc Machinery Pty Ltd 52 Grice St, Clontarf, 4019	07 3284 3103	https://vicmarc.com/
Woodland Fitouts 13 Bult Street, Brendale, 4500	07 3205 4188	https://woodlandfitouts.com.a

The Redcliffe and District Woodcraft Society Inc. - General Information

The aim of our society is to promote, encourage and practice the art of woodcraft and similar arts Workshops in woodturning, woodcarving, scroll sawing, pyrography, box making, musical instrument making, toy making, general woodworking, and timber preparation are held in the Woodcraft Centre at 463 Oxley Avenue, Redcliffe. The Society is administered by a Management Committee of eleven members who report to the general membership.

Members meet on Tuesdays for general workshop activities and our weekly "show and Tell" at morning tea where members can show and discuss their creations and be inspired by the work of others. Our Club is also open to members on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings.

The Society has a large range of tools and machinery for members to use and offers regular tuition in different aspects of woodcraft. Our club also conducts a comprehensive system of competency in the operations of its machinery. ALL NEW MEMBERS ARE WELLCOM