

Ingrained

Knox & District Woodworkers Club Inc.

45 Glenfern Road
Ferntree Gully 3156

Volume 10

March 1998

President's Report

The period from the AGM until early March, is always a hectic time both for the incoming Committee and for the members in general. We have now successfully negotiated this period and we can now relax and commit ourselves to more normal activities. We should however, first remind ourselves that these normal activities are only made possible by much behind the scene activity by various groups. The Executive Committee dealing with the Administration, a small group

making themselves responsible for the cleanliness and good order of the workplaces and outside surrounds, the persons who keep the various machines operating and in good order, those guys who regularly journey to Bayswater to replenish our wood supplies and the people who turn up, when required, for various the Working Bees. To all these people, thank you and to other Members, can we count on your future commitment ?

Paddy McCann

Use 0000 steel wool to apply Danish Oil, or other finishes and follow the grain when applying. This will help to get rid of those very fine lines left by the last sandpaper that you used.

leave some nails in a bottle of white vinegar for a couple of weeks and the resulting solution can be used to stain wood a deep black. The actual shade of black will vary depending on the timber used.

Executive Committee 1997/8

President Paddy McCann.. 9 801 0704
Vice President..... David Howell 9 874 6757
Secretary Fred Moore 9 758 2207
Treasurer Dick Kors 9 729 1224
Committee Member .. Bruce Allen 9 754 5774

General Meetings

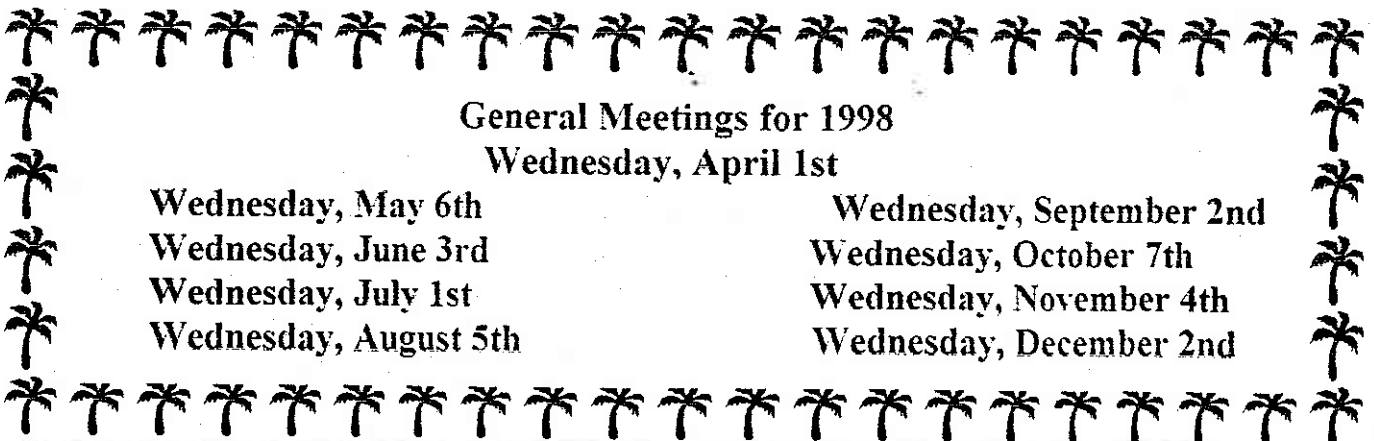
1st Wednesday of each Month, commencing at 7.30 pm

Workshop Hours

Monday 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm	Paddy McCann
Tuesday 10.30 am - 3.00 pm	Paul Phillips
6.30 pm - 8.30 pm	Bruce Allen
Wednesday 10.30 am - 3.00 pm	Peter Sleeman
6.30 pm - 8.30 pm	David Howell
Thursday 10.30 am - 3.00 pm	Paul Aminde
Friday 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm	Bruce Allen

Telephone Numbers

David Howell	9 874 6757	Fred Moore	9 758 2207
Bruce Allen	9 754 5774	Michael Cook	9 758 4379
Paul Aminde	9 758 1733	Paul Phillips	9 762 3829
Paddy McCann	9 801 0704	Peter Sleeman	9 758 1390



General Meetings for 1998
Wednesday, April 1st

Wednesday, May 6th	Wednesday, September 2nd
Wednesday, June 3rd	Wednesday, October 7th
Wednesday, July 1st	Wednesday, November 4th
Wednesday, August 5th	Wednesday, December 2nd

Wednesday, April 1st
Member's and Wive's Night
"Lace Bobbins and Lace Work"
John & Edna Atkinson

A Test of Your Skill

The Committee, in it's infinite wisdom, has decided to declare this Month, 'The Month of the Challenge'. Complete the below assignment and enter it in the Club Competition and if the Adjudicators judge your effort to be best one entered, then you will be awarded the prize of \$25.00.

THE IMPOSSIBLE DOVETAIL

The Impossible Dovetail - a challenge to make and even harder to solve. Stanley Holland reveals all.

My friend Walter, now well into his nineties, inherited these puzzles from his father whilst serving his apprenticeship as a cabinet maker. They were made to demonstrate craftsmanship, but were also produced as a challenge during a convivial evening at the pub.

One of the earliest puzzles Walter showed me was an example of a dovetail joint. I expect I am not the only amateur woodworker to have made many of these over the years. We all know what they look like; one piece of wood with what might be called a tenon cut in the end of it, except that it widens out towards the end (like the tail of a dove) and needs a similarly shaped slot to fit into. If the tail widens out sufficiently, it is virtually impossible to pull the two pieces apart.

If you look at the drawing of the Impossible Dovetail, you will see there is something badly wrong with it. The joint fulfils its usual function of

being difficult to pull apart - but how do you get it together in the first place? And how do you get it apart if you want to? You cannot simply lift the dovetail out of its recess as there is another one stopping it.

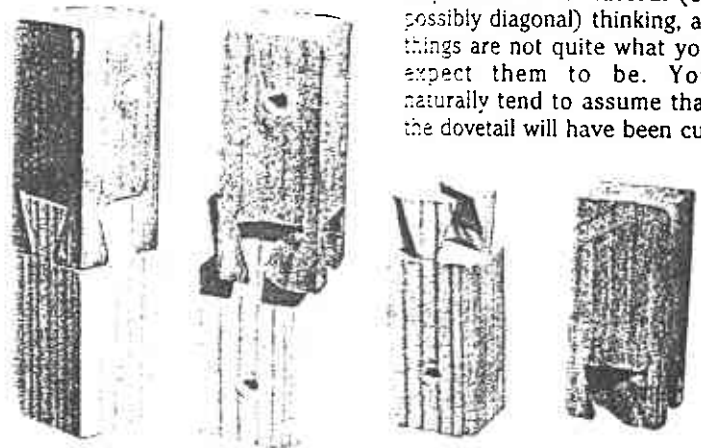
There is a way of getting the two pieces apart which the hapies victim is expected to do within a specified length of time, or he will be asked to pay

a forfeit of some sort, just as Walter's father's cronies did all those years ago. If the puzzle is really well made, it's hard to spot the solution. I wonder how many readers who have not come across this teaser

before can see how it is made?

The Solution

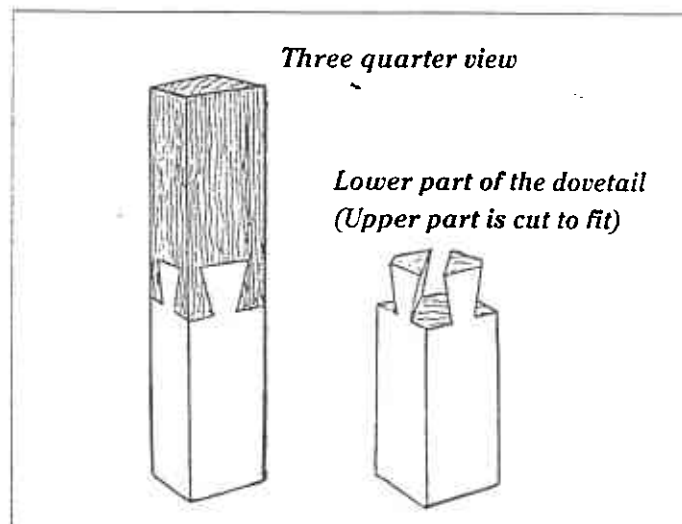
To solve this puzzle probably requires a bit of lateral (or possibly diagonal) thinking, as things are not quite what you expect them to be. You naturally tend to assume that the dovetail will have been cut



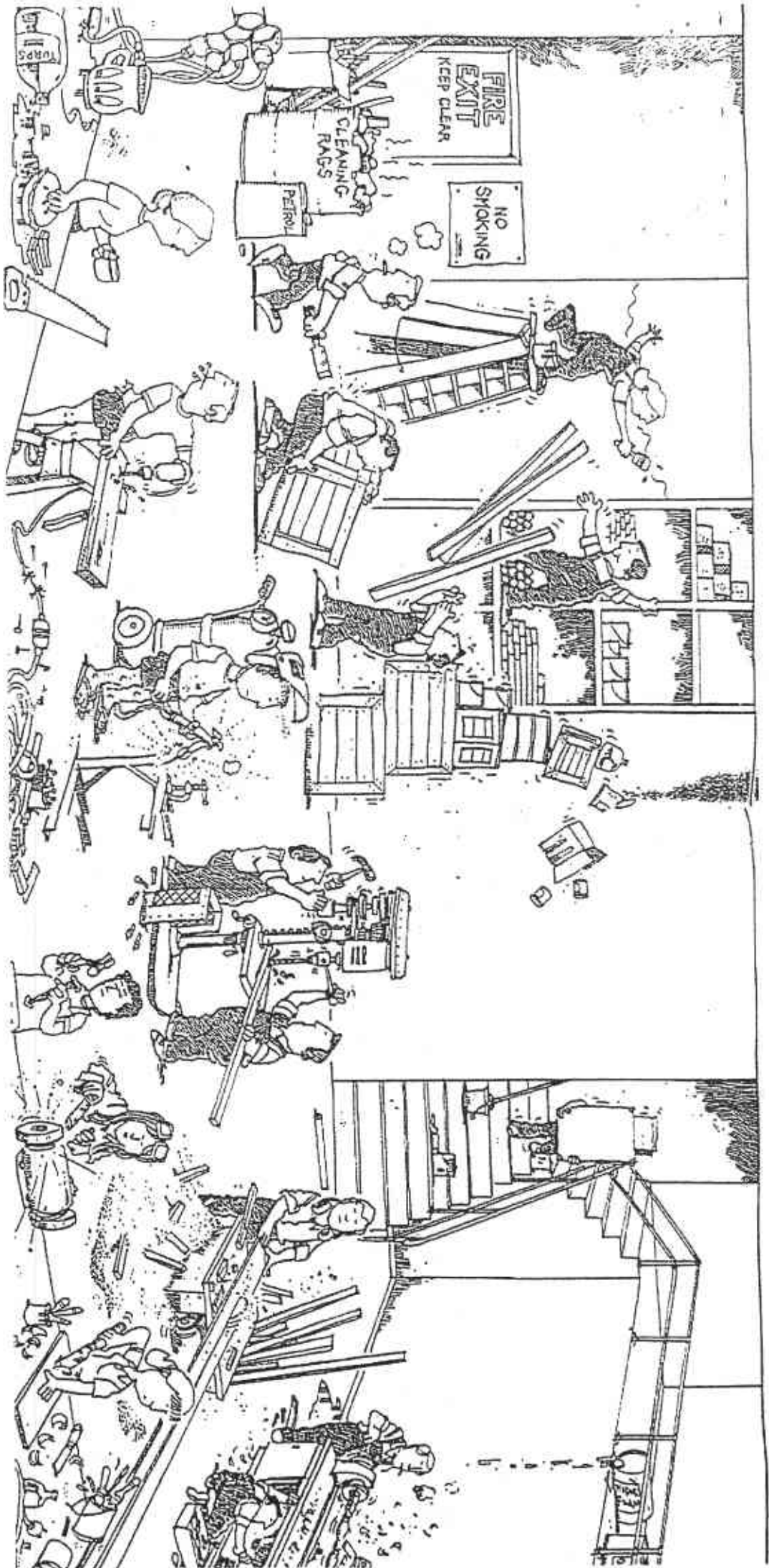
at right-angles to its surface, so that any of the four dovetails in the puzzle will go straight through to its partner on the opposite side of the block of wood. This is not what happens, so where are the cuts made?

The answer is that when the dovetails are cut and each one joined, not to its partner on the opposite side but to a dovetail on one of the surfaces at right-angles to it. This makes it possible to slide the joint apart quite easily by pushing the two halves diagonally in opposite directions.

If the joint is not made accurately enough, it is possible to see that the cuts do not go straight through. It is, therefore, quite a challenge to make the puzzle so that it is a close fit and yet will come apart without difficulty when necessary. □



Can you identify the potentially hazardous situation?



March 1998

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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General
Meeting

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V

P = Pension Day (Dept of Social Security) V = Veterans Pension Day