



INGRAINED

Monthly Newsletter of the Knox & District Woodworkers Club

Volume 26 Number 5

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"INGRAINED" was first issued in November 1988

Executive Committee

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| President | Hughie Gaynor | 9870 6915 |
| Vice President | Rod Williams | 9755 3004 |
| Secretary | Albert Bak | 0419 384099 |
| Treasurer | Serge Meilak | 9752 4126 |
| Stand-in Tres. | John Jackson | 9800 4317 |

Committee Members for 2014

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Purchasing: | Dick Webb | 9764 5321 |
| Social Activities: | Karen Button | 0407 556666 |
| Committee: | Tom Noonan | 9752 2211 |
| | Peter Horsburgh | 9878 5144 |
| | Ray Norton | 9763 5728 |
| | Bruce Cockerill | 9762 5223 |

Working Groups

| | |
|--------------|------------------|
| Records/I.T: | Eric Butterfield |
| Publicity: | Bill Ireland |
| | Bruce Cockerill |
| Projects: | Eric Butterfield |
| Newsletter | Gary, Bill |
| Team | Dick, Phil |

President's Report – Hughie Gaynor.

It is March already and I suspect a lot of you will be pondering the issue of: *"Where and why has the year gone so fast as the footy is about to start, daylight savings and Easter is in April next month?"*.

I have been told that the older you get, time goes quicker, but, I suspect that in the Woodies case all the activities undertaken, particularly getting ready for the Knox Festival, has a fair bit to do with it. In any event I hope that you will all take a little time out of all this busyness on the 17th to bring some colour into your lives.

I would like to take the opportunity to pay tribute and offer a **"big thank you"** on your behalf to a particular group of "unsung heroes" among us. Without doubt this Group have an unsurpassed wealth of knowledge on all things wood and the use of all of our equipment to achieve members' outcomes. No prizes for guessing that I am referring to the "bakers dozen" of members who willingly give up their time week in week out undertaking **the role of Keyholder** for a session. I am reasonably certain that a number of members could easily be lulled into a sense of déjà vue and take things for granted that the Club is open every week day, nominated week nights and on Saturday mornings, without giving any real serious thought for the work that they do.

I trust that all members realise that the Keyholders are acting on behalf of the Committee with their prime focus (apart from the many requests for advice or unlocking equipment etc etc) to ensure, that all activities are undertaken in a safe manner, as prescribed in the recently updated Safety Awareness Program.

It is expected that all members will graciously abide with all of their directions and in the unlikely event that a potential conflict may or could arise, they will amicably attempt to resolve the issue themselves. It should be particularly noted that without our Keyholders' ongoing collective efforts, we as members would not have the ability to have the Club open for 40 hours a week nor would (on average), 110 to 130 members be able to enjoy the facilities.

Any there any Volunteers out there?? – we have 2 exciting vacancies for the real deal.

Karen Button our latest Committee person has volunteered to undertake a new role as our Social Activities Co-ordinator. In this role she would love to hear from any members willing to assist her with their thoughts on suitable activities. In an effort to get the grey matter working, I am sure that some of our golden oldies would fondly remember the many day time bus trips that were undertaken, OR if an indoor activity was contemplated, might I suggest that there would no better or cheaper place to hold it other than in our enhanced and climate controlled Clubrooms.

Wanted - a highly-skilled specialist part time job for someone, or a small group of like minded individuals. This position offers great job satisfaction, enhance your ability to think logically, work to be undertaken at a leisurely pace with loads of time and a golden opportunity to enhance your woodworking skills and knowledge.

Sounds too good to be true - rush on board and become our **Librarian** and catalogue our treasure trove of books and magazines which need some urgent TLC.

President's report – (continued)

All of you would have noticed that 3 of our intrepid golden oldies (apologies fellas) have undertaken the latest monster of a job with minimal disruption within the Clubrooms. Some members have referred to them as the HAC or the FSHG team and to clarify matters the particular members primarily responsible for this Project are **Henk Eyssens, Albert Bak** and **Colin Stewart**.

When this Project is finished, I have no doubt that the ambience of the Clubrooms will be greatly enhanced with the provision of a bank of wooden cabinets. Some but not all of the features incorporated into the design, will be key alike lockable doors/drawers, which not only will make life a little easier for our hardworking Keyholders with less keys to cart around, but more importantly, will also provide better security for the Club's portable woodworking gear and other specialist type tools.

When this Project is completed it will replace the former motley assorted lot of steel cabinets which will be disposed of to members via the normal expressions of interest in due course.

Finally, it is pleasing to note that a good percentage of members have signed off on their commitment to work to the requirements of the recently updated **Safety Awareness procedures**. If you happen to be one of those members who have inadvertently put this small task into the "I will get around to it soon basket" it would be appreciated if you could spare a moment and make that commitment which was outlined on Page 5 of the February Newsletter.

.....**Hughie**

****IMPORTANT****

Members are advised to read the Safety Awareness procedures on the website Safety page (or ask committee for a copy of these, and when understood, please sign and return the form. We'll also be emailing a copy of the form to members, as well as making the form available on the Club's website. See:

www.alchester.com.au/kdwc/kdwcsafe.htm

Signed FORMS should be submitted to the Club's correspondence BOX located under the sign-in book at the front door of the club house please.

The Club thanks



**** Happy Birthdays - MARCH ****

The very best of Birthday wishes to these members:



| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Robert Hoskin | 4th |
| Barry McDermott | 6th |
| George Knight | 8th |
| Jean Wheatley | 11th |
| Willy Schlaf | 12th |
| Joe Semenov | 15th |
| Karin Orpen | 19th |
| Tracey Tinker | 23rd |
| Paul Chenery | 24th |
| Sharon Semmells | 26th |
| Albert Bak | 29th |
| Bruce Cockerill | 31st |
| Peter Sleeman | 28th |
| John Kors | 30th |

Hope each of you have a terrific day, and enjoy the year ahead!

....**Ed!**

**** Members Welfare ****

Best wishes for a full and speedy recovery to those in ill health.

George Luste presently not well. **Paul Aminde** looking forward to getting back to the club for a cuppa soon. **Ian Stanfield** had need for operation on neck/spine Friday 21st Feb. **Bill Ireland's** operation postponed till mid March. **Laurie Ham** has popped back to the club after an elbow operation – so it'll be supervisor tasks for him, but only for a while.**Our thoughts are with you.**

**** Men at Work! ****



Colin Stewart and Albert Bak hard at work on the new cupboards for the clubrooms. IKEA would be envious!

..... **Well done lads!**

***** Events and Happenings *****

TOY COUNT for XMAS Presentations:

The year is getting onto the 1/3 point now, and there has been some great progress lately with some batches of toys being made. But more hands always make lighter work load for the Toy Making Group. All toy contributions are always appreciated for this exceptional cause each November.

Working Bees – Sat April 12th

Help is needed to clean up before Easter!

KNOX Festival - March 1st and 2nd 2014

Join in with the teams needing help.

Workshop Notes - "members helping members"

The way wood works

Another terrific discovery by Phil Spencer, by author: [Nick Engler](#) to help us learn more about wood.



Wood is a cantankerous substance; there's no two ways about it. Its virtues, of course, are legendary. It's attractive, abundant and easy to work. Pound for pound, it's stronger than steel. If properly finished and cared for it will last indefinitely. But none of that makes up for the fact that it's a complex and often perplexing building material.

Unlike metals and plastics, whose properties are fairly consistent, wood is wholly inconsistent. It expands and contracts in all directions, but not at the same rate. It's stronger in one direction than it is in another. Its appearance changes not only from species to species, but from log to log -- sometimes board to board.

That being so, how can you possibly use this stuff to make a fine piece of furniture? Or a fine birdhouse, for that matter? To work wood -- and have it work for you -- you must understand three of its unique properties:

- Wood has grain.
- Wood moves more across the grain than along it.
- Wood has more strength along grain than across it.

Sounds trite, I know. These are "everyone-knows-that" garden-variety facts. But there is more grist here for your woodworking mill than might first appear.

Wood Has Grain

As a tree grows, most of the wood cells align themselves with the axis of the trunk, limb or root. These cells are composed of long thin bundles of fibers, about 100 times longer than they are wide. This is what gives wood its grain direction. Additionally, a tree grows in concentric layers, producing annual rings. You must pay close attention to these two characteristics -- grain direction and annual rings -- the way a sailor watches the wind. Ignore them, and they'll bite you big time.

Sawyers commonly use two methods to cut trees into boards, each revealing a different type of grain.

- Plain-sawn boards are cut tangent to the annual rings. The sawyer "cuts around" the log, turning it for each series of cuts so the faces of the boards will show mostly flat grain (also called tangential or plain grain).
- Quartersawn boards are cut through the radius of the growth rings. The sawyer cuts the logs into quarters or bolts, and then saws each bolt so the boards show quarter grain (or radial grain) on their faces.

Lumber doesn't always show a single type of grain on its face. Plain-sawn boards in particular may show mixed grain -- flat grain in one area and quarter grain in another. The grain between the two, where the surface is cut at a 30- to 60-degree angle to the annual rings, displays rift grain.

Each type of grain has a distinct pattern, depending on the wood species. You can use these grain patterns to enhance the design of your furniture or your birdhouses. More importantly, if you know how to "read" the patterns, you can predict which way the wood will move and how much. Because of its unique structure, wood is constantly expanding and contracting. And you must cope with this movement in everything you build.

Wood Moves Across the Grain

Wood moves as its moisture content changes. After the tree is felled and the sap has evaporated, the wood fibers continue to absorb and release water like a blotter. How much water they hold depends on the relative humidity of the surrounding environment. The more humid it is, the more moisture the fibers soak up. This moisture content is the ratio of water to wood.

In extremely humid conditions, as much as 28 percent of the total weight of a board may be water -- 28 parts

water, 72 parts wood. The rule of thumb is that the moisture content of wood changes 1 percent for every 4 to 5 percent change in the relative humidity.

The more moisture a board absorbs or releases, the more it swells or shrinks. However the surface of a board moves differently depending on the grain direction and type of grain. Wood movement along the grain is almost negligible. From 0 to 28 percent moisture content, a typical board will move only 0.01 percent of its length. However it will move about 8 percent across flat grain and 4 percent across quarter grain. This is why woodworkers consider quartersawn lumber more stable. It's also why boards with mixed grain (and mixed expansion rates) tend to cup.

So how do you predict how much a board will move and in what direction? That depends on the grain direction, type of grain and time of year. In most areas, the relative humidity climbs as the weather turns warmer. This causes the wood to expand. The rule is to allow for 1/4" of movement across 12" of plain grain and 1/8" across the same amount of quarter grain. If you're working in the summer, the wood shrinks as winter approaches. When building in the winter, count on the wood expanding when summer comes. (*Thus the old saw, "Work tight in summer, loose in winter."*)



The wood grain in the legs of this pedestal table runs parallel to the longest dimension, making the legs as strong as possible. Were the grain to run parallel or perpendicular to the pedestal, the legs would be weakest at their narrowest point, the ankles.

Wood is Strong Along the Grain

The wood cells are made from long, tough cellulose fibers, bound together by a glue-like substance, lignin. The cellulose is a lot tougher than the lignin. Consequently, it's much easier to split a board along the grain (separating the lignin) than it is to break it across the grain (snapping the cellulose).

This botanical trivia plays an enormous role in woodworking design. Can you imagine what might happen if you cut mortise-and-tenon joints in which the grain ran across the tenons? They'd snap if you just looked at them sideways. Yet tenons cut parallel to the grain will far outlast the woodworkers who cut them.

But wait there's more -- when strength is paramount, grain direction may not be your only consideration. Some species of woods are naturally stronger than others. Windsor chairmakers, for example, typically use hard maple, birch and hickory for legs, rungs and spindles. Because these parts are fairly slender, weaker woods won't do.

A good indicator of a wood's strength is its density -- the weight of a given volume of substance. Wood density is measured by calculating its specific gravity -- the weight of a volume of wood compared to the same volume of water. Generally, the higher the ratio, the denser -- and stronger -- the wood.

Specific gravity, unfortunately, doesn't predict when a wooden board will break, sag or dent. For this, there are measurements of strength.

- Compressive strength tells you how much load a wood species will support parallel to the grain. If a corpulent relative sits in the chair, will the legs buckle?
- Bending strength shows the load wood can withstand perpendicular to the grain. How many kids can stand on that chair rung before it's firewood?
- The stiffness indicates how much the wood will deflect when loaded perpendicular to the grain. How far will those shelves sag when you display your collection of cannonballs?

The hardness reveals how resistant the surface is to abuse. How hard can you pound when taking your frustrations out on the workbench?

A Parting Thought

Too often we approach our craft as if it were a collection of recipes. Take two boards, chop them up on a table saw, add a dash of glue and -- presto! -- a birdhouse. Or a Chippendale highboy, depending on how many boards and how finely you chop. But woodworking is more than knowing how to use a tool or follow a plan. It's the accumulated insights and inspirations of 5,000 years of craftsmanship. And at the heart of this craft is a surprising material that has yet to reveal all of its mysteries.

*Thanks to Nick Engler for this enlightening explanation.
"Enjoy!"Phil*

****URGENT REMINDER****

Raffle tickets for KNOX FESTIVAL must be back at the club for drawing on Sunday 2nd March.

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Ferntree Gully
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****Bill's website tip of the month! ****

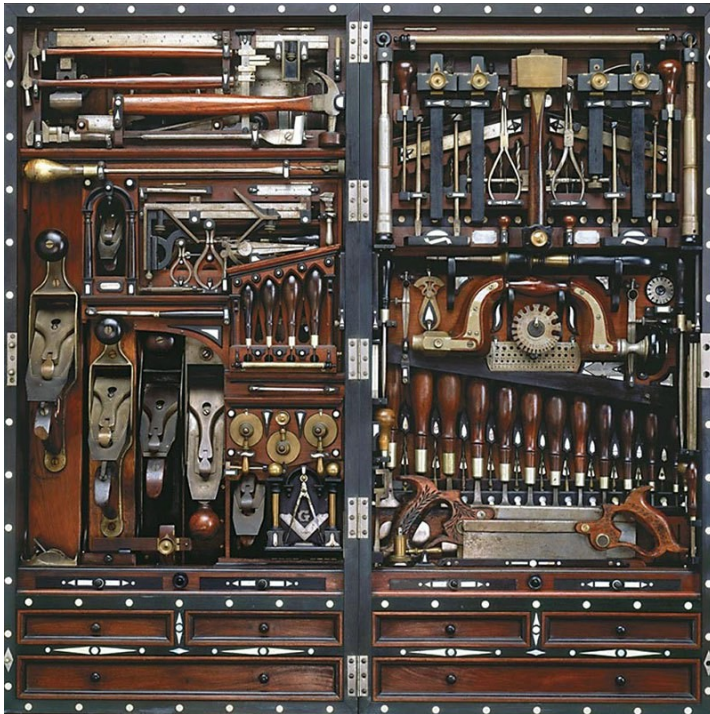
interim contribution *from Phil*, this month
Wood Christmas Tree

An amazing look at how a woodworker makes a Wood Christmas Tree that is truly a work of art. I'm no woodworking expert but I can tell you this guy is making it look easy as he makes this traditional "Spanning Tree". If I was on that lathe I'd have a box of toothpicks, and if I managed to get past the lathe, I'm pretty sure my chisel work would look like a lumberjack attacked the tree. This is really something! What a steady hand he has. Enjoy the wonderment of creativity.

https://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=1yWmqbltB-

****Great moments in woodworking time****

reference: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_O._Studley



This fine piece of work was seen travelling the internet news waves recently, and definintely prompted being shared to fellow woodies who may have not come across this, like me.

Henry O. Studley (1838-1925) was an organ and piano maker, [carpenter](#), and [mason](#) who worked for the Smith Organ Co., and later for the Poole Piano Company of [Quincy, Massachusetts](#). Born in 1838 in [Lowell, Massachusetts](#), Studley is best known for creating the so-called Studley Tool Chest, a wall hanging [tool chest](#) which cunningly holds some 300 tools in a space that takes up about 40 inches by 20 inches of wall space when closed. Studley joined the Massachusetts Infantry at the start of the [Civil War](#) and was captured in [Galveston, Texas](#) in 1863. After the war he returned to Quincy and joined the Rural [Masonic Lodge](#). He died in 1925 and was remembered in his [obituary](#) in the Quincy [Patriot-Ledger](#) for his remarkable tool chest, among his other achievements.

***** Humor *******Why am I Divorced?**

Last week was my birthday and I didn't feel very well waking up on that morning.

I went downstairs for breakfast hoping my husband would be pleasant and say, 'Happy Birthday!', and possibly have a small present for me.

As it turned out, he barely said good morning, let alone 'Happy Birthday.'

I thought..... well, that's marriage for you, but the kids.... they will remember.

My kids came bounding down stairs to breakfasts and didn't say a word..

So when I left for the office,

I felt pretty low and somewhat despondent.

As I walked into my office, my handsome Boss Rick, said, 'Good Morning, lady, and by the way Happy Birthday!'

It felt a little better that at least someone had remembered.

I worked until one o'clock, when Rick knocked on my door and said, 'You know, it's such a beautiful day outside, and it is your birthday, what do you say we go out to lunch, just you and me....'

I said, 'Thanks, Rick, that's the greatest thing I've heard all day. Let's go!'

We went to lunch. But we didn't go where we normally would go. He chose instead a quiet bistro with a private table. We had two martinis each and I enjoyed the meal tremendously.

On the way back to the office, Rick said, 'You know, it's such a beautiful day... we don't need to go straight back to the office, do we?'

I responded, 'I guess not. What do you have in mind?'

He said, 'Let's drop by my place, it's just around the corner.'

After arriving at his house, Rick turned to me and said,

'If you don't mind, I'm going to step into the bedroom for just a moment. I'll be right back.'

'Ok.' I nervously replied.

He went into the bedroom and, after a couple of minutes, he came out carrying a huge birthday cake followed by my husband my kids, and dozens of my friends and co-workers, all singing 'Happy Birthday'.

And I just sat there....

On the couch.....

Naked !

...Thanks for contributions [Ed]

**We thank Nick Wakeling MP
 - Member for Ferntree Gully
 for printing our newsletter as
 a Community Service**

Weekly Workshop Hours and Keyholders*Note: All Members are welcome to access the Clubrooms at any of these times.*

| | | | | | |
|------------------|--|-----------|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Monday | 09:00AM | - 12:30PM | Wood Turning | Henk Eyssens | 5968 5119 |
| Tuesday | 09:30AM | - 02:30PM | Kidz Korner | Peter Horsburg | 9879 5144 |
| | 06:30PM | - 09:30PM | Wood Turning | Bruce Allen | 0439 919758 |
| Wednesday | 09:30AM | - 02:30PM | General Access | Dick Webb | 97645321 |
| Thursday | 09:30AM | - 02:30PM | Toymakers | Tony Deabe | 9774 7917 |
| | 06:30PM | - 09:30PM | Furniture Making | George Knight | 0427 417823 |
| | 06:30PM | - 09:30PM | Carving (for all!) | Albert Bak | 0419 384099 |
| Friday | 10:00AM | - 01:30PM | General Access | Barry McDermott | 9753 6157 |
| | 06:30PM | - 09:30PM | Rocking Horses | Bruce Allen Louis Smith | 0439 919758 9754 2342 |
| Saturday | see roster below and WORKING BEES | | | | |
| Sunday | (closed) | | | | |

Saturday Morning Roster

| Opening 09:30 am to 12:30 pm | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Mar 1 | KNOX FESTIVAL | |
| Mar 8 | Ladislav Toman | 0410 405 227 |
| Mar 15 | Louis Smith/Larry | 97542342 |
| Mar 22 | Dick Webb | 9764 5321 |
| Mar 29 | Brian Doubs | 9801 5857 |
| Apr 5 | Ladislav Toman | 0410 405 227 |
| Apr 12 | **working Bee** | |

NOTE: If no member arrives by 10:30am, the Key Holder has the option of closing Clubrooms.

Members Discounts

The Following Suppliers offer discounts to Members.

****Show some suitable KDWC / personal ID****

Australian Lighting - Bayswater,
Bristol Paints - Ferntree Gully.
Caroll's Woodcraft Supplies.
Carba-Tec.
Ferntree Gully Bolts.
Hobby Tools Australia.
Jaylor Tools
Mitre-10 - Bayswater.
Pop's Shed.
Screwit – Supplier of Sachy Screws
Total Tools, Ferntree Gully.
Woodworking Machinery Specialists.
The Woodworking Warehouse

On Sale at the Club

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Club Caps | \$12.00 |
| Club Polo Shirts | \$25.00 |
| Club Fleecy Tops - Half Zip | \$40.00 |
| Club Fleecy Tops - Full-length Zip | \$50.00 |
| Screws (packet) | \$2.00 |
| Nails - 500 gm (2' x 12 G) | \$2.00 |

Current Community Support Activites

| Project (ref: Eric) | Recipient | Status |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Toys | Disadvantaged | Continuous |
| | Kids for Xmas | In Progress |
| Angel Boxes | Angliss Hospital | Continuous |
| Chairs & Stools | Cerebral Palsey | As required |
| Various Turnings | Festival stock &c | In Progress |
| Kidz Korner kits | KK Activities | Continuous |
| Rocking Horse | Knox Festival. | Mar 2014 |
| Clock | Knox Festival. | Mar 2014 |
| Turned Bowl | Knox Festival. | Mar 2014 |
| Jewelery Box | Stringybark Fest. | Oct 2014 |

Important Diary Dates

Fri 28th Feb **preparation DAY for KNOX**
Sat-Sun 1st & 2nd Mar – KNOX FESTIVAL
Wed 5th Mar Members Meeting 7.30PM
Wed 19th Mar Committee Meeting
Wed 2nd Apr Members Meeting 7.30PM
Sat 12th Apr **WORKING BEE 8:00AM !!**
Sat 19th Apr CLOSED for EASTER

**** STOP PRESS ** OH&S agreement needed**
 All members now need to be familiar with OH&S safety awareness procedures and confirm so.

Check the SAFETY website at:
www.alchester.com.au/kdwc/kdwcsafe.htm

**** RAFFLE TICKETS \$2.00 for Knox Festival ****
must be in before the draw before 2nd March!