



THE WOODPECKER

Snippets & Offcuts

- **Next Bunnings BBQ – Saturday November 26th 2022**

Volunteers needed – please put your name on the schedule in the workshop reception or contact Dennis Conner on 5985 7788. With the increase in prices, these Bunnings BBQs are a great source of revenue for WoSP.

- **The WoSP Shop – an update.**

Grand Opening - Saturday 3rd December 2022. Yep – all set to go. Dennis Conner advises:

- the shop will be selling a restricted range of merchandise – products from Pops Shed along with timber and giftware
- opening hours will be 9am to 12am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
- if any member has product they would like to donate or sell through the shop, contact Dennis 5985 7788.

Any queries, please call Dennis.

To promote the shop, WoSP will have a presentation in the Rosebud Plaza on Saturday 5th November 2022. This will include a display of goods for sale.

Dennis has assembled quite a range of product in the shop – take a look...

- **Steve Johnson and Movember – reminder – ‘there’s still time...’**

Reminder – support Steve in his efforts to raise funds for prostate cancer, testicular cancer, mental health and suicide prevention. Donate via myMo Space, here:

<https://movember.com/m/sydjohnson?mc=1>

for all the dads, brothers, sons and mates in your life. Stop men dying too young.

- **Guitars from Scrap Wood by Colin Dobson**

Following on from making the 3-string guitar, I saw the following article in the link below about the Tamborine Mountain Men's Shed turning wood scraps into musical instruments for (their) band ‘The Offcuts’.

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-07-29/mens-shed-tamborine-mountain-makes-instruments-band-fundraiser/101272496?utm_campaign=abc_news_web&utm_content=mail&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_source=abc_news_web

Check it out – it’s worth a browse...

- **WoSP Web Site – What’s New by Alan Smith.**

I have just added some new text and images to the “videos” page about the benefit of using pilot holes in woodworking:

<https://wosp.com.au/videos/>

- **Timber Tools and Artisans Shows are back in 2023**
The following are the dates and venues for these shows next year.
 - Sydney** Sydney Showgrounds 2nd-4th June 2023
 - Melbourne** Melbourne Showgrounds 11th-13th August 2023
 - Brisbane** Brisbane Showgrounds 15th-17th September 2023
 - Canberra** Exhibition Park (EPIC) 3rd-5th November 2023

Projects within the Club

1. Clothes hanger with a difference

Peter Turnbull is building a clothes hanger with a difference. The challenge is to identify just how this will work. Peter explained it to me and it sounds like it will work. For further information, have a chat to Peter.



2. Using pallet wood

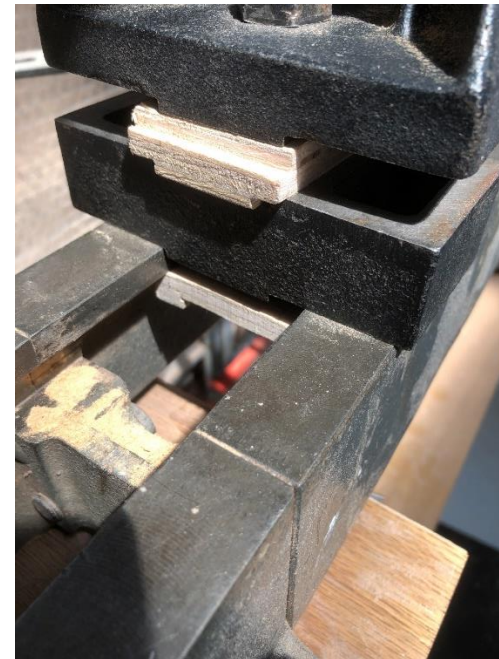
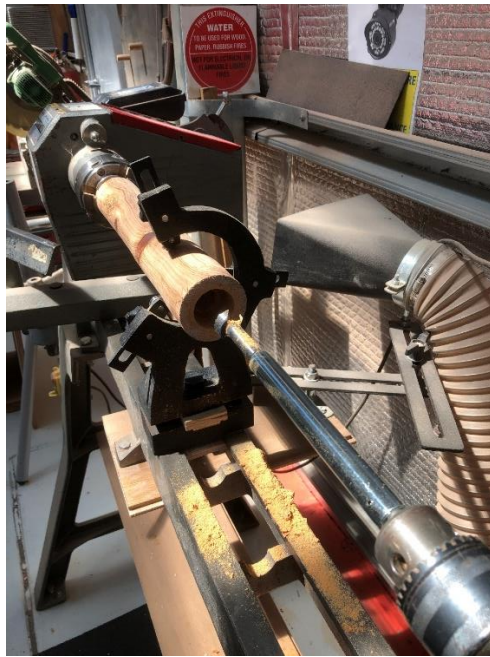
Yep – that’s wood from the lowly pallet. Often seen as ‘rubbish’ wood, this guy shows how to make something really nice out of this ‘rubbish’. Get inspired by this Aussie craftsman's journey to making money from his work!

Watch: How to use pallet wood to make money and learn woodworking – follow this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdMp_RjO7CA

3. How to use the Club’s lathe Steady Rest

I recently needed to use the Steady Rest that is kept in the workshop woodturners cabinet near the office. It was an interesting challenge getting this set up correctly. The following photos show how to set this up. Note the light coloured blocks of plywood designed to hold the Steady Rest correctly. Also allow some time to position it correctly as it is not particularly easy.



This setup was on the lathe at the rear of the workshop.

Our new members this month:
Peter Turnbull and Ross Willcox
Welcome Pater and Ross.

Personality this Month – Keith Jackson (Jetty (and House) Builder)

Keith joined the Woodworkers of the Southern Peninsula in 2007 which makes him one of the longest serving members of the Club. And somewhat a quiet achiever. He claims to have spent much of his time at the Club on the lathes being a keen wood turner focusing on bowls. Age is taking its toll on Keith - he now uses a walking frame (and all that entails) – something he is not pleased about. But in spite of this limitation, Keith retains a positive attitude and is a regular at the Club workshop. He uses the ‘black stool’ (Keith claims that stool as his...) to sit at the lathe – works just fine. He also works at his own lathe at home and delights in not having to have the workplace neat and tidy all the time.



KEITH AT HOME IN HIS WORKSHOP

Keith is like many in the Club – born and worked in England before leaving ‘old blighty’ and making Australia home. Keith hales from a more familiar part of England – Norfolk. He was born in North Wootton a town located between, and not far from, Kings Lynn in one direction and Sandringham Estate (and Palace) 5 miles in the other direction – approximately 150 Kms north (NNE actually) of London. (Keith never did catch up with Queen Elizabeth 11). His father was a farmer – not something Keith wanted to do – too hard. Upon completing his apprenticeship as a carpenter and at the age of 21, he was promptly dismissed as his apprenticeship employer could no longer pay just apprentice wages but must pay him as a fully qualified tradesman. No doubt about it – employers are the same worldwide – averse to paying more than they have to. It was also an opportunity for Keith to try his hand at something totally different – initially on digging machines before taking up crane driving, especially big cranes.

Over the next twelve years, Keith worked in many locations up and down the UK – Felixstowe (116 km northeast of London), South Wales, Middlesbrough (north Yorkshire on the England east coast), Canvey Island (London). Much of this time, he drove big ‘crawler’ cranes mounted on barges and used to build or repair piers. A major part of the work involved the driving of piles using diesel driven pile-drivers. This would be rather specialised work when one thinks about it.



He also drove tower cranes building taller structures such as cooling towers, etc. On one such site, the crane reached some 100 metres high – height that Keith had to climb up the ladder when starting work. Keith admits to needing 20 minutes to climb the tower crane plus needing a 15 minute ‘recovery break’ on reaching the cabin. Often wondered who serviced these tower cranes – turns out it was onsite fitters. At least Keith didn’t have to crawl out on the boom....



In 1982, Keith moved to Australia. He would have preferred to continue driving cranes but – voila – no work in that profession was to be had here in Melbourne. So back to the profession he was trained in – carpentry. No retraining needed – his UK ticket was all that was required. Using his home in Rosebud as base, he worked on domestic dwellings along the Peninsula as well as more remote sites like Drouin, Creswick, Walkerville, Geelong. Keith commuted to those remote sites – quite a commitment. All the while, he worked for himself....

In 2000, Keith built a new house for he and Janet in the backyard of their property on the corner of Jetty Road and Inglewood Cr. They then sold off their original home. Their current house really is a

delightful home and very conveniently located. Padua College down Inglewood Crescent does present a bit of a challenge during school drop off and pick up times.



Bowls in progress



Some of Keith's finished work

Keep Smiling a couple from Covid times....

When bartenders find new jobs after all the bars close down

