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August 2014

## For the calendar

**4<sup>th</sup> August** Childs chair meeting night

**1<sup>st</sup> September** Toy meeting night

**6<sup>th</sup> October** Bowl meeting night

**3<sup>rd</sup> November** Christmas theme item meeting night

**1<sup>st</sup> December** Toy to be donated to a child for Christmas

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Thank you for your confidence in me in accepting me as the President of your club. May I publically say thank you to Geoff who did a sterling job for the past 3 years and to those committee members who elected for their own reasons not to seek committee membership this year

A great job and done well without much fuss

If we look back over the past 3 years we / you have done some wonderful things and hopefully made many people happy with the items manufactured by you the members of this club. At the same time we have reviewed and updated our Constitution and spent considerable time and effort in the establishment of a fairly extensive OH&S Policy supported by Operational Procedures on Club owned power tools

I do not have a trade background and therefore as a result I am staggered at the quality members' exhibit on a regular basis. I feel the "show and tell" segments of our meetings are very educational and demonstrate what can be done if we put our mind to it. We certainly can learn a lot from one another

We have established a good working relationship with Bunnings which hopefully will continue on this year with our participation in their Father's Day activity for children on 4 September and then followed up with exhibiting the talents within the club during Seniors Week in October.

The Barwon Valley Special School certainly appreciate our help and soon they will have 4 brightly coloured sand pit diggers made by the toy group. While this was going on another group were and are continuing to make prizes for our raffle to be held later in the year at our annual woodcraft exhibition

Speaking of our exhibition, your new committee has plans are well underway for this event to take place on 22 and 23 November at the Masonic Hall in Belmont. Hopefully we have learnt a few things from last year but I doubt if we could ever improve the quality of those scones. The continued success of this club is evident in our growth in the number of members which is now more than 50 members with a number of ladies joining the club – great to see. With that in mind we often need to look at using a larger room within the College. We must remember that we are guests of the College and as such we must comply with their rules as to the use of their machines and the observance of any conditions that apply to our use of their premises.

I hope this club – your club continue to grow and share knowledge one with another for many years to come.

Bruce Twaddell  
President BVW.

***Are you a current financial member of the club?***

***Our annual fees of \$25 are now due and payable.***

***If by some reason you have not yet paid please do so asap***

***Thanks***

# From Log To The Australian Woodturning Exhibition.

The following photos show the process that Paul Barton used to complete a bowl that he entered in the Open Section of Wood Art at The Australian Woodturning Exhibition in 2014.

The first photo (to the right) shows the bowl on Pauls lathe with the other half of the eucalypt log in the foreground. If you look closely at the photo you will see the way that all of us who aspire to the standard of work that Paul produces should keep our workshop.



Photo two (to the left) is a closer view of the bowl on the lathe with the base partly turned. Pauls lathe is a Omega Stubby that will give those members who know the lathe an idea of the size of the bowl.

Photo three (to the right) is of Paul decorating the bowl with his Dremel, using the same process that he demonstrated at the club work night. You can again judge the size of the bowl when you compare it with Paul in the photo.



The final photo shows the result of Pauls work. The bowl won first prize in the Open work art section of the exhibition. You can see all the work and effort that was involved in producing an item to such a standard to win first prize. The bowl had a price tag of \$2000 which reflects the standard of Pauls work and all the time and effort required to produce an art piece of such high standard.

**By Geoff Findlay**

## Father's Day at Bunnings

The club has been asked to be involved in a Father's Day activity evening at both Bunnings stores on the 4th of September. This involvement requires us to provide wooden kits for the children to put together. Bunnings will also provide other activities on the night.

We have settled on a tray that can be used to carry sauce bottles for a barbeque. Bunnings have supplied the necessary timber and hardware for a total of 250 kits and we need to provide the labour to cut the timber up into the components.

The timber is being ripped into lengths at home as we do not have facilities that are available to us at the Gordon to do this. Docking to length and drilling of holes is to be carried out on two of our work nights and some members have offered to do some of this work in their own workshops. Due to the time it takes for the children to assemble these kits (drawing on previous experience) we have decided to partially assemble the kits which will leave less work to be completed on the activity night.

Work progressed well on the first night with a lot of enthusiastic involvement of members and many kits prepared. This work will continue on the next work night and hopefully we will have them all ready in time.

**By Dallas**





# Woodworking Shop Safety

## 10 Safety Tips to Post in Your Shop

**1) Think Before You Cut** – The most powerful tool in your shop is your brain, use it. Thinking your cuts and movements through before acting can help save both fingers and scrap wood.

**2) Keep a Clean Shop** – A cluttered shop is an accident waiting to happen. Keeping your shop clean will help protect you, and your tools, from tripping hazards.

**3) Avoid Distractions** – Pay attention to your actions. Looking up to watch the shop TV or visitor can result in your hand contacting the blade. Always wait until you have completed your cut before you take your eyes off the blade.

**4) Don't Rush** – Keep in mind that this is just a hobby and take a break when you feel rushed or frustrated with a project. Mistakes happen when we rush to complete a job.

**5) Don't Force It** – If your saw is resisting the cut, stop and see what's wrong. A misaligned rip fence or improperly seated throat plate can sometimes cause a board to get stuck in mid cut. Forcing the board in these situations may cause kickback or contact with the blade. Take a moment to evaluate the situation and determine the problem.

**6) Protect Yourself** – Wearing the proper shop protection is an important part of safe tool operation. Goggles, Ear Protection, and Lung Protection should be used when operating tools. Use push sticks when working close to the blade and make sure the tool's safety features are in place.

**7) Let the Tool Stop** – Giving the power tool time to wind down after a cut is an often-overlooked safety mistake. Even without power, the spinning blade can still do a lot of damage.

**8) Fumes and Dust** – Solvent fumes and airborne dust can present health and explosion hazards. Care should be taken to ensure a supply of fresh air and use only explosion proof vent fans.

**9) Wear Appropriate Clothing** – Loose clothing or hair can get caught in power tools and cause severe injury.

**10) No Alcohol** – Too many woodworkers have been injured because Alcohol clouded their judgment. Avoid their mistakes and wait until after you're done in the shop.

# Pine Breeding

Radiata pine is good stuff, and getting even better.

At the July work night we celebrated Dallas' pre-meeting workshop time preparing timber cut to size and that box full of jigs, to start assembly of the sauce bottle carriers for kids and Father's Day. Mostly it was Radiata Pine, and a bit of MDF. MDF is made from Radiata Pine too. Why does this gladden an old forester's heart?

My first job when I got out of Forestry School was in the Research Branch, and the great program of the time was establishing a breeding program with that said pine. Radiata Pine occurs naturally in only a few sites in California, and on some islands off its coast, but it was widely planted in southern Australia and New Zealand since about 1880. In government plantations it became a valuable resource, and now the industries supported by it know how to grow it, saw it, peel it, dry it, bend it, preserve it, paint it, turn it, pulp it, glue it, stress-grade it, build with it, and generally make a quid with it. It is a good crop tree, and can grow into a good log in about thirty years on most sites. When I started as an 'infant forester' I was basically a technical assistant and the only 'breeding' that had taken place since about 1900 was by selection of final crop trees during various thinnings (read removal of the weaker trees) as the plantation matured, and harvesting seed from only the better (open pollinated) un-opened cones at final clear felling of the stand.

(Fanfare now) Enter genetics and embrace of the prospect of super trees. But we had millions of trees, and which to breed from? Plantations in all Australian states and New Zealand were searched to find the tallest, straightest, fastest growing trees, with light branches, clean canopy, and which shed their old cones, and several other morphology features. I think about 150 were selected in Victoria, similar numbers in other states, and all were then timber sampled by CSIRO Division of Forest Products to assess fibre length (for paper making) and strength characteristics. Some were discarded after these tests. The rest were climbed, right up to the top, by me and another friendly forester, to collect the mature but unopened cones, and fresh terminal shoots for grafting and cuttings materials so that the ability of a good looking tree to produce good looking progeny could be tested, and these Plus Trees could be put into bed as it were in seed orchards and controlled pollination of the best identified trees could be done, and the progeny tested in trial plantings. This process took a few years, and continues today. Plus trees with the best features were freely exchanged with other states. The program has been a success.

Smelling that fragrant wood at that work night almost made me nostalgic for the feeling of swaying gently as I clung to the top of a fine tree which soared over its neighbours in a plantation at Myrtleford, the view over the Ovens Valley was superb. The next year I went up even higher, because the next crop of cones was higher, but the trunk did not feel any thicker! We should hold the humble pine in high regard, it's worth it.

By Gregor Wallace.

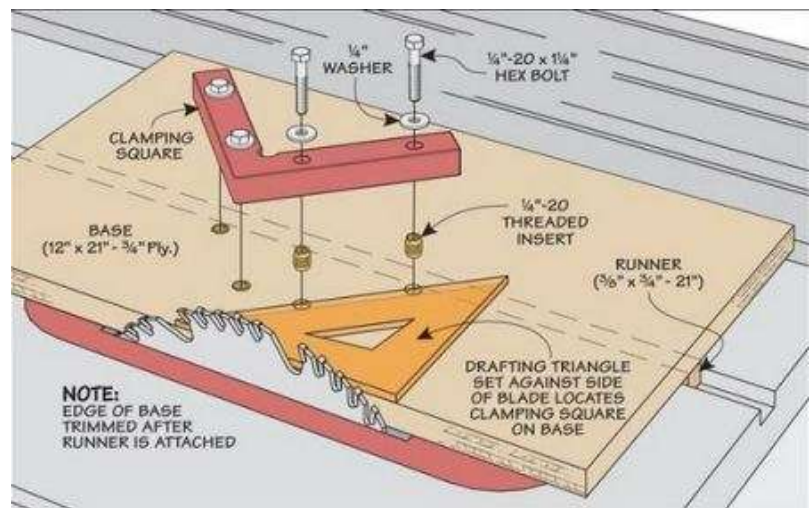
## A simple mitre jig



Clamping squares are often used when assembling cabinet cases. But there is another use for these multi-purpose shop accessories. You can see in the photo and drawing below how to make a miter sled using a clamping square and a scrap piece of plywood. What's really nice is, it's easy and inexpensive.

Start with the base by using a piece of plywood roughly 12" wide by 21" long. Then mount a runner underneath to fit the mitre slot of your table saw. Locate the runner so you can trim the edge of the base to create a clean reference edge for locating the clamping square. The last step is to attach the clamping square to the base. A drafting triangle registered against the plate of the blade positions the clamping square at the correct angle. Now, perfect, gap-free mitres are guaranteed with this simple sled.

Article taken from [www.woodsmithtips.com](http://www.woodsmithtips.com)  
By Dallas





Paul Barton showing the club how he decorates his work. (Left)



Another mouth dropping car by John Wickham. (Above)

Gary having fun testing out his donation for Barwon Valley School. (Below)



Adam preparing sauce holders for Bunnings. (Left)



Our members work being displayed at our meeting. (Right)

