



January/February 2025 Newsletter

HAPPY NEW YEAR

(well, it started a few weeks ago!)

“Get around TOIT”

Following on from the success of Christmas lunch “Get around TOIT”, Greg proposed we continue during the year asking members to send him a photo of their “Get around TOIT” and a few sentences of explanation. Below are several for this month

Greg Scrivner

Here’s Greg on his “get around TOIT” project. One man doing a two-man job!



Will Howard

My “Get around TOIT” is about as big as a tractor tyre. My garden bed, 4x7 metres had weeds a metre high and fully invaded by tree roots. I finally got a start on it when the heat and humidity were unbearable. Weed removal was easy but the root job was horrid. Shifting all the soil to one side, lay a root exclusion layer down, (one side being on top of the other side), then shovel it back and lay down more root excluder, then shovel the top half back, meanwhile changing a sweat sodden shirt every 20 minutes. I cannot say next time I will start in winter because there will definitely not be a next time **EVER**.



Roger Kilburn

As we know from the Christmas Newsletter, our Treasurer, Roger has reached a magic milestone, the birthday extraordinaire, the big '8-0' has been achieved. Well, done, Roger, from all the woodies.

Well, some gathered to recognise Roger's achievement. Below are a few shots of Roger doing only what Roger does best. (Photos by Greg Scrivner)



Bloody Hell this is hard work! I don't normally bend this low.



Gather round folks and I'll tell you
a story



Yep! Just what I
needed! Another BI----y "TO IT"

February's Show and Tell

Our first Show and Tell for 2025. Quality items were displayed which set the scene.

Will Howard was the first to present his items. Dark item in the image is mango timber coated in Tung Oil. The oil caused the timber to go dark. The other bowls are made from Jacaranda, coated in Tung Oil.



Note the variety of grain patterns

John Ocker has been busy during the break. He crafted a two-carriage train using his own design. A variety of timbers used with the finish in wax. But he went further, making the load in each carriage into puzzles for children to play with.



A friend of John is turning 100 shortly and he crafted a bowl in silky oak, with a food grade wax finish.



Note the beautiful grain that silky oak is renowned for.

John has been able to reclaim some timber and use it to make stands for a popular board game Rummikub. Made from 50-year-old Western Red Cedar.



Howard Horsman used a piece of timber most of us have never used before- Grass tree trunk. The image below shows a sample trunk, fine hard grain. From one piece he crafted the base of a pepper grinder and added a salt grinder from camphor laurel. Finished with kitchen grade oil.



A different style of grinding mechanism, but effective

George Campbell really likes using the lathe and creating bowls. But this one is a bit different. George found a piece of Beechwood, but wasn't dry. So, he used Sue's microwave oven to dry the timber. It worked and George was able to craft a knitting bowl. Outside was stained and both sides were coated in estapol.



Well crafted,
contrasting colours
are effective.

Jon Ward is recognised for his craftsmanship (or laser cutter expert) in making wooden earrings. Red Cedar and Huen Pine were the favoured timbers. Now he's ventured into making wooden drink coasters with native plants embedded. Coasters are cased and decorated wooden box.



Delicate work

Greg Scrivner is also a keen leather worker. However, he has difficulty in holding the thicker leather when doing stitching. Using his ingenuity, he crafted a combined stand and clamp. Works well.



David Wells decided to make some cutting boards with a zig-zag pattern. He used a router jig to cut the design. Very clever as he used no guides. Finish was with food safe oil.

