

E-WOODPECKER

April 2020

From the TOCACT President

By now you should all have realized that Club meetings have been suspended until the threat of spreading COVID19 has passed. I know that Club meetings are an important social event for many of our members. As a Club we need to consider alternatives to face to face meetings to support social interaction for these members and those of us who are spending more time at home in self-isolation. With this in mind we are making greater efforts to use email exchanges between members to replace Club meetings. These emails will be aimed at sharing information and promoting cyber space discussion between members on topics we would normally try to cover at meetings.

Emails are a medium that most of us are familiar with. Other systems may be a more efficient medium for supporting discussions between members but they require new skills and systems which some of us may not be able to access. The major obstacle to overcome in using emails for discussion is the need for us to provide access to your email address to other Club members.

Currently when Chris Mobbs sends an email to all members he protects the privacy of each member by hiding all the email addresses. You can send a reply to him but you cannot send a reply to all other members. If Chris reveals members' addresses in the original email then you can provide feedback to other members by 'replying to all'. This is why Chris has set up a chat group only for those members who have agreed to share their email addresses. We will continue to respect the privacy of other members. Also, and this is very important, we ask that you protect the privacy of other members by not passing on their email addresses to other people or businesses outside our TOCACT circle. This could be done inadvertently by copying someone else into a stream of emails.

Craig Perkins (Webmaster aka Spiderman) and John Warouw (our apprentice Webmaster) are standing ready to help you with any problems in working your email communications. They have already added value by turning what would have been an email into a newsletter, resurrecting the E-Woodpecker.

This has required extra effort on their part which may not be sustainable - especially if they try to produce it on a monthly basis. They can only try. I know we will all be grateful for anything they add. It will require contributions from members to keep it entertaining

This first newsletter is coming to you on Wednesday 1 April (which would have been our next Club meeting date). It contains links to various websites which Chris Mobbs has compiled. He had hoped to show some of these videos at our next meeting. The topics will reflect (but not necessarily be limited to) feedback from our last meeting on issues of interest and the adoption of the annual hand tools theme. Rather than just watch and absorb the information in these links, if you are a member of the chat group we are hoping you will use the 'reply to all' function on your email to provide your comments and your personal experiences.

Have a go at using the hand tools demonstrated in the videos – even if it is just to do some test cuts/planes, etc. Send us feedback including photos of your efforts.

As well as just responding to topics in Chris' emails, we hope you and other members will take the initiative and volunteer to share information on items which we normally try to cover at meetings such as current projects, recent purchases, problems needing solutions and so on. If you are not a member of the chat group you can send information to Chris.

When I am not writing President's reports, I have a few different projects going on around the house and workshop. One of these is the

building of a lean-to on the back of the garage to house my recently acquired (from Peter Barton) 2hp dust extraction unit. The main benefit of putting the dust extractor outside the workshop is that it only has a bag filter which does not capture fine dust. The fine dust is now dispersed outside. It also reduces noise in the workshop. This is stage 1.

The lean-to (more respectfully known as the 'Filter Bag-house') used recycled fencing material lying around the yard and some old security screen doors. It cost around \$30 which was spent on some new timber for framing and hardware. Here are some photos that I was saving for the photo competition.



Laying the groundwork on left over pavers and bricks.



Scrap colour bond fencing used for sides and roof.



Moving the dust extractor into the Filter Bag House.



Framing using new structural pine and old security doors.



Locked away – safe and dry.

Stage 2 is installing ducting and rearranging my workshop to suit. I was looking forward to a presentation planned for a future Club meeting by Peter Taylor on this very topic. I think he was going to base his presentation on a system installed in Bruce McKenzie's workshop. Perhaps members would like to send in photos of their dust extraction systems.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Keep well -
John Karas

About this newsletter

This newsletter contains direct links to referenced material on the Internet. By clicking the web-address link below the pictures, your browser will take you to the relevant webpage.

We are unable to test compatibility with everyone's computing environment. If clicking on the web-address link does not work for you, please copy that link and paste it into your web browser.

Feel free to contact webmaster@tocact.org.au if you need assistance.

The Apprentice

Japanese saws

At our last meeting we commenced our journey into hand tools, and viewed a video showing how to use a western saw. Members then asked for video material explaining how to use a Japanese pull saw. I have looked for suitable videos, and found three, although they contain differing levels of explanation, and are not entirely consistent in explaining the angle at which the saw should be held.

Before viewing these videos, I recommend that you read the excellent introduction to Japanese saws here:



https://www.woodcraft.com/blog_entries/choosing-using-japanese-saws

Video #1

This video talks briefly about the three types, and then demonstrates the use of a Ryoba:



<https://www.finehomebuilding.com/2011/11/07/how-to-use-a-japanese-style-pull-saw>

Video #2

Video #2 deals with all three types (with a bit of sales talk thrown in):



https://youtu.be/gKI_vPyam3c

Video #3

This video is the first of a set of 4 videos, and if this first one grabs you can follow up the others from the YouTube page.



How to use Gyokudo brand Japanese saws - Video 1 of 4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oa5wIpfhGcY>

Sharpening

This was a topic that a number of people supported, and I mentioned that there are four or five different methods and exponents of them. To kick us off in the absence of meetings here is a link to the method that Paul Sellers uses for chisels, and swears by as being quick and easy.



<https://youtu.be/GN4yr7vp4I4>

Spare parts

Just a reminder that our new collection of spare parts is listed on the Classifieds page of our website here:



https://www.tocact.org.au/?page_id=207

The prices shown are for non-members. The (lower) member prices are those I circulated by email earlier.

Have something to sell? Wish to buy or swap?

Email: webmaster@tocact.org.au with your contact and request details (including photos) and we'll post it as soon as possible!

Triton training video of the month

This month's video shows how to deal with end grain, and includes a useful jig if you don't have a bevel cutting guide.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xIEIk1GLSQY>

Chris Mobbs



The way it is Now ☺ ☺