TOCACT
triton OWNERS' CLUB (A.C.T.) INC.
E-WOODPECKER
June 2020

President's Report

I am writing this in late May but the half yearly clearance sales have already started. Now is the time to look out for bargains on those pieces of woodworking tools and equipment you have had your eye on for some time. It's also a good opportunity to put all the savings we have made from staying at home to a good use. I personally am looking out for bargains on fittings for my ducting system. If you do come across some great bargains you may want to use our email network to bring them to the attention of other members.

Sales aside, the half year is also the time when we need to start thinking about renewing our Club membership and collecting fees when we can't meet face to face. Your Committee is currently organizing a virtual Committee Meeting to work through the processes for doing this. Over the last few years our Treasurer, Carolan Marstin, has developed a direct debit payment system which has been used by a lot of members. If you have problems with this system or have other preferences please let us know so that we take this into account in our deliberations.

The Committee will also be reviewing the approach we have been taking in place of not being able to hold real club meetings. Your thoughts and feedback on the approach we are taking and suggestions of other measures we can take to support members is also welcome.

It is still unclear when we can return to normal activities. The ACT Government has announced some relaxations on gatherings but there are still restrictive limits on numbers. I anticipate that these conditions will not be relaxed in time for our July meeting. Even if they are relaxed in time, given the vulnerable age group of our members, I am not sure that we will want to be an early mover. The Committee would be interested in your views on this.

The Committee is also considering holding a celebration event when we do meet again. We could contribute some of our hall hire savings towards such an event.

I am hoping everyone is keeping well.
John Karas

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Hand tools

*By **Chris M***

The focus of this month's hand tool segment is wood chisels.

Here's an American summary of chisel types:

https://toolsforworkingwood.com/store/more/chiselguide.html

Here's a surprising recommendation from Paul Sellers

https://paulsellers.com/2014/08/which-chisels-should-you-buy/
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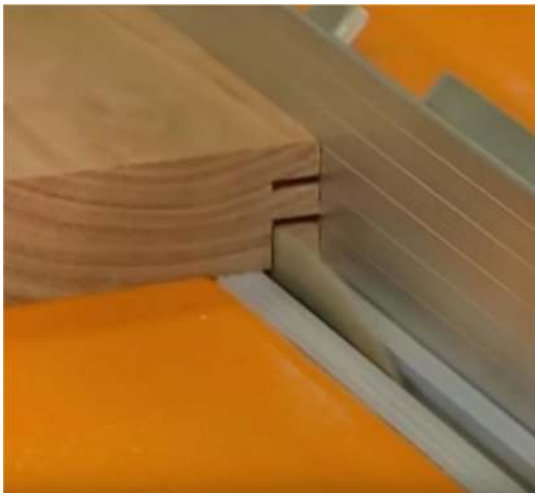
And here's a comparison between cutting a mortise with a mortise chisel and a bench chisel:

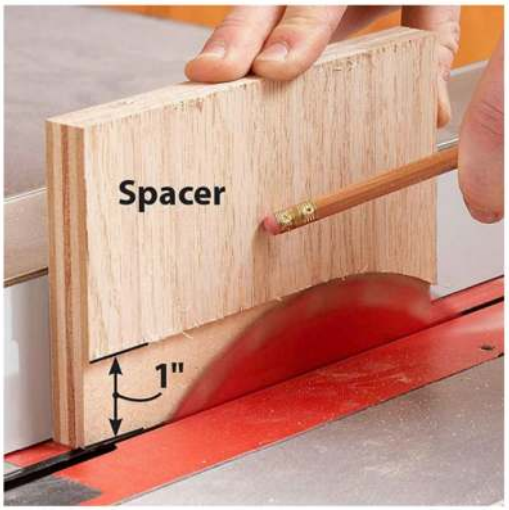
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_NXq7_TILA
Note: this video may start with a number of ads.

This month's groovy Triton training video



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XZ3nUaE3pQ

And…….another useful groovy video



Video link

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A Stand for a Sewing Machine
*By **John K***

A friend asked me if I could put a few pieces of wood together to make a sewing machine stand. They had it on display but it had to be propped up because of uneven mechanisms in the base. I used a small plank of sheoak (quarter sawn with lots of fiddle back and birdseye). My aim was to make a stand that complemented the machine without becoming the highlight. I deliberately steered away from attempting to recreate an original base. The stand is made like an up-turned picture frame (butt joints with biscuits) mounted on a drawer-like frame. To make the drawer joints, I used a drawer lock router bit from Timbecon. I thought it would be a 'piece of cake' (especially after watching the Timbecon video at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t8sApicwLwk but the small wood widths meant I needed to make a set of tall fences to get the stability needed to run them thru the router. I sanded to 1500 grit and finished it with several coats of kunos oil with a 2000 grit sanding between some coats.


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Underneath bandsaw storage
*By **Chris M***

I followed a tip from a magazine and made a mobile stand drawer for underneath my bandsaw.

Although it had a shelf, there was lots of sawdust going in that direction, and the drawer allows me to keep things cleaner.

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Maximising smaller spaces
*By **Rob F***

I have been working in my small garage in the attempt to maximise the limited space. Mainly, by building some storage out of melamine and building a new workbench.

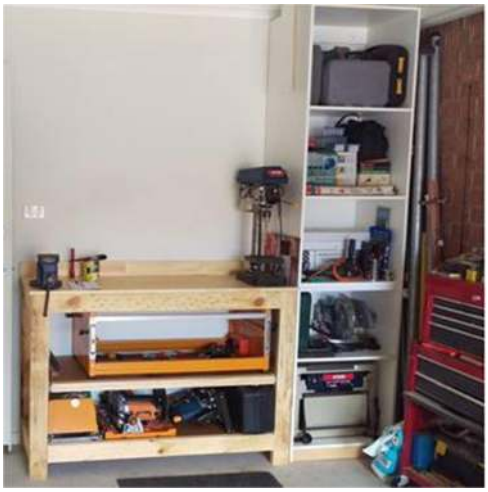
I used 90mm x 35mm structural pine, (probably overkill) for the new workbench. The bench is 1400mm wide, 450mm deep and 920mm high. I assembled the workbench using my Kreg K4 pocket screw jig.

Here, the assembly is well under way using 51mm Kreg screws. I also glued the joints for added strength.

This is the fully assembled workbench with a pine top. Notice the drawer slides half way down. More about this soon.

I built the storage shown at the right side of this photo with melamine. Basically 600mm wide, 450mm depth, and 2300mm tall. Eventually I will make doors for this.

To maximise space, I decided to install a shelf on the drawer runners half way down the workbench to house the Triton.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When not in use, I simply lift the Triton off its stand and store on this extendable/retractable shelf. The bottom shelf stores my two saws and router.

Here is a close-up of the shelf showing extended state and ready for the Triton to be lifted off and placed on its stand.

In phase two I will build some high-level above bench cupboards in melamine. Then I will place a plywood 'splash-back' with some French cleat rails for various tools. Stay tuned!

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Beehive

*By **Nick W***

Encouraged by a natural bee keeping course I embarked on a project to build a Kenya Top Bar (KTB) hive.

KTB hives are built to hip-height for easy access without having to bend over.

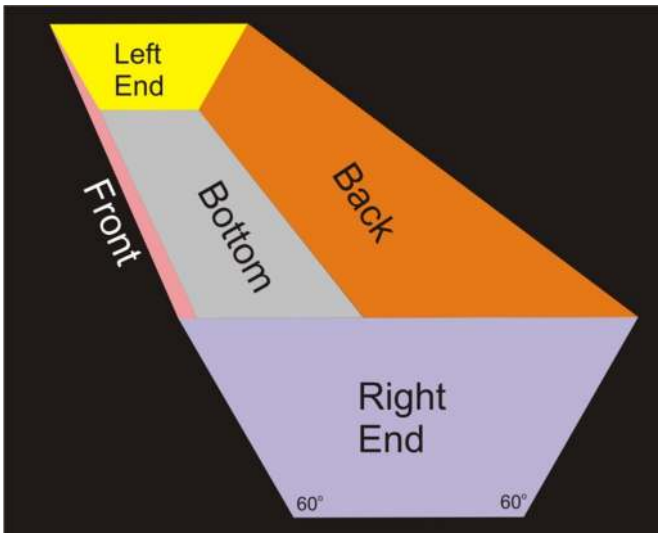
The bees build their comb so it hangs down from the top bar. This is in keeping with the way bees build wax in a natural cavity.

Only natural materials were used. This being my first ever Triton project, it was quite a challenge to get right.

I used 4 pieces of Jarrah, 1200mm x 250mm by 26mm to form the two lengths and base of the hive and the end-pieces to which these lengths would be attached. The 6 roof weather boards were 1.5m

I used the Triton in rip mode to even up the width of the Jarrah boards, and in cross cut mode to cut 3 lengths of 1200mm and 2 lengths of 600mm

The basic shape of the hive along its length is a half-hexagon, i.e., half the natural shape of a bee cell.



The bees use the top bars to construct their comb.

To achieve the half-hexagon shape I first bevel cut both sides of the bottom board to 60°. It was
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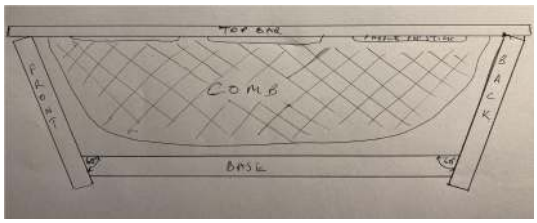
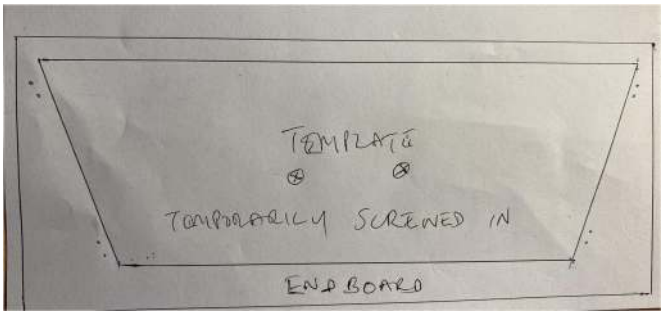
challenging to bevel cut over that length. Using a bevelling guide and aided by my lad to help feed it through, we managed to achieve this.



I then created two templates that were used to ensure the front and back boards align to the now 60^0 angled bottom board.

The templates were temporarily screwed into place to the right and left end boards, forming the guides to fit the front and back at 60 degrees.



Next, with the templates now removed, I simply dropped-in the bottom board. Phew, it was a snugly fit!

There were minor gaps that I packed with slivers of wood. That may not have been necessary, because the bees block any gaps with propolis, a sap like - sticky gunge that they use to seal up their hives from any unwanted insects and other invaders.

For the top bars I used several metres of 90mm x 35mm Cedar, cut to 500mm long lengths then ripped each into 3 lots of 30mm x 35mm x 500mm. I then cut a 5 mm deep groove along the boards, 35mm short of one end. Paddle sticks were glued into the groove using bees wax.

A cross cut at the same depth, 15mm from one end allows the top board to find a niche when set on top side of the hive. This ensures that the top bar is always returned to the same distance from the front and back.

The roof was constructed by first putting the legs in place. I then cut two gables and attached 3 overlapping 1.5metre weatherboards per roof side, capping it with a ridge.

I drilled a hole on each end of the rear gable, and drilled corresponding holes in the end boards. A large screw was then fitted to act as a hinge.

Three holes were drilled in the front side to serve as the bees' entrance.

Next, a photo of the initial swarm gathering around the entrance

Here is a photo of the finished product

Success! The bees have made this hive their home and are producing honey.

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CLASSIFIEDS

The Club has a limited number of Triton spare parts for sale.

If you wish to purchase any item, drop an email to the Webmaster. Postage or other shipment will be extra.
Visit: http://www.tocact.org.au/?page_id=207

Part numbers can be found on your original equipment instructions, or at Search Triton Spares.

From your Editor

Once again many thanks to all who have contributed to this issue of E-Woodpecker, our third issue in 2020. I am still learning; please feel free to send me comments, advice and guidance to make this among the best woodworking newsletters.

John Warouw

mailto: tojwact@tunza.com.au ,
(Subject: E-Woodpecker Editor.)
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