

E-WOODPECKER

July 2020

President's Report

In last month's newsletter I referred to issues that the Committee needed to consider. However, organising a Committee Meeting - even a virtual meeting - has been problematic. We were set to meet at the Ainslie Football Club but at the last moment they revised their plans for reopening meeting rooms. We are still working through issues with the Scout Hall to resume normal meetings – or even just a Committee Meeting.

For some venues, there appear to be legal requirements for developing and putting in place COVID Safe Plans. We are not sure if this legal requirement applies to Community Halls – but as a matter of course we should have our own safety plans in place before we meet again. I have also noticed that many venues around town are also imposing large additional upfront fees to cover cleaning costs. I have no idea if our Scout Hall will have similar requirements. *(ED - see stop press at end of newsletter)*

To give you an indication of what is involved in a COVID Safety Plan, some of the main features of safety plans include:

- the need to comply with social distancing requirements. No more than one person to 4 square metres, although the ACT is now talking about reducing this to 2 square metres. The Scout Hall can accommodate 25 people at 4 people per square metre but there is also the responsibility of members to keep 1.5 metres apart during meetings;
- the need to use hand cleaning stations. In our situation we should also provide alcoholic seat wipes;
- withdrawing common beverage and food services;

- responsibility on members to wash hands on arrival and not to attend meetings if they are not feeling well;
- a possible need for tighter conditions for vulnerable or high risk groups – many of our members fall into high risk age groups; and
- the need to comply with the venue provider's own Safety Plan.

Hopefully The Committee will be able to meet shortly to develop our COVID Safety Plan and work through issues to resume normal meetings. At this stage we will definitely not be in a position to resume Club meetings in July. August seems doubtful but September is a target to aim for.

On a totally different note, one of our key members is leaving town. Craig Perkins our long time web-master and master rocking horse carver and his wife Debby have taken out a long term lease on a house on the coast. Craig has done a great job in developing, refining and maintaining the website. He may continue to do some of the maintenance work on the website remotely but in the meanwhile we will need to find someone to take over from him as web-master. If you are interested let me know. The website is a fantastic go-to resource for members and is widely appreciated by Triton owners and general wood working enthusiasts from around the globe. This is reflected in a recent letter from a Triton owner in Queensland which has been included in this newsletter.

On behalf of the Club I would like to express my appreciation to Craig for the contributions he has made to the Club and wish him and Debby all the best for the future. We hope Craig continues to stay in touch with the Club and that he is able to coincide commutes to Canberra with future Club meetings.

John Karas

Commendation

The following email was received from Bob, an avid Triton woodworker in Queensland:

Sunday, 21 June

Good evening,

I would just like to thank your club and the webmaster in particular, for the well set-out public information you provide on your web site.

Although I am Brisbane based and obviously can't join your august band, I have been a Triton user since purchasing a MK3 New Series in 1986. I have just acquired a Triton 2000 model and am about to hand over my old workcentre (and various attachments) to my son-in-law (the tradition continues!). Your web site has many of the manuals and information he will need as he starts out.

Please pass on my appreciation to your members and thank you for continuing to support users of older Triton work centres.

All the best

In the words of our Secretary, and I am sure echoed by all club members:

“Webmaster, take a bow!”

TOACT 2020 Theme – Hand-Tools Chris M

The Card-Scraper

This is a basic tool that does a good job, especially in curly grain that might cause problems for other smoothing methods.

This video shows how to use one.



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

This article gives a written overview on how to sharpen and use a card scraper.



<https://www.highlandwoodworking.com/how-to-use-sharpen-wood-scraper.aspx>

This video shows how to sharpen a card-scraper



<https://www.woodmagazine.com/woodworking-tips/techniques/outfitting-woodworking-shop/how-to-sharpen-a-card-scraper>

And not a barrel in sight!

What Happened to Triton Oil? Brian C

Triton Oil is no longer available. It is a natural Tung Oil manufactured by Organoil that was rebadged for Triton. Tung Oil is still available.

“Tung oil or China wood oil is a drying oil obtained by pressing the seed from the nut of the tung tree (*Vernicia fordii*). Tung oil hardens upon exposure to air (through polymerization), and the resulting coating is transparent and has a deep, almost wet look.”

Ref: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tung_oil

The following recommended finishing procedure using 'Triton Oil' [Tung Oil] is an extract from an old copy of instructions that was issued by Triton relevant to Triton's random orbital sander and may also apply to similar sanders.

“Recommended Finishing Procedure

1. The sanding disc grit you start with will be dependent upon the timber surface texture (roughness) of the material you will be working with i.e:
 - Chainsaw blade cut may require the use of 40 grit disc to start.
 - Bandsaw blade cut may require the use of 80/120 grit disc to start.

Note: When using coarse discs, do not allow sanding pad to overheat – use for short duration only, allow to cool, then recommence sanding.

2. Sand surface back to 120 grit disc to smooth surface without score marks.
Note: Should scoring marks appear on the timber surface, cause is likely to be a clogged sanding disc. Clean disc down with light wire brush then recommence sanding to eliminate scoring marks.

3. Change sanding disc to 180 grit then continue sanding until timber surface has a lustre like appearance, and is free from blemishes.

Note: Do not remove sawdust build-up from sanding disc as this assists in Step 4.

4. Apply either Triton's Interior/Exterior oil [Tung Oil] liberally to timber surface allowing time for oil to penetrate.
 - Whilst oil is still wet on the surface of the timber recommence sanding (now burnishing).
 - Continue to burnish until an even sheen appears across the timber surface.

5. With minimal oil on a cloth wipe off excess slurry from timber surface, carry on burnishing using a 600 grit Triton disc.

Note: Very porous timbers may need a reapplication of oil if patching appears

- To obtain a high lustre carry on sanding

using 1200 grit paper.

6. Wipe surface with soft cloth, allow to stand for 24 hours then machine or handbuff with dry, clean lambswool.“

Source: Triton Manufacturing & Design Co. Pty. Ltd.
Sydney Office: 1/3 Kaleski Street, Moorebank NSW 2170

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### This Month's Training Video Chris M

For those of you without finger jointers.



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

### Hand Planes, a Follow-Up Chris M

Some mouth-watering planes (with eye-watering prices no doubt)!



And more.... Intrigued? Read all about it at:  
<https://www.popularwoodworking.com/end-grain/apologia-for-the-custom-handplane/>

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**From the Workshops**  
**- Members -**

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**Plant stands****Chris M****Hall plant stand**

Made from Bunnings Karri project panel



This was a modification of a Woodsmith plan, with the bottom shelf added.

A bit tricky to fit because the legs taper in two directions, so couldn't lower the shelf into place

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Spotted Gum plant stand

This was my main project for the month. I made this plant stand for a friend during the month. I used Spotted Gum for the first time - a very dense timber.

**Making a Dust Shroud for a Drop Saw**
John K

I have a cheap green Bosch compound mitre saw that ticks all the functionality boxes but does nothing well. Dust is a major problem. It literally throws it over the whole workshop. Even attaching a vacuum cleaner does little to reduce the mess. I am addressing this issue by making a dust shroud and connecting this to the dust extraction unit.

The shroud is my own design and is made from re-purposed materials.



Photo 1: This is the beast on its own stand.



Photo 2: The gap between the base of the saw and the stand is wide enough to insert a thick sheet of laminated MDF which forms the base of the shroud. The space is also sufficiently tight to hold the base in securely without the need for additional hardware. This also allows the shroud to be removed by sliding backwards



Photo 3: The base sheet extends out the back of the saw to accommodate the extent of the saw slide. Two boards (the lower frame of the shroud) were fixed to this sheet in a V shape to channel

dust to the back of the shroud. The front of this frame fits snuggly into the base of the saw.



Photo 4: Light fibre board was used for the walls; the flat top and back (also see next photo).



Photo 5: The top extends over the front of the saw with a cut-out to accommodate the handle. The width of this cut-out reflects the position of the

handle for full depth cuts with saw. As I later discovered, the handle passes through at a different height for partial depth cuts. Rather than widening the cut-out (which would have resulted in more dust to escape out the top) I was able to slide the whole shroud back to accommodate these cuts.



Photos 6 & 7: Cut-out for inserting the 100 mm dust extractor connector in the back and bottom of the shroud.

As a temporary measure (until I get the right hose fittings to connect directly to the ducting for the dust extractor) I am dangling the vacuum cleaner hose from the saw in this opening.



Photo 8: Front faces were cut to fit the mouldings of the saw. They extend forward so the overall shape of the shroud is a diamond. Fortunately these faces were attached with screws because I

have since had to remove the left front face to tilt the saw for bevel cuts.



Photo 9: The finished shroud (at least for now). The shroud is doing a reasonable job in capturing a lot of the dust especially with narrow planks. With wider planks the saw is extended well in front of the shroud and a lot of material is thrown out on the right hand side of saw blade before it enters the shroud.

I need to try a few different things to capture this material. I should also block off unnecessary air intake entrances (e.g. around the base of the saw) and experiment with some sloping faces within the shroud to create a more effective airflow. I am working on the basis that this is a starting point from which other refinements can be made.



Hair dryer cabinet

Craig P

A small cabinet I just built for one of my daughters.



1 - Need drawers for dryers & curlers



2 - Found some suitable wood



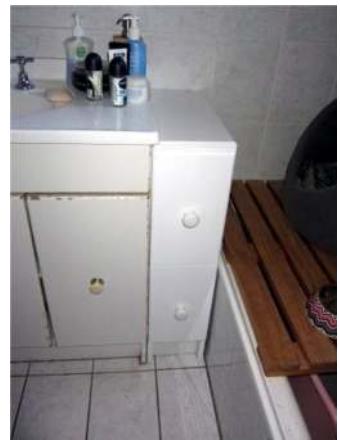
3 - Carcass cut to size



4 - Bought drawer hardware.



5 - Drawers built and ready to paint.



6 - Assembled, painted and installed.

Various Woodcraft Items

Mick B

I continue being busy collecting tools for the bush fire affected areas. The next delivery is about to occur. Meanwhile I have also made the following items.



A dibber made from the strawberry tree that had been cut down in the backyard. I have made others since using a design from YouTube consisting of gluing three contrasting timbers together and turning the piece with different styles at the 'hand' end.



A sanding bench using plywood to contain an electric saw which had been fitted with a Triton sanding disc with two grades of sanding grit.



Reshaping a piece of telegraph pole from almost round to hexagon shape with a twist of one flat. Only hand tools used and the result will be a pot plant holder, a piece of art, or firewood depending on my skills and my patience with this piece of very heavy yellow box.



A microwave-stand for our daughter's kitchen



A series of tokens and a device to cut them to size. The tokens were for our daughter's benefit in rewarding our grandson for doing tasks during the Corona isolation.



A coffee table using the 'stone' from a kitchen bench. I carved a picture of an elephant on each leg and included the 'toenails' of the elephant's feet!



A spice rack from fence palings and left-over timber.

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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](http://www.tocact.org.au/?page_id=207)

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



"Mr. Barnes is here again to speak about woodworking safety. Unfortunately, I missed his first speech."

**STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS**

Just as we were going to press, the Scouts advised us of their COVID 19 Safety Plan. They are at Stage three for gatherings of up to 100 people. The main features are:

- *social distancing applies;*
- *hand sanitiser will be available;*
- *Stromlo Forest Scouts to ensure hall is cleaned after use;*
- *no attendance if ill;*
- *exclude anyone not well;*
- *each activity to begin with an education session. For adults this would be in the form of a safety brief. Maintain physical distancing of 1.5m, maintain hand hygiene, practise respiratory hygiene, stay home if sick, exclude anyone not well etc; and*
- *hall hirers briefed on operational arrangements.*

*The total area of the main hall plus small entry area is approximately 100m<sup>2</sup>. If we use the 4m<sup>2</sup> metric per person, this would enable up to 25 persons in the main hall appropriately distanced.*

*This advice may change depending on ACT Government rules. Please keep up to date with ACT Government advice relating to Covid-19. This can be done via the following website:*

<https://www.covid19.act.gov.au>

We have anticipated most of these conditions but this advice from the Scouts gives us something to work towards – perhaps even an August meeting. We will send around a separate email to Club members to see if there is sufficient interest in meeting in August or if there is a preference for holding off till September. If there is interest from more than 25 members we may need to ration seats.

