

The Men's Shed (North Shore) Trust

Sheddies' Chatter

Welcome Back

Compliments of the season to all, we trust you have enjoyed your time during the Christmas break. Our Christmas BBQ was well attended with more members and partners than the previous year.



As usual Roger was "BBQ Chief" with Graeme assisting the cooking of numerous Hash Browns, Sausages and Steaks.

Of course we can't forget the Guys in the kitchen on Dishes and the fantastic job you all did with the vacuum cleaners in preparation for this event.



Extension Fit Out Begins

The Year begins with the Fit Out of our new extension and the Board of Trustees have met to discuss the procedure. Dave Wardlaw will Supervise this and if you are available to help, talk with Dave and he will slot you into a position that you feel comfortable with. Don't be shy there is something for every one to be involved in the more help we have means the quicker the workshop will return to full use.

Space

There are several personal items including materials and tools currently in the Shed and we ask those responsible to remove these to help with our relocation plans that will be underway during the next couple of weeks.

New Members arrive in January

The year has commenced with two new members joining already and we welcome: Sharon Dooley and Grant Beetham.

I'm sure they will enjoy being involved in all the activities at the Shed.

Shop Accident Statistics and Woodworking Safety

The following article was obtained from Woodworkers Guild of America website and it was information that I thought we should all be aware of:

Every year, hospitals see injuries caused by woodworking tools in the emergency room. This includes professionals and hobbyists, students and homeowners. The types of injuries vary, as there are more ways to make mistakes in a woodshop than there are ways to plan ahead for them – precisely why they're called accidents!

In 2011, the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) database published statistics concerning injuries related to woodshop machinery. The information was submitted by a number of local hospitals and projected to determine a likely overall average of injuries across the country. Therefore, the numbers may be a little low with the consideration of how many people don't go to the emergency room for a wound that isn't life threatening. The numbers certainly don't include the "near miss" accidents that nearly every woodworker has seen. They do include injuries not related to use of machinery, such as a hurt back from trying to move a piece.

Table Saw: estimated 39,750 annual injuries

In most modern woodshops, the table saw is the centerpiece of the room and the most used tool. It's not surprising, therefore, that the table saw causes more injuries than other woodshop equipment. The NEISS study shows a total of 855 table saw injuries in their sample count, which equates to a prediction of 78,980 total table saw accidents across the country.

Jointers, Planers, and Other Machinery: estimated 10,930 annual injuries

Jointers and planers, along with shapers and sanders, were classified as "other" for the sake of the NEISS study. They accounted for 195 injuries, or a projected 21,859 total injuries.

Miter Saw: estimated 6,800 annual injuries

The miter saw, in today's shop, has for the most part replaced the radial arm saw. With 127 total accidents, the miter saw proves it may not be as safe as it appears. Accidents can occur if it isn't set up securely on a table or bench. Further, it is designed only to make one specific type of through crosscut with a full sized board. When people try to cut too small of a piece, they place their fingers too close to the blade, or occasionally people try to make a short rip cut which is seemingly simple but the saw does not properly support the board and even with a steady hand it can move slightly, causing a kickback.

Band Saw: estimated 3,550 annual injuries

The sample study only shows a total of eleven band saw injuries, which is not enough statistically to formulate a reasonable prediction as to the number of overall injuries there have been with the band saw. However, the direct data indicates it to be about one per cent of the number of table saw accidents. A few factors could play into these numbers. First, not many hobby woodshops use a band saw, and the ones that do don't use it as often as the table saw, generally speaking.

Radial Arm Saw: estimated 350 annual injuries

The radial arm saw was at one time the primary tool of the average woodshop, as it is a versatile tool capable of a lot of different tasks. Unfortunately, it has limits in how wide of a board it can handle and can be difficult to set up for rip cuts, so its popularity has given way to the table saw as a primary shop machine. The NEISS figures show only 4 total radial arm saw accidents, a low number, probably because radial arm saws aren't widely used today.

Be safe, be careful, don't hurry and don't be one of the New Zealand Statistics.

Communication problems

We are still having problems with our Telephone and Internet connection despite assurances from suppliers (Spark NZ) that their technicians will have it solved. We apologize for this inconvenience which has occurred.



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