



Ben Grant, Tharindu Abeyratne, Benjamin Brayshaw with their award-winning *Clam Chair*.



Slabs and more at The Timber Bloke's new showroom.



Taking his time: A demonstrator at Slow Wood 2013.

RMIT award winners

Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology students Andre Hnatjko, Ashley Allen and Tate Anson won three of four category awards at Melbourne's Furnitex VIVID emerging designer awards in July this year. Prizes included flights to attend the London Design Festival. Benjamin Brayshaw, Ben Grant and Tharindu Abeyratne, also RMIT furniture design students, won Australian Furniture of the Year Student Design Award at the same event for their portable *Clam Chair*. The internally padded chair opens and closes, and is made from American walnut veneered, hoop pine ply, flexible PVC and felt upholstery. See www.rmit.edu.au/designtafe for more info about courses.

Workbench World

Since its establishment in 1984, Chris Wilkins's WA-based Workbench World has provided over 4000 benches for individuals, schools and businesses in Australia and overseas. But now, for health reasons, Chris has made the decision to sell his business and is hoping to pass on the skills he has accumulated for designing, building and marketing his specialist products. There have been offers from other manufacturers, hardware chains and overseas stores to take on his lines and even franchise his business model. This is an affordable woodworking business for a person who would like to make the most of these opportunities. Call Chris on (08) 9330 5758 to discuss the possibilities.

Youth awards

Henry Wilson is a former student at ANU Canberra School of Art's wood workshop and is now the recipient of a Qantas Spirit of Youth Award (SOYA365). It doesn't get much better than winning a prestigious title, \$5000 in cash and 12 month mentorship opportunity with celebrated designer Marc Newson. These awards are open to

'young creatives' from 18 to 30 years who can apply in various categories. Find out more at www.soya.com.au

Bloke's showroom

Known as 'The Timber Bloke' Derek Doak has been milling timber for 25 years. Prior to July this year customers were used to Derek's working shed-type display area and were able to look past the sawdust to see the salvaged treasure he has on offer. Now however, buyers can browse his new 100sqm showroom to select from the varying range of exotics and native species that are sourced from urban felling or clearing operations. Because Derek is mostly out the back milling wood it's advisable to ring before visiting. The Timber Bloke is at Naval Base, about 20 minutes south of Perth. Call 0417175590, or visit www.thetimberbloke.com.au

Laguna has landed

Gregory Machinery are now offering machinery from Italian manufacturer Laguna. For details of the range on offer phone (07) 3375 5100 or visit gregmach.com



Tools for sale

Over 40 tables of hand tool treasure will be on offer on Sunday February 24, 2013 at the Brick Pit Sports Stadium in Thornleigh, Sydney. We are talking form, function, collectibility and downright desirability. The sale is only open from 9am to 1pm on the day so don't sleep in! Applications for selling are also available. Telephone Horacio Rodrigues on (02) 4226 6796 or 0417 535 867 for information.

Wood culture

This year the picturesque island of Certosa, north-east of Venice, played host to *Slow Wood*, an annual event that spotlights wood, art and crafts. It is organised by Culturalegno (wood culture), an association that promotes hand skills and hand tools. The presence of Thomas Lie-Nielsen, founder of his own make of fine tools was one of the highlights. Of course the regional food, wine and ambience make this a woodworker's junket to die for. Find out more at www.culturalegno.org

DIY machine savings

Can't afford quality European machinery? How would you like to save \$2,500 on a MiniMax C26 4 in 1 combination? Or maybe \$850 off the price of a S45N bandsaw? These and other discounts are available from Gabbett Machinery. The catch is that you will receive them 'export packed', meaning they will need to be cleaned, assembled and set up (manuals and instructions are supplied). To find out more email minimax@gabbett.com with 'I want the best' in the subject line.



Natural oils

The manufacturers of Livos products are scrupulous about ensuring their oils are biologically degradable, sustainable and non-injurious to people, plants or animals without compromising the quality and durability of the finishes they produce. Learn about their range at www.livos.com.au or phone (03) 9762 9181 for information or advice.