

# The joys of working with wood



*David Howlett*

by Ara Jansen

LONG-TIME teachers and friends David Howlett and Michael Scarfone have finally realised their dream of using their teaching skills and sharing their love and extensive knowledge about woodworking.

Their passion for keeping the art alive has led to the creation of Perth Wood School in Welshpool.

David knows there are plenty of blokes out there with a shed full of tools which they either

don't know how to use or don't get the most out of. He hopes the school can change all that.

The school has courses for the total beginner to more advanced groups running all week during the day and at night. Or you can use the workshop on a casual basis.

The workshop is fully-equipped with the latest German Festool power tools, top quality hand tools and a range of three-phase machinery which will make even the most

serious woodworker envious.

The best part is that Michael and David will give woodworkers hands-on training with all the equipment, regardless of level of skill or experience.

"People see those simple jobs on lifestyle TV shows but don't always have the confidence to try them," says David. "We want to give them that confidence."

"We want to pass on our knowledge and show people they can make beautiful pieces themselves rather than having to buy them."

Working with wood is definitely an equal opportunity passion according to David who says both men and women of all ages are coming to the school.

"We have had a lot of calls from women who say they were actively discouraged to do woodwork at school but have always wanted to try it - and now they can."

The school is even doing short courses where anyone can make four Christmas presents over three sessions.

*\*For more information and course dates, log on to [www.perthwood-school.com.au](http://www.perthwood-school.com.au) or phone 9358 0500.*