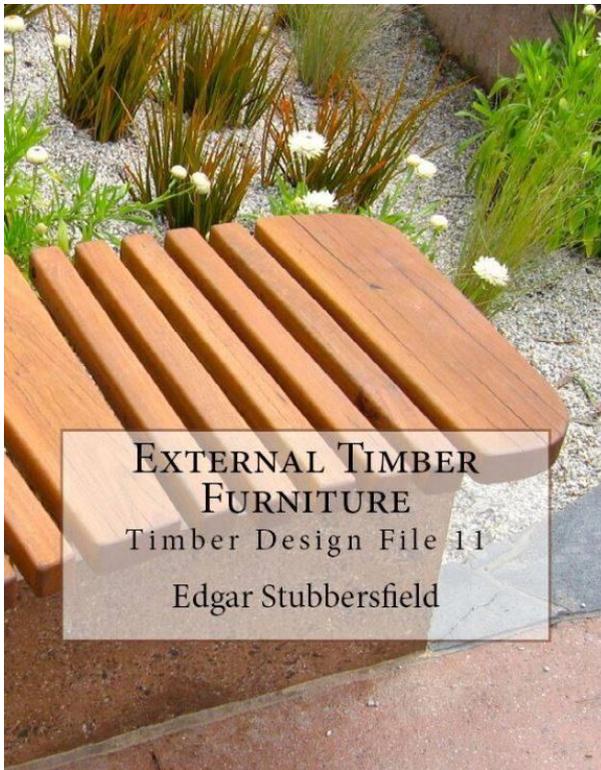


# Ted's News

## September 2018

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[New Guide - External Timber Furniture](#)



Last year I wrote an expert witness report on some very expensive external timber furniture that had gone terribly wrong. The products were very functional and would have performed well under cover, but they simply weren't designed to be exposed to the weather. This wasn't some secret men's business, instead very basic mistakes were made like taking a species that is notoriously difficult to glue, gluing it and then placing it in the weather. How does someone who is a novice know it is difficult to glue - it says so in the "Bible", *Boote's Wood in Australia*. (The book is available from Amazon.)

So, having seen that there were designers and fabricators that did not appreciate the difference between good and bad practice in external timber furniture, I realised that another book was needed. The book is not about teaching you how

to design an outstanding piece of furniture, It is about empowering you to design a piece that stays together and ages gracefully. A detailed design check list ensures you don't overlook something.

You can [purchase a PDF of this book](#) individually for \$55 or as [part of the set for \\$440](#). Alternatively, you can [purchase it as a hard copy or kindle from Amazon](#).

## Free CPD Sessions



For a limited time only, Wilson Timbers/Outdoor Structures Australia (OSA) are meeting the cost of delivering CPD sessions in your office. There are only two conditions and these are that I can travel there and back in a day and that OSA be allowed to give a sales pitch. These are exactly the same presentations I would give if you paid. It

sounds like a good deal to me. Here is a [link to the courses I have available](#). I suggest External Timber 101 would be a good start. The learning outcomes are:

- Know the resources needed for a successful design
- Understand the difference between pine, cypress and hardwood
- Understand the importance of selecting the right species
- Understand the importance of selecting the right part of the tree.
- Understand the importance of preservation
- Understand why natural feature must be limited

These are informative seminars with serious learning outcomes and, if required for CPD points, I can provide a test and a certificate. Call Stuart Madill on 0403 385 707 to arrange a free session and for paid add free talks call me on 0414770261 to arrange a convenient time for your "Ted talk".

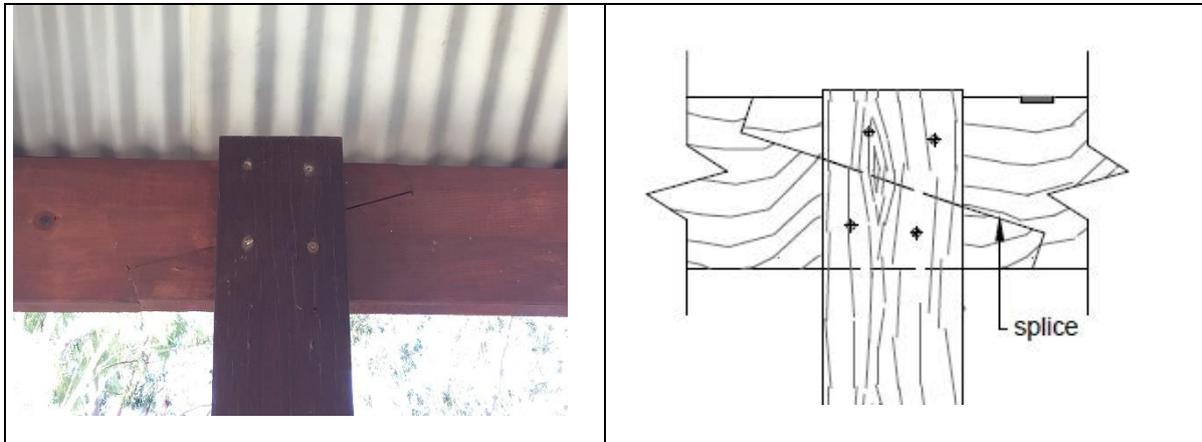
## How Not to do a Timer Joint



I am indebted to Joshua Hutton, a Project Engineer with Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd for the above image of join in a bearer that he saw when visiting the Barossa. The builder was probably sampling too much of the fruit of the vine at the time. The bolts are obviously too close to the end for a start and then to compound matters there is a half scarf at the ends so there is not much timber there to start with before the deep countering which has broken out at the ends

In my book, *Timber Joints*, I discuss end clearances on bolts and it is fairly complicated compared to screws (refer Tables 5 and 6 on pages 43 and 44) but, briefly, we invariably worked on 8

diameters and, if the joint was weather exposed, we added another 50 mm. So for a weather exposed joint like this, using 12 mm bolts, we would have aimed for 150 mm end clearance. With and M10 the distance would have been 130 mm. It is a bit tricky on a 100 mm post I will grant you. What is the answer?



The images above show how we joined a 240x45 pine bearer in the shelter sheds I made. A spliced joint ensures that end clearance is maintained. You will notice that it is screwed, our preferred arrangement, not bolted. A bolt would be 12 mm and you have to drill oversize to fit the bolt and the hole is not supposed to be any more than 10% oversize. As you can't purchase a 13.2 mm drill and the bolt won't pass through 13 mm you are forced to go to 14 mm. The bolt has a rolled thread meaning the shank is only 10.75 mm, not 12 mm. So in effect you have a 10.75 mm bolt in a 14 mm hole. No problem until you have a cyclone and you have to deal with movement in the hole. A screw has an interference fit so there is no movement. Attention to detail like this made our shelters cyclone proof. A screw also need less end clearance.

So, the point is, don't leave your joint designs up to the builder but ensure they are detailed in your working drawings. Joshua received a copy of my book *Timber Joints* for sharing this image. [You can purchase a PDF](#) for \$55.00 or order a [hard copy from Amazon](#).

### [Attractive Project Using Eclipse E4 Bollards](#)

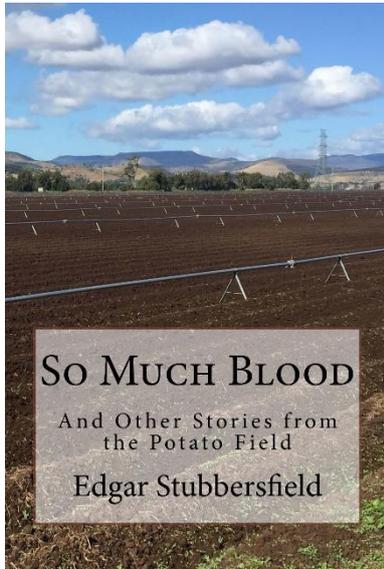


Site location: Edmondson Park Frasers Town Centre Display Village, Sydney NSW  
Builder: Strongbuild Commercial Pty Ltd.

This project uses 52 E4 Single Eclipse bollards that have been set out in a 63m perimeter. The eclipse range was developed for me when I operated Outdoor Structures Australia (OSA) The fence is made up of 11 strands of 3.2mm 316 grade stainless steel, 7 strand wire (high quality sourced from South Korea). There was also a requirement for vehicle access on an annual basis. Access was achieved by way of installing 4 removable bollard sleeves. Despite the need to remove the wiring in order to remove the bollards it was determined that the inconvenience once a year was acceptable to maintain an ascetically pleasing result. The pictures have been taken prior to oiling with Tanacoat. [Click here for more information on the eclipse range.](#)

For more information, contact [Stewart Madill](#) of OSA on 0403 385 707.

### [Encouragement From a Potato Field](#)



I have just published another book, but not on timber this time. I asked the members of our small Baptist church situated in the middle of a potato field to give me a story relating to their faith that they would like remembered. So far I have 20 stories in this little book that will encourage and amaze you.. The book can be purchased from [Amazon as a paperback or Kindle](#). Alternatively, I can send a PDF at no cost. You might find my two books of sermons interesting also:

[Sermons from a Potato Field](#)

[Lettuce Pray](#)

Same deal with a PDF. Keeping with the agricultural theme, book three will be *24 Carrot Faith*.



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