This year we decided to spend the weekend away in Kyneton to visit the Lost Trades Fair. What a great decision that was as it is becoming so popular that by staying local we could get an early start, have no trouble parking and spend all day at the Fair without having to face the long drive home again.

The Fair had something to interest everyone. Just spending time watching, listening and talking to the various artisans there it was surprising how enthusiastic you can feel about the old crafts and find yourself beginning to plan to take up a new challenge.

For example, we spent quite some time with the "Bladerunners", watching and hearing about the rather therapeutic ancient craft of scything that provides an alternative to the noisy, heavy mower machines of today. Our enthusiasm for this quietly efficient, rhythmic and apparently effortless activity had us digging out an old scythe we have on our return home. It just needs a bit of T.L.C. before we start putting it to good use trimming all those hard to reach areas and steep slopes.

On show was a motor cycle with a rather beautifully worked wicker side car. The wicker makers were demonstrating their skills with wickerwork baskets and chairs and screens. In the automotive line were craftsmen demonstrating and explaining their decorative skills of lining and pin striping. John was particularly interested in the steam bending of timbers and managed to pick up some valuable ideas on how to make hood bows for the vintage cars he is in the process of restoring.

All in all it was an excellent day at the Fair and we even won a prize at the Coconut Shy!!

## John and Judy

FAIR

March 12 & 13, 2016

Kyneton Racecourse

10am-4pm

Showcasing traditional, rare and forgotten trades

and the inspiring artisans who practise them. www.rundellandrundell.com.au

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