

Tele (club) 8786 8794 Club email bdwwcsec@outlook.com

Postal address:

**The Berwick District Woodworkers Inc
PO Box 921, High Street, Berwick, Victoria, 3806**

Location:

**The Old Cheese Factory, 34 Homestead Road Berwick, 3806
Inc. No A0012122U**

Welcome to the newsletter for September 2020

DATES TO REMEMBER: **Committee Meeting**, - In abeyance until further notice
Monthly Meeting - In abeyance until further notice.

FUNCTIONS: - None until further notice.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I hope this finds all members in good health. With the Covid numbers now starting to drop let's hope they continue to fall and we can get back together before Christmas, it is important that we keep in contact with one another.

The Farmers' Market was held again on the 12th September, my belief is that the numbers were again very low but at this stage will continue to operate each month.

Finally a reminder that our Club fees are now due and can be paid directly into our bank account at Westpac BSB 033609 a/c No 416074 and be sure to add your name in the comments area. Alternatively you can send a cheque by mail to the club addressed to the Treasurer at Post Office Box 921 Berwick 3806.

The Clubs Annual General Meeting has now been put back further, more details later.

At present we are unable to have any general meetings, the committee is going to try a zoom meeting on Tuesday 15 September and will continue keeping in touch by phone and will deal with any matter that may arise.

My wife will undergo her last Chemo treatment on Monday 14 September, and we are hoping for improvements in the near future. She has a number of doctors appointments and tests then to be completed over the next couple of weeks to ascertain the success of the Chemo.

It was great to hear that **Martin van Diemen's** hip replacement was a success and he is now up and about again within the restrictions.

I wish all members the best of health and until next time please stay fit and healthy and I look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Len Preece - President.

CLUB INFORMATION:

MEETINGS:

COMMITTEE GENERAL SPEAKERS ETC FARMERS' MARKET
10th October

Committee of Management:

<i>Contact Details</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Phone</i>
President	Len Preece	59405564
Vice President	Brian Crowe	0438 012 155
Secretary	Richard Gething	9704 5417
	email: bdwwcsec@outlook.com	
Treasurer	Peter Angwin	5941 1272

<i>Committee</i>
Mark Bellis 9769 9596
John McMahon 9796 1097
Martin Van Diemen 9707 5305
Ken Whitefield 9704 9701
Ken D. Barnes 0419 114 738
Paul Ryan 0400 538 577

Monthly demonstrations - *Vacant looking for help*
 Functions Coordinator - *Vacant*
 Newsletter Editor – *Elsie Hoare*
 Public relations – *Len Preece*
 OCF Contact group – *Len Preece*
 Toy Coordinator – *Ken D. Barnes.*
 Machinery maintenance supervisor. - *Brian Crowe*
 Health and Safety Coordinator – *All committee members.*
 Member’s welfare coordinator – *Ken Whitefield*
 Kits for kids coordinator – *Ken Whitefield*
 Farmers Market Coordinator – *Martin Van Diemen & Paul Ryan*
 Special interest group coordinators – *To suit group*
 Librarian – *Keith Towe*
 Exhibition and Show - *John McMahon*
 Gala Day coordinator - *Len Preece*
 Our Lease - *Chris Drysdale*
 Screws – *MartinVan Diemen*
 Paint – *George Young*
 Timber coordinator – *Martin Van Diemen*
 Equipment authorisation approved members. - *Len Preece, Brian Crowe, John Damon, John Membrey and Bill Bradshaw.*
 Mens' Shed coordinator - *Wayne Lucas.*

All material for the Club’s monthly publication is to be submitted by e-mail ricels@bigpond.com by hand, or by phone to the editor by the 15th of each month: Letters to the editor must be sent to the committee.

PLEASE NOTE: Those members wishing to use the workshop on Saturdays other than Farmers’ Market Saturdays must make private arrangements with a key-holder. For safety reasons, there must always be two members present in the workshop whenever it is being used.

Membership Fees:
 Individual Joining Fee - \$40.00
 Single Membership - \$65.00
 Family Membership - \$100.00
 No Attendance Fee.
 Tea & Coffee complimentary.
 Members can pay either direct at club or by EFT bank transfer to WBC Berwick BSB 033 609, Acct # 41 6074. Please remember to put your surname as a reference.

Workshops & Meetings:

Weekly	Hours	Activity	Leader
Monday Morning	9.00 am – 2.30 pm	Toys -	Eric Guthrie
Tuesday Morning	9.00 am – 2.30 pm	Toys -	Ross Blackwood
Wednesday Morning	9.00 am - 1.00 pm	General -	Bill Bradshaw
Wednesday Evening	5.00 pm - 9.00 pm	General -	Bill Bradshaw
Thursday Morning	9.00 am – 1.00 pm	Fine W/work -	Brian Crowe
Friday Morning	9.00 am - 1.00 pm	General -	Len Preece
Saturday Morning	9.00 am - 1.00 pm	Farmers' Market supervisors -	Martin Van Diemen and Ken Whitefield or by prior arrangement on other Saturdays.

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Berwick Woodworkers wish to thanks **Gary Maas MP** State Member for Narre Warren South, and his staff for their support in printing this newsletter for us. **8783 6959.**

Berwick Woodworkers also acknowledge with gratitude the generosity of **Ephraim Finch** who has supported the club for many years with donations of top quality timber. Without Ephraim's gifts, the work we do for local underprivileged children would be considerably curtailed.



SHOW & TELL for September 2020. Although health restrictions continue to keep us from attending the club rooms, those members who are able to work at home are continuing to exercise their skills. Once again I have raided the pages of the club's Facebook account for some of the pictures that have appeared there.

Just to prove that he is not rusted on to his lathe, **John McMahon** has found some home maintenance to do: *"I've taken a break from the lathe to fix up the balustrading around our deck. Replaced a rotted timber balustrade with a powder coated aluminium one. Before & after pics. Now back to the lathe."*



The separation was obviously too much for John and his Covid Collection continues to grow: *Covid No 43: Osage Orange lidded box approx 90mm diam 130mm tall.*



Covid No 44: Blackwood vase with a couple of dyed cypress flowers. Approx 95mm diam 195mm tall plus the flowers.

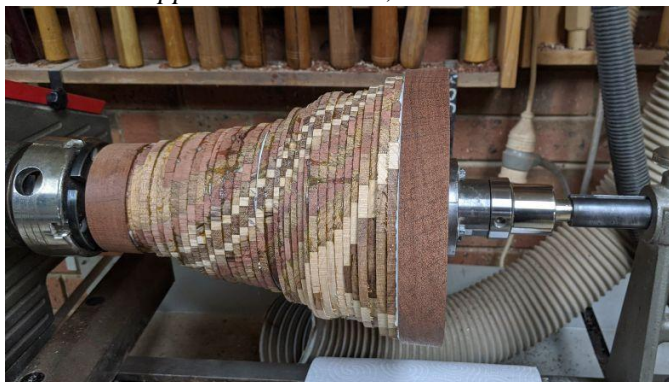


Covid No 45: Osage Orange vase with lots of cracks, but the wood is too nice to waste. Approx 70mm diam 180mm tall. filled the cracks with sawdust & CA glue. No other special actions.



Covid No 42: Jacaranda hollow form approx 190mm diam 140mm tall. Outside embellished with bronze gilder's paste to highlight the grain.

Covid 46. Used up some of my off-cuts for this segmented/dizzy/vortex vase. I don't know what the official name is, but I've seen all 3 of these names used for this style of turning. Woods used include Sydney Bluegum, Cypress, Jarrah, Redgum, Merbau, & Blackwood. Approx 210mm diam, 250mm tall.



This plaintive comment from **Paul Ryan** concerns the photos below.

"This lockdown is starting to cause a storage problem."



Simon Robbins is using his diverse talents. Below are his natural edge bowl in Manchurian Pear with a butterfly adornment. The backdrop is an acrylic painting of a landscape with trees and is shown in the next photo. The scroll saw work of a bull's head with arrow and feathers is made from Redgum, King Billy pine, and Radiata Pine.



From **Brian Crowe**. *"We were out walking one day and saw the spoons in a paddock and searched on what they were about. Apparently it is an activity for children while at home to reduce the boredom, what a great idea."*





Mark Bellis has made these turned tea-light bowls. Here is a closer look at each.

Mark says, *"I have turned a dusty dry old piece of white cyprus into 4 tea light holders just because I could."*

I'm glad you could, Mark. They're beautiful.



From Alexander Drysdale:

At a Farmer's Market I was asked by a customer if anyone in the club could make up some buttons for her and she mentioned some specific sizes. I said I would try and all it would cost her was a donation to the Woodworker's Club when the job had been completed. She wanted 10 and I made up 23 so she could pick and choose.



The buttons are slices from a branch of a cut down tree (I don't remember, if I ever knew, what tree) which I have 'stored' for several years until I had a use for them. Each slice is soaked in super glue to try and prevent it splitting as it is in effect end grain, then varnished and holes drilled in the approx. centre.

Looks quite good in situ, doesn't it?



David Murden hasn't allowed the club's lock-down to impede his woodworking. Here and on the next page David shows us some of his achievements.

"Made a dove nesting box for my mum using my new toy.

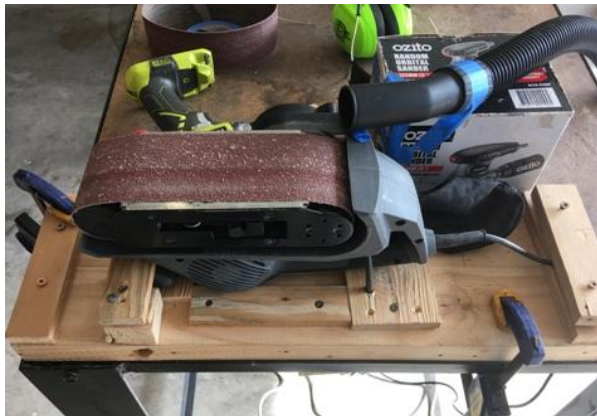
A wooden sword I've been making. The pommel and cross guard are made from apricot."



David Murden's Adventures in Toy Making. My nephew's first birthday is coming up and I decided to make him a wooden toy. At the same time, I also started on his Christmas present. I am making him a car for this birthday and truck for Christmas, as shown below.



Each toy base was made using a variety of handheld power tools and hand tools I own. Problems started to arise when it came to the wheels and the 'driver' I planned on putting on the car. I do not own a lathe, mounted belt sander or drill press, so accurate cutting of wheels was going to be difficult, turning them round likewise a challenge and finally sanding everything flat was going to be almost impossible. Due to available funds, and a 2-week schedule so that it was ready for his birthday, I had to compromise and find solutions using what I currently own. I used my handheld belt sander, a drill, and a lot of wood to experiment. The first thing I did was to make a stand/mount for my belt sander so that I could use it while it was stationary as shown below.



When making the wheels, I cut a test piece out of pine and realised that getting a clean cut was going to be difficult. After more practising, I cut the wheels out using wd-40 as a lubricant as the hole cutter would become stuck and burn the wood. This worked, but I had to wait overnight for the wood to dry out before sanding. To sand the wheels round, I cut a metal rod to size that could be held in the chuck of the drill, loaded the wheels on and secured them in place with a nut as shown below. I then brought it over to the running belt sander. The pine piece on the rod was one of my test cuts.

This worked! The wood pieces, while originally off angle and misshapen due to the drill giving an inaccurate cut, spun on the metal rod until they were perfectly round. But alas I had to cut them out again as I realised my first set were too small, having sanded them too much. For reference, the wood I cut the holes out from was thick enough that I was able to cut the



wood in half and give me 4 thin wheels for the car. When it came to making a dowel piece to act as the 'driver' in the car I had an idea to turn a dowel piece so that the end was domed and insert it into the seat of the car, which is highlighted in the picture at left. To hold this piece while I turned it on the belt sander, I initially used the chuck of the drill. This worked but the result was far too small for what I was after. So I decided to cut some of my thickest dowel (35mm), drill a hole in the end and use a screw with the end cut

off so that half of the screw was in the dowel and the other half in the drill. When I turned the belt sander on, brought the running drill with dowel piece hanging off the end together, little did I realise that the drill was spinning in the same direction as the belt.

Quite predictably, the dowel un-screwed itself, bounced on the belt and ricocheted off the closet wall, breaking it in half. On the next attempt I made sure it was going against the belt. Nonetheless, my dowel piece was too long and wide, so even with a centre hole holding it in place, the centrifugal force spun it so violently that it wobbled around like mad and was nowhere close to being centred. After 3 other attempts I had to find a solution to my issue. For reference, my dowel piece was only 5cm long. I left it be for a while, as frankly at this point, I was willing to give up on the whole thing and throw the tools in the bin. My attempts are shown below from the initial attempt on the left to and last attempt on the right, minus the broken piece.

After a rest and re-think, the next day I had an idea. I drilled a round hole slightly larger than the diameter of the dowel (36mm) to act as a guide and forget about using a power tool. This time, I would clamp a very sharp chisel to the workbench on an angle and guide the dowel, exposing only the end, onto the cutting head by hand to create a domed end. I would then move the chisel into the next angle and finish the domed end off. I was so glad when this worked, as it allowed me to get a clean cut like a turning tool, as shown below. This also allowed me to use the whole length of dowel, as opposed to 5cm worth, giving me greater control. This did require finishing by hand and I later cut it to size and glued it in place. This is shown below.



To secure the wheels in place I planned to drill a hole through the base of the car. Simple enough with the drill press, but by hand not so much. After measuring too many times to count and after many practise drillings of holes I felt confident to give it a go. Thankfully, it all matched up, but it dawned on me that the dowel I had decided on using as an axle (12.5mm) was too large for the hole!

With little time left at this moment, and an inability to order thinner dowel online, I stuck one end of the dowel in the chuck of the drill, clamped the drill to the bench, zip tied the trigger and sanded it until it fit. I later glued the wheels on (1), sanded the whole project up to 600 grit (2) and finished it with 3 coats of clear coat (3).



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3 This is after one coat.

To finish this story, I unfortunately missed the deadline for having it completely cured so I have included a 'use from date' in the card as my nephew lives in the Northern Territory so some of the curing will be done in transit.

So, what is the lesson of this story? Should I have put out a message to see if I could use anyone's lathe and/or drill press? Should I have purchased them myself? Should I have just given up on the 'driver' dowel piece all together and focused on the wheels? Or are power tools overrated and it is better to stick with hand tools? All valid points, but I stuck with it, and while I have used far more wood than I meant too, I am really pleased with the result and if nothing else it's been a learning curve for when I make the wheels and other finishing touches for the truck. Hopefully, the club will be open prior to Christmas and make my life easier!

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Dianne Gething has sent a copy of an article printed in the **Herald Sun** Sept. 4th. Titled "Feathered Friends" the photo shows a group of children being shown a pair of little penguins at the Royal Melbourne Zoo. One tiny boy, in the photo, is eager to cuddle the little penguins, in fact the article tells us that he wanted to take them home. The year was 1944 and the tiny boy is a miniature **Richard Gething**. The article goes on to tell us of the problems facing the Zoo during those wartime years, when the public was offered cash for jam tins full of worms for the platypus, fresh-water carp for the penguins and snakes for the new snake enclosure. The tidy sum of 15 shillings (\$1.50) each was offered for tiger, black or brown snakes with an extra 5 shillings (50c) for extra large specimens. "It was noted 'country youths' were the usual suppliers of the Zoo's snakes."



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The following is a note from Len Preece in a pensive mood:

This fits us all so well. My friends you are the memories that are warmer than any knee rug I own. - Len

AND THEN IT IS WINTER

You know time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years. It seems like yesterday that I was young, just married, and embarking on my new life with my mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all those years went.

I know that I lived them all. I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams. But, here it is... the winter of my life, and it catches me by surprise... How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go? I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those "older people" were years away from me and that winter was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like.

But, here it is...my friends are retired and getting grey... they move slower and I see an older person in myself now. Some are in better and some worse shape than me... but, I see the great change... Not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant...but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd be. Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking a nap is not a treat

anymore... it's mandatory! Cause if I don't on my own free will... I just fall asleep where I sit!

And so... now I enter this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!! But, at least I know, that though the winter has come, and I'm not sure how long it will last... this I know, that when it's over on this earth... it's over. A new adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done... things I should have done, but indeed, there are also many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not in your winter yet... let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life, please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!! Life goes by quickly. So, do what you can TODAY, as you can never be sure whether this is your winter or not!

You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of your life... so, LIVE FOR TODAY and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember.. and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the years past!!

"Life" is a GIFT to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who come after. Make it a fantastic one.

Remember: "It is Health that is real Wealth and not pieces of gold and silver."

~Your kids are becoming you.....but your grandchildren are perfect!

~Going out is good.. coming home is even better!

~You forget names... but it's OK, because other people forgot they even knew you!!!

~You realize you're never going to be really good at anything.... especially golf.

~The things you used to care to do, you no longer care to do, but you really do care that you don't care to do them anymore.

~**You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than in bed. It's called "pre-sleep."**

~You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch..

~You tend to use more 4 letter words ...

"what?"..."when?"...???

~Now that you can afford expensive jewellery, it's not safe to wear it anywhere.

~You notice everything they sell in stores is "sleeveless?!"

~What used to be freckles are now liver spots.

~Everybody whispers.

~You have 3 sizes of clothes in your closet.... 2 of which you will never wear.

~But "Old" is good in some things: Old Songs, Old movies ...and best of all, our dear ...OLD FRIENDS!!

Stay well, "OLD FRIEND!"

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JUST JOKING: Yesterday my husband thought he saw a cockroach in the kitchen. He sprayed everything down and cleaned thoroughly. Today I'm putting the cockroach in the bathroom.

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"Poor old fool." thought the well-dressed gentleman as he watched an older man fishing in a puddle outside a pub. So he invited the old man inside for a drink. As they sipped their whiskey, the gentleman thought he'd humour the man and asked, "So how many have you caught today?"

The old man replied, "You're the eighth."

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Follow the Instructions: Actual instruction labels found on some consumer goods:

On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding: -- *Product will be hot after heating.*

On packaging for a Rowenta iron : --*Do not iron clothes on body.*

On Sainsbury's peanuts: --*Warning! Contains nuts.*

On an American Airlines packet of nuts: --*Instructions. Open packet, eat nuts.*

That's all for now until next time. Best wishes until then.