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*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 July 2021

**DATES TO REMEMBER: Committee Meeting** 3rd August - 1.00pm in clubroom.

**Monthly Meeting** 11th August - 1.00pm in clubroom.

**AGM** - Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of September - 1:00pm in clubroom.

Club luncheon - Thursday 16th September at The Drake in Pakenham.

**Reminder: Membership  
Fees now due.**

### WOODWORKING DISPLAY and EXPO.



It was a weekend that fulfilled all that we hoped it would be. A constant stream of visitors kept members busy, answering questions about the club and explaining the facilities.

In opening the event, **Mr. Anthony Byrne MP**, pictured above centre, commented on the quality of the work on show and also remarked on the large number toys that Berwick Woodworkers have been giving away for many years. Mr. Byrne made the observation that in providing families with the means of selecting gifts for their children during a time of hardship, the club is in the business of Hope and Encouragement.

Also pictured are Club President **Len preece** (in club uniform) and at far right, **Mr. Brad Battin MP**.

**CLUB INFORMATION:**

**MEETINGS:**

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>SPEAKERS ETC</b>	<b>FARMERS' MARKET</b>
3rd August	11th August	--	14th August.

**Committee of Management:**

<b>Contact Details</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>
President	Len Preece	0408 365 970
Vice President	Brian Crowe	043812 155
Secretary	Ross Blackwood	0490 668 515
	email: bdwwcsec@outlook.com	
Treasurer	Peter Angwin	0400 221 581

**Committee**

Martin Van Diemen	0418 316 867
John McMahon	9796 1097
Ken Whitefield	0402 256 134
Ken D. Barnes	0419 114 738
Colin Ellard	8770 0149
Don Buchanan	0431 313 998

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 – *Martin Van Diemen*  
 Paint – *George Young*  
 Timber coordinator – *Martin Van Diemen*  
 Equipment authorisation approved members. - *Len Preece, Brian Crowe, Bill Bradshaw, Ross Blackwood & Don Buchanan.*  
 Mens' Shed coordinator - *Wayne Lucas.*  
 Web/WebMaster - *Jack Croucher.*

**All material for the Club’s monthly publication is to be submitted by e-mail [ricels@bigpond.com](mailto:ricels@bigpond.com) by hand, or by phone to the editor by the 15<sup>th</sup> 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:**

<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Leader</b>
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	4.30 pm - 8.00 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.



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This month I can commence my report with some good news in that **Jan Veenstra** was awarded a certificate to commemorate 60 years of excellent service to the community with Pakenham Rotary.

When finishing work for the day please make sure **all work benches are cleaned off**, ready for the next person to come in. **The area in front of the switch board must be kept clear at all times.**

Our Inaugural Expo weekend was an excellent weekend. **Mr. Anthony Byrne MP** opened the Expo on Friday night with a good number of people present and **Mr Brad Battin** our local state representative in attendance. Then on the Saturday we had a visit from **Jason Wood MP** and **Luke Donnellan State Member** along with approximately 400 people going through over the weekend. Many members sold a good number of items with 10% of all sales going to the club. In the raffle we sold 600 tickets; these things made the event very profitable for the Club and at the time of writing this report we had also received 13 applications for membership. I must commend **John McMahon** and his team of helpers for the smooth running and success of this event. Many thanks also to the vast number that turned up to lend a hand in making this event the success it was; it very much appreciated.

Then on a sad note I just received a message from **Keith Towe** that another member, **Doug Hughes** is in hospital and they are waiting for a palliative care place for him.

In order to update our records on usage of machines, every member will be approached by a member of the committee to update our records, to ensure every member is covered by insurance.

Finally please be advised that Membership fees are now due and payable; see the bank details on page 2 of this newsletter. Fees must be paid prior to the AGM on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021.

**Len Preece - President.**

## VICTORIA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE (SES) Visiting Speakers.

For anyone who watches television, listens to radio or reads newspapers, the initials **SES** will be synonymous with dire happenings. The familiar orange hazard-suit features so often in news broadcasts that it is taken for granted by most of us. Whenever an event occurs that requires emergency assistance we can be fairly sure that **SES** (State Emergency Service) will be there.

No, we didn't have a dire emergency on Wednesday June 30th. The orange suited men that entered the Berwick Woodworkers' clubroom had not come to rescue anyone. The **SES** truck that was parked outside the workshop was there for a display purpose only.

In their talk to us, Keith, Robert & Rowan gave an insight into the various services provided by the **SES**, many of which the public accept without thinking. Most of us are aware of the Driver Revival caravans that dispense coffee, tea, and biscuits at rest areas along our busy highways. The **SES** safe numberplate program, providing non removable screws to prevent car numberplate theft and the missing person searches that we read about so often are only a small part of the service provided by the volunteers of the **SES**. Below, Keith & Robert explains some of the activities of the **SES** while Rowan displays the equipment in the service van.

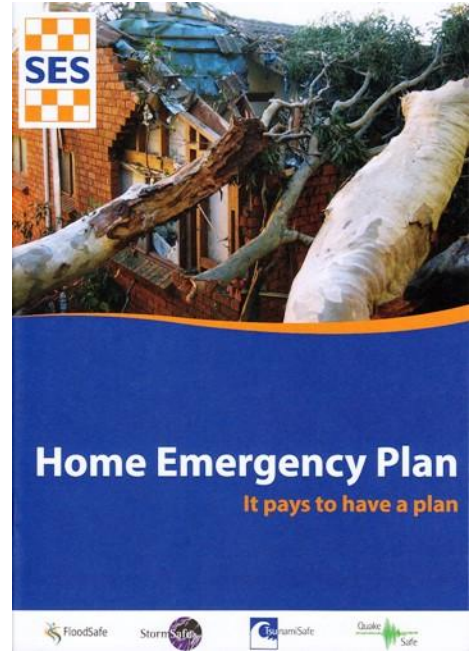




Knowing how to be prepared and what to do in an emergency situation could possibly save lives. The SES has published the booklet shown at right and provided some for club members who attended the meeting.

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**SHOW & TELL:**



**Brian Crowe** showed us his model 1932 Buick made from Cypress and walnut. **John McMahon's** bowl and platter below are from blackwood. John used Scandinavian oil on the platter at right and considers it superior to the Danish oil that he used on the bowl. John made his bird's mouth vase from a 300 hundred year old redgum burl given to him by **Keith Towe**. The burl was so hard that John needed tools with carbide tips to cut it.



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**CLUB NEWS:** To avoid chopping up the ground behind the workshop, members have been asked to park in that area only when the weather is dry.

Following vandalism that has occurred to club premises extra security cameras are to be installed.

Members are asked to pay particular attention when using the band saw nearest the lathes, at the back left corner of the workshop. This machine runs so quietly that it is easy to forget it is still running after use. Please be sure to **switch this band saw off when you have finished using it.**

*Best Wishes:* The committee has been advised that long serving members **Doug Hughes, Maurice Dunn** and **Lois Dack**, will not be returning to the club due to ill health. We're always sorry to lose members and particularly so when poor health is the cause. Our kind thoughts and best wishes go to these well liked members.

Also on the not-so-well list are **Mike Kingett** and Club President **Len Preece**, though I'm told Mike is improving. At the time of writing, Len is in St. John of God hospital for a few days. We wish both these popular members better health as soon as possible.

## WOODWORKING DISPLAY & EXPO.

Following weeks of planning and hard work the weekend finally arrived, slipping neatly in between lock-downs. It was, as has already been stated, a marvellous success, due to the many club members who contributed generously with their time, energy and beautiful woodwork. I managed to get a few photographs.



**Ken Whitefield and Richard Gething** spent a lot of time demonstrating with the scroll saw. That's Ken at left.

**David Murden** came back from his new workplace in Corryong, to give us a hand. That's David at right.



Yes it got a bit chilly in the workshop but **Katerina Zorin** didn't let it keep her from her favourite band saw.

**Jan Veenstra** (right) spent most of Saturday demonstrating his pyrography. I neglected to get a photo of Jan at work but there were several examples of his art on display such as the platter shown at right.



**Bill Bradshaw, Loraine McDonald and Martin Van Diemen** worked on rocking horses.

Below, **Len Preece** demonstrated the Torque machine.



These are just a few of the members at work. Sorry to those that I missed

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**Trivia Quiz: Answers on last page.** Q1. What are the colours of the Olympic Rings?  
Q2. What are the colours of the "E Bay" sign



On display in the clubroom I think I counted 13 tables, a cupboard and a couple of stands laden with wood art. Here are just five of the tables. The small side table that **Don Buchanan** was restoring in the May newsletter is pictured below, all finished and on display. Also below is a photo of **Martin Van Diemen** that was published in the Star News. Martin is shown with one of his rocking horses.



**Don's side table**



**Martin & one of his horses.**



**Jan Veenstra was recognised for his incredible service to the community on Tuesday evening. Picture: Gabriella Payne.**

**CONGRATULATIONS JAN VEENSTRA:** Also published in the Star Newspaper Pakenham Beaconsfield News recently was this tribute to **Jan Veenstra**. The report published with the photo reads as follows:

**Sixty years of service**

Not many people can say that they've been giving back to their local community for more than half a century- but Jan Veenstra is one of those special people.

Shortly after immigrating to Australia in 1952, Mr. Veenstra became one of the founding members of the Rotary Club of Pakenham and has been going to meetings and lending a helping hand to others ever since.

On Tuesday 29 June, he was honoured for his 60 years of service at the club's anniversary dinner, and Mr. Veenstra said it was hard to believe that the time had flown by so quickly, but he had enjoyed every second of it. .

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**Berwick District Woodworkers Club Monthly Meeting Minutes June 30<sup>th</sup> 2021**

**Meeting Commenced**

Meeting commenced at 1:05pm

**Welcome to Members -**

The club President welcomed 23 club members to the meeting.

**Apologies –**

**Lance Baker, Don Buchanan, Keith Towe, Pat Mahoney, Paul Ryan.**

**Minutes of last monthly meeting. – 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

- In the May newsletter.

**Motion to accept minutes.**

Proposed – Ken Barnes

Seconded – John Damon

**Business arising from previous meeting.**

- Trial of monthly evening meeting will be Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> of October at 7:00 pm
- The AGM will be Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of September at 1:00pm
- A discussion re: cleaning rosters, key holder rosters, go to member contact numbers and first aid rosters. Postponed to a later date.
- The fitting of “air” switches to all club machines is under consideration as they may

not provide any advantage on what we currently have.

- More Toy Storage has been provided by the Old Cheese factory in their old tractor shed.
- The fitting of a bypass to the breezeway drop saw. Has been done.

**Correspondence.**

- Email from Bill Munt with attached report on his dust project.
- Email From Bill Riess offering a used bandsaw to the club. The bandsaw has been received & may be offered to club members for purchase.
- Letter re Street signs received from the City of Casey giving us a permit number, but we need to re-apply for the permits as our current one expires at the end of the financial year. Martin Van Diemen to follow up on other permits.

**Motion to accept correspondence.**

- Proposed --Martyn Van Diemen
- Seconded –Wayne Lucas

**Presidents Report.**

- Parking at the rear of the building to be at our discretion. Do not to drive on the area outside of the roller doors if it is very wet.
- Two wooden signs completed by Chris Drysdale & a letter of thanks sent to him.
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> & Friday 9<sup>th</sup> will be setup days for the expo & members will not be able to do work.
- All expo items to be in by Monday the 5<sup>th</sup>.



- Approximately 270 items have been submitted for display.
- New Router cutters, Forstner Bits & Saw blades to be sourced by Brian Crowe.
- Leak in front of milling machine to be checked by Casey Council Maintenance personnel.
- We will provide tea & coffee for the expo. No coffee Van.

**Motion to accept the President’s report.**  
 proposed – John McMahon.  
 Seconded – Collin Ellard.

**Treasurer’s report.**

- Approximate funds held \$56,000
- Memberships 84
- Proposal to be put to the AGM to raise membership fee to \$75 for the 2022-2023 year.
- Farmers market to date has raised \$9,706 down from \$16,000 last year.
- Funding for camera on veranda & new refrigerator to be applied for by Peter Angwin.
- Application for new insurance policy is progressing.
- Square is operational for payment of fees.
- Warrigal woodworkers have increased their yearly membership fees to \$150.

**Motion to accept the Treasurer’s report.**  
 Proposed – Brian Crowe  
 Seconded – Ron Hayward

**Farmers’ Market.**

- Farmers market entrance may be narrowed & Bollards installed.

**Functions.**

- Lunch 12<sup>th</sup> August. At the Drake Hotel in Pakenham Pub Price’s
- Gala Night: Saturday November 27<sup>th</sup> Cost \$25.
- Gala Day: Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>

**Demonstrations.**

SES to make presentation at the conclusion of the meeting.

**Newsletter.**

- Elsie has resolved her bulk email problem.
- Committee members names to be updated in newsletter & Wednesday night opening times to be amended to 4:30 to 8:00. Casey council have been contacted to amend committee member details & opening times on their website.

**Woodworking Display and Expo.**

- Entries for the expo are now closed.
- July 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> setup for Expo.

**General Business.**

- Timers to be fitted to dust filters to turn them on prior to us arriving & then turn them off an hour after we have left. Len Preece to action.

**Door Prize**

The door prize was won by Collin/Martin.

**Show and Tell.**

Show and tell was presented by Ken Whitefield.

**Meeting closed –**

- Closed at 2:00

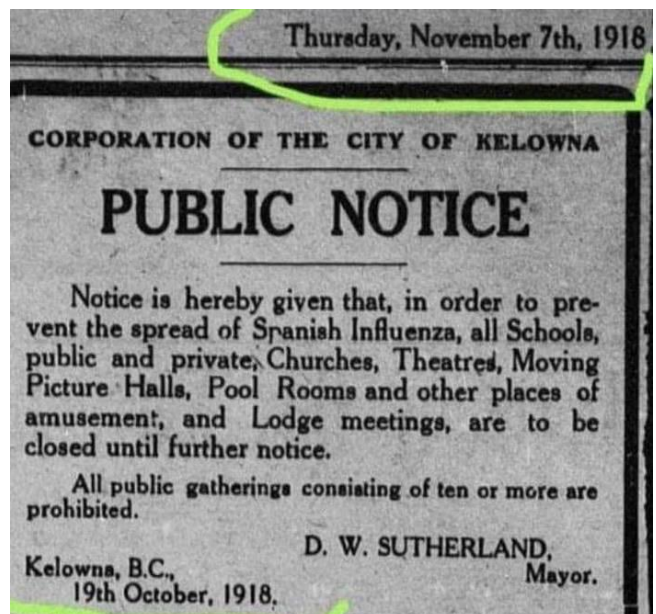
**Next Meeting**

- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August

**President – Len Preece**

**Hon. Secretary – Ross Blackwood**

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**FROM THE INTERNET: Have you tried whittling?**

Whittling is a great pastime for the man who wants to craft something, but may not have the room or tools to say, build a dining room table. Or for the man looking for something meditative to help him centre his thoughts. Or simply for the guy who wants to while away time on a camping trip. It's one of the cheapest and most accessible hobbies you can take up—all you need is a knife and some wood.

Softwoods are the best for whittling because they cut nice and easy. After you've learned the basics of whittling, feel free to move on to harder woods. No matter which kind of wood you use, look for wood with a straight grain as it is easier to whittle than wood that has the grain going in multiple directions. Avoid wood with lots of knots—those are difficult to whittle.

**Pocket Knife.** Pocket knives are an excellent choice of knife to use because they're so portable. Anytime you find a good piece of wood, you can just whip out your pocket knife and start sculpting. Another benefit of pocket knives is that they provide multiple blade types in a single knife. When you need to do some more intricate carving, you can simply open up your smaller more flexible blade. To make bigger cuts use the larger knife blade.



**Random twigs and branches.** You don't need a pre-cut block of wood to whittle. Twigs and branches from most kinds of trees make for great whittling. Wooden knives are a popular item to whittle from a tree branch.

The first rule of whittling: Keep your knife sharp. Whenever I feel the wood getting harder to cut, I stop and sharpen my knife. If the close proximity of the blade to your fingers worries you, the chances of injury can be greatly reduced by using carving gloves and proper knife handling techniques.

Tip: For practice projects try using firm vegetables such as carrots, potatoes, turnips, etc.

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Not much on the supermarket shelves yesterday so I decided to improvise  
Dinner last night was a risotto I made with some field mushrooms I foraged locally.  
Not only was it delicious but soon after, a Welsh male voice choir of purple elephants showed up and sang the whole of Meat Loaf's Bat Out Of Hell album, accompanied by a light show.

A young soprano was hired to sing at the graveside, during a funeral. Unfortunately, due to a traffic snarl-up she arrived at the cemetery well after the proceedings had ended, but she had been paid for the job and was determined complete the booking.  
Hurrying through the graveyard the singer found two workmen levelling some newly dug ground, so she took up her position and sang a moving rendition of Amazing Grace.  
Respectfully the workmen laid aside their shovels and waited until the last notes died away.  
When the young woman had gone one of the workmen turned to the other.  
"That was beautiful," he said.  
The other man agreed. "Yep, I've been installing these septic tanks for 20 years and this is the first time I've ever been treated to anything like it."

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Trivia Quiz Answers: A1. Blue, Yellow, Black, Red and Green.  
A2. Pink, Blue, Yellow and lime.

**That's all for now until next time.**