

Tele (club) 8712 7755 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 December 2023

DATES TO REMEMBER: Committee Meeting 11th January 2024 - 1.00pm in clubroom.
General Meeting to be advised. - 1.00pm in clubroom. **Welcome Back BBQ** Wednesday 17th January, Starting around 6.00pm. The club will provide bread and salads and members to provide their own BBQ food and drinks etc.



GALA WEEKEND.



Once again students from Berwick Primary School entertained us with a variety of Christmas songs when we gathered for our **Gala Day Presentation**. This year Berwick Woodworkers were able to give over 900 toys to local welfare organisations. There was also a selection of toys presented to local Government representatives for distribution at their discretion.

The afternoon was formerly opened by **Brad Battin**, State Liberal MP for Berwick. Official presentation of the toys was made by **Gary Maas**, Labor MP for Narre Warren South, to **Leanne Petrides** from CISC who accepted on behalf of all the organisations.

We enjoyed afternoon tea and a chance to mingle with audience members, following the ceremony.

CLUB INFORMATION:

MEETINGS:

COMMITTEE

11th January

GENERAL

TBA

SPEAKERS ETC

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FARMERS' MARKET

13th January. Farmers Market.

27th January (craft market)

Committee of Management:

Contact Details

Name

Phone

President Brian Crowe, 0438 012 155
Vice President Ron Bolton – 0413 152 391
Secretary Don Buchanan 0431 313 998
email: bdwwcsec@outlook.com
Treasurer Peter Ball 0425 725 875

Committee

John McMahon 9796 1097
Ken Whitefield 0402 256 134
Michael Berry 0466 812717
Ian Deans 0403 419774
Simon King – 0477 831 318
Peter Shuttleworth 0402 680605

Monthly demonstrations - Vacant looking for help

Functions Coordinator - Ken D. Barnes

Newsletter Editor – Elsie Hoare

Public relations – Don Buchanan

OCF Contact group – Brian Crowe & Don Buchanan

Toy Coordinator – Ken D. Barnes.

Machinery maintenance Coordinators. - Ron Bolton & Simon King

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 & Don Buchanan

Special interest group coordinators – To suit group

Librarian – Simon Robbins

Exhibition and Show - John McMahon

Gala Day coordinator - Ken D. Barnes, Brian Crowe & Don Buchanan

Screws – Martin Van Diemen

Paint – George Young

Timber coordinator – Martin Van Diemen

Equipment authorisation approved members. - Brian Crowe, Bill Bradshaw, Ross Blackwood, Simon King & Don Buchanan.

Men's Shed coordinator - Wayne Lucas.

Web/Webmaster - Ron Bolton

Workshops & Meetings:

Weekly

Hours

Leader/Key Holder.

Monday Morning	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	- Ron Bolton, morning. Simon King for Monday Afternoon.
Tuesday Morning	9.00 am – 1.00 pm	- Michael Berry
Wednesday	9.00 am - All day	- Don Buchanan
Wednesday Evening	4.30 pm - 8.00 pm	- Bill Bradshaw
Thursday Morning	9.00 am – 1.00 pm	- Brian Crowe
Friday Morning	9.00 am - 1.00 pm	- Ron Bolton
Saturday Morning	9.00 am - 12.30 pm	- Ron Bolton
Farmers Market	8.00 am - 12.30. - Craft Market	9.00 am - 2.00pm Martin Van Diemen and Don Buchanan Supervisors.

Van Diemen and Don Buchanan Supervisors.

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.

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 **three** 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.





PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Hi all, what a fantastic ending to our year with the Gala weekend, I use the word weekend because it commenced on Friday, with the moving of the toys from the container to the function room, a great effort by all involved, then the setup on Saturday morning which was its usual bit of chaos, our dinner on in the evening was a good bit of fun driven by “roaming Don” .Sunday was the climax to a great year’s work and makes you proud to be part of such a fantastic club, overall a fantastic achievement and I congratulate everyone who was involved, but then disaster as **Ken Barnes** tripped over the staircase leading up to the stage, luckily no serious injuries were sustained.

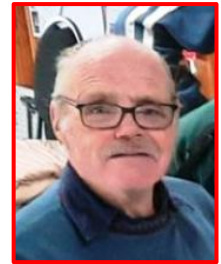
We had hoped that the container would be moved to its destination soon but because of all the rain we will need to put that on hold for now. A special thanks to **Simon King** for his efforts in rebuilding our belt sander, we considered purchasing a new one but felt that rebuilding our existing one was a far better option, thanks Simon.

I must mention a special thanks to two retiring members of the club’s operations, **George Young** and **Ken Barnes** who have decided to hand over the reins of the finishing room and toy coordinator positions, their work and quiet behind the scenes of the day-to-day operation of the club should not be underestimated, their positions will be hard to fill, thanks George and Ken.

We will be having a clean-up day on Thursday the 21st of December, with a sausage sizzle lunch, so no machines will be in operation on this day, if you have some time to spare come and lend a hand, it is generally a bit of fun.

That’s about all from me, so I wish all members a very merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy new year

Brian.



Simon King



George Young



Ken Barnes



The Function Room at the Old Cheese Factory was a hive of industry all weekend, starting with Friday afternoon. Saturday morning saw the display gradually taking shape as club members sorted and distributed the toys around the walls, ready for the charities to pick them up on the Monday morning. Tables were then set in place ready for the dinner on Saturday evening.

END-OF-YEAR DINNER:

At right is Club Secretary **Don Buchanan**, festively attired, as MC.

Below, club members take the chance to catch up socially.



We Missed You: Unfortunately a number of our members are unwell at present and were unable to join us. To those members we send our *Best Wishes* for a speedy recovery. We look forward to seeing you again soon.



BUNNINGS CHRISTMAS NIGHT MARKETS. From **Don Buchanan**.

As you no doubt know, we had a good number of members who attended the Christmas night markets held at both Bunnings last Thursday night. The one in Fountain Gate and the other at Clyde North. A big thank you to all those members who came along and promoted our club. A special BOG award must go to **Richard Gerthing** for providing a good number of cut-outs that he made with his favourite scroll saw while at the club. If it wasn't for Richard we would have had a lot of anxious kids, stomping their collective feet, still waiting for their animal to be cut out. We also received a \$100 gift voucher from the Clyde North store for our troubles.



Pictured above From L to R - **Paul Parer, Simon King, Ian Deans, Trine** (No surname) from Bunnings, Reindeer – no name, **Chris Drysdale, Ron Bolton** and lastly **Michael Berry**.



AND AT BUNNINGS CLYDE NORTH:

Continued from Don's note on previous page.

Carol Goddard, John Damen, Nigel Dukes, Wayne Lucas, Peter Mason (not in photo) **Peter Ball** is the photographer (I think).

Brian Crowe was present also but I am not sure which store. I think it was Clyde North.



DON'T FORGET the **Clean-up Day** to be held on Wednesday 21st December. There will be no machines operating that day, just all hands to the pump to get the workshop spick and span.

There will be a sausage sizzle lunch for all participants. So if you can spare some time, come along and lend a hand.

SHOW AND TELL for December.



Keith Towe has described his show & tell items for us: *“First Is a trial for a small 3 cornered Bowl with a foot, from Messmate. 2nd. A larger 3 cornered Bowl with longer foot and a Carob lid and ring section. 3rd. Is a Natural Edge Bowl and lid from burl offcut bits. 4th. Lidded box from eucalypt. burl with an insert of Pink Ivory.”*

Bev Witts took a lot of flack when she showed us her cork board that she has made for her daughter. There was a good deal of speculation regarding Bev's state of sobriety by the time she had collected all those wine corks.

Bev assures us that it was not a lone operation but that she had family and friends collecting corks for her as well.



Show & Tell Continued:

Cris Drysdale showed us his turned pens, one with a medical emblem, the other with a medieval theme.

A STORY FROM COLIN RADLEY:

Since joining the Wednesday Night Group over 14 years ago I've completed a number of projects including three rocking horses.

It all started with a visit to a Medieval Fayre that was held at the Cheese Factory when I met **Bill Bradshaw** promoting the Club raffle along with one of his rocking horses, outside the old Club building.

Having always wanted to carve a traditional rocking horse I signed up the following week.

Bill explained about the timber needed, showed me his patterns and I started to look at carving tools, having never carved in my life.

With Bill's support the first horse was made and I then decided that I needed my own patterns with a few design changes as the next horse was to be bow rocker rather than on a safety stand.

Once this was completed I wanted to make something 'different' so after borrowing Bill Bradshaw's book by Patricia Mullins I settled on a 'Jubilee Rocker'. This has a safety stand, like the rocking horses you normally see but it's effectively upside down as in the picture.

Lots of scale models to perfect the design then off to Matthews Timber to source European Ash for the stand and Clear Pine (knot free) for the horse. By now I'd purchased an old walking foot sewing machine so I made the saddle on the machine

and the bridle by hand. Leather sourced from Lefflers in West Melbourne (where the Club still has the benefit of a wholesale discount).

Next, for something different again I started work on a rocking zebra !

I'd seen lots of rocking zebras but they were all effectively rocking horses with stripes, I decided to make one that was actually zebra shaped. This has been a work in progress for some years with work, family commitments and other projects constantly getting in the way.

One day it'll get finished along with the restoration of the Roebuck horse I've acquired along the journey.



Years ago I wrote notes detailing the making of a rocking horse and these were passed to the Club but have possibly now been lost in the mists of time.

Attached are a few pictures.

The first horse I made now has a nose bag ! I got bored, had some hessian and a leather strap available. This used a miniature horse saddle made on a wooden 'tree' like a full size one. This is an expensive option so I then started to make my own saddles.

The bow rocker got to the paint stage then a few cracks opened up so I left it to settle and haven't got back to it. The young lad in the photo is now driving

so a few years have passed....

The Zebra is in my office, again a few cracks have opened so I need to fix them and get round to painting some stripes. The stand is finished so just a harness and saddle to make.

My wife thinks we need a 'rocking horse room' as I have so many now.

Meeting Commenced

- Meeting started at -1.00pm

Welcome to Members.

Apologies

- Alexander Drysdale, Simon King, Peter Angwin, Martin Van Diemen, Geoff Wylie, John Membrey, Brian Crowe, Ken Barnes, Ron Bolton, John McMahon, David Lamble, Phil Willems, Paul Parer, George Young, David Grech, Lance Baker, Len Preece.

Minutes of last monthly meeting. — Wednesday 11th October 2023

Motion to accept minutes. Proposed – Ken Whitefield. Seconded – Peter Mason Accepted – Unanimously

Business arising from previous meeting.

- A pillow and a blanket, to aid comfort for an injured/ill member, to be located in the large toilet.
- The storage area in the large toilet is yet to be cleaned up. The photocopier, that is not being used, to be sold? Spoke with Chris Drysdale, who donated the photocopier in the first place. He is happy for it to be sold. Will now be seeking a buyer.

Correspondence.

- From Peter Ball. Our Rules of Incorporation with the amended Statement of Purpose have now been registered with Corporate Affairs as of 25th August 23.
- Email from Bunnings Clyde North inviting us to their Christmas night market on 7th December. We can sell toys at this market.
- Also, an email from Bunnings Fountain Gate inviting us to their Christmas night market on the same night. *We have approval to do both markets if we have the members attending.*
- Pakenham Sho w on Saturday 16th March 24. *Not going this year. Have been notified.*
- A Thank you from the Yarn and Arts group who recently visited our club.
- From Leigh Colbert re: the Demo days coming up at Hare and Forbes.
- Email from Kristy re: Casey Council Minor Capital Works Investment Program. *The Committee is considering concreting the apron at the large roller door end.*
- An email from Meg Larkin re: the Open Studios days. Moving forward, planning for next year.
- From Alison Gamon re: Craft market going, OK?
- An email from Kim at Selandra Community Gardens asking for assistance to do some repairs. Looking for volunteers who can help. *At this stage there has been no one interested in volunteering to assist.*

Proposed – Carol Goddard, Seconded – Wayne Lucas, Accepted –Unanimously

Presidents Report.

- Peter Ball ran the meeting in Brian Crowe (President) and Ron Bolton's (Vice President) absence.
- Peter thanked all those members who, firstly, put the time in and made the toys for our charities. Secondly, he thanked those members who helped setting up the Function Room over the two days and then packing it all up again and cleaning up. And finally, on the Monday, another thank you to those members who helped load the toys into the charities' cars, trailers and vans and sent them on their way.
- From Peter perspective he felt the club is running fairly smoothly.

Motion to accept the President's report.

Proposed — Seconded — Accepted —

Treasurer's report.

- The club's account balances as at close of business on 30th November 2023 were provided to the meeting.
- The annual Gala Dinner on the night of Saturday 25th November was a success with 53 members attending.

- Market fund raising efforts were strong in October and November, although on a year-to-date basis we are behind where we were at this time last year because we have not replaced the revenue that was foregone due to the cancellation of the Craft Market in July and August.
- A new computer was purchased for the laser engraver and 3D printer. This was funded mainly via a grant received from Casey Council.
- A new router table was purchased for the workshop.
- The possibility of applying for a grant to extend the concrete apron outside the roller door on the western side of the workshop is being investigated.

- **Membership figures on 30th November 2023**

Life members =	9	
Individual members =	103	inc three voluntary suspended memberships
Family members =	<u>32</u>	
Total =	144	

Note, the last of the membership renewals that were due on 1st July have now been finalised. The final batch of 11 non-renewing members will be adjusted off the register in December.

Motion to accept the treasurer’s report.

Proposed – Bev Witts, Seconded – Ken Whitefield, Accepted – Unanimously

Safety Committee

- Nothing to report.

Markets.

- Farmers market this Saturday 9th December.
- The next Craft Market is on Saturday 16th December. Brought forward from 23rd December.
- Dates/handouts, for next year will be out soon.

Functions and Important dates

- Welcome Back Dinner on Wednesday 17th January at 6.00pm. BYO meat and drinks etc. The club will supply bread and salads. There will be some beer and wine available.
- Hare and Forbes demo days possibly in March next year. To be confirmed.
- A 2024 club calendar will be out in the new year.

Toys

- A big thankyou to all our members who helped make our Gala weekend a fabulous one. Without your assistance, it wouldn’t have happened. So - Thank you!
- This was Ken Barnes’ last year as our Toy Coordinator. Ken has done this job for a great number of years. Thanks, Ken so much and we wish you health and happiness in the years to come.

Maintenance

- Ribbon sander has been repaired. The motor is now separate from the dust extraction system.
- A new router has been purchased. This machine has new innovations and therefore members, for their own safety, will need update training before being allowed to use it.

Expo

- The dates for next year’s club Expo have been pencilled in for 12th to 14th July. These dates coincide with the Casey Winter Arts Festival.
- The sub-committee will start planning from early February ’24.

Newsletter.

- All good.
- Elsie is getting use to her new computer.

General Business & Suggestion Box

- A proposal that the club opens on a Sunday. To be a trial to start with. Starting monthly? Anyone interested? Hours being 10.00am to 1.00pm as an example. Requires a key holder including a minimum of 3 members

present. Lisa Brouwer and Jon Marriot are interested in working on this Sunday. Bill Bradshaw has offered to open up and lock up at the end of the day. Thank you, Bill.

- Hare and Forbes Demo Day just completed. We have been granted a \$1500 credit for our services. Thanks to those members who attended over the 3 days. Possibly having more Demo days in March next year. Dates yet to be confirmed.
- Roof leaks (in the tearoom and toilet) have been reported to OCF/Casey. The roof may require extensive repairs.
- In the breezeway - tools and assorted items being offered for members to take. Must be gone by the end of the week.
- A new PC has been purchased with the aid of a grant that the club received from Casey Council. To be used to run the Laser and 3D printers.
- A considerable number of our members have not been well of late. They are receiving treatment for their ailments, recovering from operations or about to undergo operations or treatment. We would like to wish all those members a speedy recovery and will happily welcome them back to their club in the not to distance future.
- Sign in and sign off times. Can member please remember to record your times when arriving and leaving the club.
- A suggestion from Remy Burney. "It would be good to have a webcam and do a video conferencing on Zoom for people who can not be physically present". After discussion the members felt that it wouldn't be feasible given that fact that most working members wouldn't be able to view if they are working. All members are sent the minutes of the meeting for their reference. If any members have any issues they wished discussed, they can write it up and put it in the suggestion box and it will be brought up at the next General meeting. We did hold a night meeting for working members to attend, but it was attended by our regular members but no working members. An email will be sent out to all members but asking working members if they endorse Remy's suggestion.
- A suggestion from George Young. "BDW Club need a full size rocking horse, our basic drawcard over the past 25 years. Could we please finance the building (construction) of a suitable horse in time for the Berwick Show? PS – apologies for absence. Approval has been given. Peter Ball will source the timber and volunteers are being sort. Bill Bradshaw has offered to mentor the builders if necessary.
- Wayne Lucas and Michael Berry attended the last Cluster Muster at Poowong. Discussion focused on safety in the workshops amongst other items of interest. David Mudge and Barbara will be stepping down from their roles. Thankyou for attending guys.

Show and Tell items on display.

- Thank you to those members, listed below, for displaying their work.
- Bev Witts – Cork board, pine frame with a clear varnish finish.
- Keith Towe – A 3 corner turned bowl - wood unknown, a trial 3 corner bowl made from Cypress Pine, "Burl Bits" – a small turned bowl and base with a flat piece added made from different burls. And lastly a lidded box made from another burl.
- Chris Drysdale – 2 handmade pens – one Medical themed, made from maple and the other a Medieval theme made from a burl.

New members

- Steven Damen (My apologies if spelling is incorrect)

Raffel Door Prize

- Lucky John Ostroff won the prize of \$20.00. Congrats John.

Meeting closed—

- 1.50pm

Next Meeting - To be confirmed

Don Buchanan - Hon Secretary

Sorry, no room for jokes this month.
I wish you all a Happy, Peace-filled Christmas and
The very best for 2024.

