

January 2021 NEWSLETTER



BENDIGO WOODTURNERS INC.
BOX 1259 BENDIGO CENTRAL VICTORIA 3552

Volume 35: Number 01

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EPSOM

Bendigo Woodturners Activities Program

General Meeting:	4 th Monday Monthly	7.00pm
Executive Meeting:	1 st Monday Monthly	6.30pm
Tuesday Group:	Every Tuesday	9.00am to 12.00pm
General Woodworking:	Every Thursday	9.00am to 12.00pm
Toy Group:	1 st & 3 rd Saturday Monthly	9.00am to 12.00pm
Pyrography Group:	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday Monthly	7.00pm
Carvers Group:	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday Monthly	7.00pm
Triton Group:	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday Monthly	7.00pm
Scroll Saw Group:	2 nd & 4 th Tuesday Monthly	7.00pm
Wood Turning Group:	2 nd & 4 th Tuesday Monthly	7.00pm
Group Activities:	Saturday (as required)	9.00am to 12.00pm

Bendigo Woodturners Directory

President:	Harald Mai	Ph: 0437 178 552
Vice President:	Steve Brereton	Ph: 0419 389 259
Past President:	Jeff Willey	Ph: 0407 683 585
Secretary:	John Phillips	Ph: 0488 666 006
Treasurer:	Tammy Miatke	Ph: 0408 000 629
Assistant:	Malcolm Hill	Ph: 0427 496 477
Committee:	Malcolm Hill, Jennie Barnes, Eric Smith, Arthur Curnick, John Humphreys	
Librarian:	Dawn Eason	Ph: 5446 3200
Assistant:	Cheryl Curnick	
Grounds Committee:	Jeff Willey	Ph: 0407 683 585
Public Officer:	John Phillips	Ph: 0488 666 006
Auditor:	Rod Lester	
Safety Officer:	John Turner	Ph: 5442 1757
Shop Operator:	Arthur Curnick	Ph: 0459 422 273
Assistant:	Steve Brereton	
Equipment Officer:	Malcolm Hill	Ph: 0427 496 477
Assistants:	David Alexander, Bob Mason, John Phillips, Eric Smith	
Woodturning:	Bob Trigg	Ph: 5447 8048
Triton Group:	Jeff Willey	Ph: 0407 683 585
Pyrography Group:	Allan Edwards	Ph: 5432 6659
Scroll Saw Group:	Robyn Hill	Ph: 5449 6477
Carvers Group:	Bruce Guilmartin	Ph: 0428 387 550
Toy Group:	John MacDonald	Ph: 5446 1431

Postal Address: Box 1259 Bendigo Central Vic. 3552

Web site: www.bendigowoodturners.com

Editor: Steve Field - steven.field@agriculture.vic.gov.au or 0407 258 433

Send newsletter items to the editor prior to the General Meeting

Show and Tell

This section of the meeting is open to all members to enable them to exhibit any interesting items that they have made, brought, found or otherwise acquired.

Monthly Competition

The February competition is Pyrography and March is Scroll Saw. The open competition is for any other items. One entry only in each section per month and once an item has been entered it cannot be entered again later. Entrants will be invited to discuss their entry in detail allowing members to gain from your experiences.



President's Report

Hello woodies

Happy New Year to all and welcome back. Unfortunately, I have been missing in action but hope to be back early next week. It will be a challenging year ahead but given where we are now, I believe we can get back to some normality, at least our club activities can continue. John has more detailed information in his report.

There has been a change to the activity sessions with the Triton group moving their time slot to coincide with the Carvers and Pyrography groups with effect 2nd Feb 2021.

Congratulations to Eric Smith for his award as Eaglehawk Citizen of the Year. Well done Eric.

Recently I was able to secure several pizza vouchers from Clogs. These will be added to our monthly raffle draw.

To all our members who are not in the best of health, we wish you a speedy recovery.

I look forward to catching up with you all over the coming weeks.

Cheers,

Harald

Secretary's Report January 2021

I'm sure everyone is happy that 2020 is over and that this year is a lot better and healthier for all of us. Some good news first:

- A big welcome to Trish Barry who joined us late last year having moved to Bendigo from Benalla. Please make her welcome like we do to everyone.
- The Christmas sales in December proved most successful with about \$3,500 of member sales. I think a few of us were uncertain how it would go and hence it was reduced to 10 business days over 2 weeks and dropping the Friday evening timeslot. The result was excellent and a big thank you to Robyn Hill who manned the sales desk everyday along with many helpers incl Gladys Chelman, Dawn Eason, John Humphreys and Ray Watt. Apologies to those I missed.
- While the sales were going on a lot of work was accomplished in the upper area and paths leading up to it. Some of the work included:
 - Erection of 6m * 6m shelter including paving the area
 - Erection of guard rail along the path leading to the upper area
 - Pathway to the upper area was increased and retaining wall built along fence
 - Future work includes:
 - Concreting pathway from front gate to the steps

- Completing the cleanup of timber storage
 - Moving large bandsaw to upper area
- The club was fortunate to be offered the first Bunnings sausage sizzle at Epsom after the lockdown caused by Covid19 on Sat 14th November. Bunnings suggested that we should expect sales of over 1500 snags, but we thought this was more than optimistic and ordered 50kg (about 700 sausages), with more in reserve if required. This proved more realistic and we ended the day with about \$1,250.00 profit. Well done to everyone who helped.
 - We were also offered another BBQ at Bunnings on Sunday 17th January at short notice because of paperwork problem. Again, thank you to all who volunteered and we ended the day approximately \$800 better off.
 - With reduced revenue to the Club because of cancellations of many functions the Bunnings BBQ's are a saviour that have allowed the Club to continue working on improvements.
 - The Club has been successful in receiving a State Government grant being offered to NFP groups in public properties to install Solar energy. A big thank you and well done to Jeff Willey for his submission for the grant. We now await a visit from DELWP to assess exactly what we will receive (ie. How many Kw's, possible battery storage etc)
 - Finally, the Club's annual Christmas Dinner at Bendigo Pottery was well attended by about 40 members and partners. As usual the meal was excellent and great value for money. We have booked the same venue for the 1st Sunday in December2021 again.

Now some of the not so good news:

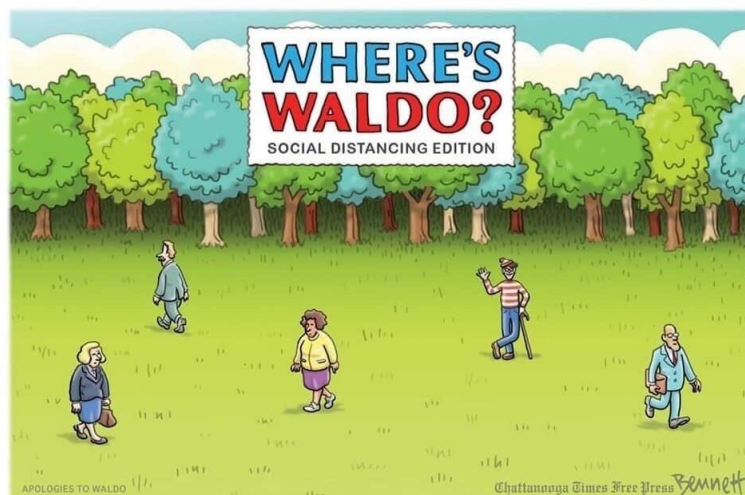
- Australia Day at Lake Weeroona has been cancelled
- The Easter Parade planned for Monday 5th April has been cancelled with the Bendigo Council still planning events for the weekend over staggered sites. We are still awaiting exact details but many of us are optimistic that we should be allowed to continue with our Exhibition and sales at the Trades Hall albeit with a Covid19 plan. This will be a major item of discussion at the next executive committee meeting which all members will be kept informed of as decisions are made.
- We have received no advice from other planned activities such as the Seymour Alternate Farming Expo, Red Gum Festival at Cavendish about any changes.

A reminder that membership renewals are due. You can pay either by direct debit or at the club. If unable to pay or if you will not be renewing, please contact me.

I may have forgotten some things that have happened over the last few months but hopefully I have covered the major items.

Stay safe and have a great 2021

John



Bendigo Woodturners Restore Historic Model Chinese Junk

When the members of the Bendigo Woodturners restored a model of a Chinese Junk for the *Golden Dragon Museum*, they became part of a story that began in Shanghai during the turbulent years just prior to World War II.

By the late 1930's, Shanghai had been a Treaty Port for almost a hundred years. The international life of the city was principally centred upon the British, French, American and Japanese Concessions, but the *Paradise of Adventurers* as the city was sometimes called, had attracted people from many other countries such as Russia, India, Portugal, Italy and Spain.

In addition, events in Germany had led to a flood of Jewish refugees, thousands of whom, rejected by other countries, fled to Shanghai.

Even Chinese from surrounding provinces sought the protection of the Concessions.

But greater changes were to come. The Japanese had invaded Manchuria and had moved slowly south so that by 1939, they had reached and occupied almost all of Shanghai. The only parts of the city that were relatively unaffected were the French Concession and the International Settlement.

But both within and outside these, the Japanese army imposed a rigorous crackdown on any anti-Japanese sentiment.

As a result, thousands of people were arrested and thrown into gaols where they were forced to live in extremely poor conditions.

In the Woodwork and Painting factory of Shanghai's notorious HongKou gaol, some of these political prisoners occu-

The Junk before its restoration.



The Restoration Team with the completed s.v. Shanghai Photography : Ian Buntin

piated the long hours of their incarceration making a model of a Chinese Junk, which they named the s.v. *Shanghai*.

At the time, Raymond Dainton was just five years old. His father, a Civil Engineer employed in the Public Works Department of the International Settlements, bought the Junk as a toy for his son.

The model boat — or at least the remnants of it, for it had fallen into disrepair — was still in Raymond Dainton's possession when he passed away.

Dainton's widow was about to discard the boat, when it occurred to her that the *Golden Dragon Museum* may wish to

have it repaired for display. It passed into the hands of Dominic Pan, a Volunteer at the *Golden Dragon Museum* and also a member of *Bendigo Woodturners*.

The acquisition of the Junk was seen as particularly appropriate since the Museum celebrates Chinese heritage in Australia — from the Gold Rush of the 1850's until now — with a specific focus on Chinese arts and crafts.

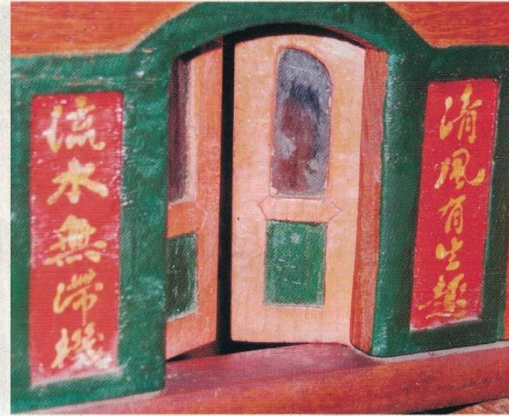
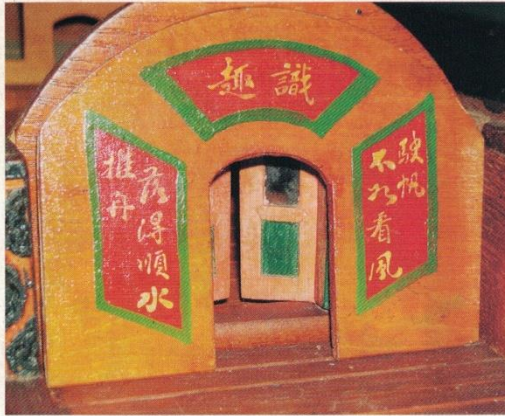
The team that undertook the restoration consisted of Dominic Pan, Ian McLaughlin and Judith Buntin (also members of the *Bendigo Woodturners*) and Virginia Bell (from the *State-wide Sewing Superstore*, Bendigo).

It took the team more than 100 hours to completely restore the Junk.

During the process, it was noticed that some components were labelled in such a way as to suggest that this was just one of a series of model Junks made in the prison. Even if this is the case, it seems unlikely that any of the others will have survived the past 70 years.

Even more interesting, is the Chinese brush script found under the roof of the Junk's living quarters.

There, the makers of the model had recorded anti-Japanese slogans as well as a description of the conditions in which they lived.

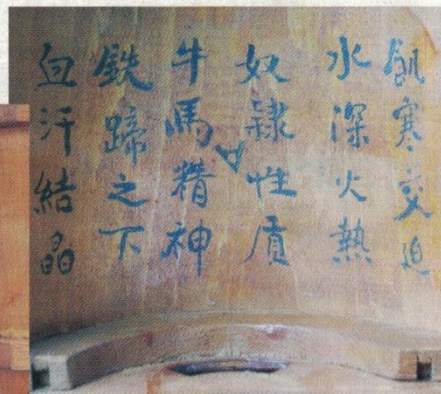


These are examples of the translated script:

Suffering from hunger and cold
Deprivation and hardship
Working like slaves
Treated as animals
Long live the Republic of China
Victory against Japanese invasion
Success in restoring Chinese sovereignty

A display case is being built for the Junk and when this is finished, it will go on display in the Museum, adding another intriguing feature to one of Australia's most interesting collections.

Photographs by Dominic Pan except where noted



The Bendigo Woodturners

The Club's first meeting was on July 27, 1987 at The Old Fire Station, in View Street Bendigo.

Today, the Bendigo Woodturners has a membership of 94 (14 of whom are women) and meets at 7.30pm on the fourth Monday of each month at 104 Eaglehawk Road, Bendigo.

The aims of the Club are to promote the knowledge and skills of woodturning and allied crafts, to enjoy fellowship by involvement in woodturning and to foster interest in woodturning within the general community.

The Club rooms include a new workshop with several lathes and general woodworking machinery for the use of members.

Among other services offered to members are an excellent library containing publications that pertain to all aspects of wood craft and a small shop that handles most of the smaller items needed for successful woodturning — such as stains, clocks, abrasives, finishes etc..

All members, particularly those who are new to the Club, can receive instruction at any level of woodturning from highly qualified members who offer their time and expertise free at least twice a month.

Other activities include the 'Tuesday Group' (which meets each Tuesday to undertake projects for both the club and outside groups) and several sub-groups which meet twice each month:

- A woodcarving group (helped by members skilled in this area)
- A group who wish to improve their skills with Triton equipment and who receive expert advice from a former Triton demonstrator

- A group who work together to develop their pyrography skills.
- A scrollsaw group who similarly work together to develop their skills to a very high standard.

Each year, the Club works with District schools and with other groups such as the Scouts to give children the opportunity to undertake hands-on work in woodturning, pyrography, scrollsaw and general woodworking.

The club's Annual Expo, held at Easter, runs for four days and is acknowledged as one of the biggest and best regional woodturning shows in the country.

Further information may be obtained from the website: <http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/home/benwood/web/index.html> or by writing to The Secretary, PO Box 1259, Bendigo Central, VIC 3552.

The current secretary can be contacted at: frank@impulse.net.au



E-mail : councilwoodworkclubs@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.councilwoodworkclubs.org>
Happy 2021 Woodies!

2020 was a mammoth year, with fires, floods and the pandemic. We hope that 2021 is much less dramatic and is a wonderful year for everyone!

CWC AGM

The 2020 AGM was held via Zoom on 25 November, 2020. The standard items of business were attended to. The election of Office Bearers and Committee, unsurprisingly, resulted in no change. A copy of the Financial Report may be obtained on request. The President's report is available [here](#).

In his report, the President asks that clubs be on the lookout for any grants and schemes that may be of benefit to them in helping ourselves and others in restarting our lives and activities "post COVID" - and coping with the aftereffects of the pandemic, such as the many people who will be out of work and people requiring assistance with mental issues. There may be Grants for any organisations who can assist in this mammoth task. The President strongly urges all clubs to think how they can help their communities and be generously assisted by grants from Local, State and Federal Governments - Clubs may have the space (might be an opportunity to increase meeting rooms and workshops), the organisation structure, the skills, and the enthusiasm to help. This will no doubt require careful planning and management, but opportunities will exist. The opportunities will not come knocking on your clubroom door, you will need to seek them out however he has heard you will not need to look too far. Please share your ideas and suggestions so other clubs can benefit.

COVID policy

Ballarat Woodworkers Guild has kindly provided a copy of their COVID policy - I thought it might be of interest to other clubs still formulating their own policy. The document is available [here](#).

2021 Events

PLEASE CHECK with the individual club involved to find out whether the event is still being held.

I have listed events that have been advised to me over a period. Hopefully, we will not go backwards in the fight against COVID-19 and these will all go ahead.

- The **Bowna Turnabout** dates have been rescheduled to **27 & 28th February and 1 March 2021** Further information in due course.
- The **Kiama Woodcraft** Group Annual Woodcraft Expo features demonstrations and sales by members plus timber sales by All Class Timber Services and will be held at the Kiama Masonic Hall, Collins Street, Kiama NSW on **6 & 7 March 2021**. 9am – 4pm Saturday, 9am – 4pm Sunday Free entry. Contact: David Bywater, Expo Coordinator, Mob: 0425 249 148
- The **Australian Scroll Saw Network** Biennial Exhibition Wood and Craft Show Hosted by the **Goulburn Region Woodworkers Club** Inc. is planned for **15 - 16 May 2021**. Venue. Goulburn

Veolia Center Goulburn Showground 47 Braidwood Road Goulburn N.S.W. Contact. Roger Doughty Mob. 0419 603 588. or Don Slade Mob. 0428503844.

- The **Cooroora Woodcraft Show** is planned for **10 - 11 September 2021** at **Cooroy** Memorial Hall. Contact Steve Chapman Mob: 0419611565 or refer to the Cooroora Woodworkers Club website at www.cooroorawoodworkersclub.com
- The **Gympie** Rotary Ancient Crafts, Rare Trades Expo which was planned for 31 October & 1 November 2020 has been rescheduled for **30 - 31 October 2021**. Further details are available from www.ancientcrafts.org

Timber, Tools and Artisan Shows

Dates are to be confirmed - tentative dates for the next shows are:

- Brisbane - 12 - 14 March 2021
- Sydney - 11 - 13 June 2021
- Melbourne - 27 - 29 August 2021
- Hobart - 24 - 26 September 2021
- Canberra - T12 - 14 November 2021

Further information from [their website](#)

Snippets from Australian Wood Review

Article - [Making a woven wood bench](#)

Video - [Making a Luban stool](#)

Project - [Making a tray for tea](#)

Article - [The Woodcarver's Mallet](#)

Project - [Making a Trivet](#)

Video - [Turning a Segmented Vase](#)

Article - [Finishing small objects](#)

Cleaning Roster

January – Carving
April - Pyrography
July – Scroll saw
October - Woodturning

February – Woodturning
May - Carving
August - Pyrography
November – Scroll saw

March – Scroll saw
June - Woodturning
September - Carving
December – Pyrography

Events Calendar

February 2021

1st – Executive meeting
22nd – General meeting

March 2021

1st – Executive meeting
22nd – General meeting

April 2021

2nd to 4th - Easter Exhibition (Trades Hall)
10th – Cavendish Redgum Festival
12th – Executive meeting
16th to 18th – Seymour Alternative Farming Expo
26th – General meeting

May 2021

3rd – Executive meeting
24th – General meeting

