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The Berwick District Woodworkers Club Inc
PO Box 921, Berwick, Victoria, 3806

Location:

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

Welcome to the Newsletter for June 2025 **MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE by June 30th.**

DATES TO REMEMBER Committee Meeting – Wednesday 9th July - 1:00pm in clubroom. Annual **General Meeting** - Wednesday 20th August. 1:00pm in clubroom. As always it will be preceded by a free BBQ lunch at 12 noon. Hope to see you there. **CLUB WORKING BEE** Thursday July 3rd – workshop closed 4th July, reopening 15th. **CLUB EXPO** July 11th 5.00pm – 8.00pm, July 12th 9.00am – 5.00pm, July 13th 9.00am – 5.00pm. July 14th Expo items to be collected, workshop reinstated.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.



Good afternoon, all,

Not a lot to report on this month as things seem to be running smoothly enough with our toy making and personal projects.

With our Expo quickly approaching, I would like to see a bit more support for **John McMahon**. We still need demonstrators and member exhibits, please don't leave it until the last minute as it makes it very difficult to plan.

We have some activities planned for after the Expo: a visit from Pop's shed, a tour of Timbertools facilities, and a refresher course on CPR, these are all leadups to our Gala

Day, which is a month early this year due to the OCF function room rebuild.

Also our AGM is due on August the 20th, so please add it to your calendars, and become involved if you can, it is an important meeting as we determine our membership fees and appoint the committee for the following year during this meeting.

That's about all from me.

Brian.

A Generous Gift. A pleasant surprise awaited club treasurer **Peter Ball**, earlier this month, when he checked the club's PO box. Peter discovered a letter from the Berwick Op Shop, in the box, with a cheque for \$1,000, to be **used for toy materials**. We are delighted to receive this donation as producing the toys that we make for our Gala Day presentation is expensive. Our bill to cover wood, screws, hinges paint etc. usually runs to around \$9,000 per year.

The Op Shop's grants are made Annually in June and this year Berwick Woodworkers Club is a grateful recipient.

Peter is pictured here when he dropped into the Berwick Op Shop to thank **Derek Graham**, one of the shop's volunteers.



CLUB INFORMATION

MEETINGS:

COMMITTEE

Wednesday 9th July 1:00pm

ANNUAL GENERAL

Wednesday 20th August. 1:00pm

MARKETS – Volunteers needed

Saturday 12th July Farmers Market

Newsletter Contributions

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

Committee of Management:

Position	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	Phone
John McMahon	9796 1097
Ken Whitefield	0402 256 134
Michael Berry	0466 812 717
Ian Deans	0403 419 774
Simon King	0477 831 318
Peter Shuttleworth	0402 680 605
Julie Robinson	0481 088 390
Carol Goddard	0422 395 565

Contacts

Equipment authorisation approved members - *Brian Crowe, Don Buchanan, Simon King and Ron Bolton.*

Health and Safety Coordinator – *Peter Shuttleworth*

Machinery Maintenance Coordinators. - *Ron Bolton & Simon King*

Timber Coordinator - *Martin Van Diemen*

Screws - *Martin Van Diemen*

Paint - *George Young*

Toy Coordinators - *Simon King & Julie Robinson*

Functions Coordinator - *Don Buchanan*

Gala Day Coordinator - *Brian Crowe*

Annual Expo - *John McMahon*

Farmers Market Coordinators - *Martin Van Diemen & Don Buchanan*

Public Relations - *Don Buchanan*

OCF Contacts - *Brian Crowe & Don Buchanan*

Webmaster - *Ron Bolton*

Newsletter Editor - *Elsie Hoare*

Members' Welfare Coordinator - *Ken Whitefield*

Men's Shed Coordinator - *Wayne Lucas*

Membership Fees:

	Joining	Annual
Individual	\$50.00	\$75.00
Family of 2	\$75.00	\$115.00
Family of 3	\$75.00	\$138.00
Family of more than 3 please enquire.		
No Attendance Fee.		
Tea & Coffee complimentary.		

Paying your Membership Fees

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.

Safety First

For safety reasons, there must always be **three** members present whenever the workshop is being used.

Clubrooms and Workshops Open Hours

Weekly	Hours	Leader
Monday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Ron Bolton
Tuesday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Michael Berry
Wednesday	9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Don Buchanan
Wednesday Evening	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Bill Bradshaw
Thursday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Brian Crowe
Friday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Ron Bolton
Saturday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Ron Bolton

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





CLUB NEWS.

Parking Improvement Following repeated problems with parking behind the workshop in wet weather, we now have a gravelled parking lot there.

A challenge. At a request from a member of the public, **Brian Crowe** has taken on the restoration of this model Spanish galleon, the lead ship of the Spanish Armada, called the San Felipe, (circa 1690). The main hull is intact but the masts and rigging are in a sad state. Pictured, below right, we can see that Brian has made a start on the project

At 37" (940mm) long and about the same height the restoration should keep Brian busy for a while.



Hello from Margaret & Bill Clayton. (From somewhere up North.) The last message I received from Margaret was from Geraldton WA Margaret says, *"We are having the time of our lives. What we have seen so far has been amazing. (missing "Woodies" though) Please say hi to everyone."*

New Member: This month we are pleased to welcome **Doug Mennie** to the workshop. We hope you will settle in quickly and enjoy your time with us Doug.

Unwell Members: To those of our members who are on the sick list or caring for ailing partners, we send our *Best Wishes* and to **Heather Deans** who took a tumble down the stairs between the clubroom and the workshop, sustaining a broken rib. We hope to see you back again soon Heather.



Special good wishes go to **John Membrey** who has resigned his membership due to ill health. John has been an excellent club member, participating in activities and generous with his knowledge and assistance. We're sorry to lose you John and wish you the best health possible.





Public Display. Helping to promote our coming Expo, Berwick Mechanics Institute & Free Library are displaying some of the Club's woodwork. The varied selection is shown here in the photo taken by **Don Buchanan** after he and **Wayne Lucas** set up the display. The library is also holding some competitions for children to enter, with small scroll saw items as prizes.

EXPO UPDATE. By John McMahon. This year's Expo is less than 4 weeks away and a lot of work is now required to make this another successful exhibition. However, at the time of writing (8th June), only 2 members have lodged their entry forms. While entries don't close until 4th July, the earlier they are received the easier it is to manage the processes of recording & registering each individual piece, and arranging the printing of the display labels. This becomes a mammoth task if it all has to be done in the last week. So please submit your entry forms as soon as possible. Delivery of the actual pieces will be required between Friday 4th July and Monday 7th July between 9am and Noon on each day, including the weekend.



Demonstration rosters awaiting volunteers.

While the demonstration rosters have been displayed in the clubrooms for a few weeks now, only two people have volunteered as demonstrators. This aspect of our Expo has become extremely popular with our visitors, and is now an integral part of the public expectations, so we really need more

members to sign up for this, and it needs to happen as soon as possible rather than at the last minute, so that a published demonstration program can be developed. Please get involved.

Our cleanup working bee and sausage sizzle will be on Thursday 3rd July, and the workshop will be unavailable for use from then until Tuesday 15th July, after the Expo has ended and all the equipment is returned to its correct position. We will need lots of members to lend a hand for the cleanup and in the following days, for moving the equipment, setting up the exhibition tables, hanging signage, arranging tarps, setting up the exhibition pieces and display cards, and for organizing the catering, and more, so you can see that there is a lot to do.

It is now time to start distribution of our flyers to Casey and Cardinia local businesses, cafes, lifestyle and retirement villages, etc. and also for letterbox drops in the local community. All members are encouraged to grab a handful of flyers from the office for distribution please. Many hands make light work and we need to spread the word as widely as possible.

So get working on your pieces, get your entry forms in as soon as possible, and get involved to help ensure we have another successful Expo this year please.

Cheers, John.

Friends of Berwick Woodies. It's always nice to see old faces when some of our past members drop in to say hello and share a cuppa. There are several past Woodies who keep in touch and visit the club when they are in the area and we're always glad to see them.

Favourite Tradies Register. The club plans to keep a register of trades people who can be recommended by club members. We're making a list, so if you would like to add your favourite electrician, plumber, computer guru, etc, please let a committee member know.

SAFETY WARNING: We are reminded to take care on the stairs between the clubroom and the workshop following **Heather Dean's** accident. **Colin Ellard** has added extra safety features to the stairs but we still need to be careful when using them.

Emergency Evacuation Drill: The club's evacuation drill routine was put into action earlier this month when one of the thicknessers was found still running when nobody was using it. A machine that is left running is extremely dangerous to unwary members approaching it. Please make sure the machine you have used is turned off and has stopped running before you leave it. Some people like to live dangerously but most of us just want to go home in one piece.

Happily, the emergency evacuation drill went off very well, with members gathering at the Assembly point in good time. The one big problem was that five members had gone home without signing out in the attendance book. This meant that the Emergency Wardens of the day had to spend precious time checking the building, looking for them. Please remember to sign out before you leave the clubroom.



Machine Mess. Unlucky was the club member who planned to use this machine recently. The person using it the day before had not bothered to clean up their mess, and gone home. We don't have **servants** at the club and we are not children. Please clean the machine you use when you have finished using it.

RESUSCITATE A MATE. It's an event with which most of us hope we will never have to deal but could drop into our lives without warning at any given moment. I'm talking about the experience of being on hand when someone nearby collapses and needs resuscitation and the dreadful feeling of being unable to help. Sadly, I know of a case where the patient was lost because the young man trying to help him didn't know about CPR. In another case, an elderly man attending a BBQ, was able to save his friend's life because he **had** taken a course in the program.

Life Saving Victoria is offering us an Introduction to CPR, **free of charge**. This is a Seniors Lifesaving Education Program which is an interactive, visual session, delivered by experienced instructors. Participants learn: **Emergency response, CPR practice and how to use a Defibrillator**. The session for a minimum of 20 people of 55 years and over runs for 60 to 90 minutes. The Club has booked the **Resuscitate a Mate** program for Wednesday, October 1st at 1.00 – 2.30pm.

Please save the date and advise **Carol Goddard** if you would like to take part.

The membership year is drawing to a close! To enjoy the privileges of membership after 1st July, you'll need to pay your annual subscription as follows:

Membership - individual = \$75.00. Membership - family of two = \$115.00. Membership - larger family group - please contact the treasurer. We accept cash, cheque and card payments, but the easiest way to renew is to make a direct deposit into the club account:

BSB = 033-609. Acc No. = 416074. Acc Name = BDWWC Inc

To all those who have already paid, thank you very much. To everyone else, please arrange your payment in good time to maintain continuity. If you are not in a position to renew at this time, please let me know so I can adjust the register. Remember, you can always rejoin later when circumstances permit.

If anyone has any questions about membership renewal, please just let me know. Thank you for attending to this matter.

Peter Ball - Treasurer

SHOW & TELL for June. The 1920 Packard is by **Brian Crowe** using various timbers (and several pairs of tweezers). The bowl below is oak, made by **John Damon**.



Mark Bellis used his pyrography skills to create the koala and howling wolf below. **John McMahon** took a pollard pruned walnut branch for the sculpture below right.



Club Member Interview: We see them at the club and become friendly with them. We share jokes and a good bit of teasing but in most cases, we know nothing about our **fellow woodworkers** outside of the workshop. **Wayne Lucas** has interviewed **Ron Bolton** recently and here's what he discovered.

About Ron Bolton:



Ron has been one of our dedicated woodwork members for three years now. He has been married to Leah for 8 years. Ron has twin boys aged 31. His favourite footy team is Collingwood, however in 1970 he faced the choice between Collingwood or Carlton. Collingwood won out. Ron also follows Manchester United, the England Patriots along with the Boston Red Sox. His interests outside the wood work group are playing guitar, using a flight simulator, movies (favourite genres include sci-fiction, but no Zombies), air brush painting and photography. He has a passion for working with wood and using computer design programs to enhance the quality of projects. Ron has coached the Casey Cruisers basketball team and played in a number of adult sides. His interests also include mixing music for local dance schools.

Ron's career, previous to the woodwork group, saw him in the role as a computer engineer with Memorex for 1 1/2 years then EMC for 25 years. He was principal engineer for Symmetrix addressing content storage. Ron has been most happy working with teams and travelling. He has travelled to the US, Europe and Belgium, the Netherlands and the Asia Pacific teaching adults new software or introducing new hardware products.

Having had no previous health concerns, the prospect of open-heart surgery along with a cancer trial, were indeed challenging times. He faced formidable challenges but focussed on the medical procedures rather than the emotional side. He took an analytical approach to all of this which was a brave outlook indeed. Club members were very supportive during those tough times. This often involved simple phone calls from well wishers.

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Ron these days seems to be glued to a computer screen in the club rooms developing/completing graphic design and implementing new technologies in assisting members with their wood work projects. Ron is a highly valued addition to our woodwork club and we look forward to his continued support and leadership for many years to come.

A note of thanks to our sponsors for their continued support.



To leave you with a smile:



A man hates his wife's cat and decides to get rid of it once and for all.

He drives twenty blocks away from home and drops the cat there.

The cat is already walking up the driveway as the man approaches his house.

The next day he decides to drop the cat forty blocks away but the same thing happens.

He keeps on increasing the number of blocks but the cat keeps on coming home before him

At last he decides to drive a few miles away, turn right, then left, past the bridge then right again and another right and so on until he reaches what he thinks is a perfect spot and drops the cat there.

Hours later the man calls his wife at home and asks her. "Jen, is the cat there?"

Yes, why do you ask?" answers the wife.

Frustrated, the man says, "Put that cat on the phone, I'm lost and I need directions!"

Some Web links that you may like to check out -

[Newsletter Archive](#) | [Men's Sheds Association](#) | [UKMSMA \(menssheds.org.uk\)](#)

Victorian Men's Shed Association. <https://www.vmsa.org.au/news2/>

[Council of Woodwork Clubs](#) (for an up-to-date list of woodwork events)

<https://www.councilwoodworkclubs.org/events>

That's all for now. With thanks to **Carol Goddard** for her help with proof reading. Until next time stay safe and stay well.