

**Telephone (clubhouse): 8712 7755 Club email: [bdwwcsec@outlook.com](mailto:bdwwcsec@outlook.com)**

**Postal address:**

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 May 2026

**CLUB INFORMATION**

**Committee of Management:**

Position	Name	Phone	Committee	Phone
President	Ian Deans	0403 419 774	John McMahon	0437 096 840
Vice President	Ron Bolton	0413 152 391	Ken Whitefield	0402 256 134
Secretary	Don Buchanan	0431 313 998 email: <a href="mailto:bdwwcsec@outlook.com">bdwwcsec@outlook.com</a>	Michael Berry	0466 812 717
Treasurer	Peter Ball	0425 725 875	Peter Mason	0419 531 524
			Simon King	0477 831 318
			David Macgregor	0490 897 630
			Julie Robinson	0481 088 390
			Carol Goddard	0422 395 565

**Contacts**

- Equipment authorisation approved members – *Ian Deans, Don Buchanan, Simon King, and Ron Bolton.*
- Health and Safety Coordinator – *Ron Bolton*
- Machinery Maintenance Coordinators. - *Ron Bolton & Simon King*
- Timber Coordinator – *Ken Whitefield*
- Screws – *Ken Whitefield*
- Paint – *Ken Whitefield*
- Toy Coordinators – *Ian Deans & Julie Robinson*
- Functions Coordinator - *Don Buchanan*
- Gala Day Coordinator – *Ian Deans*
- Annual Expo - *John McMahon & Jayne Worthington*
- Farmers Market Coordinators – *Ian Deans & Don Buchanan*
- Public Relations - *Don Buchanan*
- OCF Contacts – *Ian Deans & Ron Bolton*
- Webmaster - *Ron Bolton*
- Newsletter Editor – *Stephen Gartlan*
- Newsletter Distribution - *Elsie Hoare*
- Members' Welfare Coordinator - *Ken Whitefield*
- Men's Shed Coordinator - *Wayne Lucas*

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.



## 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	Ian Deans & David Macgregor.
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

### DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>Wed 10<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Sat 13<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Volunteers needed for set up 6:45am	<b>Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Jun</b>	BBQ Lunch at 12 Noon as usual precedes meeting at 1:00pm in the clubroom. Hope to see you there!
Committee Meeting	Market Day		General Meeting	

### Expo Preparation



<b>Fri 26<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Thur 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	<b>Thur 2<sup>nd</sup> to Mon 13<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> to Mon 6<sup>th</sup> July</b>
Exhibitor entry and sales forms have to be lodged.	Club Working Bee	<b>There will be restricted access to the club during this time.</b>	Delivery of exhibits
Forms now available in the clubroom.	“All hands on deck”		9am – 12 pm on these days

<b>Thur 9<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Fri 10<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Sat 11<sup>th</sup> and Sun 12<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Jul</b>	<b>Tues 14<sup>th</sup> July</b>
Setting up the Expo displays.	Opening night	<b>The Exhibition</b>	Collection of exhibits and unsold items	Club and Workshop re-opens.
Your assistance will be appreciated.	5pm to 8pm We are asking members to bring a plate for the light supper after the opening. A roster will be at the club for you to let us know what you intend bringing - either sweet or savory.	9am to 5pm		Back to normal. Some further work still might have to be completed

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi to all,

This month finds me away, but a couple of issues need to be addressed.

The first one is simply to remember that everyone is different, and the way you approach someone you know outside the club may not be appropriate with everyone at the club so please try and respect every one's personal space, particularly if you don't know that person very well.

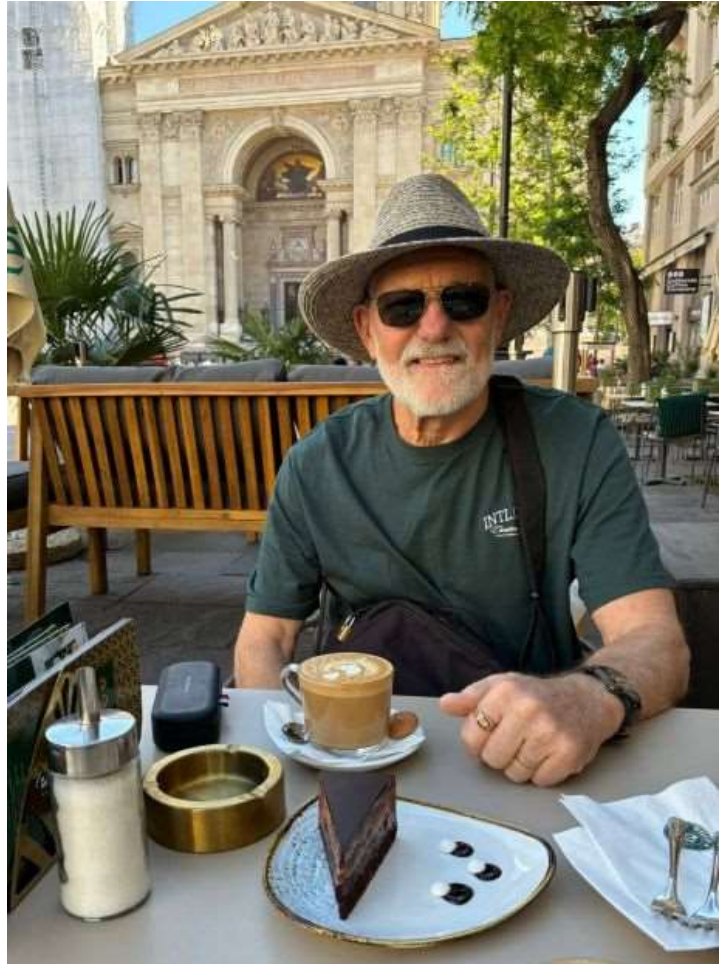
The other issue is both the free timber and the timber to buy. Along with all the other sundries such as glue, screws and nails etc. This is available to club members for their personal use, not for their friends. When you use the free things remember there are approximately 180 other members who may all want some of these things. So, if you use a LOT a small donation to the club is not unreasonable.

Your membership breaks down to barely \$2 a week when it goes up this year that is a pittance and it is not sustainable. So far we have been fortunate with donations, but we can't be sure of that continuing. Our supply of materials could dry up quite quickly.

So please help us to continue as we are.

Regards,

Ian Deans



*Ian Deans in Budapest, Hungary, while he and Heather are enjoying their European trip*

### Safety First

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



## TREASURER'S MESSAGE



A reminder to all members that the membership year ends on 30th June, so the time to renew your club membership is almost here. Your prompt attention is always greatly appreciated to ensure alignment with our annual insurance premium that must be paid in July.

At our AGM in August last year, the new membership fees to apply from 1st July 2026 were set as follows:

Individual membership \$100.00

Family of 2 membership \$190.00 (\$95.00 per head)

Family of 3 membership \$270.00 (\$90.00 perhead)

*(for the fees that apply to larger family groups, please contact the club treasurer).*

The reasons were discussed and voted on at the time. If anyone has any questions now, please contact the club treasurer. Please note that any members who have joined within the last 12 months will have a credit on their membership account that can be applied to their renewal.

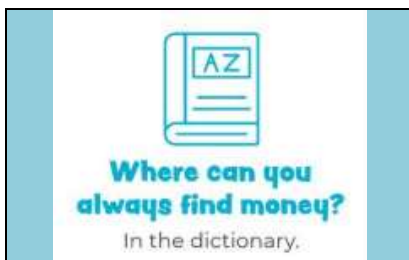
Please contact the club treasurer for further details.

Thank you,

Peter Ball

### 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.



## THANK YOU, ELSIE

Every month, our club newsletter appears in your inbox to inform, enlighten and entertain. It is consistent, reliable and always interesting. For those without email, it comes by post or is collected at the club. As well as essential basic information such as opening hours, committee contacts, bank details and important dates, it lets us know what has been going on and what is coming up, and there are always a few jokes and cartoons to keep us smiling.

Producing the newsletter every month takes time, a lot of thought and care, and a great deal of editorial skill. However, as Robert Frost wrote, *"Nothing gold can stay"*, and our editor is now stepping down from this voluntary role after an astounding 18 years of uninterrupted service.

Elsie took on the role of newsletter editor in 2008, taking over from Melanie Bouck who was moving away from the area. Although she was a skilled touch-typist, Elsie had next to no experience with computers, so it was a very courageous move to accept the responsibility whilst facing such a steep learning curve. Leaning on her husband Rick, who made supportive cups of tea, her brother Harvey, who provided technical support by phone, and member Dianne Gething, who had word processing experience, Elsie gradually tamed Windows and Microsoft Word and never allowed technical problems to delay an issue.

Elsie claims the challenge of the task is balanced by the enjoyment of the creative outlet it provides. There are usually enough interested members who submit ideas, photos and content for each issue, then Elsie applies her love of writing and her interest in artistic layout to curate the contributions and compile them into the colourful and breezily enjoyable newsletters we have seen over all these years past.

Elsie, on behalf of the entire club membership, please accept our thanks for your dedication to the task you took on way back in 2008 and continued for 18 years. The hundreds of club members who have read your work, as well as the many readers from the other clubs who receive our newsletter, are very grateful for the informative content and the enjoyable reading you have provided for all of us.

Enjoy your retirement, and please send in a few gems for publication from time to time!

Peter Ball



Elsie will continue to assist with newsletter distribution and is a whizz with adjusting photos – a talent she is keen to continue sharing.

Steve Gartlan is taking over the editor role and very grateful for the traineeship he received from Elsie.

Thanks also to Carol, who has offered to continue her contribution through proof reading - a much needed role!

### Newsletter Contributions

All material for the Club's monthly publication is to be submitted by e-mail to [g.is.an.egg@gmail.com](mailto:g.is.an.egg@gmail.com), by hand, or by phone to Steve Gartlan, the editor, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Letters to the editor must be sent to the committee.

## RON YOUNG and JACK CROUCHER

Brian Roberts has informed us that Ron Young passed away early Tuesday morning (May 12th) peacefully.

*"Luckily I went to visit Ron at St. John's in Berwick after I had been to the club.  
I am so glad that I saw him for the last time. I can still see him standing at the lathe, working."*

Ron has been a member of the club for many years, rejoining 5 years ago after a battle with cancer. He couldn't attend much over the last 8 months, due to serious health issues.

Ron was born in Edinburgh.

*"We had a lot in common coming from the same area as myself.  
Even although we didn't know each other then, we made up for it in Melbourne.  
Very sad loss."*

He is survived by his wife Avril & their 2 adult children, Brian and Lindsay.



Jack Croucher

Chris Drysdale has also informed us of the passing of Jack Croucher, one of our long serving members. He was president at one time and his name is up on the plaque in the club room. Although he hasn't attended the workshop for some time, he had still been getting the newsletters. His funeral will be at 2pm on 25<sup>th</sup> May at Tobin Brothers, 21 Lyall Ed, Berwick.

## SHOW AND SHARE



Latest Acrylic Fountain Pen. Amazing finish.

Latest slim-line timber pen, Red & Australian Blackwood.



Joint venture, between Esther and I, they were made on the lathe. Esther painted and decorated them.

Brian Roberts –



*I am making 20 cradles for the 7 charities that the club supports every year. 17 made, 3 to go."*

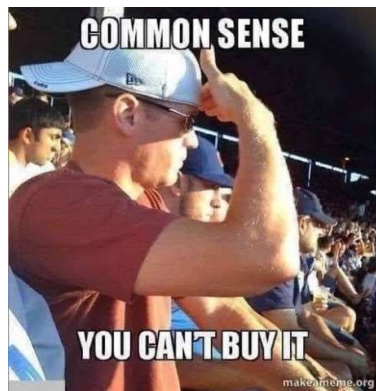


Katerina Zorin - Shelves made from recycled pallets.

*"A very big 'thank you' goes to Peter Ball for helping me to 'hang' up my pallet shelves on the wall."*



**I trained my dog to fetch beer. It may not sound too impressive but he gets them from the neighbor's fridge.**



Thanks again to our sponsors for their continued support throughout the year.

