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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 March 2019

**DATES TO REMEMBER:** Committee Meeting 25th March, 1.00pm in club room. Monthly Meeting 3rd April, 1.00pm in club room. Hare & Forbes Demonstration 28th, 29th & 30th March. Club luncheon, April 11th, 12 noon, at Lynbrook Hotel, 550 Sth. Gippsland Hwy, Lynbrook.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT - by Len Preece - President.**

I am pleased to say that the new workshop was officially handed over to us on Saturday 16th April by Cr Susan Serey deputising for the Mayor Cr Amanda Stapleton who was ill, I did receive a text message from her expressing her disappointment at not being able to attend. The opening went on in magnificent weather with a lot of Casey Councillors in attendance; two of our local Parliamentarians also attended Jason Wood MP member for Latrobe and Garry Maas member for Narre Warren South, as well as a number of suppliers. All were suitably impressed by the achievements of the club. The unveiling of the plaque was done by Cr Susan Serey and me.



From left, Cr. Crestani, Cr. Smith, Len Preece, Cr. Serey, MP Gary Maas and Cr. Rosario

After the official ceremony we were treated to wonderful refreshments provided by the City of Casey through the Cafe at the Old Cheese Factory.

The area around the building was in great shape with thanks to Scott and Scotty who have done a wonderful job in beautifying the building, many thanks boys for a great job. It would also be very remiss of me not to thank Sarah Hill and her wonderful staff for their assistance to me and the Club during the building of these wonderful facilities and also in the preparation of the official opening ceremony.

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**CLUB INFORMATION:**

**MEETINGS:**

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>SPEAKERS ETC</b>	<b>FARMERS' MARKET</b>
25th March	3rd April	Gary Maas MP	13th April 27th April

**Committee of Management:**

<b>Contact Details</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>
President	Len Preece	59405564
Vice President	Brian Crowe	9702 2041
Secretary	Richard Gething	9704 5417
	email: bdwvcsec@outlook.com	
Treasurer	Peter Angwin	5941 1272

**Committee**

Rick Hoare 9707 4608  
 John McMahon 9796 1097  
 Martin Van Diemen 9707 5305  
 Ken Whitefield 9704 9701  
 Ken D. Barnes 0419 114 738

- Monthly meeting speaker - *temporarily vacant*
- Functions Coordinator - *Rick Hoare*
- Newsletter Editor - *Elsie Hoare*
- Public relations - *Len Preece*
- OCF users group - *Len Preece*
- Toy Coordinator - *Ken D. Barnes.*
- Workshop Co-ordinator - *Brian Crowe*
- Health and Safety Coordinator - *Whole committee*
- Member's welfare coordinator - *Ken Whitefield*
- Kits for kids coordinator - *Ken Whitefield*
- Raffle Coordinator - *Len Preece*
- Farmers Market Coordinator - *Martin Van Diemen*
- Special interest group coordinators - *Depends on group*
- Librarian - *Keith Towe*
- Screws - *Martin Van Diemen*
- Paint - *George Young*
- Timber coordinator - *Martin Van Diemen*
- Web/Web master - *Jack Croucher*
- Mens' Shed coordinator - *Wayne Lucas.*
- Great Art Show - *John McMahon (with sub-committee)*

**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.

**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 -	John Damon
Wednesday Morning	9.00 am - 1.00 pm	General -	Bob McArthur
Wednesday Evening	5.00 pm - 9.00 pm	General -	Martin Van Diemen
Thursday Morning	9.00 am – 1.00 pm	Fine W/work -	Maurice Deeker
Friday Morning	9.00 am - 1.00 pm	General -	Richard Gething
Saturday Morning	9.00 am - 1.00 pm on market days or by private 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. 9704 6055.

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 - continued from front page:**

With the workshop almost complete we are still waiting for the power upgrade to be done so as we can put the final things in place and have the dust extractor operating, these works have now been approved and should be completed shortly.

I must also thank all the members for their support and assistance through this transition process, special thanks to **Brian Crowe, Bill Bradshaw, John Damon** who has done a great job in setting up our PA system in the lunch room and also **Ken Whitefield**. The club now has purchased its own BBQ which will be kept in the breezeway beside the trailer.

Finally our Farmers' markets are going very well and if any member can spare an hour or two on the second and fourth Saturday of every month your help would be very much appreciated; remember it is these markets that keep the club healthy financially. These markets take a lot of organising and I must thank **Geoff Rankin** and **Martin Van Diemen** for their great efforts.

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**MEMBERS' DISPLAY:** Club members were given the opportunity to showcase their work on display tables in the clubroom. Here are some of the photos taken by **John Damon** with items by **John McMahon, Chris Drysdale, Keith Towe, Brian Crowe, Rick Hoare** and **Len Preece**.



The toys for our Annual Toy Program always attract attention and had their own display.



**A GIFT FROM THE POXON FAMILY.**

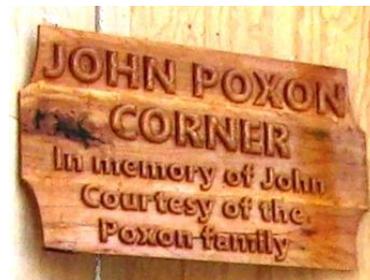
Taking pride of place in the club's new workshop is the area that is provided for those who need to sit as they work. For many years the club has had an area known as **John Poxon's Corner**, where popular, long serving club member, **John Poxon** worked from his wheelchair. Since John's passing in February 2015, John's wife **Alice** has donated several of John's tools and machinery to the club, including a specially modified band saw. On behalf of the **Poxon family** and for the benefit of other wheelchair users, Alice has also made a sizeable cash donation.

Added to the club's convertible lathe, the collection has been moved to the dedicated corner in the new workshop, now officially labelled '**John Poxon's Corner**', identified by a carved sign made by **Chris Drysdale**.

When Alice visited the workshop on Saturday, **Ian Chong** was on hand to show her how well a wheelchair fits into the corner.



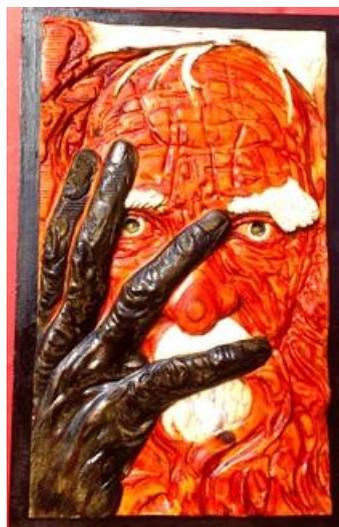
The late John Poxon



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**SHOW & TELL FOR MARCH GENERAL MEETING.**

Here and on the next page are some items that **Chris Drysdale** has done on his CNC machine. Chris like to work with 20ml plywood because of the interesting effect of the plied layers. Chris achieves the colours with varying types of Livos oil.



More Show & Tell items by **Chris Drysdale**.



**John McMahon** showed us the engraving that he has done in the piece of redgum at far right. John has called it 'Forest Nymph'



The bowls at left are John's also, far left is redgum, the other pearwood. John also showed us photos of some bowls he has made for members of his

family. Here is the touching story accompanying John's work.



*Last December, the house built by my parents in 1950 as our family home was demolished to make way for a couple of dual occupancy dwellings by a developer. A kindly neighbour recovered some of the timbers, including a couple of 5 and a half inch square redgum house stumps that had sat in the ground for 68 years. He gave them to me with the request that I make him something from them. This is the result:*

- *lidded box for the neighbour, (at right) approximately 120mm diameter and 150 mm high. A textured band done with the Dremel & outlined by burning with the edge of a laminex offcut (a technique learnt from Graeme Rogers). A large crack was filled with coffee grounds & CA glue. Finished with 5 coats of Livos Countertop Oil.*
- *6 bowls approximately 140mm diameter and 70mm high, with a wall thickness of 4mm. Black highlighter pen on the rim & finished with 5 – 6 coats of Livos Countertop Oil. These bowls were made for each of the children raised in the house, & although they all look similar, like the children, each bowl is slightly different.*
- *A vase made for my mother, approximately 320mm high and 140mm diameter, with a wall thickness of 3mm to the bottom of the leaves, where the internal walls are rounded to leave a thicker base for stability. Leaf texturing is done with a Dremel, all black outlining & the number are pyrographed, and the leaves and stems coloured with green u-Beaut wood dye. Finish is 8 coats of Livos Countertop Oil. The number 301 is the old house number, engraved over two heart-shaped leaves melded into a single unit. The stems of the leaves form an unbroken band around the vase, encompassing 6 large leaves and 17 smaller leaves, representing the children and grandchildren that were nurtured in this home.*



As anticipated, being so old, this wood was pretty hard to turn, requiring frequent visits to the grindstone.

However, there was a surprising amount of movement in it also, which became evident when trying to get a snug fit of the box lid. It was also an interesting exercise in maintaining tool control when cutting into the endgrain of this timber with an overhang over the tool rest in excess of 300mm. Luckily we had no mishaps.



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#### BEST WISHES TO JACK CROUCHER:

This one slipped quietly by. **Jack Croucher** celebrated his **90th** birthday a few weeks ago. We hope it was a happy occasion, Jack, and that the coming year will be a good one for you.



**Jack Croucher**

The photo at right turned up during the recent move from the old club room. I couldn't resist showing it here. In the photo are Jack & Joyce, John & Stuart Croucher. The other couple are Marge & Den Roberts and their son Mark. Jack says the Roberts have been friends for about 40 years.



#### MANY THANKS

Acquiring our new clubroom and workshop has been an exercise in patience and perseverance. Through it all Club President **Len Preece** and Vice President **Brian Crowe**, have worked closely with **Sarah Hill** and the **Staff** of the Old Cheese Factory. The committee of Berwick Woodworkers recognises the value of the assistance and cooperation that has been received, at every turn, by its representatives and offer sincere thanks to **Sarah Hill, Scott Muir and Scot Dacombe.**



**MANY THANKS TO JOYCE HAYES:**

Berwick Woodworkers has received a generous financial donation from Honorary club member **Joyce Hayes**. Joyce is the widow of **James Hayes** who was Club Secretary for several years. Although we lost James in 2014 Joyce has kept in touch and attends many of the club's social events.

Many thanks also, to **John Damon** for his help with the photographs of the Club's Opening.

**SAFETY EQUIPMENT:** The club has acquired new safety equipment which should be worn by members when operating the club's machinery. Safety glasses, dust masks and hearing protectors are to be found in the box over the grinder.

**FIRST AID KITS:** These can be found in the breezeway by the roller door, in the workshop near the finishing room and outside the office in the club room.

**ICE PACK:** There is one in the refrigerator icebox in the club room, donated by Bill Bradshaw. Many thanks Bill.

**CLUB SHIRTS, JUMPERS AND HATS.** If you would like to purchase items of the club's uniform, Len Preece is soon to place another order with our supplier. Sizes range from small, medium and several sizes above large.

Polo shirts with pocket - \$25.00

Fleece lined jumpers - \$35.00

Peaked caps and bucket hats - \$12.00

**CLUB LUNCHEON.** Rick Hoare has asked me to remind members that the club's next social luncheon is to be held at 12 noon, at Lynbrook Hotel, 550 Sth. Gippsland Hwy, Lynbrook. on **April 11th**. The date has been brought forward from 18th which is too close to Easter, being the day before Good Friday We must advise the hotel of the numbers that will attend. If you would like to join us please add your name to the list on the lunchroom table. Food is buffet style and widely varied.

**BARBEQUE PURCHASE:** With the increasing popularity of the Old Cheese Factory site as a gathering place for private parties and large social events, the club's committee decided that the purchase of a gas barbeque, to be used for our own purposes, would be a good idea. This has been done and the new BBQ will be put into service before long, for our next sausage sizzle lunch. **Ken Whitefield** has reminded those using the BBQ that it must be cleaned following use before it is closed up and put away.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** It may be early days yet but there is a fair bit to be done before the event. Its time, for instance, to start thinking about nominations for committee posts. The AGM will be held on August 7th, at 1.00pm in the clubroom.

**LETTER BOXES:** The club has been approached with a request to take part in a program to make replacement letter boxes to aid those who were burned out in the recent Gippsland bush fires. Berwick Woodworkers will make 20 letterboxes and posts using wood that has been donated.



**MYSTERY DISAPPEARANCE.** They're small and round (about 450ml in diameter) and there is a tray of 80 of them, painted black like this one plus 50 not yet painted. They are the wheels that **Lance Baker** made for the small block trains that **Maurice Dunn** makes as part of our Gala Day presentation, and they've gone missing.

Mauri has looked everywhere for them and is anxious to get them back because they represent a lot of work if they have to be re-done. If you can throw any light on the subject, Mauri would be glad to hear from you.

**Berwick District Woodworkers Club.**  
**Minutes Monthly Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.**

**Meeting Commenced 1.10 pm**

**Welcome to Members** President Len Preece welcomed 22 members.

**Apologies**

Peter Angwin, Keith Towe, Lance Baker, Pat Mahoney, Ken D. Barnes, Ken Whitefield, Martin Van Diemen, Gerry Singleton, and Ross Blackwood.

**Minutes of previous monthly meeting.** – 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

- In Newsletter.

**Motion to accept minutes.** Proposed – John McMahon. Seconded – Chris Drysdale. Motion carried.

**Business arising from previous meeting**

- Nil.

**Correspondence.**

- Email received from Keith Towe,

The President,

I would like to move a vote of thanks to those members who have worked very hard to move our tools, equipment and fittings from the old workshop to our new workshop and meeting room.

It was great to see members moving and locating equipment and preparing spaces for timber and materials, even if sometimes they were hiding under benches pretending they were working, so a very sincere thanks to the members, the committee for overseeing the shift and to Len and Brian who have spent well over a year in preparation, and in countless meetings and changes of the workshop design with the Cheese Factory staff.

Thanks Len and Brian, and the hard working members.

I ask if someone would second this motion.'

Keith Towe

March 2019.

Motion seconded – Chris Drysdale. Motion carried unanimously.

- A summary of the correspondence from latest committee meeting was read.

**Motion to accept correspondence.** Proposed – Bert McGinty. Seconded – John Damon. Motion carried.

**President's Report.**

- Most of my time has been taken with the new workshop.
- The ground works are underway and the concrete path will be poured in about three weeks.
- Thanks to all members who have willingly assisted Len Preece and Brian Crowe with our relocation.
- The intercom system is almost complete. Thanks John Damon.
- We are waiting for the power upgrade and telephone cable.
- The official handover will be on 16<sup>th</sup> March at 11.00 am. Please put your name on the list if you are attending. We will finalise the details next Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March.
- Thanks to George Young for setting up the finishing room.

**Motion to accept the President's report.** Proposed – John McMahon. Seconded – Brian Crowe. Motion Carried

**Treasurer's report.**

- We have reduced our fixed term deposit to provide funds for the new workshop project.
- Our funds are sound and can adequately cover our estimated costs.

**Motion to accept the Treasurer's report.** Proposed – Chris Drysdale. Seconded – Paul Ryan. Motion carried.

**New Workshop.**

- A few minor electrical and plumbing faults have been reported.
- The value of our existing buildings needs to be added to the club's total contribution.
- Thanks to Chris Drysdale for the new signs.
- Evacuation plans are on the wall and icepacks will be available in the fridge.

**Farmers Market.**

- The market is going well.
- We will need some extra hands next market.
- Our gazebos need weights on the legs.

**Functions and Demonstrations.**

- Gary Maas will attend our April monthly meeting.
- Until we obtain a defibrillator the St John Ambulance cannot do a training session. Other demonstrators are not available at present.
- The club lunch will be at the Lynbrook Hotel at 12 noon on 11<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you Rick Hoare for organising the venue.

**Newsletter.**

- All okay at present. Thanks Elsie Hoare.
- Please forward to Elsie any items that can be used in the newsletter.

**General Business.**

- Some wheels for the small block trains have disappeared. Please keep your eyes open and see Maurice Dunn if you find any.
- The program for our handover day on 16<sup>th</sup> March will be organised and catered by the City of Casey. We have provided a detailed guest list. There will be a meeting on Monday to finalise the details. The program will show case the work we do. Could all members please wear the club uniform.
- Chris Drysdale brought in a sample of glue used by a local manufacturer. The excess glue can be directly sanded off as a powder once dry. It is not affected by heat and the glue does not clog the sandpaper. We will give it a trial.
- The Lost Trades Fair will be on at Kyneton next weekend. Tickets are available on the internet.
- Robbo’s open day at Tooradin will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March. The feature will be lathe holding techniques.
- The Hare and Forbes demonstration days will be on 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March. We would like four members per shift. Details are on the table. We will be making a small table for Andrew Wearne.

**Show & Tell.**

- Presented by Brian Crowe.

**Door Prize.**

- Won by Rick Hoare.

**Meeting closed at 2.00 pm. - Next meeting Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2019 at 1.00pm.**

**President - Len Preece**

**Secretary – Richard Gething.**

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Don't you love technology?

Sign seen on an office wall (and my philosophy for this newsletter):  
"To err is human but to really stuff up you need a computer."

Well that's about it for now. Bye until next time.