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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 April 2019

DATES TO REMEMBER: Committee Meeting 22nd April, 1.00pm in clubroom.
Monthly Meeting 1st May, 1.00pm in clubroom.



APRIL GENERAL MEETING.

Club members were given the chance to meet **Gary Maas MP**, member for Narre Warren South when he became the speaker for the April meeting. Gary Maas has taken over the office of retired **MP Judith Graley** who supported the club for twelve years. Apart from printing our newsletter each month Judith lent her expertise to some of the club's problems, with valuable advice and influential support. Gary Maas assures us he intends to be as supportive and has already spoken in The House about our club, our skills, trades and toys, saying Berwick Woodworkers is "an example to Parliament Members". Our work is "valued."

Following a brief description of his background, growing up in Springvale and a varied career as, among other things, a school teacher and storeman, Gary gave us an opportunity to ask questions.

Before leaving Gary sat with us for a group photo.



CLUB INFORMATION:

MEETINGS:

COMMITTEE

22nd April

GENERAL

1st May

SPEAKERS ETC

Robertson's Screws.

FARMERS' MARKET

27th April

11th May

Committee of Management:

<i>Contact Details</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Phone</i>
President	Len Preece	59405564
Vice President	Brian Crowe	9702 2041
Secretary	Richard Gething	9704 5417
	email: bdwwcsec@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 Coordinator - *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 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 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:

Weekly	Hours	Activity	Leader
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.





TOOL SHARPENING VIDEO:

We had an additional speaker this month when **Keith Towe** showed us a video on sharpening lathe tools. A subject dear to his heart, Keith has often lamented the poor sharpening that has sometimes taken place in our workshop. As Keith points out good quality lathe tools are extremely expensive to replace and ruining a tool with inexpert sharpening is not only wasteful but can

make it dangerous to use. Keith believes that every turner should learn to sharpen his/her tools properly. A reminder too, to always wear protective glasses when tackling the job.

Before he resumed his seat **Keith Towe** took care of **SHOW & TELL:** At right is **John McMahon's** lidded box. The wood is aurucaria, a plantation timber similar to balsa but denser and often used to make surf boards. The trim is second-hand merbau.



Chris Drysdale's pens are next. At left is blackwood inset with a saw & plane. The other is a pine cone set in resin.



Keith Towe turned the small vase from *Casurina obesa* (swamp oak) which is becoming more rare due to the increasing salinity of the water in which it grows.

Richard Gething turned the bowl at right using a piece of Brazillian pine left behind by **Gary King** when he moved North.



SOME THINGS TO REMEMBER: With our new building being so much more noticeable than our previous premises, it is likely to attract curious visitors. For safety reasons it is important to ensure that the chains and bollards that separate the workshop from the general public, are kept in place at all times.

It is also important to make sure that all entry doors to the workshop are closed when we leave the building for morning tea and lunch.

Members of the public are welcome to visit but must be accompanied by a club member at all times.

A WORD OF THANKS: **John McMahon, Ken Whitefield, Paul Ryan, Bill Bradshaw & Len Preece** for their attendance at the **Hare & Forbes** open day weekend in March.

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CLUB LUNCHEON. About 25 club members and their wives and partners gathered at the Lynbrook hotel on April 11th for the club luncheon. The meal was a buffet which enabled guests to choose as much or as little of the food they preferred. Considering my past record of mistakenly naming faces, I'm not even going to attempt to identify those here. I think it sufficient to say that everyone appeared to enjoy the pleasant company and good food. Our next club luncheon will take place later in the year, probably around August or September.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable and relaxing Easter break and the Easter Bunny was good to you. It is good, now, to be in the new workshop with the dust extractor now working. We still have a couple of power points to be rectified, but we have contacted the electricians, who are aware of the problems and will be in shortly to rectify. We are investigating the availability of an exhaust fan to be installed in the Finishing Room.

It was sad to hear that **Joyce Hayes** had a fall whilst on holidays and hurt her shoulder; she has been seen by Doctors and Physiotherapist. Joyce will shortly be entering hospital to have surgery on the shoulder; we wish her well in this procedure and hope that all goes well for her. For further information **Martin Van Diemen** is in regular contact with Joyce and will keep us informed of her progress.

We must also thank **Chris Drysdale** for the wonderful carved wooden signs in the lunch room and in the workshop; many thanks Chris for the great work.

(President's report continued next page)

(President's Report Continued)

Before emptying the bins under the dust extractor please see **Brian Crowe** or myself for the best location to empty them.

Many thanks to **Martin Van Diemen**, and the team that assisted in collecting the timber from East St Kilda - much appreciated, also to **Brian Crowe** and **Ross Blackwood** for the wonderful effort in making the 30 letter boxes for the Bushfire ravaged area in South Gippsland.

Finally our Farmers' markets are going very well and it is important that we get support from all members, (the last couple of markets we have been a little light on numbers) so 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.

Len Preece - President

Berwick District Woodworkers Club.
Minutes Monthly Meeting 3rd April, 2019.

Meeting Commenced 1.05 pm

Welcome to Members President Len Preece welcomed 24 members and guests Gary Maas, MP and Nichole Hayes.

Apologies

John Membry, Paul Parer, Peter Angwin, Mike Kingett, Wayne Lucas and Ian Chong.

Minutes of previous monthly meeting. – 6th March 2019.

- In Newsletter.

Motion to accept minutes. Proposed – Ken Whitefield. Seconded – John McMahon. Motion carried.

Business arising from previous meeting

- Nil.

Correspondence.

- Email received from Rob Till offering us a workbench.
- A summary of the correspondence from latest committee meeting was read.

Motion to accept correspondence. Proposed – Chris Drysdale. Seconded – Martin Van Diemen.

Motion carried.

President's Report.

- Thanks to all members for their help and assistance. The efforts of Bill Bradshaw and others have been invaluable.
- The project is going well and will be completed shortly.
- We are installing the bollards and sponsor notices shortly.
- We should be back to normal next week.

Motion to accept the President's report. Proposed – Brian Crowe. Seconded – Ross Blackwood. Motion Carried

Treasurer's report.

- As attached.
- A brief summary of the Treasurer's report was read.
- Some accounts still have to be finalised from Adapt, the kitchen towel provider etc.
- The bollard installation will be done shortly as there is sufficient finance and the OCF are installing theirs.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Proposed – John Damon. Seconded – John McMahon. Motion carried.

New Workshop.

- Adapt are finishing the upgrade to our electricity supply. Micronair will commission the dust extractor next week.
- We are installing “Members only” notices on chains near our roller doors. These must be in place when doors are open.
- The roller doors on the west side should be kept closed when not in use to reduce drafts etc.

Farmers Market

- All going well at present.

Newsletter

- All good. Thanks Elsie Hoare.
- Thanks to Gary Maas MP and Nichole Hayes for printing our newsletter.

General Business.

- The value of our original existing buildings needs to be added to the club’s total contribution. The building was valued after we built it in 1998.
- We wanted to record our thanks to Len Preece and Brian Crowe for the work they have done in negotiating with the Old Cheese Factory for the conditions of our move to our new workshop.

Motion to record our thanks as raised. Proposed – Bill Munt. Seconded – Elsie Hoare. Motion carried.

- Please ensure you put the money towards your sausage sizzle in the container provided.
- Regular cleaning of the toilets and kitchen has been organised.
- We have applied for a grant for a defibrillator unit. A second one will be purchased now from our funds. They will be accessible.
- Any visitors to our workshop must be accompanied by a club member.
- Thanks to Ken Whitefield, Bill Bradshaw, Paul Ryan and Len Preece for manning the Hare and Forbes demonstration. It was well run and set up.

Show & Tell.

- Presented by Keith Towe.

Door Prize.

- Won by Elsie Hoare.

Meeting closed at 1.30 pm.

Next meeting Wednesday 1st May 2019 at 1.00pm.

President - Len Preece

Secretary – Richard Gething.

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EQUIPMENT DONATION: A PRO Antifog Visor, valued at \$35.00 has been donated to the club by J. & M. Brain of Toomuc Valley Road Pakenham.

Additional safety equipment purchased for use by club members:

- 6 x clear over glasses,
- 6 x Opel clear glasses
- 10 Premium earmuffs.

The Cost of Craftsmanship:

Keith Towe

For Bespoke woodworkers, the cost of quality timber is an aspect that many buyers often, (very often) fail to consider, be it in Cabinet Making, Box Making, Turning, Carving or Natural finished Toy Making, the Timber materials used are a major cost that needs to be factored into the price they set for their work.

I recently saw an Internet article offering a section of a well-known Australian Timber for sale. It was 150mm x 25mm x 1Mt long, and was \$60 a lineal Mt.

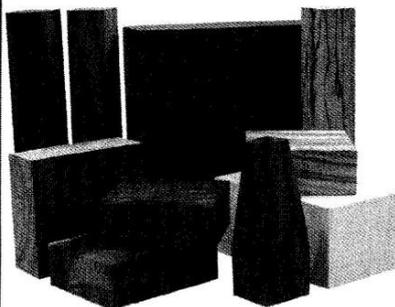
Now few small crafts persons buy their material by the Cubic Metre, and many of us still measure our material by the Super Foot (12" x 12" x 1") therefore the above material at 150x25x1 Mt would equal – 6" x 1" x 39" equalling 234 cubic inches, or 1.6SF, and each cubic inch would cost about \$0.256, so costing say a 6" x 6" x 2" (72 ci) small Turned Bowl, the Timber material cost would \$18.43, and when the Time, Skill and Profit factors are added, the Turner would need at the very least a \$60 return on his time and investment.

Now, will Crafts buyers pay \$60 for a Bowl? or a nicely made Box or Carving using this equation?. The object of this article was to highlight that **All Timber** has a Value, and depending upon the Species and the Quality, many Species are **VERY VALUBLE**, but unfortunately, an acknowledgement of the value of Timber rarely reaches the buyers of Hand Crafted Items.

Lastly, it is also often acknowledged that if you/we sell (give away) well-made Craft Work very much below its true value, we Under Value that Craft within the Community to the detriment of Crafts people trying to establish a living within their chosen Craft.

I have attached a file that shows the English prices for some exotics at 2009 prices in UK Pounds, and as exotic they would be more expensive than say our Australian Blackwood, although Olive could hardly be classed as exotic, but the idea is to awaken people to the **TRUE** cost of good quality timber whether it comes from a backyard tree, or from the Timber supplier.

Exotic and native wood



Building on our reputation for first-class service and hard to find products, Turners Retreat can now offer you a selection of exotic and native woods by mail order. Order by telephone, fax, e-mail or via our website. We aim to bring species not readily available countrywide.

Amongst our latest selections we have:

Species	Dimensions	Price each	Species	Dimensions	Price each
Kingwood	6" x 6" x 2"	£ 30.00	Tulipwood	6" x 6" x 2"	£ 30.00
Kingwood	4" x 4" x 3"	£ 20.00	Tulipwood	4" x 4" x 3"	£ 20.00
Kingwood	2" x 2" x 12"	£ 19.95	Tulipwood	3" x 3" x 12"	£ 33.00
Serpentwood	6" x 6" x 2 1/2"	£ 30.00	Olive	5" x 5" x 3"	£ 11.25
Serpentwood	4" x 4" x 3"	£ 20.00	Olive	6" x 6" x 3"	£ 17.25
Thuya Burr	5" x 5" x 2"	£ 15.95	Ebony	2" x 2" x 12"	£ 26.00
Thuya Burr	6" x 6" x 2"	£ 23.50			

We also have a range of unusual species, such as Masur birch, Grasstree Root, Red and Brown Mallee Burrs, Banksia Nuts, African Blackwood Bells and Basswood.

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Thought provoking:

ELECTION RESULTS: When you rearrange the letters: **LIES - LET'S RECOUNT**

If you keep your feet firmly on the ground, you'll have trouble putting on your pants.

If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.

Sign in a Non Smoking area:

'If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action.'

And with those words of wisdom I'll leave you until next time. - Ed.