

Tele (club) 9702 1814 Club email bdwwcsec@outlook.com

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 May 2019

**DATES TO REMEMBER:** Committee Meeting 27th May, 1.00pm in the club room.  
Monthly Meeting 5th June, 1.00 pm in the club room.

### MAY GENERAL MEETING.

Our speaker this month was **Robert Low**, from **SACHYS Industries**, accompanied by his wife **Anne**, and colleagues **Paul** and **Stephen**. Robert demonstrated the **Robertson Square Drive** screw for us.



Photos above show the unique square drive head of the screws and varying self tapping threads.

"Robertson" screws were invented in Canada by Peter Robertson in 1908. The drive system is reputed to be better than the conventional drives, and the quality of the screws superior due to their 33% carbon steel content, making them extremely strong.

The screw will not break under a heavy load. The tapered driver locks into the square drive, gripping the screw. The driver doesn't jump out of the screw head and the screw will stay put even when the driver is held at an angle.

With the self tapping thread, pre-drilling is unnecessary except in extremely hard wood.

The photo above right shows Robert demonstrating the strength of the screws when used in pocket-hole joinery. Timber will break before the joint will. Robert used a 10 amp drill, proving that high powered tools aren't necessary. Members were given the opportunity to buy some of the merchandise on display and the club received a gift of a package of screws.

**CLUB INFORMATION:**

**MEETINGS:**

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>SPEAKERS ETC</b>	<b>FARMERS' MARKET</b>
27th May	5th June	--	11th & 25th May 8th & 22nd June.

**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: 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](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 -	Bill Bradshaw
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.



**SHOW & TELL: John McMahon** used some of the Clyde Road oak to make the table below as a 'thank you' gift for **Andrew Wearne**, Manager of **Hare & Forbes Machinery House**, for his help in moving our machinery into our new workshop. John also made the vase at right, using Tasmanian Myrtle. The secret involved in enabling the vase to stand on its very small base, is in the thickness of the base when the vase was hollowed out.



**Ross Blackwood** made the butterfly box at left, using his CNC machine. The little car is by Ross as is the cow-hide whip.



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### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is nice to see many members are taking pride in our new workshop and keeping it clean, it has been noticed by a number of visitors to the club who have commented on the cleanliness of the workshop, well done all let us keep it that way.

We are working toward having a door put in between the lunch room and the workshop and having an exhaust fan fitted in the paint room, we hope to have news on these projects in the near future, the telephone line is still an ongoing saga and we hope to have it rectified shortly. Brian and I have a meeting at the start of every month with the Old Cheese Factory staff to keep our lines of communication open in order to keep up to date and getting things done.

**Jack Croucher** is still waiting to have his hip operation as is **Joyce Hayes** still waiting for her shoulder surgery; we hope that these two members can receive the attention they desperately need; we hope it will be sooner rather than later.

It was great to receive a letter from **Garry Maas** advising that he had brought up the Berwick District Woodworkers Club in parliament and it was recorded in **Hansard**, a copy of the extract from Hansard is on the notice board in the lunchroom. We also received a letter from **Brad Battin** thanking us for the letter boxes we did for Bushfire areas.

The new honour board will be finished shortly and we hope to have the original one repositioned and the new one up early next month.

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. The markets take a lot of organising and I must thank **Geoff Rankin** and **Martin Van Diemen** for their great efforts.

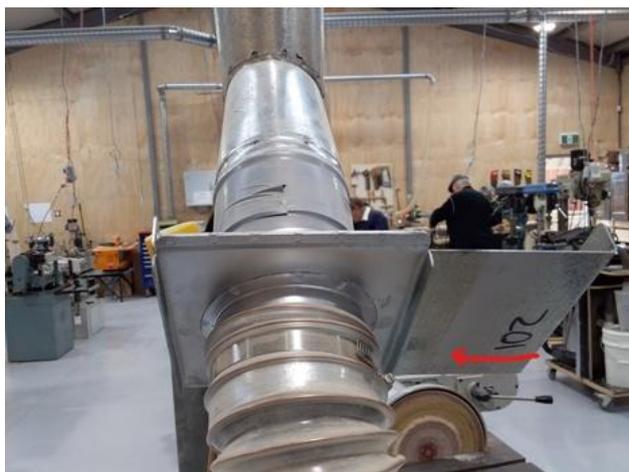
### **Len Preece - President**

**DUST EXTRACTOR NEWS.** The club's dust extraction unit is up and running now. Starting procedure for the machine is as follows:

- Turn shaker switch to manual.
- Run it for 10 seconds.
- Return switch to off
- Turn shaker switch to manual
- Run for 10 seconds.
- Return shaker switch to auto.

When using a machine, the gate on the dust collection duct **must be opened** (picture at right) then **closed** when work is finished. To close a gate, push it toward the duct, as indicated by the red arrow. The three duct gates in the breezeway must be open at all times.

There are 3 flexible dust hoses, connected to the ducts throughout the workshop, that can be used instead of the vacuum cleaners.



When the Micronair bins under the dust collector are full, they can be emptied onto the mulch heap at the back of the children's garden.

**'GO TO' MEMBERS.** Just a reminder. Throughout the clubroom and workshop there are posters advising members of our authorised **'Go To' Members**, who can be approached when in need of assistance or advice on using any machine. Members are below from left, **Len Preece, Brian Crowe, John Damon, Bob McArthur and John Membrey.**



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**NEXT CLUB LUNCHEON:** Following the success of the last club luncheon in April, at the Lynbrook Hotel, the committee has decided to use the same venue for our next luncheon on August 15th.

**FARMERS' MARKET.** We are enjoying continued success with this venture. The market has developed a regular clientele and the income provided serves to benefit all club members as we no longer need to run an annual raffle to raise funds.

Compared to the "all day" session every week for 3 months, that the raffle entails, the market involves only half a day twice a month throughout the year, in a relaxed, social atmosphere. We ask members who are able to spare an hour or two, once or twice a month, to come along and give us a hand. We need help with the setting up of our 3 gazebos, directing traffic for parking, greeting patrons and collecting donations at the entrance, or helping to dismantle the gazebos at the end of the market.

The income from, the gate donations is used to buy the materials for our toy program, the tools and equipment that keeps the workshop humming, and the maintenance of the club room.

**MACHINE MAINTENANCE:** Following the recent discovery of one of the bandsaws in a state of needing considerable maintenance, club members are asked to keep a watchful eye when operating a machine. Being in constant use as our machines are, it doesn't take long for vibration to take effect, working bolts loose to the point of parts falling off. If you suspect that something is wrong, please ask for an inspection.

**FABRIC DONATION:** The club has received from, **Impact Blinds & Curtains in Fountain Gate**, a generous donation of several metres of brocade curtain fabric to make some of the 84 little mattresses needed for the beds, cradles and prams that are part of our toy program.

**MAIL BOXES FOR FIRE VICTIMS.** Following the severe bush fire damage in March this year, Berwick Woodworkers received a request from a Facebook group called '**Victorian Bushfire Horse Help**' for some mail boxes that would replace those that were burnt out.

The absence of mail boxes has created a problem for insurance companies making it difficult for them to locate properties in the area.

Club members made up 30 boxes using timber donated by **Van Steensil** in Officer, and paint donated by **Wattle Fountain Gate**. Vermont Woodworkers also helped out, making 40 boxes.



**Brian Crowe with the finished mail boxes**

### **PENS FOR OUR TROOPS REPORT**

Mick Lawrence is one of a small group of pen makers that have got together with a mission to provide a slimline pen made using Australian timber to each of our troops serving overseas. They recently sent off just over two hundred and fifty pens to troops in Afghanistan and Iraq and now plan to send another five hundred pens late September so they can be handed out for remembrance day. This will be an ongoing project as we currently have around four thousand five hundred troops in various overseas postings. It is hoped other pen makers will step up to help this project achieve its goal. After the first batch were distributed a letter of thanks was received from a senior officer who thanked those involved and went



on to say how pleased the troops were receiving support from home. I know they would be more than happy to receive some donated slimline pen kits as they are currently self funding the project. For more details contact Mick . [archeryaba@netspace.net.au](mailto:archeryaba@netspace.net.au)

PICTURE COURTESY GIPPSLAND TIMES

**TURNING SMOCKS:** The committee has decided to purchase some turning smocks to be used, as part of our uniform at public demonstrations. The smocks are designed with high necks and long sleeves, to protect the turner from those irritating chips that invariably find themselves in some uncomfortable places during a turning session. The smocks also come with short sleeves and will also be available for club members to purchase. Long Sleeves - \$55.00, Short Sleeves, \$50.00.

**MEET BESSY THE COW:** Just for a change, **Bill Bradshaw** has turned his hand to a different kind of rocker. Here is Bessy the cow and to show me how sturdy she is **Jim Graham** sent me this photo of Bill putting Bessy through her paces.



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**MORE USES FOR AUSTRALIAN TREES:** By *Keith Towe*

Many of our Acacias have astringent qualities often use by our Native Australian people.

The Bark was used to make a decoction or infusion and used to treat Diarrhoea or Dysentery, also for some eye infections and a number of other severe and minor ailments.

There are many other Australian shrubs, trees and plants that have been used by Aborigines for these purposes, but as a wood worker I have only discussed Trees.

My first remembrance of Wattle Bark was when a truck load arrived at our local playground from the Tannery to be spread beneath the Slides, Swings and Monkey Bars to absorb the numerous falls we had as children. The smell of the newly spread Tanbark was quite distinct.

Most woodworkers know and recognise Blackwood, and eagerly source, it so little advice is needed.



At left: *Acacia melanoxylon* bark.  
At right: *Melaleuca alternifolia*  
Medicinal Oils.

Possibly the most widely known essential Oils in Australia are Tea Tree Oil and Eucalypt Oil. Both are steam distilled from the leaves and small green branches of these species.



### **More Uses for Australian Trees (continued)**

Tea Tree Oil has been used for many 100's of years by early settlers and for many 1000's of years by our Native Aboriginal's as an antiseptic to treat Ringworm, Head Lice, Psoriasis and toenail infections. There are now many Tea Tree Plantations in NSW and Queensland for the cultivation of Tea Tree for Oil Production.

An aside, in 1858 Eucalyptus Oil was first used for lighting the first Street Lights in Kyneton, Victoria. The Oil was converted to a Gas then used to light Street Lamps. There are also reports of Gum leaves used as a bandage around severe cuts to the body with remarkable results.

### **Berwick District Woodworkers Club.** **Minutes Monthly Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2019.**

#### **Meeting Commenced 1.00 pm**

**Welcome to Members** President Len Preece welcomed 26 members and three guests from Robertsons Screws.

#### **Apologies**

Brian Crowe, Ross Blackwood, Sam Ciampini, Ken Whitefield and Keith Towe.

**Minutes of previous monthly meeting.** – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019.

- In Newsletter.
- Amendment to minutes. Treasurer's report Clause 4. The bollard installation will be done shortly as there is sufficient finance and the OCF are not installing theirs.
- Amendment to minutes. General Business Clause 7. Thanks to John McMahon, Ken Whitefield, Bill Bradshaw, Paul Ryan and Len Preece for manning the Hare and Forbes demonstration. It was well run and set up.

**Motion to accept minutes and amendments.** Proposed – Martin Van Diemen. Seconded – Colin Ellard. Motion carried.

#### **Business arising from previous meeting**

- Nil.

#### **Correspondence.**

- Phone call offering us some second hand tools and equipment.
- A summary of the correspondence from the latest committee meeting was read. The meeting was advised that a committee motion was passed putting grant applications on hold for 6 months.

**Motion to accept correspondence.** Proposed – Ken D. Barnes. Seconded – John McMahon. Motion carried.

#### **President's Report.**

- A meeting will be held with the OCF to discuss the bollards, Bunjil Place display, the fire hydrants, our lease, our telephone, our parking and a number of maintenance items etc.
- Most electrical work has been completed. We only need minor electrical and telephone work to be completed.
- When using a machine the dust gates must be opened and closed when work is complete. The three ducts in the breezeway and on the torque master must be open at all times.
- We can use the flexible dust hoses instead of the vacuum cleaners now the Micronair unit is fully operational. When we empty the Micronair bins the chips can be taken to the mulch heap.
- We will raise the issue of the concrete path with the OCF. We will have mud and stone problems this winter particularly with the wheel chair access.
- The connection of the second saw in the breezeway will be done soon. A 3 phase extension lead has been offered by Paul Ryan. Thanks Paul.

**Motion to accept the President's report.** Proposed – Mike Kingett. Seconded – John Damon. Motion Carried

### **Treasurer's report.**

- As attached.
- We will use our two grants to purchase an exhaust fan for the finishing room and two defibrillators.
- Our Farmers Markets need extra help from members.
- The electricity accounts are up to date.
- The payment from the Liberal Party Fighting Fund will now be personally donated to us by Jason Wood, MP.
- Our bank balances are adequate for our current needs.
- We must maintain our machines and equipment to keep our maintenance low.
- Our subscription costs will stand for the next financial year.

**Motion to accept the Treasurer's report.** Proposed – Martin Van Diemen. Seconded – Pat Mahoney.  
Motion carried.

### **Farmers' Market.**

- Our donations will be lower during the winter months.
- We need extra assistance at the markets. Thanks Mike Kingett for your help with the early setting up.

### **Functions**

- The lunch at the Lynbrook Hotel was a good day. We will book our next day for 15<sup>th</sup> August.

### **Demonstrations.**

- We have Robertsons Screws today and the next two meetings are open.
- The AGM will be on 7<sup>th</sup> August.
- We will invite Hare and Forbes to do a demonstration.

### **Newsletter.**

- Gary Maas has been supportive in printing our newsletter.

### **General Business.**

- One of the bandsaws needed a good clean out and a number of bolts were loose. It took considerable time to clean and repair. We need to check the machines we use are okay when we have finished.
- The new club jumpers etc will be available soon.
- We will be ordering turning smocks to be made and they will be available to purchase. We will have long and short and there will be six for use at demonstrations.

### **Show & Tell.**

- Presented by Eric Guthrie.

### **Door Prize.**

- Won by John Damon.

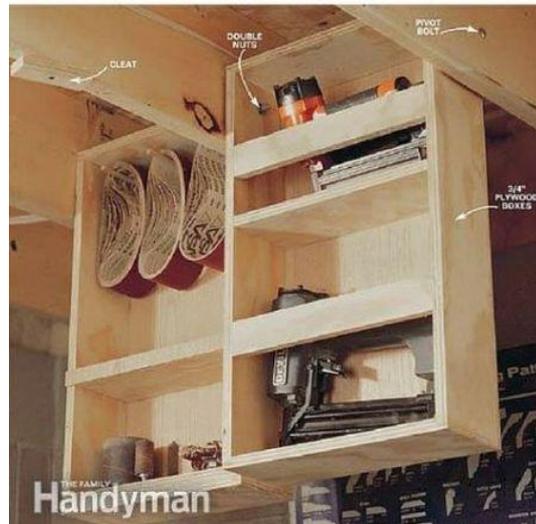
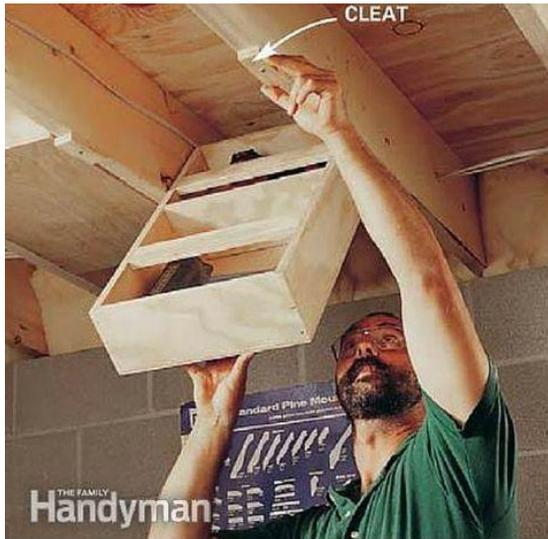
**Meeting closed at 1.30 pm.**

**Next meeting Wednesday 5th June, 2019 at 1.00pm.**

**President - Len Preece**

**Secretary – Richard Gething.**

**FROM THE INTERNET:** Storage idea for a small workshop.



**Sawdust Putty:**

Instead of using timber putty you can make your own from sawdust and PVA glue. All you have to do is mix some PVA glue with some sawdust from the timber you are using and then apply it to any holes or cracks in the timber. It also completely matches your timber and you can't see the dry glue.

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Does anyone else find the following painfully familiar?

**Tech Support: 'I need you to right-click on the Open Desktop.'**

**Customer: 'OK..'**

**Tech Support: 'Did you get a pop-up menu?'**

**Customer: 'No.'**

**Tech Support: 'OK. Right-Click again. Do you see a pop-up menu?'**

**Customer: 'No.'**

**Tech Support: 'OK, sir. Can you tell me what you have done up until this point?'**

**Customer: 'Sure. You told me to write 'click' and I wrote 'click' .'**

**Some Strange Things to get your mind off politics:**

By raising your legs slowly and lying on your back, you cannot sink into quicksand. ( Now that's got to prove useful some day.)

Chewing gum while peeling onions will keep you from crying.

A 2 X 4 is really 1-1/2" by 3-1/2".

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**That's all for now. Best wishes until next time.**

