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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

December 2019
Newsletter

DATES TO REMEMBER: Committee Meeting, Monday 13th and Tuesday 28th January 2020 at 1pm in the clubroom.

Monthly Meeting February 5th, 2020 - 1.00pm in clubroom.

Twilight Farmers' Market - 23rd December - 4.00pm - 7.30pm. No market on 28th December.

GALA DAY - 2019

Although, due to the upheaval of 'moving house', the past year hasn't been exactly smooth sailing for Berwick Woodworkers, members of the club's toy teams have managed to surpass previous efforts, producing 980 toys for local underprivileged families.

Our Gala Day, held on December 7th was, as usual, a pleasing success. Local Members of Parliament, councillors from both Casey Council and Cardinia Shire, supporters of the club and members of the public gathered with us in the function room at the Old Cheese Factory in Berwick as the toys were handed over to the district's welfare groups.

Charities represented were: Casey Information and Support Services, Cranbourne Information Support Services, Turning Point Support Services, South Eastern Migrant Services and Windermere.

Pictured below are representatives of the welfare organisations together with Federal Member for Holt, Mr. Anthony Byrne and City of Casey councillor Mr. Tim Jackson who handed each representative a token toy. The charities collected their full allocation of toys on Monday morning 9th December and will distribute them to disadvantaged children in our community in time for Christmas.

At the conclusion of the afternoon the guests enjoyed afternoon tea prepared by the members of the Woodwork Club and their partners and were invited to an inspection of the workshop and facilities of the club.



CLUB INFORMATION:

MEETINGS:

COMMITTEE GENERAL SPEAKERS ETC

13th & 28th January 5th February 2020 --

FARMERS' MARKET

14th December.
Twilight Market 23rd December.

Committee of Management:

| Contact Details | Name | Phone |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| President | Len Preece | 59405564 |
| Vice President | Brian Crowe | 0438 012 155 |
| Secretary | Richard Gething | 9704 5417 email: bdwwcsec@outlook.com |
| Treasurer | Peter Angwin | 5941 1272 |

Committee
 Mark Bellis 9769 9596
 John McMahon 9796 1097
 Martin Van Diemen 9707 5305
 Ken Whitefield 9704 9701
 Ken D. Barnes 0419 114 738
 Paul Ryan 0400 538 577

Monthly demonstrations - *Vacant looking for help*
 Functions Coordinator - *Vacant*
 Newsletter Editor – *Elsie Hoare*
 Public relations – *Len Preece*
 OCF Contact group – *Len Preece*
 Toy Coordinator – *Ken D. Barnes.*
 Machinery maintenance supervisor. - *Brian Crowe*
 Health and Safety Coordinator – *All committee members.*
 Member’s welfare coordinator – *Ken Whitefield*
 Kits for kids coordinator – *Ken Whitefield*
 Farmers Market Coordinator – *Martin Van Diemen & Paul Ryan*
 Special interest group coordinators – *To suit group*
 Librarian – *Keith Towe*
 Exhibition and Show - *John McMahon*
 Gala Day coordinator - *Len Preece*
 Our Lease - *Chris Drysdale*
 Screws – *MartinVan Diemen*
 Paint – *George Young*
 Timber coordinator – *Martin Van Diemen*
 Equipment authorisation approved members. - *Len Preece, Brian Crowe, John Damon, John Membrey and Bill Bradshaw.*
 Mens' Shed coordinator - *Wayne Lucas.*

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.
 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.

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 - | Ross Blackwood |
| Wednesday Morning | 9.00 am - 1.00 pm | General - | Bill Bradshaw |
| Wednesday Evening | 5.00 pm - 9.00 pm | General - | Bill Bradshaw |
| Thursday Morning | 9.00 am – 1.00 pm | Fine W/work - | Brian Crowe |
| Friday Morning | 9.00 am - 1.00 pm | General - | Len Preece |
| Saturday Morning | 9.00 am - 1.00 pm | Farmers' Market supervisors - | Martin Van Diemen and Ken Whitefield or by prior 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. 8783 6959.

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

My final report for 2019 and I just wanted to thank all members for their work, time and effort throughout the year.

It was a great achievement in completing 980 toys this year which culminated on Sunday 8th December when we officially handed all the toys to the charities, this was a great day thanks to the many members and partners who assisted on the day with afternoon tea and cleaning up after the big busy weekend. Thank you all.

Finally I wish everyone a merry and joyful Christmas and pleasant New Year, and travel safely all those who are venturing away and look forward to seeing all return safe and well in the New Year.

DON'T FORGET THE WELCOME BACK BBQ ON WEDNESDAY 15 JANUARY 2020 AT 5.30pm and don't forget your presidents challenge.

Len Preece - President



More about Gala Day.

Once again, as in past years, we were entertained by a choir from Berwick primary school singing Christmas songs. The children were presented with a small party pack each following their performance.

Club President **Len Preece** presented the choir leader and the keyboard operator with a gift.



It's hard to imagine such an event proceeding without the pleasure of afternoon tea at the conclusion of formalities. At right, below, are **Marilyn Crowe**, **Elise Barnes** and **Val Moyes** who took on the all-important task of running the kitchen. Many thanks, ladies.

A pleasant surprise for club members was the Certificate of Appreciation below left, presented to us by Turningpoint.



WHERE GALA DAY STARTS. The weekend is always a hive of activity, needing as many 'hands on deck' as possible in order to set up the function room. Work starts around 8.00am on the Saturday morning, with all the toys being transported from the club workshop and private homes of the members. Below are pictures of the sorting in progress. **Ken Barnes**, Toy Coordinator, has a list for each welfare group, denoting the number of each toy they are to receive. Members refer to the lists as they place the toys in the labelled sections. The morning runs smoothly punctuated by a break for morning tea, then we're back to work to tidy up and set out the tables for our End-of-Year Dinner which is held that evening.

It's fun but it would never come together so successfully without the willing assistance of so many members.

TAKE A BOW FELLERS AND LADIES. YOU DID A GREAT JOB



A BONUS: We rarely get the chance to see children playing with our toys. This year, as shown below, some little visitors to the Old Cheese Factory gardens were invited in for a photo shoot.



PAKENHAM PATCHWORKERS AND QUILTERS GROUP. This busy group has been operating for something like twenty years, creating works of art, many of which they give away to a variety of needy recipients. The group has been dressing the doll's cots and prams, for Berwick Woodworkers for most of that time. Each little doll's quilt is a perfect miniature of the large quilts and equal in quality. I had the pleasure of attending the group's AGM early this month, to accept their latest gift of tiny quilts. I learned that the Pakenham Patchworkers & Quilters have given away 150 quilts this year and this photo shows some of their gifts packed and ready go. I know that this is not a one-off gesture but a repeat of past gifts of equal magnitude.

A WONDERFUL EFFORT.



FARMERS' MARKETS. As previously advised, there will be a twilight market this month, held on the 23rd December from 4.00pm until 7.30pm. The club will provide a sales table for those members who have woodwork to sell. Below are pictures of some of the work offered for sale at last month's market. The walking sticks were made by **Bill Bradshaw** while in the other two photos the work is by **John McMahon**.



I was interested to see the turned ewer at left, made by **John McMahon**. When I asked John how he had managed the bent-wood appearance of the handle, John told me that it was a shape cut from a flat piece of wood and sanded until the smooth shape was achieved.

PERSEVERENCE PAYS OFF: When a distressed motorist appealed to club members **Bill Bradshaw** and **Bernard Zhang** for help, as they manned the entrance to the market, the pair were quick to go to her aid. The woman was unable to get into her car as she had locked the vehicle with the keys still in the ignition. Armed with a metal bar from Bernie's car and a length of fencing wire, Bill & Bernie took on the challenge. Spurred on by the car owner's anxiety the determined duo persisted and eventually won, much to the happy customer's relief. Bernie's wry comment as he returned to market duties, "I knew 4 years at uni would prove useful one day."

A DELICIOUS TREAT: Many thanks to Judi Harris (wife of Cliff) who donated several jars of quince jelly, strawberry jam and mango & ginger relish to the club, for sale to members, to help fatten our piggy bank.

A FISHING TRIP PLANNED: No date is set yet for this trip which would be to Hastings, possibly in February 2020. Interested members should talk to **Peter Angwin**.

WOOD DONATION: The club storage shed is bursting at the seams at present, following some generous donations of wood. **Vince**, a concreter from Clyde North, wanted to clear one of his containers and offered the contents, 13 packs of timber, to Berwick Woodworkers who most gratefully accepted them. The gift is a tremendous saving for the club as we will not need to buy timber for some time.

Another welcome donation in the form of half a trailer load, comprising lengths of 290 x 19, 90 x 19 plus some merbau slabs, came from **Ray Wood**, an acquaintance of **Ken Whitefield**.

Ken's trailer has been busy as he had another load to collect. This time the occasion had a sad overtone as it came from the shed of a past member who has passed away. Club members may remember **Arthur Joslyn** who was a member back in 1998. Arthur was one of the members who helped to erect the club's former premises. Arthur's daughter presented the club with a load of mixed hardwood timbers and 3 burls. Our condolences and best wishes go to Arthur's family along with our gratitude for the family's gift.

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE: There are still a few bundles of wood available in the clubroom for those members who are interested in taking up the challenge. I've heard a whisper that at least one member has already finished his creation.

Rules are as follows:

1. All 10 pieces must be used.
2. At least 75% of each piece must be used.
3. Other timbers may be introduced.
4. Article cannot have any more than three other pieces of timber.
5. Article must comprise of no more than 25% of other timbers.



USEFUL MEMORIES: A short time ago, club secretary **Richard Gething** lent me some old files of past club newsletters dating back to 2001. Reading through them has been a fascinating trip down memory lane. There are some interesting, long forgotten articles and with your indulgence I will re-publish some. Following is a note from past member the late **Alan Paterson**. Alan was responsible for the two clocks that are framed in scroll saw work and displayed in the clubroom.

THE DANISH FINISH - from **Alan Paterson** - April 2002

Of the many types of wood finishes available, Rustin Danish oil is one of the least often mentioned. This is a shame because the product combines many attributes, which both amateurs and professionals value in the final appearance of their work.

I have experimented with wax, varnish, polyurethane, shellac, lacquer and French polish and with other oil finishes. Each had some shortcoming or drawback in final appearance, application technique required, or - in the case of oil - patience. I was tempted to sample Danish oil by chance and I have used it exclusively for some years. I have found, moreover, that Rustin's recommendations stop short of indicating its real potential.

Danish oil appears to be compatible with most dyes and stains - water or white spirit based. Choice is a personal matter but make sure that any colouring you use has surface penetration. Some wood colours contain pigments which do not soak in and can be rubbed off quite easily. Before beginning with the oil, ensure that the stain is absolutely dry or it will inhibit drying of the oil. I also lightly rub out the stained surface with 0000 wire wool before applying the first coat of oil. This guarantees that any surplus colour, not fully absorbed by the wood, is not picked up by the applicator etc.

Note from Wikipedia. Danish oil is a wood finishing oil, often made of tung oil or polymerized linseed oil, although there is no defined formulation so its composition varies among manufacturers. Danish oil is a hard drying oil, meaning it can polymerize into a solid form when it reacts with oxygen in the atmosphere. It can provide hard-wearing, often water-resistant satin finish or serve as a primer on bare wood before applying paint or varnish. It is a "long oil" finish, a mixture of oil and varnish, typically around one-third varnish and the rest oil.



CATCHING UP: Proving that it is not only teenagers who take 'selfies' **Peter Angwin** took this photo of himself and wife **Lynn** when they visited past club member **Gary King** and **Kerryn** during a recent trip to Yarrowonga. Peter tells me both Kerryn & Gary are well, happy and as busy as ever. Gary has an enviable shed and spends plenty of time working in it.

JUST FOR FUN: Brian Crowe snapped this photo of Anees Koya working at the lathe recently. Brian guesses that Anees is making a pen???



Ross Blackwood has these riddles for you. They sharpen those genes in your brain and stall alzheimer's for years.....

1. A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns, and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in 3 years. Which room is the safest for him?

2. A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally she hangs him. But 5 minutes later they both go out and enjoy a wonderful dinner together. How can this be?

3. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and grey when you throw it away?

4. Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday or Sunday.

Answers at the bottom of the page.

SOME AMUSING SIGNS:

In a Laundromat: PLEASE REMOVE YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT.

In a Big Clothing Store: BARGAIN BASEMENT UPSTAIRS.

In a Big City Office: WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE STEP LADDER PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN



Well that's all from me until next time. Don't forget the Welcome Back BBQ. 15th January. 5.30pm BYO MEAT AND DRINKS. Salads supplied. In the mean time have a Happy, Peace filled and Safe Christmas.



Answers:

1. The third room Lions that haven't eaten in three years are dead. That one was easy, right?
2. The woman was a photographer.. She shot a picture of her husband, developed it, and hung it up to dry (shot; held under water; and hung).
3. Charcoal, as it is used in barbecuing.
4. Sure you can name three consecutive days, yesterday, today, and tomorrow.