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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



**Happy New Year to
All and Welcome to
the Newsletter for
January 2022**



DATES TO REMEMBER: Committee Meeting February 21st. 1.00pm in the clubroom.
Quarterly General Meeting. February. 2nd, 2022. - 7.00pm in clubroom.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Happy New Year to all members and their families I hope you all had a good break.

It is good to be back in operation again - please be mindful of the Covid restrictions that are in place. At the last committee meeting it was decided that the club would not be closed and that members be mindful of fellow members and if you are not feeling well then we request that you do not attend the club, until your health returns.

On a sad note we unfortunately lost two of our members in December with **Maurice Deeker** and **Jim Graham** passing away we send sympathies to Jim's and Maurices's Family and wish them all the best. I have also just received an Email from **John McMahon** advising that he is in hospital recovering from a Heart Attack.

As we are now back in normal operation again please remember, when finishing work for the day, please make sure **all work benches are cleaned off**, ready for the next person to come in. **The area in front of the switch board must be kept clear at all times.**

With reports of a number of toy patterns not being able to be located, the committee will go through the boxes in the pigeon holes and any box that has rubbish in it will be disposed of, so please make sure you have a tag on your box and please, if using more than one box, please use the two spots on each self, (that is one behind the other).

As from February the Craft Market will run on the 4th Saturday of each month along with our own Farmers Markets on the 2nd Saturday of each month; members are asked spend some time at each of these markets as it is the income from these markets that keep our fees low, and allows us to keep all machinery in good working order.

The next General Meeting will be an evening one on the 2nd February at 6.30pm with a sausage-sizzle prior from about 5.00 pm. We will also be having the BBQ on the first Wednesday of each month at 12.00 noon. Regarding the annual dinner on Monday 17 January - unfortunately we had to cancel this function due the low numbers on Friday 14th with only 25 people attending.

Len Preece - President.

CLUB INFORMATION:

MEETINGS:

COMMITTEE

21st February

GENERAL

February 2nd

SPEAKERS ETC

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FARMERS' MARKET

12th February.

26th February (craft market)

Committee of Management:

Contact Details	Name	Phone
President	Len Preece	0408 365 970
Vice President	Brian Crowe	0438 012 155
Secretary	Don Buchanan	0431 313 998
	email: bdwwcsec@outlook.com	
Treasurer	Peter Angwin	0400 221 581

Committee

Martin Van Diemen 0418 316 867
 John McMahon 9796 1097
 Ken Whitefield 0402 256 134
 Ken D. Barnes 0419 114 738
 Colin Ellard 8770 0149
 Don Buchanan 0431 313 998

Monthly demonstrations - *Vacant looking for help*
 Functions Coordinator - *Ken D. Barnes*
 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 & Don Buchanan*

Special interest group coordinators - *To suit group*

Librarian - *Keith Towe*
 Exhibition and Show - *John McMahon*
 Gala Day coordinator - *Ken D. Barnes & Len Preece*
 Screws - *Martin Van Diemen*
 Paint - *George Young*
 Timber coordinator - *Martin Van Diemen*
 Equipment authorisation approved members. - *Len Preece, Brian Crowe, Bill Bradshaw, Ross Blackwood & Don Buchanan.*
 Mens' Shed coordinator - *Wayne Lucas.*
 Web/WebMaster - *Jack Croucher.*

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	4.30 pm - 8.00 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.



JANUARY FARMERS MARKET:

Our first market for the year got off to a successful start with favourable weather and a good roll-up of club members to take care of the entrance gates and car parking.

Below, from left, are **Richard Gething** and **George Young** and **Michael Berry**, one of our newer members, and **Ken Whitefield**, with masks removed so that they could smile for the camera.



At left, **Jaq Riar**, took advantage of the workshop being open on Market Saturdays, to work on his woodwork project.

This month we welcome new member **Jaq Riar**, pictured left.

you guessed it - the borders closed and he was not able to return to Victoria. An extended holiday in Queensland for Bruce meant that we haven't seen him for a while. Glad to have you back, Bruce.

Welcome back to **Bruce Scott**. Bruce had been visiting his daughter and her family in Queensland when -



IN LIEU OF SHOW & TELL:

David Murden who spent some time with us over the Christmas break, has returned to his new home in Howlong NSW and his position as Animal Technical Officer for Rivalea, Australia. David sent this photograph of the toy plane that he made for a Christmas gift for his nephew. The woods are redgum, oregon, cypress, pine and merbau.

Peter Ball has sent me this photo of the cabinet he has been working on during lock-down. The cabinet will adorn Peter's workshop. Here's what Peter had to say, *"I made the workshop cabinet from 17mm plywood. The top is MDF trimmed around the edge with Tasmanian Oak, and the door and drawer pulls are cut from a plank of merbau decking. I chose the darkest piece I could find for contrast with the ply."*



My biggest concern about this project was that the drawers would stick and the doors would jam, but everything is holding up well and I'm glad I didn't talk myself out of attempting this. It was a great way to learn and gain experience."

Katerina Zorin has sent photos of some of her Christmas tree decorations. In keeping with modern thinking the decorations are made from recycled icecream spoons. Katerina says she got the idea in 2018, during the year she spent working as a volunteer in a facility for the disabled. Researching on the internet Katerina collected a folder full of projects.



On the club's Facebook Page I found the following post by **Paul Ryan**. *"A couple of little Jarrah pots, taper with food safe and straight one with EEE and shelack."*

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ON A PERSONAL NOTE: As already mentioned in the President's Notes, we received the disturbing news, last week, that **John McMahon** had a heart attack. Following a quick email to John I received this reply. *"Mending ok thanks to amazing Gippsland paramedics, staff in the Monash Cathlab Clinic & nurses at Jessie McPherson."*



Great news, John.
Keep up the good work.

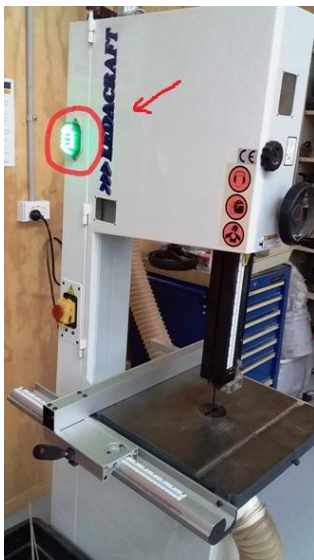
In the same week we received the news that Club Secretary **Don Buchanan** and his wife Heather had contracted Covid 19 while away on a short break. Advice from Don is that they are on the mend but Don will not be back at the club for a while yet.

We send our best wishes for a full recovery to Don & Heather.



IN MEMORIUM: The saddest news came to us when we learned that the club has lost two of its popular members. **Maurice Deeker** passed away on December 9th, and **Jim Graham** on 29th December. As I didn't know either of these members well, except that Mauri always made me laugh and Jim was a big friendly man who was generous with his woodworking skills, I asked **Bill Bradshaw** to tell me a little about them. Bill's reply was simple, Mauri was one of the most skilled people Bill had ever met. Jim was a rough diamond with a heart as big as he was. Both members will be sadly missed. Our heartfelt condolences go to each family.

Pictured left is Mauri's Mechanical humming bird which moves and flaps its wings when a handle is turned and at right, the rocking cows which were created by the 'cow team' to which Jim belonged.



BAND SAW SAFETY: Concern has been raised regarding the safety of one of the club's band saws. The machine runs very quietly which makes it difficult to detect that it is running. Steps have been taken to alleviate the problem, with the installation of a warning light that flashes as soon as it is switched on and stops flashing when the machine is switched off. The blade takes a little while to stop rotating so care should be taken until the blade comes to a full stop. As an added precaution the operator should not walk away from the machine until it is completely safe to leave.

Following are safety instructions that may be found on the club's website. Though all points are important some have been highlighted for extra attention.

BAND SAW OPERATION

Wheel guard doors must be closed before turning on the machine.

The blade must be sharp and properly adjusted, before turning on the machine.

Adjust the upper guide assembly so it is 5mm above the work.

Do not allow observers to watch beside the saw — this is where a broken blade is likely to exit.

Allow the saw to reach full speed before feeding the work.

The stock must be held flat on the table.

Feed the saw only as fast as the teeth can easily remove the sawdust from the kerf in the wood.

Plan saw cuts to avoid backing out of curves whenever possible.

Make turns carefully and do not cut radii so small that the blade is twisted.

Stop the machine before backing out of a long, curved cut or cut relief cuts to release waste wood; and use a wedge to open up the blade kerf before backing out the blade.

Round stock should not be cut unless mounted securely in a VEE jig or hand screw.

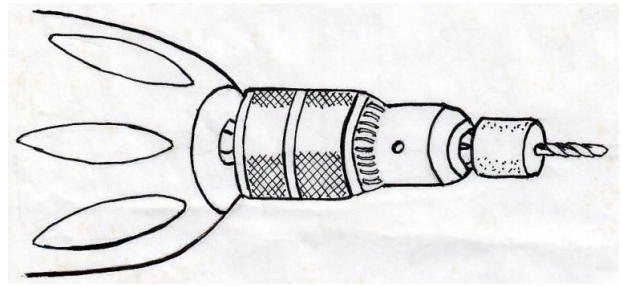
If you hear a clicking noise, turn off the machine at once. This indicates a crack in the blade. If the blade breaks, shut off the power and move away from the machine until both wheels stop.

Turn off the machine as soon as you have finished your work. If the machine has a brake, apply it smoothly. Do not leave the machine until it has stopped running.

No operator should be approached until they have completed their work so that there is no lapse in their concentration.

FROM THE INTERNET: (repeated from the April 2016 issue of this newsletter)

Next time you finish a bottle of your favourite tippie, save the cork and use it as a depth gauge on your drill-bit. Sometimes we need to drill a hole to a certain depth without drilling clean through the piece of timber. A favoured method of doing this is to wrap a piece of masking tape round the drill-bit at the appropriate depth and stop drilling when the tape is reached. If there are a number of holes to be drilled the tape can wear, allowing the holes to become deeper. A piece of cork cut to the required length and twisted onto the drill-bit is a little more sturdy than the tape, easier to see and soft enough that it won't damage the timber being drilled. Worth a try.



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GETTING TO KNOW YOU: Berwick District Woodworkers Club draws its members from a wide variety of backgrounds. Several different countries are represented among our members as well as varying previous occupations. What stories lurk behind the smiles we see when we greet each other? Club member, **Lauraine McDonald**, herself a journalist, decided to interview some members and write a short synopsis of their stories.

GEORGE YOUNG SNAPSHOT .. Raised in a family of 7 in a 2-bedroom house

As a one-year old baby, George Young (now 92) moved with his parents and his older sister from tenement blocks above the shops, to a modern housing estate in Dunbar, Scotland. The new house, built of wood and identical to all the other houses in the estate, was in a block of four and had only two bedrooms. George's mother went on to have three more children. The girls had one bedroom. The boys had the other. And she and George's father slept in the living room.

George lived in that same house with his parents and four other siblings until he got married, aged 26. His older sister moved out when she got married at 21, his other sister stayed until she moved to Australia as a 22 year-old and his younger brothers lived there until their respective marriages.

"You didn't move around in those days," George said. "You had a single occupation, a single social life, a single domestic situation and you were considered lucky to have a house."

George's father was a disabled ex-serviceman from what George called the "1418 war" (1st world war from where the ANZACs originated).

He explains, "More of a war went on from Britain to France than there was in Galipoli, Turkey (250,000 casualties). The biggest losses were in Flanders, Belgium (600,000 fatalities), where my father lost one leg and was severely wounded in the other."

Meanwhile his mother, 14 years-old at the time, worked in a huge ammunitions factory straddling the Scottish-English border. She later worked at a mill, famous for its hosiery and tweed manufacture.

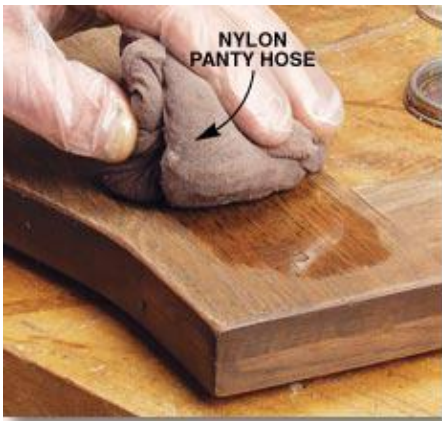
George describes his working life as a "pen-pusher in a dead-end job, working for the British government". During this time he and his wife, Sheila, raised three children—2 daughters and a son. With much of his family having already migrated to Australia in preceding years, George stayed in the UK until 1995. When he and his wife had their pension, they too came here. He was 66 years old.

He recalls, "British pensioners were treated with complete contempt at that time. For instance, we were made to wait 10 years before we qualified for the normal aged-pension benefits."

Once here, they immediately got involved in separate clubs two or three days a week—George joined the Berwick Wood Workers Club while his wife joined George's sister at the Moorabbin Golf Club.

"The woodworking club has been a lifeline since then," he says. "The contacts and friendships I've made over the years there, have been wonderful."





NO LINT FINISHING TIP

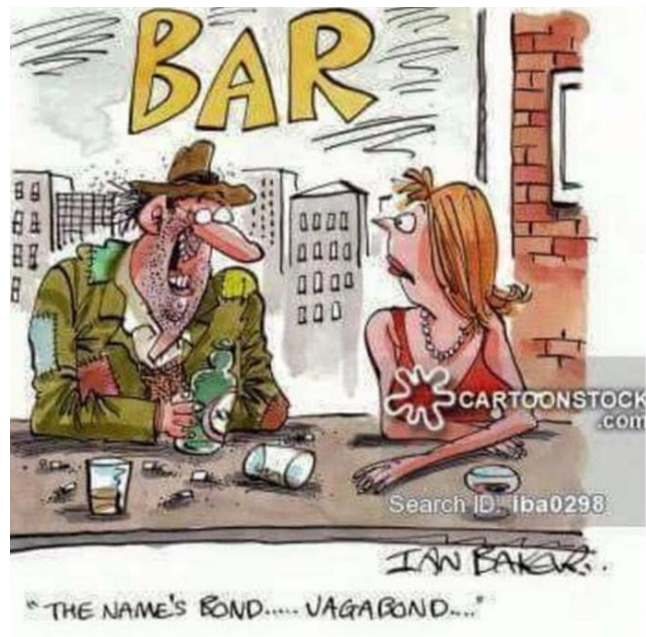
When you apply a wipe-on finish with a regular cotton cloth it can leave little bits of fuzz in the finish.

To prevent this, take an old pair of nylon tights and roll them up into a ball. The nylon holds lots of finish and applies it without leaving any lint behind. It really works great!

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JUST FOR A LAUGH

Found an extra pair of boots at the worksite so I decided to give my boss a heart attack



Who says men don't remember? (Thanks **Michael Berry** for help with the jokes.)

A couple were Christmas shopping. The shopping centre was packed and as the wife walked around she was surprised to discover that her husband was nowhere to be seen. She was quite upset because they had a lot to do and hence, she became so worried that she called him on her mobile phone to ask him where he was.

In a quiet voice he said: "Do you remember the jewellers we went into about five years ago, where you fell in love with that diamond necklace that we couldn't afford, and I told you that I would get it for you one day?"

The wife choked up and started to cry and said: "Yes, I do remember that shop."

He replied: "Well, I'm in the pub next door."

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That's all for now. Until next time, I hope you enjoy 2022 safely.