

Tele (club) 8712 7755 Club email [bdwwcsec@outlook.com](mailto: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

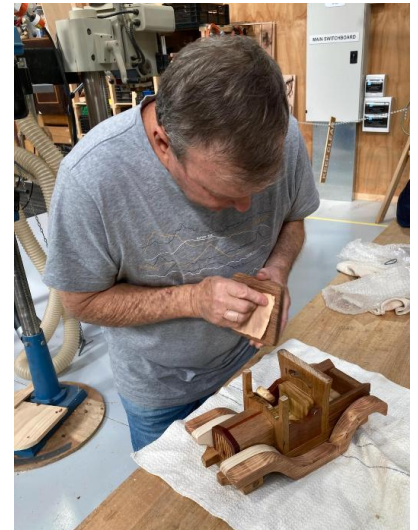
Welcome to the newsletter for April 2022

**DATES TO REMEMBER:** **Committee Meeting** Friday 22nd April - 1.00pm in clubroom.  
**Monthly Meeting** Wednesday 4th May - 1.00pm in clubroom. (Note: not 5th as quoted in error last month.)

**FUNCTIONS:** **Club Luncheon**, Thursday 28th April - 12 noon, at Hallam Hotel.

### WOODWORKING DISPLAY and EXPO.

Plans are well underway for this year's woodworking display with **flyers** printed ready for distribution to local businesses at the end of May. **Raffle tickets** are also printed and raffle prizes completed. Time-lines for the various preparation tasks are organised. Some members are already working on the items they plan to exhibit, that's **Geoff Wylie** at right, working on his model car and below him, **John McMahon** creating one of his entries. Now is a good time to get started to save a possible last-minute rush.



**Entry Forms** will be ready early in May in two formats depending on whether the item is for exhibit or for sale. Each item submitted needs to be registered separately.

**Acceptance of Entry Forms** closes on Monday 4th July 2022.

**Delivery of entries:** Friday 1st July to Monday 4th July 2022.

Rosters for the various tasks will be set up this month.

#### HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Selling raffle tickets beginning Saturday 14th May
- Clean-up Working Bee, Saturday 25th June 2022
- Exhibition Set-up, Thursday 7th July 2022

**DEMONSTRATORS:** We will need demonstrators for the following:

- Woodturning
- Bandsaw
- Scrollsaw
- Dremel
- Wood carving
- Torquemaster
- Toymaking
- Rocking horse making
- Pyrography



**CLUB INFORMATION:**

**MEETINGS:**

**COMMITTEE**

22nd April

**GENERAL**

4th May

**SPEAKERS ETC**

--

**FARMERS' MARKET**

23rd April - Craft Market

14th May - Farmers 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  
 Ross Blackwood - 0490 668 515

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 and 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](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.  
 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.

.....

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.**

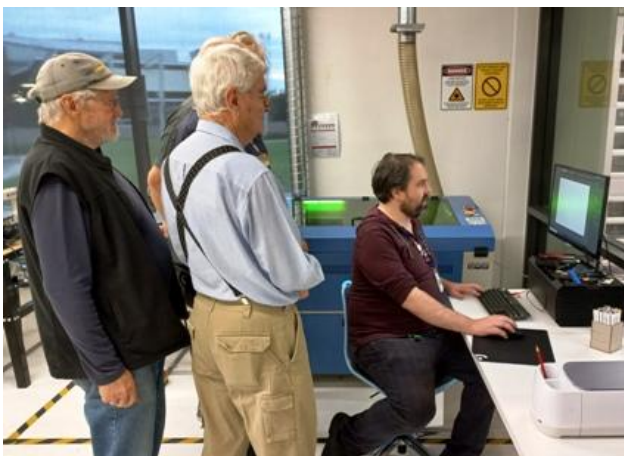
Berwick Woodworkers also acknowledge with gratitude the generosity of **Ephraim Finch** who has supported the club for many years with donations of top quality timber. Without Ephraim's gifts, the work we do for local underprivileged children would be considerably curtailed.



**CASEY TECH EXCURSION:** Six club members took advantage of the opportunity to visit Casey Technical School, for the excursion that was organised by club member **Peter Ball**. The evening was part of the school's Community Programme, which enables members of the public to take advantage of the facilities available in the 'Makers' Space'. This area includes 3D printers, a laser cutter, computer controlled 2D and 3D routers, as well as some traditional fabrication equipment such as work benches, basic hand tools and scroll saws. Visits to the Makers' Space are available to members of the public on a pre-booked basis on Tuesdays from 4.00 until 6.00pm. Sessions are supervised by **Dan** who is a Design Technician and is ready to offer advice and assistance. Cost of materials used is involved. For more details, contact Casey Tech 1300 120 345. [bookings@caseytechschool.vic.edu.au](mailto:bookings@caseytechschool.vic.edu.au).



Above left, **Peter Angwin, Peter Ball, Ross Blackwood, Wayne Lucas and Rick Hoare** watch **Dan** as he explains the mysteries of the CNC machine. Above right it's the process of 3D printing that is being explained to **Ross Blackwood, Peter Ball and Rick Hoare**. (Rick says this photo shows his best side.)



Above, Ross, Peter Ball (hidden) and Rick are learning about the laser cutter. The woodwork shown above was cut on the laser cutter. At Dan's suggestion, Rick drew a shamrock on a sheet of paper, which Dan copied into the computer. The laser cutter then cut the design into some green plastic and the result was turned into the earrings shown left.

Modern Technical Schools are a new world!

.....



**PRESIDENT'S REPORT.**

Well another month has gone and we have completed 33% of the year already, it is good to see so many members back at the club working on their toys. This year I would like to see us accomplish somewhere between the 900 and 1000 toy mark.

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**, and the area clean and ready for the next person to come in. **The area in front of the switch board must be kept clear at all times.**

The Craft market will return this Saturday 23 April and will operate on the fourth Saturday of each month until the end of June. Please try and attend these markets along with the Farmers

Markets on the second Saturday of each month as these two markets allows us to keep our fees low. Also the Annual Expo will be held on the weekend of 8th, 9th and 10th of July to coincide with the Casey Winter Arts Festival, I suggest that we all get working on articles for display and articles we want to sell. We will be looking for articles for all levels of ability they do not have to be professional standard.

The next General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th May at 1.00pm with a sausage sizzle at 12.00noon, reminder to all members to bring something for show and tell don't be afraid to show off you handy work.

**Len Preece - President.**

.....

**SAFETY REMINDER:** The following item has been taken from the list published in the club's website.

**DRILL PRESSES:**

Check the speed setting to see that it is correct for your work. Holes over 13 mm (1/2 in.) should be bored at the lowest speed.

Use only an approved type of bit. Bits with feed screws or those with excessive length should not be used.

Mount the bit securely to the full depth of the chuck and in the centre. Remove the key immediately.

Position the table and adjust the feed stroke so there is no chance of the bit hitting the table.

The work should be placed on a wood pad when the holes are drilled all the way through.

Work that will be held by hand should be centre punched.

Small or irregular shaped pieces must be clamped to the table or held in a special fixture.

Feed the bit smoothly into the work. When the hole is deep, withdraw the drill frequently to clear the shavings and cool the bit.

When using special clamping setups, a hole saw or fly-cutter; have your Mentor or Session Leader inspect it before turning it on.



.....



**IN LIEU OF SHOW & TELL:** Someone has given **Bill Bradshaw** a horse to go with his cart. (Thanks **Katerina Zorin** for the photo)

At right, discovered on the club's Facebook page, from **Paul Ryan**

*"The latest effort! Blackwood finished with EEE and shellawax. Frustrating piece of wood but got there in the end. Wood came from **Martin Van Diemen** a couple of years ago."*

.....



**Brian Crowe's Guitar Stand.**

*" The stand is made for a Fender Stratocaster guitar, used by many well known musicians, the timber is blackwood, and it has 3 coats of livos oil. It was a bit of fun to design and make."*

.....

**A note from Club Secretary, Don Buchanan:**

Fellow members,  
Last Saturday the sun shone brightly on our Farmers Market. A big thank you to all the members who attended a great day! Thanks also to the early crew.  
A particular thank you must go to those members who live a considerable distance away from the club, who travelled in to help on the day.  
Our gate takings were pleasingly healthy. And as you know, these gate takings are a major income earner for our club. So thanks again for all those who showed up!  
This month's **BOG Award** goes to those long distance travellers I mentioned earlier. and they know who they are!



A reminder from **Ken Barnes**. Our next luncheon has been booked for Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April - 12 noon, at the Hallam Hotel. There is a clipboard in our lunch room for you to register your name. Your partner is invited also.

**Just another reminder:**

As you know, we have limited bench space in the workshop. If members leave their uncompleted work on the benches or in the workshop itself, for a period of time, it hinders other members from using these spaces for their own projects.  
The easiest way to resolve this problem is - if your projects are not finished, can you please store them under one of the benches, in the breezeway or some other place out of the way. And by putting your name on it - we know who owns it and we will not use it.

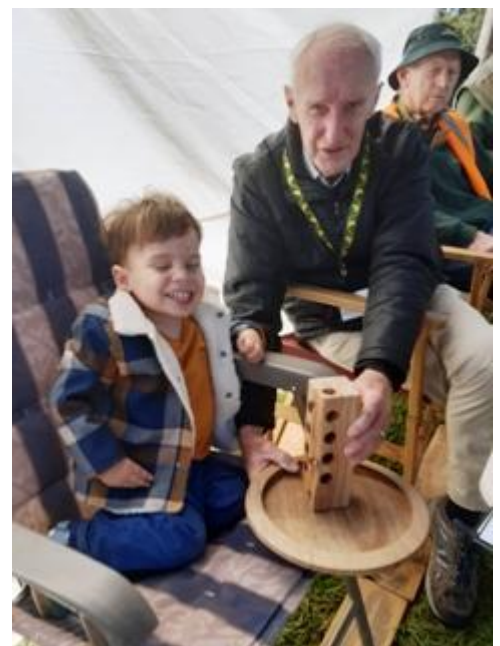
Also, benches are not being left clean at the end of the day. Used sandpaper, rags, glue bottles, scrap wood and hand tools etc are being left behind.  
So if we all make sure we clean up our benches at the end of the day, it makes for a better working environment.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

**Don Buchanan - BDWWC Secretary**

.....

From **Pat Mahoney**: *Here is a photo of our new recruit playing with Ross's marble and block game with **Michael Berry** on the back entry while waiting for his parents while they shopped at the craft market. He enjoyed saying goodbye to everyone when they left the market. A great moment for us all. Pat.*



*Best Wishes:* To **Elise Barnes**, and those of our members who are unwell at present we wish you a speedy recovery.  
At this time our thoughts are with **Lauraine McDonald** who's partner Mark recently passed away. Condolences and Best Wishes to you Lauraine.

From **Lauraine McDonald** following her interview with **Ken Whitefield**.

*Old age and treachery will always beat youth and exuberance.*

*Ken Whitefield (73, married with two sons, a daughter and two grandchildren)*



*A day in the life of...*

The suspected suitcase bomb was emanating a soft, but distinctly mechanical noise from where it sat surrounded by a crowd at Melbourne Airport's Customs Hall. As the Australian Federal Police representative summonsed to investigate, Ken Whitefield first isolated, then X-rayed it. The X-ray clearly revealed battery leads and a bulk mass which could have been the body of the bomb but no detonator. Maybe it was cleverly hidden he thought.

Well-known amongst his colleagues for being thorough and tenacious, Ken asked for the suitcase owner to be located for questioning. She was a 'drop-dead gorgeous young woman' who claimed to have 'no idea' what the noise could be, leaving Ken just one option - he bravely opened the case. Inside, he found the woman's vibrator, accidentally jolted on and jumping around by itself between her packed clothing.

**Most important lesson of Ken's life?**

Now retired, Ken says the most important lesson in his life came from his grandfather, who converted him from a soft 15-year-old city boy, born and raised in Christchurch New Zealand, into a capable farm worker with a fierce work ethic. Of course, there were a few hic-cups along the way, like the time he swung away from his girlfriend at the end of a dance, while confidently grabbing her hand to lead her back to their table, only to find when he got there that he'd somehow grabbed the unusually soft hand of another man instead.

Despite this, his girlfriend of that night later became his wife and they've now been married for 50 years.

**From New Zealand to Australia**

As a 20-year old, after his stint as a farm hand but before he met his wife, Ken and his best mate embarked on an adventure of a lifetime, boarding the Italian ship, the Angelina Laura, to Sydney. Passports were not required to travel between New Zealand and Australia back then.

"We disembarked in Sydney and gave it a whirl but couldn't find a decent job, so moved to Melbourne," he said.

"We arrived Saturday night, picked up accommodation in St. Kilda and were employed on Monday in the construction industry, pumping concrete." He worked there for the next three years as a Jack of all trades, before returning to New Zealand to make his new girlfriend his wife. While there, he joined the New Zealand Highway Patrol for two years before returning to Australia, this time with a wife and his first-born son in tow.

**Ken's career in the AFP**

After a lengthy interview procedure which involved investigations of his siblings, his parents, his grandparents and his great grandparents, Ken walked into his first day of work with the Commonwealth Police (later absorbed into the Australian Federal Police) on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 1974. He was with them for the next 38 years of his life—12 years in uniform, then later moving into Melbourne as a junior detective, before eventually becoming well known for his successes in large Centrelink, Tax or Customs frauds.

As such, he found himself involved in significant drug seizures, sifting through debris from the bomb blasts in Russell St (1986), the Turkish Consulate (1986) and Bali (2002) for evidence and seconded to Christmas Island (2010) to interview the boat people, so he could identify and imprison the people smugglers.

**Greatest achievement of his life?**

In 1988 Ken took long service leave to build a house in Narre Warren South, which he lived in with his wife and their three children for 32 years. He claims it was the greatest achievement of his life.

"I'm not a builder but I've always enjoyed woodwork and at the time I'd already been building kitchens and bathrooms," he said. "I thought, surely I could build a house, so I did."

**BDWWC Membership**

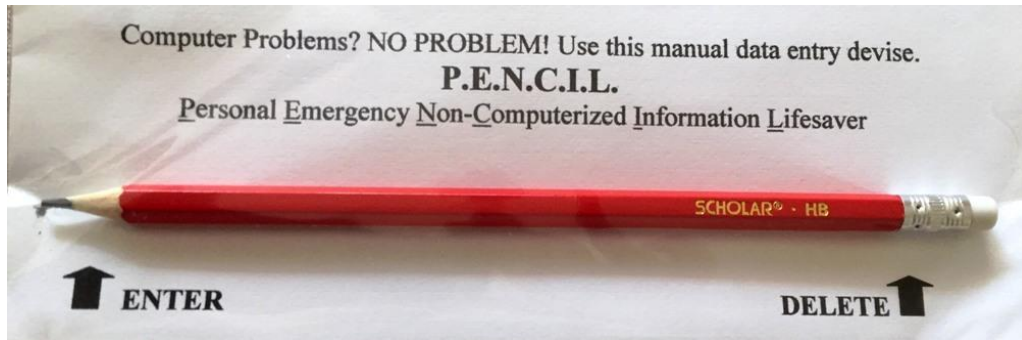
After retiring, Ken did the usual thing and travelled extensively around Australia and internationally. When his wife suggested joining BDWWC in 2014, he said, "I dropped in during morning tea, but I was put off by all the old codgers watching me. As a 64-year old, I thought I'm too young to join them." Nevertheless, he returned the following week and met some of the younger members. The rest is history.

He is now heavily involved in the committee, toy making and co-ordinator for Kits for Kids within BDWWC.

"The club is very people focused, friendly and an absolute pleasure to volunteer and participate in wood working activities," he said.

.....

Simon Robbins picked up the technical aid pictured below when he visited a craft shop recently.



Before I go I thought you might like to see this little curio which I inherited from a dear old friend some years back. I don't know its proper name but I call it a darning egg (and yes, I do use it) When it's pulled apart, the pieces inside hold thread, and needles. I've wracked my brain trying to work out how it was turned. Too much for me but I'll bet there are turners out there who could tell me straight away. One clue, although the egg shape fits beautifully, I don't think it is cut from the one piece of wood as the grain is different.



.....  
**TIME FOR A SMILE:**

A gorilla walked into a bar and ordered a martini. The bartender was a little taken aback but decided to mix the drink anyway. He took the drink to the gorilla who handed him a twenty dollar note. Now the bartender was really impressed - not only a gorilla who could order a drink but who had cash to pay for it. He decided to try something to see how the gorilla would react. Returning to the gorilla, the bartender handed him one dollar change from his twenty. The gorilla said nothing and continued to sip his drink. Finally the bartender could bear it no longer, he said to the gorilla, "We don't often get gorillas in here you know." The animal took another sip from his glass and turned to the bartender, "At Nineteen dollars for a drink, I'm not surprised." he said.



.....  
That's all for now until next time. Thanks to Ross Blackwood for his jokes and to all contributors for your help in providing material to fill these pages.

