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Postal address: The Berwick District Woodworkers Club Inc
PO Box 921, Berwick, Victoria, 3806

Location: The Old Cheese Factory, 34 Homestead Road Berwick, 3806
Inc. No A0012122U

Welcome to the Newsletter for February 2026

DATES TO REMEMBER Committee Meeting – Wednesday, 11th March, 1:00pm in clubroom. **General Meeting** - Wednesday 15th April 2026, 1:00pm in clubroom. As always it will be preceded by a free BBQ lunch at 12 noon.

Bunnings Easter events on Thursday 26th March. Narre Warren 5 to 7pm and Clyde North 6 to 8pm.

Windermere Family Fun Day at Myuna Farm at 182 Kidds Rd Doveton on Sunday 29th March. Volunteers wanted to cook over the lunchtime. Working With Children Checks required.

Club luncheon has been set for Thursday 23rd April at 12 noon. Venue to be confirmed closer to the day.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.



Since the start of the year, we have made and delivered the planter boxes and the festival chariots. We did have some complaints about the amount of space these projects were taking up and we are sorry if there was some inconvenience, but these projects raised substantial funds for the club, all of which help to keep the fees down. A big thank you to the few members who gave up their time to help make and deliver these projects. A couple of issues that keep coming up are the lack of care with cleaning the sanders when they are being used and the way they are being used. In a two-week period we had to change sandpaper on the drum sander twice, one belt only lasted two days. All of the sanders need to be cleaned regularly and when you have finished, even if you think you only used it a little. The next person deserves to have it clean when they start. And we do not sand screws or metal with the sanders.

The same applies to the cleaning of the floor and the machines if you use them. The saw in the breezeway seems to be “out of sight, out of mind.” The lathes are the same - not always being cleaned behind them. I understand people have bad knees and backs but the next person who comes along may also have a bad knee or back so please do the right thing and clean up after yourself.

Regards, **Ian**.

Peter Ball has sent this photo of one of the finished planter boxes, mentioned by Ian in his President's message, ready to be filled with potting mix and plants. The boxes, five in all, were requested by Lynbrook Community Centre. The other photo shows **Peter Mason, Colin Ellard, Ian Deans** and **Peter Ball**, who formed the delivery crew that handed the five boxes over to **Anna Benjamin**, manager of the centre.



CLUB INFORMATION

MEETINGS:

COMMITTEE

Thursday 11th March, 1:00pm

GENERAL

Wednesday 15th April, 1:00pm

MARKETS – Volunteers needed

Saturday 14th March - Farmers Market

Newsletter Contributions

All material for the Club's monthly publication is to be submitted by e-mail to ricels@bigpond.com, by hand, or by phone to Elsie Hoare the editor by the 15th of each month. Letters to the editor must be sent to the committee.

Committee of Management:

Position	Name	Phone
President	Ian Deans	0403 419 774
Vice President	Ron Bolton	0413 152 391
Secretary	Don Buchanan	0431 313 998 email: bdwwcsec@outlook.com
Treasurer	Peter Ball	0425 725 875

Committee	Phone
John McMahon	0437 096 840
Ken Whitefield	0402 256 134
Michael Berry	0466 812 717
Peter Mason	0419 531 524
Simon King	0477 831 318
David Macgregor	0490 897 630
Julie Robinson	0481 088 390
Carol Goddard	0422 395 565

Contacts

Equipment authorisation approved members – *Ian Deans, Don Buchanan, Simon King and Ron Bolton.*

Health and Safety Coordinator – *Ron Bolton*

Machinery Maintenance Coordinators. - *Ron Bolton & Simon King*

Timber Coordinator – *Ken Whitefield*

Screws – *Ken Whitefield*

Paint – *Ken Whitefield*

Toy Coordinators – *Ian Deans & Julie Robinson*

Functions Coordinator - *Don Buchanan*

Gala Day Coordinator – *Ian Deans*

Annual Expo - *John McMahon & Jayne Worthington*

Farmers Market Coordinators – *Ian Deans & Don Buchanan*

Public Relations - *Don Buchanan*

OCF Contacts – *Ian Deans & Ron Bolton*

Webmaster - *Ron Bolton*

Newsletter Editor - *Elsie Hoare*

Members' Welfare Coordinator - *Ken Whitefield*

Men's Shed Coordinator - *Wayne Lucas*

Membership Fees:

	Joining	Annual
Individual	\$50.00	\$75.00
Family of 2	\$75.00	\$115.00
Family of 3	\$75.00	\$138.00
Family of more than 3 please enquire.		
No Attendance Fee.		
Tea & Coffee complimentary.		

Paying your Membership Fees

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.

Clubrooms and Workshops Open Hours

Weekly	Hours	Leader
Monday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Ron Bolton
Tuesday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Michael Berry
Wednesday	9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Don Buchanan
Wednesday Evening	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Ian Deans & David Macgregor
Thursday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Brian Crowe
Friday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Ron Bolton
Saturday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Ron Bolton

Safety First

For safety reasons, there must always be **three** members present whenever the workshop is being used.

Berwick Woodworkers wish to thank **Gary Maas MP** State Member for Narre Warren South and his staff for their ongoing support in printing this newsletter for us.



A GENEROUS DONATION - A note from Don Buchanan. We have recently received a gift of woodworking machinery from the estate of the late Graeme James.

Mr. James was a Church Minister who lived in country Victoria. He was a very accomplished, self-taught, wood worker. He made numerous wooden projects for his family, including a fantastic Blackwood dining table. Which can just be seen in the background of this photo. His daughter, Carol, and Son in law Jeff Hedger contacted us and offered a lathe, a small table saw, a planer, a pedestal drill and assorted tools and attachments. We gratefully accepted the donation and brought them back to the club where they are now in our



breezeway. We will be keeping the pedestal drill and set it up in the workshop in due course.

We have asked members who may want one of the machines, to make a donation to the club. There has been some interest but no one has offered a donation to take them away as yet.

In recognition of the family's generosity the club presented Jeff and Carol Hedges, seen above with Club President Ian Deans, with a wall plaque which reads:

On behalf of the Berwick Woodworkers, thank you for your kind donation of the wood working machinery from the estate of the late Graeme James

Thank you also to Jeff & Carol Hedges for making the donation possible.

40th Anniversary News from Peter Ball

The Club participated in another Berwick Show in February, with members demonstrating scroll sawing, wood turning and pyrography to visitors, as well as entertaining children with spinning tops, wooden toys and *Bella* the rocking horse. Having a display at the Show maintains a Club tradition that goes back a long way.



At the **1992 Berwick Show**, a group of members comprising Doug Gale, Reg Mashado, Anne Denton, Arthur Straffen, Jan Veenstra, Max Floyd, Ray and Lyn Sanders, and Vic and Gwen Woof, exhibited a wide range of items including toys and decorative wood turnings, and for their trouble, took out the annual award for *Best Craft Demonstration*.

Well done!



ON A SAD NOTE: The club recently had news of the passing of two of our past members. At left is **Gordon Hams** who passed away in late January. Our condolences go out to the Hams family.



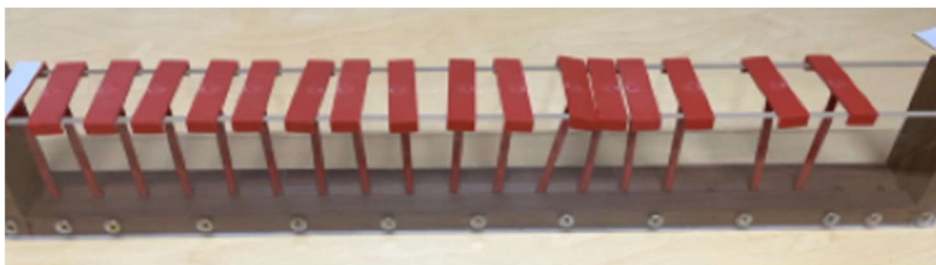
At right is **Gary King** who left the club a few years back, to live in country Victoria. Gary was a popular member and maintained an interest in the club via this newsletter. Gary passed away on February 3rd. A group of Club members attended memorial for him on the 21st of February at his daughter's home in Narre Warren South. Our heartfelt condolences to wife and carer, **Kerryn** and the family.



SHOW AND TELL: **John McMahon** showed a pierced bowl with a pyrographed trim, made from WA sheoak. John also showed a pierced platter made from silky oak, a rosewood lidded box, and a pyro-textured hollow form from lemon scented gum



David Macgregor showed a billiard cue case in red cedar.



Aaron Zong presented a bushing buddy holder.

Best Wishes:

We send our best wishes to those of our members who are unwell at the moment or are caring for sick family members. We hope you can be with us again soon.



Not for Show & Tell: When **Katerina Zorin's** neighbour recently lost her beloved 18-year-old Jack Russell terrier, Kat made this memorial for her.

Kat also made the business card holder/pen holders below.

Anees Koya is following in the footsteps of his father, a cabinet maker, who was able to turn his hand to many other crafts. Anees has welded the metal legs of his coffee table and added a timber top.



Brian Roberts, busy since he returned from his overseas trip, has made this turned cheese knife with a blade bought from Pops Shed.

Brian has also made these pens. Fountain pen, Slimline, cigar, bolt action, acrylic, wide body pen.



AROUND THE WORKSHOP **Brian Crowe** snapped this photo of **Ian Deans** working at the sit-down band saw in John Poxon's Corner. Brian wonders if Ian was praying for a precise cut.



A note to our new members who have received their name tags, from Club Secretary, Don Buchanan.

For your safety, we require all members to have a name and contact number clearly written on the back of your nametags.

If you are injured or fall ill, we will need to contact someone on your behalf. We only need to look at the back of your badge and they can be contact without delay.

We do have a Dymo labeller at the club if you need it.



Don Buchanan caught **Ian Deans** and **Margaret Clayton** going through the bins at morning tea, trying to find a small piece of wood that was eaten by the band saw.

BERWICK SHOW: By Don Buchanan

It was a great weekend for our club. The show was a great opportunity to inform the public of our 40th year as a woodworking club. There wouldn't be many clubs around that can celebrate that great milestone. We had a good turnout of members. A big thankyou to those members. When these events come up, the more members that participate - all the better for our club. All members present were kept busy demonstrating their skills on the mini lathe, scroll saw, and burning the children's names on our show cutouts, not to mention assisting the children on the rocking horse and showing them how to spin our tops.

Below we see **Don Buchanan** and **Di Housiaux** following a visit to the face painter, while **Adrienne Harrell**, (left) and **Michelle Wallace** (Adrienne's Mum) are busy cutting out toy animals and finishing them with pyrography.



Thanks again to our sponsors for their continued support throughout the year.



2026 Expo – Friday 10th, Saturday 11th, and Sunday 12th July.

Please members, would you think about the items you are going to display. Please consider donating a piece for the Expo raffle. Please consider being on the Expo sub-committee. Monthly meetings.

Have you ever wondered?

WHY DO EGGS COME IN FLIMSY STYROFOAM CARTONS AND BATTERIES COME IN A PACKAGE ONLY A CHAINSAW CAN OPEN?

What do we learn from cows, buffalos and elephants??

It's impossible to reduce weight by eating green grass and salads and walking.

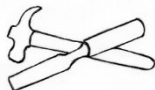
- 1. At a movie theatre, which arm rest is yours?**
- 2. In the word scent, is "S" silent or "C"?**
- 3. If people evolve from monkeys, why are monkeys still around?**
- 4. Why is there a 'D' in fridge, but not in refrigerator?**
- 5. Who knew what time it was when the first clock was made.**

David bought a donkey from a farmer for \$100.00. The farmer agreed to deliver the donkey the next day. The next day he drove up and said, "Sorry son, but I have some bad news, the donkey died." David replied, "Well then, just give me my money back." The farmer said, "I can't do that. I went and spent it already." David said, "OK then, just bring me the dead donkey." The farmer asked, "What ya gonna do with him?" David said, "I'm going to raffle him off." The farmer said, "You can't raffle off a dead donkey!" David replied, "Sure I can. Watch me. I just won't tell anybody he's dead." A month later the farmer met up with David and asked, "What happened with that dead donkey?" David said, "I raffled him off. I sold 500 tickets at two dollars apiece and made a profit of \$898.00." The farmer said, "Didn't anyone complain." David said, "Just the guy who won, so I gave him back his two dollars."

David now works for the government.

That's all for now. Until next time, keep safe and keep well.

With many thanks, once again to **Carol Goddard** for help with proof reading this newsletter.



"This hammer keeps hitting two inches to the left."