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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 December 2025

DATES TO REMEMBER Committee Meeting – Wednesday 7th January - 1:00pm in clubroom.
General Meeting - Wednesday 18th February 2026 - 1:00pm in clubroom. As always it will be preceded by a free BBQ lunch at 12 noon. Hope to see you there. **Welcome Back Spit Roast**, Wednesday 14th January at 6.00pm. The club will supply salads and bread in addition to the spit roast and the cost will be \$15.00 per person. BYO. Drinks.

Christmas Greetings to All

With the events of the Gala Weekend well behind us, Berwick Woodworkers might be excused for sitting back and taking a breather, but nothing could be further from the truth. The weeks building up to Christmas are keeping us as busy as ever.

To finish the task of putting Santa’s new sleigh together, **Colin Ellard** took on the job of applying the paint to finish it off.

Below we can see the completed sleigh in service at Bunnings, Narre Warren, where **Simon King** spent some time at pyrography.



CLUB INFORMATION

MEETINGS:

COMMITTEE

Wednesday 7th January 1:00pm

GENERAL

Wednesday 18th February 1:00pm

MARKETS – Volunteers needed

Saturday 10th January - 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: bdwwsec@outlook.com
Treasurer	Peter Ball	0425 725 875

Committee	Phone
John McMahan	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 Dean & Julie Robinson*

Functions Coordinator - *Don Buchanan*

Gala Day Coordinator – *Ian Deans*

Annual Expo - *John McMahan & 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.

Safety First

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

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

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.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.



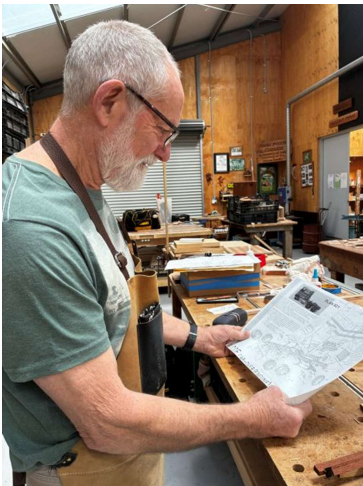
Hi to all and all the best for the festive season.
I think you will all agree it has been quite a successful year for the club.
We have seen a few changes but these changes are hopefully improving the club and do not intend to exclude anyone.
We are going to change the format for the welcome back dinner in January so stay tuned for more details.
Thank you to all the hard-working people on your committee, and all who have helped make it another good year. Merry Christmas to all
Regards, **Ian Deans**



Following the success of the small Hindu chariots made by **Brian Crowe** and **Simon King** in April this year, the club has been commissioned to make another one hundred. The chariots are decorated and pulled by children as part of the Festival of Chariots, which is a Hindu religious ceremony.
At right is **Brian Crowe** working on the chariots.



From **Brian Roberts**. "My latest lathe outcome. I bought the Camphor blank from Pops Shed. Turning the blank was so different to any timber that I have worked with. The beautiful aroma that's given off is amazing. (vase pic)
Turned this down from timber I found whilst on a road trip to Mataranka NT. Not sure of the type of timber but beautiful finish and colour."



At left is **Ian Deans**, caught by **The Phantom Photographer** (alias **Margaret Clayton**)

Margaret says, "A man reading instructions. What will be next?"

Welcome to our new member, **Selena Sparkes**. We hope you will enjoy your time with us, Selena.



Vale- **Ken Dorning**- 6.12.25.

Those of us who remember Ken will be sad to hear of his passing.

Ken was a member for some years (not of recent times) and a regular attendee at the meetings.

We send our condolences and best wishes to his family.

Ken's Funeral will be at Tobin Bros in Berwick at 11.00 a.m. on Tuesday the 16th Dec.2025.

With thanks to **Ken Coleman** for this notice.

Just a reminder: Here is a snap of the workshop's vacuum cleaner. The poor thing, found in this condition, was quite incapable of picking up anymore dust.

Emptying it is a simple job. The lid is easily unclipped allowing the filter to be cleaned and the drum emptied, using one of the large hoses that are connected directly to the dust collector. One can be found in the sanding section, the other near the lathes.

Please take a moment to check if the cleaner needs emptying before you leave it.

A Safety Matter.

As you know - for safety, there is to be **a minimum of 3 members on site whilst the club is open.** It has been decided by the Committee, that, of the three, there should be **at least 2 members in the workshop at any time.** The third member may be in the tearoom or elsewhere but there must be a minimum of 2 members

in the workshop, including during our morning tea break. If an accident does occur, then the second member can render assistance while the third member is asked to get help.



Our Welcome Back dinner has been arranged for Wednesday 14th January at 6.00pm. This will be the first event in 2026 which is the Club's 40th Anniversary year. To celebrate the club is putting on a special dinner with a spit roast and salads and bread for \$15.00 per person and BYO drinks. A register is at the club for members to record their attendance, including their partner's. Please register and pay at the club prior to January 7th, 2026.

Christmas Fun at Bunnings, Clyde North.

Our own Santa deputy, **Bill Clayton**, stopped by to see if our team from Berwick Woodworkers has been good. Here he is with (left to right) **John Damon, Wayne Dineen, Errol Perera, Don Buchanan and Wayne Lucas.**

I'm told **Margaret Clayton** (not pictured) was Santa's little helper.



From the Internet:

Driving screws into wood without proper preparation can lead to cracks. To prevent this:

Drill Pilot Holes: Always drill a pilot hole slightly smaller than the screw diameter.

Use a Countersink Bit: This allows the screw head to sit flush with the wood surface.

Lubricate Screws: Rubbing a little soap or wax on screws can help them drive smoothly without splitting the wood.

Best Wishes. Especially at this time of the year we send our best wishes to those of our members and their partners who are experiencing ill health. We wish you all the blessings of Christmas and better health in the coming year.

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



Time for a smile:



Struggling to get your wife's attention? Just sit down and look comfortable.

When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in prison

Just sold my homing pigeon on eBay for the 22nd time.

I found that I have been happier in the morning since I changed from coffee to orange juice. My doctor explained that it's the vitamin C and natural sugars but I really think it's the Vodka.

Apparently exercise helps you with decision making. Its true. I went for a run this morning and decided I'm never going again.

That's all for now. With many thanks, once again, to **Carol Goddard** for her help with proof reading this newsletter. Until next time I hope your Christmas will be happy and peace-filled.

