

Eltham and District Woodworkers Inc.



Reg. Number A0025947P

Newsletter Editor:

The next newsletter will come out at the end of February. Please forward any articles or information that you would like to go into newsletter to Richard Smith at richardasmith1955@gmail.com by the 24 February.

Next General Meeting:

Wednesday 5th February 2024 at 7:30 PM., following the special general meeting.

At Clubhouse, War Memorial Park, guest speaker,

448 Ironbark Road cnr. De Fredericks Road.

Yarrambat.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

As you are aware by now, it has been a sad start to the year with John Winkett's resignation due to ill health. We owe him much and it's very unfortunate for us that he has to leave.

On Friday the 12th of January I visited Whittlesea Men's Shed and was shown around by their President, Eric Gunstone. Eric is also a member of our club. By far the most impressive thing about that club was the size of their building. I reckon their building is about 5 times the size of ours. Obviously, they have an excellent relationship with the local government. Their work ethic is slightly different to ours in that they make multiples of similar items to sell to the community and they take orders for items. Each person has a role in the making of the items. It's incredible what we are able to achieve in such a small building.

As I reported in the first Committee Report for this year the Committee has decided that the prizes for this year's raffle will be made by groups of members rather than an individual. Shane Watson will lead a small group making the first prize for the raffle, which will be a bench seat designed by Wes Weight. Over the next week or so we will try to coerce or con members into leading groups to make 5 more prizes. Each group will decide on the prize to be made and it has been obvious that prizes aimed at children are very popular. I have now managed to con the following members into leading groups to make prizes. The group leaders are Aurora Messina, David Green, Hamish Hill, Russell Wanklyn and Tom Laber. So be prepared to help out in the making of prizes.

We are a club that does things for the community. Currently we are making (or should I say we have made) a sign for the Research gardeners reading "Research Community Garden". Thanks to Steve Mitchener for making this sign which is to be installed on Monday, 29th January. If you have a few spare minutes go and have look. It's near the CFA.



On 28th February a group of ten members will be going to the Eltham Sea Scouts where each of about 30 sea scouts will make a Wren's Nesting Box featured in Wes' Workshop at last year's exhibition. Thanks to the members who are going to help out at this activity. If there are some community activities that you believe we should be involved in or at least lend a hand let me or a committee member know.

At the special general meeting on 7th February we will be discussing changing our constitution. This will be followed by our first general meeting for this where the guest speaker will be one of our members; Hamish Hill. Hamish will talk about 'Secrets' held in 2007 which highlighted the materials and workmanship that went into the Melbourne Town Hall Organ as well as a mystery he uncovered whilst exploring these fantastic materials and producing furniture from them.

Congratulations to Richard Smith for his great effort in organizing and running the sausage sizzle at Eltham Bunnings. The day went extremely smoothly even though they didn't provide us with their eftpos until after an hour or so. Richard managed to raise about \$1300 for the club. Well done, Richard.

Colin Groves

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK....

Hello again.

Doesn't time fly by! Here we are two thirds of the way through summer and thankfully, so far anyway, the temperatures have been quite manageable. Thanks to air conditioning of course.

I've been busy catching up on all the things I have procrastinated on, which means much time at the computer. No woodworking yet, but I have organized all my wood and tools, so I know where everything is (well maybe). I am champing at the bit to get back into making things, and especially trying my hand at some scroll sawing, box making and maybe turning, as well as finishing some side tables I started last year, or they may become chopping boards.

I believe the working bee went well, I'm sorry I was an apology, a prior engagement meant I couldn't be there. But thank you to those who did attend and gave the club rooms a good ol' spruce up.

Work on the Exhibition is bubbling away in the background and information will be disseminated to you over the coming months. Since the Exhibition last year, we have had a lot of enquiries from people wanting to join the club, and there has been a pretty good strike rate. We have now 135 members on the books! With that we have increased the membership of ladies joining the club which is fantastic to see. What I am receiving as well are inquiries from parents whose young children are very interested in woodworking and want to capitalise on this interest. We are not in a position to help out at club level though. Wes' Workshop is the nexus for this interest and has been for many years.

Now that we are back don't forget that club clobber is available to be purchased. There are some samples at the club rooms, these are priced very reasonably. If you are interested, please reach out to me and I can help you with the purchase. The turn-around time is generally only a few weeks.

The committee will be setting working bee dates, Christmas in July and other social events over the coming months. Ideally these will be set for the year and worked around the schedule. On that our schedule is looking very busy now, with more safety training and mentoring sessions on offer. Apologies for the ever-changing schedule, needs must necessitate change.

You may not be aware that we also get quite a few enquiries and requests from the general public asking if we can help out making things like signs, or picnic tables for kinders and myriad other requests. And I would like to thank those members who do help out here. I had one lovely lady ring me to tell me how much she appreciated Mark Thompson's help just before Christmas. We also get people offering us wood and machinery. Machinery can be a tricky one as one can never know the quality of it ie home made changes and adaptations which might not necessarily be safe. So, buyer beware if you think you'd be interested in making that purchase. I'm sure there is a lot of help available from club members to assist in this if you are unsure.

Don't forget – General Meeting 7th February at 7.30pm at the club rooms.

Happy woodworking!

Jane

BUNNINGS BBQ

A successful fundraising was run at Bunnings on Sunday 21st January. Over \$1300 profit was made from the days' trading. Thank you to the members who assisted on the day, without volunteers like you the Club could not run such days.



Mentoring Mondays

Another year, another round of Monday Mentoring, and the regulars as well as some new members are starting to trickle back. New member Jess Brackenridge has already completed her first project by preparing the arms on a toy trolley. This may have been a modest project but in doing so she gained familiarity with using the table saw, mitre saw, bandsaw, thicknesser, and belt sander.



That is just what we are about and Jess, with definite potential, starts her journey on the path to greater achievements.

This year we have also started up Saturday Afternoon Mentoring. It is hoped that new members who are otherwise unable to get to Monday sessions will find this time more amenable for attendance. Until further notice, the sessions will run from 12:30 until around 4:00 pm every Saturday.

The new bookcases/shelves in our social room, beautifully built and installed by Hamish Hill, have enabled the computer to be set up for anyone to use. The computer will have several programs installed including the FWW compendium covering editions from 1975 to 2022 as well as several other sources of ideas and plans. The plans can mostly be converted to PDF form to be printed out at home (the club does not yet have a printer - does anyone have an unwanted one to donate?). Please feel free to check it out - there is no password required to start Windows or access the files. Hamish and I will be pleased to discuss the merits and difficulty levels of any proposed projects.

Chris Boylen and I will also be offering to show members how to use the laser engraver. This machine is very easy to use and provides very neat labelling or decoration/embellishing to personalise your finished work. Where the object is too large to engrave directly, a plaque can be engraved and cut out entirely with the laser beam for attachment. This was, for example, done for the raffle first prize which makes the provenance of the piece always known and recognisable as being from the EDWC.



Charlie Camera

Skills Techniques and Safety ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

1.00pm on Monday the 26th of February

We will be looking at, discussing, and demonstrating different methods for cutting and joining accurate mitres and maybe some other angles. It would be wonderful if any members that have particular skills or interest in finishing could get in touch with me and get involved on the 26th. Please give me a call 0428577878.Hamish

Email: hamishhillkg@hotmail.com

Carving Group Friday 5/1/2024

A small group today, some still enjoying holidays. Maike was here working on her small Gnome, and he is definitely getting slimmer. Looking more like a Gnome than a block of wood now.

Hank was beavering away on his growing collection of Osage Orange 'free-form sculptures'. Quite a variety of shapes and forms, and some feel 'very comfortable' when nestled in the palm of your hand.

Kevin was working on shaping a pierce cut (Scrollsawn) leaf and flower piece. Detail in this piece makes it very tedious carving.

David was working on his standing man again.

Chris was carefully sanding the ball in his sliding cage arrangement. It is carved out of one piece of wood and works quite well. Then Chris started work on making a salad server set in Pine.

I spent my time working on a face in King Billy Pine. Just enjoying the time carving, not in a hurry to finish it.

Steve Mitchener.

Carving Group Report for 17 Jan 2024.

The Carving Group has started the year strongly with 7 kicking off early on 5 Jan and then 12 on the 19th. The 19th had 4 visitors (2 of whom are existing members) who wanted to check out the carving scene and they were all 'put to work' by the most excellent Steve Mitchener who ran an introductory class for the newbies with the main task involving whittling face images. Meanwhile Kevin continued on with his floral relief carving, Chris finished off a small 'comfort' bird out of basswood and Hank was as usual refining his every growing collection (110 +) of handheld sculptures many out of his favourite osage orange wood. Jason was busy with his spoons and one of our new members: Gillian started chipping away at a large red gum block destined to become a wombat (? sorry if I got this wrong Gillian). True to form, Bernie had commenced another large project with the first piece of a carved European Chest using European Oak, carefully chosen after considerable hunting around with 'Matthews' coming up trumps with some suitable sized quality timber. Marvelling at his ambition, I continued with my much humbler sized projects finishing of a bearded gnome (I got the 'gnome bug' off Steve"!) and commenced a slotted stirring spoon out of huon pine.

Rod Gorfine on behalf of the carving group.

Scrollsaw Group Sunday 14/1/2024

Busy day for me, had three beginners in the group today. Kevin sacrificed his scrolling time for the short period he was here, to help me get the three 'newbies' up and running.

We had Rowena Thomson who has just joined the Club here for her very first session with this group. After basic tuition Rowena cut a small dog and an elephant, then designed her own leaf pattern, and cut that out. Talk about enthusiastic!

Kirsten stepped up and tackled a parrot segmentation pattern. Bold move for a novice, but the experience will be invaluable.

Jess was going great guns in her second session, ripping into a Scottie dog puzzle, a rabbit

puzzle, and a whale puzzle. Apparently, they were a hit with her son when she got them home. Great going, from plain board to appreciated toys in a matter of hours.

Chris Hand was cutting a puzzle and frame assembly from one piece of wood. Got the whole job done without any problems. It is being constructed with a Perspex lid to contain the pieces when not in use. Great idea.

Tony was finishing off his unicorn puzzle which he started last month. Then started a Gargoyle puzzle, which contains some rather intricate cuts.

I managed to finish cutting my 'fall-back' trivet which I have been carting around for a couple of years as a "fill-in piece" in case I got some time to make sawdust. Then I also cut out a capitol 'S' that I want to router a Celtic knot into. I will use it as a decorative overlay on something, when I decide what the 'something' is that I will make. I am not getting ahead of myself here, it's just that I am 'forward planning' what I will eventually do whenever I get some time....

Steve Mitchener.

Turning Group (Thursday PMs) Report for January '24

The Turning Group had a productive month, with our first session for '24 on the 18th of Jan and then on 25 Jan. Tom had had a productive holiday period turning on his private lathe at home a number of bowls. He bought his collection to the club with the objective of 'slimming' down the bowl walls and refinishing them. At the next session he turned a very nice fountain pen out of blackwood and started on a pepper mill project.



Meanwhile Eric had turned his attention to a number of pen projects: one, I 'roller ball' out of tiger myrtle and a no. of devon click pens out of redgum and sheoak. He also started on a 'pincushion' bowl. Graham busied himself with a lidded bowl and was delighted to turn his first ever pen with help from the team.



He then continued on experimenting and turned a very nice 'modified' slim line together with a one-piece creation that he had researched. Yours truly turned a pen/pencil holder for my daughter and also working with one of my favourite materials, a banksia nut twig pot to add to my growing collection.

Rod Gorfine on behalf of the Thursday Turners

Instrument Group

The instrument group is working on again this year with 3 mandolins and a ukulele still in progress, two mandolins and 3 xylophones completed. Instrument making can be surprising in that members can make fine instruments that they do not actually know how to play. While that might seem a strange outcome, many use the group as new challenge to advance skills such as wood bending, which they have never done before. Also there is a level of fine work required that can enhance skills in other areas of woodwork.

There are of course some fine examples of simpler instruments that would make great presents to young grandchildren who would enjoy playing.

Some examples, already done are:

Four string "cigar box" guitars, traditional or pineapple shaped Ukulele, 7 or 13 note diatonic xylophone. A good but slightly more advanced starting instrument could also be a Tenor (4 string) guitar or baritone ukulele. We have plans and instructions for all of these instruments.

If you have any other ideas for an instrument to make, then by all means bring it along and we would be all very happy to help.



Traditional ukulele



"cigar box" 4 string guitar



Pineapple ukulele



13 note diatonic xylophone



Tenor guitar



7 note diatonic xylophone

We can work individually or as a group, with each member making a common instrument.

If you are interested, would like more information, or have ideas to pass on please call or email

Frank Camera 0427 964 254, frankc01@tpg.com.au

or John Brownrigg 0409 145 516, jbrownrigg@bigpond.com

Frank Camera

For Sale

If you need any of these items, please see Russell Wanklyn or phone David on 0418 313 327

Workshop and Tools

Myford ML7 imperial screwcutting lathe 3 and 4 Jaw Chucks, 2 faceplates Tailstock Lever, Q/C toolpost, Back Toolpost Change wheels for screw cutting	\$3000
Ryobi Benchtop Bandsaw, HBS9000 230 mm max throat, 33mm max. cut depth	\$150
HAFCO Benchtop Disc Sander 300 diam disc, +/- 45 tilt	\$150
Triton powered saw bench Carbatec planer and thicknesser Model Number MB91318 Cut width 12 ½ inches, depth 5-153mm	\$140

On moveable wheeled steel frame	\$250
Bosch Router, Model POF 500A, Swiss made	\$120
Ryobi Random oscillating disc sander, w.discs	\$80
Bickerton rare vintage folding Bicycle	Offer
1880s vintage pedal driven Jigsaw	Offer
Scorpion Air Compressor	\$50
Archimedes Vintage Penta Outboard Motor	Offer
GoodWell stick welder,Copper windings,W. Helmet	\$100
Mobilco Chainsaw, 16 inch bar, 2 stroke	\$40
Benchtop Mill /Drill Table size 460 x 120 mm, spindle 100-2500rpm	\$250

DISCOUNTS

The following organisations will offer us a discount of the amount indicated to Club members.

- Britton Timbers 10%
- Mathews Timber 10% only on large quantities
- Oz Timber 10%
- Urban Salvage 5%-10%
- D.V. Mitre 10 10%
- "Pop's Shed" 10%

To get a discount you will have to show that you are a member of EDWI, either by wearing your name badge or club clothing or both.

- Timbecon A discount is offered but you will need a note on Club letterhead from Colin.

If you know of somewhere else where we can get a discount tell a committee member.

Potential Suppliers for Members

Listed below are some suggested timber suppliers within Melbourne metropolitan area. If you have other good sources let Richard Smith know so that they can be added to the list

Britton Timbers, Dandenong

<https://brittontimbers.com.au>

Contact: Brendon O'Brian

Mathews Timber, Kilsyth.....

<https://www.mathewstimber.com.au>

W R Timbers, Kilsyth.....

<https://wrtimbers.com.au>

Steve's Woodenstuff

<https://Woodenstuff.com.au>

0412 585 906

Shiver Me Timbers, Clayton.....

(Sells new and Recycled Timbers)

<https://shivermetimbers.com.au>

Melbourne Timber Supplies, Deer Park.....

<https://www.melbournetimber.com.au>

Oz Timber, Thomastown.....

<https://oztimbers.com.au>

Australian Sustainable Hardwoods, Hayfield.....

<https://ash.com.au>

Cabinet Timbers, Braeside.....

<https://www.cabinettimbers.com.au>

Urban Salvage

<https://www.urbansalvage.com.au>

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Committee Members for Eltham and District Woodworks Club Inc.

President	Colin Groves	0417 563 699
Vice President	Raman Rao	0433 741 753
Secretary	Jane Hammett	0408 195 965
Treasurer	Dave Brooks	0438 344 024
Committee		
Peter Davey		0421 544 115
Aurora Messina		0401 866 859
Martin Ganter		0405 783 592
Richard Smith		0405 611 757

DATES FOR THE CALENDAR:

3rd February Safety training (4.30pm)

10th February Safety training (4.30pm)

Provisional working dates for:

WORKING BEES

Sunday 7 th April 9.00 – 12.30 followed by a BBQ

Sunday 7 th July 9.00 – 12.30 followed by a BBQ

Sunday 6 th October 9.00 – 12.30 followed by a BBQ

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Sunday 27 TH July 12.30

Social Events

We are working towards some more social events throughout the year

These will be posted once they are set.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Second Sunday Scrollsaw 9.00 – 4.00pm Steve Mitchener 0409 003 487</p> <p>Third Sunday 1.00 – 4.00 Safety Training Hands on *Notify Martin if you wish to attend 0405 783 592</p> <p>Fourth Sunday Pyrography 9.00am – 4.00pm Steve Mitchener 0409 003 487</p>	<p>Every Monday Mentoring 9.30am-11.30pm Charlie Camera 0413481699</p> <p>Hamish Hill 0428 577 878</p> <p>Fourth Monday Skills Techniques and Safety Session 1.00pm – 2.00pm Hamish Hill 0428 577 878 (An email prior to this session will be sent with details of subject matter)</p>	<p>Every Tuesday Open Workshop 9.00am-12.30pm Colin Groves 0417 563 699</p> <p>Second & Fourth Tuesday Instrument Group 1.00pm – 4.00pm Frank Camera 0427 964 245</p>	<p>Every Wednesday Wes' Exhibition Toy Making 9.30am – 12.00pm Wes Weight 0478 021 269</p> <p>First Wednesday General Meeting 7.30pm @ the club rooms</p> <p>Third Wednesday Committee Meeting 7.30pm @ the club rooms</p>	<p>Every Thursday Open Workshop 9.00am-1.00pm Paul Rushton 0417 017 347 (Paul will also assist with Hands on Safety Training) Sylvester Konieczny 0407 009 951</p> <p>Every Thursday Wood Turning 1.00pm – 4.00pm Rod Gorfine 0418 108 551</p>	<p>First & Third Friday Wood Carving 9.00am-3.00pm Rod Gorfine 0418 108 551</p>	<p>First & Third Saturday Open Workshop 9.30am-12.00pm Aurora Messina 0401 866 859</p> <p>Second & Fourth Saturday Open Workshop 9.00am – 12.00pm Toby Grant 0488 994 741 Colin Groves 0417 563 699</p> <p>Fifth Saturday Open Workshop 9.00am – 12.00pm Colin Groves 0417 563 699</p> <p>Every Saturday* Mentoring 12.30 – 4.00pm Charlie Camera (*Please notify Charlie on 0413 481 699 or Colin Groves on 0417 563 699 if you plan to attend)</p> <p>Second & Fourth Saturday 4.30pm Safety Training Hands off *notify Raman or Kevin if you wish to attend Raman Rao 0433741753 Kevin Sevlor 0413 831 742</p>