

## Eltham and District Woodworkers Inc.



Reg. Number A0025947P

### **Newsletter Editor:**

The next newsletter will come out at the end of January. Please forward any articles or information that you would like to go into newsletter to Richard Smith at [richardasmith1955@gmail.com](mailto:richardasmith1955@gmail.com) by the 27 January.

### **Next General Meeting:**

**Wednesday 7th 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:**

To start let me wish all members a very happy Christmas and a happy new year.

As you are aware this has been my first time as president of the Eltham and District Woodworkers and 2023 has turned out to be an exciting and very busy time since this year's AGM.

We have done much and achieved a lot from cleaning up the turner's area, the working bee and luncheon in June, and the Christmas in July. The large table that was in the turner's area and later on in the meeting room has been donated to the Eltham Library. We have purchased new first aid kits which have been very useful this year. We have installed the TV in the meeting area, and we have been able to have our meetings in the meeting room as well as morning tea etc. We have made alterations to the placement of tools and cleaned up the tool room. We have kept the grounds in a presentable state thanks to the whippersnapper program.

We commenced our run to the exhibition with our attendance at the Wattle Festival, followed by the selling of raffle tickets at the Eltham Village and finally the Exhibition, and what a success. Congratulations go to Carol Fournaris and Adrian Desfontaines for winning respectively the Max Jensen Award and the Barry Lay Award.

We have a large contingent of new members, many of whom have helped out in their efforts to get to know the club. One way of getting to learn about the club is to be involved in activities. I sincerely thank all those members who have helped out in the running of the club from those members who have been around for many years to the new members.

Finally, my thanks go to the committee for their work throughout the year. They have provided me with a great deal of support over the time that I have been president and are committed to working for our club. Although my Committee Reports may be brief, an abundance of discussion and thought goes into ideas that come from your committee. I am not in the habit of singling out individuals, but I will make an exception in this report. I would like to thank your secretary, Jane Hammett, for the tireless effort she provides all the time. Jane is the face behind many of the programs which occur at EDWI. She is renowned for her 'brain dumps' which provide us with many ideas and seem to happen regularly. Next time I write to you will be in 2024, a new year at the club, in the meantime enjoy Christmas with your family and I look forward to catching up with you all in the new year.

Colin Groves

## **FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK....**

Once again, we are at the end of another year. Don't they fly past so quickly?

It has been a busy year for me, becoming secretary of the club, then going overseas for six weeks then coming home to the Exhibition.

Taking on the secretarial role was not in my game plan at the beginning of the year, but Colin had other ideas. Yes, it has been very busy, but I have had a lot of support, and I am relishing the role and learning more about the club, its history, the membership and of course all manner of woodcraft. Although I haven't availed myself of the different disciplines so far, I certainly intend to do so in 2024.

The Exhibition was another learning curve for me, and I thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of it. From the setting up, finessing the displays and hoping that each item was shown to its best advantage, to the pack down at the end of the exhibition. It just goes to show what can be achieved with teamwork and of

course with experienced members of the club who know exactly what needed to be done, and when. I have quite a few ideas floating around my head as to what I would like to do next year and will be asking for some help with them.

Adrian Desfontaines has done a great job of organising the Exhibition over the past few years. Sadly, he has had to resign from the committee due to work commitments. I'm sure you will all join me in thanking him for all his hard work.

On the flip side of this, Maïke Pritchard has volunteered to steer the good ship Exhibition next year. She has been getting a handover from Adrian, and I'm sure there will be many people who will assist her along the way. Welcome aboard Maïke.

The last General Meeting of the year was very brief, and we suspended standing orders. Our guest speaker was Scott Thompson from Art Tree Creations on resin pouring. It was very interesting with lots of questions from the members in attendance. Scott handed out some business cards with a 'code' on the back offering members a 10% discount when they purchase from them. We then enjoyed some end of year cheer, an opportunity to chat amongst ourselves with a beverage of choice and some food.

I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas, I hope it is filled with love, laughter and all the things that make Christmas what it means to you. I look forward to whatever the incoming year brings, and hopefully for me, more time on woodworking!

Be safe and well.

Jane

## **BUNNINGS BBQ**

Our next Bunnings Sausage sizzle is on Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> of January 2024. Please put this date in your diary and support the fund raiser. Thank you to the sixteen members who are helping on the day. Your willingness to volunteer is greatly appreciated.

Richard Smith

## **Mentoring Mondays**

### **Skills Techniques and Safety ALL MEMBERS WELCOME**

Monday the 11th of December at 1-00 we had a good turnout of members for the discussion session on timber finishing. It was great to hear Charlie and Mark discussing their preferred methods, hopefully I contributed something also. This discussion demonstrated how we all have our own ways of working, none are right just as none are wrong.

I have been thinking about these specialised sessions and they certainly seem to work best when we have two or more people to discuss their techniques, so any members who have a technique, system, or idea that you are willing to share, that could enhance our woodworking skills, I would love to hear from you. I also

think, in the New Year, we should reduce these sessions to one Monday a month.

So, I am thinking of making it the first Monday of the month, which should make remembering the day easier for all.

Please email me with comments or suggestions, as those who attend, generally seem to get something out of the group demonstrations and discussions.

My time this year in the mentoring sessions has been most enjoyable and rewarding, and I look forward to the New Year and the projects in prospect.

Hamish

Email: hamishhillkg@hotmail.com Pyrography Group Sunday 10/12/2023

## **Scrollsaw Group** Sunday 10/12/2023

I have had three early notifications for the group this month, so there will be no Chris Hand, Kirsten Hackenbroich or Chris Boylen. But the happy news is there is a replacement in a very new member of the Club joining the group, Jesse Brackenridge.

Jesse seen the Scrollsaw in action at the Exhibition in November, applied for membership, joined up and is now headed for her first "Group Session" with the remnants of the group. This is our last session this year, but we are back in January!

As usual I started Jesse off with the introduction and explanation of the Scrollsaw, then showed her how we affix patterns, then set her loose on the Carbatec machine with the training patterns. Jesse showed extraordinary skills from the outset and cut her way through the set patterns with remarkable speed. So I quickly found a simple three piece duck puzzle pattern, and set her to affix it to the wood and cut it out. This didn't take much time at all, and Jesse did a good job with it. Reluctantly she had to pack up and return to the family, her

fun being over for the day. But I will have to find something more challenging for her in January.....

Kevin Senior was on the Hegner cutting a five layered picture of “Hummingbirds and Flowers” in ply. This is a new project for Kevin and should turn out to be very eye-catching when he adds a bit of colour to it. Getting all five layers to line up before cutting the outside is going to be the tricky bit. (If it doesn't work, I'll never see it again, but if I do I'll let you know how it turned out.)



Tony Orbe was here doing an 11 piece rocking horse jigsaw puzzle for his granddaughter. It's in Pine and turned out very well. It rocks very nicely.

And between my supervising Jesse and the others, I managed to cut out some more stacking men. This was a timing exercise as I have had four enquiries at the Exhibition about supplying these to the public. It seems not just the kids enjoyed the challenge of stacking them up. And they found more ways to do it than I had imagined! Could be on a winner here!

I finished the day on my “go to” fill-in piece. A fancy little trivet I have been “going too” for about three years to fill in time. Another ten minutes and it'll be done. Might finish it over the break and find another “go to” piece to carry around.

Steve Mitchener

## **Carving Group** Report for December 2023.

Our Club's Carving Group met on the 1st and 15th during the month with as usual a wide variety of carving projects under way. David is determined to perfect his 'leaning man' figurine: Meike was crafting a round fat gnome out of birch and Steve continued on with his 3 wise monkeys carving. Meanwhile Chris was focused on chip carving a captured ball within its cage in pine and was successful in 'freeing' the floating ball at the second carving session during the month. He was wrapt in his success in what was a tricky piece of carving. Hank continued on with his latest passion, carving free form handheld sculptures from a range of different timbers. With his jewellery box all done, Bernie started on a chopping board carving from American walnut and Kevin continued with his relief carving of a floral design. Our newest carving group members Peter Gannon and Jess Brackenbridge (the later started on 15/12) were also busy with Peter doing well with a practice chip carving piece featuring a uniform diamond design and Jess (under Steve's guidance) starting off with chip carving a face in pine. Re myself, I continued to refine a little gnome and cut out my next project, a spoon from Huon pine with draining slots (as per my wife's request!).

The Carving group have had a good year with sometimes up to 9/10 carvers in attendance with on occasions, all the benches taken up. We have enjoyed the 'quietness' of the 'main' carving room which has led to many interesting topics of conversation. I particularly want to give a shout out to Steve, Hank, David, and Alwyn for their freely given advice to others from their many years of carving experience.

We have also enjoyed our coffee break 'show and tell' sessions with a number of very interesting carvings being shown some from many years gone by.

The 15th of December was our last session for '23 and with a no. of folk carvers being around, the first session of '24 will be on 5 January 2024.

Rod Gorfine on behalf of the carving group.

### **Turning Group** (Thursday PMs) Report for December '23

The Turning Group had a productive month, meeting on the 7th and 14th of the month. As usual, Erik has a number of projects underway including a pot pourri bowl with a mussel shell inlay and also an offset turned twigpot from blackwood. Tom perfected a very nice thin-walled bowl also from blackwood and Graham has continued to perfect his chess piece designs and this month has turned his attention to a handsome 'Black King' piece from merbau. Meanwhile, Peter concentrated on turning a medium sized bowl and I got into the Christmas spirit turning a snowman; a bell decoration and a little Christmas tree from cedar together with one of my favourite projects: turning a twig pot from a banksia nut.



The group has had a good year. Though small in numbers we have enjoyed supporting each other in our various turning projects and certainly have welcomed both Peter and Graham to our group, together with a range of 'visitors' from the broader woodwork community who became short term group members doing some turning as and when their larger projects required a turned piece or two for completion.

We look forward to a productive 2024 and will be resuming on Thursday, 18th January '24.

Rod Gorfine on behalf of the Thursday Turners

# **NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING – CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS DECEMBER 2023**

ELTHAM AND DISTRICT WOODWORKERS INC

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF SPECIAL MEETING

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE MEMBERSHIP YEAR

The Committee has called a Special General Meeting of the club for Wednesday 7 February 2024 at the clubrooms (corner Ironbark and De Fredericks Road Yarrambat) commencing at 7.30pm. Following the Special General Meeting the usual monthly members meeting will take place.

The purpose of the Special General Meeting is to consider changing the club's rules to enable the membership year to be from 1 July to 30 June each year. The Committee is providing a discussion of this proposal in this Special Meeting Notice. It is intended that this proposal will be put to the Special General Meeting for resolution.

Members who are unable to attend the Special General Meeting can appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf. A proxy voting form is attached to this Special General Meeting notice. Completed proxy forms must be provided to the club's Secretary before the meeting commences.

The Committee is providing this Notice to members in December 2023 to ensure the statutory 21 days meeting notice is complied with.

DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE CLUB

RULES

Proposed change:

- Change the membership year from '1 April to 31 March' to '1 July to 30 June'

Background and reason for change:

- The membership year currently is the same as the club's financial year – 1 April to 31 March
- The club's constitution requires annual membership fees to be set at the AGM each year
- The AGM is normally held in May after the end of the financial year
- As the new membership year starts in April each year, this means that changes to membership fees do not take effect until April the year after the AGM
- This process severely restricts the ability of the club to alter membership fees in a timely manner each year. This means that using membership fees as a funding source for cost rises and new projects is problematic.

- A scenario to illustrate this problem:
- Insurance premiums and electricity costs currently cost the club \$5-6,000 per year – about \$55 per member.
- In the current environment it is not unknown for these costs to rise 20% per year – about \$1,000 or \$10 per member.
- Currently if they go up, extra membership fees to cover these costs can take over a year to come into effect.

How the change of the membership year can be implemented:

- The club's constitution determines the timing of the membership and how and when membership fees can be set

NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING – CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS DECEMBER 2023

- So to implement this solution the following parts of the constitution must be changed:

CHANGE NUMBER 1

Clause 4 Definitions – ADD

Membership year means the twelve-month period from 1 July

CHANGE NUMBER 2

Clause 12 (1) (a) – CHANGE FROM

the amount of the annual subscription (if any) for the following financial year

TO

the amount of the annual subscription (if any) for the following membership year

Clause 12 (3) – CHANGE FROM

(3) The Association may determine that any new member who joins after the start of a financial year must, for that financial year, pay a fee equal to –

(a) the full annual subscription

(b) a pro rata annual subscription based on the remaining part of the financial year;

or

(c) a fixed amount determined from time to time by the Association.

TO

(3) The Association may determine that any new member who joins after the start of a

membership year must, for that membership year, pay a fee equal to –

(a) the full annual subscription

(b) a pro rata annual subscription based on the remaining part of the membership year; or

(c) a fixed amount determined from time to time by the Association.

#### CHANGE NUMBER 3

In addition to the above, a clause covering the transition period of the changed membership period needs to be inserted into the constitution

#### INSERT AS CLAUSE 12 (5)

(5) For the period 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024 a full subscription of \$20 is payable by members.

Reason for the transition clause:

- Changing the membership year for 2024 will mean that for the period 1 April to 30 June 2024 no members will be financial

- This presents three problems:

- The Club will not receive membership fees to cover the ongoing costs incurred in keeping the club operating in that period

#### NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING – CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS DECEMBER 2023

- Members will not be covered by the members insurance policy because they are not financial

- Committee members must be financial members so there wouldn't be a committee.

Process to change the constitution:

- Clause 77 of the constitution says it can only be done by a special resolution at a general meeting of the club

- To do this the committee must:

- Give members 21 days notice of the special resolution

- Have a quorum at the meeting of at least 10% of the members

- At least 75% of the members voting support the special resolution



Other information:

The Committee has consulted with a solicitor about the proposal and she has advised it is in order.

The Treasurer also discussed the proposed changes with Consumer Affairs Victoria

**A proxy form is included at the end of the newsletter if you cannot attend the meeting.**

## 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%

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:**

31 January	Committee Planning meeting.
7 February	Special meeting to decide constitutional changes followed by the general meeting.

**Contact Workshop leaders to see whether sessions are running as we get closer to Christmas as some may not run during that period.**

**WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Second Sunday <b>Scrollsaw</b> 9.00 – 4.00pm Steve Mitchener 0409 003 487	Every Monday <b>Mentoring</b> 9.30am-11.30pm Charlie Camera 0413481699  Hamish Hill 0428 577 878	Every Tuesday <b>Open Workshop</b> 9.00am-12.30pm Colin Groves 0417 563 699  Second & Fourth Tuesday <b>Instrument Group</b> 1.00pm – 4.00pm Frank Camera 0427 964 245	Every Wednesday <b>Wes' Exhibition Toy            Making</b> 9.30am – 12.00pm Wes Weight  0478 021 269 First Wednesday <b>General Meeting</b> 7.30pm @ the club rooms  Third Wednesday <b>Committee            Meeting</b> 7.30pm @ the club rooms	Every Thursday <b>Open Workshop</b> 9.00am-1.00pm Paul Rushton 0417 017 347  Sylvester Konieczny 0407 009 951  Every Thursday <b>Wood Turning</b> 1.00pm – 4.00pm Rod Gorfine 0488 994 741	First & Third Friday <b>Wood Carving</b> 9.00am-3.00pm Rod Gorfine 0418 994 741	First & Third Saturday <b>Open Workshop</b> 9.30am-12.00pm Aurora Messina 0401 866 859  Second & Fourth Saturday <b>Open Workshop</b> 9.00am – 12.00pm Toby Grant 0488 994 741  Colin Groves 0417 563 699  Fifth Saturday <b>Open Workshop</b> 9.00am – 12.00pm Colin Groves 0417 563 699

ELTHAM AND DISTRICT WOODWORKERS INC - FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY FOR MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION CONVENED UNDER RULE 7(7).

1, (Name)

being a member of Eltham and District Woodworkers Inc.,

hereby appoint (Name of proxy holder)

being a member of that Incorporated Association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the appeal to the general meeting of the Association convened under Rule 7(7), to be held on:-

(date of meeting), and at any adjournment of that meeting.

I authorise my proxy to vote on my behalf at their discretion in respect of the following resolution:-

CHANGE NUMBER 1

Clause 4 Definitions – ADD

Membership year means the twelve-month period from 1 July

CHANGE NUMBER 2

Clause 12 (1) (a) – CHANGE FROM

the amount of the annual subscription (if any) for the following financial year

TO

the amount of the annual subscription (if any) for the following membership year

Clause 12 (3) – CHANGE FROM

(3) The Association may determine that any new member who joins after the start of a financial year must, for

that financial year, pay a fee equal to –

(a) the full annual subscription

(b) a pro rata annual subscription based on the remaining part of the financial year; or

(c) a fixed amount determined from time to time by the Association.

TO

(3) The Association may determine that any new member who joins after the start of a membership year must,

for that membership year, pay a fee equal to –

(a) the full annual subscription

(b) a pro rata annual subscription based on the remaining part of the membership year; or

(c) a fixed amount determined from time to time by the Association.

CHANGE NUMBER 3

In addition to the above, a clause covering the transition period of the changed membership period needs to be inserted into the constitution

INSERT AS CLAUSE 12 (5)

(5) For the period 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024 a full subscription of \$20 is payable by members.

Signed Date:

For office use only, Date Received