

**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 by the 20th of March.

**General Meeting**  
**Wednesday, 5th of March**  
**7.30pm at the clubrooms**  
**Cnr. Ironbark and De Fredericks Road, Yarrambat**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**President's Report**

We are up and running again in the new year.

I don't have too much to write about as I have not been around the club or attending to much club business. I have enjoyed my hiatus to be honest after last year's busy and stressful end of year and up till now.

What I have realised is that I can't do it all! Nor do I want to deprive others of the chance to get involved. So, what does that mean? The following tasks require someone else to take responsibility for:

**Purchasing officer**

- Tea/coffee/biscuits, kitchen and bathroom supplies and extractor bin liners to name a few.

**Procurement officer**

- Someone to take on the many offers of wood, tools, equipment; speak with the person offering items to us to see if they are suitable for us to acquire. I haven't quite fleshed this out, as I think there are a few aspects that need to be considered.

**Wattle Festival coordinator**

- This event is being held on the 31st of August this year. It's not a big job, it just requires the booking of our allocated space, which has been the same for many years. We have three 3 x 3 sites just near the community centre Organising the equipment, gazebos and volunteers etc. We have a core group of volunteers who know what's involved, thank goodness! Fingers crossed they will continue to do so.

**Communication coordinator**

- If there is someone out there who is a whiz on websites/Facebook/media we would love to hear from you! It is definitely not my thing! As far as the website goes, if we can't keep this current and 'live' by a volunteer, there are two potential possibilities; we do away with it, or we consider paying someone to do it for us. Keeping it current makes it meaningful and interesting. It can be a great source of information and more likely to attract other clubs and members of the public, and perhaps even local councils and other organisations to our club and our activities. A sidebar to this this, I've just learned that the Eltham Festival and Diamond Town Creek Fair are not going

ahead this year. So far, the Wattle Festival is, but that could change. This makes our media presence all the more important to advertise our Annual Exhibition.

One of the things raised at the last committee meeting was prizes for this year's Exhibition. The rocking horse that was given to us from Sandra Dean's estate, a former member, was thought to be one option as a prize. Rado has offered to take the lead on this but requires two or three more members to come on board. Peter Gannon has volunteered – or was volunteered...to make a Kumiko lamp and since first writing my report I have Bernie McCarthy, Paul Rushton and Maike Pritchard all making prizes, just need one more. Could it be you?

The car boot sale is tentatively planned for April. It will be opened up to a wider community and be run as a fundraiser. More details to follow on this, but if I could have someone to help me out, I would appreciate it.

We will be working on the working bee dates for the year, possibly in May and October, along with our guest speaker program at the general meetings.

And not forgetting the Women who Woodwork lunches/dinners. Our numbers are continuing to grow, which is fantastic. I will work on some dates and ideas and it would be helpful too, if I had an idea of 'best' or most suitable days/times. I will send an email out shortly.

Our AGM is not that far off. The 7th of May in fact. It will come around soon enough I dare say. All committee positions are declared vacant, and anyone is able to nominate for a position on the Committee. It is not a given that current incumbents will stand again or necessarily stay in the same role. If you feel that you have something to offer, or would love to be involved on the Committee and in the club please feel free to come and chat with one of us at any time.

Another item that needs mentioning is that attendance at the General Meetings have been quite low, in fact we are only just making a quorum (a tenth of the membership which is currently 137. Do we round up or down?). The Model Rules state that failure to get a quorum, the meeting is adjourned and rescheduled. The Rules also state that only the business that was on the agenda for the cancelled meeting can be discussed at the rescheduled meeting. Hopefully more members will attend future meetings.

Our new members may not know that we have a Show & Tell component at the end of each general meeting. Members are very welcome to bring along a piece that they are either working on or have completed or even have something interesting to share from the woodworking realm.

Guest speakers have varied in their subject matter and have not been restricted to just woodworking related topics. Our present structure is for a guest speaker every second month and have been showing a YouTube video on a woodworking topic on the off month. And again, any suggestions are more than welcome from the membership.

Remember, this is your club, your input is welcome.  
(Hmmm I did have a bit to say after all...)  
Jane Hammett

### **Secretary's Report**

We had a very interesting speaker at the February Meeting, Peter Gerbert from the Eltham Prostate Cancer Support and Information Group.

He made a very informative presentation, very informative covering How to help yourself & how to help your mates

The key message was to get the Blood Test done regularly, it's free for everyone over 50 (or younger if there is a family history)

The Support Group is there to help at any stage. They are based out of the CFA Building in Eltham and meet monthly - Anyone is welcome to come along to find out information or to share their story. Check out their website: [www.epcisg.org](http://www.epcisg.org) or email them [info@epcisg.org](mailto:info@epcisg.org)  
Peter also left us blue tote bags with a variety of pamphlets and handouts. These are on the Kitchen bench at the Club – feel free to take one for yourself or anyone you think might benefit.

Raman shared the latest plans and drawings for the Shed Project and it's looking great! The main request was could we make it bigger 😊 Huge vote of thanks to Raman for all his hard work on pushing this project forward.

We also continued the discussion on the annual fees – we will be bringing forward a proposal to increase to \$160 per year at the May AGM.

While we have been getting a lot of grants in recent years, these are slowing, and the fundraising in recent times is going to just keeping the lights on.

While concerns were raised that some members may not be able to manage such a large increase, the general agreement it is still good value compared to other clubs, and we should look for ways to help anyone for whom this is a particular hardship.

Another way to look at this is that a higher fee democratises who funds the Club instead of relying on the same few who volunteer their time to raise funds and do the jobs we would otherwise pay for.

You will have all seen the notes about housekeeping at the Club – please make sure you are signing in and out; checking the extractor bins, the vacuum bags & the filters; turning off the lights if you're last one out; putting away tools when you finish with them; allowing fair use of equipment and workspace; reporting any incidents, either damage to machines or injuries to people. The key message is please don't leave all the clean-up to "someone" else, it inevitably falls to the same few people to clean up. Many hands make light work!

Reminder: The next General Meeting is March 5th, at 7.30pm in the Clubrooms.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Cath Watson

### **Glue Still For Sale**

Several people have already purchased glue but there is still plenty left, and we are considering purchasing more.

It's Titebond III glue. If you bring your own container, it's \$12 per half litre or \$24 per litre. We'll supply the container for an extra \$2. It's less than half what you normally pay. The club makes a small profit.

If you want some give me a call on 0417 563 699.

Colin Groves

### **Bunnings Sausage Sizzle, Sunday March 16th**

Help Wanted

- I'd like to encourage you to participate in this club fundraising event.
- Please enter your details on the roster adjacent to the clubhouse sign-in book

OR

Send me an email with your desired time slot

- Sausage Sizzles are always a lot of fun. They are an ideal opportunity to do some club promotion & fundraising while meeting other club members.
- The roster has 4 X 2hr timeslots that start at 8am, 10am, 12noon, 2pm. Ideally, committing to a morning or afternoon is easier.
- Questions????, please contact me on 0439646892 or [gburke070@gmail.com](mailto:gburke070@gmail.com)

PS. Don't forget to wear your Woodworkers T-shirt

Thank you

Gary Burke

### **Mentoring Mondays**

After the break many of the usual attendees and a number of new faces are back at Monday morning mentoring and once again there is a scurry for available benches. The need for additional benches has moved a step closer to implementation and Peter Davey is hard at work with a submission and a preferred design. By the way, we are now starting off at 9:00am but the new starting time does not seem to have been noticed.

Hamish and I are happy to assist (within our means) with any project whatever the technique and for example we recently had Kerrie start off with basic turning. In just two sessions she managed to complete a pen and so taken was she that she has since bought her own lathe. Natalia astonished us all with her, first ever, excellent dovetails which she accomplished using the club's Gifkin jig. To top it off she also achieved a near perfect fit for the base using a rebate router bit and the corner rounding jig on the router table. **Does everyone know that we have corner rounding jigs which are excellent on such work as chopping boards??**

Natalia's dove tail joints and recessed bottom.



Kerrie's first foray into turning



Corner radius jig for our



## Skills and Techniques Session

Second Monday of the Month

On the 10th of February I showed off a few alternative hinges and handles, below are three examples:



Desk Drawers

Shoe Box

Door Firewood Box Kindling Drawer

**The next specialised Skills and Techniques session is: The 10th of March, the Second Monday in the Month. At 1-00pm**

### **MAKING YOUR PLANES SING**

Bring along your old metal or wooden plane and we will find some ways to improve its performance or maybe resurrect it to a state where you look for projects where you can use it. As usual any members who are interested come along and if you have thoughts or suggestions feel free to message or email me.

There is now a small 1-5 model of the proposed stair chair that I am planning to make, I hope the finished chair looks better than the model! Anyone interested in doing something similar is welcome to participate and I will promise to try to encourage all those that attempt the task.

Hamish

### **Scrollsaw Group** Sunday 12/1/2025

Only expected a small group being the “holiday season”, and people would rather be with family rather than making sawdust. But I still had three apologies, Rowena, Val and Steve Hood, who for various reasons couldn't come along.

First through the door, after me of course, was Annette Aboltins. Annette is a new Club member and keen to learn the scrolling art. Never one to waste an opportunity, I set about showing Annette the basics, explaining technique and the other “how to...” items. Annette took to it like a duck to water and was soon cutting out my various training patterns to “get her eye in”. So next time Annette is here with us, she will advance to cutting out some easy patterns and simple puzzles.

Tony Orbe joined us and prepped some of his 3D pieces to cut. Then Tony laboured away at one for some time and was disappointed at the outcome. We studied the result and realised his table was slightly out from the vital 90degrees. Tony had checked before starting, but the deviation was minimal and avoided detection. But the result was fatally flawed. When you’re doing 50mm 3D cutouts, and this one was exceptionally fine cutting in some spots, any variance is fatal to the project. That’s the joys of fine woodworking folks!

Chris Hand was a late starter today and spent some time planning and gluing up the plans for her next set of cars in thick Jelutong. Chris then carefully drilled all the axle holes and was quite happy to take them all home to cut out at her leisure. We spent some time discussing options for construction of a jewel box. Hinges, wall thickness, construction techniques etc. Quite a productive day for Chris, and she never cut a thing!

As for me, I brought along a rooster segmentation project in Cedar all ready to cut out. And even thought I might actually get a little of it cut. Well, surprise surprise, I actually cut the whole damn thing out, even though I was a busy as ‘a one-armed paper hanger in a cyclone’ helping everyone else most of the time. This is the first project I have finished cutting out for months. Quite pleased with myself. I think I’ll come back next month....

Steve Mitchener.

### **Carving Group** Friday 17/1/2025

Had apologies from Rowena, Kerrie, and Peter Gannon, but that still left nine of us in attendance. And while some of us barely made any chips, some of the others sure made up for it!

Wes was working on his small lizard in Kauri Pine and encountering problems at every turn. Some projects are like that. And they are usually the ones you think are going to be easy.

Hank was beavering away at his hand-held objects to start with, then moved onto a bigger piece after lunch. David Green was shaping his salad fork, and as usual, he wasn’t rushing it.

Chris Boylen was shaping a spoon in Olive Wood. Because of faults and twisted grain, it will be unusable as a spoon. But it will be an awesome talking piece due to the actual distorted shape and the beautiful variation in the grain structure.

Kevin Sevier brought in several pieces he had done over the holiday period. A couple of large pieces finished and painted well worthy of a good look, and some smaller hand sized items



finished in his usual style. Well done Kevin. And today he worked on a small angel in a crouching position with its wings spread up over it. Should look very good when finished.

Alwyn was working on his Gargoyle walking stick handle, and our "Father Christmas look-alike" Bernie, was working on his Walnut serving bowl. Bernie was using a draw knife to shape the two ends, and when he was ankle deep in shavings at one bench, he shifted camp to another bench and started again. (He was making A LOT of shavings!)

And Rod was working on his small Gnome again, and I followed suit by working on my 'small rotund man'. This little fella lost a bit of weight today and gained a more realistic shape. Might actually finish up looking all right. We'll see what the future holds for him.

Steve Mitchener.

### **Pyrography Group** Sunday 26/1/2025

It was an unusual start for a Pyrography Group, as when I got to the Club it was open and in operation already. (And that's a first!) It was Natalia and husband John snuck in early to do a couple of quick urgent jobs. I surprised them at it because I am usually early for my Groups, but it ended peacefully. They finished up, cleaned up, and left before many of my group made an appearance anyway.

I had apologies from Kerrie and Maike. Kevin was in and working on a rural scene from a Lora Irish book. (She's an American who does Scrollsawing, Pyrography and Carving, and I like her detailed works. And obviously so does Kevin.)

Beryl was here prepping some wood for projects, then did some layout work on another serving platter. Very large and round and will require some time to get it all done.

Jess was doing dinosaurs complete with background images on a placard. Very effective. And new member Annette Aboltins was introduced to the basics of Pyrography and started off doing simple designs but quickly showed her talent by doing a single eye with all the details. Very impressive.

Alex and Marie turned up to do a bit of Scrollsawing. Kevin set them up and supervised them in the back room. (I run the Pyrography Group in the kitchen, plenty of tables and chairs here, and it's closer to the urn.)

Rowena was burning some floral decorations with the intention of either turning it into box with a feature, or as an insert in a box. Different concept. (Hmmmmm! Must keep that in mind.)

As for me, I was working on some little printed signs I had set up as fridge magnets. (I got a big white fridge that was so boring. Not anymore!)

Steve Mitchener.



**Carving Group Friday 7/2/2025**

Chris Boylen was away learning carving someplace else. And there were apologies from Kerry and the gypsy, David Green.

We had eight members present and two visitors. We were 'hosts' to John Paine from the Manningham Carvers who had joined us for a visit, and was here to spout about the upcoming Bacchus Marsh Carve-in. He managed to get some work done on his small figurine as he joined in the banter and chat. And the other visitor was Barbara Knell (potential member) who was interested in what we were doing. Barbara got a quick tutorial on carving one of my small faces. (I later learned the Barb had successfully joined the Club, and would be back for the next session.)

Of the eight current members, one was Hank hand-sanding his 'hand held objects' made for his much-loved Osage Orange. Hank informed me they were officially known as "Small Handheld Sculptures". (Their name is bigger than the actual sculptures!)

Kevin was getting a jump on Christmas by carving a Santa face in Huon Pine.

Maike was carving an Owl.

Bernie was carving decorations on his serving bowl made from a Walnut Plank, and grumbling about how hard it was to cut the Walnut.

Peter Gannon was making a serving platter from a Huon Pine board.

Alwyn was making progress with his Gargoyle walking stick handle.

Rod was getting more detail on his little Gnome.

And that just leaves me. I was tutoring Barb, which means I have started yet another face for my collection. (And I thought I had gotten away from these bloody things!)

Steve Mitchener.

**Scrollsaw Group Sunday 9/2/2025**

Small group today, had apologies from Val, Tony and Kevin.

We had Kerrie in going great guns cutting small animal shapes transferred to ply from some of my many stencils.

And Chris Hand was cutting cars, trucks and boats from Jelutong and Pine.

And Jess was taking a crack at 'compound cutting' some dolphins. This is not as easy as it looks, and the first attempt was a little 'shaky' due to a lack of tension on the blade. But the second was perfect. So I expect Jess will want to pursue this exercise and try a few more shapes.

I had nothing prepared to Scrollsaw, so I brought in my carving kit and worked on my 'art piece', which is to say a "free form carving without any serious plan". If I ever finish it, I hope to be able to give it a title of some description. (Otherwise, I'll just keep carving until it's a pile of shavings and there's nothing to name!)

Steve Mitchener.

**Carving Group** Friday 21/2/2025

Had apologies from Kerrie, Maike, and Bernie, but still had a full house with twelve on deck today. I arrived to find Hank standing at the steps waiting to get in and get at it. So I obliged, and he was quickly at it sanding his “small hand held sculptures” as he prefers to call them.

Rowena worked on trimming down her box lid by hand and levelling the edge after we cut it free at an earlier session. Then transitioned to hand sanding her own “small hand held sculpture” to see out the day. (This item turned up at Pyrography on Sunday, all finished off and as slick as glass. Turns out it’s multi-purpose. Can serve as a desk top decoration, or serve as a pen holder, or both at the same time.)

Chris Boylen was carving a cup (with chunky handle) from a piece of recently fallen Gum Tree. A rustic looking piece.

Kevin was doing a small low relief of a ‘Pelican on a post’. It kept him pretty quiet all day. Over the aisle we had John Paine, visiting us again from Manningham Woodcarvers, who was working on a high relief carving of his daughters dog. Quite an impressive piece.

Alwyn was working on carving down a shaft to match his Gargoyle handle to make up his walking stick. And Peter Gannon was working on his serving platter in Huon Pine from last session. Drilled most of the waste out of the bowl area, shaped the whole thing on the bandsaw. Really coming along in leaps and bounds. Just needs to be careful shaping the interior along the handle, it’s pretty close to the exterior of the underside, and could result in a catastrophe if he’s not very careful.

David Green was working on his salad servers. Barbara Knell, now a new member, was here working on her small face from the last session. It is also coming along nicely as a first time project.

Rod was starting work on another figure for his Nativity Scene. This one is a kneeling shepherd.

Wes was working on a circular platter of an inlay of an animal. Looks like a possum from the shape of the hole, but time will tell. (I forgot to ask. Keeping track of eleven different projects is a bit of a task.)

As for me, apart from writer’s cramp taking notes, I was working with another small face guiding newby Barb through the process. Nothing flash from me I am afraid.  
Steve Mitchener.

**Pyrography Group** Sunday 23/2/2025

Apologies from Jess and Kerrie for this session. But we had a surprise visitor who added to our number, so we had a table full of six people in the finish.

Beryl was burning the many flowers around her large round platter that was marked out last session.

Rowena started and finished a 'Rosella with Gum Leaves'. It turned out really well. Shape and shading with a bird is always difficult. Feathers are so tedious and difficult to do correctly. But Rowena nailed it, and then went to strips of ply with flower decoration to finish her day off.

Maiké was doing a "Hen with 3 Chicks" and creating another masterpiece. (If feathers are hard, fluffy chicks must be worse!) Wasn't finished during the session, but it is obviously going to be a "Masterful work" upon completion at home.

Kevin was darkening the shadows in the rural scene he did in the last session. (With Maiké and I both at him to make his shadows 'much darker', I think we've finally worn him down. The picture looks much better now.) Kevin then started on another scene.

Our surprise visitor was Graham Webb, who had come along to try out a 'solid tip burner' borrowed from his daughter. After some quick tuition and tips Graham was away trying it out. We coaxed him to try one of the Club's burners, and he thought the difference was like "chalk and cheese". Graham burnt a caricature mouse and did some shading on it. (Much easier with the better machine, so Graham's got some bad news for his daughter, but we might have gained another 'Woodburner' for the group.)

Last but not least, me. I had a 'Pegasus' to burn, got the outline done pretty quickly, then went back and whacked in all the required shading using the 'dot shading' technique. Job done! Now I just got to decide what the hell I am going to do with it. Box lid, picture, fridge magnet, coaster, .....

Steve Mitchener.

## “Comeanavajarrah”\*

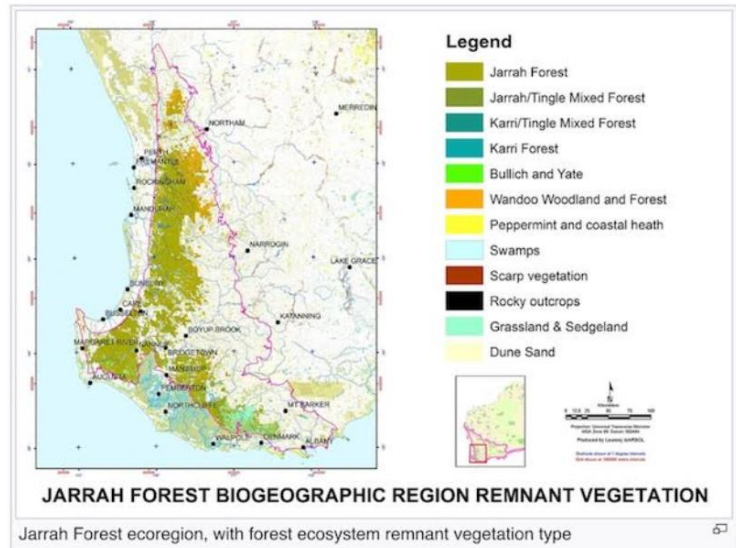
Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) is one of Australia’s finest timbers but for me at least it’s more an acquaintance than a friend. I know of it but not much about it. Let’s rectify the situation.

Jarrah is endemic to the south-west of Western Australia. It grows on the iron and aluminium rich plains from the ranges east of Perth down to Albany. The name is derived from **djarraly** in the Noongar language and the early colonisers called it **Swan River mahogany**. It is a tree that can easily grow to 40m with a trunk 2m across (unusually, when conditions demand, it can even grow in mallee form, up to 3m tall). It is a stringybark and marginata is Latin for “furnished with a border”, in reference to the distinct marginal vein on its leaves. It has gloriously fragrant white flowers that festoon the tree in clusters of ten or so, attracting bees, which make a distinctly malty, caramel-flavoured honey from its nectar. Jarrah trees are long-lived – at least 500 years and up to a 1,000 if they get the chance. The leaves and bark of jarrah were used by the Noongar people to treat fever, colds, headaches, skin diseases and snakebites.



The Jarrah Forest was originally some 50 000km<sup>2</sup> in size but there is only about 2,500km<sup>2</sup> of old-growth forest left, scattered in small reserves over its former range.

Over the years all attempts to create a national park with extensive old-growth forest was unsuccessful. Jarrah was too valuable to protect. Since 2024 logging of native forest has been banned in WA but forest “thinning” and clearing of land for mining is still allowed. Jarrah dieback is a significant issue, this occurs when a soil-borne water mould infects the trees roots. This causes root rot preventing nutrient absorption leading to the death of the tree and often spreading to many other trees in the forest.



Jarrah is regarded as one of the six forest giants of WA, the others being: **tuart** (*E. gomphocephala*), **karri** (*E. diversicolor*), **red tingle** (*E. jacksonii*), **yarri** (*E. patens*) and **marri** (*Corymbia calophylla*). Jarrah wood is often confused with karri. The splinter test is the best way of separating them. If you burn a splinter karri leaves a white ash and jarrah forms black charcoal.

The heartwood of jarrah varies in colour from rich reds and burgundy hues to browns, while the sapwood ranges from a pale yellow to pink-orange. The texture is moderately coarse and the grain even, although some interlocked, wavy grain may feature, creating interesting fiddle-back. It has a high resistance to weather, rot, termites and marine borers, making it valuable to a range of outdoor uses. It is a durable, immensely strong, dense and fire-resistant timber. It has been used for wharf and bridge construction, railway sleepers, poles and piles. Construction applications include house framing, flooring, linings, joinery and fencing. Jarrah’s decorative qualities make it prized for use in furniture, turnery, joinery and parquetry.

Jarrah is easiest to work with hand tools when green. Once seasoned, it is relatively easy to work despite its density, if the tools you use are very sharp. Evan Dunstone's article in the Australian Wood Review (see sources) is full of detailed information about how to get the best out of jarrah. It puts you in your place when you see the level of knowledge of a master woodworker. Some of his 'learnings':

- Japanese chisels or A2 steel plane blades are the weapons of choice for slicing cuts.

- Use a high (30 or 35 degree) bevel on your plane blade.

- Jarrahs end-grain looks like dark polished stone if sanded to 400 grit or higher, so you can get an interesting contrast between long grain and end-grain in your furniture designs.

- Don't make your joints too tight. Jarrah will not compress like softer timbers and so splitting will result if the joint is too tight.

- Jarrah reacts very badly to direct sunlight, going the most unsightly powdery yellow. It is great for bedroom furniture where natural light tends to be diffuse. Beware of leaving half-finished projects uncovered in the workshop as a shadow print of an object left on the piece is difficult to remove.

- The colour variation of jarrah is very broad and colour matching of the boards you use is essential, and difficult.



*The dark endgrain of jarrah can be put to good use when designing.*

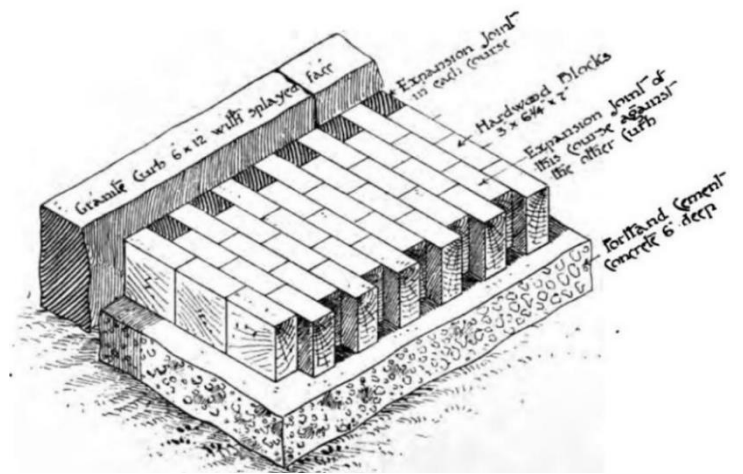
Huge amounts of jarrah were exported from WA. When convicts arrived en masse from 1850 the cheap labour meant that jarrah could be exported across the British Empire to feed its insatiable appetite for railway sleepers, telegraph poles, wharves and other infrastructure. A network of steam-powered sawmills and railways sprang up to extract the timber.

It was used extensively as a road surface in many cities in Australia and around the world, London being a good case study. We take asphalt-paved roads for granted now but there was a lot of experimentation in the 19th century to find a suitable replacement for dirt roads. The use of wooden blocks to cover the streets of London had started in the 1840s with the importation of Swedish conifers, known as 'deal' when sawn. But untreated yellow deal rotted and was quickly rutted by the wheels of horse-drawn carriages. The rotten wood absorbed copious amounts of horse urine and dung. Not only was the smell horrendous but on wet days the wheels of passing carriages would squirt out streams of wood fibres mixed



with dung and urine over unfortunate pedestrians and shopfronts. Many of the wooden pavements laid in the 1840s were grubbed up within a few years and often not replaced.

An advantage of wooden roads was that the horse and carriage could glide silently over them, as opposed to the din created on granite cobbles (which were also expensive and slippery in the wet) and so wooden pavements made a comeback. In 1867 American ordinance engineer Benjamin Berkley Hotchkiss (he of machine gun fame) patented an improved way of laying wooden pavements - he packed the wooden blocks onto a preserving composition upon a gravel layer. A dense and durable timber was needed and at the 1886 'Indian and Colonial Exhibition', jarrah was introduced to London as a durable paving material. By 1890 many London streets were paved with creosoted jarrah.



No squirting! **The Bartholomew's Road Surface Map of London** from 1922 shows that most of London's most famous thoroughfares were covered with wooden blocks (shown as yellow on the map) and this continued until the 1930's.



Bartholomew's Road Surface Map of London, 1922. Yellow stands for a wooden road surface; green is for sheet asphalt; blue is for setts; pink is for macadam, i.e. tightly-bound crushed small stones.



When the wooden roads were ripped out the creosoted blocks burnt well and were much in demand for home heating. The wooden roads of Chicago burnt vigorously in the Great Fire of 1871. One of the arguments against using wooden blocks for road surfaces was that they could be ripped up and easily set alight during riots, as occurred in the Paris Commune in 1871.

With the banning of logging in native forests in WA in 2024 supplies of jarrah will become scarcer and dearer. There will still be some new timber from private properties and from trees cleared for mining activities and ecological thinning. Recycled jarrah is readily available - demolish an old house in Perth and you will usually find that the frame and flooring is made from jarrah.

Jarrah has never grown well in plantations. Whilst initial logging was selective, second growth logging involved mechanised clear-felling which often disturbed the soil too much for successful replanting. *Pinus radiata* was planted where jarrah couldn't be rehabilitated.

Endgrain description:

**Pores:** Diffuse-porous; large pores arranged in diagonal rows, exclusively solitary; tyloses common.

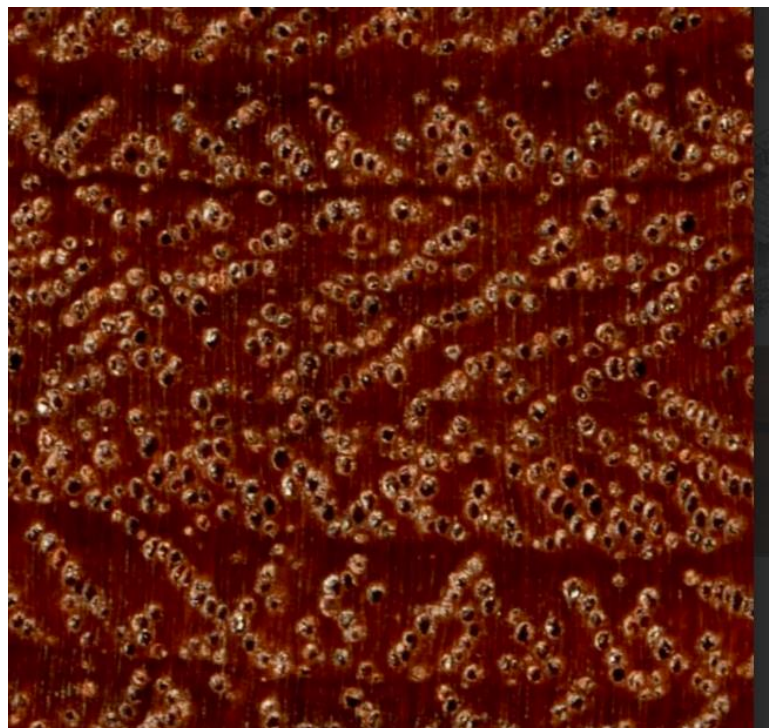
**Growth rings:** indistinct.

**Rays:** narrow rays not visible without magnification, spacing normal.

**Parenchyma:** vasicentric.

The Wood Database (see References) has a good explanation of this terms

Peter Goddard



\* The journalist and poet **Dryblower Murphy** wrote a poem "Comeanavajarra" in 1904 about the potential to extract alcohol from jarrah timber.

**References:**

Websites: Wikipedia, Wood Solutions, Western Australia Giant Trees, The Wood Database

Reid C. Blog: [Roads were not built for cars: 'Sherlock Holmes and the real-life mystery of London's forgotten Australian wooden roads'](#).

Mackintosh A. If not jarrah, where does WA get its hardwood. ABC News, 29/10/2021.

Dunstone E. Doing justice to jarrah. Australian Wood Review, September 2020

Drori J. (2018). Around the World in 80 Trees. London: Lawrence King Publishing

### Housekeeping

**Please do not use the vacuum cleaners without there being a vacuum cleaner bag in it. They are kept in the storeroom on the left-hand side of the top shelf of the unit directly in front of you as you walk in.**

**If by chance there aren't any left, please write it in the sign book like everything else.**

**By not having a bag in the cleaner, the filter clogs up with sawdust. Which may cause the cleaner to overheat and stop working altogether. Which will mean we would have to purchase another vacuum cleaner.**

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

#### Committee Members for Eltham and District Woodworkers Inc.

President	Jane Hammett	0408 195 965
Vice President	Raman Rao	0433 741 753
Secretary	Catherine Watson	0449 294 814
Treasurer	Peter Gannon	0419 136 235

#### Committee

Shane Watson	0410 850 074
Rado Starec	0409 997 948

#### Dates For The Calendar:

General meeting	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March
Bunnings Sausage Sizzle	Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> March

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> 9.00am-11.30pm Charlie Camera 0413481699  Hamish Hill 0428 577 878	Every Tuesday <b>Open Workshop</b> 9.00am-12.30pm Geoff Oliver 0417375782	Every Wednesday <b>Wes' Exhibition</b> <b>Toy Making</b> 9.30am – 12.00pm Wes Weight 0478 021 269	Every Thursday <b>Open Workshop</b> 9.00am-12.30pm Paul Rushton 0417 017 347	First & Third Friday <b>Wood Carving</b> 9.00am-3.00pm Steve Mitchener 0409 003 487	First & Third Saturday <b>Open Workshop</b> 9.00am-12.00pm Aurora Messina 0401 866 859
Fourth Sunday <b>Pyrography</b> 9.00am – 4.00pm Steve Mitchener 0409 003 487	Second Monday <b>Skills Techniques and Safety Session</b> 1.00pm – 2.00pm Hamish Hill 0428 577 878	Every Tuesday <b>Instrument Group</b> 1.00pm – 4.00pm Frank Camera 0427 964 254	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>Wood Turning</b> 1.00pm – 4.00pm Tom Laber 0429 439 833	Second & Fourth Saturday <b>Open Workshop</b> 9.00am – 12.00pm Toby Grant 0488 994 741	Fifth Saturday <b>Open Workshop</b> 9.00am – 12.00pm Will advise <b>It may transpire that this will be a working bee instead.</b>