

## ELTHAM AND DISTRICT WOODWORKERS CLUB

# The Eltham Woodworker

## CLUB NEWSLETTER

MAY 2022



Reg. Number A0025947P



### EDWC Office Bearers

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer
John Brownrigg	Colin Groves	Charles Camera	David Brooks
0409 145 516	0438 344 029	0413 481 699	9439-4889

### Board Members

Raman Rao	Aurora Messina
Peter Davey	Jane Hammett
	Adrian Desfontaines

### Major Sponsors and supporters

#### Bendigo Bank

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All correspondence to be addressed to the Secretary, P.O. Box 701, Eltham, 3095 or email [secretary@elthamwoodworkers.org.au](mailto:secretary@elthamwoodworkers.org.au)

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**Committee Changes:** Following the AGM on Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup> we have some changes to the Committee as you can see above. Colin Groves is our new Vice President, David Brooks has moved to the Treasurer's position and Peter Davey stays on the committee as a regular Board Member.

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## President's Report - John Brownrigg - April 2022

Hi again,

Now that the AGM and May meetings are done and dusted, we can look forward to a good year (says he with fingers crossed!!), with exhibitions, raffles and the opportunity to get together with our fellow members.

Thanks to all of the members who turned up for the recent meetings. At the June meeting we are proposing a special resolution to adopt the CAV Model Rules as previously advised. If you are not able to attend, please assign your vote by proxy for someone to vote on your behalf.

On the Sunday of the Queen's Birthday weekend (12<sup>th</sup> June), there will be a fair held at the Christmas Hill Community Hall, with exhibitors showing various crafts and skills. Our members are invited to participate. It looks like it might be fun, and we have 6 or 7 members interested in attending to display their work and offer it for sale. Participation is free and there are no commissions on sales. This is a new venture for this group and their hope is to make it an annual event. Let me know if you are interested (if you haven't already) and I'll connect you to the organisers.

So, don't forget to pay your special annual subs (\$50.00 this year only) if you have not done so already.

Be well, and I look forward to seeing you at the club.

Regards,  
John Brownrigg 0409 145516

## Around the Workshop May 2022 – Charles Camera

During the month the workshop had a visit by ten members from the Eltham Men's Shed who were keen to see how we operate in a woodworking only workshop. They were particularly interested in our dust extractor as they too have recently had an Easy-Duct installation of a similar size to ours. Interestingly they reported that the silencer on their system was installed to limit noise to their nearby amenities room and not to reduce noise in the workshop area. They observed that much of the noise we have may come from poor seals around the duct work which is what we have also suspected. Another job to put onto the "to do list"!!



There was also considerable interest in our wood turners who were active at the time and some real admiration of Steve Hood's segmented bowl. The EMS president Leon Higgins has extended an invitation for a reciprocal visit by any interested members to their Shed which will be organised for anyone interested in the next few weeks.



Sawdust leaking out of the dust extractor collection bin is becoming even more of a problem with rain turning it into a mess. The good news is that the fault has been rectified thanks to help by Frank Camera and Colin Groves. The wheelie bin modified by the Eziduct installer was incorrectly trimmed resulting in the air leak. The fix was to modify the other bin on hand (does anyone know where it came from?) and the seal is now excellent. Please remember to push the handle all the way down. Mentioning the infamous dust extractor supplier – they have been sold to an international group and the VCAT case we have against them has been listed for October. It is not thought that the sale will impact our claim.

We have again had problems with the table router. Despite the signs indicating that “the switch must be off and the plastic cover must be closed for the unit to be raised until it auto locks”, it has again been damaged by not carrying out this procedure and then excessively forcing the crank. The committee has resolved to try to solve the problem by switching to a router lift and barrel router that will be easier for infrequent users to operate. This proposal is still being investigated and if put into effect the near new Triton TRA 001 will be sold to defray the cost of the new unit.

The drum sander is now installed and operational but we are asking members not to attempt to use it until receiving training or having an authorised operator on hand to supervise. Frank Camera is pictured putting the first timber through, closely watched by our new Treasurer, David Brooks – result fantastic!



The laser engraver is now in the club in a safe enclosure but still needs to be plumbed for fume extraction. I will be calling for members interested in having items engraved to turn up at various times to get it into use. I will also need volunteers to be trained in its use and if anyone is interested please contact me asap.

On an entirely different note the Annual Exhibition is approaching and hopefully members have lots of items for the show especially as we have such a long break since the last time. As everyone well knows that to make things it is necessary to get good timber and these days it is very scarce indeed. On a recent trip somewhere I came across a rather striking table that had a resin infill and it occurred to me that resin may well be cheaper than wood these days. It also allows two otherwise insufficient and even unmatched pieces of timber to be used for table tops. I am aware of one member that has been experimenting with resin filled serving boards but wonder if others have had success and are able to bring their work to the next meeting and advise everyone on their experiences..



Photos: Eltham Men's shed visit and Steve Hood's segmented bowl and the Resin table.

*Charles Camera - Secretary*



## Mentoring Monday Group

Attendance at the Mentoring group meetings on Monday mornings has been very steady with up to 10 attendees. There is quite a lot of work in progress across all manner of techniques. Russell has been mastering cutting circles using a router, Jane has nearly reached glue up stage on her high stool and Peter is showing all of us up with his table saw jig to cut a dog legged bench upright. Rod has been making a delightful pot plant wall holder and Jim is still making mysterious wooden something or others that are allegedly used in boat building. Chris has moved to box making and is rapidly learning the tricks and foibles of the rather finicky art. Natalia is making an



end grain cutting board which will be destined to be finished on the new drum sander.



*Charles Camera*

## Show and Tell – Alan West

On a recent visit from Canberra, our 7 year old granddaughter, Miffy, asked Grandpa to make her a shepherd's crook. We didn't have time to encourage a young sapling to grow into the desired shape, nor could we find a branch of the right shape. The solution was to join a suitable bend for the top to a straight shaft. The problem was, how does one make the necessary joint? I cut the mating surfaces square and drilled a 5 mm hole in the centre of each surface. The hole needs to be about 1.5 inches deep. I tapped a quarter inch W thread into each hole- I used a metal tap but you could use a quarter inch W bolt. With plenty of araldite I inserted a length of quarter inch W rod as far as it would go into the shaft. Measure the depth of the hole in the bent piece and cut the projecting rod to about 10 mm less. Again with araldite screw the bend onto the shaft. Using the threaded rod provides a very adequate clamping mechanism. When the araldite sets the joint can be cleaned up and the whole piece smoothed with a spoke shave and/or sandpaper. The overall length was about 140 cm. Result- a very happy Miffy can go and tend her flock! *Alan West*



## Thursday Afternoon Turning, April – Steve Hood

Once again reverted to form and didn't take enough photo's. Frank Camera's been along to pick up a few tips on turning and seems to be going along well. The usual suspects turned up Rod, Tom, Eric, Frits and of course Tony and all managed to keep busy.



Frits has started on a Cedar bowl with feet, they're the little bits in the corners, the pine is sacrificial and will be cut away. I haven't seen this done before, so I'm mightily interested to see how it turns out. One of the great things about the club is the exchange of ideas and seeing new methods.



Frank getting serious with a spindle

Resin cast snakeskin Sierra pen in a Cypress Pine Case, magnetised so the 2 halves form a square. Came up well, just looks like a stick when it's closed.



Western Red Cedar segmented bowl, made from an old louvre door.



Second attempt at segmenting, so not as good as I'd like but I think it's still not too shabby. Didn't overlap the rings quite enough, so by the time I got it smooth it was only 2 to 4 mm thick and there was nothing left for me to tidy up the rough bits. Finished with U-Beaut Aussie Oil.

*Steve Hood*



## ***Saturday Beginners Turning, April Steve Hood***

It is over, Roz, Soo, Hany and Adrian all managed to stay the distance and are now able to use the clubs lathes during open workshop – unsupervised. Congratulations, you’ve earned it.

Every one completed a paper towel holder and a bowl to a really high standard, except for Hany, who had more trouble than Ned Kelly with his bowl unfortunately of the 3 he tried every blank had a hidden fault and broke apart on the lathe, but undeterred he glued together his first bowl and produced a really nice rustic bowl.

The Beginners Turning has dragged on for what seems a lifetime due to covid but we’re finally over the line.

There are no plans at the moment to repeat the Saturday training sessions, we’ll wait until we regain access to the area and finally fit our safety screens and dust collection, then we’ll take a look at it. This doesn’t mean that everyone’s been thrown in the deep end to sink or swim, either Tony or myself or both will be able to meet the Saturday Turners either at an open workshop or another time for some on-going help and/or demonstrations - by arrangement.

As usual I didn’t take enough photo’s of everyone's work. My apologies once again.



Soo’s bowl in Cypress pine, we decided to leave it about 10mm thick as it was developing stress cracks as the material was removed.

H any’s Cypress Pine bowl, hopefully he’s still got it so he can

glue it back together and finish it. Not really Hany’s fault as it does have a crack that only appeared as he was turning.



Quite apart from the fact that it broke he was doing a nice job with nice smooth cuts, I suspect Hany is going to be putting out some nice work.



Left. Adrians paper towel holder, that’s the ‘good’ side.

Right Soo’s paper towel holder and bowl. Really nice shape on the towel holder.

***Steve Hood***



## Carving Report 29<sup>th</sup> April – Alwyn Wainwright

Not a lot to report. Five carvers were in attendance enjoying their carving. A big surprise!!! Our friend Steve was back which was good to see.



Magnificent looking spoon carved by Rod Gorfine.

Just one session in this report owing to our Easter break. As usual a good days work and chat.

*Alwyn*

## Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May Woodcarving – Steve Mitchener

Alwyn was an apology today, but a few of us turned up to make some wood chips and progress some of our projects. Maiké was working on a new Gnome, and showed us some she had produced from the Carve-in at Bacchus Marsh recently.

Jane was working on cleaning faults in a rough edged board which will eventually become a serving platter.

Both Rod and Hank were working on spoons. Hank seemed to be creating a collection of spoons, while Rod was finish sanding just the one item.

I spent some time working on an owl sitting on a post, educating Maiké on the benefits and uses of a Dremel and its many attachments, and guiding Jane in cleaning the would-be platter.

**Maiké's gnomes**



## Sunday 8/5/22 Scrollsaw Group – Steve Mitchener

We have moved the Scroll saw Group to a Sunday, and the first one we picked was Mother's Day. Not real good planning and it left us a bit light on the ground. Steve Hood was an early apology, and one other 'usual' didn't show at all.

But Tony was here trimming out toys for Wes' Workshop for 2023. That's right, 2023. This group is done with 2022 already!

Chris was with us having her introduction to Scroll sawing. Learnt about the Scroll saw and started to cut the training patterns. Spent a few happy hours making very fine sawdust and enjoying herself. Looking good enough already to start cutting some simple patterns.

I managed to cut a heap of rings for another pencil cup (a quick project for me), and spent some time cutting the detailed design of a little trivet I started during lock-down. (Not so quick, but moving along nicely after today.) Should nail it for the Exhibition!

We laboured on till mid-afternoon and then decided we had had enough and headed home.

*Steve Mitchener*



## Show and Tell – Rod Gorfine

A fine collection of projects from a multi-talented member, Rod Gorfine, sent in by editor's request.



You can also see a carved spoon in the carving report and a “window box” wall hanging pot stand in the Monday Mentoring section.



Thanks Rod, great work.

*PS: There has always been an open invitation to all members to send in a picture or two of their works. (editor)*



## Sharp Tools!

There are some tools that can never be really sharp enough I say, especially plane blades and chisels. But I don't always do as I say unfortunately and soon enough find out in the use. But the other day when needing to do some end grain gluing on a new serving board I decided to really make sure the plane was sharp so the glue lines were as straight and smooth as possible. Spent a little more time with diamond sharpening plates and then went to work. Could not believe the results. The picture here is of a very thin shaving on jarrah and Tassie oak end grain. I have only seen this on along the grain planing before (at my place anyway), well worth the effort.



One of the edges to be glued and the unfinished board so far.



*Frank Camera*



## Instrument Making is making a comeback!

There are a few members interested in making an A-style Mandolin. I have a few different plans and links to lots of videos to share. The picture below shows a "flat top and back" version of a simple A-style mandolin with a scale length of 356mm (14 inches) which is the most common size.



Specification as follows:

Length overall 25 3/8" or 644mm

Rim depth 2 5/8" or 67mm

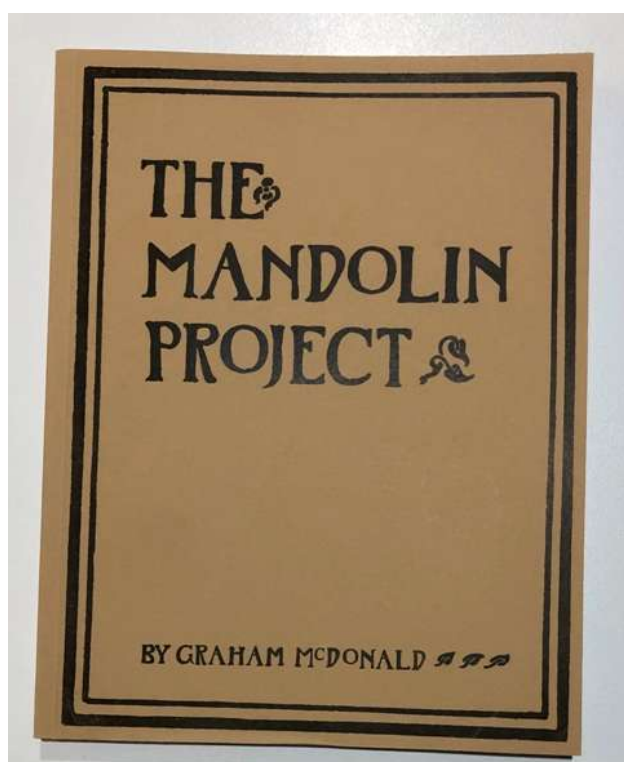
Width across body 9 1/2" or 241mm

scale length 14" or 350mm

Nut width 1 5/16" or 33mm

The side bending is not as difficult as a guitar or ukulele so the body assembly is fairly straight forward and the hardware is readily available.

We will be working together as a group and sharing the knowledge gained and experience as we go so if anyone else is interested please call or email me for a more detailed discussion on what promises to be a fun but also serious woodworking project.



This excellent book on building mandolins was donated to the club by the author Graham McDonald, a well known Canberra based luthier author of many books on string instruments. I also have his Ukulele Workshop manual.

You can see his work online at:

<https://mcdonaldstrings.com>

**Frank Camera**, Ph: 0427 964 254,  
Email: frankc01@tpg.com.au

## Club Market Place

### Tool cabinet for free



All timber cabinet.  
It is 1040 mm wide, 450 mm deep and 1350 mm high. There's 28 drawers (7 rows of 4 drawers). The internal dimensions of each drawer are 378 mm long, 210 mm high and 145 mm deep. Really good condition.



**Free to a good home. Pick up from Park Orchards.**

**Call Tony on 0407 833 886.**

### Looking for new timber?

I'm sure you have all heard about the price of timber increasing in the past year or so? But have seen why some builders are going broke these days? I was just checking out Bunnings' new timber section a few weeks ago and to say the least was quite surprised by these sample prices for a single piece of timber. Remember Bunnings is the cheapest and these are trade prices!! Good thing we are all good at recycled timber projects.





## EDWC CLUB Workshop / Meeting Calendar:

EDWC Calendar 2022		May		Active 02/05/22		
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> May
	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Wes's Workshop</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Carving</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>
	Charlie Camera	9:00am – 1:30 pm	9:00am-12:00pm	9:00am – 1:00pm	9:00am- 5:00pm	9:00am – 1:00 pm
	9:30-11:30 am	Colin Groves	Wes Weight	<b>TBA</b>	Alwyn Wainwright	Toby Grant
	<b>TBA</b>	<b>Turning</b>		<b>Turning</b>		<b>TBA</b>
		5:30-8:00pm		1:00-4:00pm		
		Brian Blethyn		Tony Orbe		
		<b>Open Workshop</b>				
		6:30 -8:00pm PD/AD				
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> May
<b>(Scroll Saw)</b>	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Wes's Workshop</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>		<b>Open Workshop</b>
9:30 am – 4:00pm	Charlie Camera	9:00am – 1:30 pm	9:00am-12:00pm	9:00am – 1:00 pm		9:00am – 1:00 pm
Steve Mitchener	9:30-11:30 am	Colin Groves	Wes Weight	<b>TBA</b>		Toby Grant
	<b>TBA</b>			<b>Turning</b>		Colin Groves
				1:00-4:00pm		
				Tony Orbe		
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> May
	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Wes's Workshop</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Carving</b>	<b>Box Making</b>
	Charlie Camera	9:00am – 1:30 pm	9:00am-12:00pm	9:00am – 1:00 pm	9:00am- 5:00pm	9:30 -1:00pm
	9:30-11:30 am	Colin Groves	Wes Weight	Paul Rushton	Alwyn Wainwright	John Brownrigg
	<b>TBA</b>	<b>Turning</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Turning</b>		
		5:30-8:00pm	7:30-9:00pm	1:00-4:00pm		
		Brian Blethyn		Tony Orbe		
		<b>Open Workshop</b>				
		6:30 -8:00pm PD/AD				
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> May
<b>Pyrography</b>	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Wes's Workshop</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>		<b>Open Workshop</b>
9:30am – 4:00pm	Charlie Camera	9:00am – 1:30 pm	9:00am-12:00pm	9:00am – 1:00 pm		9:00am – 1:00 pm
Steve Mitchener	9:30-11:30 am	Colin Groves	Wes Weight	Paul Rushton		Colin Groves
			<b>Exhibition Comm</b>	<b>Turning</b>		Toby Grant
			Adrian DesFontaines	1:00-4:00pm		
				Tony Orbe		
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> May				
	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>				
	Charlie Camera	9:00am – 1:30 pm				
	9:30-11:30 am	Colin Groves				
		<b>Turning</b>				
		5:30-8:00pm				
		Brian Blethyn				
		<b>Open Workshop</b>				
		6:30 -8:00pm PD/AD				

**Thanks to Jane Hammett for the Club Workshop Calendar.**

ELTHAM & DISTRICT WOODWORKERS Inc.

Minutes of the Members meeting held on May 1<sup>st</sup> at the clubhouse Yarrambat Starting at 14:00

Visitors:- Professor Anthony Jaworowski

**Minutes:-** minutes from the February Meeting were taken as read.

Moved – J. Brownrigg sec. S. Mitchell

**Treasurers Report** for the months April 21 to March 22 were presented by P. Davey.

Recurrent activity showed a net gain of **\$3,473** for the year whilst Non Recurrent activity was adverse **\$8,579**.

Moved P. Davey sec. J. Winkett

**Correspondence in –**

A notice from Eziduct that their business has been sold to Nederman Holdings AB and that the local operation is Nordfab p/l.

There was also notice from VCAT that our hearing against Eziduct has been scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup>.

All associated actions and distribution of correspondence completed and there are no other notifiable matters.

**Correspondence out** - various as above no outstanding matters.

### **General Business:-**

Drum Sander has still not been commissioned as its placement is causing some problems.

- Laser engraver and a safety cabinet now in the clubhouse. C. Camera to train some members to enable use.
- Thicknesser has a fault which is to be rectified by Timbecon under warranty.
- Eltham Men's Shed visit - 10 members from EMS attended a tour on Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup>. Invited a reciprocal visit by EDWC members.
- Eziduct have been sold to Nederman Holdings AB and the local operation is Nordfab p/l. The VCAT claim has been scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup> and it is not expected that the sale will impede our claim.
- Exhibition planning - A. Defontaines has confirmed with Heather Stewart from Eltham Community & Reception Centre that we have the facility for the Eltham Town Festival 11-13th November 2022. Nillumbik Shire has confirmed four roadside signage spaces (Colin Groves currently getting quote on Printing/building 4th panel/stand) Kim Webster has agreed to help with marketing.
- Agreement to participate from most members involved with the annual exhibition with the exception of some external exhibitors..
- For purchase of items from the exhibition or sales table 2x Square Readers (\$59.00 Office Works) will be purchased by the club instead of borrowing eftpos machines from Bendigo Bank
- Dust extractor still spewing sawdust into the enclosure. Seems to be a poor seal with the bin which requires fixing.
- Christmas Hills Christmas Hills Music, Art and Craft Exchange'. The event is one day only and will showcase musical instrument makers, crafters, painters, photographers, writers and musicians (and woodworkers) that live and or work within the Nillumbik Shire. Date: Sunday 12th June (Queens Birthday long-weekend). Time: Open to public from 12 pm – 5:30 pm. Set-up from 9:30 am. Venue: Christmas Hills Mechanics Hall, 787 Ridge Road Christmas Hills. Members interested in exhibiting to contact J. Brownrigg.

Wes Workshop – items well ahead of schedule.

- Almoners report from A. Wainwright - Dave Mitchell recovering well from a recent illness. Ian Pullen has moved into a care facility.
- Futures Group report from J. Winkett. - Some issues with the kitchen grant which is now well past the cut-off date for sign off due to the fact that we have not installed it yet. Put back to end July. Kitchen extension passed by Council and is awaiting approval from the relevant Federal Government department.

### **Show and Tell**

- J. Van Koeverden showed several clocks set in burls. M. Thompson showed a restored table and C. Camera showed a document box in blackwood with silky oak veneer.

### **Guest Speaker**

Guest speaker - Professor Anthony Jaworowski an immunologist gave a very interesting talk on the Covid pandemic explaining the mechanisms by which the Covid 19 virus causes infection and the bodies defensive systems that combat it.

Attendance 25 members

Meeting ended at 14:40 for afternoon tea.



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## Newsletter Contributions

Thank you to: John Brownrigg, Charles Camera, Steve Hood, Alwyn Wainwright, Colin Groves, Alan West, Jane Hammett, Steve Mitchener and Rod Gorfine.

All group leaders and individual members may contribute to the newsletter with any relevant monthly group report or items of interest to the club. Please make them brief and include photos where appropriate.

Show and tell items and Sale items are welcome, with pictures if possible.

Send to: [frankco1@tpg.com.au](mailto:frankco1@tpg.com.au)

Ph. 0427 964 254

