

Eltham and District Woodworkers Club  
*The Eltham Woodworker*  
 Club Newsletter April 2023



**EDWC Office Bearers**

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer
John Brownrigg	Colin Groves	Charles Camera	David Brooks
0409 145 516	0417 563 699	0413 481 699	0438 344 024

**Board Members**

Raman Rao		Aurora Messina
Peter Davey	Jane Hammett	Adrian Desfontaines



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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## President's Report - April 2023

Hello all,

I trust this report finds you well. On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March we hosted the opening of the new meeting room/kitchen. One of the reasons we had the event was because some grant providers require confirmation via published results of the actual grant usage. Another reason was because we wanted the Club members to celebrate the new space and to show the much nicer and roomier facilities to those who have not yet visited, and hopefully to get more members back onto the Club site post COVID. All this with food and a drink!!

Details of grants received have, I believe, already been published to the Club membership. If you would like details of amounts and the programs, they are available on request.

We had a good turn up of members and some dignitaries who addressed the gathering.

They were:

- Rob Mitchell MP – Federal member for McEwen

- Cr. Richard Stockman – Nillumbik Councillor for Blue Lake Ward
- Cr. Peter Castaldo – Mayor of Banyule
- Lauren Kathage MLA – State member for Yan Yean.

Rob and Richard both spoke, and we thank all of them for the presence and support. Warwick Leeson (ex-Councillor and strong supporter of the Club) was also present. We invited Derek O’Leary, the CEO of the Victorian Men’s Shed but he was unable to attend due to prior commitments. Both Richard Stockman and Peter Castaldo have already applied or are applying for Club membership. Great news indeed.

Setup and catering fell under the direction of Jane Hammett with great success and we had several members assist with chairs and room setup. Our thanks go to them and also to Yvonne Camera for her great camera work.

Charlie’s “around the workshop” report should fill you in with ongoing works and issues, but I’d like to remind everyone that finalisation of placement and operation of some of the new equipment remains a work in progress. We ask that you are patient.

We have some new members who you’ll see around the Club. In the spirit of fellowship, introduce yourself, and make them welcome.

You will have seen the advice from Charlie of the cancellation of the April general meeting as we have much of the committee unavailable that night. While we could reschedule, we already provide information in real time with email alerts and monthly via the newsletter. Should that not be sufficient dispersion of information you may always contact the committee at your leisure. If you have some issue to deal with or a suggestion to make, let us hear it. Silence doesn’t effect change, input and resolution does. If you miss the company of your peers, there’s plenty of room at the Club to get together over a cuppa.

We have the May general meeting and AGM coming up. In my opinion the best way to be heard is to join the committee, and grab a little responsibility. The current committee have some ideas on role changes for the next committee, and even if you have served before, I’m sure your expertise would be appreciated. Notices for the AGM will go out soon and don’t forget that you can vote by proxy in the appropriate manner.

Yes, I know I’ve been on my soapbox but it’s important that the Club is well run and that the members have a voice. You could probably help.

Please keep yourselves happy and safe.

Kind regards,

John Brownrigg.

## Around the Workshop April 2023

During the month we held our Grand Opening ceremony for the new kitchen extension attended by a number of dignitaries from local, state and federal government. Two of them were so impressed with our club that one has already joined and the other is



very interested in doing so. It was most pleasing to see so many members attending which must have created a very good impression with our invited guests, all of whom have had a hand in securing many of the grants which made the extension possible. Five years ago

when the committee strove to change our way of funding solely from fees and the raffle to seeking external grants, many of our members would have scarcely believed that the resulting progress that we have achieved could have been possible. Nor would the original founding members, meeting in the Greensborough Anglers clubhouse back in 1987, have believed that the day would come when the club would be acknowledged by none other than the Prime Minister – click here to see it on

Facebook .....<https://www.facebook.com/RobMitchellMP/videos/548613237339940>

Peter Davey is still beavering away to make the new mitre saw stand. There is a modification to the planned reorganisation of the machine room when it is installed. The plan has been changed to reflect a suggestion that we relocate the drum sander to the router position before it was recently moved, and put the router back in its old place in the bandsaw room. This will give more room in the bandsaw room and both the drum sander and the router will utilise existing dust extraction at those points.

Maintenance in the workshop is a critical task not only to ensure reliability and prevent damage to machines by improper adjustments but importantly, to ensure safety. The committee has decided to appoint several members spread across the groups who will be trained/authorised to do certain tasks so that it is possible to rectify a fault or change consumables on the spot most times. These tasks will be strictly limited to these designated people and I will be making approaches to seek out candidates for appointment. A larger list of jobs and responsibilities will be circulated with a view to recruiting more volunteers to spread the load of running and maintaining the club amongst a larger number of members. Please be ready to put your hand up for some of the jobs – especially during your group's meeting time.



As regards maintenance the Hammer bandsaw lost a tyre again – this has happened before and there does not seem to be any explanation. At some point soon the rubber tyre will be glued to the rim – not usually necessary for polyurethane types but might avoid a repeat. There are still people who do not realise that the oscillating bobbin sander needs a washer with each bobbin when changing over sizes. Failure to do so is ruining the bobbins as in the picture. Again if you are not entirely sure of the procedure for change over, please seek help.



During the month we realised that a potential source of contamination in the dust collector had not been foreseen. The list of “DO NOTS” to be put through the dust extractor are treated timber, painted timber, MDF **and now resin as in epoxy resin filled timber**. Painted timber and resin should be processed separately from the dust extraction connected machinery using a power planer (we actually have one at the club) or sanders connected to dedicated dust collectors.

We have had an offer of 18 mm plywood off cuts on an expected ongoing basis. The first delivery will be very soon and an equitable scheme to share it will be worked out.

The club has also acquired a considerable amount of Macrocarpa timber (Monterey cypress) from the Nillumbik Council after they milled it for the use on the Gateway project and offered the remainder to local community groups. Unfortunately not all that was promised materialised as a large portion



including the beautiful boards, specially cut for us, were stolen from the park site. We have nevertheless secured about 7 sleeper sized pieces 3 metres long and another 7 half that size. We also have three magnificent slabs about a meter wide, 60 mm thick and 5 meters long. One of them will be used for a council project and the others will no doubt most certainly not go to waste - suggestions for utilisation are most welcome. Thanks to the gallant band of volunteers who turned up to collect and transport it and to Lorraine Kruger who has agreed to store it for drying.

We have still to catalogue and value a large number of tools donated by Neil Hunt – these will be offered for purchase by email to all members in the next few weeks. The tools include a thicknesser, Triton super jaws, dust extractor and many small tools.

*Charles Camera*

## Mentoring Monday - April 2023

Monday mornings are certainly never quiet and sedate meetings. The morning usually starts with a few moments of quiet discussion and then soon after its a mad rush to answer queries and get everyone started.. It is certainly easier to handle the torrent of queries now that Hamish is on duty.

As there is no format for activities or projects, we see almost everything in progress from box making to scroll sawing, turning and cabinetry. The most pleasing part is seeing the new members with little experience but lots of enthusiasm channel their energy into projects that by and large turnout surprisingly well executed. In the pictures we have Russel – now moving to even more sophisticated work wielding a draw knife to shape legs that he is attaching to a stool using round tenons turned on the lathe. Elsewhere there is Hamish Hill's box making techniques taking form.

Next time I hope to have some completed items to show off.



*Charles Camera*

## **Carving Group Report Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Steve Mitchener**

As Rod's away visiting relatives, I will pen a few words to keep you updated about this thriving busy little group. Even though Maike, Kevin and Dave are also absent doing other things, there's still enough of us to make a noise and a mess.

Hank is here working on his spoons and spatulas with his rasps and scrapers. Alwyn was putting the finishing touches to his low relief floral carving, and working on his "in the round" mouse carving.

John Leahy was working diligently on shaping the bowl of a large ladle with guidance and input from our resident expert Hank. And Jack was in the hall at the sanding station doing 'mechanical carving' on a new shearing shed scene. He was making those Dremel's scream as he ground away the wood. (Using two machines, one with a grinding bit, the other with a small sanding drum. Both getting quite a flogging!) He had done a bit at home, but in six hours here, he's almost finished the thing. Quite a bit of detail work to finish it off, but I am impressed.

I spent the day working with Carol, a new member, doing some whittling of small caricatures which is an easy introduction to carving. Rather quick to do, and results can be seen pretty quickly. All you need is a hobby knife, a chunk of soft wood, and a handful of band aids, and a little imagination.

And for the record, carving on Good Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April has been cancelled. But we will be back on 21<sup>st</sup> April, hopefully at full strength.

*Steve Mitchener*

## **Scroll saw Group on Sunday 12/2/2023.**

Scroll saw Group Sunday 12/3/2023

Have had apologies from Chris Hand, Steve Hood and Kevin so it seemed this Scroll saw Group was going to be a quiet and very small gathering.

Had a visit from Jack, from the Carving Group, to see what we get up too. We were also joined by Carol Fournaris, a new member interested in other Club activities. So Jack had a look and left, but Carol wanted to know more. So I spent some time explaining what we do and how we do it. Then demonstrated and explained the do's and don'ts of Scroll sawing, then grabbed some scraps and set her loose on the spare machine.

Carol took to the Scroll saw as quickly as Chris did in the beginning. Carol was soon cutting freehand shapes and getting the feel of the machine. Tony was here too, cutting the last of the Chinese Dragon Puzzle he had started. Tony then moved onto another of his 3D masterpieces combining an eagle and bison in a "two in one display." Carol was intrigued by the complex cutting and the results that it gave.

Tony and I explained the many options and variations available on the versatile Scroll saw. And somewhere amongst all the talking I managed to do some cutting myself. Knocked out another 12 stacking men, which only leaves 12 more to cut. At last, the end is in sight.

Due to Easter falling on the next Scroll saw weekend, (Easter Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> April) after consultations with all interested parties that session has been cancelled. The next Scroll saw session will be on 14<sup>th</sup> May.

*Steve Mitchener*

## Tony Orbe – Scroll Sawing

Thanks to Tony for sending these great looking scroll saw pieces as requested. I'm sure all members not associated with each group would like to see photos of what is described in the articles submitted for the newsletter.



Laughing Dragon and Slim Dragon are both 24cm in length and are stand alone jig-saw puzzles.



Ballerina and Mermaid are the one piece, rotated through 90 degrees, as are Meditation and Into Battle.



These are examples of compound cutting on the scroll-saw and are about 8cm high.

*Tony Orbe*

## Carving Group Report Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

We had 6 keen carvers arrive for the 'special' 31 March (5th Friday in the month) carving group. Alwyn was particularly busy with two projects on the go: the first being a burl bowl carved from red gum and the second, finishing off his cute little moveable mouse figurine or 'mouse for around the house'. Hank was also hard at work as usual on a selection of spoons, one carved out of sugar maple & another from black cherry. His second project was a beautiful little owl using Osage Orange. John continued on carving his spoon and David worked on two walking sticks using a natural wood style. Steve continued to finish off his little 'fat bellied' gnome and I worked on my manger frame, the ninth piece in my long-term nativity scene project. It was quite a sociable gathering and as usual we 'solved the worlds problems' in the new kitchen at our coffee and lunch breaks. A couple of our group members were away on holiday or recovering from operations, so our numbers should group some more at our next session after the Easter break.



Rod Gorfine on behalf of the Carving Group

### Show and Tell:



Club member Vincent Galante was in the ACT recently and managed a visit to the Bungendore Wood Works Gallery – well worth a visit if you are anywhere near it. He sent a photo of these fine cutting boards (“almost as good as mine”) on sale for \$1155, and I’m still giving most of mine away as presents!! Thanks Vincent.

My latest, just finished and yet to be oiled (about number 17 or 18 I think?)





## EDWC Workshop / Meeting Calendar April 2023:

EDWC Calendar 2023		APRIL		Active 01/04/2023		
						<b>Saturday 1st April</b>
						<b>Open Workshop</b>
						9:00am – 12.00 /12.30 pm Aurora Messina
<b>Sunday 2nd April</b>	<b>Monday 3rd April</b>	<b>Tuesday 4th April</b>	<b>Wednesday 5th April</b>	<b>Thursday 6th April</b>	<b>Friday 7th April</b>	<b>Saturday 8th April</b>
	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Exhibition Toy Makers</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>Holy Saturday</b>
	Charlie Camera: 0413481699 9:30 - 11:30 am	9:00am – 12:30 pm Colin Groves: 0417563699	Watch this space Wes Weight	9:00am – 1:00 pm Paul Rushton	Public Holiday	Public Holiday
				<b>Turning</b>	<b>Please check with session leaders</b>	<b>Please check with session leaders</b>
				1:00 - 4:00pm Tony Orbe	<b>Carving</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>
		<b>Open Workshop</b>			9:00am - 3:00pm Alwyn Wainwright	9:00am – 12.00 /12.30 pm Toby Grant: 0488994741 Colin Groves: 0417563699  Aurora Messina
		6:30- 8:00pm <b>Peter Davey NB</b> text Peter by midday on 0421 544 115 to confirm attendance				
<b>Sunday 9th April</b>	<b>Monday 10th April</b>	<b>Tuesday 11th April</b>	<b>Wednesday 12th April</b>	<b>Thursday 13th April</b>	<b>Friday 14th April</b>	<b>Saturday 15th April</b>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>Easter Monday</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Exhibition Toy Makers</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>		<b>Open Workshop</b>
Public Holiday	Public Holiday	9:00am – 12:30 pm Colin Groves 0417 563 699	Watch ThisSpace Wes Weight	9:00am – 1:00 pm Sylvester Konieczny 0407009951		9:00am – 12.00 /12.30 pm  Toby Grant: 0488994741
<b>Please check with session leaders</b>		<b>Instrument Group Session</b>		<b>Turning</b>		Colin Groves: 0417563699 Aurora Messina
<b>Scroll Saw</b>		1.00PM - 4.00PM Frank Camera: 0427964254		1:00 - 4:00pm Tony Orbe:		
9:00 am – 4:00pm Steve Mitchener						
<b>Sunday 16th April</b>	<b>Monday 17th April</b>	<b>Tuesday 18th April</b>	<b>Wednesday 19th April</b>	<b>Thursday 20th April</b>	<b>Friday 21st April</b>	<b>Saturday 22nd April</b>
<b>Sausage Sizzle</b>	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Exhibition Toy Makers</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Carving</b>	<b>Box Making /Open Workshp</b>
Bunnings Eltham	Charlie Camera: 0413481699 9:30 - 11:30 am	9:00am – 1:30 pm	Watch This Space Wes Weight	9:00am – 1:00 pm Sylvester Konieczny 0407009951	9:00am - 3:00pm Alwyn Wainwright	9:30 - 1:00pm John Brownrigg: 0409145516 Aurora Messina
			<b>Committee</b>	<b>Turning</b>		
			7:30-9:00pm	1:00 - 4:00pm Tony Orbe:		
		<b>Open Workshop</b>				
		6:30- 8:00pm <b>Peter Davey NB</b> text Peter by midday on 0421 544 115 to confirm attendance				
<b>Sunday 23rd April</b>	<b>Monday 24th April</b>	<b>Tuesday 25th April</b>	<b>Wednesday 26th April</b>	<b>Thursday 27th April</b>	<b>Friday 28th April</b>	<b>Saturday 29th April</b>
<b>Pyrography</b>	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>ANZAC Day</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>		<b>Open Workshop</b>
9:00am – 4:00pm Steve Mitchener	Charlie Camera: 0413481699 9:30 - 11:30 am	9:00am – 12:30 pm Colin Groves 0417 563 699	Public Holiday	9:00am – 1:00 pm Sylvester Konieczny 0407009951		9:00am – 12.00/12.30 pm  Colin Groves: 0417563699 Toby Grant: 0488994741 Aurora Messina
				<b>Turning</b>		
		<b>Instrument Group Session</b>		1:00 - 4:00pm Tony Orbe:		
		1.00PM - 4.0PM Frank Camera: 0427964254				
<b>Sunday 30th April</b>	<b>Monday 31st April</b>	<b>Tuesday 1st May</b>	<b>Tuesday 2nd May</b>	<b>Tuesday 3rd May</b>	<b>Friday 4th May</b>	<b>Saturday 5th May</b>
	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Exhibition Toy Makers</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Carving</b>	
	Charlie Camera: 0413481699 9:30 - 11:30 am	9:00am – 12:30 pm Colin Groves 0417 563 699	Watch This Space Wes Weight	9:00am – 1:00 pm Sylvester Konieczny 0407009951	9:00am - 3:00pm Alwyn Wainwright	
				<b>Turning</b>		
				1:00 - 4:00pm Tony Orbe:		

### This month's contributors

Many thanks to this month's contributors; Charles Camera, John Brownrigg, Steve Mitchener, Rod Gorfine, Tony Orbe and Jane Hammett.

## EDWC CLUB Workshop / Meeting Calendar May 2023:

EDWC Calendar 2023		May		Active 01/05/2023			
Sunday 30th April	Monday 1st May	Tuesday 2nd May	Wednesday 3rd May	Thursday 4th May	Friday 5th May	Saturday 6th May	
	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Exhibition Toy Makers</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Carving</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	
	Charlie Camera: 0413481699 9:30 - 11:30 am	9:00am – 12:30 pm Colin Groves: 0417563699	Watch this space Wes Weight	9:00am – 1:00 pm Paul Rushton	9:00am - 3:00pm Alwyn Wainwright	9:00am – 12.00 /12.30 pm Toby Grant: 0488994741 Colin Groves: 0417563699 Aurora Messina	
		<b>Open Workshop</b> 6:30- 8:00pm <b>Peter Davey NB text Peter by midday on 0421 544 115 to confirm attendance</b>	AGM 7.30 PM @ CLUB ROOMS	<b>Turning</b> 1:00 - 4:00pm Tony Orbe			
Sunday 7th May	Monday 8th May	Tuesday 9th May	Wednesday 10th May	Thursday 11th May	Friday 12th May	Saturday 13th May	
		<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Exhibition Toy Makers</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>		<b>Open Workshop</b>	
		9:00am – 12:30 pm Colin Groves 0417 563 699	Watch ThisSpace Wes Weight	9:00am – 1:00 pm Sylvester Konieczny 0407009951		9:00am – 12.00 /12.30 pm Toby Grant: 0488994741 Colin Groves: 0417563699 Aurora Messina	
<b>Scroll Saw</b> 9:00 am – 4:00pm Steve Mitchener		<b>Instrument Group Session</b> 1.00PM - 4.00PM Frank Camera: 0427964254		<b>Turning</b> 1:00 - 4:00pm Tony Orbe:			
Sunday 14th May	Monday 15th May	Tuesday 16th May	Wednesday 17th May	Thursday 18th May	Friday 19th May	Saturday 20th May	
Sausage Sizzle Bunnings Eltham	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Exhibition Toy Makers</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Carving</b>	<b>Box Making /Open Workshop</b>	
	Charlie Camera: 0413481699 9:30 - 11:30 am	9:00am – 1:30 pm <b>Open Workshop</b> 6:30- 8:00pm <b>Peter Davey NB text Peter by midday on 0421 544 115 to confirm attendance</b>	Watch This Space Wes Weight <b>Committee</b> 7:30-9:00pm	9:00am – 1:00 pm Sylvester Konieczny 0407009951	9:00am - 3:00pm Alwyn Wainwright	9:30 - 1:00pm John Brownrigg: 0409145516 Aurora Messina	
				<b>Turning</b> 1:00 - 4:00pm Tony Orbe:			
Sunday 21st May	Monday 22nd May	Tuesday 23rd May	Wednesday 24th May	Thursday 25th May	Friday 26th May	Saturday 27th May	
<b>Pyrography</b> 9:00am – 4:00pm Steve Mitchener	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>		<b>Open Workshop</b>		<b>Open Workshop</b>	
	Charlie Camera: 0413481699 9:30 - 11:30 am	9:00am – 12:30 pm Colin Groves 0417 563 699		9:00am – 1:00 pm Sylvester Konieczny 0407009951		9:00am – 12.00/12.30 pm Colin Groves: 0417563699 Toby Grant: 0488994741 Aurora Messina	
		<b>Instrument Group Session</b> 1.00PM - 4.00PM Frank Camera: 0427964254		<b>Turning</b> 1:00 - 4:00pm Tony Orbe:			
Sunday 28th May	Monday 29th May	Tuesday 30th May	Wednesday 31st May	Thursday 1st June	Friday 2nd June	Saturday 3rd June	
	<b>Mentoring</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Exhibition Toy Makers</b>	<b>Open Workshop</b>	<b>Carving</b>		
	Charlie Camera: 0413481699 9:30 - 11:30 am	9:00am – 12:30 pm Colin Groves 0417 563 699	Watch This Space Wes Weight	9:00am – 1:00 pm Sylvester Konieczny 0407009951	9:00am - 3:00pm Alwyn Wainwright		
				<b>Turning</b> 1:00 - 4:00pm Tony Orbe:			

## Newsletter Contributions

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 be sure to include lots of photos where appropriate.

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

Send to: [franko1@tpg.com.au](mailto:franko1@tpg.com.au)

Ph. 0427 964 254

