

Woodies News

28 May 2023



**Ballarat
Woodworkers Guild**
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Welcome to Woodies News 2nd edition May 2023

Woodies News is an opportunity for members to share any news, information, photos or stories that may be of interest to other members. Show and Tell.

Polishing tips. Timber finishes. A calendar of events. Upcoming events which may be interesting for others to attend. Anything you want to share.

Aside from the President's report and Meeting minutes, Member contributions will be 'Woodies News'.

Don't be shy, get your photos, interest items & snippets of information in for publication!

Email: woodiesnews1@gmail.com

Congratulations to John Schonfelder



1st PLACE

at the

**Australian Scroll Saw Network
biannual**

**AUSTRALIAN EXHIBITION at
HAWKESBURY 20-21 May 2023**

John's winning masterpiece



What's Inside

Membership Fees are Now Due

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Outgoing President's Report - May 2023

Hi Folks

This past 12 months has been a difficult year in some ways. We, like the entire world, are finally coming to terms with Covid-19, and although it is still out there infecting people, we are behaving in the main as if it is no problem. Quite a few of our members are of the age where it could still cause some real problems but seem more at ease with our choices.

At the Guild, we have shown resilience to other world problems such as the economic turndown. Our coffers are still healthy, we have all the equipment that still makes us the envy of most other clubs, and no debt. The biggest drain on our finances is still the cost of electricity, a problem which will never go away until we can change our supply. I have written to the Council to seek an answer to our problem. The question asks if we can fit solar panels to the roof of the guild buildings. If the answer is yes, and as the guild is open mostly only during the daylight hours, we may be able to find a massive drop in the electricity bill. There is a precedent as the largest of the hangars at the airport has a host of panels on its roof.

Once again we lost friends who passed away during this past year, and whilst they are gone, they will forever be remembered and spoken about over a cuppa.

As our older members slow down, I am pleased to see a new crop of younger members being drawn to the guild. I ask that our senior members take them under their wings and help them to become the best they can and offer real assistance. Pass on your expertise and knowledge so that it doesn't become lost. We all started off without expertise and received help to get to where we are today. I can remember vividly the members who helped me on my journey, short as it is.

I would like to thank those who helped me during the past year. Vice President Darren Kelly has been able to provide sage advice as and when required and for that I am appreciative. I would also like to thank him for standing in for me for a month while I went overseas.

Secretary Erika has been exceptionally busy doing the "That's the Secretaries job" duties. She continually bites off more than she can chew and then chews it. I am reminded of the old adage that if you want something done, give it to a busy woman. Having said that, I understand how much more difficult my job would have been without her valuable assistance. Thank you so much.

Our treasurer Deb has also done a fabulous job with the books. She keeps a close eye on the purse and is a real asset to the guild in that position.

To all other Committee members and position holders, I would like to thank you for your efforts to keep the club operating with minimal impact to members.

To the incoming President, office bearers and committee members, I wish you all well with the year ahead. I have been honoured to have been the president of the Guild, a job that has given me a great sense of pride. I have enjoyed working for and with you all and thank you most sincerely for that privilege.

David Izard.

President, Ballarat Woodworkers Guild.

A Message from the New President - May 2023

For the members that don't know, I am Darren Kelly, I was the president of the woodies 18 years ago and have been a member for over 25 years.

I would like to thank the past president David IZARD and the rest of the outgoing committee for their work over the past year.

I look forward to working with the new committee. I would like to ask the members to be respectful of all other members at all times.

Please feel free to ask questions of other members you may be surprised at the amount of knowledge that they have and will usually be glad to pass it on and help you.

Please remember that we are a woodworking guild, and we are here to try and learn from each other.

Please enjoy the facilities that we currently have, next year will be the 40th anniversary of the club, if you have any suggestions for a celebration let me know.

Darren Kelly

Membership Fees are Now Due

Happenings @ Woodies

Replica Aeroplane



Members hard at work on the replica aeroplane for the aviation museum.
Martin Mittag, Dave Ludbrook, Ross Holst and David Smith



Richard Aver



Karter Aver



Ron Clarke



Dawn Barrows

Happenings @ Woodies

Information/Training Session—Ross Holst

Ross Holst information/training session held on Saturday 25 May had a good turnout with interested members keen to hear Ross impart some of his treasure chest of knowledge and experience in woodturning.

Another interesting interactive session with Ross, learning about mounting a bowl blank ready for turning.



BWG Monthly Meeting: Minutes for May 1st, 2023

Present and apologies as per book.

Welfare report: Brian Rickard fell and hurt his leg.

President's report: As per newsletter

Treasurer's report: Read by Deb Bourke, moved by Kerry Pask and seconded by Ross Holst.

Previous minutes: Read by Erika Pugh, moved by Ross Holst and seconded by Chris Pearce.

Business arising from previous minutes:

Noel Arnold is in charge of any working bees and will enlist help from our "FOG" list (friends of guild).

Correspondence: A condolence card was sent to Frank Thomas's wife. A grant acquittal was finalised. We received the renewal of our property insurance notice. We contacted council about the possibility of putting solar panels on our roof. Moved by Chris Pearce and 2nd by Keith Moss.

Club Activity reports:

1. CWC: 55 people attended the Ararat U-turn. Their raffle raised \$1,500 which was donated to cancer council. Sunbury's club has photos on their Facebook page. The CWC AGM will be held at our club on the 6th of August. The Halls Gap caravan weekend is on November 11th-12th. Next years U-turn will be held on May 3^{rs}-6th. The Melbourne Wood Show will be on the 11th-13th August. CW will have a stand where members can sell their items at a 10% commission. Bendigo has offered to slab some wood for us with their Lucas mill in thanks for the toy items we gave them.

2. Toys: Due to the lack of people coming out to toy making day, it will now be on alternate Tuesdays to the Plane making day. It will still be 10-3pm, b.y.o lunch.

3. Scrollers: We have more scroll saws than ever before, and we have set up a pyrography corner at the end of the bench. The new scroll room is a delight to work in. We have scroll saw blades available for sale in the shop at \$7 for 12 blades. A big thanks to Kevin Veitch for painting the window frames blue in the scroll room. He has also painted the windows in the tearoom.

4. Furniture Group: The furniture group have a couple of honour boards to make and have been asked to make a decorative house trim for a house that's being restored.

New Business:

1. David Izard contacted council about putting solar panels on our roof. The man will come and look to see if our building would be able to support panels. If he agrees to us getting them, we will look into any government grants that may be available to us.

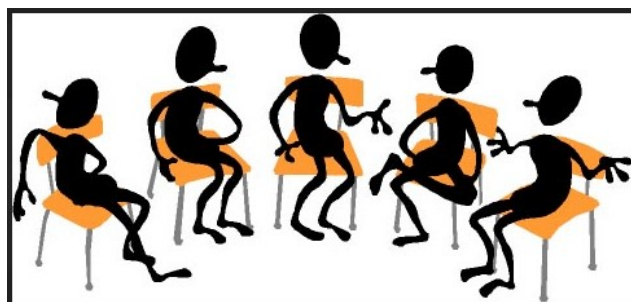
2. Chris Pearce said that he has seen Bartletts new board room table (they gave us their old one) and he said that ours is nicer.

3. Grant said that Colin Morell was quite taken by our red Sequoia and has offered to swap some red gum for some of it. Deal.

4. The secretary (me) will ask John Hartigan if it would be possible for us to have a 20ft shipping container somewhere at the airport to store slabbed wood in while it waits to go in the dryer.

Meeting closed 7.45pm.

Next meeting - Monday 3rd July 2023 from 7pm at Hut 11.



Info Corner

Did you know???

History of Woodworking

By developing woodworking skills humans were able to hunt more effectively, create shelters, build boats and make life easier. Furniture, bowls and spoons were created by wood and were also produced as art. Woodworking led to the advancement of society.

Ancient Woodworkers

Over 2000 years ago woodworkers were a very important part of society for the ancient Egyptians, Jewish, Roman, Greek and all other early civilizations. Many drawings depict wooden furniture such as beds, chairs, stools, tables and chests.

Below are some interesting facts regarding these ancient Woodworkers.

1. The early Egyptians also crafted coffins from wood.
2. Early Egyptians invented the art of veneering with the earliest examples being displayed in the tomb of Semekhet who died over 5000 years ago. Many of the pharaohs were buried with objects that had African ebony veneer and ivory inlays.
3. According to some scholars, Egyptians were the first to varnish, or “finish” their woodwork, though no one knows the composition of these “finishes”.
4. Ancient Egyptians used mortise and tenon joints to join timber. Pegs, dowels and leather strengthened these joints.
5. Egyptians started to use animal glue between 1570-1069 B.C.
6. Axes, Adzes, chisel, pull saws and bow saws were the common tools of the early Egyptian woodworker.
7. Early Chinese civilizations also promoted the art of woodworking. It's believed that woodworking mushroomed in that country starting around 720 B.C. When that happened, the Chinese developed many sophisticated applications of woodworking, including precise measurements used for making pots, tables, and other pieces of furniture.
8. Woodworkers today who practice the ancient oriental woodworking techniques take pride in their mastery of the fitted joint and their skill of not using electric equipment, nails or glue to hold their pieces together. Japan is where this style of woodworking primarily originated.
9. One reason for Japan's success in such excellent woodworking was that they developed high-carbon steel tools early in their history.
10. Japanese woodworkers also made exquisitely-sculpted scenery. Their popularity and the techniques used in the process spread across Southeast Asia.
11. When a carpenter needed wood, he sawed trees into boards using a large bronze saw with the aid of other workers. He cut thin boards from tree trunks. Trees in that region, however, were not large or straight.
12. Among the carpenter's tools mentioned in ancient sources were the saw, mallet, adze, plummet and line, chisel, rule stick, plane and squares. They also used the bow drill, held in one hand by the handle, which they rapidly set in motion by drawing the attached bow back and forth.
13. The bow-lathe was a crude primitive tool, yet a skilled woodworker could produce decorative spindles and bowls with it much like today's woodturners. He turned the wood by pulling a leather strap back and forth like a bow. This motion moved the lathe and enabled the cut to be made in the turning wood.
14. The ancient woodworkers of the Near East built great wooden boats out of timber that grew in the Anatolian plateau (the Asian part of Turkey) along the Levantine coast (the Mediterranean coastal lands of modern-day Turkey, Syria, and Lebanon). This wood was so coveted that invading armies often demanded it as tribute.
15. Archaeologists found furniture crafted from wood inlaid with bone, ivory or metal that dated as far back as 800 B.C. at Gordion, the alleged home of the mythical King Midas. Near East woodworkers used lathes as well as wedges, mallets, chisels, hammers, drills, plumb bobs, compasses, and other basic tools.
16. The wooden windows of the early mosques and private houses still seen today in the Arabic culture were crafted at the height of ancient Near East wood carving. The Muslim woodcarvers of Persia, Syria, Egypt and Spain designed and created exquisite panelling and other decorations for wall linings, ceilings, pulpits, and all kinds of fittings and furniture. Their woodwork was elaborate and minutely delicate.

Woodworkers were prized in the ancient world for their craft with their skills and inventiveness laying the foundations for woodworking today. All of the tools we use today have been evolved from ancient tools such as the chisels, lathes, saws.

Woodworking process have also come from these ancient crafts people, it is amazing what they achieved with 'primitive' tools.

BWG Title Bearers Effective May 2023

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Placeholder

Are there any businesses which you have found helpful that members may be interested in knowing about to help them source things for their projects? Especially specialty items and hard to source products.

Please send them through to woodiesnews1@gmail.com so that they can be listed here.

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