

Port Stephens



Community
Woodworkers
Inc.

Woodnews

Official Newsletter of

PORT STEPHENS COMMUNITY WOODWORKERS INC.

P.O. Box 425, Nelson Bay NSW 2315

Vol. 26 No 2

March, 2021

ABN 16 502 165 623 Website: <http://www.pswoodworkers.com.au>

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Dates to Remember

Executive Meeting	Tuesday	6th April 2021	1.30 p.m. Workshop
Members' Monthly Meeting	Tuesday	13th April 2021	1.00 p.m. Workshop
Dinner Cruise	Wednesday	31st March 2021	4:45pm boarding for 5:00pm departure
Christmas Party	Thursday	16th December 2021	

WELFARE REPORT – Bob Grant

- **Peter Thompson.** Peter is not well. He is not eating much and finds it hard to get out of bed.
- **Col Bridgeman.** I spoke to Col this morning and he is doing well. He has had 15 of his scheduled 20 radiation treatments and finishes the last one soon. He is feeling ok and will learn how the treatment went. We are all thinking of you Col.
- **George Falzon.** George is recovering well and has no problems at the moment.
- **Ross Stothard.** Ross has been in hospital and was discharged yesterday. He has had a leg infection and is receiving treatment with Antibiotics. The infection is clearing up so the doctors have allowed him to go home, that's good news Ross.

Vale Col Howard

As we all know, our member Colin Howard passed away on the 19th February, 2021 after a short battle with cancer. Colin's funeral was held at the Uniting Church, Salamander Bay on the 26th February, 2021 at 2.30 p.m. The funeral was well attended with many relatives and friends being present. Four members of our Club also attended. The service commenced with the song on entry of Scottish Fantasy for Violin by Max Bruch, followed by the singing of "So here's to you" by Cathie Ryan, which was a lovely song and very fitting for the occasion.

The Celebrant was Mark McLennan who outlined Colin's many achievements during his lifetime. He certainly was a man of many talents. The Eulogy was performed by his son Jeffery with other tributes from his daughter Elaine and five of his Grandchildren.

It was a moving service with mention of his woodworking activities and a sample of his "kumiko" work was on display. Sadly, a life cut too short and we again send our condolences to his wife Mary and family. Rest in Peace.

TID BITS FROM THE SHED



Colin had made jewellery boxes for each of his granddaughters on their 18th birthdays. He had one more to make but was unable to do so and asked if the club could help.

Dave Bear made and donated this band saw box, for which he was very grateful. Mary has kindly donated \$100 to the club.

Vale Peter Thomson

Peter Thompson passed quietly away on Sunday, 14th March after a long struggle with colon cancer that had spread to the liver. Peter had worked for 43 years in underground coal mines around NSW and Queensland where he had become a qualified electrician and had studied industrial electronics. On retirement he and his wife Cherie moved to Shoal Bay and in 2007 Peter joined Woodies. He was on the Executive Committee for many years and made a major contribution to engineering practices and machine maintenance in the workshop.

Peter had four children and his daughter Lorraine will keep us informed of the funeral arrangements.

- **Christmas Party.** The diner has been booked for Thursday the 16th December at the Soldiers Point Bowling Club and last year's entertainer Jenni Rossi has agreed to attend again this year.
- **Dinner cruise.** This has been booked for the 31st March. Time onboard will be from 4.45pm for 5.00pm departure, returning at 8 PM. Cost is \$50 for a sit down seafood meal with dessert and complementary tea or coffee. There is a licensed bar but no BYO. Members wishing to go should put their money in the attendance box with their name and or make a direct deposit into the Woodies bank account as per the minutes.
- **Council Waste Disposal.** Port Stephens Council have approved free disposal of our wood waste at the Salamander Waste Transfer Station. It's been a long journey but we finally got there. Councillor John Nell has been very helpful to us over the last few years by arranging a council subsidy. He will not stand for re-election in September and we thank him for his help.
- **Downstairs enclosure.** This is now completed and secure. A big thank you to Dave for the construction and Greg for the welding and also to Bob and Stewart and all those who gave a hand during the process. We will now be able to leave the roller door open for better ventilation.
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NEWCASTLE SHOW

Newcastle Show.

Vince Rush won second prize in Sculpture and second prize in Woodturning – Open Bowl.



Wood Carving Prize– sponsored by PSCW

Max Perez won the woodcarving prize sponsored by the club.

Well done. Some beautiful work from both winners.

SHOW & TELL



Taffy Rowlands

This is a Barometer inside a hand made Tazzie oak box with dove tailed joints. The Barometer has traveled with Taffy for a number of years. He even tried to leave it behind on his retirement, but his work colleague's decided it was best that Taffy keep it as a fond memory of his working life.



Chris Sturt.

Chris carved the Penguin out of Silky Oak and then finished it with clear varnish. He also made the 3 stylised birds from Banksia wood These are also finished with clear varnish



Ken Richards.

Ken made these canisters out of Norfolk Island Pine. These have been finished in clear varnish.



Graham Sosso.

Graham carved the bowl out of Silky Oak. The lines in the top have been burnt into it for easier cleaning.

Rod Howard.

Rod made this Document box out of Silky Oak. The top has been hand carved. The box has been finished with clear varnish.

Rod has offered to run a carving class over a few afternoons later in the year.



Roger Delaney.

Roger made this coffee table that he turned on the lathe. It has a central pine core and a variety of woods around the outside and inlaid on top, including New Guinea Red Wood, Silky Oak, White beech, Cedar and Jarrah. He finished it by coating it in clear lacquer.



Bob Parrish

Bob has completed the top for the chess board and has started work on the table.

MEMBER PROFILE – Bob Parrish



Bob was born in Stafford in 1941, an industrial town in the English midlands. It was the second year of WW2 and his father was in the RAF. The family home comprised of his three sisters and hard-working Mother combined with her sister, his Aunt and two cousins, a method of making the finances and rationing go further during that difficult time.

Bob attended the local primary school followed by Dartmouth Secondary Modern School. At the all-boys school Bob enjoyed the subjects of metal and woodwork, science, history and sport. Leaving school at 15 Bob was fortunate to gain an Apprenticeship at a large engineering works English Electric Company (EEC); the ambition of most local young lads. Commencing in the Apprenticeship School for the first year, he graduated at age 16 and was indentured as an apprentice toolmaker, attending Staffordshire Technical College until age 21.

Bob was always interested in joining the navy, and, as conscription had ended, these ambitions were looking more realistic. For many years Bob had been a member of the Navy Cadets enjoying training and trips away with the Royal Navy during weekends and holiday periods. As the saying goes “a young man’s fancy turns to other things” and graduating and completing his indentures as a toolmaker headed him in another direction. The company internally was advertising for workers to transfer to a new factory in Brisbane and Bob was keen to take up the opportunity.

He sailed from Southampton in April 1962, with his new bride, on board the Italian ship Castel Felice of the Sitmar Line, commencing a five week trip through the Mediterranean and the Suez Canal, across the Indian Ocean, and around Australia, finally disembarking in Brisbane. Truly a trip of a lifetime. Bob started work at EEC at Rocklea, Brisbane the next day! A comment by the gatekeeper to Bob “the pommy toolmaker” still makes him laugh “*toolmaker eh? I suppose you also painted Buckingham Palace?*” Bob enjoyed the camaraderie with the trade of toolmaking very much in demand in the small engineering town of Brisbane and with over-award payments a temptation young couples had to take.

July 62 saw the birth of their first child a baby girl Penny Jayne. Malleys Whirlpool manufacturer of refrigerators, sinks and washing machines was a toolmakers heaven. Bob was one of 5 toolmakers, great working conditions, wages and new challenges in tooling. Bob spent four years at Malleys before making an application for a position in TAFE as a Trade Teacher – Engineering. 1966 saw him taking a position at Brisbane Central Technical College and the start of a career lasting 31 years; A second child, Carl Robert was born in 1966 during his first year of teaching.

TAFE in Queensland was undergoing a great expansion in new courses, colleges, staff and equipment. Expansion such as this brought the inevitable chances of promotion. Bob took advantage of further improving his education by enrolling in the Bachelor of Education Degree at Queensland University of Technology graduating in 1988 with Bachelor of Education and Postgraduate in Educational Administration degrees. A number of appointments and colleges within south east Queensland followed, where he rose to Deputy Principal and finally took an early retirement from Sunshine Coast College.

Bob’s wife had been diagnosed with cancer and both decided on early retirement with long service to carry them through. Travelling down the coast and visiting as many interesting places finally happening onto Nelson Bay. That convinced them that this was where they wished to retire: a house at Corlette, a boat called Lady Jayne and lots of great times on the Myall Lakes. Bob, now widowed, decided to remain in Nelson Bay having joined the Coastal Patrol and being supported by an increasing group of friends.

Bob enjoyed travelling, having taken advantage of school holidays and long service leave over many years. His visits to many countries included the Trans-Siberian Railway journey from London to Hong Kong, then Beijing, Paris and Normandy France, Spain, Poland, Berlin and then finally back home for the compulsory caravan journey around Oz, when the children were in late primary school.

Bob has always enjoyed volunteering, initially with the Coastal Patrol for 3 years, then the State Emergency Service for 25 years, including 10 years in charge as Controller of the newly established unit at Corlette. During that period he also volunteered with Blaze Aid helping farmers affected by fire and storm damage. His job was to look after the equipment the teams needed and keep the tools in good shape. Bob joined the Woodies in September 2016, is now happily married to Pauline and very much enjoys the club and his role as Assistant Workshop Manager.

Editor: Very interesting experiences in work, travel and volunteering, – a great read!

JOKES OF THE MONTH

JUST SPENT 15 MINUTES
SEARCHING FOR MY PHONE
IN MY CAR.
USING MY PHONE AS A FLASHLIGHT.



Remember when we
were young and
couldn't wait to
grow up, so we
could do whatever
we wanted, whenever
we wanted?

aunty acid

How's that
working
out for
you?

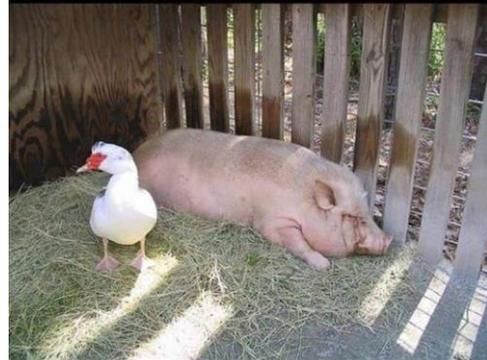


I am a Seenager. (Senior teenager)

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 60 years later.
I don't have to go to school or work.
I get an allowance every month.
I have my own pad.
I don't have a curfew.
I have a driver's license and my own car.
The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant and they do not use drugs.
And I don't have acne.

Life is great.

**WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
BIRD FLU AND SWINE FLU?**



**ONE REQUIRES TWEETMENT AND
THE OTHER REQUIRES OINKMENT.**

Raisin Bread

A bakery owner hires a young female shop assistant who liked to wear Very short skirts and a thong. One day a young man enters the store, glances at the shop assistant and at the loaves of bread behind the counter.

Noticing her short skirt and the location of the raisin bread, he has a brilliant idea. "I'd like some raisin bread please," the man says. The shop assistant nods and climbs up a ladder to reach the raisin bread located on the very top shelf.

The man standing almost directly beneath her is provided with an excellent view, just as he thought. When she descends the ladder, he decides that he had better get two Loaves.

As the shop assistant retrieves the second loaf of bread, one of the other male customers notices what's going on and requests his own loaf of raisin bread.

After many trips she is tired and irritated and begins to wonder, "Why the unusual interest in the raisin bread?"

Atop the ladder one more time, she looks down and glares at the men standing below. Then, she notices an elderly man standing amongst the crowd. Thinking that she can save herself another trip, she yells at the elderly man, "Is it raisin for you too?"

"No," he stammers, "But it's quivering a little."

A young ventriloquist is touring the clubs and one night he's doing a show in Newcastle. With his dummy on his knee, he starts going through his usual dumb blonde jokes when a blonde woman in the 4th row stands on her chair shouting: "I've heard enough of your stupid blonde jokes. What makes you think you can stereotype women that way? What does colour of a person's hair have to do with her worth as a human being? It's guys like you who keep women like me from being respected at work and in the community and from reaching our full potential as a person. Because you and your kind continue to perpetrate discrimination against not only blondes, but women in general, and all in the name of humour!"

The embarrassed ventriloquist begins to apologize, and the blonde yells, "You stay out of this, mister! I'm talking to that little guy on your knee."

EU Directive No 456179

In order to meet the conditions for joining the Single European currency, all citizens of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland must be made aware that the Phrase "Spending a Penny" is Not to be used after 31st December 2009.

From this date the correct terminology will be "Euronating".

WOODNEWS



If undeliverable, please return to
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