

Port Stephens



Community
Woodworkers
Inc.

Woodnews

Official Newsletter of

PORT STEPHENS COMMUNITY WOODWORKERS INC.

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

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Dates to Remember

Executive Meeting	Wednesday	2nd June 2021	1.30 p.m. Workshop
Member's Monthly Meeting	Tuesday	8th June 2021	1.00 p.m. Workshop
Biggest Morning Tea. (Cancer Council)	Thursday	27th May 2021	10.30am Workshop
Bunnings BBQs	Saturday Saturday Saturday	14th August 18th September 18th December	Note June BBQ moved back till August at Bunnings request.
Christmas Party	Thursday	16th December 2021	

WELFARE REPORT – Bob Grant

- **Bob Parrish.** Bob has had a few breathing issues since our last meeting and spent a short time at the Tomaree Hospital. He assures me that he is well and a large number of tablets are taking care of the problem, he attended the monthly meeting and reported that he is doing well.
- **Stewart Upton.** Stewart has had both his Cataract Operations done. He has reported that all is well.
- **Bob Grant.** Bob had a Cataract operation on his left eye also, he can see quite well having had the right eye done a few months ago. All is well on the foot front.

TID BITS FROM THE SHED

- **Australia's Biggest Morning Tea.** This will be held in the Workshop from 10.30 am on the 27th May 2021, in support of the Cancer Council.
Please come along **with a plate** and bring all your family, friends, relatives, neighbours etc. There will be tea, coffee juice and water.
MPs and councillors have been invited. Entry is a \$5 donation.
Members are asked to bring their show and tell pieces for a display.
- **Whale Watch Gift Vouchers.** The Whale Watch raffle was drawn at the May meeting and won by George Falzon.
- **Chess Set Raffle.** The chess table, drawers and board are finished and the huge carving job is underway way. It was decided that tickets will be sold progressively from the July school holidays, when a few sample chess pieces will be finished and available for viewing. A Perspex cover will be made to protect the table.
Previously we thanked Chris Sturt, Ken Richards and Bob Parrish for their ongoing efforts. Thanks also to Vince Rush who has turned 32 identical bases and Graham Miller who has punched multiple lead disks to go into those bases and ensure the correct weights and stability.
Emergency Envelopes Don't forget to keep your emergency envelopes up to date with your medical details. These are private and will only be opened in an emergency. It is recommended that at a bare minimum you provide an envelope with your name and emergency contact on the outside. They are stored in the folder in the kitchen.
- **Greetings from the Top End. Dave Bear at work:**



Oh, the waiting! Then the catch. A 760mm barramundi and a threadfin salmon over 1mtr. Now both filleted and in the freezer. Don't work too hard, Dave 😊.

SHOW & TELL



Ken Richards

Carved Wombat made out of Jacaranda and finished in acrylic laquer.



Roger Delaney. Bandsaw boxes both made out of jacaranda. One

finished in polyurathane and linseed oli, the othe one lacquered.



Geoff McClelland.

Checker board made from Mahogany and finished in polyurethane.



Col Bridgeman. Small boat carved out of driftwood.

Interlocking board was made from various timbers.





Helen Gilmour. Wall hanging in mosaic design made from different timbers.

MEMBER PROFILE – Greg Cumberland

I was born, raised and educated at Cabramatta (Western Sydney). I left school at 16 and obtained a Toolmaker/Patternmaker Apprenticeship with the Sunbeam Corp back when everything was designed and manufactured in house and nothing was imported.

In 1971, after completing my apprenticeship, I moved around to various Toolrooms in the Sydney area gaining a bit more experience at each location.

In 1974 Diane and I married and started our new life at Georges Hall, again in Sydney's west .

In 1978, just after the birth of our daughter, I applied for a Toolmaking position at Sydney University in the Aeronautical Engineering Dept. In the interview I was told that I would not be doing the same job two days in a row and they were correct.

Whilst not being a Toolmaking position, as I knew it, the Uni needed someone to make accurate models and test rigs for wind tunnel testing. The work was varied, making models out of timber, metal and plastic. The models were of aircraft, cars, trucks, buses and even models of the city buildings, to name just a few. Some projects involved a lot of metal fabrication involving the use of lathes, milling machines, drilling machines, welding and the use of woodworking machinery.

In 1992 I was promoted to Workshop Manager, looking after the day to day running of a small workshop with a staff of three. We worked closely with Academic staff and Students on a range of projects.

During my time at the Uni I was encouraged to undertake more studies, so I undertook an Engineering Certificate course, a welding course, a 2 year course in Composite's and Fibreglass, Staff Management, OHS Fire and a Safety course.

In 2003 the University bean counters decided to close four smaller workshops including the Aeronautical Engineering Workshop and combine them into one single large workshop. Fortunately or unfortunately I was asked to be the head of this large workshop with a staff of 30 Technical Officers and assistants. I gained the title of Engineering Workshop Manager but the downside of the promotion meant that I came off the bench and tools and went on to a desk and a computer.

When I took over the running of the new workshop, a lot of the machinery was getting old and in some cases a bit worn out, with some of the machine's dating back to WW2. I was given permission to start a replacement program for some of the equipment, to bring it up to modern standards of safety and productivity. We started to purchase computer controlled machinery along with manual machinery.

Not only was I running the day to day operations of a very busy workshop, I was also asked to take on the OHS Supervisor role for the school. This position also included the position of Chief Fire Warden, which was most exciting when the Fire Brigade would ring in the middle of the night telling me that there was a fire in one of our buildings.

A lot of the laboratories, work areas and equipment were not safe and were out of date for staff and students to use, so a huge programme was started to bring everything up to modern OHS standards

Another of my jobs at the Uni was to coordinate a program where we used our workshop staff to teach students and show them how things were done properly and within their limitations, such as the use of rivets, nuts & bolts, welding, hand tools and the use of machinery.

In 2010 I had enough of the Politics and the pressure of the job, so I resigned my position at the Uni. We sold up our houses in Sydney and moved cold turkey to Corlette. Life in the Bay for us now is very busy. I'm involved in sailing twice a week and I have my 1968 Ford Mustang that I have restored since moving to the Bay and I get to the 'Woodies' when time permits.

Editor. Great career story Greg and good for us with your welding and test and tag talents!



Sperm Count

An old man was struggling with his doctor's request. This 85 year old man had to do a sperm count for his physical exam.

The doctor had given the man a jar and said "Take this home and bring back a sample tomorrow".

The next day the 85 year old man re-appeared at the doctor's surgery and gave him the jar which was clean and empty as on the previous day.

The doctor asked what happened and the man explained.

Well Doc, it's like this: first I tried with my right hand but nothing.

Then I tried with my left hand but still nothing.

Then I asked my wife for help.

She tried with her left hand then with her right hand but still nothing.

She tried with her mouth, first with her teeth in, then with her teeth out but still nothing.

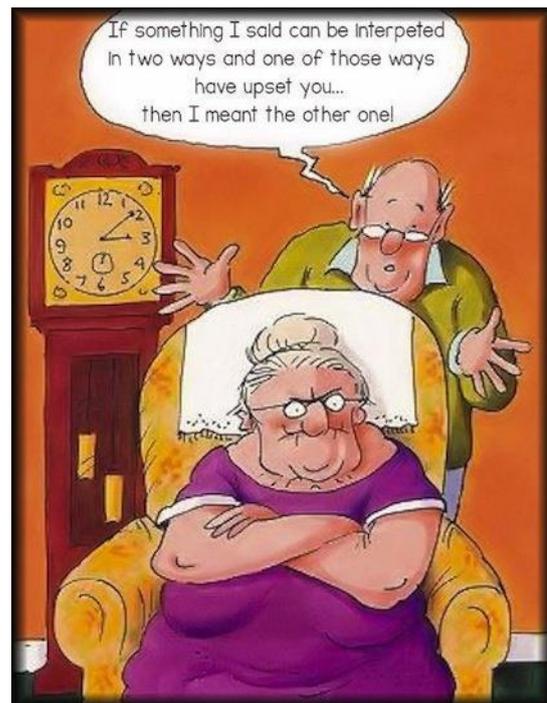
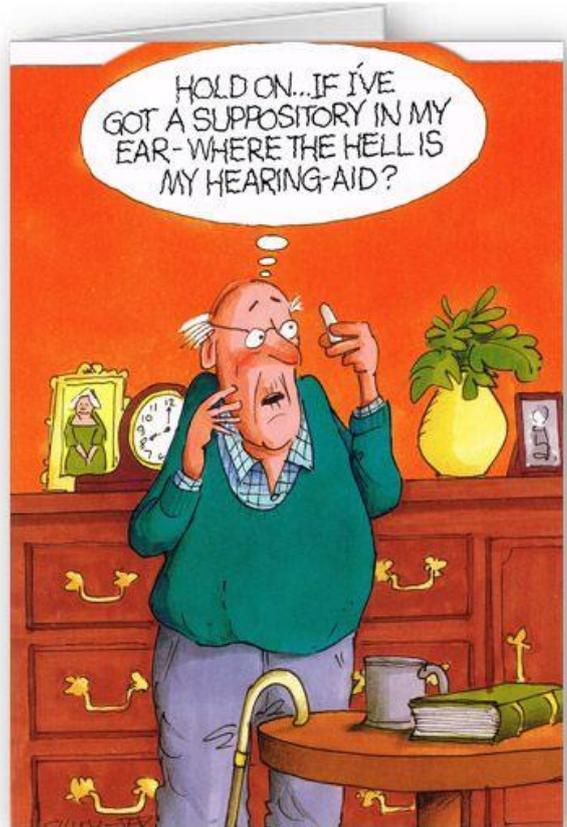
We even called up Arlene, the lady next door and she tried too, first with both hands, then with an armpit. She even tried squeezing it between her knees but still nothing.

The Doctor was shocked: You asked your neighbour? Good heavens!

The old man replied "Yep, none of us could get the jar open".



“Male, 38, still living with his parents. They asked us to keep him overnight, so they could change the locks.”



While on tour in Israel, Donald Trump has a heart attack and dies.

The undertaker tells the American diplomats who had accompanied Trump:

“You can have him shipped home for \$50,000, or you can bury him here, in the Holy Land for \$100.”

The US Diplomats go into a conference and return after a few minutes and instruct the undertaker to ship Trump back to the USA.

The undertaker is puzzled : “Why ship the body home for \$50,000 - wouldn't it be wonderful to be buried, right here, in the Holy Land and for only \$100?”

A diplomat replied: “Long ago, a man died here, was buried here and three days later, he rose from the dead. We just can't take that risk.”

WOODNEWS



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