

# The Eltham Woodworker



Reg Number A 0025947P

**May 2019**

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## Newsletter Editor

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The deadline for inclusion in the newsletter is the Tuesday the week before our meeting. Please email the item in Word or text format.

## Next Monthly Club Meeting Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2019 at 8pm

At the CFA Hall, next door to the Clubhouse, War Memorial Park  
448 Ironbark Rd Cnr De Fredericks Rd) Yarrambat, Melways map, page 184 G8,  
Phone: - 9436 1907

## President's Report

Today, the 16th March, Councillor Grant Brooker formally opened our new extension. It was great to see 26 of our members come along for this event and of course the lovely scones & cream and chocolate cake provided by Lorraine. Alwyn also brought along an iced version of Black Forest cake. It was a great occasion and without doubt, added further to our already well respected community involvement.

We were also very pleased to welcome Ramez, a Syrian refugee from Damascus. He is currently at the St Vincent's centre (Judge Book) and we have offered him membership of the club. He is an engineer by profession but also makes beautiful items in mosaic using veneers. When he has passed his safety training we will need some offers of transport for him in order for him to get to the workshop.

We have now had the expert report on what is required for our dust extraction system. We will now approach some equipment providers for specific quotes.

As some of you know the new spindle sander failed again. I have now taken it back to Just Tools and they have persuaded Triton to give us a new one. It will be delivered as soon as they have one in stock.

By the time you read this newsletter you will probably be knee deep in Easter egg wrappings!!

Have a peaceful and enjoyable Easter with your friends and families.

John Winkett  
President

### ***Subs Are Now Due.***

The fees are the same as last year at \$60 for Concession and \$80 for Normal Subs.

Methods of Payment include.

1. Cash or Cheque paid at a General Meeting or paid to a Committee Member on a workshop day. When paying this way put your money in a SEALED ENVELOPE with your name and the amount noted on the front.
2. Direct into the Club Bendigo Bank Account.  
BSB is 633 000 Account No is 158066985  
Please make sure you put your name in the description so I know who is paying.
3. By Cheque. NO CASH sent to "Secretary EDWC, P.O. Box 701. Eltham 3095

For most members that have joined in the last 3 months, your Subs are already paid.

If you are having problems with payment please contact me. Dave Mitchell

### ***Hand Tool Workshop - Martin Lawley***

We had our second Hand Tool Workshop on Monday (25th March), I know I'm late for April newsletter but I'm early for the May one. It was a very good afternoon with a good turn up (sorry Charlie no photos this time). I think everyone who wanted to try their hand at planing end grain did so after a short demonstration on the 2 ways to plane end grain as well as the way to use a spokeshave (a much under used tool). The afternoon went by very quickly and after another demonstration on an easy way to chop a mortice by hand, most members had a go at doing it and were surprised at the ease with which it could be done (with very sharp chisels helps) and the use of a drill press.

It was a very much hands on day with a few members bringing in their own hand planes. Bob bought in a couple of wooden jack planes that were his Great Grandfather's and still in great working condition. Sandra also bought in 3 planes one is a thumb plane (a larger one than most that I had seen), a small shoulder plane and a #112 scraper plane this is a very old plane and it is a beauty and still works beautifully.

Next month we will be looking at chisels and the different types and their uses so we will see you all there at 1:30p.m.

Thank you to all who attended on Monday to make this session an enjoyable one.

### ***Around the workshop – May 2019 - Charles Camera***

Many members and especially new members may not be aware that the club has a well maintained web page and a very frequently updated Facebook page. The Facebook page is open and all you need do to access it is search for Eltham and District Woodworkers. It gives a lot of exposure and an insight into our club and activities. The web page has many useful pages and years of history including photos of past exhibitions and newsletters back to September 2005 for those interested in history. It also has an up to date club activities calendar that is very useful if you wish to attend scheduled group activities. The members only section is reached with a password that I will email at next opportunity.

The big event this month was the opening of the new extension by Councillor Grant Brooker pictured on the left next to our president John Winkett). The extension was made possible by a grant from Nillumbik Shire and was partly championed by councillor Brooker who at the opening was very complimentary of our club's activities and especially of our involvement with the many charities and community groups that our members support. The morning was made all the more pleasant with fresh baked scones and morning tea courtesy of Lorraine Kruger.



The members present enjoy morning tea after the ceremony.



### **Carving Group - 29/3/2019 - Steve Mitchener**

Collectively as a group, we decided to make use of the fifth Friday in March to squeeze in some extra carving time. Batoul, Maïke and Alwyn were apologies, and we know the Nomad is wandering about somewhere, it's just not here.

Sandra worked on her Pelican. It's quite a big bird, and takes a lot of wrangling to get it to look like something.

Rod was marking out a large Koala in Jelutong, to carve "in-the-round" as we call it. He started to carve this animal with some practical guidance from me. (But with his lack of reference photos, Sandra and I both doubted the size of the animal fitting into the size of the wood. And we advised Rod of our concerns.)

Neil was working on his eternal Ginger Jars. It's just as well they are for decoration, rather than storage. Therefore, a completion date isn't required.

I was working on my compound "Invader" in Kauri Pine. I also did some work on a "story stick" for face carving. That's also a tricky piece to work on, but I will get there.

Small group, short report. Sometimes you can get lucky.

### **Box Making Group – 3/4/2019 – Steve Mitchener**

Bernie was an apology for this session, and I wasn't overwhelmed by other participants.

Sandra turned up and we sorted out the pieces for two small boxes in Silky Oak. (This was a Déjà Vu experience, as we did the same thing in July and August last year.) But this time after trimming the sections to the correct sizes, Sandra put the pieces into separate cardboard boxes.

I started carving my next Gnome. I had to do something to fill in my day.

And in case there is anyone out there that wants to make a box, any size, I am happy to offer any advice or assistance as needed. Please come along and help fill my afternoon. (Box making starts at 1:00pm after Wes' Workshop.)

### **Carving Group – 5/4/2019 - Steve Mitchener.**

Alwyn and the Nomad were apologies for this session, both away for regular medical check-ups. (*Not as much fun as a 'family day', but just as necessary.*)

Maike is doing a small bird as a hand carving. (*Will look much cuter than a Skittle!*)

Sandra is "hammering" her Pelican into shape. (*Using a carver's mallet and a big gouge, something's going to give.*)

Batoul is also working on her "bird". (*And in this case, I use that term very loosely.*)

Rod took up the "Warrior challenge", and made a very good go of it. His warrior looks like my little warrior's bigger brother. In the spare time he had left, he re-scaled his Koala and started again.

Neil worked on two different Violins he has "in work", and finished the day shaping a Funerary Urn which has 16 facets.

John Leahy worked on fitting a handle to one of his walking sticks.

Between sticking my nose into everything so I could write the details above, I did some work on my "Invader", my ongoing story stick, and my Gnome. So, I was busy too!

### **Scrollsaw Group – 6/4/2019 - Steve Mitchener**

With Beryl, Caryl, Jennifer, Roz and Graham all apologies for this session, it's definitely going to be a small group. Therefore, another short report.

Maike came along and cut some Australian Animals from my plans in 6mm MDF. The plan is to take them as hand-made gifts to her relatives overseas when she visits them later in the year. And since I have these same critters cut out and carved to decorate my box containing my carving gear, Maike started to carve and shape her cut-outs too. When completed they will be glued to small discs cut from a branch, and sealed, and make excellent gifts with a truly Australian theme.

Tony set up his new Hegner Scrollsaw, and cut out some compound pieces with great success.

I spent the day starting to cut out the last batch of letters for our Exhibition.

*(I actually finished cutting them out at home. In total it took 33 hours to make all the stock I needed for 2019. Job done!)*

### **Carving Group – 19/4/2019 - Steve Mitchener.**

Today was Good Friday, so Maike and Rod were apologies as they were spending the time with their families. So, with some ‘no-shows’, this again was a small group.

Sandra brought in the pieces of wood to make a swinging stand for a rocking horse she had made some time back. (*It has a carved mane and tail, so it is a ‘sculpture piece’, not a kid’s toy.*) Between assisting her in this endeavour, I also worked with Batoul.

I had arranged to bring in some Australian Animals in 6mm MDF to show Maike and Batoul how to do ‘low relief carving’. But Maike jumped the gun in the Scrollsaw session (*see earlier report*) and got ahead of the schedule. So today I worked with Batoul only.

I had pre-cut some shapes of various animals from my existing plans, and sat with Batoul and showed/guided her through the shaping of the first hopping Kangaroo. (*The easiest one to do. A simple shape with less body detail. A good one to start on.*). Having done one, Batoul started and shaped a second one on her own. Batoul wanted to do a Wombat, so I marked out a Wombat with shade lines, so Batoul could cut it at home. (*All you need to do this is a sharp knife, steady hands, a little patience, and a bit of sandpaper to finish with. So simple.*)

Since I had also carved a hopping Kangaroo, I finished the day working on two small bear carvings I was already working on. A Grizzly Bear in Kauri Pine, and a Polar Bear in Radiata Pine.

### **Events Calendar**

- 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May – Turning in the Park, The Peninsula Woodturners Guild Exhibition. McClelland Sculpture Park & Gallery, 390 McClelland Drive, Langwarrin. 10am – 4pm, free entry.
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June - The Australian Woodturning Exhibition. Kingston Town Hall.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> August - Timber, Tools & Artisan Show. At Melbourne Show Grounds, Ascot Vale.
- 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> September - Ballarat Woodworkers show.
- 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October - Goulburn Valley woodworkers show. This year will be held at the Macintosh Pavilion, Shepparton Showgrounds.
- 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> November - Eltham Woodworkers Exhibition