



The Wonthaggi Woody

www.wonthaggiwoodcrafters.com.au



Wonthaggi Woodcrafters
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ISSUE

219

May
2025

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PRESIDENT:

Syd Gordon - 0434 614 573

VICE PRESIDENT:

Peter Myers - 0413 122 103

SECRETARY:

Michael Bladen - 0428 270 850

TREASURER:

Frank Kisvarda - 0418 177 505

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Neil Lenne - 0417 343 112

Alan Hurst - 0427 393 234

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Hartley Tobin - 0400 359 976

Amanda Robbins - 0423 054 756

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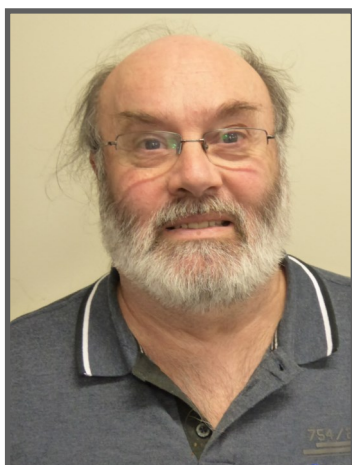
Newsletter

woodiesnews@gmail.com

DIARY 2025

June 2nd -	Committee Meeting	July 14th -	Members' Meeting	September 1st -	Committee Meeting
June 9th -	Members' Meeting	August 4th -	Committee Meeting	September 8th -	Members' Meeting
June 28th -	East Coast Timbers visit	August 11th -	AGM		
July 7th -	Committee Meeting	August 11th -	Members' Meeting after AGM		

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the May newsletter. At the Members' Meeting, Peter Myers and I spoke about the importance of members stepping up and volunteering for some minor (non-Committee) roles that need to be filled. These roles although relatively small, are still an integral part of the club operations. If you think that you may be interested and willing to take on one of these roles, please don't hesitate to talk to one of your committee members to find out more. There is a list on the whiteboard detailing which roles need to be filled.

East Coast Specialised Timbers is paying us another visit with a great selection of timber. This time Tony will be bringing some thicker boards suitable for making cutting boards and a selection of turning blanks as well as the usual stuff suitable for small box making. They will be visiting on Saturday 28 June - More details to follow.

Recently several new sessions were approved by committee. For the most part they are going well and are well attended by a regular group of members. There is however one group that is a little light-on. This is the Friday afternoon wooden jewellery making group. This is a plea to members to consider trying this form of woodworking as it requires the application of a range of skills including scroll sawing, carving, pyrography as well as an understanding of timber grain orientation. Speak to myself or Tina Kalivas for more information. And lastly a little bit of a whinge. I remind everyone that machines need to be cleaned after you have used them and not left for the next person to do (unless you have an arrangement with the next person). For the most part this is not a problem but on Friday morning the Sliding Compound Saw was left in a dismal state. I know we are all forgetful from time to time but please be diligent about cleaning.

Cheers, *Syd.*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

May Members' Meeting - There was a good attendance at the May Members' Meeting. It was terrific to see the array of quality woodworking that was presented at Show & Tell. See all the pictures and details on page 5.

Prepare for Covid, colds, flu and numerous other viruses that are around and will get worse over winter. Ensure you are protected and please don't come to the Club if you believe you may have any sort of transferrable illness.

New library - Thanks to Syd and his merry band of helpers, the Club's new library area has almost been completed. See the photo below of Syd with his trusty Dymo, as he finalizes the labelling and cataloguing tasks.



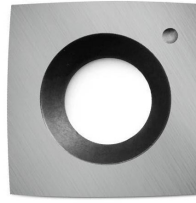
Roles and Responsibilities - Committee is currently reviewing the list of Roles and Responsibilities required for the Club to run the club smoothly and efficiently. We are seeking members who would be prepared to take on smaller, but very important tasks to support Committee members who take on much of the load. Speak to Syd or Peter if you feel you may be able to help.

VISIT BY EAST COAST SPECIALISED TIMBERS -

Tony from **East Coast Specialised Timbers** in St Helens, Tasmania will be visiting us for the 3rd year, on Saturday 28th June. Tony will be here by 10am. As usual, it is expected a range of timbers will be brought over including Huon Pine, Blackwood, Blackheart Sassy, King Billy, Myrtle, Celery Top Pine, Tas. Oak, etc. There will be boards in various sizes and thicknesses, turning blanks and a range of shorts and off-cuts for scrollers, carvers and pyrographers. Note that the 10am start is only for Wonthaggi Woodies members. Other groups may be invited to join us later in the morning. Please don't come before 10am as Tony has to unload his truck and most timber will be on display in our meeting room.

SAFETY NOTES -

Equipment damage - It's been stressed before, but it's essential that members tell Supervisors if any equipment is not working or damaged.



Use of the thicknesser - 80 carbide blades each with 4 sides, make for a very quiet working environment. These blades are very durable – unless used inappropriately. They are quite expensive and time consuming to maintain.

There are 80 cutting blades on the Helical Cutterhead. Each blade is 15mm x 15mm. To replace blades they are \$65 for 10. However to replace the cutterhead if it is damaged is about \$1500!

Damage can be caused in many ways - trying to take too much wood off at a time (take even less if it's hard timber), forcing timber through or thicknessing end-grain, not thoroughly and carefully checking ALL timber for metal (one small nail could destroy numerous cutters) or severe flaws (including very hard knots), putting through with uncured glue, old painted surfaces and more! A similar helical cutterhead is installed on the jointer. Please be aware and take good care of our 'communal' equipment.

WHAT WORKS FOR ME

Last month I asked members to send in some of the simple tips and tricks that work for them in their woodcrafting endeavours. Nothing came along, so I'll include here a couple more of the things I use.

A bowl turning depth gauge: This one measures up to 15cm deep and 35cm diameter. It takes just one cheap ruler to make, and bowl depth can be quickly determined.



Be sandpaper ready: I have all grits on this clipboard handy to where I'm working. Simple and easy to make.



Send in your ideas (with pics if you have them) by 16th June to be included in the next Newsletter.

WOODIES WORKSHOP SESSIONS

WOODTURNING: Regular Sessions

Monday 9 am to 12 noon	- Hartley Tobin:	0400 359 976
	Neil Lenne:	0417 343 112
Monday 1pm to 4pm	Michael Bladen	0428 270 850
Time for this session may vary on 1st and 2nd Mondays of the month.		
Monday 5 pm to 8 pm	- John DiStefano:	0482 173 799
Friday 9 am to 12 noon	- Hartley Tobin:	0400 359 976
	Neil Lenne:	0417 343 112

SEGMENTED TURNING: Regular Sessions

Friday 9am to 12 noon	- Grant Crocker	0418 121 592
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TOY GROUP: Regular Sessions

Tuesday 9am to 4pm	- Peter Myers	0413 122 103
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PYROGRAPHY: Regular Sessions

Friday 1pm to 4 pm	- Michael Bladen:	0428 270 850
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SCROLL SAWING: Regular Sessions

Wednesday 9am to 12 noon	- Lionel Wood:	0490 695 950
	Syd Gordon:	0434 614 573

JOINERY: Regular Sessions

Thursday 9am to 12 noon	- Syd Gordon	0434 614 573
Thursday 1pm to 4pm	- Tina Kalivas, Peter Myers and David Carlos - specialised session - it is essential to contact Syd Gordon to access this session.	

CARVING: Regular Sessions

Friday 9am to 12 noon	- Harry Smith:	5674 8078
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KUMIKO: Regular sessions

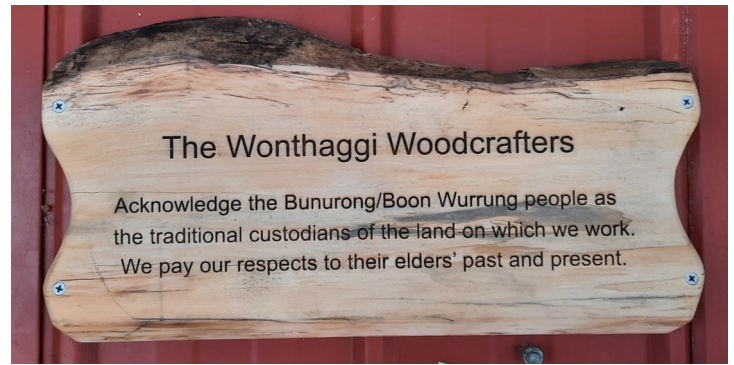
Monday 9am to 12 noon	- Syd Gordon	0434 614 573
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WOODEN JEWELLERY: Regular sessions

Participant numbers may be limited for this session.

Friday 1pm to 4pm	- Syd Gordon	0434 614 573
	- Tina Kalivas	0425 701 629

BELOW: The new library is pictured on Page 2, but the old shelving and tables were not wasted and now add to the much needed storage space for the Toy Making group.



The sign above is now in place on the outside of our main building, to acknowledge and recognise the traditional owners of the land on which the Woodies resides.

Committee agreed on the wording and the plaque was produced by **Syd Gordon**.



SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

As mentioned in the April Newsletter, to try to improve communications with fellow session group members, new FaceBook Messenger groups have been created for each of the Kumiko group (Mon 9 - 12pm), the Hand Tool Joinery group (Thurs 1 - 4pm) and the Jewellery Making group (Fri 1 - 4pm). This allows members in the group to let each other know when and if they can attend, check in with those not well, and also share information and ideas as a group. They've only been running a short while but have so far worked well to keep the groups informed.



WELFARE

Our Club has an appointed Welfare Officer and that role is currently being discussed by Committee during our appraisal of all Club Roles and Responsibilities.

If you are aware of a member who is unwell or requires support, please let the Welfare Officer (currently Amanda Robbins ph. 0409 044 679; email: robbins@dcsi.net.au) know so that contact can be made, Club friends be advised or a card sent, as appropriate. If Amanda is unavailable, please don't hesitate to contact the President or Secretary.

This is an important aspect of our Club and we recognise that at the moment it is a bit ad hoc and we can do it better - but we need your help.



MEMBERS' MEETINGS ...

The Woodies Committee agreed a couple of years ago, as a trial, to change the name of monthly *General Meetings* to *Members' Meetings* and to make the focus more social and interest based. It involved reducing unnecessary business, adding extra 'sweet treats' to the complimentary sausage sizzle, adding prize value to the raffle, encouraging all members to contribute to Show and Tell and to have a speaker at each meeting. The trial was deemed successful and this format has continued. However it requires on-going support someone to cook the BBQ, someone to buy the cakes, etc., someone to run the raffle, someone to buy the prizes, someone to arrange the speakers, etc., etc.

Thanks to people like Brian Johnson, who has cooked the snags for a very long time (and comes all the way from Melbourne to do it!!), it has generally worked well. Until recently, when attendance dropped away and helpers became ill or took holidays. The last two months have picked up again, but we still need backup helpers and especially someone to source and arrange speakers. Speakers can come from within the Club - we have plenty of expertise and members with interesting backgrounds and/or experiences. Or of course from externally. Speakers don't have to be on woodcraft related subjects, so long as the topic connects with our members. Twenty to thirty minutes is all that is required and of course AV is available.

So here's the go. Come along and join fellow members at these meetings, get a free feed, socialise and learn. If you can't always attend that's fine, but join us when you can. Also if you can help out with some of the roles, especially in arranging speakers, let Syd or Peter Myers know.

The next Members Meeting is Monday June 9th at 1pm, with goodies to eat from 12 noon.



WOODIES @ PLAY

Recently we went on a 6 day cruise along the Murray River with Probus friends and others on a riverboat called the *Proud Mary*. Just 30 passengers and 6 crew, excellent facilities and great food, it was an wonderful trip. The area we traversed was between Murray Bridge and Blanchetown and return with heaps of great things to see and do along the way.

However, three things stand out along this part of our great river - the birdlife, the amazing cliffs and the River Red Gums. Unfortunately, excessive use of river water, floods and other extreme climatic conditions has seen many beautiful trees and forested areas suffer. A huge number have died off, but it's still positive to see young saplings springing up and showing resolute recovery as our resilient Aussie natives can often do. ***Alan Hurst.***



SHOW & TELL



Neil Lenne – Redgum and Blackwood with clear varnish.

SHOW & TELL



Tony Hirini - Small bowl made from Spotted Gum.



Tina Kalivas – Small box with Kumiko lid. Walnut, Huon Pine & Merbau. Finished with bees wax.



Tony Hirini - A passive smart phone amplifier. Created from Blackwood and River Redgum.



Tony Hirini - Small vase turned from Cherry.



Colin Goodwin – These are rotating knitting wool holders made from Redgum and Blackwood

SHOW & TELL



Johan Vaessen created these two large vases with some nice spalling from Wattle.



The collapsing Silky Oak castle above was created by Syd Gordon. It is made using a scrollsaw. The saw table is tilted at approx. 1.5 deg to give a slight 'wedge' effect. The pop-up parts are therefore slightly larger at the bottom, so when raising them they wedge into the hole and stay up. They then easily push down to hide them again. It is finished with polyurethane spray.



Steve Edge's chopping board is made from King Billy Pine, Teak and Blackwood.



This 3D chopping board was made by Craig Charles from Camphor Laurel, Blackwood and White Ash.



John Di Stefano created this segmented bowl from Redgum and Oak with a clear lacquer finish.



John Di Stefano's bowl was made of Blackwood with a clear lacquer finish.



Steve Edge made this segmented bowl from Poplar, Merbau, Oak and Teak with a EEE finish.

SHOW & TELL



ABOVE: Is an experiment in steam bending using Radiata Pine and Redgum.

BELOW: This is a work in progress. It's a coffee table made with 12 unique triangles and 10 ordinary triangles. The material is structural pine planks that were ripped and dressed at the Woodies. The top is still being worked on, but will include a diagonal band also made from Redgum.

Both items are being created by **David Carlos**.



SHOW & TELL



ABOVE: An old-fashioned meat tenderiser Colin Goodwin came across in a book of woodturning projects by Richard Raffan. The corrugated section for breaking meat fibres and the flat end for flattening and thinning. It's approx. 65mm diam. and 200mm long.

BELOW: Jimmy Yokoi is still working on his project of a man/animal doing full somersaults down stairs as shown in the March newsletter. It involves a lot of minute adjustments to weight, balance and spring, to make it work effectively. Forever the perfectionist, with incredible patience, no doubt it will work perfectly when completed.



WELCOME!

NEW MEMBERS

There was only one new member since the last Newsletter and we welcome -

GREG SYNAN

Everyone is encouraged to make all new members feel welcome and at home at the Club and to assist and support them.

CURRENT TOTAL MEMBERSHIP: 95



When we were cleaning up Ray Oram's house after his recent passing, there was a box full of pyrography pieces that were recognised as being by Jim Kilpatrick. These have been put aside and Michael Bladen is finishing them off. Some are sketches and some are partially completed (see picture below).

Michael would like to see these used by members. Obviously they suit box makers, but members may see other value in them.

Woodies are welcome to have a look at what Michael has done and to look through the rest. He will complete any of them. Call Michael on 0428270850 or come into the club on Friday afternoons. If you don't know who Jim was, or are unaware of his amazing skills, have a look at the comprehensive photo album of his work available in our Club library.



A very happy birthday to the following Members –

Paul Berger
Peter Clingin
Grace Couchman
Ric Fallu
Sue Gates
Leo Koninx
Alex Myers
Vic Pryor
Alan Schache
Greg Synan

There are still a few birthdays not on our records. If we've missed you, please let Michael Bladen know or email - woodiessec@gmail.com



SAVINGS ON EXPENDABLES

STOCK IS PURCHASED IN BULK, SO PRICES ARE MINIMISED: Shellawax, Glow, EEE, super glue and sandpaper. All items are on-sold at cost price. We also have basic earmuffs, safety glasses and Covid-safe masks if you'd like to wear one. If you are interested in purchasing any of these items, see your session supervisor for prices and availability. *If you have any thoughts about other items the Club could purchase in bulk for resale, speak to a Supervisor or to Woodies purchasing officer - Neil Bateman.*



*** CAN YOU HELP ?? ***

Please send any relevant articles, photos of interest or your latest project, items to buy or sell, woodworking tips, tricks and jigs, or just any general suggestions for the Newsletter to -

woodiesnews@gmail.com



The carving group is still going strong, with up to 8 or 9 attendees each Friday morning. The photo above shows some of last Friday's group - all heads down and focussed on the task at hand. The group appreciates the expertise and support from Harry Smith and John Harmer and there is some fantastic work being completed.



ABOVE: My first carving project, it's a work in progress. Harry Smith and John Harmer are excellent teachers and are encouraging me to add things as I go along. I'm really enjoying the process. *Lynn Lenne.*

HOW TO ...

This week, I had the need to draw a substantial size oval to create a large clock face. I didn't know how, so of course I visited Google. There seem to be two main ways to do it, but the one using a compass has variations too. However, here are some links if you ever have the need. *Alan.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GyWNVFQ6I4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7KYsWwB8xMQ>

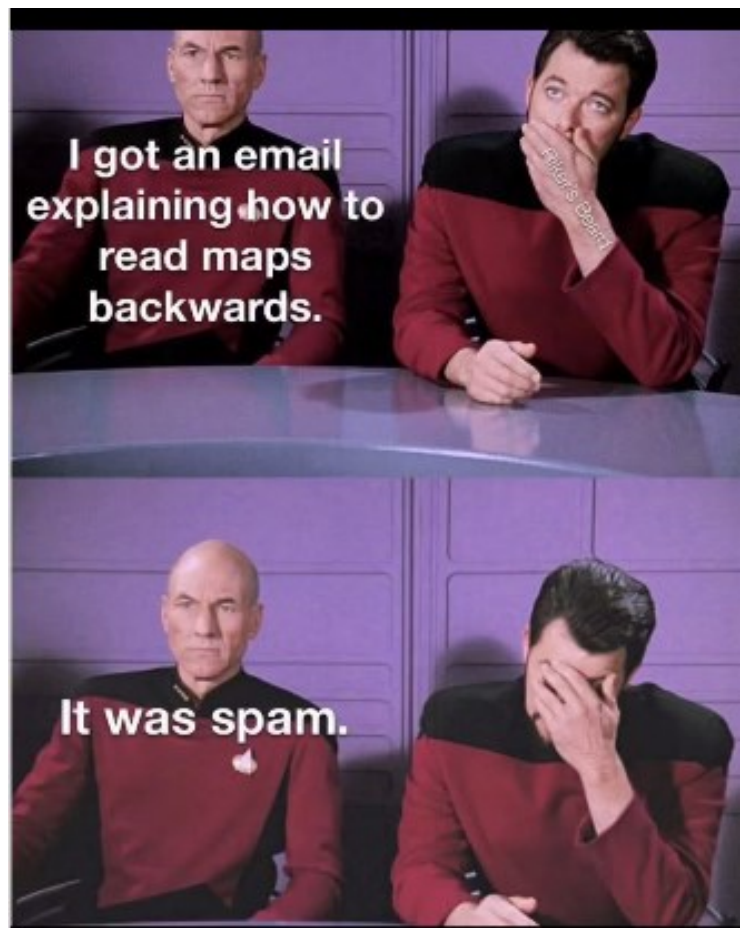
https://www.reddit.com/r/Carpentry/comments/n4m8da/easiest_way_to_draw_a_correct_oval/

Me, I just used MS Publisher tools and printed it over two pieces of A4 paper which was good enough for my needs.



An onerous task to support our Members. Thanks to Neil Bateman, Woodies members are able to buy small amounts of quality sandpaper at bulk, wholesale prices. Check out the range of other bulk items stocked to reduce costs to Members. These are outlined on page 8.

AND a little reminder that our Club only offers the great opportunities we do, because of the work behind the scenes of people doing the small and 'unseen' but essential tasks. If you can spend some time to help, please offer.



I THINK WE'LL JUST CALL THIS OUR "FUNNIES" PAGE



I didn't even know they could drive



CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWSLETTER SEGMENTS?

If you have any funny stories, articles, *Tips, Tricks & Jigs*, favourite gadgets, items to sell or buy, interesting websites, pictures of things you've created or work in progress, send them to - woodiesnews@gmail.com
Articles must be received no later than the 16th of the month please, to be included in the next Newsletter.

WOODIES CLASSIFIEDS

There are two categories; "For Sale" if you have any tools or woodworking equipment to liquidate, and "Wanted" for those of you who are looking for preloved tools or equipment that other members may be willing to part with. There is no cost, except if it is a commercial arrangement.

All you need to do to get an advert in, is write a short description (including contact details) of the item that you are selling, or wish to buy and send it to woodiesnews@gmail.com along with any photographs where appropriate.

Entries must be received by 16th of the month to be included in the next newsletter. Items can appear in two consecutive newsletters unless sold or otherwise requested.

THANKS TO WONTHAGGI WOODIES' SPONSORS

***** *They support us, please support them* *****



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 Phone: 03 9448 8300



Unit 2, 10-14 Capital Drive, Grovedale
 Ph: 03 5243 0522



Cnr. White Road & McKenzie St, Wonthaggi
 Ph: 5671 4000



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Phone (03) 5672 5522



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 (directly opposite Woolworths Supermarket)
 & 2460 Bass Hwy, Bass (in the Service Centre)



THE WONTHAGGI WOODY is the monthly
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NEWSLETTER EDITOR - Alan Hurst

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