



The Wonthaggi Woody

www.wonthaggiwoodcrafters.com.au



Wonthaggi Woodcrafters
P. O. Box 477 Wonthaggi 3995
Jean Melzer Centre
239 White Road
Wonthaggi 3995

ISSUE

221

July
2025

COMMITTEE:

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

Tina Kalivas - 0425 701 629

Hartley Tobin - 0400 359 976

Amanda Robbins - 0423 054 756

David Carlos - 0423 623 138

General Email

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Facebook

www.facebook.com/wonthaggiwoodcrafters

Secretary

woodiessec@gmail.com

Newsletter

woodiesnews@gmail.com

DIARY 2025

August 4th - Committee Meeting

August 11th - Annual General Meeting

August 11th - Members' Meeting after AGM

September 1st - Committee Meeting

September 8th - Members' Meeting

October 6th - Committee Meeting

October 13th - Members' Meeting

November 1st - 4th - Cup weekend sale

November 3rd - Committee Meeting

November 10th - Members' Meeting

December 1st - Committee Meeting

December 6th - Christmas function TBC

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well, another month under our belts and we are over halfway through the year with Christmas fast approaching. I hope you are all creating product for the shop. The July newsletter is full of fun stuff and information for your entertainment - enjoy the read.

Also, try to remember that the newsletter editor is always looking for content. If you have any projects completed or in-progress, please send pictures with a brief description, including timber species to: - woodiesnews@gmail.com

There are several members who are currently struggling with health issues. Some have been absent from the club for a while. I'm sure they would appreciate a call to see how they are travelling or just to have a chat. Try and take a few minutes out of your day to check up on a mate, it would cheer them up no end. Contact numbers can be found on the meeting room noticeboard.

Our AGM is on Monday August 11th followed by the usual Members' Meeting. The election of the committee will take place at this meeting, with a vote (if necessary). I would encourage you all to consider standing for committee - it is a great way to find out about the inner workings of the club and gives you direct input to any decisions being made.

Last month (on 28th June) Tony and Tina Walker from Tassie Timbers paid us visit with a large selection of timbers. The morning was busy with around 15 members taking advantage of the wide variety of pickings. The afternoon however was a bit of a bust. We had some lunch and waited until 2pm before packing up. Several members had a chat with Tony re. specific needs; he will bring these timbers along on his next visit.

Cheers, **Syd.**

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: Sessions on demand only

Participant numbers may be limited for this session.

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

Please contact the appropriate Supervisor if you would like to join a session, or if you will be absent from your regular session.



VISIT BY TAS EAST COAST SPECIALISED TIMBERS -

SATURDAY 28TH JUNE

As Syd has mentioned in his President's message, Tony & Tina from **East Coast Specialised Timbers** in St. Helens, Tasmania visited the Club for the 3rd time.

The picture at top of the next column is some of what Syd bought - Species are: Figured Myrtle, Huon Pine, Ironbark, Musk and Celery Top Pine.

As those who attended know, there were many other species available and for this visit, Tony brought along some larger pieces including bowl blanks.



Now here's something really special, written by Ric Fallu who came to the timber sale and obviously enjoyed the experience

"It was certainly an experience going to the Tassy Timbers' day at the Woodcrafters today.

The air was festive. Syd was wandering around with a maniacal smile, wagging his fingers, and I swear his feet weren't actually touching the ground. Lionel looked as though he was ready to punch-out anybody uppity enough to look twice at his favoured block of Huon pine. Bob forgot to put in his hearing aids (or take them out . . . I'm not sure which). And these were the quieter examples".

It was like a fire sale at Macy's and it put me in mind of a song

*♪♪ If you go down to the Woodies today, be ready for a great big splash,
If you go down with the Woodies today, you better take plenty of cash,
For every grain that ever there was will be gathered there for certain because today's the day the Woodies think is Christmas!*

*Every woodcrafter was sure of a treat today,
There was lots of marvellous wood to touch and wonderful prices to pay,
Chopped from trees where nobody sees, they'll rummage and seek as long as they please,
That's the way the day makes Woodies think it's Christmas.*

*Christmas time for the 'crafters there,
The little Woodies were having a lovely time today,
Watch them, catch them unawares, and see them purchase all the wood away.
See them gaily gadabout, they loved to play and shout and never had any cares.
At four o'clock their partners and friends did take them home to bed, 'Cause there were tired little crafters there.*

*But, If you're going to look under the house tonight, you better just go alone.
It's been lovely being with the wood today, but safer underneath the home. For every stick that ever there was, will be stacked in there for sure, because today was the day the Woodies thought was Christmas! ♪♪*

I can't wait for the next time East Coast Timbers join us.

IMPORTANT NEWS

AGM - The Annual General Meeting will be conducted on August 9th. As is standard procedure all Committee positions will be declared vacant and the Committee appointed according to voting (if required) on nominations. Nomination forms are available now in the meeting room, or contact the Secretary. All members are encouraged to consider standing for Committee and being involved in the important management of our Club. If you can't be at the meeting and in case a vote is required, Proxy Forms have been sent out by email and are also available at the Club.

Thanks to Imelda Daly for donating a huge amount of timber free to our members, as well as tools for the Club. It was disappointing to hear that due to circumstances, Imelda was discontinuing her woodcrafting, although continuing her other craft love of quilting & embroidery.

Thanks to Peter & Alex Myers for the fantastic lunch they prepared, cooked and presented to those at our July Members' Meeting. Beautiful sausage rolls and pizzas were cooked on the spot. It was a lot of work for two people who already do so much work for our Club. Going back to the sausage sizzle next meeting may not compare, but it'll be accompanied by cakes and various fruit, so is always something to look forward to. Thanks to Brian Johnson, who is also a Club stalwart and has done our sausage sizzles for many, many years.

Members are encouraged to have a look at the Sentinel Times article promoting our Club. It's on page 27 of the July 22 edition. Thank you for the photos, Johan Vaessen, Jimmy Yokoi, Eric Hornsby and John Harmer, all pictured doing what they best at the Woodies.

I'd like to urge all members to encourage friends, relatives and anyone else local who is interested in working with wood to come along and have a look at what we do. New members are always welcome and are in fact necessary to keep our Club active and dynamic, able to offer the best facilities and woodworking opportunities.



David Carlos found this video on YouTube of a hand powered lathe to turn huge logs - no mechanisation at all. It's simple, but ingenious and requires five people to prepare and operate. However, like many such things from days gone by or from poorer communities, it works amazingly well. This one is well worth a look.

<https://youtu.be/Da1oxe9Tf7c?si=rUFT4lcPtuvtc34b>

WARNING - BE CAREFUL

Thanks to Lex Van Saane for bringing this to my attention.



Issue:

Keyless car systems can be convenient but are also vulnerable to theft.

It has been reported that the issue is significant and reflective of global trends. It has been suggested that an increase in keyless car thefts had contributed to a significant increase in car insurance costs. So how does this work?

Keyless ignition cars all emit a very low-power radio signal looking for a keyless fob to be brought into the immediate vicinity of the vehicle. As soon as a fob replies with the correctly coded response, it assumes it is the fob associated with the vehicle and grants full access to the vehicle. Thieves are beginning to use a special receiver (signal relay device) to capture the broadcast from a vehicle located outside a person's home. They then re-transmit that signal at a higher power directed towards the vehicle owner's house where they believe an actual fob will be located. They can then capture the response transmitted by the actual fob, and recreate a matching fob that gives them complete access to the vehicle. The whole operation typically takes about a minute. Victoria Police say the proliferation of websites selling the devices has led to levels of car theft not seen in Victoria since 2003.

Car thieves can potentially also gain access to a vehicle's electronic systems through its headlights, which are generally connected to the car's networks for features like automatic adjustments.

Onboard diagnostics (OBD) ports are found in all modern cars and are commonly used for vehicle diagnostics and repair. However, if an attacker gains physical access to it, they could manipulate the car's systems, disable alarms, or start the engine.

Remedy:

Many people just keep their car keys in a metal container in the house, such as a biscuit tin or such and as far away from the car as is practical.

Old-school methods like steering wheel locks or wheel clamps also act as a deterrent to potential thieves,

Or if you do live in a known problem area as many places around Australia have become, you can put the fob to sleep and it won't emit the radio signal anymore (your second fob should already automatically do this after two weeks of no use). You can either then re-enable the fob before you go as part of your daily routine, or leave it disabled altogether and get back into the practice of using the fob's service key to get into the car the old fashioned way and then hold the fob against the start button as you press it to start the car.

This is not meant to be a frightener, just an awareness check we should all take note of.

WORKSHOP SESSIONS



Workshop sessions are going well, albeit with a drop off in numbers as is normal at this time of year, as many are hibernating or have headed north to warmer climes.

At left: Neil Croll is focussed on an intricate example of carving from a piece of natural edged timber.

Anne Ormshaw is carefully sanding pieces for one of her segmented masterpieces.

John Harmer and Eric Hornsby working on their on-going projects. (Also see this pic. in this week's Sentinel Times .)

Lex's box **below** is made from Desert Oak. The lid is still under construction. Beautiful.



Photos below are of a speargun under construction in the Woodies machine shop.

The speargun is a wooden version of the "Euro" design, good for small to medium sized, fast moving, fish.

At the time of photography, the timber construction was more or less complete. The surface had been preliminary sealed with penetrating epoxy.

Next steps are :

assembly,

- in water buoyancy testing,
- addition of ballast if needed, then
- final coating with two pot polyurethane floor varnish.

Ric Fallu.



OF SPECIAL INTEREST

HAND TOOL EVENT RETURNS - SAVE THE DATE.

Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd November

Location: Melbourne Guild of Fine Woodworking
14 Cottage St, Blackburn.

The much-loved **Hand Tool Event** returns this November! Join us for two full days of woodworking inspiration, community connection, and hands-on demonstrations.

Here's what you can look forward to:

Live demos of traditional woodworking techniques

Tool merchants offering quality products

Furniture-grade salvaged timber for sale, sourced from around Melbourne

Student exhibition of fine woodworking pieces

Raffle prizes, a **sausage sizzle**, and even a **movie session**

A more detailed schedule will be available closer to the event.

Whether you're an experienced woodworker or simply curious, this event is a highlight on the woodworking calendar.

Grace Couchman.



The picture below is of Neil and Lynn Lenne still enjoying their caravan vacation in the far north Queensland rainforest, being dwarfed by this gigantic tree which Neil believes may be a Red Cedar.



HEALTH & SAFETY

IT'S ABOUT - Covid, Colds and Flu

These and numerous other viruses are around and lurking. Most of us already have been hit or know someone who has. One going around at the moment is hanging in and people are reporting still being affected after 2 or 3 weeks. Ensure you are protected as best you can. Keep your inoculations up to date and to be fair to others, please don't come to the Club if you believe you may have any sort of transferrable illness.



SHOW & TELL

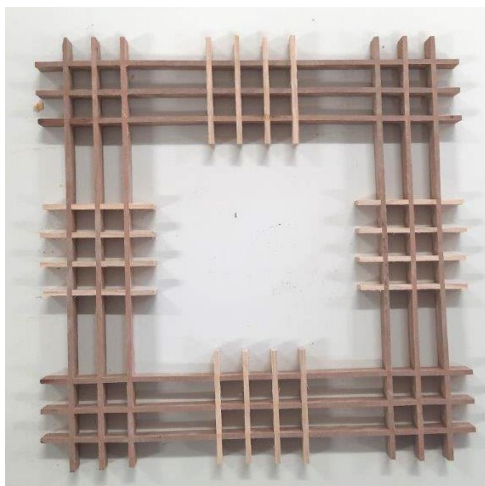
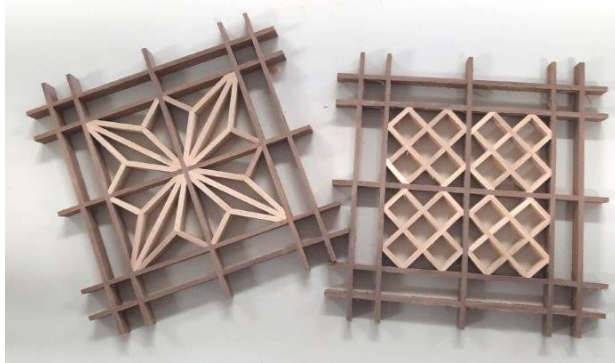
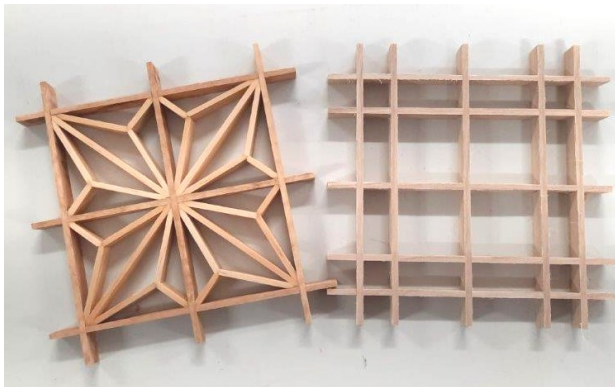
The woodworking tools below have been created by Dave McNaughton. Dave supervised our Joinery group for some time and it was good to see him at the Club once again. He is enjoying creating usable tools. Below are a scraper with wooden handle; a grooving plane created specifically for box making which features a 6mm wide chisel and rebates approx . 4mm. It's made from Cherry and Maple. The dovetail chisel has a turned handle made from Maple.



SHOW & TELL

Below: Are all items created by Sandra Pietrolungo. The two coasters will be gifts for guests at her son's wedding - six are done, only another 114 to be made!

The Kumiko items show the variety of items that Sandra has made. The bottom piece will become a frame for a mirror, photo, or picture. The Kumiko group is becoming extremely skilled and creative. Talk to Syd, Tina or Sandra if you would like to give it a try.



SHOW & TELL

Below: The segmented vase is a work in progress and comprises 254 pieces using a variety of timbers including Redgum, Merbau, Ebony, King Billy, Blackwood and Tas. Figured Oak. The lidded segmented container is made from Oak, Merbau and Eucalypt with a beautifully figured Blackwood lid. Both items were created by Steve Edge.

The lighthouse was made by Alan Hurst from Cypress Pine with a Redgum burl base.



SHOW & TELL

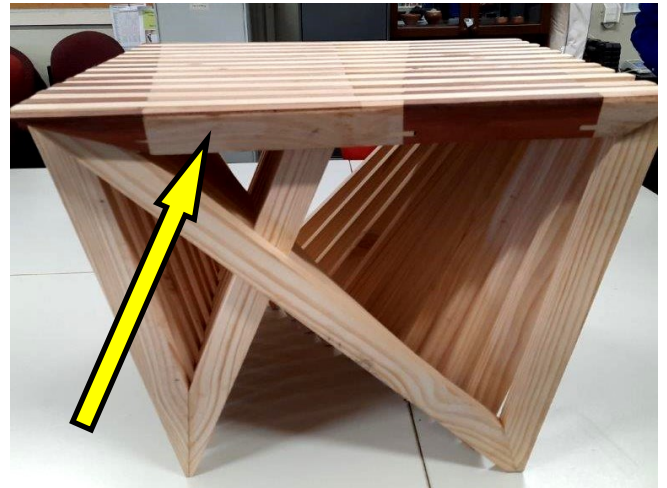
Below: The carved leaf was created by Tina Kalivas from Celery Top Pine and finished with beeswax. It was a painstaking project with a wonderful final product.

The toolbox, also created by Tina, was made from Silver Wattle and Meranti. It features contrasting butterfly joints, a tray insert (still in progress), a leather handle and was made to house all of Tina's carving tools and equipment.



CREATIVE JOINERY

The table below was created by David Carlos. It is made from Tasmanian Oak and Ash with Redgum inlays. It's a very intricate construction and David spoke to the meeting about the stages of its creation. Whichever way you look at it, you get a whole new perspective of this wonderful piece of work. One interesting feature is the way the top is held together by truss rods, the ends of which are hidden by wooden endplates (arrowed on pic.) which are held on by magnets - ingenious.



SHOW & TELL

Below: Johan Vaessen has been creating a range of pots and vases recently, some to insert plant pots for his wife and others as display vases with glass inserts. The timbers came from his home or other sources, but were mostly rough sawn and unnamed, but they all have some beautiful grains and colourings.

The pen was Johann's first attempt. He used Gidgee.



WOODIES @ WORK

'This small TV remote box was constructed using milled cypress pine from my property. It was my first attempt at dovetail joints so don't look too closely! The box is made entirely of wood, including the hinges which are dowel. Some black felt finishes off the project nicely'.

Peter Campbell.



Below: The cat was created with Scrollsaw & pyrography, then 'decorated' by Gail Trollope. She regularly has art for sale in the Inverloch hub and elsewhere, so she enjoyed the painting side of this project.



WELCOME!

NEW MEMBERS

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

LOYD MURRAY

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: 98



A very happy birthday to the following Members:

John Callaghan

Leanne Eames

Donald Easdon

Colin Goodwin

Alan Hurst

Zil Jach

Ron Snooks

Debbie Van Pelt

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



NEW MEMBER PROFILE



My name is **Kate Harmon** and I'm a relatively new member of the Wonthaggi Woodies. I'm a 50ish Neurodivergent Artist/Musician/Photographer and Woodworker.

I moved from Queensland in 2015 with my older brother and mum. I joined the Woodcrafters to improve my skills and under-

stand how to measure and cut timber to create things.

As I am the only one in my household who can fix things, improving my skills was vital. I love watching other woodcrafters create absolutely stunning pieces and I also enjoy giving Sydney a hard time.☺ It puts a smile on his face when he knows I am coming in on a Thursday morning. Now I know why fishing is important Syd! Hahaha.

Coming to the Woodies also helps a lot with my social skills.



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

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

Did you know that on the Canary Islands
there is not one Canary?

And on the Virgin Islands?

Well, same thing. There's not a single Canary
there either.



What's the difference
between a 'hippo' and a
'Zippo'? One is really heavy,
the other is a little lighter.

If I could take just one thing
to a desert island I probably
wouldn't go.

The problem isn't that obesity runs in your family, it's
that no one runs in your family.

Adam & Eve were the first ones to ignore the Apple
terms and conditions.

What's the difference between ignorance and apathy?
I don't know and I don't care.

I spent a lot of time, money, and effort childproofing my
house..... but the kids still get in.

Maybe if we start telling people their brain is an app,
they'll want to use it.

Despite the high cost of living, it remains popular.

A perfectionist walked into a bar apparently, the bar
wasn't set high enough.

I didn't think orthopaedic shoes would help, but I stand
corrected.

I know they say that money talks, but all mine says is
'Goodbye.'

You know you're working class when your TV is bigger
than your bookcase.

I thought I'd give drag racing a try out, but running in
heels is a nightmare.

My Tinder bio says that I have a corner office with views
of the entire city, drive a \$500,000 vehicle, and that I'm
paid to travel. My dates never seem too happy when I
tell them I'm a bus driver.

My wife texted me this morning and said, 'Your great.' I
replied, 'No, you're great.' She's been in a great mood
ever since. I should correct her grammar more often.



It didn't take long, did it!!



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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 & 2460 Bass Hwy, Bass (in the Service Centre)



THE WONTHAGGI WOODY is the monthly
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