

# *Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild Inc*

## MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

July / August 2020

### President's Report

Another month has past with very different outcomes of the expectations we had. The progress of our rebuilding program came to a hold due to the virus remerging in our area and the Council cannot meet in a group. Our contact at the Council was proactive and suggested to use a drone to fly over the Bimbimbie site to show the councillors the lie of the land.

Also our slabbing team was put on hold due to the distancing rules. This particular decision was very inconvenient as the team was going like a freight train at full speed but we will fire the boiler up again in the near future.

In the beginning of the month we purchased three second hand machines from a local source at Sunshine Bay. All the machines are large and heavy and require some cleaning and maintenance as they have not been used for some time. The lathe is a belt driven model with a large turning diameter of about 800mm including an assortment of turning chisels, some measuring 1500mm in length. The planer is a solid piece of equipment with very thick cutting plates. The piece of renaissance is an Altendorf sliding panel saw which is in my book like driving a Porsche 911S compared to a GOGO mobile. Sheets of 2400 x 1200mm can be cut without a problem as the table opposite the guide rail moves over 2500mm parallel to the saw plate which means that the work piece can be fixed to the table. Considering the machine was built in 1970 there is no movement/play in the moving parts. Equipped with the serial number of the machine I contacted Altendorf to see if we could get a manual for the saw. With good German efficiency I received a reply the next morning that a manual was no longer available but we could have the services of a technician from Sydney to assist in the dismantling and reassembling of the machine.

Good to know that service is available but the quoted prices are not that great as we could buy a nice new table saw for that. We organized a community effort to clean, oil and dismantle protruding parts for storage which had to be cancelled as well. All the acquisitions and donations are fantastic but we struggle again with storage space.

After our little skirmish with the weather last week we received offers of freshly fallen down timber from a property at Catalina consisting of Peppercorn, White Cedar and paperbark.

As I am writing I received a call from a gentleman from Moruya who has the timber beams from the old Moruya sawmill believed to be Ironbark. He saw the article in the paper regarding our sawmill and would like us to slab his timber for a donation of some of the timber. The beams are sixty years old and probably hard as a rock which might be too much for our mill.

We were contacted through Sharon from a school in Wales some month ago from Ysgol y Foryd in Kinmel Bay (That name must be Gallic) who had heard of the devastating bushfires on new year's eve which destroyed our shed and wanted to help us to rebuild. Some days ago the equivalent of £655 pounds arrived in our account from a fundraiser at the school. I am slightly overwhelmed that people/children half way around the world think of others and show their kindness and generosity, thank you very much. Sharon has already sent some toys to the school to show our appreciation. Further acknowledgments are discussed by the committee and an article from their local paper is attached.



Thank you Nick S for your resume, we need some more of the same. Don't be shy, if you require assistance Nick S is willing to help.

Please spare a thought for our members Bob Shelley & John Lodding who have been ill recently and our

thoughts go to Len Newman who lost his wife, Audrey.

I hope we can report some more news on our rebuilding front next Month, stay well and be safe. Helmut.

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#### EXCERPT FROM WELSH LOCAL NEWSPAPER ....

##### **Pupils have completed their fundraiser in response to the Australia bushfires.**

Children from Ysgol y Foryd in Kinmel Bay managed to raise £655 for Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild (Woodies); their premises, all materials and equipment were destroyed by the Mogo firestorm.

The school has a personal link as a past student teacher, who now lives in Australia, was affected by the devastating fires.

Children had planned to deliver a live performance of Supertramp's 'Give A Little Bit' as part of the fundraiser, but the virus pandemic sadly put a stop to this.

Carmel Patterson, teaching assistant, said: "Woodies kindly sent us some toys they had made as a thank you and our school prime minister Elle Young got to open them on her birthday. They are not entitled to any funding. It is a place where people from the community go to do woodcraft.

We sadly couldn't do the live performance of the song we had prepared as lockdown came along. This was due to take place at Kinmel Bay church. Parents still kindly donated their money to the fundraiser.

I had the idea. I went to the headteacher with it and everyone has got involved - staff, children, nursery, parents. To raise funds we did a coffee shop, raffle, bag pack and received individual donations from place of work and parents.

We plan on having a sloth party when we return as lots of children now own one.

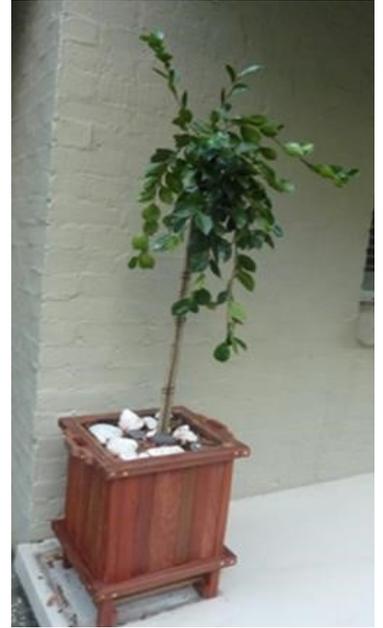
I am a very proud teaching assistant."



# HOME WORKSHOP ACTIVITY

## Planter Box by Helmut

A new planter box was required to replace the cedar box with a yucca which was declared to be a bit yucky by the house committee of one. The nice cedar box was part of the plant and had to be removed which meant total destruction. Some time ago I scrounged recycled Ironbark decking timber off cuts from my daughter. The off cuts were 150 x 35mm in various lengths and cut in strips of 13 x 30 finished size with the bandsaw as the table saw was struggling with the cut. Top and bottom frame and corner pieces are 30 x 25mm which gives stability to the box. The strips are screwed from the inside to the frame. Drip tray shelf and the bottom of the box are secured in the identical fashion with a cross brace on two sides. Two handles were included into the top frame. The planter box was finished with outdoor varnish and Danish oil. The new box with a camellia is not the same size consequently the porch has to be repainted and so on it goes.



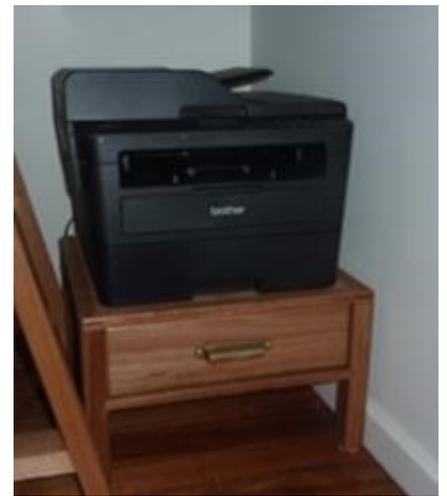
**Malcolm** has also been busy making a variety of cutting boards of various shapes and sizes. The boards are made from local hardwoods with a few ring-ins. Spotted Gum, Swamp Mahogany, River She Oak and Iron Bark mixed with some Victorian Ash and Cypress Pine. It seems that home confinement is enticing people to update their kitchen equipment, thus the interest in our cutting boards.



# HOME WORKSHOP ACTIVITY cont'd

## More work from Helmut .. Printer Table

After 19 years my old laser printer gave up the ghost in the paper transport department, consequently a new one had to be purchased. The new printer was physically totally different and required a new stand. I found some leftover Blackbutt timber from the desk I built years ago and made a low stand for the printer. The small table is constructed as a box with two cross braces between the front and back legs and held together with two side walls. For symmetry the back has a wall panel like the two sides. A draw was added to the stand for the printing paper storage with a handle I bought years ago from an antique shop. The rails for the draw are mounted to the side walls. My old recipe of 1/3 polyurethane 1/3 Danish oil and 1/3 turps was the undercoat finished off with wax.



**Barry Fenning** has sent us this photo of his most recent project - a cake stand made from Victorian Ash and a bowl turned from Victorian ash, cedar and radiate pine.

Sitting here in my cold study, I am very envious of Barry's raging fire in the background

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It was with sadness we learned about the passing of Audrey Newman on Friday 24th July. I only met her a couple of times, once when Linda and I were invited to see Len's workshop and Audrey's sewing room at their home in Malua Bay. As a lot of you will know, Audrey enjoyed her sewing, particularly her quilt making, which she excelled at. Over a cup of tea and home-made cake, we chatted about all sorts of "girly things", and we enjoyed her company very much. I am sure fellow Woodies and their partners will join Malcolm and I in passing on our most sincere condolences to Len and his family.

Rest in peace dear Audrey.

# Reminiscing

Malcolm recently came across in his archives this article in the local Bay Post and Moruya Examiner newspapers in 2007 of our first official workshop in the Bay at the Batemans Bay Bowlo. I am sure newer members like myself will be interested to read it, and longer term members might also enjoy reading again.

The members at the time moved from Tony Whelan's workshop/garage at Surfside and helped build a workshop in part of the greenkeepers shed at the bowlo where we made all sorts of woodcraft. It was during this time that the local community discovered what the Woodies was all about and the contribution we as a club could make to the community.



The Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild - Jeff Arnold, Les Bamford, Lutz Baseler, Peter Bashford, Peter Brotherton, Barry Corrigan, Cyril Elliot, Mick Forsyth, Paul Green, Ron Hanlon, Des Jeffery, Arthur Keeler, Roger Lane, John Lodding, Leslie Low, Malcolm McDonald, Frank McGettigan, James McGrath, Ken McIntyre, Annette Parry, Warren Randall, Eric Simes, Ralph Vine and Alan Zakrajsek.

## Eurobodalla woodies officially shift house

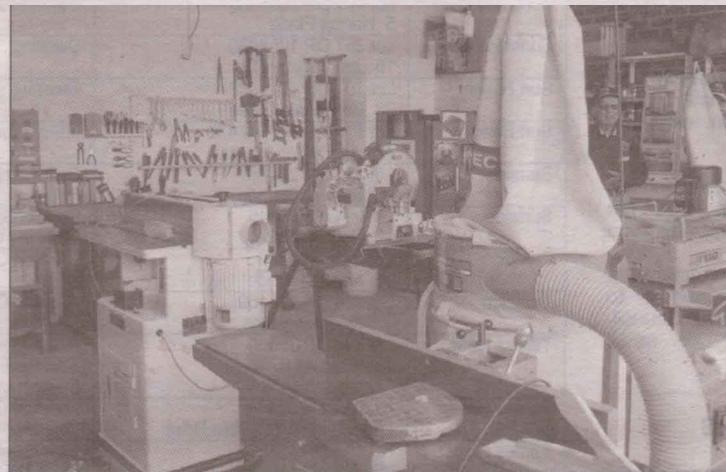
IN 1987 the Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild was formed as a way to promote woodworking in the local area.

On Saturday, some 20 years later, it was a thriving group of proud woodworkers who gathered to take a major step in the club's history - moving into their first official place of residence.

With more than 40 members the group has grown over the years, eventually outgrowing the private quarters of its members.

A need for a more permanent place to reside was recognised by the Batemans Bay Bowling Club, who cleared a space in the greenkeeper's shed for the men to go about their business.

A well-known face in the community, the Woodcraft



OFFICIAL OPENING: The new official residence of the Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild at the Batemans Bay Bowling Club.

Guild makes toys for underprivileged and sick children, donates wooden items to charities including playgroups, hospitals, and the aged and infirm, and generally promotes a friendship among like-minded individuals.

Bega MP Andrew Constance and Federal MP for Gilmore Joanna Gash officially opened the guild's new workshop to a loud cheer on Saturday.

For more information on the Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild call 4478 6645 or 4471 1653.

**Now for some good news.** As Eric advised on Wednesday, we have just had an extremely generous offer from the Community Workshop at Moruya High School. They have offered to all of our members the use of their workshop, either on Wednesday or Friday where they attend or if there is sufficient numbers on another day of our choice. For those wishing to take up this offer you must first pay a \$30.00 joining fee and go to Services NSW to fill in a Working with Children document. This is at no charge as it's for a not for profit group but is required as the workshop is on school grounds. They also ask for \$3.00 a visit for tea and bickies. They are a Men's Shed so their insurance should be the same as ours.

Their equipment consists of 2 lathes, drop saw, table saw, small band saw ( which is soon to be replaced by a larger one) 2 x drill press, thicknesser, lisher, belt sander and sharpening gear.

They are also well equipped with metal working gear such as welders, powers saws, brake press and plasma cutter.

If you are interested, Eric suggests we do a 'group recce' which he will co-ordinate.

I don't know about you, but I am as keen as mustard, so get in touch with Eric so a mutually available time/date can be arranged. .... See you there !!!

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## Woodies Welfare

Sorry to hear **Rob Shelley** has been struck down with bad health - Rob we hope you are recovering and will soon be back on deck.

**Len Newman** - what a terrible 6 months for you, what with fires, Covid 19, loosing your beloved wife Audrey and now your eyes are packing it in. We hope the next 6 months may be easier on you, and let us know if we can do anything to make life a bit easier.

**John Lodding** is still battling with bad health, so our best wishes are extended to you as well.

### AND ...

Don't forget the Tilba Exhibition and Show may still go ahead on the long weekend in October, so you have heaps of time to work on both exhibition and sales items.

### *Dates for Your Diary*

**Next Monthly Meeting — TBA by email by Eric**

#### **Proposed Sales Days 2020 :**

September River of Art display (tentative)  
3rd October (long weekend) - Club activities TBA closer to time. Alternatives are :Village Centre sales; Durras and Tilba exhibits/sales days.  
14th November (TBC) - Hospital Handmade Markets, BB  
28th November - Village Centre sales

**NOTE:** Members seeking further information contact **Secretary Eric Simes (02) 4471 5086**

Just another reminder if you have not yet paid your 2020/21 membership renewal of \$25, it is now due, and **don't forget, if paying by direct deposit, include your name and the word Membership.**

# *Eurobodalla Woodies*

Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild Inc, PO Box 1186, Batemans Bay, NSW 2536

[www.eurobodallawoodies.org.au](http://www.eurobodallawoodies.org.au)

ABN 13 962 346 892

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2020-2021**

Annual membership fees are now due. This year we have lowered the annual fee to \$25.

**Now Due \$25**

### **PAYMENT METHOD**

#### **Direct Deposit**

**Account Name: Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild**

BSB: 641 800

Account no. 032114358

#### **Cheque**

**Payable to: Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild**

Include your name and the word Membership if paying by Direct Deposit.



*Edited by Christine Birks and Malcolm McDonald*

**Club Website :** [www.eurobodallawoodies.org.au](http://www.eurobodallawoodies.org.au)

**Email :** [ewg.mogo@yahoo.com](mailto:ewg.mogo@yahoo.com)