

Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild Inc

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2021

President's report

Hi all, I hope you are all well and enjoying our more inclusive meetings.

Obviously we are all slightly frustrated with our progress in securing a piece of land around Mogo. Our current position in this matter is a unanimous decision of the Eurobodalla Shire Council on the 24th November 2020 to enter into a lease agreement with the Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild. One of the places suggested by council is located at Bimbimbie and the other at the south side of Mogo. The Bimbimbie site is the property of the ESC and the Mogo property is crown land. In short the Bimbimbie site has zoning difficulties after the new fire regulations were introduced and overhead power lines restricting development. The Mogo site is currently being evaluated by a consultant group engaged by the council to develop the new look of Mogo which includes us. As discussed at our Christmas party we favour Mogo for a more inclusive surrounding but also the suggestion by the Men's Shed organisation to build on crown land which would enhance our relationship with them. The only certainty I can give is that it will take a little more time before we can rebuild. I envisage in the middle of the second half of the year we may have a lease agreement. Please be patient - we will get there and rebuild our workshop and reduce the piles of wood we have already drying at David's place.

Eric has initiated with friends who have property along Dunns Creek road and lost all their houses in the fires, for us to build a temporary shed on their property which would not require a DA. We are currently negotiating with the family to further the idea. Peter Mc is doing the groundwork for the cost

of constructing the shed in line with of our requirements and the landlord. This would be a small shed where we have to move the machinery out in the morning and back in the afternoon similar to the workings in our old shed. When we vacate the shed the landowner will reimburse EWG for the shed for a negotiated amount. I hope the project comes to fruition so we can start getting together again to do some woodworking.



As discussed at our last meeting the Durras Easter market on the 3rd April is in full swing and to be good citizens we also committed to have a stall at Mogo the next day for a family day. We would need people to attend our stall on both days so if anybody could help out it would be welcome. In Durras we would require some sort of a roster as we are only allowed two people at the time behind the table. This might change but the current regulations for an indoor event are limited. The family day at Mogo is an outdoor event with fewer regulations.

Chris B just informed us that it was decided at the last meeting with the Narooma club that the Tilba show will go ahead. Thank you Chris B, JJ and Rick S for your effort in getting everything on track again.

I just returned from Sydney after a week of family requirements hence the short report and the long hand of Chris pulling my ear to forward the report.

Keep well, keep safe and see you at the Durras market.

Helmut



Woodies members **Nick Hopkins** and **David Keating** were approached in 2020 by Broulee Public School to assist in redesigning some of the tired landscaping in the playground. Nick brushed off his dusty AutoCAD skills and prepared an A1 landscape concept plan which the P+C, teachers and parents mulled over and suggested amendments.

After a few iterations of the plan, one priority area was selected. Nick prepared a materials list for distribution to the parents to see what donated items and labour would be forthcoming. The response was heartening.

One design element was borrowed from another Woodies project, the Mogo playground, where hardwood stumps were concreted in place on stirrups to create a stepping stone "journey" for the kids.

The design also involved sourcing a truckload of big granite to act as a perimeter of a mulched pit centred on an existing concrete culvert. David and Nick visited Bergalia Quarry and hand-picked the rocks mid-January. One parent had an excavator big enough to manoeuvre the rocks into position at the school. Other parents and teachers, including the principal, donated time, energy and expertise on successive days.

The outcome is a fabulous public school playground, a true testament to generosity in the spirit of community service.

Nick Hopkins



VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED !!

We have three sales days coming up - 2 over the Easter weekend, and 1 over the June long weekend. It's great to be having the opportunity to once again show off and sell our wares. However, we not only need good stocks of sales items, but we need volunteers to man our sales table. For the next few months some of our senior members will be unavailable to attend, so please volunteer your time for these events.

Durras Easter Markets - 3rd April will go ahead, and EWG has been asked to run the BBQ and provide Covid marshalls

Mogo Family fun Day - Easter Sunday 4th April. Volunteers will be required to man our sales table

Tilba Woodwork Show—June Long weekend, June 12 & 13 - Set up on Friday afternoon, June 11, manning our sales table, entry table and exhibition hall and act as Covid marshals.

SHOW 'N TELL FEBRUARY MEETING

Trevor Fletcher has made this intricate cutting board using red gum & spotted gum, finished with food grade oil and burnished. I can't believe his patience to figure out all the sizes.



Barry Fenning is responsible for this shoe horn made from Tasmanian blackwood and finished with polyurethane; and a coat rack with thermometer. For this he used red gum and finished with polyurethane.



What can we say about this amazing piece of work from **Peter McDowell**. The chess board has a drawer to hold the chess pieces, which he turned and carved. For this amazing piece of art, he used jacaranda, gidgee, and king billy pine, finished with various oils.

Pete also turned this bowl showing branch entry points and grain using Wilga finished with EEE and Shellawax.



Bob Shelley has been putting his new lathe to good use making these 3 bowls from radiata pine. He used contrasting timber from his scrap heap to enhance the bowls, including pieces of myrtle, merbau and she oak, all finished with EEE & Shellawax.

Helmut Delrieux was given the task of making a Magneto Box which had to be made to look old. He used pine and jarrah and finished with a mixture of walnut stain, tung oil and turps, applied with steel wool.



Rick Stanford has been attending John Tanner's turning classes at his home workshop, and this is one example of the pieces. It is a bowl turned from radiata pine and finished with EEE and Shellawax.



SHOW 'N TELL MARCH MEETING

It was good to see **Len Newman** again at the March meeting. He was good enough to bring along some of his pieces made previously - they certainly are a testament to his woodworking skills.



To the left is a bowl made from spated blackwood, and to the right is a platter, also made from blackwood. Interesting grain in both pieces.



Below is a turned lidded box set made from Cocobana. How did Len turn the smaller ones ?



This lovely box is made from American oak with contrasting dovetail corners, probably jarrah



Peter McDowell has come up again with an amazing piece - this time a stationery box, complete with turned pen and turned letter opener from Qld silky oak, and lined with felt. The lid has a picture of a horse drawn plough hand carved from huon pine and sealed with resin. Pete used Qld silky oak for the lid frame, banksia for the box walls and bottom, all finished with EEE and Shellawax.



He also made these 2 mug stands, one from red cedar and the other radiata pine, both finished with EEE and Shellawax.



Again Len's expertise is shown with this intricate hand warmer from an unknown timber



SHOW 'N TELL MARCH MEETING CONT'D ...



Here is another example of **Malcolm McDonald's** skills making cutting boards. This one is from spotted gum and finished with UBeaut Eco Oil.

And lastly **Rick Stanford** made this lovely lidded box from huon pine with sassafras insert, finished with EEE and Shellawax. This is another result of John Tanner's turning lessons.



Speaking of John Tanner, don't forget he is continuing his lessons from his home workshop (please see separate article listing available dates). Having been one of his pupils, I can thoroughly recommend it to anyone interested in turning. Just contact John to take advantage of his generosity of time and expertise.



This board was shown at the February meeting, but I do not have any notes on the owner or what materials were used. Could you please contact Chris Birks to give her the details.

WOODTURNING WORKSHOPS for BEGINNERS

I will be running Woodturning Workshops for Beginners in my home workshop at 54 Grantham Road, Batehaven, commencing about 22nd April. (I have 2 good lathes and all the necessary equipment). They will be run on Mondays at 11am and Wednesdays at 1 pm, for about 3-4 hours, for two students on each day.

These workshops are intended for Members who have had no training in woodturning in the past, and are a combination of instruction and lots of practice making simple projects using both spindle and bowl turning. They are designed to run for about 12 weeks but normally last much longer. The last one took about 12 months including the COVID shutdown!!! About half of the EWG Members have done this workshop over the years, and the results have been very pleasing.

If you are interested in doing this workshop, please let me know ASAP (I already have two Members on the waiting list!) If you have already done the Workshop and would like to do a Refresher Workshop, to "brush up" or to do some specialist advanced Projects, please also let me know and I will see what can be arranged

Please let me know if you are interested:

Cheers:

John Tanner

email: johnjan155@bigpond.com

Mobile: 0419 801 039

HOME WORKSHOP ACTIVITY

At the Moruya Show in January a lady enquired at our sales tent if we could make a special bread board for her. Of course we said yes not knowing the details as yet. Well, she wanted a solid board one metre long x half metre wide x two inches thick with natural edges. Not your average chopping board! The guys all turned to me and said that sounds like a job for you Mal. I'm always up for a challenge so David and I rummaged through our stored slabbed piles of wood looking for a well seasoned specimen that could fit the bill. This is what we came up with, a slab of Spotted Gum. It was too big to put through the drum sander so hand sanding was the order of the day, rubber feet underneath as it was not intended to be turned over (!!!) and finished with U Beaut Foodsafe Oil. Our lady from Moruya was exceptionally pleased.



While still on chopping boards a friend's nephew requested a special board 700mm x 500mm x 45mm with a collection groove for food juices all round and rubber feet underneath. This was a private job, so off to Cameron's Hardware I went to pick up some quality Black Butt. I was able to glue the wood in two wide sections so I could firstly put the timber through the drum sander before finally joining them to make the 500mm wide board and completing the sanding. The groove was a bit of a challenge in setting up but we got there in the end. Finished with U Beaut Foodsafe Oil.

Judy Rafferty took part in a two day Pen making course at Malcolm's place earlier this month. It was her first time on a wood lathe and Judy came through with flying colors. The two pens selected by her were a Slimline and an Executive Sierra both made with Sydney Blue Gum and finished with EEE and Shellawax Cream.



Jenny Barnes was also part of the pen course at Malcolm's place. Jenny used Huon Pine for the first Slimline pen with gun metal colored fittings and Tasmanian Blackwood for the second Slimline pen with gold fitting. These were Jenny's first two pens and a great result for both. There could be lots of gifts coming soon. Both pens were finished with EEE and Shellawax Cream.

PS. Both Judy and Jenny were very enthusiastic about what they were doing and it was a pleasure working with them. Added to the enjoyment on each day was a delightful morning tea which Jill served and which we were ready to enjoy.

HOME WORKSHOP ACTIVITY Cont'd ...

Barry Fenning has turned a pen with a bit of history to it. It's a replica of the famous Aston Martin Pen which was issued in the early years of manufacture to the new owners of the famous Aston Martin sports car. Unlike the pen issued to James Bond 007 this pen does not fire bullets or rocket propelled missiles. Barry made the pen from White Cedar and finished it with U Beaut Aussie Oil.



WANTED

Nick Hopkins is looking for some timber if anyone can help. Details are :

6 x 6 inch (150 x 150) or larger, seasoned hardwood or softwood. Short length(s) urgently required for sculpture project. Please give Nick a call on 0429 428 663 if you have any suitable timbers.

Malcolm Mc Donald is also asking for donations of quality hardwood to use for making the serving trays as trophies for the Moruya Jockey Club. This project is a good revenue source, but both materials and volunteers to assist with the making is required. Please contact Mal if you can help.

Sue Page needs photos for the website. Sue works hard on this important site, and new photos are always welcome ! Please send to Sue direct on susannejp@westnet.com.au

TILBA WOODWORKING EXHIBITION

I am pleased to advise that the annual Woodworking Exhibition held at Tilba will once again be held this year over the June long weekend, June 12 and 13. You will recall it was cancelled last year due to the COVID outbreak.

As we have 2 sales days over Easter, our stocks of sales items will be depleted, so the Club will be asking members to contribute sales items. As the Wood Gallery has now closed in Tilba, we feel there will be increased potential for our sales. We will also need high quality pieces to enter into the Exhibition, and entry forms will be sent to members by email shortly.

Because we will be running the event under COVID requirements, we will be asking for more than normal numbers of volunteers over the 2 days. Please consider volunteering your time and advise back by email if you can assist.

THANK YOU - AGAIN!

Our thanks again go to Margaret Madsen, from Canberra, who donated to EWG the woodworking equipment from her late husband's workshop, has also offered EWG his woodwork books. This will go a long way to restore the precious library we lost in the fire.

Australian Stingless Bees (Tetragonula Species are mainly coastal).

Barry Fenning has built three bee nesting hives for his son Steven who intends to breed the bees and harvest their honey in his back yard.

A nest or box of true blue Australian stingless bees (4mm long- see photo) can make a wonderful addition to your backyard as they pollinate plants and supply a unique taste of honey. The boxes used for Stingless Bees are smaller than those used for commercial honeybees. They also have a three-part design that allows the nest to be propagated by a method called splitting. In the photo below it shows a stingless bee hive designed by Barry Fenning.

The bottom two box sections are the brood nest which has a 13 mm dia hole in the box end for bee access and a smaller drilled hole for ventilation. The top section is the honey section which makes for easy access for harvesting the honey. You don't need smoke or protective clothing as the bees don't sting. The walls of the hive are 25mm plus in thickness which helps insulate the bees from heat as the bees don't like it too hot. The hive is also placed in a low area in the yard which receives the eastern morning sun but is shaded in the afternoon. If you are interested in creating your own honey farm then give Barry a call.



Dates for Your Diary

Next Monthly Meeting — Saturday 10 April, Venue TBA

Proposed Sales Days 2021 :

Sat, 3 April	Durras Easter Market
Sun, 4 April	Mogo Family Fun Day
Sat/Sun, 12 & 13 June	Tilba Woodwork show
November	Hospital Handmade Markets, BB

NOTE: Members seeking further information contact :

Secretary Eric Simes (02) 4471 5086

Edited by Christine Birks and Malcolm McDonald

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