

Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild Inc

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

August 2018

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

This month began sadly with the death of our former president and long term active member Des Jeffrey. Those members who were able to attend his memorial service learned of the many facets of Des' life and community service. Des installed the initial dust extraction system in our current workshop, largely on his own, and his plumbing expertise was a key factor in the construction of our toilet facility. Des also displayed great leadership guiding the committee in the formulation of our current OH&S policy and was a regular sale day team member selling his lazy susans and cutting boards as well as many other items. Des will be greatly missed.

Returning to the workshop after a 3 month absence it was pleasing to find all the major projects completed and everything running smoothly. Many thanks to Eric, Mark, Peter Bro and Don, as well as any others I haven't found out about yet, for their efforts maintaining normal operations. The workshop is certainly a busy place currently with 33 members present for morning tea last Wednesday and the membership list increasing on a weekly basis.

Next week David is aiming to complete milling the last of our log supply and re-stack some unstable slabs in the wood store. Any new members who would like to acquaint themselves with the operation of our chain saw mill might take the opportunity to have a look and maybe lend a hand. Don't forget your hearing and eye protection. Gloves can be handy too.

We were fortunate to have our grant application for an AED device approved by the Club's Association and, having now received the funds, we are in the process of purchasing the unit. Sue Page will be instructing members on the correct use of the device once we have acquired it so please keep a look out for that demonstration. You could save a life.

I remind all members that Saturday September 1 is our next monthly meeting that will be followed by the AGM and the election of next year's committee. There are nominations for all positions at hand so you can safely attend without fear of getting roped into anything other than having your say on the function of your club.

Since my last president's report Jenny and I have travelled across the Nullarbor, via Melbourne, up the west coast to Broome, east to Katherine and then home via Cape Crawford, Longreach and Griffith. Along the way we saw many magnificent places and doubled the odometer reading in the ute. It is good to be back with you all.

Cheers
Pete McDowell

Dates for Your Diary

Workshop Days Each Mon & Wed	Mogo
Workshop Toy Days 1st & 3rd Wed	Mogo
Workshop Demonstrations 2nd & 4th Wed	Mogo
EWG AGM and Monthly Meeting ..	
1st September	Mogo

Proposed Sales Days 2018:

29th September, 2018 - Sales Day Village Centre
(opposite Aldi entrance)
10th November 2018 - Hospital Hand Made
Markets, at Soldiers Club, Batemans Bay
24th November, 2018 - Sales Day Village Centre

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

VALE: Des Jeffery

It is with great sadness that the Guild notes the passing of our long time member Des Jeffery.

Des was an active member of the Guild for just on 15 years and during that time he took on the role of Vice President then eventually Club President. Des was a good friend to all and was always ready with his professional skills to help out when and where needed, this was especially so during the building of our workshops firstly at the Batemans Bay Bowling Club and then at the Gold Rush Colony Mogo where he was instrumental in the design and installation of the original dust extraction systems.

Des was a strong supporter of club activities, functions and sales days often accompanied by his wife Dorothy, and loved to spend many hours in the club's workshop making items for the sale table, such as jewelry boxes, elaborate cutting boards and lazy susans, and dolls houses. Des was especially remembered for his many award winning traditional rocking horses which he made with particular attention to detail, looking so life-like that each had its own character.

Des Jeffery will always be remembered as our friend and a fellow woodworker whose passion and love for wood remains with us all.

Malcolm McDonald



SHOW & TELL



Barry Fenning has lovingly crafted a jewelry box for his granddaughter using spotted gum with cedar biscuits on the corners and old oregon saved from an old home in Sydney. He spotted the glass insert box in a gift shop and made the box to fit. Let's hope his granddaughter will appreciate all the work involved in making this lovely gift.

Nicks Stone has once again been on the lathe and has crafted these very interesting pens using different types of banksia. It was a bit of a fiddle as the holes needed to be filled with epoxy - several times during the course of the turning - but the result was well worth it !



David Keating crafted this beautiful ring box for his wife, Wendy. The lid swings open using a piece of timber dowel

Members Corner



In this instance, it's a case of '**New** members corner'. These pictures were provided by our latest members, Sue and Bob Shelley. When I saw the board Bob was completing in the workshop a few weeks ago, I assumed he had a history of woodworking, and had transferred to our Club. But no, his only previous experience has been making coffee tables and the like, and dutifully repairing larger functional household pieces. The pizza platter opposite is a birthday gift for his son who enjoys the odd pizza or three, hence the shape. Bob saw fellow Woodies in the workshop using inserts in their handiwork, and was inspired to have a go himself. The 3 inserts represent the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, and the Equator, accompanied by the insert of the Southern Cross. The base was made of pine, and the inserts were made from scraps found around the workshop.

Similarly, the longer chopping board or platter was made of pine with contrasting coloured bits and pieces found in the workshop. You really needed to see the perfection of the inserts to appreciate the workmanship of these pieces.



Lastly, Sue's contribution is a piece she crafted which was accepted in the current Sculpture on Clyde exhibition. Sue has been involved in arts and crafts for many years at both University and TAFE, and has dabbled across many fields, including ceramics, sculpture, stained glass, etc. This piece is made from unidentified timber, with a glass insert Sue had left over from another work.

Sue and Bob don't have a workshop as such, but share a benchtop in the garage. I have a feeling this may change in the near future!

Judging by both their pieces, I think it's a case of 'watch this space' as their creativity expands with the knowledge and expertise they gain at the EWG workshop.



Members Corner Cont'd ...

THANKS DON GEEVES

Where would the Guild be without our Don and his expertise? Up mud creek without the proverbial paddle that's where! Over the years Don has spent many of his leisure hours repairing Guild equipment usually to a standard better than when it was new. While he has been assisted by other members with things like electrics the hard yards for actually repairing broken bits and pieces belong to Don.

His most recent endeavours include major refurbishment of our Hafco lathe and a further modification to our 14" Laguna bandsaw located in the workshop.

In the case of the Hafco lathe this involved:-

- a major rebuild and machining of the drive head shaft and replacement of the bearings;
- repairs to the drive head variable speed belt pulley mechanism;
- repairs to the lower variable speed belt pulley mechanism including the very worn keyways;
- making sure that the variable speed selector switch was operating correctly.

This lathe has now been recommissioned and operators are very happy with its performance.

In the case of the Laguna bandsaw, Don had previously built a new set of blade guides to replace the original ceramic guides which were having difficulty in coping with the heavy usage on this saw. The new guides were made from metal and used ball bearings for the blade support. This has proved very successful but in practice it was found that the bottom thrust bearing under the table was difficult to adjust. Don has modified the bottom support mechanism so that this bearing can now be adjusted by simply removing the blue plate in the table around the blade.



Don has not stopped there: with his invaluable help and expertise he has assisted guild members with their own workshop machines and this includes myself. Don built a replacement upper blade guide in steel for my carba-tec bandsaw (the original cast alloy falling apart with age) which works perfectly if not running smoother than the original.

Our Don is a very modest gentleman, a quiet worker who prefers to work under the radar with just a "Thanks mate" at the end. Guild members are very appreciative of Don Gieves' dedication to our club and without his input the workshop would not be functioning as well as it does. Thanks Don.

Malcolm McDonald & Peter Brotherton

CLUB PROJECTS

The club project to restore the Apothecary cabinet in the Gold Rush Colony's Pharmacy has been completed by Eric Simes and Ann Salmon. They have taken what was a very plain open cabinet, and restored with glass lockable doors using the maple donated to the Club. The beading around the edges of the glass doors was handmade by Ann, with many hours of sanding, cutting to size, fitting, gluing and clamping. The cabinet was stained with a light oak, and installed during early August. I am sure the Gold Rush Colony was well pleased with the end result. Next time you have a spare 5 minutes, walk up the road to the Pharmacy and see for yourself Thanks Ann and Eric for a great job.



The other project completed during August was the restoration of a cane chair by Susanne Page. Apparently the cushion sat on some very deteriorated webbing, which was removed and restored with a solid base. Unfortunately, Sue was so quick with this project, I wasn't able to get a photo before it went back to the owner. Thanks Sue!



Don't forget, contributions of newsletter articles are always welcome. Please feel free to send to me by email to mikeandchrisbirks@bigpond.com.

Regards,
Chris Birks, Editor
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