

# *Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild Inc*

## MEMBERS NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2022

### President's Report

Greetings to all of you and it is nice to look forward to some sort of normality returning to our club. The expected normality we hoped for can turn into something else the next day but one should be more positive.

We had a flurry of surprises over the last weeks I should report on. At our last general meeting Eric reported that he had a very productive meeting with our newly elected mayor Mathew Hatcher and councillor David Grace regarding land for us to rebuild. Obviously other clubs are in the same position as us and are thought of in the discussions. This point also adds some more complexities into the discussions in regard to the size of the land, car spaces, facilities and so on. Wendy and Eric prepared documentation for the meeting regarding the location of crown land around Mogo as possibilities for a community hub. The mayor suggested a different way to free up some land in Mogo which he will pursue. Also, a suggestion was made that we petition the council in a public forum meeting held every Month and we are currently preparing for that. On Monday, the week of the state by election, I received a phone call at home from Eric telling me that as he was just leaving DCR for home, two cars drove into our workshop area. Out of one side of a car Andrew Constance appeared and on the other side Marise Payne our Foreign Minister. Slightly overwhelmed, Eric explained our situation and a commitment was made to look into our plight. Obviously, there was a much longer conversation and detailed discussions but roughly with the described outcome. Later that day I was informed that Val B. spoke to Andrew C. at the pre-electoral hall quite emotionally about our situation which probably triggered the visit to DCR. Thursday morning Eric called and asked if I would be available for a meeting with Andrew Constance at Mogo in the afternoon. The open-air meeting was attended by MATAMA,

C.V.M.C.V (Vintage Car Club), ABC reporter and us. Andrew C. was accompanied by Fiona Kotvojs and our mayor. Andrew floated another feasible proposal to get us some land and it was endorsed by all participants.

After the election, all got quiet again and our current efforts are a public submission to the council suggested by the mayor at the first meeting with him. This little skirmish was quite an emotional ride for me and probably others too having high expectations followed by disappointment. But do not give up we will get there in the end.

Attending the workshop again after my recuperation period I see more people attending Mondays and Wednesday workshop days, which is pleasing. We have to increase our production of sales items for the Durras market. Also, project work is commencing again which requires volunteers and project coordinators.

Peter M. has very quickly built a storage facility under the roof for some expected timber donations which did not eventuate. Thank you, Peter, for your tireless efforts of building, the use of your mobile workshop and production of beautiful woodwork.

Also, Eric deserves a special thanks for his unbelievable effort to procure a new home for us. Single handedly he organised our current location, makes many phone calls to contacts and associates to further our cause, writes letters to remind everybody who should know that we still exist and also recruits his lovely wife Wendy to do all the research and complex computer work.

Thanks to all of you for your help and good wishes and hope we get a clear run for the foreseeable future to do some woodworking.

Like we say, stay well, stay safe and enjoy life.  
Helmut



# SHOW 'N TELL



**Peter McDowell** has impressed again with this turned winged bowl using redwood.

Whilst on the lathe, he also turned the bowl below from a jarrah burl.



This unusually shaped platter made from Huon pine is also one of Pete's, as well as the 2 small row-boats (with oars) carved from Huon pine



**Barry Fenning** made this Ironbark coffee table with turned legs and behind a box made from red and grey ironbark.



**Len Newman** is responsible for these 2 clocks, which are so different to each other. The traditional clock is made from Brazilian rosewood and the other below made from a Coolibah burl. Both are a testament to Len's skills with timber



Other Show 'N Tell pieces are not included in this newsletter, as no photographs were available. Apologies to Ann, Paul, Trevor and Bob

Sadly in December Father Time caught up with two of our long term Members. Of course I refer to John Lodding, and Warren Randall. Malcolm and Eric have scribed their memories of these past Members below.

## VALE JOHN LODDING

The Eurobodalla Woodcraft Guild was first established in 1987 and not long after that John Lodding joined the Guild in 1991. After a quiet start as a new member John eventually became involved in the management of the Guild and took on the esteemed role of Secretary from 1995 to 1997, Committee Member 2000 to 2007 then Catering and Sales Officer from 2008 to 2018 when personal health issues prevented John from doing the job the way he would have liked. It was time to pass on the reins to others. John remained a loyal member of the Guild till his passing late last year.



John was always in attendance at sales days and always supported by his wife Ruth be it Sunshine Bay, Tilba or the Village Centre in the Bay and his distinctive cap and distinguished white “mo” and beard would always pop up in the club group photos. He was always there to support the making of club projects and his trademark project became his Magazine Table which he originally made for Ruth but very soon become a very popular sales item at venues like Tilba.

John’s role as catering officer, with the valued support of other club members, resulted in our end of year Christmas Parties being a famous success every time. Naturally John did the Santa Clause bit and handed out small gifts to everyone, trading his green cap for a Santa hat and tie. His pride and joy was the club kitchen which he kept clean and always stocked up with cream biscuits and hot coffee. No complaints there!!

John was always in for a social gathering anywhere and the Tuesday Melbourne Cup Day in November at his home was a good excuse for a BBQ followed by a gamble on the Cup race. John’s other interest and pet project was the establishment of a National Service Memorial at Broulee Memorial Gardens Crematorium and Lawn Cemetery. The Memorial consists of a propeller, anchor and cross with a tin hard hat at the base, erected on a concrete base. Work on the memorial was completed in 2011, on behalf of the National Serviceman’s Association.



I first met John when I joined the Guild in 2004, he has always been a dear friend to me and so many other members of the Guild. He will always be remembered.

... Malcolm McDonald



## MY FRIEND WARREN RANDALL

I first met Warren in 2001 or 2002 at a woodwork competition held at Batemans Bay Community Centre and run by the Forestry Department.

I had entered a small table (didn't win a prize) and Warren approached me to look at my work. After the normal greetings and a little discussion, he asked if I would like to join a Woodwork club. Well as we had just moved into the area it seemed like a good way to meet people, so I agreed to go along and see what "the Woodies" were all about.

In those days the workshop was at Durras and at least some monthly meetings were at Don Lee's house in Mogo. A trip from Coila, where we lived, to Durras and return was about 110kms, and even more for Warren. The group seemed like a nice bunch and I got to know Warren as a very helpful and talented wood worker.

Warren worked part time at the Original Gold Rush Colony in Mogo repairing all manner of things. The first project he told me of was making patterns to get new feet made for the gold stamping mill. This was followed by the repair of the massive waterwheel and eventually he laid the entire railway track around the Village. Warren also demonstrated wood turning on both a modern and old style foot powered lathe that he made out of very heavy hardwood.

I believe it was through Warren's influence that we ended up spending a very happy 10 years in the GRC so I feel we all owe a big debt to Warren.

In the early days Warren looked after our Alaskan chain saw mill. He arranged for the rails it ran on and built the sled it moved on. It was not the easiest of tools to haul about, clean and maintain, but he looked after it well.

Warren's workshop/garage/laundry was not a large space, but all machines had their place or could be easily wheeled into place. With a background of machining large water pumps his woodwork was treated with the same level of accuracy and tolerance. He made a variety of document boxes, an octagonal sewing box for Dorothy (his wife) and all manner of finely crafted toys for the Woodies.

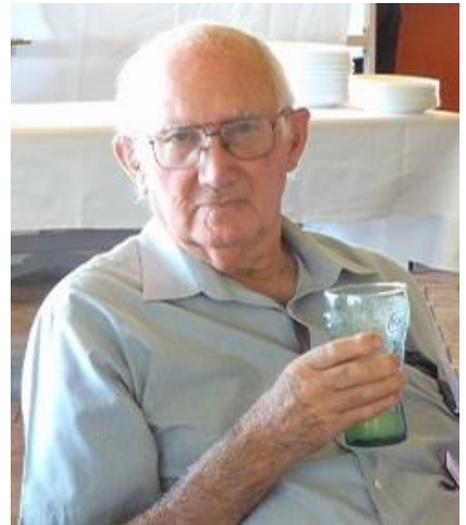
Warren's turning was also of a high standard and he made and sold many fire pokers at the Bungendore gallery and through other commercial outlets.

Some of our members will not have met Warren or only have a vague memory of him as of recent years he developed a keen interest in radio controlled aeroplanes and so did not participate in so many of our activities.

I will always remember Warren as a good friend, one who introduced me to EWG, and a man who was willing to help wherever he could.

Warren was a valuable member of our Guild from 1998 until his passing last December.

... Eric Simes



## Sharpening Handtools Workshop

I will be running a half day workshop to introduce members (maximum of 5) on how to sharpen flat hand tools including planes, chisels and spokeshaves. This includes the instruction in the correct use of the Scheppach Sharpening Station, the Veritas Sharpening Guide and the Diamond sharpening equipment. This knowledge is essential for keeping your hand tools in proper condition.

I am planning the workshop in March. If you are interested, please let me know.

Cheers, John Tanner

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## TILBA WOODWORKING EXHIBITION

I am pleased to advise that the annual Tilba Woodworking Exhibition will once again be held this year over the June long weekend, June 11 and 12. As we have depleted sales stock at present, and the Durras Easter markets will be held again this year, the Club will be asking members to contribute sales items for both events. Both functions are great fund raisers, so let's not waste the opportunity to sell heaps of stock. We will also need high quality pieces to enter into the Tilba Exhibition, and entry forms will be sent to members by email shortly.

As usual, we will be asking for volunteers to assist with helping at our sales table and also running the event over the 2 days. Please consider volunteering your time and advise back to Chris Birks by email if you can assist, nominating which day and whether you will assist in the a.m. or p.m.

Many thanks,

The Tilba Committee (Rick Stanford, Jenny Barnes, and Chris Birks)

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## PROJECTS

We have two projects on the horizon, i.e.

- cutting timber for the Durras Notice Board, and
- assisting with the construction of outdoor tables for the Broulee Surf Club

Please let Helmut know if you can assist with either of these projects.

### *Dates for Your Diary*

**Next General Meeting** - Saturday 5th March at 1.00 pm  
following BYO lunch

**Proposed Sales Days 2021 :**

Saturday 16th April	Durras Easter Markets
June 11 & 12 (Long Weekend)	Tilba Woodwork Show,

**NOTE:** Members seeking further information contact :

**Secretary Eric Simes (02) 4471 5086**

*Edited by Christine Birks and Malcolm McDonald*

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

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