



Woodies Newsletter January 2021

Welcome to our first newsletter for what we hope will be a better, and steadier, year for us all. We have lots of events planned which we hope will come to fruition, and trust that we will likewise cope with any hiccups that cross our path.

So, what's been happening since the last newsletter? Instead of our usual Christmas party and, being mindful of ongoing Covid restrictions, we opted instead for a buffet lunch for members which also replaced our December general meeting – and has been followed by an unexpectedly special meeting in January instead (see below) The workshop was closed for just 2 Fridays (Christmas and New Year's Day) but otherwise we are back to 'business as usual'

There's been significant flooding of the workshop in recent months, the last occasion earlier this month, which thankfully has prompted BRC to investigate and hopefully resolve the problem. Watch this space!

Our members have been busy on their projects as the following photos show:

From John McM:



The bangles are last weekend's project. These ones are made of Baltic Pine.



The coffee table was completed December 2020 and the slab was acquired in August 2019. Not a bad transition!



The last project is a camphor Laurel fruit bowl turned in 2020.



Woodies Newsletter January 2021



From Phil H

I was given a Ford Laser Gia a few years ago which is a Mazda 323 rebranded for the Australian market. Getting it going was a problem because it had a kill switch so a car mechanic friend bypassed that problem. As you can see it has undergone modification. Being a member of a woodwork club inspired me to give it a new body made of wood along the lines of a mini moke Californian and a T Model Ford. I started this project the week after that cold week in October and I do a bit each morning. The idea is to use some of my collectables in a creative way to show people 'repurposing' of stuff people would probably discard. To reduce waste only requires some imagination in my opinion - why not give it a new and interesting life. Us old (oops young) people can lead the way.



An update story and pictures will follow in a couple of months' time when it should be completed.'

Graham is restoring the back of a seat by inserting a number of wood panels – it looks stunning



Boards by Mike Hardie:

English Elm 100yo from Old Blayney School. Cross piece is WA Jarrah
Finished with Danish oil





Woodies Newsletter January 2021

This is the craft box **Diane** has completed for her daughter Neola as a result of attending the box making workshop run by Ian J last year.



Woodies Newsletter

January 2021



From Garth: In the days before routers this is how you shaped mouldings on timber. Anything from a table edge to a skirting board. The multiple blades are inter-changeable to give the various profiles with adjusters for width, depth etc. Probably needed a lot of elbow grease to operate. The photographed plane is the proud possession of Mick Hayes and is still in its original box.



Meetings

We got off to a great start for our general meetings with an unexpected visit from former Presidents and Life Members Bob Bennett and Michael Nasser this month – what an honour and delight for our members to be able to catch up with them again, as indeed it would be with any former member– who knows we might even find a chocolate biscuit or two!

Next month we will be welcoming Anne Redding, a teacher of the hearing impaired, who will be talking on Sunday 21 February about hearing loss, and fielding any questions you may have on the subject - so please come along and ask what you like – she has no vested interests, other than to help people preserve what hearing they have left.

In March we will be holding our Annual General Meeting (21 March), so please start thinking about whom you would like to see as executive and committee members – all positions will be declared vacant. Further details next month.

Beyond that I'm hoping that a volunteer from St John's Ambulance will come to a general meeting to refresh our memories by demonstrating CPR and use of the defibrillator.

Please send through any suggestions you may have for making our meetings more interesting

Tidying the workshop

This 'project' was begun during covid last year when the workshop was closed for a number of weeks – and, like the pandemic, is continuing.

The problem we are facing is that we have a lot going on in the workshop; we have a lot of members, a lot of projects, a lot of resources, and not enough clear space, both for working and storage This problem is made worse by the fact that often what is being worked on can't be easily moved ...

If it can be moved, one solution is to ask that, unless you are returning to work on your particular project the very next time the workshop is open (ie 2 or 3 days later) that you clear the benchtop and either take the item home with you or move it to a

Woodies Newsletter January 2021



designated area for 'work in progress' items – that way other people will be able to use that workbench after you. We have cleared an area at the end of the Bob Bennett workshop for this purpose and hope to create a similar space in the Bill Rigney Memorial Workshop in the coming months. Please write your name on your things to avoid them being swept away or used by others.

If you do intend to return 2 or 3 days later, when the workshop is next open, please see if you can at least tidy up/minimise the clutter around your particular spot so that others can share the workbench with you if needs be.

Orders

Ian J will be placing an order for woodies shirts after February's general meeting, with prices as follows: round necked T shirt \$15; polo shirt \$25; polar fleece \$38. The price includes your name and the CTW logo, and must be prepaid. He is also looking into the cost of getting CTW caps and aprons for members. Please see Ian for further details.

An order sheet has also been placed on the signing in table for anyone wishing to buy eye muffs (\$50 plus accessories available) – again these must be pre-ordered; see Doug for further details.

Well, that's about it for this month. Thank you all for your contributions, and I'll finish with one last item from regular wit and contributor **Phil**

"Playing it Safe – The crazy world of Britain's Health and Safety Regulations
Some extracts for your amusement from a book I have acquired.

"Greater Manchester Fire Service has drawn up a four-page safety manual to instruct crews on how to sit in a reclining chair. Firemen hoping for a rest between call-outs are banned from using the \$400 device until they have been trained to do so. The first task will be to take out their 'personal-issue head protector' and place it on the back of the chair. Then, and only then, can they begin their descent, a process that must end with them sitting 'fully back'. Those who get this far can 'get ready to recline'. The manual advises: 'To release the mechanism (i.e., to start reclining), simply lift the lever under the right-hand arm of the chair (when seated). This moves the chair into its semi-reclined position (i.e., feet up, head up)' Crews are warned that only 'trained personnel' can carry out 'lubrication of mechanisms'. And that sleeping bags must not be used. They are also given advice on how to deal with spillages: 'tissue should firstly be placed on the stain to absorb excess liquid', and warned that horseplay involving recliners is deemed a disciplinary offence. The fire service has spent \$130,000 on its new Calcot recliners, which will be used as beds during night duties. A fire service spokesman said: Training will be given for Health and Safety reasons. These are moving parts."

Elizabeth
27.1.2021