



# THE WOODPECKER

## AGM Elections ~ *delayed*

The State Government continues its lockdown & unfortunately the club is unable to hold its Annual General Meeting & its elections for the 2021-22 committee.



## Message from the President

The committee has been unable to meet in September so John Bayliss has taken this opportunity to pass on his thanks to club members.



“Once again 20-21 has been difficult due to Covid & the lockdown. However I am thankful that the members & partners were able to get together and celebrate the club’s 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was great seeing the friendship and enjoyment being shared amongst those in attendance.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the volunteers of the club as a club can only be as successful as its members are prepared to contribute.

We are fortunate to have a **committee** prepared to donate a lot of time for the betterment of the club. Then there are the **session leaders** who turn up each week to assist members with their projects. The main source of income to the club is the Bunnings BBQ. Many thanks to the members who assist with the BBQ’s. Unfortunately Covid has forced Bunnings to change the way the BBQ’s are conducted. Consequently the time slots required for volunteers are longer but still we find many members are generous with their time and make themselves available.

Additionally the toy makers deserve a huge thank you for their consistent efforts. With the workshop being closed due the Covid lockdown the toy makers took their projects home so as not to disappoint children at Christmas.

Finally there are those who are prepared to work on a subcommittee and those who are prepared just to undertake a single activity with the aim of improving club facilities.”

## Communications Team

As editor of the Woodpecker I am pleased to say a big thank you to the members of the communications team.

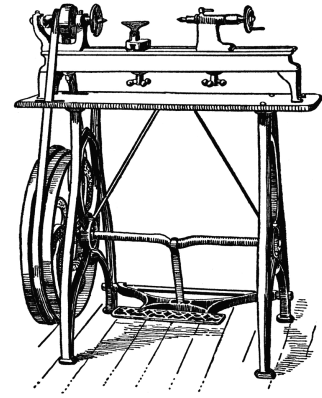
- Alan Smith has updated the WoSP website which now contains far more content.
- Allan “Chief” Brookes has contributed his first member profile to the Woodpecker. Allan could approach you in the future so be sure to take the time to get to know him as well.
- Tony Haigh has documented how he approaches turning his boxes with finial & stands. This can be downloaded from the website.
- Scott Hanley & Syd Johnson have been discussing the viability of establishing a Facebook page to sell member products. As there is uncertainty as to whether they are attempting to make something that will not be used they are considering conducting a member survey to determine what members are happy with & what they want improved.
- Syd Johnson is also looking into how the committee can have a virtual meeting. Zoom only allows meetings of 30 minutes free of charge otherwise there is an annual fee. Syd is looking into an alternative product.

## Product Review

**Wood Lathe Features.** With the workshop unavailable because of the Covid lock down some members may be considering purchasing their own lathe.

The main retail suppliers in Melbourne are Hare & Forbes, Carbatec, Pop's Shed & Carroll's Woodcraft Supplies but you may consider buying second hand from Facebook Market Place, eBay or a personal contact.

Whether you buy retail or second hand you need to know what features are available, what you need & what you are prepared to pay for.



- The headstock can be fixed or it can swivel. The swivel feature makes it easier to get into a bowl.
- Motor Speed control can be manual or electric. The electronic variable speed option is the simplest but not essential. Most lathes have a 5 speed manual belt control. It is best to ensure access to the belt control will suit you.
- Being able to reverse the rotation of the chuck makes it easier to access the inside of a bowl.
- Automatic balance cutoff is nice to have otherwise you need to start with the slowest speed and build it up to a speed that is suitable to what you require.
- There is an indexing facility on the headstock that allows you lock your chuck into a position. This is usually found on more expensive lathes.
- The ability to lock the spindle makes it easier to remove any chuck.
- The lathe bed comes in a variety of lengths. Generally it seems the most popular bed for the home owner is around 750mm.
- A headstock thread of M3.5 x 30 is now recognized as probably the most common and allows more interchangeability.

If you buy second hand ensure you can purchase a chuck/adaptor to fit on the headstock.

There are many brands for sale with lots of features and naturally the price varies. To start your research review the following links from Timbercon.

Timbercon sell Sherwood lathes & will deliver free of cost. Check out the following links for their view of what should be considered. Note approximate prices.

For starters consider something like **Sherwood SWL-1218 Mini Lathe: \$599**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ka-9AzVWbZY>

Sherwood MC 1420 VF with indexing & variable speed: \$1,499  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SR5flYWReyI&t=31s>

Sherwood MC-1624-VF Lathe with the swivel head & reverse speed: \$2,499  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSIbcEZKhh8>

Sherwood Long Bed Lathe MC-1443 with dedicated long bed, mechanical variable speed & swivel head: \$849  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WrtPST7cvwU>

## Around the Workshop

### Boxes & Finials



Tony Haigh has done some awesome turning with his boxes & finials. This month Tony has written an explanation of the work that is involved with his boxes with finial & stand. If you would like to read his document you will find it in the download section of the club's website.



### Sean Hanley's Scoop

John Hanley is known for his Intarsia projects. Scott's artwork is unparalleled with in the club. Now Sean shows his talent when working with wood. In the past there have been scoops made that have been hollowed by chisels & Forstner bits. However this time Sean has made the scoop using an Arbotech sander. The Arbotech sander is fantastic for removing timber quickly. It takes skill & patience to hollow a scoop so as not to show any unwanted indentations.



## Member Profile



FIGURE 1 GREG MILLAR

Greg Millar's working career started as an apprentice Radio Technician at 4LG, Longreach, Queensland. This lasted 18 months before company management issues forced a change of work – to Namco doing seismic surveys across the outback of central western Queensland. Then the armed services beckoned.

In the RAAF, Greg worked as an Affiliated Maintenance Engineer then moved onto a project in the USA for the purchase of the Black Hawk helicopter. Prior to this, Greg spent time in Malaysia at the Butterworth base – just after the Malayan Emergency. Following this, Greg spent some 5 years in Electrical Engineering back in Melbourne. He then took a redundancy but continued to work for the RAAF as a defense contractor for the next five years – in Melbourne, Newcastle, Adelaide and Sale.

Greg next worked for Boeing at Avalon till they decided to move to Brisbane. His family opted to stay put in Melbourne so Greg's next job was on the Jindalee Over-the-Horizon radar network. This led to him joining Tenix Defence as a Project Manager for work on RAAF aircraft. Then it was time for a career change....

Greg joined Thales, a French Company making air traffic control systems. This took him to places like Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Taiwan. Without visiting these places, Greg managed installations in Mexico, South Korea and China. The Philippines proved a challenge – the GFC took its toll.... Redundant again – but this time, retirement beckoned.

So in 2011 Greg joined the Woodworkers of the Southern Peninsula and soon became Secretary. Additionally Greg assisted with the Monday Maintenance team led by Bill Gorissen. Once Bill retired Greg's technical & mechanical experience has proved invaluable in keeping the club's machinery in working order.

Greg hails from Capel Sound, is married with two children.

## Brighten your Day



A couple drove down a country road for several miles, not saying a word. An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their position. As they passed a barnyard of mules, goats, and pigs, the husband asked sarcastically, 'Relatives of yours?' 'Yep,' the wife replied, 'in-laws'



First day back at school after lockdown 🤔 😬 🤒 🧑

If you cannot read the text.

Which would you abstain from? Women or Wine?  
I'd need to know the year

## Snippets & Offcuts

Carbatec is offering a 15% discount on most items in store. (Excluding gift cards, Festool, already discounted items, Axiom, Veritas & freight). WoSP is approaching Carbatec to register the club and club members to automatically have the discounts applied, when making their order.

Carbatec have also offered to come out to our shed and conduct demonstrations, and advise on products. Alternatively they will do this instore and have a morning tea provided upon arrival.

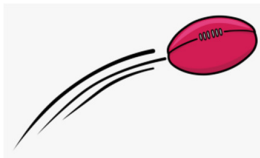


Forster  
New South Wales 2428

Sunny · 22°C  
2:15 PM

**David Feather** recently moved from Rye to Forster NSW, which is midway between Port Macquarie & Newcastle. No doubt he will be looking for other woodies to occupy him if he is not on the beach.

## WoSP Football Sweep



The club is very fortunate that Covid does not stop Lynette Higgins from running the AFL football sweep. Lynette has done an awesome job in managing the sweep throughout the difficult lockdowns experienced by everyone in Victoria. The prizes are attractive and with all the shock results the winners deserve to be rewarded.

So David Peirce won \$900.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> place, 2<sup>nd</sup> place prize money of \$450 was shared by Paige Peirce and Rick. Coming in 3<sup>rd</sup> was Bev Dinsdale and John Bayliss who shared \$250.00. Coming in 2<sup>nd</sup> last was Clarrie. Lynette thanks all those who participated in the sweep.