



# THE WOODPECKER

## ZOOM Committee Meeting

**A club first.** In mid-September the committee held its first ZOOM committee meeting. The internet medium was most unfamiliar to the committee so it was a very short meeting and only covered the more urgent general business.



It was agreed to hold the AGM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in November. Obviously this is still dependent on the State Government instructions so the date is only a guideline to aim for at this stage. Lockdown 6 is 66 days old so it has been a while since members have had an opportunity to socialise and work together. Hopefully you will recall the election to take place at the AGM is between the following:

Position	Nominee	Position	Nominee
President	John Bayliss Rod Bew	6 ordinary committee members required.	Archdall, Noel, Davis, Gaven Dobson, Colin
Vice President	Dennis Conner John Parrent		Evans, Max Johnson, Syd
Vote not required for Secretary & Treasurer	Greg Millar Peter Rodgers-Wilson		Killeen, Jeff Knox, Greg Parrent, John

If you cannot attend the AGM a proxy form can be downloaded from the club website. Note the link. <https://wosp.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2021-AGM-PROXY-FORM.pdf>

If you are unable to give your proxy to a member of the committee it can be mailed to: The Secretary, PO Box 2145, Rosebud, Vic 3939

*The State Government is pushing hard for all Victorians to have the 2 jabs of the COVID anti vaccine as soon as possible. A lot of industries are ruling you must have 2 jabs to retain your employment. The committee strongly encourages each member have 2 jabs prior to returning to the workshop.*

## General Business



Even though the club is in lockdown some regular business needs to be attended to. Recently the Bendigo Bank provided WoSP with a \$3200 cheque. Bendigo Bank has been a great benefactor to the club as it is seen to provide a service to the community that it wishes to encourage. \$2000 of the cheque is allocated to the toy makers with the other \$1200 set aside to pay for the workshop rent.

Recently some members of the committee have come to the aid of others. For instance Dennis Capper's wife died leaving Dennis to be moved to Aged Care accommodation. As Dennis was unable to manage the move he requested assistance to clear his property prior to its sale. John Bayliss was able to organise enough members to make Dennis's move simpler & less of a worry. Then a woman living near the workshop found the club online. Her husband had died & she needed assistance to clean up his work shed. Once again John organise a team to assist. In return the lady gave the club some equipment and timber.

## Lockdown Duration

Recently it was reported that Victoria holds the world record for the number of days it has been in lockdown. Currently it stands at 277 days.

It seems the Mornington Peninsula is unfairly treated as a metropolitan area where it could be argued that it should be treated similarly to the Geelong area. If that was the case we would experience a lot less of the lockdown.

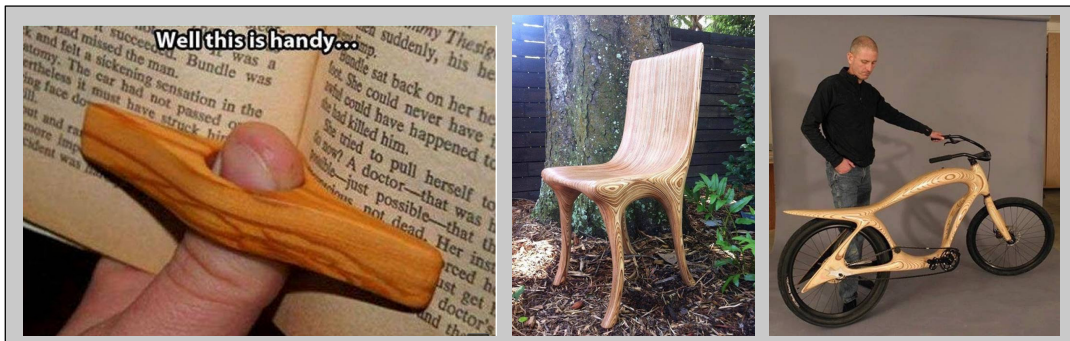
Antonella Celi regularly provides the Mornington Peninsula COVID status via her Facebook page. If you were to rely on the press you would think there were no cases on the Mornington Peninsula. However Antonella recently reported 96 cases of Covid across the Mornington Peninsula.

## Around the Workshop

### Toy Making Progresses

Gaven Davis & his team continue to make toys at home during the lockdown. This year has been extremely challenging to the toy team as it is difficult to plan, obtain materials and more importantly to socialise. Making toys is a reason many members join so they can get out of the house, meet new people & do something useful.

There are "Carpenters" and there are "Woodworkers" and then...."Wood Artists"



## Brighten your Day



### A couple of one-liners.

*I really don't mind getting older but my body is taking it badly.*

I asked my doctor today how long she thinks this Covid thing will last. She responded with "How should I know? I'm a doctor not a politician."

*Friends please wear your mask. It saves lives. Yesterday a friend was out with his girlfriend and on his way passed by his wife but she did not recognise him. The mask really saved his life.*

I can't wait to walk down the aisle and hear those magical words, "this is your captain speaking"

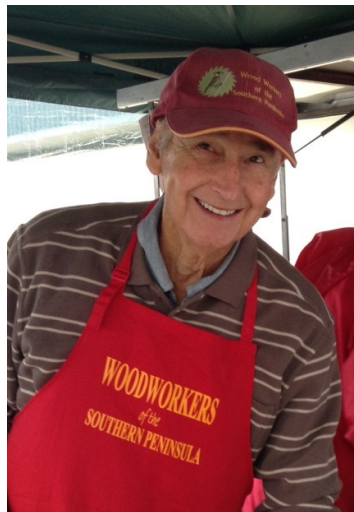
*On a billboard recently, "FOR THOSE PEOPLE BUYING TOILET PAPER, BUTCHERS WILL HAVE BRAINS ON SALE NEXT WEEK"*



The difference between humans and animals? Animals would never let the dumbest ones lead the pack

## Member Profile

Bert Bartlett – Toy Man. (by Allan Brookes)



When Bert joined the Woodworkers of Southern Peninsula (WoSP) in 1998, a couple of the members led by Don Brewster was already making toys at home – one at a time. Bert took the opportunity to convince Roger Stubbing to make toys in bulk which the club continues to do to this day. Nowadays, the club makes 500 plus toys per year and Bert is still there among the members making toys while helping, mentoring and guiding others. He is now the longest serving member of the WoSP.

But that is not where it all started. Bert spent his younger years in Northern Victoria – in Wahgunyah (famous for the All-Saints Winery). Even though he was born in Corowa, Bert considers himself a Victorian thru-and-thru. His siblings moved to Melbourne as soon as they were old enough and eventually convinced their father, a boot maker, to do the same. Bert did not want to move to Melbourne – “They are all b.....y gangsters”, he maintained.

Where else to settle but Collingwood – the shoe making centre of Melbourne at the time - Hotham Street - opposite the MacRobertson chocolate factory. The aroma from that factory when they heated up the chocolate was somewhat less than attractive (at least it was not a tannery!!!). Bert was 9 at the time and remained in Collingwood till he was 27.

By this stage, Bert had become somewhat a sportsman – mainly Australian rules and basketball. For Aussie rules, you need a footy. To get them, Bert and his mates teamed up - a couple of guys behind the goals at Victoria Park and a couple on bikes outside the ground. When the ball came their way, the ‘inside guys’ booted it over the fence for the ‘outside guys’ to souvenir it. He and his mates used the area in the middle of Alexander Parade for kick-to-kick where they were from time to time joined by the occasional VFL player - Kevin Murray (Fitzroy) and Bill Serong (Collingwood).



In his late ‘teens, Bert and friends rocked up to Victoria Park to try out for a spot on the Collingwood team. At this time, Bert was a somewhat tall, lanky lad. After kicking the ball around for a while, the coach told him to go play for Preston Football Club where he could beef up and learn more of the rules. Bert gave him a ‘Collingwood mouth full’. “I didn’t want to play for so-‘n-so Preston, I want to play for Collingwood”. “Well mate” he said, “you’re not playing for anybody”. However, he has remained an ardent Pies supporter.

Meanwhile, Bert had been playing a lot of basketball – three/four nights a week in the stadium at South Melbourne. His usual form was to give the umpires a bit of a mouthful during play. On one occasion, after providing the umpire with his usual ‘guidance’, at half time he turned around to continue his commentary when he realised that the umpire was a

lady. She advised him to "Shut up No.5 or you'll be off straight away". He'd never experienced a woman umpire before.

Bert did the first four years of his apprenticeship at (and working for) the Collingwood Technical School. His fifth, and last, year of apprenticeship was spent at Rojo & Sons.

Come the Korean War, Bert was rejected at the medical and put on 'Deferment' where he remains to this day. Next, he went to work for the Melbourne Chair Company – initially in Collingwood then Preston then Campbellfield. He worked his way up the ranks to Foreman. When moving to the new factory at Campbellfield, he and his supervisor spent two days on a 'whiteboard' planning the factory layout for optimum workflow from raw material to finished product. Bert stayed with this company for 32 years.

Retirement brought Bert and his wife Helen to Rye and golf. The green fees put paid to his golfing aspirations and this is when he found the WoSP team doing demonstrations on the Rosebud main street during a Trash and Treasure market. He has served on the Committee and as Chairman. And the rest is history for our 'regular guy' - our Toy Man.

## Snippets & Offcuts



Theo Haralampou always provides interesting & educational Interactive Remote Demonstrations. The Woodpecker has regularly suggested members have a look at his live demonstrations. While they do go for 2 hours there is a lot of content which is interesting & thought provoking. The recording of these sessions are being edited and made available on the Record Power portal. However a lot of content is missed when it is reduced to 10 minutes for later viewing on YouTube. You are encouraged to watch the live session where you can ask questions, make copious notes & then use the YouTube

video as a refresher.

Theo regularly introduces new tools, techniques & ideas which in turn provide viewers with a larger variety of different projects. The last issue of Woodpecker provided photos of some his projects.

One drawback is that he regularly introduces chucks or tools you may not have. This could prevent members from tackling a number of his projects. **Consequently the committee is considering purchasing the more obscure tools he uses.**

Some of these tools are:

1. Knurling tool
2. Chatter tool
3. Vermec Camlock Table
4. 25mm post with holes for creating Christmas baubles. These holes guide a drill into a sphere hollowing it out & creating the basis of a bauble.



FIGURE 1 CAMLOCK TABLE

Before making any decision the committee would like feedback from members as to whether they think this is a good idea & they would use the tools.

Provide your thoughts to the committee via the clubs email address [wosp3939@gmail.com](mailto:wosp3939@gmail.com)