

Kevin Cross Jan 1926 – November 2021

At the age of 95 Kevin passed away on Friday 19th November 2021 after a period of illness.

Being an independent and resourceful person able to do his own cooking & washing Kevin resisted going into Aged Care until recent times when he had no choice.

His approach was to do the things he wanted to do rather than the things he should do, like housekeeping. Consequently made use of a council house keeper and enlisted the assistance of the community outreach group 39+ for a range of support services.

It was a pleasure getting to know Kevin. Behind the rough exterior is an independent friendly person that would always meet you half way if you are prepared to do the same.

Kevin was a regular attendee on toy making days. As Kevin began to slow down many will remember the fun he had each Wednesday chatting and washing dishes with his friend, Ewan Bennett. The two were close in many ways. Ewan was the 2017 Best Clubman while in 2018 Kevin was awarded Best Clubman.

Kevin was a one eyed Collingwood supporter and fortunately one with a sense of humour. After being announced as the Best Clubman he was given a Richmond football club beanie by the president, John Bayliss. It was a fun day remembered by all those who attended the function.

In 2007 Kevin was introduced to the club by David Fraser. At the time Graeme Scott was president and Jack Kane, the session leader, who put Kevin on one of the lathes and started to teach him to wood turn. Kevin became one of the more senior members of the Woodworkers of the Southern Peninsula and made his fair share of bowls, platters, pens & candle sticks which he is gradually giving away as gifts.



One of his projects was making wooden pen cases. He worked with Bert Bartlett to make a rather clever jig that would enable routing the top & bottom of the pen cases. Subsequently the hinges were added providing him with many pen & pen case sets; a very professional outcome.

Pre WOSP.

During the war Kevin lived with his family in Wonthaggi. His dad served, his mum worked in a munitions factory and Kevin applied to join the Navy. However as he was rejected he decided to complete his apprenticeship.

After the war, like most teenagers Kevin played cricket & football in his youth. He played with the Surrey Hills Combines in the Eastern Suburban Churches league. After a clash with an opposition player he broke his femur & finished up in hospital for 9 months. To kill time in hospital and being good with his hands he learnt to make macramé belts.

In 1952 Kevin married Avis and had 3 children Peter, Jennifer & Michael.

As a sheet metal worker, Kevin lived in Blackburn and worked for an Oakleigh firm that used to make hot water services, tanks & boilers.

In 2000, well after his retirement, when the real estate prices were booming he & his wife, Avis, sold up & moved to Rye. They holidayed in New Zealand a few times and travelled to China with Probus. "Never again" says Kevin.

In 2005 his wife, Avis, died after 53 years together. Initially it was a shock but with the assistance of his family, Kevin became to enjoy the Peninsula way of life. Initially he tried bowls before joining WOSP.

Kevin is a well-respected elder of WOSP.