



THE WOODPECKER

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was well attended and proved a very social & successful day. Normally the expectation was for 30 attendees; however that number was closer to 50 plus apologies.

The treasurer provided a report recommending financial caution. To assist the financial position of the club the following motions were passed at the 2021 AGM:

Dates to Remember
27th November Toy Handover
27th November Bunning BBQ
15th December Christmas Lunch
23rd December Club Closure
1st January Bunnings BBQ
17th January Club Re-Opening

- WoSP Joining fees for 2022/23 will be increased from \$85 to \$100.
- 2022/23 membership fees be increased from \$60 to \$70
- New members will no longer receive a new hat on joining the club.
- Attendance fees will remain at \$4 per session but where there are 2 sessions in the day it will cost a member attending both sessions \$8.

Associate member fees will remain at \$10. The joining fees & the membership fees for juniors will remain the same: \$45 & \$17.50 respectively

The elected executive committee for 2021/22 are John Bayliss President, Dennis Conner Vice President, Greg Millar Secretary and Peter Rodgers-Wilson Treasurer.

The ordinary committee members are Noel Archdall, Gaven Davis. Colin Dobson, Max Evans, Jeff Killeen and Greg Knox.

John Bayliss was first elected president in 2009. In the 13 years of his leadership the club has grown in many ways. John's appetite & enthusiasm to work for the club is amazing. Most days of the week he is at the club checking out things & thinking of improvements. He is well supported by Denniss Conner who was first elected vice president in 2012 and apart from one year has always assisted John in his role.

Other discussions at the AGM related to having a WoSP Shop and conducting a survey amongst members to determine "what members want". Stay tuned for further information.

Movember is all about men's health. Fortunately Syd Johnson has a bit more energy than most and is raising money for the cause of men's health.



The money goes to a good cause. Like Syd, I would have died many years ago but for the development of medical science. If you would like to help please use the following link to make your donation. There is still time to donate.

https://au.movember.com/mospace/486723?utm_medium=app&utm_source=ios&utm_campaign=share-mospace

Snippets & Offcuts

CHRISTMAS PARTY The Christmas party has been organised for Wednesday 16th December at the Rye Hotel. It's scheduled to start at midday.

A 2 course meal will cost \$25. The main is succulent roast turkey breast & ham off the bone served with roast & baked vegetables. Steamed plum pudding served with delicious brandy custard & double cream is the dessert. Members are also able to purchase meals from the bistro at bistro prices.

Members wishing to attend a relaxed social gathering after a year of lockdown should put their name on the sheet provided on the notice board. Identify whether you want a seniors meal or a bistro meal. Senior meals need to be paid for prior to the function.



PENINSULA FRESH SEAFOOD (PFS) has asked the club to make a large number of oyster knives. If you would like to make a few knives notify Colin Dobson 0417 364 802. This is a fund raising activity for the club. Note that PFS are in the Dromana Industrial Estate and if you like fresh seafood there Monday special is 5% discount for seniors.



BUNNINGS BBQ is schedule for Saturday 27th November. Your assistance on the day would be appreciated.

TOY HANDOVER is scheduled for the Saturday 27th November.



CLUB SHUTDOWN over Christmas New Year period will be minimal again this year. Covid has limited the access to the workshop in 2021 so the committee is looking to close on Thursday 23rd December and reopen on Monday the 17th January.



Register for a Ritchies card & specify WoSP as a recipient of your rewards. At the end of each month, Ritchies will pay your chosen club, school or charity .5% of the total accrued directly into WoSP's bank account.

Many years ago the Woodworkers of the Southern Peninsula registered as a community service which can be nominated when you sign up for a card.

Ritchies registration is done by downloading an app to your phone and creating an account. If you wish to use a physical card you must register your card to your account within 7 days of the first use. If you are having any difficulty creating the account, speak to someone in the store or contact Colin Dobson for assistance.

GET WELL SOON: The Woodpecker wishes Greg Millar a quick recovery after his recent visit to hospital. In addition, Dennis Connor is about to have a quick stay in hospital. Hope to see you soon Dennis.



Brighten your Day

"Sometimes, when I reflect on all the beer I drink, I feel ashamed. Then I look into the glass and think about the workers in the brewery and all of their

hopes and dreams.

If I did not drink this beer, they might be out of work and their dreams would be shattered. I think it is better to drink this beer and let dreams come true, than be selfish and worry about my liver."



Babe Ruth

"When I read about the evils of drinking, I gave up reading." [Paul Hornung](#)

"24 hours in a day and 24 beers in a case. Coincidence? I think not!" [H. L. Mencken](#)

"When we drink, we get drunk. When we get drunk, we fall asleep. When we fall asleep, we commit no sin. When we commit no sin, we go to heaven. So, let's all get drunk and go to heaven." [George Bernard Shaw](#)

"Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy." [Benjamin Franklin](#)

"Without question, the greatest invention in the history of mankind is beer. Oh, I grant you that the wheel was also a fine invention, But the wheel does not go nearly as well with pizza." [Dave Barry](#)

"Beer: Helping ugly people have sex since 3000 B.C." [W. C. Fields](#)

"Remember 'I' before 'E,' except in Budweiser." [Professor Irwin Corey](#)

"To some it is a six-pack. To me, it is a Support Group. Salvation in a can." [Leo Durocher](#)

One night at *Cheers*, a TV Sitcom, *Cliff Clavin* said to his buddy, Norm Peterson:

"Well, ya see, Normy, it's like this .. A herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo. And when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones at the back that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the general speed and health of the whole group keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members.

In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Excessive intake of alcohol, as we know, kills brain cells. But, naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine. That's why you always feel smarter after a few beers!"

The personality of the month David Spring – Toy Maker by Allan Brookes

David has defeated 'Covid Lockdown Boredom' by keeping himself very busy making toys (dolls prams, toolboxes, etc.) at home helping to ensure that the needy kids don't miss out this Christmas. Rumour is that David is not alone in this endeavour as there are others who have beavered away in their man caves although he claims his 'man cave' workbenches are legend – sturdy, heavy.

But let's back up a bit. David grew up in Brunswick in a family of medicos. Father was a doctor, mother, a nurse, and a brother who trained as a Doctor at Melbourne University. He attended Melbourne Grammar till 14. As was the practice at that time, you were either academic and stayed in the high school stream or you were hands on - he took an apprenticeship as a wood machinist. One of David's workmates at the time was suffering from Glandular Fever and wanted an explanation from David's father. His father gave him the medical name, mononuclear cytositis. When his workmate was told of the medical name, his reaction was simply 'oh right' and 'good' – nothing more.

David observed that the machines he was working on were made by Wadkin in Leicester in England and decided on a trip there to work in the factory – for 13 months, assembling those machines. Wadkin was a very successful company at the time with advanced personnel



policies – soccer ovals, basketball courts, even a plane to take staff to woodworking fairs. A back-packing tour of Europe with his brother was spliced in at this time.

On his return to Australia, this experience helped greatly in landing a job with Austral Engineering, the agents for Wadkin machines in Melbourne. The job was not in sales but maintenance, a role he enjoyed.

Wadkin machines proved far too heavy and were eventually overtaken by the Italians and Germans.

After Astral, David moved to K G Johnson (saw doctors) and it was back to Collingwood Tech for a course in saw doctoring. This was in the days before the mechanical processes of today. After K G Johnson, David moved to Tait Timber working on the “moulder” (architraves, windows, etc.). This job too has been superseded these days. The Wood Machinist Ticket in the 1980s proved very valuable at this time. David’s next job was with Modern Tone. He finished up in this job on a Friday, went for an interview the following day only to be pressured to start there and then – he started on the Monday at Danish Mobler furniture. Financial advice to the company a year later resulted in David being ‘last in, first out’ when staff cutbacks were implemented. Next job was with Flair 500 – furniture manufactures. A dodgy ham sandwich for lunch while working for Flair resulted in a stint in Fairfield Infectious Diseases Hospital and 3 weeks off work. It was back to Tait Timber after that – again working as a “moulder” but this time he was in charge.

After that, it was off to W R Brookes making antique furniture, etc. Clients brought in what was left of a piece of woodwork and would want a faithful reproduction – even when all they had presented was some paint work and what the termites had left of the wood. At times this included grinding the cutters, etc. to produce the moulding. David was involved in the mouldings for Raheen House. The front doors of the Melbourne Club were also a W R Brookes product. After 10 years of ‘no plaudits for a good job and abuse if the job was not right’, he ‘retired’ and did a ‘round Australia tour’. He met his wife on this trip.

During his working career, David bought a ‘renovator’s dream’ in Ashburton which he completely ‘worked through’ – including a ‘man cave’ in the back yard.

When David moved to Rosebud in the 1990’s, there was no work for wood machinists, so he set up his own business (lawn mowing) for the next 22 years. But a bout of pneumonia resulted in a significant loss of customers.

He was a very keen baseball & hockey player for many years. His baseball prowess took him to the USA.

In his early days (before he could be in a hotel legitimately), his teammates would take him to the Botanical Hotel to buy him some after game drinks. In his later years, his team took advantage of younger teams by analysing their play to work out how best to belt them when their play became predictable.

Married 30 years, two daughters (one a teacher, the other in childcare) and two grand kids for whom he has made the odd bit of woodwork. As foster parents, they nurtured some 15 kids – mostly from drug affected families.

And somehow, they fitted in a couple of exchange students (maybe they picked up some German language as a result). When he retired, his wife who worked for the Mornington Shire strongly suggested he get a hobby and WoSP was just there next to the Shire office. In the 3 years since he joined, David has been mainly involved in toy making.