



THE WOODPECKER

Toy Handover 2021

The Woodworkers of the Southern Peninsula (WoSP) have worked all year to make toys for charities to distribute to children for Christmas. The charities present for the toy handover were the Salvation Army & Food for All. The



Mornington Charities Group was unable to attend.

FIGURE 1 TIM RICKARD, NOEL ARCHDALL, JANICE RICKARD, JOHN BAYLISS, BERT BARTLETT, JOHN FEELEY, RON HIGGINS, DAVID SPRING, UNKNOWN (FOOD FOR ALL), GAVEN DAVIS, DAVID PALMER, MARGARET DAVIS, GORDON WADDINGHAM, COLIN DOBSON, ANTONELLA CELI, ALAN HAWKINS, (FOOD FOR ALL, LYNNE JONES (SALVATION ARMY)

The president John Bayliss

noted that WoSP has been making toys for 25 years but this year was particularly noteworthy considering the challenges placed by the Covid lockdowns & restrictions. After thanking all the toy makers & sponsors for their contributions, Lynne Jones from the Salvation Army was asked to comment.

Lynne Jones thanked WoSP for their toy donation highlighting their “creativity & attention to detail”. More importantly she thanked the team “for their gift of time & commitment”. In recognizing the value of the fun, chatter & comradery of the team she said “we get the joy of giving and seeing them being distributed. As you know there is a lot of homelessness & domestic violence on the peninsula & Salvo Housing refer many to us & we are pleased to able to them a gift like you have made so many thanks for your efforts”.

Alan Hawkins from Food for All said “it boggles my mind, the skill, patience & dedication of the toy makers to make all these marvelous toys. This year it is planned to bag 5-7 toys and with a hamper donate it to approximately 400 families.” Alan finished by thanking WoSP and expressing his thanks as being one of the recipients of the club’s work.

Cr. Antonella Celi said what she loves about the community is that those who think outside of themselves and help those in need adding “Today is a testimony that even though we have been locked down the woodworkers, donors & sponsors have still contributed and not forgotten those that need us the most. Covid has caused the loss of over 5000 jobs on the Mornington Peninsula resulting in subsequent homelessness & domestic violence. So it is delightful to see how the community pulls together to help each other.” Cr Celi offered heartfelt congratulations to the woodworkers & charities present.

Bayliss introduced Gaven Davis as the person who “made it all happen”. Gaven said “I was very surprised to find 825 toys were made for distribution in 2021. Thanks must go to the toy team &

some of the wives who contributed as required". He said he was proud of the team's efforts and that "my job was made easier with the enthusiasm the toy team went about their work".

Snippets & Offcuts

Register for the Christmas Party to be held on Wednesday 15th December at the Rye Hotel. Cost is \$25 pp. Booking close on Saturday December 11th. Pay into the WoSP bank account.

Name: Woodworkers of the Southern Peninsula, BSB: 633-000, Account:126360809



Many thanks to the Bendigo Bank & the Rye Lions club for their recent donations of \$500 & \$250 respectively.



The recent Bunnings BBQ was very successful. Although this one looks interesting too.



Peninsula Fresh Seafood offers seniors a 5% discount for fresh fish each Monday. PFS are in the Dromana Industrial Estate.



Support WoSP by using a Ritchie's card when shopping at an IGA store. You can use the card or their phone app, whichever is easier.

Share the Dignity

Recently Bunnings approached WoSP to build a box for the "Share the Dignity" Campaign. Rob Oram & Gordon Waddingham stepped forward and built the box in no time at all. Bunnings organised the paint job.



Now the box sits in the Bunnings foyer for the public to make donations supporting victims of domestic violence.

Congratulations to Syd Johnson who in 2021 raised \$480 for the Movember cause.



While his target was \$500 the amount raised was up from the \$315 in 2020.

Since 2003 following his experience with prostate cancer Syd has raised \$4,782.

This year Syd tried for the look of the fourth musketeer, D'Artagnan.

Many thanks to his fellow WoSP members who have contributed to this year's efforts.

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.

The last day the club will be open will be Thursday 23rd December. It will re-open Monday 17th January.

Vale Kevin Cross who died recently. A profile of Kevin's life was provided in a separate email.

The personality of the month Gaven Davis by Allan Brookes



I was born in Yarram and at three years of age moved to Nhill with my family. I attended primary and secondary school and during years ten and eleven I discovered woodwork and woodturning. We are still using a writing desk and a turned segmented lamp that I completed in year eleven. My parents owned a café and I helped in the shop, played football and tennis and liked to swim in the local pool.

On completing school, I joined the Bank, moved to Horsham living in a boarding house before being transferred to Melbourne. In 1967, I decided to leave the Bank and join a Real Estate Agency in Caulfield selling established Houses. Four years later I changed to working for home building companies including RDC and Orlit homes in managerial, sales and marketing, and construction positions.

This was also the year I married Margaret and shortly after moved to our first home, a weatherboard in Parkdale that needed some loving attention and resulted in a two-bedroom extension. Having two Children and expecting another, we sold and moved to a new home in Wheelers Hill.

I started my own building company in 1984 in a partnership which fell on hard times in ‘..the recession we had to have...’. So out of necessity I obtained my Builders License and started a company building carports, garages, decks and small renovations. Later my son, Matthew a carpenter, joined me in the business. In this business, I adopted the principle of ‘build only to a standard as if building for myself’. The business was very successful for 20 years and to this day I still have the occasional call from past clients who want work done.

With three children we decided to try camping holidays so invested in a tent and trailer and enjoyed holidays in Victoria till one Christmas we camped in Hahndorf and found ourselves hanging onto the centre pole so as not to end up in the dam. After that experience we purchased a van and spent 26 years holidaying at Echuca where the children all learnt to water ski behind the Haines Hunter that we still have today.

We decided to build a holiday home and looked on the Mornington Peninsula so that I could build on the weekends commuting from Wheelers Hill. The house we built in Rye was completed in 2002.

I retired in 2010 and we sold Wheelers Hill and moved to Rye in 2011. During our first two years in Rye, we established ourselves including small renovations to the house.

In 2013, I went to a woodturning display at the Briars in Mornington and after conversing with some members decided to visit WOSP at Rosebud and joined in 2014. I attended Tuesday sessions with Brian Jones who taught and encouraged me with my woodturning. I enjoy mentoring the members on Tuesday and watching their growth in all aspects of woodturning. I enjoy the challenge of the different methods of woodturning and pieces I have made include segmented bowls, pens and chopping boards, large platters, boxes, fruit and miniature fruit, offset turning, hollowing bowls and racing cars.

I decided to also attend the Toy sessions, knowing how much the community is helped, and found this very satisfying. Wednesdays, toy members enjoy each other’s company and the members are all contributing to new toys and helping each other.

I have been married for 50 years and have 3 children and 6 grandchildren. I have been able to give my children and grandchildren keepsake pieces which they hopefully will pass on.