



# THE WOODPECKER

## Workshop Closure

John Bayliss finished up with Covid recently and it has been decided to close the club until Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January while it is clarified with council if a deep clean is necessary.

As Covid seems to be all over at the moment it is important that if you are not well you remain home and not visit the club. When at the club try social distancing and wear a mask. 2022 could be a challenging year but if we are careful we should be able keep the club open.

## Your Committee 2021-22

Once again John Bayliss is the driving force behind the committee supported by “Mr. Do Anything” Dennis Connor. Greg Millar continues as the experienced secretary & Peter Rodgers-Wilson is starting his first full year as treasurer. Good luck Peter.

Noel Archdall will undertake a membership role & driving the various activities associated with it. Greg Knox has become extremely valuable with his maintenance, electrical & welding skills. Gaven Davis continues in the role of toy management and induction supervisor. Max Evans will be on the lookout for grants & money making opportunities. Jeff Killeen will undertake the important role of managing the Bunnings BBQ's. Finally Colin Dobson will continue with the communication role supported by Allan Brookes (profiles), Alan R Smith (website), Tony Haigh (website plus the man to bounce ideas off, Syd Johnson & Scott Hanley who share a role in managing Facebook.

Besides managing the normal activities involved in running the club, this year the committee aims to setup an in-house shop to provide consumables to members & sell member product. Currently the plans are still evolving.

## Snippets & Offcuts

Congratulations to the members awarded their 10 year badges this year. The members are Carrie Marrs, Jeff Killeen, Colin Dobson, Greg Millar, John Wood Bradley

## Wine Barrels



The club has acquired a number a number of wine barrels to sell to members. The barrels are of varying quality so on Saturday morning 29th January the barrels will be priced and available for sale.

It is opportune to see a former member used wine barrels to make a chair. So it is not really necessary to use them just for planter boxes.

What do you think you can make with them?





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.

Get well soon: John Bayliss has recently not been well. After a visit to hospital it appears he came away with Covid & is now isolating.

It is good to see Greg Millar and Dennis Connor slowly recovering.

Tests are showing John Parrent is in remission from his recent challenge.

## Around the Workshop

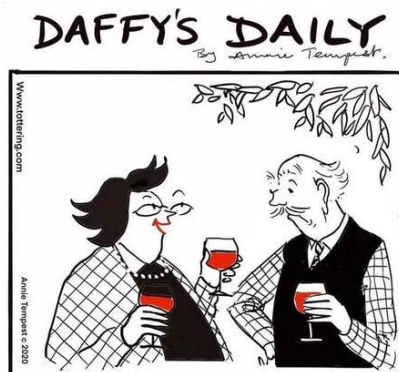
My covid project this year was taking a couple of pieces of cyprus, 400 x 400 x 800, laying around the club and making a Christmas decoration, a nutcracker. He proudly stand at the front of my home with a couple of snowmen & Christmas trees. It was fun working out how to do it. The eyes and coat buttons were left over from when I made a rocking horse back in 2018. The hair is an old fur from an Op Shop. The aint was leftover from some toy garages I made years ago.

Some ideas for next year :

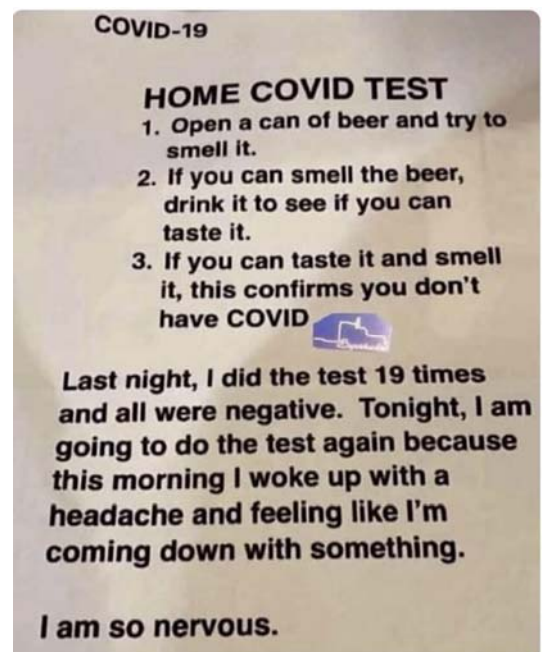
- Add some drum music for the passer bys to hear.
- The nutcracker could hold a shield and spear.
- The nut cracker could actually crack nuts.
- The hair colour could change.



## Brighten your Day



"It's just that I find that having two glasses of wine at once stops me touching my face..."



## The personality of the month Kathryn Martin by Allan

Brookes

Kate and her husband, Jim both grew up in North East Victoria, Kate in Wangaratta and Jim in Myrtleford. They married in Wangaratta 1972 and their first home was in Frankston before they returned to Wandiligong, North East Victoria for the next 20 years and where their two sons, Timothy and Leigh grew up. Mergers within the Water Industry meant a move to Beechworth for 12 years before a sea change to Rosebud 2010. They are now returning “back home”.



When Kate retired from her Legal Conveyancing/bookkeeping position in Wangaratta, she enrolled in a Cert IV in Design. Loving the opportunity to learn more in design and art, Kate then completed a Diploma in Visual Art. While Kate was in the final stages of completing the Diploma, Kate’s husband, Jim retired from his position as Manager Director of the Regional Water Authority, North East Water and was immediately offered a position in Tasmania to assist with the Water Reform in North East Tasmania. Kate was able to join Jim in Launceston for 6 months. During this time, Kate completed her Diploma in Visual Art by correspondence.

A role for Jim as Interim CEO of Southern Water in Hobart for 6 months followed – Kate joined Jim on this assignment and really enjoyed her time in Hobart spending her time printing, felting, eco dyeing and touring. Upon their return from Tasmania, they considered their options – their children (2 boys) were living in Melbourne (Brunswick area) and Jim’s sister lived in the Frankston area: they opted for a Sea Change. Both Kate and Jim being out-doors, country folk who both love gardening were not attracted to close suburban living. They settled on the one-acre property just off Jetty Road – close to all conveniences and within reasonable travel time of the boys and Jim’s sister. They have made great friends in this area and will miss them when they move up to Myrtleford early February 2022. Kate still has other family in the general vicinity of that town.

The boys have now gravitated back to Harrietville during the Covid pandemic and have now very much ‘moved’ back there. Being back in the country, they and the grandchildren avoided much of the ‘lockdown trauma’ of the Greater Melbourne area during 2020-21. Both boys are great skiers and have rediscovered just how much they enjoy the outdoors country life.

The house Kate and Jim have bought in Myrtleford is a classic country gem. Built in 1872 as the local hospital, it has all the great features of a quality building of the era – solid brick, verandahs all round, high ceilings, etc. The home is in need of some TLC and will be a great project to renovate and reestablish the gardens.

Kate’s great passion has been her artwork. It was her mother’s influence, which got Kate started.



Her family on her mother's side had always sewn, knitted, crocheted and painted – starting with her grandmother then her mother who passed on these skills. Mind you, such skills were a necessity in those early days in the country. Kate learnt patchwork and quilting in the traditional way at a time just prior to these skills becoming very popular. It was Kate's Quilting group in Wandiligong that ran the first national quilting seminar in Australia over 5 days in 1985 - at the Mt Buffalo Chalet. This was a huge success with attendees from every State and Territory including a Quilter from America leading the Quilting Seminar. Many attendees had never seen snow before thus were fascinated by the snow-fall on the Wednesday.



FIGURE 1 KATE'S GRANDPARENTS PHOTO TRANSPOSED ON TO A BLANKET

Kate went on to other crafts such as art quilts, lead lighting, felting and pottery. She also enjoyed sport - squash, netball - and is a 'not good' tennis player. Now in Rosebud, Kate has ventured into woodwork. Her family has generations of woodworkers in various aspects of the trade/craft. Kate started at WoSP with a restoration project; her Great Grandfather's cedar Secretaire that someone had 'enhanced' with a coat of full gloss paint... Bert Bartlett tried to recruit Jim at a Bunnings BBQ – Jim was not interested but Kate jumped in as a new member of WoSP. The restoration project was a success and other projects have followed – a walnut slab from their Wandiligong property made into a coffee table, some fiddle-back red gum from Whorouly converted into a lamp base. These pieces of timber had been hoarded for many years – now they have been put to use. Then Kate was informed that she must 'learn to use the tools'. She has been learning wood turning ever since.

Kate has also been doing a lot of eco printing of natural items such as leaves, nuts, flowers (even onion skins...), etc. onto natural fibers such as fabric or paper. She is combining this with her textile work, painting/drawing and stitching. Seems there is no limit to what can be achieved. Old woollen blankets form the base of many of her pieces. Kate has exhibited; frequently picking up awards along the way. The walls of her house have abundant examples of her work. Her garden has many flowers and shrubs used for patterns and dyes – planted by Kate. In the process, she has acquired an extensive knowledge of flora.

Since the interview, I have pondered a title for Kate – maybe Craft Lady Extraordinaire would be appropriate.

With their property sold, Kate and Jim will soon be leaving us. Bon Voyage guys – our loss is Myrtleford's gain.