



THE WOODPECKER

Snippets & Offcuts

- **Bunnings BBQ – helpers needed – September 24th 2022**

Yep – it's AFL Grand Final Day – all the more reason to get in quick with your chosen time slot...

- **2022 AGM Wednesday 10th August 2022 – Outcomes**

The AGM was held at the Club Rooms and was well attended. Main points of interest:

New Committee:

President:	John Bayliss
Vice President	Dennis Conner
Secretary	Colin Dobson
Treasurer	Jeff Killeen (pro tem)
Members	David Spring
	Greg Knox
	Gaven Davis
	Noel Archdall
	Bob Wharton
	Ron Higgins

As there were no contested positions, no vote was needed.

- **Insurance costs** are increasing significantly plus charges for electricity are substantially higher than at the old site (the dust extractor is a large contributor). Both these items are being investigated for ways to save. The meeting approved some fee increases:

Session fees are increased from \$4.00 to \$5.00.

For 2023/24, annual fees will increase from \$70.00 to \$80.00

- Reminder to all members re: **Medical records** held by the Club. These need to be updated if any of the information (medication, contact details, etc.) are out of date. To update this information, complete a new form, place it in the accompanying envelope and pass it to the session leader (form and envelope can be found in the Club Rooms reception in the tray marked 'Membership Forms').
- **Action requested...** To facilitate contact between members, it was agreed that a **membership list** be compiled that be sent to all members. Inclusion is to be voluntary. The list will be of:

Name (family name, first name),

Phone number and/or email address.

Please advise Noel Archdall of your preference by either completing the on-line form on the WoSP web site:

or email Noel at:

Pamandpop@hotmail.com

- **Ten Year awards** presented to:

Gerry Gilliland

Derek Lowden

John Parrent

Kevin Walsh

- **Membership Renewals 2022/23**

To date, some 90 members have renewed their membership. For those who have renewed, your receipt and membership card are available on the registration table as you enter the club. To use the workshop, you need to be a paid-up member. As a courtesy, the newsletter will be distributed to all 2021/22 members until the end of October '22.

- **Steve Johnson and Movember - reminder**

Steve Johnson is raising much-needed funds for prostate cancer, testicular cancer, mental health and suicide prevention. Men die on average 6 years earlier than women. But together we can change that. Donate via myMo Space, here:

<https://movember.com/m/sydjohnson?mc=20>

for all the dads, brothers, sons and mates in your life. Stop men dying too young.

- **Events on the Mornington Peninsula**

For a comprehensive list of Peninsula events, click the following link:

[Events & Activities - Mornington Peninsula Shire \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Events-Activities)

- **Power to you**

If you're wondering how much solar you should put on your roof and how much it could save you, [SunSPoT](#) is for you. It's a free and secure online tool by not-for-profit Australian Photovoltaic Institute (APVI) in partnership with the Mornington Shire. It's free and it's private. Find out what solar and batteries can do for you.

- **Timber Tools & Artisan Show – Melbourne 2022**

No date has yet been set for this show this year. Organisers apologise.

- **For a change.... Moon Boot – free to a good home**

Gordon Waddingham has a moon boot he wishes to give away. One user – very good condition – Size M (medium we think 😞), black, 'Ortholife' brand. Call Gordon on 0438 870 933.

Our new members this month: Jon Bennison , Emily Slaughter,
Mike Digby, Yasar Er and Andrew Mathews

Welcome Jon, Emily, Mike, Yasar and Andrew.

Projects within the Club

1. An urn by Ernie

Ern Garro is currently working on a large urn composed of 432 pieces. This started out as two bowls with the second bowl (with no base) inverted on top of the first bowl. Then add a neck and top and voila! – a segmented urn. Any particular use for this urn? “Not really – haven’t decided as yet.” But that urn would have to be one big test of one’s patience. Good work Ernie.



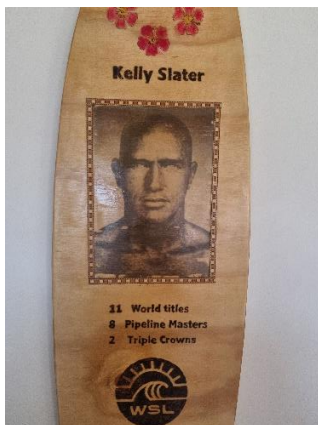
2. What has Scott Hanley (the Surf Sculptor) been up to recently?

“I have been making trophies for some clubs both here and interstate. They include, Stand up Paddle Victoria, Sydney Surf & Paddle Club and the Victorian Siberian Husky Club..... Also being selling artwork across Australia and the USA. Postage to the US is a killer but.”

Scott is one who looks for the ‘challenging and interesting’. He is also one who looks for innovative ways of doing things – like the efficient transfer of electronic images from the computer to a wooden work piece (see the results on trophies in these photos).

He is also active on the shopping web site ETSY – check his works on:

<https://www.etsy.com>



3. Turning with a difference

One way to rough in a large bowl blank when there's no band saw for the job – using a reciprocating saw with the work piece mounted in the lathe. Not really the preferred method – good lateral thinking Tony....

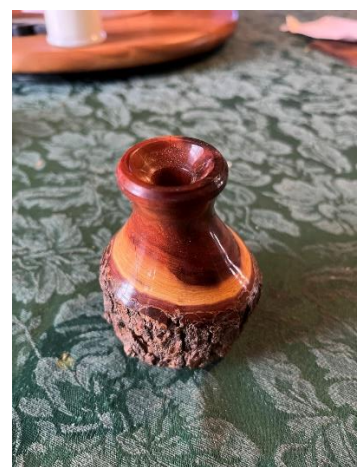
4. Some nice work by Alan Smith (see photos below)

To quote Alan....

“It's the 3rd cutting board I've ever made. It's Maple and Cherry with Red Gum splines. It's 480mm x 250mm - 20mm thick. I learned a lot about working with splines and how to get the curves to be a perfect match. That was a real challenge!!! It's a pattern called “Drunkards Path”. I think it was originally a quilt pattern!

I'm really enjoying making these “charcuterie boards” as opposed to chopping boards which are usually much thicker. Haven't done any End Grain boards yet. I'm going to do one similar to the following pix next. The pix title says it's an “inlay” but it isn't. The different wood pieces go all the way through. More like an Intarsia than Inlay. 😊 I'm having to split my time between learning lidded bowl turning and making these boards. LOL!

I made a cute little vase from a piece of Queensland Gidgee that Tony Haigh gave me. It's only 90mm tall! I love the colour contrast of the Gidgee wood and the “live edge” outside.”



Personality this Month – Gerry Gilliland (designer and modeller)

Gerry has been a member of WoSP since 2012 and is a valued and experienced Toy Maker. His commitment to the design and careful construction of our toys is very much appreciated.

Since first meeting Gerry, I have been intrigued with his family name – Gilliland – had never heard of it before. Gerry explains that ‘Gilli’ is a name the Irish gave to a tavern boy. The consensus online appears to be that the family name has deep roots in Scottish and Irish history and the name is a reduced Anglicized form of the Irish Gaelic ‘Mac Gille Fhaoláin’, which



means "son of the servant of St Faolán." From Wikipedia ‘... Saint Fillan (Faolán) is the name of an eighth century monk from Munster, who having studied at Taghmon Abbey, travelled to Scotland and settled at Strath Fillan.’ . Guess I asked the question....

🙄 When Gerry arrived in Australia, his family was the only Gilliland in the phone book – but not anymore.

Back to the topic. Gerry was born in the UK – Birmingham. His father was a motor mechanic working for BSA, before moving to a very old house in a village called Shenstone Woodend when Gerry was 9 years old. Originally built in 1896 as a house for the local Rector, it was renovated when they moved in. His father ran his own business from here till cash flow got the better of him. Gerry and his two brothers had a ball while living there. The family migrated to Australia on the P&O ship Oriana 4 years later. Initial accommodation in Melbourne was in the Holmesglen Hostel (immigration hostel – Nissan huts) one family per hut – bedroom each end with dining and living facilities in the middle of the hut. The hostel was designed to be temporary accommodation while the family got established (job, home, etc). Gerry’s father got a job at General Motors – a GM bus picked up the employees at 7:30am and dropped them back in the arvo after work. They left Holmesglen nine months later when his father saved enough to buy a house in Ferntree Gully. The house had been owned by a Manager from Shell Petroleum. From GM, his father changed jobs to New Oakleigh Motors in Ferntree Gully Road, Oakleigh.

Gerry moved out of the family home when he married Angela. When his father retired the other members of the family moved to Woodside on the 90-mile beach. His brothers (a house painter and an Auto Electrician) moved with the family and found much work in Yarram.

Gerry’s initial ambition to be a Marine Engineer was triggered by a visit to the engine room of the Oriana on his trip to Australia – he loved engineering. But when it came to the crunch, he had to make the choice – engineering career or get married – marriage

won and he took up a 5-year apprenticeship in Fitting and Turning. He took tool making in the last year of his apprenticeship – working at Silcraft in Notting Hill. This company’s processes included roll forming. After 13 years, all those who had started as apprentices were given the ‘flick’. The run-down of work from the auto manufacturers was taking its toll. Government subsidies to the auto industry was vital to its existence and that was being phased out. From there, Gerry moved up the road to Australian General Electric (AGE) as a tool maker and worked there for some 12 years. When AGE folded, Gerry found himself with a second involuntary redundancy. With the prompting of a couple of other ‘redundantees’, Gerry decided to try working for himself. Three years was enough for him to realise it was all too hard – cut throat jobs and chasing payment... Black and Decker called and Gerry was now an industrial model maker till the Chirnside Park facility was closed down. The Chinese were now starting to make big inroads into products manufactured in Australia – their low labour costs signaled the end to so many Australian businesses.

Time for another job – Accurate Profile in Ringwood as a tool maker. Great company with excellent staff relations - in the business of roll forming. A ‘father and son’ business where the father would come around every Friday and ask how the employee’s family were travelling, etc.

In Blairgowrie, Gerry has a nice workshop set up just to do modelling. He recently donated his scaled model of the Hygeia to the Nepean Historical Society (see the WoSP Newsletter May 2022). Currently, he is building a model steam engine (a Foden Steam Wagon) for his 7-year-old grandson – to be a present on his 13th birthday when he will be old enough to appreciate the gift (and avoid getting burned and/or scolded). Now that’s a loong project.... Or maybe a radio-controlled boat that he can run around on the local lake at Skipton where Gerry’s daughter lives. Woodwork is done at the WoSP workshop – at home, it’s all metal work.

Having some stainless-steel tubing left over from the balustrade (too good to throw away), Gerry created two coffee tables of his own design (unusual shape - see photo). There are other items of metallic origin around the Gilliland house, but that’s another story.



Keep Smiling....

According to a statistic: 1 out of 4 men is happy

