

**Central Tablelands Woodcraft Newsletter**

 **November 2017 – January 2018**

E&OA

For one reason or another we haven’t produced a Woodies Newsletter for a while. Consequently, this issue is a “quarterly” newsletter. We are planning to get back into the straps in 2018 with a return to monthly Newsletters.

So, starting with November – what a busy month with the main item being our “Woodcraft on Show”. Despite a miserable very wet Saturday WOS was deemed to be a success with a net profit over $3,000 and five new members. One of the features was the number of dynamic displays of a variety of woodworking skills thanks to Peter C, Peter S, Colin B, Colin S, Alan R, Elizabeth F, Garth I, to mention a few. By now you should have received a Post WOS review email and we welcome any feedback on how we can make 2018 even better. Comments can be emailed to the Woodies at woodies1990@gmail.com or by having a chat with one of the Executive.

Thanks need to go to all our sponsors for the W.O.S. without whom our annual event would not be possible. We are also getting very good publicity through newspapers and radio for this event and this is having a positive effect on the public in Bathurst.

Otherwise the Woodies is coming ahead in leaps and bounds with the many new members starting to undertake making numerous items that demonstrate their abilities - it is gratifying to see that they are enjoying working with wood.

Alan and Faye Taylor from Christmas Child took all the Knitting Nancies that we had, and would take as many as we can produce. Members are encouraged to use this project to learn simple turning, just ask one of the Executive if you would like a hand to get started .

We conducted our first Bunnings Sausage Sizzle thanks to John T and Garth I. We couldn’t have selected a better date being spring and the day after good rain. So the community was out in force and helpers were run off their feet keeping up the supply of bread & snags. The net profit to the Woodies was $961.Thanks once again to everyone that helped. Hopefully we can do this again in 2018.

We are very 21St Century and now the Woodies boasts it’s own EFTPOS facility. The will be a great asset for product sales in the future as increasingly people only use plastic to carry out transactions. Of course, we can also use the EFTPOS gadget to pay our memberships for 2018 if we so choose.

Whilst we have a healthy bank balance it is appropriate that a proper process is followed when spending our money - this will mean that all expenditure (apart from the day to day operation of the Club) must be approved by the membership to ensure that the funds are not inappropriately used.

It has become evident that some members are misusing some of our machinery - the thumb lock on the table router has fallen off and disappeared, the band saws are not being used with the guides lowered appropriately - as has been discussed before, it will be necessary for members to receive suitable training in the use of equipment prior to them being allowed to use it. Please be aware that this is for our own benefit as ALL this equipment is very expensive and is will do you a vast amount of injury if not use appropriately. Please speak to Jacko or John to commence this training.

**December.**

Of course, the highlight of December was our Christmas party which proved to be a roaring success thanks to the enterprise of Bob Cassidy and his team. This time the party was held in the Bob Bennett workshop at the Woodies and over 55 bods participated in excellent food, numerous “lucky door” prizes and a Christmas tree thanks to Floyd and Diane. Our President make a brief speech thanking everyone for their contribution to a very successful 2017. Everyone at the party enjoyed themselves greatly and the desire is that we continue to do this in the future.

It was a delight at the December meeting to present Garth Innes with the Harry Dorman Memorial trophy for woodturning. Garth’s lovely item was on display at WOS in November.

The broken equipment (router table, planer/thicknesser) have been repaired/replaced and are now ready to be used - however ALL members must be reminded that they need to take extreme care when using the equipment.

At the December meeting we agreed that an equipment familiarisation process be set up and be delivered to ALL members in addition to the existing new member induction. This to improve our skills in using the equipment efficiently and appropriately. Ian Jackson and Mike Hardie are working towards this.

We also decided to purchase several items to replace worn out items or new ones - namely a new ladder, a new printer, an external hard drive to back up club files, a screwdriver set, a floor sweeper and the lathe chucks. Most of these items have now been purchased or ordered.

The table saw and scroll saws that were offered for tender have been sold even though a bit of extra negotiation had to be done with the scroll saw since there were two bids offering the same price. There was a successful conclusion to the negotiation.

John McMahon advised that he will not be available as President for 2018 so put your thinking caps on and consider who you would like to be the new Woodies President. All the positions will be declared vacant at the AGM is in March. So please think about involving yourself in the overall management of the Woodies.

**January**

I hope everyone had a fabulous Christmas and New Year and are ready to make sawdust.

We have got off to a very busy start with the workshop really humming with industry. Projects include - lowering a table to make a coffee table, making 32 wooden bookcase supports on the copy lathe, outdoor tables for the RFS, brackets for a balcony cut out with a scroll saw, repairing and recaning *(is that a word?)* antique chairs. All of this on top of individuals own projects. As usual helpers are always welcome to give others a hand and this is a great way to share knowledge and learn new skills, so please make yourselves available to assist.

The new Oki printer/copier is in service thanks to Doug and Jacko. Our old Samsung unit had done good service but had come to the end of its useful life.

We are already thinking about our commitments for 2018. Paul R is going to arrange a couple of shopping centre displays during the year. Ron L has been asked to reinvigorate our social lunches which have proved so successful in the past. Doug mentioned the Bathurst Heritage Trail display at Tremain’s Mill in May which was a success in 2017. There has also been talk about “doing” the Sofala Show. This always a great day out. And John T and Garth may be able to get a date for another Bunnings barbeque.

We have made a commitment to support the Easter function at Bunnings on Thursday evening on 22 March from 1800 to 2200. Jacko is seeking the assistance of a few bods to ensure the success of this publicity opportunity. Please speak to Jacko if you may be available to help.

So you can see the Woodies has hit the decks running in 2018 and we are looking forward to seeing everybody in the workshop enjoying good company and making sawdust.