

# The Eltham Woodworker



Reg Number A 0025947P

**October 2018**

## Office Bearers

John Winkett President	9439 1793	Tony Orbe Vice President	0407 050723
Charles Camera Secretary	9434 2269	Dave Mitchell Treasurer	9436 4916

## Committee Members

Keith Hawkins	9432 6751	Martin Lawley	0412 385184
Steve Mitchener	0409 003487	Bruce Jackson	9717 4802
Lorraine Kruger	9436 1742		

All correspondence to be addressed to the Secretary, P.O. Box 701, Eltham, 3095 or email [secretary@elthamwoodworkers.org.au](mailto:secretary@elthamwoodworkers.org.au)

## Almoner

Alwyn Wainwright 9455 2187

## Newsletter Editor

Beryl Watling 0421 086361 [editor@elthamwoodworkers.org.au](mailto:editor@elthamwoodworkers.org.au)

The deadline for inclusion in the newsletter is the Tuesday the week before our meeting. Please email the item in Word or text format.

## Next Monthly Club Meeting Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2018 at 8pm

At the CFA Hall, next door to the Clubhouse, War Memorial Park  
448 Ironbark Rd Cnr De Fredericks Rd) Yarrambat, Melways map, page 184 G8,  
Phone: - 9436 1907

## 2018 Annual Exhibition - Geoff Oliver

This year's exhibition is fast approaching

## Exhibit Entries

All entries to be submitted by the 31<sup>st</sup> October.

## Set-up Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November

Delivery of exhibits between 7.00am and 10.30am followed by the set-up which will again be done by Isabelle Clement. We will need members to stay around to assist with the set-up.

## Official Opening 7.00pm Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November

All members and partners urged to attend

Members with surname starting with A-K to bring a plate of sweets, and those starting L-Z savouries

## Exhibition Sat 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November (9.00am – 5.00pm)

8.00am Saturday set up demonstration area. Exhibition opens to public at 9.00am

Assistance of members required throughout the weekend to help with Wes's workshop, sales table, selling raffle tickets, assisting public etc.

### Guest Speaker

The next meeting on the 3rd October will have as a guest speaker Paul Taro who is an accomplished guitar maker. Paul will talk about his craft and show some very delightful and unusual period inspired guitars.

### Around the workshop – Charles Camera - September 2018

Another month and the extension is still not complete. Just what is it about building that makes it universally an industry that NEVER meets building deadlines??? When it is complete we will need to layout the new and old area to make best use of the new space. There have already been several very good layout submissions to the committee. The submissions had much in common especially regarding the setting out of our many poorly utilised but very good benches, suggesting that they be placed orthogonally along the western wall and the re-siting of the lathes to the top right side. The submissions will be presented at the next meeting and further suggestions are still welcome.

This month's maintenance involved the large bandsaw which was out of action when the fence bracket was found to be broken. Either very excessive force was used to tighten the adjustable lever or the fence was violently forced out of line. Whatever the cause the damage repair cost nearly \$200 and put the saw out of action for a week. Please take care with adjustable levers which are also on our other machines including the planer and lathes. All are designed to lock up the adjustable component very securely with only moderate force. On another note I have given up trying to place an order for bandsaw blades from our usual USA source and have instead fitted a locally sourced blade. The blade is thicker and has far more set than the USA blades and appears to be very smooth cutting and unlikely to drift as much. I will be interested to hear comments from regular users especially as it would be good to settle on these in future.



Broken bracket from the bandsaw.

The table saw has again had the riving knife moved up. It is not clear if this is due to tampering or if the blade was lowered too far as doing so catches the guard and when forced further can lift the riving knife up out of its proper position. In either case more care is needed and **NO ONE may change the setting unless they are cleared to do so.**

The Bosch battery drills are suffering from poor charging even with the recent replacement NiCad batteries. The committee has decided to replace them with lithium ion powered units and Keith Hawkins is in charge of finding the most attractive replacements.



Elsewhere some clever members led by Rado Starec are in the home stretch building the first prize for the club's raffle. Here are some of the team assembling the outdoor table which is a welcome change from the boring commercial designs and will no doubt attract a lot of interest from prospective ticket buyers.

Each month I get several requests from the public through our website and FB page. Many of the requests are impracticable or are people trying to get commercial work for free. However, there are also many genuine inquiries and one recently was from a lady wanting a dolls house for her daughter. I circulated the request and Martin Lawley took it on and produced just what was wanted (and a bargain !!).



**Cabinet makers all know how tedious making mortise and tenon joints can be using traditional techniques. The domino machine though expensive does however make extremely light work the task. If you are not familiar with the Festool Domino machine you can see it by clicking on the link here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WUwYlgAL-Mg> Sometime in the future the club would do well to acquire a domino machine but there is now a competitor that has been commercialised from a homemade machine by Canadian woodworker and very successful youtube blogger, Matthias Wandel. You can look at his very interesting web site here <https://woodgears.ca/> and the new commercial unit here <https://hybridpantorouter.com/>.**

Our club has a culture of community involvement which is not only rewarding for those involved but also gives the club a great deal of good will. Many others are also involved in charities and community groups. Member Caryl Rowan has one such interest in an organisation called “Dream Stiches” <http://www.dreamstiches.org.au/about-us>. The organisation aids migrant women by teaching various dress making and quilting skills. Caryl would like invite members to support the group by attending their fund raiser garden party at Bishops court garden on Clarendon Street facing Fitzroy Gardens on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October. Please contact Caryl if interested (0407333583). Further details [here](#).

### **Scrollsaw Group – Steve Mitchener – 1/9/2018**

I had received three apologies for today from some of my “regulars”. Being Beryl, Maike and Jennifer, all reluctantly tied up with other things today. But Graham, Raman and I set up in the new floor area of the extension and made use of the new space. Tony and Roz were content to work in the old area amid the constraints of the clustered benches.

As I was still enthused about the impact my 3D cutting had generated at the Wattle Festival last month, so I was developing some small products I could cut and demonstrate at our Exhibition in November. They are a composition of several small pieces, and are quite ‘cute and decorative’ when they are finally assembled. I already have several finished for addition to my growing list of exhibition pieces.

Roz was working hard at fitting the backer to her advent puzzle. Raman was cutting more templates for his growing collection of small cars.

Tony was cutting templates for small animals, so he could mark them out for cutting demonstrations at future events. (Whittlesea Show, E.D.W.C. Exhibition etc.)

Graham finished cutting out his car puzzle, and then moved onto cutting some 3D bears. They were a lot bigger than what I was cutting, and they were also gender neutral. (*This was related to the miniature pot-bellied men about 20mm tall that I was cutting in 3D at the Wattle Festival.*) We discussed the technique for cutting a ‘Love Wood’ sign in 3D, and what it would look like when it was cut. Graham gave me a copy of the pattern, and I am going to cut it a bit smaller than he is, because that increases the difficulty.

We had visits through the day from Graeme Deany, Charles Camera and a new member Steve O'Neil. Unfortunately, this Steve is interested in woodturning, not in real woodwork like Scrollsawing, Carving or Box Making. *(But give me time, I may be able to set him straight....)*

### **Box Making Group –Steve Mitchener - 5/9/2018**

This was a small gathering for the mid-week box making group. Bernie fitted the top swing down sand paper holder into the lid of his finger joined work box. Then Bernie moved onto making a second drop in tray for the same unit. This will enable storage in the bottom layer, more storage in a drop in tray above that, and then even more organised storage in a top drop in tray. And with storage combined in the lid, this is really a hoarder's paradise.

Steve Hood was fitting the tool cradles in his tray to store his turning tools in his big tool chest. Steve has also braced the internal corners and used these as supports for the corner splines that will support the tray inside the box.

Sandra was cutting, trimming, and shaping pieces for four small boxes. One box in Silky Oak, the other three boxes will be in Myrtle. Looks like there will be plenty of boxes on show at our Exhibition.

I was just there offering support, advice and drinking coffee. I didn't do any work at all.

### **Carving Group - Steve Mitchener -7/9/2018**

Just after I arrived Rod Gorfine rang to apologise for being absent for today's group. But sick kids take precedence over carving. That's just a fact of life. You can't always have fun when you're a parent. There's another fact for you.

I settled down to work on my large gnome in Huon Pine. I also had a 'show and tell' of little bird houses complete with little birds. These resulted from the 3D cutting I was doing at Hurstbridge last month. Several more back home "in work", as they say. Will be quite a collection by the time the Exhibition rolls around.

Batoul was back from her travels, and was working on a slim spoon in Huon Pine. Then took to copying my Tall Standing Gnome, which I had brought along. The original is in Kauri Pine, the COPY will be in Huon Pine.

Alwyn was working on his Carving Man.

Neil was working on his shallow Cello thickness gauge and a small mantle clock.

Sandra cut a stylized cat in Huon Pine. Then worked on shaping it and refining her African Rhino. (There are two types of Rhino in Africa. The Black and the White. But the difference is in their lips, not their colour. One has a prehensile triangular lip, as it is a browser, and the other has a broad flat lip as it is a grazer. It's another fact. Just thought I would throw that in.)

John Leahy worked on his leopard head for a walking stick.

While John Mentha worked on shaping the legs of his stools in the machine room.

Meanwhile, David "I'm here again this week" Green and his friend Skittle were here. David worked hard on knocking some weight off Skittle, but at the end of the day it was hard to notice any difference. [Sorry David. Just reporting the facts as usual.]

### **Box Making Group - Steve Mitchener – 15/9/2018**

Had an apology from Jennifer for this group. Ahhh, (he sighs reflectively) I remember what it's like to be young and very busy with the turmoil and hectic pace of life. Funny though, in reality it's pretty much the same now 50 years later. It's just that the emphasis and interests have changed a bit.

I am able to reflect on these things as I am always early and have time alone while setting myself up for the day's effort. And today I just needed a seat, because I am only going to finish sanding my carved "Fat Rabbit" to get it ready for the Exhibition.

Steve Hood was here putting final touches to his big tool chest. Spent some time fiddling with the fit of the sliding lid, and putting the last clean up to the tool tray. Then we spent some time discussing handles for this project. Steve wasn't happy with the handles he had made, so I offered a remodel of the design, and then a totally different alternative. Alas, he has discovered this project is not as close to 'finished' as he thought.

Mark was here having a short but busy day. He was working on a signature picture frame for himself, compound legs for a small table, a cake display board for his wife, and also two centre pieces for two guitar stands. The only thing he is even close to getting finished is the cake display stand. And that's because it's needed VERY SOON by 'she who must be obeyed.'

And Bruce was here working on the two clock carcasses, as mentioned in earlier reports.

And Adrian was in the machine room working on his hardwood table. And from me he got technical advice on construction, and confirmation that what he was aiming at was definitely achievable. It will be quite a nice piece of furniture when he gets it finished.

And a happy final note. I did get the rabbit sanded. I'm taking the little bugger home to wax him up and add him to the list.....

### **Carving Group - Steve Mitchener -21/9/2018**

On Thursday when I was preparing for carving today, I decided to do a whimsical piece. Not for any specific purpose, but just because I felt like it. So, I grabbed a length of 34mm square Kauri Pine (previously prepared for compound cutting on the Scrollsaw), and drilled four random holes (two in each direction) in about the first 100mm of length. Then I cut it off at about 105mm. Nothing exact about this project, did you notice that? All very random and 'ad hoc'.

So, on Carving Friday, I started cutting away the wood that was left just to see what would result. At the end of the day, it was just a bit smaller, nothing showing at this stage. When I am finished, I may only be left with the four holes I drilled. [Now think about that for a minute!]

- Rod was first to join me and started another foot carving into Jelutong. The first one was a success, and now he is doing one for himself. (And he said he'd share it with his Missus. Wasn't that nice of him?)
- Sandra came and worked on her stylised cat.
- John Leahy worked on his leopard head. He's nearing the finish and is sanding it smooth. He must have mentioned a dozen times that he "hates sanding." Yep, I think I got the idea.
- Batoul was making pieces for two displays stands to show off her Italian Wooden soccer balls brought back from overseas. I suggested the design, and Batoul was keen to create it. Three curved legs facing upwards from a fixed base, to support the balls, without distracting the viewer from the object itself. I thought once I had delivered the concept, my involvement would be over. How wrong was I? [So, my whimsical piece really was a whim!]

And we had Barry Lay working on John Kinrade's cabinet in the kitchen, and John Mentha working on the joins for the stool legs in the machine room. The rush is on to get both projects finished and out of here.

And lastly, we had a short visit from Maurice, who was otherwise engaged in the morning. But wanted the chance to socialise with the group for a while anyway.

And very conspicuous by his absence was David “Nomad” Green. Off travelling again!

### ***Pyrography Group - Steve Mitchener -23/9/2018***

As the day approached I received a string of apologies from various regular attendees, who had other important commitments. Batoul and Graham were at family functions with their respective families, Beryl was retrieving her husband and daughter from an overseas jaunt out at the airport, and Peter Davies was stuck in hospital on the sick list. That left a few other regulars and some non-regulars.

So, with my usual enthusiasm I roll up early, get everything organised, and settled down to work. I decorated a miniature 3D bird nest with pyro, to make it different from the other ten I have finished.

Then I burnt details onto a piece of Cedar, coaster sized, that I had cut to a Celtic design. It’s not for the Exhibition, it’s just an item I wanted to try the design and decoration on.

Then I moved onto another of my quirky little signs. By the time I finished this it was after 10:00, and still no-one else had shown up. So, I decided to have a cuppa. Someone always turns up when you boil the kettle!

Not today! So, after downing my cuppa, I packed up and went off to visit family. Yes, strange as it may seem to some of you, I do have family.

So, after running and being involved with various groups here in the last 15 years, this is the very first time I have been left ‘high and dry’ at one. But the day wasn’t a waste. I got some work done as detailed above, I had a quiet restful time out here in Yarrambat for a couple of hours, and I get to see family. A nice day.

## EDWC CLUB Workshop / Meeting Calendar

Box Making	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	1 pm 9.30 am	Steve Mitchener
Carving Group	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday	9.00 am	Sandra Dean
Open Workshop	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday Thursday	9.30 am 9.30 am 9.30 am	Key Holder Mark Thompson Key Holder
Mentoring Monday	Monday	9.30 am	Dave Mitchell
Pyrography Group	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday except 29 <sup>th</sup> April, 29 <sup>th</sup> July	9.30 am	Peter Davies
Scroll Saw Group	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	9.00 am	Steve Mitchener
Woodturning	1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday	7.30 pm 1.00pm 9.00 am	Graeme Deany Graham Skinner David Cowan
Committee Meeting	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	7.30 pm	Committee
Exhibition Committee	4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	1.00 pm	Geoff Oliver
General Meeting	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday	8.00 pm	In CFA Hall
Wes' Workshop	Wednesday	9.00 am	Wes Weight

### **These dates do not consider public holidays. Please check.**

Note 1. All members are encouraged to make full use of the clubrooms. However, the nominated activity groups have the dedicated use of the premises during their time slots. Please consult these groups beforehand if there is a special reason to use the workshop during these allotted sessions.

Note 2. Open workshops generally commence at 9.30 am but if no one arrives by 10.30 am the member rostered can close-up. If you cannot arrive by 10.30 am contact the rostered member to make other arrangements.

Note 3. Long weekend key holders have the option to cancel. Members must confirm prior to attendance.

### **Club Key Holders**

The following people are key holders and can be contacted to gain access to the workshop at reasonable times outside the regular opening times. It is a commitment for all key holders to ensure club rules and regulations are maintained, including signing in and out in the attendance book, cleaning up, checking dust extractor bags, etc. For safety reasons a minimum of two people **MUST** be on site when using workshop equipment.

J. Winkett,	B. Jackson,	D. Mitchell,	B. Vaughan,
S. Mitchener,	G Skinner,	L. Kruger,	C. Camera,
B. Lay,	B. McDonald,	G. Oliver,	S. Dean,
G. Deany,	M. Thompson,	K. Hawkins	D. Green,
A. Wainwright.	S Watson		