

ILLAWARRA WOODWORKERS GROUP INCORPORATED
www.illawarrawoodworkers.org.au
March 2022 NEWSLETTER



Illawarra Woodworkers Group

Committee 2021/22

President	Mark Beaver
Vice -president	David Lipscombe
Secretary	Pat Keefe
Treasurer & P. Officer	William Perry
Coordinator (Organising)	Ric Funnell
Coordinator (Workshop)	Pat Keefe
Club sales coordinator	Ric Funnell
Librarian	Peter Hansen
Newsletter	Darinka Radinovic/ Jason Hedley

Welcome to the first Illawarra Woodworkers Club newsletter of 2022.

It has been a while since the last newsletter and it's great that we are now all able to get back to some sort of normality after all the lock downs and we are hoping that things continue to go well.

Committee and Club Meeting:

12th Feb 2022/

Key Points:

- Work Shop is back in full swing on Thursdays and Saturdays
- The school classes have not started back up this year and we are awaiting confirmation from the school for potential resumption dates for the classes.
- Discussions on Viva la Gong – No news from Wollongong Council as to potential dates.
- We have the opportunity to have a stall at the Illawarra's Quilters fair on the 7th May- just before mother's day. A great opportunity for some club and personal sales. The more members that can assist on the day, the easier it is on everyone.
- Donation of toll box from Pat and quickly acquired by Yvonne with a donation to the club.

12th March 2022

Key Points:

- Membership renewal is due now. Payments can be made to Bill in person or as a bank transfer. Account details are available at the end of this newsletter. Please use your surname in the reference.
- Quilters Expo confirmed with the possibility of two tables – 10am -3pm, 7th May Fisher St, West Wollongong, Keira View Hall – Organised by Virginie
- Annual General Meeting to be held 9th April 2022.

General Business:

- Lots of thanks to Pat for running a tool sharpening course recently for club members. Pat was able to show us some great tips and techniques to maintain the edge on chisel, shaves etc. It also highlighted Pat's obsession for collecting old tools, all of which he really, really needs.
- A quick reminder that the club library is available to all members with copies of Australian Wood Worker, Fine Woodworking etc available to get some ideas on your next project. Just remember to sign out and back in anything that you need.
- Please remember to always keep the workshop clean and tidy. After finishing on the tools, clean up the area. Don't leave jobs lying around on benches. If you have a project going, remember to label with your name and the date so that it does not get forgotten.

Next Meeting

- ***Annual General Meeting to be held 9th April 2022.***
Remember, if you are not present, you may just make it onto the committee.

Vale Ken Hutchinson

Long time Club member Ken Hutchinson passed away recently.

The club would like to take this opportunity to remember Ken and his strong involvement in the club over many years.

We pass on our condolences to Ken's family at this time.

SHOW & TELL:

You have all been busy again. The creativity of the group is fantastic.

Thank you to those that bring in their work to keep us all entertained and inspired.





Workshop Safety

Safe use of woodworking tools is important to avoid unnecessary injuries. By employing some simple common sense guidelines, you can avoid having lacerations, eye injuries or worse.

Below is a list of 7 safety guidelines when woodworking:

- **Know the Equipment.** Before you use any equipment, you need to be shown how to use it, or at least read the operating instructions. In the workplace it is mandatory to train someone before they use certain equipment when you are working in your shed then these rules do not apply. So please read the operating instruction, talk to the sales people when purchasing or have someone show you how to use the equipment properly.
- **Wear Safety Equipment.** Eyes, feet and hearing protection are the basic personal protective equipment (PPE) you should be wearing when using tools. I know in a home environment even the basic PPE is not worn, but you will regret not wearing it if something goes wrong.
- **Wear Appropriate Clothing.** Shorts and singlet may be what's normally worn at home but in a workshop, even in your garage, appropriate clothing needs to be worn. Wearing long pants and tops can prevent filings, sawdust or other containments hurting you.
- **Follow Instructions.** If the equipment or material you are using directs you to use certain protective equipment then use it. If the solvents tell you to use in a ventilated area, to the work in a ventilated area. These instructions are there for a reason, the manufacturer has spent a lot of time and money to work out what's best, so follow them.
- **No Alcohol or Drugs.** There are a number of people who partake in alcohol and drugs at their homes. Both affect your abilities causing your reflexes to be slowed down. Using alcohol or drugs while operating equipment is dangerous to you and anyone else around you, please don't do it.

- **Adhere to Safe Practices.** With every process in woodworking there are safe practices that have been created and implemented in the workforce. These safe practices can also apply to the hobbyist. Some of the basic safe practices include
 - Disconnect power when altering equipment, such as saw blades
 - Use one power cord only not a bunch joined together
 - Use sharp blades and bits
 - Never reach over an operating blade
 - Make sure the guard is in position
 - Inspect stock for nails, or other materials, before cutting, planing, routing, or carrying out similar activities.
 - All start and stop buttons need to be easily accessible
 - Use a 'push stick' to push materials into cutting area
 - Clamp down and secure all work pieces when drilling or milling
 - Keep work space clear of rubbish and clutter.

- **Avoid Distractions.** When using equipment, you need to be concentrating on what you are doing. Any distractions may result in you being hurt.

By following these 7 safety tips you will minimize any potential of being hurt. Woodworking is an enjoyable hobby so being safe will only ensure it remains so.

Remember it doesn't take much to protect yourself.

Please always clean up after your work. It keeps the workshop safer and it makes life a bit easier for everyone else. It is everyone's responsibility to look after each other's safety.

