



Strathalbyn Wood Craft Group Inc.

Sawdust & Shavings

March 2022 Newsletter

President's report

The year is already flying by as we farewell summer and welcome autumn.

Open day 15 May 2022

An advisory group consisting of Frank Chapman, Ruth Creedy, Joe Golden, Ken Knight, Heather McDonald, John Owen and myself have been meeting since January to plan the forthcoming open day on Sunday 15 May and a publicity flyer has now been prepared. The purpose of open days, which are generally held every year, is to show the broader community the services and skills which can be provided by the Woodshed.

Tom Lochting from Superior Timber Coatings will have a static display at the event and will stay on site to answer questions. The pallet project will be another static display showing a pallet in its original form, and how it is transformed into various finished products.

The Lions Club has been asked if they would bring their caravan to provide the catering - coffee, hamburgers, donuts etc. Lions will get back to me about this. Ken Knight has started a large dish to sell, and Joe Golden has agreed to make pens. There are sufficient items left over from the garage sale which could be offered for sale as well as donated machines and tools, and other items for sale might include bird boxes, tortilla presses, reindeers etc. which members make and are happy to sell.

I encourage anyone with suggestions for the open day to contact either myself or one of the members of the advisory group to discuss their ideas.



Upcoming events

Open Day
Sunday 15 May
10am - 1pm



Changes to Committee membership

Anthony Rice has resigned as Vice President and as a committee member and Noelene Rose has advised she cannot continue as a committee member for this year but may be able to do so next year when their business is up and running. I would like to sincerely thank Anthony and Noelene for their contributions; their input on the committee will be greatly missed.

Committee members provide a key communication channel from the general membership, enabling management decisions to be made with as much information and input as possible. With two vacancies on the committee, members are urged to consider nominating to fill these roles. Many hands make light work, and committee membership is not onerous: meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm and generally run for around two hours.

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We acknowledge the Peramangk people as the traditional custodians of the Strathalbyn area, and pay our respects to the Elders past and present.

Strathalbyn Wood Craft Group Inc operating as the Strathalbyn Woodshed

A non gender community facility based on the principles of the Australian Men's Shed Association

97a Milnes Road, Strathalbyn SA 5255 Phone 0418 418 995 ABN 85 162 313 315



Charitable Organisation ID 85162313315

President: Eric March Vice-President: Vacant Secretary: Neil Pokoney Treasurer: Shaun Singleton

President's report *continued...*

Young people training

James Lee, the Strathalbyn Young Citizen of the Year, has commenced working with several high school students to teach them woodwork skills, from drawing through to finished products. James is a graduate of our Shared Skills Program which finished a couple of years ago. All participants will need to become members of the Woodshed to be covered by our insurance and Peter Ancell has undertaken to work with James as an extra safety measure.

CNC router

As reported last month this machine is now operational. We have recently discovered that member Richard Carter is very competent in computer aided design work and he is working with Bill Kent and David Manning to prepare products using the machine. The machine is proving very flexible and no doubt there will be a good deal of work for it in the future.

Social days

At the February committee meeting, Peter Broadbridge suggested that whenever there are five Mondays in a month, we have a sausage sizzle luncheon on that fifth Monday as a bit of "social easy time". This was supported by the committee, noting this occurs four times a year. Accordingly the dates for these BBQs for the remainder of this year will be 30 May, 29 August, and 31 October. These are not fundraising events and are simply to provide a relaxed time to enjoy one another's company.



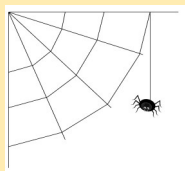
On a similar theme, every day the Shed is open there are two 30-minute break sessions ("brew time") where members can sit around, have a coffee and a chat. This social time reflects one of our key objectives which is the wellbeing of our members through the prevention of social isolation by providing a safe, friendly and welcoming place to work on meaningful projects and to contribute to the wider community.

Woodshed break-in

On Saturday 5 February at 6.26pm the alarm at the Woodshed was triggered and rang my phone. I was able to get there within nine minutes and the police arrived about 15 minutes after that. Burglars had broken the lock on the rear door but do not appear to have gained entry and they had scarppered. The police checked the area but were not able to locate the offenders. The lock has been replaced at a cost of about \$300. The new lock will make unlawful entry more difficult as there is no handle on the outside (i.e. an exit only door).

Volunteers

Woodshed volunteers Julie Nicholson and Martyn Wilkinson undertake tasks such as the production of this newsletter, IT support and other projects. I am pleased to announce that Trish Pokoney has also volunteered to assist with some of the Shed's administrative work. I am very grateful for this offer which will further support the work of the committee and the efficient and effective functioning of the organisation generally.



It's on the website!

Anyone interested in the Woodshed can now register their interest, fill out the application form or just sign up for our newsletter via the website: strathwoodshed.org.au

Simply click on "Join Us" or "Member Documents".

Let your friends and contacts know!

Finance As per the February finance report to the committee we have \$14,300 In our operating account.

New members Welcome to new members Bruce Allnutt, Glen Sadler, Leanne Smeda and James Smeda. It is great to have you aboard.

Eric March

We acknowledge support from:



Introducing new member: Glen Sadler

One of our newest members, Glen Sadler, says he has been working with wood and playing around with ideas for about three years now, and still considers himself to be very much in a learning phase. He says carving and woodwork is very much an escape from stresses of everyday life and a great form of therapy.



He has a background in tree clearing and weed control, sawmilling, some carpentry, viticulture and occupational health & safety.

Glen says he likes to take any old wood and make something of it. This includes scrap wood from building leftovers to broken old furniture and even wood from the firewood pile (it may end up back in the fire pile if it doesn't work out!). Glen's projects have included:

- an outdoor wine table made from an old pine log from the garden
- a wine rack made from an old railway sleeper cut into slabs
- an outdoor servery bench at his kitchen window
- a built-in cupboard and bench under his home pergola
- a pool seating area.



Glen is collecting larger green logs to split in the future and he hopes to build a resin filled natural edged table. He is also into green wood spoon carving and carving tiny faces in small sticks (for a challenge) in addition to carving larger faces in cut logs.

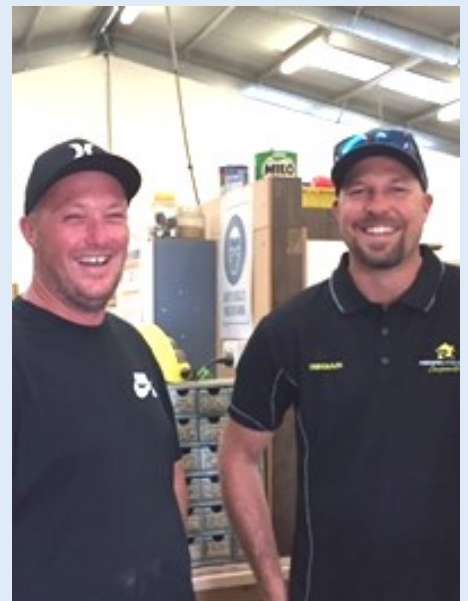


Thank you to two local businesses



Late last year, two local businesses, Reagan Jaensch Carpentry and Pistol Plastering, made donations to the Woodshed which were gratefully received.

Owners Reagan Jaensch and Mathew Marden visited the Shed recently and were shown around by Peter Broadbridge.



Reagan noted: "I'm just a small carpentry business. We are lucky enough to get a lot of local jobs and we are big supporters of locals supporting each other. I think what you guys do up at the shed is great and hopefully one day when I retire I have somewhere to go like that."



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

PETER ANCELL



Peter was born at Warraweena Hospital in Thebarton. His father had to sell a cow to get Peter and his mum out of the hospital!

The family had a dairy farm at Lockleys (where the airport is now located) and delivered milk and ice by horse and cart. Peter's tales of life on the family farm are many and varied and will have to wait for another time!

Peter went to school at Lockleys and he still meets up with his classmates from Grade 7 (1947).

The government acquired the family's land in 1946 under war time legislation. Therein lies a few more stories! In 1948, the family shifted to a 38 acre property at Gillies Plains. This is now known as Valley View and it has a street named Ancell Court, after the family. They had over 1600 almond trees along with a few sheep, cows and trotting horses.

Peter attended Thebarton Technical Boys School for his Year 8 schooling, achieving the fourth highest ranking out of 200 students. At that point, he left school aged 13 to work at home for his father. He subsequently undertook National Service in 1956 ("the best holiday I'd had up until that time!").

From 1958-63, Peter ran a horse transport business.

In 1960 he met Jess while hitchhiking and they married in 1961.



The next year they went share farming at Whites Flat then in 1963 they bought a small dairy at Birdwood consisting of 160 acres (with 120 acres of stumps according to Peter).

By 1970 they had 4 children: Leonie, Max, Robyn and Rachel. Over the ensuing years, the family bought and sold various properties around the Mount Pleasant and Field area. In 2000, their farm at Field was sold and Peter and Jess purchased a house on 2.5 acres at Meningie. In December 2003, Peter lost his fingers in a farm accident.

He and Jess put their Meningie home on the market in 2011; it took six years to sell. They moved to Strathalbyn on 7 July 2017 and, as he says, a new era started!

Peter was awarded SA Citizen of the year for 2014 for his enthusiastic, inspirational and dedicated efforts in a range of community activities and volunteer capacities within the Meningie region.

He still does much work in the community, with the Lions Club and of course the Woodshed.

Peter joined the Woodshed because, he says, one is never too old to learn and he wanted to continue going to the University of Experience.

Peter says that serving and volunteering keeps him alive. He says, "The Shed is a relaxing place, offering great camaraderie and peace of mind. It gives you an excuse to get about, and is a positive practical way to help one another."

Peter and Jess are both active in every sense of the word. They have a very productive garden, and do much for their children and grandchildren. They are incredibly time efficient. Peter said "It is important to know when enough is enough, and I am happy to say, I haven't got there yet."





AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT MOBILE SERVICE CENTRES

The Australian government has a number of Mobile Service Centres which travel to rural and regional areas to help people with a wide range of Australian government services and payments. **The SA Mobile Service Centre** can help rural and regional residents with:

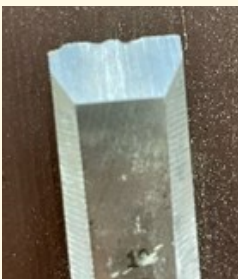
- new claims for most Centrelink payments
- updating your information in their records
- confirming documents and supporting information, such as certifying copies of birth certificates
- access to Self Service Terminals
- using online accounts and Express Plus mobile apps
- registering for a Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) online account
- lodging DVA forms and supporting documents
- connecting with DVA and support services such as Open Arms.

Mobile Service Centres can also give you information about:

- how financial matters may impact your payments
- payment and service options to suit your needs
- rural payment entitlements for eligible farmers
- Medicare transactions
- Medicare registrations
- social work support and referrals.

For more information go to their website: servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice

CHISEL WORKOUT



At left are the before and after photos of a chisel that Anthony Rice virtually rebuilt after it was found damaged in the workshop.

Please be assured that advice and assistance is readily available to help avoid tool damage if you are working on a difficult job. And if you do inadvertently damage a tool, please ask how the work could have been done to avoid the damage. It is all a learning process.

At right is a photo of Anthony hard at work sharpening another chisel.





Appointment of Tony Wyld as Regional Men's Shed Coordinator for SA & NT

Late in 2021 the Australian Men's Shed Association (AMSA) was successful in securing funding from the Australian Government Department of Health to provide increased grassroots support to Men's Sheds through the Government's regional coordinator initiative.

This initiative provides \$1.5 million over 3 years (from 2021/22) for the appointment of regional coordinators for each state and territory. The role of the coordinators is to support men's access to health information and resources to improve their health and wellbeing. This includes

helping men's sheds to connect with local services, and promoting events aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of shed members .

As a result, AMSA is very pleased to introduce **Tony Wyld** as Shed Support coordinator in South Australia and the Northern Territory. Tony has an extensive background in men's health and community development and looks forward to bringing AMSA's services, events and programs closer to you.

Tony is based in Adelaide and will be available for support by email, phone and in person as he visits Sheds throughout the region. David Helmers, AMSA Executive Officer, said that Tony wears lots of hats but in particular he will:

- Help SA and NT sheds connect with local health services
- Work alongside sheds to hold events and initiatives
- Link us with AMSA resources, events and initiatives
- Assist with grants and funding enquiries and applications.



And a few comments from Tony himself:

Hi all, just a thumbnail on me, what I have done previously and what I can offer you... After a career in government, logistics, telecommunications and management, I decided I wanted to work to make people's lives and their community better.

Over the last decade I have been working in mental health, suicide prevention, community development and volunteering. What I aim to offer you and your Shed is that I am very resourceful, have panel-beated myself to being a good listener, and have great networks and contacts around the country.

If it's possible to make your idea or wish for your Shed come to life, then we can do that together. Just don't get me started talking about anything on two wheels (you'll be listening to me for a while!). You can get in touch with me at tony@mensshed.net

Committee meetings

The Woodshed Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the Woodshed.

Any member is most welcome to attend by invitation. Please contact Eric on 0418 418 995.

In addition, the agenda, minutes and financial reports for each Committee meeting are made available to all members each month to promote transparency and encourage member input on the running of the shed.

NATIONAL MEN'S SHED GATHERING ALBURY – MARCH 2022

"Connection, Community and Camaraderie"

The Australian Men's Shed Association will hold its 9th National Men's Shed Gathering in Albury (NSW) on 29-30 March.

Check out the AMSA website for more information or email events@mensshed.net to register.

Diary notes



Shed Open Day Sunday 15 May 2022 10am-1pm



Displays, demonstrations, members' work, items for sale, food and drink

You can help make this day a roaring success by providing items for display or sale.

Please advise Eric March or Joe Golden of any items you may have.



Thought bubbles

- ◆ Erasers die slowly because of your mistakes.
- ◆ Are people who take care of chickens called Chicken Tenders?
- ◆ The words flammable and inflammable are often misinterpreted as opposites. In fact, flammable and inflammable mean the same i.e. capable of burning. The opposite of both words is non-flammable.
- ◆ Hyphenated. Non-hyphenated.

Test your knowledge ...

1. By area, which is the second largest continent?
2. Name the longest serving Premier of South Australia.
3. Cross-country skiing and rifle shooting combine to make up which winter Olympics sport?
4. How old was Elizabeth Taylor when she was cast in the movie National Velvet?
5. How many House of Assembly and Legislative Council seats respectively are there in the South Australian Parliament?

See page 8 for the answers

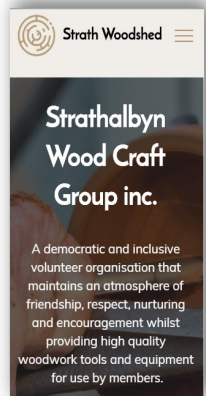
We have a new website which is now optimised for mobile phones and tablets.

Check it out at:

strathwoodshed.org.au

While the new website has gone live, it is subject to ongoing updates and improvements.

Feedback is welcome.



WORKSHOP COURTESIES

Please take care of the shed tools and machines and use them only for the appropriate purpose to avoid damage and costly repairs/replacement.

Help us maintain a great shed environment by doing your bit to clean up the workshop and kitchen, turn off appliances, turn on the alarm when closing up etc.

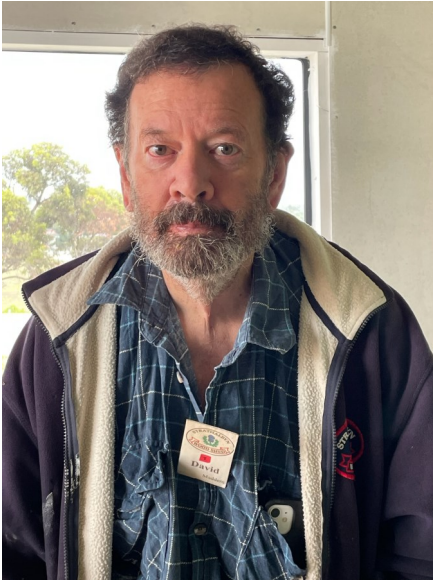


The definition of Olympiads:

Commercials shown during the Summer and Winter Games.



If you ever hear me order a decaf coffee, I've been kidnapped and I'm trying to signal you.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: DAVID MADDERN

David is a very active member of the Woodshed and makes a tremendous contribution to our operations.

He has a memory like a steel trap and a comprehensive knowledge of a range of disciplines. He grew up in Cumberland Park and studied at Flinders University, where he was awarded a degree in Science. He then worked in hospitals, mainly in haemetology.

David is an environmentalist, from back when environmental issues were not so prominent. In some ways, he was born before his time. When he lived in Tasmania, he built a house into the side of a hill to avoid the danger of bushfires. David also split rocks using ambient temperatures of heat and cold, causing the rocks to expand and contract.

David's work at the shed includes spray painting, preserving fresh logs by painting the ends, helping with paid jobs and setting up logs on the slabbing saw. David has also spent many hours on the band saw cutting our Christmas tree and reindeer products.

In addition, David runs the CNC Router, cutting out small reindeers and soon will be setting up and cutting the larger reindeers. On the administrative side, David provides invaluable support in recording and banking the daily attendance money.

David's mother died late last year and he had to find a new home. Many thanks to Peter Ancell and Janet Wilson who provided a reference on behalf of the Shed which proved a great help in David finding another house.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Africa
2. Sir Thomas Playford (1938-65)
3. Biathlon
4. 12 years old
5. 47 seats and 22 seats respectively.

Mates helping mates

Janet Wilson, a Certified Practicing Accountant by profession, is a greatly valued member who has done a lot of work for the Shed, including working up changes to our constitution and preparing our application for Charity and ATO deductibility status (DGR).

Janet recently made a potting table for her garden, with the help of Peter Ancell and Joe Golden (pictured here with the table). As Janet cares for her 98 year old mother, she was very concerned to avoid contracting COVID-19 and potentially passing it to her mother. For this reason, Peter and Joe generously agreed to help Janet build the table at the Shed during times when the shed was not in use.

The table is made from recycled wood, mainly pallet wood, and the sink and metal shelving were surplus items donated to the Shed by SpaceCraft Joinery.

Janet said she learnt a lot working with Peter and Joe on this project and is very grateful for their assistance.

