



Strathalbyn Wood Craft Group Inc.

Sawdust & Shavings

January 2023 Newsletter

“RESPECT, ENCOURAGE, NURTURE”

President's report

I hope you had an enjoyable Christmas and new year. I had a great time with family (and on the golf course) and am feeling energised about the coming six months at the Shed.

Duty Officers: As foreshadowed recently, your Committee has now adopted new guidelines for Duty Officers. We hope these guidelines will encourage more members to volunteer occasionally. A Duty Officer is not intended to be an instructor and all inducted members should be able to work without routinely referring to the Duty Officer. In addition, it is important there is at least one member at every session who knows how to open up and lock up the Shed and advise people where they can get advice if requested. The new guidelines are set out on page 4 of the newsletter.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Scroll saw & tool sharpening demonstrations

Tuesday 17 January

Social Day lunch

Monday 30 January

Australian National Shed Development Grant: I am very pleased to report that we have received a grant of \$7,760 to enclose in the front porch. This grant funding is managed by the Australian Men's Shed Association and is available to all sheds irrespective of gender status.

Finances: and Membership: The money at bank continues to sit at approximately \$19,000. We have set aside \$13,000 for the building extension and this reserve includes a donation from two members last May. The number of members is just under 60 which is slightly down from previous years at this time of the year.

Shed Maintenance: In December some members took surplus material to the waste depot which utilised \$44 of our free dump allowance. This has helped us to meet Occupational Health and Safety obligations to keep the shed clean and tidy, and our Alexandrina Council lease obligations to keep the shed surrounds clean and in a condition in order to deter snakes and vermin.

See page 5 for photos of members working on their projects, helping one another and maintaining equipment. This shows exactly what the shed is about—friendship, skills development and just great mental and physical therapy.

Eric March

We acknowledge the Narindjerri and Peramank 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: Richard Carter Secretary: Neil Pokoney Treasurer: Bob Pritchard

Member news



David Maddern was admitted to hospital in mid-December.

We hope you are on the mend and feeling a lot better David.



Back on deck

It has been great to see Graham Sandercock back in the Shed after time in Flinders Medical Centre to have stents fitted following a cardiac event.

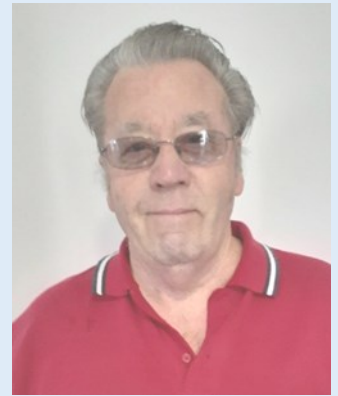
The photo shows Graham recently enjoying a scone and coffee (and yes, he did give us permission to use the photo!).

Covid strikes twice

Joe Golden tested positive for Covid on 18 December.

Joe has now recovered but his wife Mary then succumbed to a severe case.

We are glad Joe is feeling better and we hope Mary is now also feeling much improved.



Vale Cyril Penniment

We are sad to advise that Shed member Cyril Penniment passed away recently, with his funeral service being held at St Andrew's Uniting Church on 19 December.

Cyril will be very much missed at the Woodshed.



David Paterson recently made this lyre table. This beautiful piece does not contain a single nail or screw!

We acknowledge the support of Alexandrina Council, the Australian Men's Shed Association and the Australian Government (ACNC).



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Peter Broadbridge

I was born in 1949 at Mile End Community Hospital. I was the second born child in a family consisting of six sisters and one brother which made for an interesting childhood.

My parents were strict in their beliefs and raised all their children accordingly. Sunday School and church figured in our lives on a constant basis. My father was a handy person and was building our home whilst we lived in the house, so sharing of rooms was a constant way of life.

I attended Cowandilla Primary School until grade seven, then went on to Thebarton Boys Technical High School where I developed a real interest in trade subjects i.e. Woodwork and Metalwork. As my father was a Toolmaker, he had a basic lathe at home and hours were spent making different things (often with very poor results!).

My exit from school saw me gain an apprenticeship with SA Railways as a Metal Machinist. I wanted to be a patternmaker but was informed they only took one apprentice patternmaker per year and that position was filled already. Little did I realise that later in life I would meet up again with Colin Goodrich (Strathalbyn Woodshed member) who did in fact get the patternmakers apprentice position.

Life was good in those years of cars and having fun and constantly running out of money, but I was on a path of following my engineering father's footsteps.

In 1970 I was involved in a serious car accident which took me out of work for a year although it meant I avoided national service. That incident changed my direction but I was then unsure where I wanted to go in life. The building industry was calling me but I couldn't see how to respond effectively.

Around this time I met my first wife and we started a family and had two daughters and bought our first home in Craigmore SA. About this time also I started working on weekends helping some bricklayers build houses. Before long they offered me full time work and so I left secure employment and went sub-contracting for about four years.

That work led me to apply for a job at the SA Institute of Technology in Civil Engineering where I worked as a Technical Officer and gained an Associate Diploma in Civil Engineering. This allowed me to apply for a position in the oil industry as a Projects Engineer where I spent the next 28 years gaining all types of experience across most of Australia.



Peter with a dovetailed box he made

During this time I was divorced and married again twice more. I also became involved in volunteering to help others. My wife and I joined Lions and I soon became president of our local club and raised considerable funds to give back to the community.

It was during this period that we became serious campers and were doing lots of tenting, bush camping etc. At the time of retirement, the offer to join a trek across the Simpson Desert was too good to refuse, so with 4WD, tent and all the camping gear, my wife and I joined a five car convoy across the desert for a month. Upon completion, we went home, hooked up our caravan and set off touring Australia. We were gone for three years and had an absolute ball, making no plans, but just following our nose wherever it took us. At the end of three years we bought a house in Strathalbyn and love it.

So at the ripe age of 73, I have a lovely wife, two daughters, four grandchildren and one great grandson. My mother is still alive at 95 as are all my sisters and brother. I still belong to Strathalbyn Lions and as current president my hours are soon taken up with all types of activity. I joined Strathalbyn Woodshed to allow me to continue my schoolboy passion of woodwork and am enjoying creating all manner of things that require thinking outside the box.

I am generally in good health and my goal in life is to stay that way without having to constantly pop pills. If I can live to 95 like my mother, then I have no cause for complaint. So be it!





Diary
notes &
reminders

Tuesday 17 January demonstrations—9am

Using the Scroll Saw by Helen
Harris (from Murray Bridge Shed)
Sharpening Tools the Old Fashioned
way by Trevor Kuchel

Social Day lunch dates

Monday 30 January
Monday 29 May

These casual lunches are held on the fifth
Monday of the month (whenever
occurring) at the Woodshed.

12 noon– 2pm Gold coin donation.

Correspondence from Member for Mayo

I write to extend our team's sincerest congratulations to your Shed on your recent success in Round 24 of the National Shed Development Program.

I am aware of the prominent and valuable role Men's Sheds play across our electorate. Not only do they provide people with the opportunity to remain connected to their community, but also provide a space in which to develop new skills and remain active well into retirement.

Please do stay in touch with us as your project progresses as we would love the opportunity to come out for a visit to see these developments in the New Year.

Once again, congratulations on this achievement.

Kind regards

Rebekah Sharkie MP, Member for Mayo
16 December 2022

Committee meetings

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

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

Also, the agenda, minutes and financial reports from each Committee meeting are made available to all members for transparency and to encourage input on Shed management.

Duty Officers - New guidelines

1. If required, (e.g. in Joe's absence) open shed and turn on urn by 8.45 am.
2. Close shed and lock up at end of session, ensure lights and power are turned off, check that all doors are secure, set alarm when leaving.
3. Report damaged or faulty machinery to Maintenance Officer. Disconnect, tag and lock off if needed.
4. Encourage members to clean up after finishing a job. Members to clear benches if possible and place projects on the racks in storeroom.
5. Be approachable and support members in attendance by offering guidance and assistance if required or requested.
6. Ensure any incidents or near misses are logged in the Incident Book.





Members at work

Clockwise from above left:

Toy elephants made on the scroll saw (we may make these for sale in future).

Jayne Nancarrow making an adjustable sewing table with Frank Chapman drilling.



Brian Hawthorn making an easel with Joe Golden (gamely holding a piece to be drilled).

Ken Knight replacing a starter condenser on a band saw.

Roland Allen cleaning wood shavings and dust from a band saw.

Joe Nebel (radio ham) making parts for a vintage radio.

