



Strathalbyn Wood Craft Group Inc.
Sawdust & Shavings
December 2021 Newsletter

President's report

Shed Christmas Party: Last Saturday's Woodshed Christmas dinner was the best we have enjoyed since I have been involved with the shed. High quality, hot and tasty food and lots of it. Service was fast and professional.



Entrée was an antipasto of meats, cheeses, peppers, olives. Mains were an alternate drop of steak or chicken. The rib eye steak was two inches thick and one person said it was the best they had tasted since eating in a high class restaurant in Spain. A quarter of chicken was equally impressive with a delicious sauce. Both served with hot vegetables. Dessert was Christmas pudding or fruit salad and the fourth course was a cheese platter with self serve coffee.

Three hours of enjoyable company, a 'non noisy' venue, laughter, raffles, including four David Dryden prints, and an auction of a reindeer raising \$75.


Peter Broadbridge was once again the Master of Ceremonies and also organised the event. A fantastic result and our thanks to Peter for a job well done. Peter also acted as auctioneer and was quite the professional in calling the bids. 

Photo: John Owen displaying sartorial elegance at the Christmas party!

Plans for next year: At the Christmas dinner, I summarised the status of the shed now and compared to previous times. The club is in a sound position both financially and in terms of membership. A considerable amount of time has been put in to improving the range of equipment available for members as well as maintaining equipment in good working order. No doubt this will continue.

Priorities for next year are:

- ◆ Obtaining finance for and the building of an extension at the rear and a verandah across the front.
- ◆ Seek to ensure good future management.
- ◆ Maximise membership benefits

My hope is our shed will be recognised as a centre for excellence, and that we as members produce fine art and craft that we are proud to display at any show or public event.

New members: Welcome to new members Trevor Juett (05/11/21) and Al (Allan) Packer (11/10/21).

Finance: Treasurer Shaun Singleton reports as at 23 November there is **\$5,095** in the Woodshed's Business Account and \$13,000 invested.



Upcoming events

Wednesday 15 December

Special General Meeting

Constitution changes

Wednesday 22 December

Sausage sizzle and

Shed clean up

President's report continued ...



This year: It is worth recapping and acknowledging the work of the Committee during what has been a very busy year. Here is a summary of Committee considerations:

January: Peter Broadbridge & Frank Chapman building porch wall. Electrician engaged to wire the Container. CNC Router purchased.

February: Electrician engaged to wire the slabbing saw. Purchase mall table saw. Branding products for sale – Use CNC Router.

March: CNC Router assembled. Extra dust collection fluming well advanced. Alexandrina Council (1) agreed to modify leases subject to agreement by the Scouts (2) had no objection to modifying septic system (design required) (3) required the slabs to be stored away from building and kept free of vermin .

April: CNC Router dust proof table started. Extra dust collection fluming completed. Member confidentiality considered – members' name, phone & email to be made available to the Committee only. Submission by Jason Stumer – Flexible Learning Options – Shared Skills.

May: CNC Router dust proof table well advanced. Janet Wilson attended and explained Charity and ATO approval process. Scout land presentation to Scout Meeting 6/5/21. Shared Skills was unlikely to be achievable.



June: Recommend to AGM **No** increase in subs. Shed extension – negotiations commenced for donation of \$80,000. Kitchen for Car Club to be charged at \$15 per meeting. Neil & Trish Pokoney completed Machinery register.

July: Committee meeting not held due to Covid restrictions. AGM 14 July.

August: Amended Constitution submitted to Consumer & Business Services. Arrange for Magnus Engineering to prepare engineering plans for shed extension. Balanced Budget adopted. First sales of reindeers made. Diabetes Screening arranged for 7 September 2021. Advisory Committees appointed. Garage sale – decided to arrange. Noelene Rose offered to meet with Ken Knight re Insurance register of equipment.

September: Garage Sale plans finalised. John Owen offered to donate proceeds from goose nesting boxes & tortilla press sales. Ken Knight to prepare standard operating procedures for OH&S requirements.

October: Plans for shed extension received – Cost \$2,585 paid 6/10/2021. Christmas Dinner arrangements. Discussed Committee preparedness if mandatory Covid Vaccinations declared. Invested \$8,000 (total of \$13,000) with National Australia Bank. Timber to be removed from near the shed.

November: Garage Sale held on 30 October (sales of \$5,981.35 and profit of \$4,216.89). James Leigh to have small woodwork classes at the shed in 2022. Luke Masters (Council) visited the shed on 28 October with positive advice re septic modifications. Arranged for Tim Woods, Hydrocscape Australia, to prepare plans re septic. Waste Disposal Permit now being used (\$250 per year). Neil Pokoney agreed to do Committee minutes for the time being.



Charity status: As previously advised to members by email, the Strathalbyn Wood Craft Group has now been registered as a charity with the ACNC. Further to this, in order to support tax deductibility status for donations to the Shed, the ATO has asked for some minor changes to the constitution to confirm the association's non-discrimination membership policy. An Extraordinary General Meeting of members was held on 24 November to put forward these changes and these will be voted on at a Special General Meeting on 15 December.



Looking ahead: I am so pleased and excited at the progress being made at the moment. I am also so grateful to be alive and well and be associated with such a group of dynamic friends such as we have at the Woodshed. May you all have a wonderful Christmas and new year and I look forward to the continued development of the Woodshed, and your continuing support and friendship, in 2022.

Eric March

Garage Sale Report

Our big garage sale was held on Saturday 30 October, with members having the opportunity to purchase items on the Friday prior.

Peter Ancell had the electrical items tested and tagged (at a discounted price). Peter co-opted Janet Wilson to help prepare a list of items to be sold and several members worked all week to sort the items and prepare them for sale.

The photo (right) of Peter and Eric, taken by Colin Townley, along with an accompanying article, appeared in The Argus newspaper to help promote the fundraiser.



I am proud to report we made a profit of **\$4,216.89** (\$5,981.35 in gross sales less \$1764.46 expenses).



There are too many people to thank individually for the success of the garage sale but let me place on the record my appreciation for all the effort which went into this important event.

However, one person I would like to acknowledge for his very considerable work recording all the transactions in our financial system, is Shaun Singleton our Treasurer. There was a lot of work involved and it is only noticed when not done. Thanks Shaun!

Vale Tony Carenzo

Tony sadly passed away on 27 October 2022, surrounded by family including grandchildren.

One of his last requests was to be remembered to his friends at the Woodshed. His daughter said that over the last few years the Shed was his life. He served on the Committee for many years and as Secretary for the last few years.

His wife Jean died in December 2016. When Jean had to go into care, Tony went to the aged care home twice a day to give Jean her meals, so that she had hot meals. A measure of his commitment and integrity.

Tony was a valued and active member of the Shed and this community. He will be fondly remembered and greatly missed.



Acknowledgement of Country

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



Introducing Al Packer . . .

Allan grew up in Adelaide and has been known as Al for many years. The connection to the animal was coincidental. Al says an advantage is his name is more memorable.

Al did his carpenter apprenticeship about 50 years ago. He lived in the Riverland for 30 years on his own fruit block and worked in the Public Buildings Department, looking after building maintenance of schools and other Government property.

His trade has been rewarding and a pleasure, and Al says while he hasn't forgotten the skills of his trade, he is a bit out of practice these last few years. He hopes to contribute to the skills base of the shed and looks forward to using all that beautiful equipment.

Al is a keen traveller and has covered a lot of Australia with an emphasis on remote travel which he notes requires careful planning to avoid dangerous incidents along the way.

Al is a member of the Langhorne Creek Bowling Club and enjoys the social events like the Pork and Plonk day and the camaraderie of the fellow members. He is a keen nature lover and enjoys visiting areas like Cox Scrub Conservation Reserve for its abundant wildflowers and birdlife.



**I re-labelled
all the
bottles in
my wife's
spice rack.

I'm not in
trouble
yet but
the thyme's
cumin.**



New member Trevor Juett



We have a new website which is now optimized 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, so feedback is most welcome.



Reindeer still available for sale

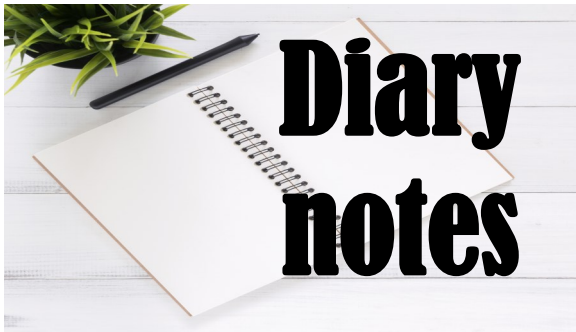
We still have enough materials on hand to make another 20 or so reindeer for sale ahead of Christmas but be quick!

These are \$70 each and can be ordered from sales@strathwoodshed.org.au

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.



Wednesday 15
December
Special General
Meeting

Wednesday 22
December
Sausage sizzle and
Shed clean up

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 on Tuesday 29 and Wednesday 30 March 2022.

The Gathering will be an action packed two days with plenty of opportunities to hear from Men's Shed experts, share information and resources and get together with your Shedding mates.

Registration opens January 2022.

Email events@mensshed.net to register your interest.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SESSIONS WITH RICHARD REED

Richard has been a member for many years and for the last three years he has been our Wednesday night Duty Officer and teacher.

Richard teaches how wood is a living material that will sometimes change shape and colour. By way of example, Tony Careno once made some cheese boards with a ceramic decorative centrepiece. The wood subsequently changed shape and the force was so powerful it smashed the ceramics. Michael Clark recently found a similar problem when he inlaid a piece of wood in another board. Next morning there was a 6 mm gap where the inlaid wood did not change shape with the host wood.

Richard has taught new members how to make a set of steps without using nails or screws, and only using hand tools. And how to make shavings not dust. Here is his class project, used to show people what they are making and explain the flexibility we have in design and expression. The stool is a learning piece so has six rails as well as the corner dovetailed seat and step. So there are both dovetails and mortise and tenon joints. It also allows the use of thinner material. The wood is silver birch from the Adelaide hills that Richard was given as a small log. It now lives in his kitchen and gets daily use as a seat.



In addition to Richard's involvement in the Woodshed, he and Mary-Ann have been involved in Scouts for many years.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

BARRY MARR

Barry was born at Matamata in the South Waikato area of the North Island of New Zealand. He was raised on a 130 acre dairy farm, the youngest of eight children (5 boys and 3 girls)

Barry left High School at age 15 to work for a brother on his dairy farm. He also worked as a tree feller in the pine forests around Lake Taupo and as an assistant in a farmers produce store before joining the Regular Force of the New Zealand Army in 1971.

He served for 4.5 years in the Infantry mainly in an 81mm Mortar Platoon. This included a posting in Singapore from 1973 to 1975 where training was carried out mainly in Malaysia and he travelled extensively through Thailand.

On demobbing from the Army, Barry spent more time in his home town of Putaruru working at a Firestone Tyre retail outlet fitting tyres for the cars, trucks, tractors and big forestry machinery in the region.

He crossed the ditch to Australia on ANZAC Day 1978 and arrived in Adelaide in June of that year where he was employed by the Municipal Tramways Trust on Hackney Rd as a tyre fitter and retreader for the buses. Two years later he secured a job at Commonwealth Industrial Gases at Torrensville.

Barry was with CIG Ltd (later BOC Ltd) for 35 years in production roles as a cylinder filler and the operator of an Air Separation Unit that produced liquid Oxygen, Nitrogen and Argon as well as a Hydrogen production plant. He was also a Safety Officer and Union Delegate for the AMWU for many years.

In 1982, he met and married Josie and they had 2 girls Jessica (1984) and Natalie (1986).

Upon retirement in 2015 Barry and Josie moved to Strathalbyn.

Barry says, "I become involved with the 'Shed' not long after. Although not skilled I always had an interest in timber, perhaps a legacy of growing up near a town with two timber mills, one of which specialised in native NZ timbers and working in the forests."

"I enjoy thinking outside the square and attempting unusual projects. Not all of these succeed but it is fun trying. I would class my endeavours as rustic as I am not good at fine detail. I am indebted to my early mentors such as Joe (the Golden one), George, Cyril, Colin Goody and Winston, plus a couple who have passed such as Tricky Dicky and Tony C."

Barry's other interests include being Secretary of the Strathalbyn Auto Collectors Club Inc and getting out and about in his little Red MGB. He is the Public Officer of the Strathalbyn RSL, helps out with Meals on Wheels deliveries and small projects for the Hospital Op Shop as well as undertaking the grounds maintenance.



Strathalbyn Wood Craft Group Inc operating as the Strathalbyn Woodshed

97a Milnes Road, Strathalbyn SA 5255

Phone 0418 418 995

ABN 85 162 313 315

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

President: Eric March **Vice-President:** Anthony Rice **Minute Secretary:** Neil Pokoney **Treasurer:** Shaun Singleton

Charitable Organisation ID 85162313315