

Illawarra Woodworkers Group

January 2024 NEWSLETTER

Committee 2023/24

President	Mark Beaver
Vice -president	Jason Hedley
Secretary	Pat Keefe
Treasurer & Public Officer	William Perry
Assistant Treasurer	Julien Leveugle
Coordinator (Organising)	Horacio Rodrigues
Coordinator (Workshop)	Mark Beaver
Club sales Coordinator	Darinka Radinovic
Librarian	Darinka Radinovic
Newsletter Editor	Virginie Schmelitschek / Julien Leveugle

Hello Fellow Woodies

Welcome to 2024. I hope you are rearing to go to make this year another very good year for the Woodies. The past year was closed with a clean-up plus BBQ at the shed on 16 December:



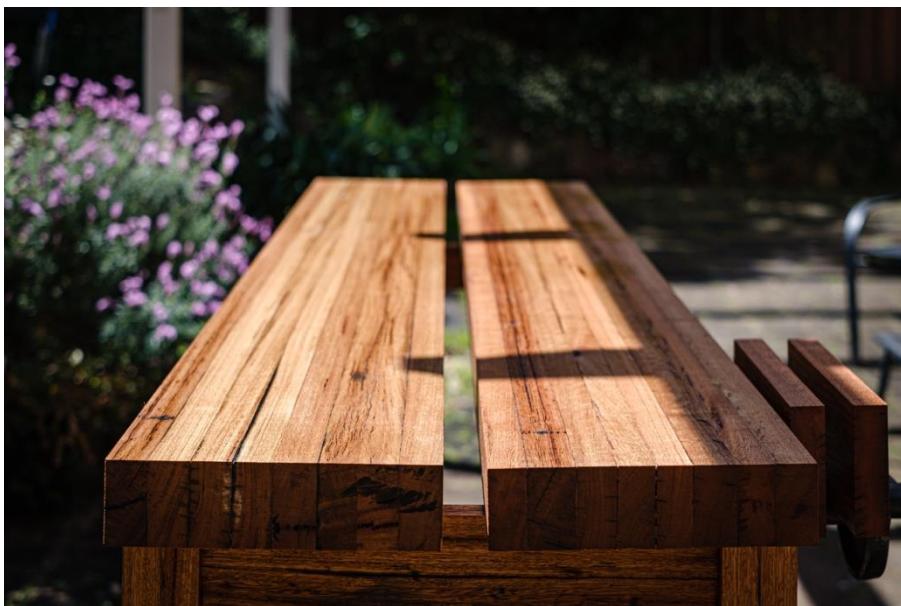
Member news:

Julien sent in photos of his beautiful workbench, which is nearly finished. He wrote this about it:

It's a design based on an 18th century French workbench called a "Roubo", but with a modern vice and a split top. The split top is useful for 2 things: one for building, it avoids carrying a very heavy bench top around, easier to plane, etc., and secondly it allows to insert blocks in the middle for various purposes.

It's made out of recycled timber: my neighbour was putting these 4 meters long hardwood sleepers in the street, so I salvaged them, you must have seen me lugging them around the workshop. Pat and Pete both think it's Sydney blue gum, very hard and very heavy!





Your Editor made a few **Christmas trees** to sell at the Quilters Christmas lunch from offcuts, and these were again very successful, as usual. It raised another \$50! (The wood turned ones made last year are their absolute favourites, so make a few for the end of this year!



Stalls and Events

- Our last event was the **Helensburgh Fair** on 28 October. This was very successful, with more than \$600 raised for our coffers.
- **Wollongong Wood Workshops & Market** (formerly Illawarra Festival of Wood) was held on Sat 11th & 12th November, 2023. It was a really good festival, all indoors so very pleasant. If you click on the link here <https://illawarrafestivalofwood.com>, you can sign up for their newsletter and be informed.
- **Our next event** will be our attendance at the **Illawarra Quilters Expo** during Seniors Week: **Fri 15th & Sat 16th March**. As this will be visited by approximately 200 people it is a good idea to aim our items for sale at the audience, which will mostly be women with interests in handcrafts like quilting, embroidery, knitting and crochet, and of course, woodwork! So “quick unpicks” as shown below, wool winders, and skein holders, to name a few. Also ribbon holders, peg boards for bobbins, a few clappers (yes, you will need to Google this one! It is a very simple quilting tool), etc. We will need volunteers to look after the stall on these days. It will be held indoors in the Keiraview Church Hall in Fisher Street, West Wollongong.

Examples of items used by people who sew:



"Quick unpick" made by David. This is a very handy tool used by sewing people all over the world. It is used for 'un-sewing'.

Ribbon caddy. This can be made in any width or design. Does not need to have a head, face or legs.



Hand sewing table helper – very simple.



Workshop Safety – a message from the Workshop Coordinator (we cannot be reminded of this often enough!)

- **IMPORTANT:** Work shop safety must always be at the top of our list of priorities. Wear suitable clothes and enclosed shoes.
- Always ensure the dust **collector gates** are open when you use the equipment in the shed. ASK someone, if you are not sure what to do.
- Get help with the correct procedure for the **sawdust bag**.
- Clean up a machine and the floor after use, if significant mess. DO NOT ASSUME SOMEONE ELSE will use it after you. Do it as you go.
- Put the hose in to the **vacuum cleaner** the right way! If it is not sucking up the mess, empty it!
- The drum sander **cannot** have painted or varnished timber going through it as it will clog up the sandpaper.
- The table saw is NOT a storage space
 - NOT a work bench
 - Put NOTHING on the extension
- *Use eye, ear, head and feet protection too, no loose clothes, and, keep an eye on people around you.*
- *Sometimes it's just the simple things we all forget, like if you have medium/long hair, tie it up if working close to moving machinery.*
- **NEVER be complacent – blades bite!**
(the last 3 dot points were copied from "Ingrained" the Knox newsletter)

LIBRARY

Our 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.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

After my call for photos and other items, Judith Hansen, Peter's wife, shared some old photos for our newsletter.



Display at Bunnings, in 2006



A display in the Wollongong library, 2008.

The next newsletter may contain some historical information on Bill Body, after whom the annual trophy was named, as well as an interesting picnic...

Time for some fun:



Woodchuckles



Early attempts at the table saw.

NO EXIT

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Other Woodworking groups

If you are interested in what other Woodworker Groups are doing, Pat kindly supplies me with the links to the Knox and District Woodworkers Club (Vic) NEWSLETTER

Edition - JAN 2024 Vol 36. Edition: (03)

The **LATEST KDWC edition** of the "Ingrained" newsletter is now at <https://www.knoxwoodies.org.au/current>

This is your lot for this newsletter. Please send in anything you think may be useful/fun for our members.

Cheers

Virginie Schmelitschek

(Editor)