

YOUR CLUB IS A MEMBER OF THIS ORGANIZATION
PLEASE READ THIS NEWSLETTER AND CIRCULATE

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE COUNCIL OF WOODWORK CLUBS?

CWC COMMITTEE
President Rob Allan
Vice President
Bryan Ehler
Treasurer Max Grigg
Secretary Judy
Wheeler
Committee
Stuart Watson
Ian McLaughlin
John Wheeler
Jock McGowan

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Insurance & Membership Enquiries

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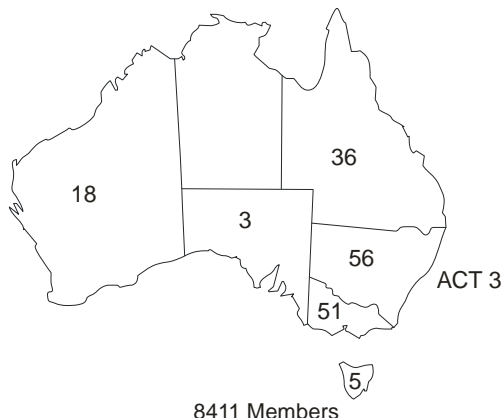
Address:
16 Kingston Rd
Surrey Hills,
Vic 3127

The **Council of Victorian Woodwork Clubs** was formed in July 1998 to develop interaction between clubs and to run an annual festival. Because the cost of Public Liability Insurance was a heavy expense for clubs it was decided that the CVWC would organize a Group Policy.

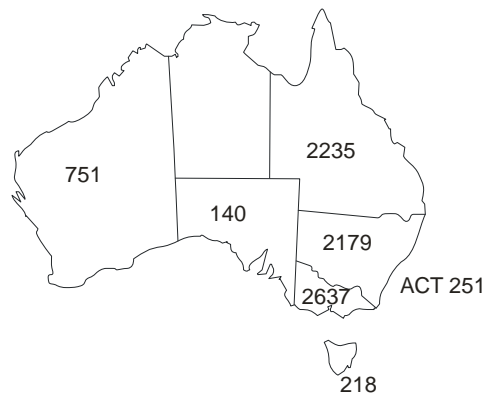
Interstate clubs also saw the value of this policy and by 2003 it was decided to change our name to the **Council of Woodwork Clubs** to reflect our Australia wide membership.

The Council has always recognised the importance of our insurance policy and this has now become our primary function.

Member Clubs 172 Clubs



8411 Members



Although insurance for woodwork clubs is our main activity, the Council of Woodwork Clubs provides a link for woodwork clubs throughout Australia.

Our Administration Officer Alison Dews is happy to provide information about clubs and assist with distribution of newsletters and other club communications to our member clubs.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

for AGM January 2011

2010 has passed and our AGM had to be postponed until early this year.

Our committee is getting older and busier with no new blood but we keep going for the benefit of all woodwork clubs. You know we need new members for the committee but, for one reason or another, we are not snowed under by interested or dedicated people. Contact me if you are interested - there is not much work involved.

We are considering changing our constitution to reflect our main activity of seeking out competitive and bulk rates for Public Liability Insurance. The proposed change will not stop any future committee from a more active role promoting interclub activities.

FLOODS

Many of our member clubs are located in Queensland and might have suffered damage to their clubrooms or lost club assets. Sending condolence messages will make them temporarily feel good but not benefit them greatly in the long term.

If any affected clubs could make contact with the Council of Woodwork Clubs, we will be able to assist in some way by involving clubs Australia wide to perhaps donate excess tools and machinery or to perhaps have fund raising events to benefit the affected clubs.

SOAPBOX

Why are we here?

This question can be asked of both the Council of Woodwork Clubs and your Woodwork Club.

The Council of Woodwork Clubs question is easy to answer

- to represent all member woodwork clubs,
- to provide a conduit for information between clubs
- to offer all member clubs access to competitively priced Public Liability Insurance.

Why is your Woodwork Club in existence?

Clearly most woodwork clubs offer a venue and a workshop for their members to share and enjoy their woodwork passion by:

- Exchanging ideas on woodwork
- Providing facilities perhaps not available in home workshops such as a library and tools or machines
- A place to learn new techniques and skills
- A venue to present your work for the pleasure of fellow members, for constructive criticism or perhaps a competition or exhibition
- Other woodwork related activities

We all do this in various ways quite successfully.

We all have however very rich assets in the form of skills and experience. Many of these skills we take for granted. Something as simple as which way to tighten a nut may seem ridiculously simple and not worth mentioning however there are many people in our community do not know such simple things.

Most of us were fortunate to grow up in an era where mum or dad taught us these simple skills long before we went to school where it was again reinforced. Sadly today for myriad reasons many modern dads and mums do not possess these skills or perhaps dad or mum is too busy or perhaps dad or mum is not part of the child's upbringing.

Many schools do not teach these skills. They use lame excuses such as budget constraints, OH&S (fantastic excuse to get out of anything these days), legal action, have to have Working with Children tickets, have to have Police Check tickets It all boils down to fundamental skills not being taught to the younger generation

We can find excuses, blame the younger generations for being focussed on computers, television, money etc but blame alone does not fix the serious problem. It is only good for identifying the problem.

How can you help? How can your club with it's rich resources and skills help? Have you lazily accepted the rules and direction drawn up by impractical politicians, insurance executives and education academics? If you have, perhaps you are as silly as they have shown themselves to be.

Your club would be quite unusual if it's membership was well represented by young people or if you had a waiting list for new members or if your club had so much money it was trading on international money markets.

It appears there is a problem. It appears there are resources to not only solve the problem but to make your club stronger and more viable.

Recently a father contacted me desperately looking for a woodwork club to teach his keen ten year old son. Woodwork wasn't offered at school, dad had no practical skills and the woodwork clubs he had contacted told him that for one reason or another they didn't conduct classes for kids.

We need to get off our butts and pass on to younger generations what was passed on to us. We don't have to hold classes teaching kids how to turn masterpieces or how to make an heirloom piece of furniture, we can start with teaching them what a hammer is and how to knock a nail into a bit scrap wood.

Your members could teach kids in schools (under supervision from a teacher perhaps), your club can speak to your insurance broker to see if there is a problem teaching younger people. Filling out a Police Check or Working with Children application is not rocket science, besides there are generous rates for non profit applicants. Perhaps one of your local service clubs could assist with the cost.

Write to your local politician, write to your local paper, raise awareness if red tape is denying the future generations of skills that have been developed for thousands of years and are about to be lost.

Research on the internet or in your library for topics such as the "Sloyd Method of Education" to reinforce your arguments to those impractical lazy blockers denying our kids of basic essential practical skills.

If you need a more selfish motivation, think of the repairs to your walking frame using sticky tape and chewing gum because that is quite possible presently and imminent in the future if we don't act now.

If you have a success story on this topic or any other topic that you want to share with other clubs, please use our newsletter – it's free and has plenty of space for interesting articles.

I hope your club is successful in 2011 with lots of activities and challenges for the members and not too many negative challenges for your committees.

Now get back to your club or shed and get those shavings flying.

- Rob Allan

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL OF WOODWORK CLUBS
HELD AT ALBURY WODONGA WOODCRAFTERS INC
WILSON ST WODONGA
ON THURSDAY 20TH JANUARY 2011 AT 1.00 PM**

PRESENT

NAME	CLUB
Stuart Watson	Woodcraft Manningham
John Wheeler	Koonung Woodworkers Guild
Ian McLaughlin	International Woodcollectors
Jock MacGowan	Woodturners of Werribee
Rob Allan	V.W.A.
Judy Wheeler	Lady turners
Doug Hayman	Albury Wodonga
Bryan Ehlert	Ballarat Woodworkers Guild
Heather Malsem	Albury Wodonga
Doug Malsem	" "
John Anders	" "
Col Storey	" "
Bob Cox	" "
Esther Dennis	" "
Harry Dennis	" "
Dianne Watson	Observer
Max Grigg	CWC

APOLOGIES

Tom Phillips	Waverley woodworkers
Martin Horevoorts	Bellarine woodworkers
Barry Vaughan	Eltham & district woodworkers
Graham Ethell	Shire Woodworking Club

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were circulated and passed. Moved Ian McLaughlin, seconded Jock Macgowan

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Attached

Moved Rob Allan, seconded Bryan Ehlert

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer Max Grigg presented his report

1.Sandhurst Account Balance Is \$116,705.78

2.Cheque Account Balance Is \$67,747.29

3. Number Of Member Clubs Is 171

An audited detailed report was attached

Max reported that there are now 171 clubs insured through our organization.

Clubs are still paying a \$50 flag fall and \$5 per member. Because we pay insurance per club, we are able to make insurance affordable for smaller clubs.

Up until the present there have not been any pay outs although two claims were lodged. It is essential that we keep sufficient in reserve to cover any payment of excess, which could be up to \$50,000 if a fibre optic cable is damaged.

Max pointed out that all insurance enquiries should be directed to Dean Pollard.

The efficient and helpful work done by Alison Dews is appreciated by all of us.

It was moved by Doug Hayman and seconded by John Wheeler

That the executive committee (President, Vice President, Secretary & Treasurer) be empowered to consider any applications for increase in hourly rates."

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Rob thanked the outgoing committee for their services and especially thanked Doug Hayman, who is retiring from the Committee, for his contribution to the CWC over many years. Rob then stood down and Ian McLaughlin called for nominations. Rob was elected unopposed and took the chair. The following committee was elected unopposed.

POSITION	NAME	MOVED
President	Rob Allan	Bryan Ehlert
Vice President	Bryan Ehlert	John Wheeler
Secretary	Judy Wheeler	Bryan Ehlert
Treasurer	Max Grigg	Bryan Ehlert
Public Officer	Judy Wheeler	Doug Hayman

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

	John Wheeler	Stuart Watson
	Jock MacGowan	John Wheeler
	Stuart Watson	Bryan Ehlert
	Ian McLaughlin	Rob Allan
Public Officer	Judy Wheeler	

Auditor

Max asked if we wanted to pay for an auditor as there was no legal requirement for an audit for an organization with annual gross revenue under \$200,000. Discussion was held and it was felt that it was still a good idea to continue having our books audited. We will continue with this year's auditor-Kay Richardson.

General Business

Constitution

The Constitution was made at a time when the Council was far more active in areas other than insurance, in particular the running of festivals. The committee wondered if we should make changes to reflect this change. On reviewing the Constitution it was felt that we are still carrying out the stated aims. Bryan Ehlert reported that Ballarat Woodworkers had a talk by staff of Business Affairs Victoria who indicated that there are changes to rules for incorporated associations. It was decided to leave the Constitution as it is but to get further details in regard to changes.

Newsletter

Bryan Ehlert suggested that we should make an effort to send out newsletters in order to provide a link between clubs and to promote the CWC. Discussion was held and the general feeling was that, even if a newsletter is produced, it is very difficult to get people to circulate and read it. Judy will be sending out a newsletter with details of this meeting. Bryan Ehlert will contact people who may be able to assist.

Floods

All present were concerned about the recent floods in Queensland and Victoria and for any clubs and club members that have been affected by these disasters. It is however, very difficult to decide on a course of action to assist people in these circumstances. It was felt that we defer any action until things have settled down. Doug Hayman moved "That we defer the matter for six months" Seconded Bob Cox

Meeting Closed 2.00pm

Presenting to a Group

By Vic Wood, Ken Wraight and Neil Scobie

The following article was the result of a very entertaining session by the above very well known demonstrators at the 2010 Turnfest We hope that this advice will be of value to all those preparing presentations

Five P' S Perfect - preparation - prevents - poor - performance

Important Points for Presenting

Preparation before the Demonstration

- Have you practiced what you are demonstrating
- Have you made a list of tools and materials you will need for this demo including things like band aids
- Have you sharpened your tools, or are you demonstrating sharpening as you go.
- Have you spare materials in case of unforeseen problems.
- Have a finished piece of what you are demonstrating to show the group
- Are you going to have charts and handouts including projections on the wall?
- Rehearse your Presentation
 - Can you fit what you want to show into the time allowed
 - Get some one you respect to critique your demo before your presentation.
- Have you assessed the target group
- Have you sent a pre-list of your requirements to the club and checked that they have it all for you
- Remember there should be no secrets
- Be prepared to share your information.
- Give and you will receive
- Acknowledge the people have helped you with techniques along the way.
- If you are prepared the demo will be less stressful
- Remember you will have many turners in the audience that may be more experienced than you. You will always learn from the crowd. Use the audience where you can

Setting up your Demo

- Get there early to set up.
- Familiarize yourself with the equipment in the clubhouse. Where all the machines are.
- Turn the lathe on and check that it all works
- Lay out your tools and materials in a logical order. i.e., the order that you will use them.
- Place tools out of the flow of shavings
- Make sure you don't have to walk too far to get things.
- Make sure the people will be able to see what you are doing.

During the Demonstration

- Remember you are there to teach not show off.
- When you pick the tool up put it back in the same spot after using it.
- Speak clearly. Do you need a Microphone? You need one when you are working with your head down, especially with a big crowd.
- Refer to notes or drawings as a picture tells 1000 words.
- Use teaching aids such as part finished models or alternate designed pieces.

Use of Cameras and Technology

- If available they are invaluable
- Check that every thing works well before the demo.
- Make sure the camera operator knows what you want to show.
- Can the viewers see what you are showing? Tell the operator if you need the camera moved i.e. a close up of what you want them to see.
- Are monitors in an appropriate place, not too far away from you.

Evaluation

- In private, ask selected people in the audience how they thought it went and how the demo could be improved.
- Ask a person you respect to sit in on your demo and critique your performance
- • Make notes on how you could improve next time. If you do not write it down it will be forgotten.

Payment for Demonstration

- At your own club: Most likely free.
- At a nearby club: Present, e.g., bottle of wine, or your travel costs covered.
- All day demo at a club: Agreed fee plus expenses.
- Symposium: Agreed fee plus expenses

Just a reminder

In a past newsletter we mentioned the following internet site but many members are still unaware of it. Check it out if you can't find what you want in old magazines

Do you have a great pile of magazines with lots of great projects?

The problem is you can never find what you want!

Sandra Tarry of Woodcraft Manningham has worked very hard to help us all. Just go to the Woodcraft Manningham site at www.woodcraft-manningham.org.au

Go to Library and you will find a very comprehensive index for most of our well-known magazines from 1990 onwards.

NOTICE OF MEETING – COMBINED MEETING GEELONG AREA

There will be a Combined Meeting of woodworking clubs in the Geelong and related areas, on **Thursday 14th. April 2011 from 7.00 pm.**

The venue is the Church Hall at St. David's Uniting Church, Cnr. Aphrasia & Talbot Streets, Newtown 3220.

Further details may be obtained from Lewis Harper at Lara Woodworkers.