



Monthly Newsletter of the

Knox & District Woodworkers Club

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# Your Committee for 2007/8

President	Paddy Mc Cann	9758 3920	Ladislav Toman	0410 405 227
Vice President	Hughie Gaynor	9870 6915	Ray Norton	9763 5728
Treasurer	John Jackson	9800 4317	Peter Horsburgh	9878 5144
Secretary	Eric Butterfield	9758 7648	Frank O'Connor	9879 7512
Publicity Officer	John O'Rorke	9754 1520	John Emptage	9758 6103
			Bill Ireland	9758 6601
Newsletter	Paul Lucas	9790 5659	Photos by	Paul Lucas
Editor	64plucas64@goconnect.net		unless otherwise	credited

#### <u>Our President, Paddy Mc Cann's,</u> <u>February report</u>

Welcome back to our first meeting of 2008. I hope that you all had a very pleasant Christmas and a great New Year and are well rested, looking forward to another busy year.

We have already had our first Kids Korner Workshop at Ringwood Library on Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> January with 61children participating. Our thanks to Peter Horsburgh and the other eight members, who assisted on the day, raising \$305 for the Club,

Our first Working Bee for 2008 will be on Sat, 9<sup>th</sup> February from 8am. We would appreciate as many members as possible to assist with a general clean up and the loading of a 6mt skip with accumulated rubbish.

We are also looking for volunteers to sell raffle tickets at Bunning's on Sat/Sun  $16^{th/}17^{th}$  or  $23^{rd}/24^{th}$  February. Please put your name on the Whiteboard List if you are able to help. It will be an easy job in 2hr sessions if we have enough volunteers.

Our first Major Fund Raising Event for 2008, the Knox Festival will be held on Sat/Sun  $1^{st}/2^{nd}$  March. All members are expected to volunteer for all or part of these two days. This is a major opportunity to support the public face of your club and to raise funds to keep our club membership fees to a minimum, Please put your name on the Whiteboard List at the Club confirming your participation.

Wondering about our Planned Building Extensions? Well, we made our application for the Federal Government

Regional Partnership Grant of \$64,000 on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2007. The Federal Election in November 2007 with a change of Government resulted in the delaying of any decision. I have contacted MEACC and our Federal Member for LaTrobe Jason Wood MP and been informed that our Application is in the system and by law we must be notified at some time whether we have been successful or not. We cannot find out when we can expect an answer, so the Committee has decided to wait until after Easter and if still no answer, we will look at what alternative avenues are open to us. We will keep you informed of any developments one way or the other.

We have recently had a number of new members join which is a very good sign of our viability as a Club. Welcome to all these new members to our Club and hope that we can help you to become involved in our activities and to enjoy your time at the Club. Don't be afraid to ask for any help or information from any members and you will be surprised how quickly you will fit in. Remember that as with all organisations 'You will only get out of it what you put in'.

I look forward to meeting and speaking with you around the Club. Paddy Mc Cann

## We thank Nick Wakeling MP -Member for Ferntree Gully

for printing our newsletter as a Community Service



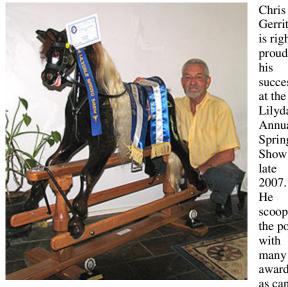
#### **Community Support Activities** currently undertaken by the Club

Project Description	Recipient	Status	
Toys	Disadvantaged Kids	Continually in	
	for Christmas	Progress	
Occasional Table	Angliss Hospital	In Planning	
Angel Boxes	Angliss Hospital	Continuous	
Chairs, Stools, etc	CPEC	When Required	
Kid's Korner Kits	Kid's Korner	Continuous	
	functions		
Adjustable Stools	CPEC	Progressing	
Outdoor Setting	Upwey Primary	In Planning	
for Kids	School		
Playground	UFTG Primary	In Progress	
Equipment	School		

# **SHEPPARTON WOODWORK & FURNITURE SHOW** Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March

Departs Club car park at 8 am sharp. A great day for \$22 per person which includes the coach trip and morning tea. A few seats still available, but hurry, and get your name on the notice board. Payment due by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb.

## **Rocking Horse Ramblings**



Gerritzen is rightly proud of his success at the Lilydale Annual Spring Show in late 2007. He scooped the pool with many awards as can be

seen by all the sashes, medals and award card he won for his beautiful rich-black rocking horse. Well done Chris!

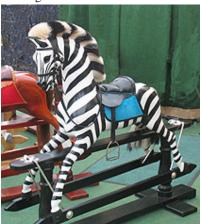
John Di Donna has been busy this year producing TWO rocking horses and here he is with one of them that has

been packed and sent to his grandsons Henry and Arthur living in Perth! They will certainly get some fun out if it. The second horse is now complete and he kindly gave it to the children in the house next door in Bayswater. What's the next project John?

Photograph by Thelma Di Donna

I visited the

Hampton Court Palace Flower Show in 2007 and one of the Stands there in the giant exhibition-tents displayed the rocking horse art of one of Britain's master producers of



rocking horses. All the horses were the same size and style as the ones we build except they did not have the leg muscles as our newer design has. I was particularly impressed with this "Zebra" horse complete with zebra mane and beautiful realistic markings. All the

horses were well over £1,000 (A\$2,500)!! It just shows what having a "name" means in a large population country when you set your prices!! Your Editor - Paul Lucas

## **Our Members' Welfare**

Our members Peter Sleeman, Colin Stewart, Doug Dell, George Dzioba and Geoff Wheeler all have our wishes in recovering speedily from various stages of illnesses.

**Proudly sponsored by Fern Tree Gully Community Bank® branch and Rowville branch of Bendigo Bank** 





# Well, this is the first issue of your Newsletter for 2008 !!

#### What would you like to see changed?

I am open to suggestions on what we can do to improve the content each month. If you have interesting items or photos please feel free to submit them to me. Just keep in mind the newsletter is only 4 pages!!

Give me (Paul Lucas) feedback by: -Placing a note in my pigeon hole in the office -Ring me on 9790 5659

-Email me on 64plucas64@goconnect.net

-you do even not have to identify yourself if you have constructive criticisms.

#### <u>A Database for Guest Speakers for</u> Woodwork Clubs around Australia

I am in many organisations and a common topic of conversation and irritation is the difficulty in knowing about the range of guest speakers available for Club meetings.

Woodwork Clubs are no exception.

I have decided to establish a database which will be by State which can be accessed by any Club to help them find guest speakers if they need them.

It will overcome privacy issues by the information being supplied by the speakers themselves for me to load to the data base.

This message is not only for our own members to know what we are doing and to input any information they have over time BUT is mainly to give advance information to other Clubs throughout Australia of our intention. Our monthly newsletter goes to dozens of other Clubs throughout the country. Your Editor - Paul Lucas

#### Around the Club

Peter Horsburgh has been busy as usual in thinking how we





can improve the air quality in the Club buildings – particularly the dust extraction and sanding unit shed. He has organised the installation of natural air-flow extractor vents in the roof to help reduce the airborne dust issue in the buildings. I believe the man installing the units could not have picked a worse day for high temperature when installing them, but fortunately this did not stop him from doing a good job.

Thanks for coordinating this effort Peter!

You can't keep a good man down!! Max Holt has been one of the main persons responsible for



producing the large number of the special chairs needed by the handicapped children at CPEC. He "resigned" from the position last year but here he is back at work! He is pictured giving a final inspection to 10 of the latest batch of 30 he has made. They are all stored in the ceiling space until requested by CPEC.

People like Max are very selfless in donating their time and energy to a very worthy cause. Keep it up Max – but Max would love for someone else to take on the task. Have a talk to him!!

The dedicated few have been as active as ever in servicing outside organisations in the later part of 2007. These activities not only promote our image in the community but often result in a financial benefit that adds to the Clubs Building Fund and general finances etc. We have received "Certificates of Appreciation" from:

- Livingston Primary School
- Knox City Council
- Crime Victims Support Association Inc
- Children and Staff of Mt Dandenong Primary School

A thank-you letter from the Angliss Hospital.

We are grateful to a member (who does not want to be identified) for donating a Karcher vacuum cleaner to the Club

Proudly sponsored by Cr Karin Orpen, the Councillor for Dobson Ward

February 2008





#### Weekly Workshop Hours and the Keyholder

Monday (the day session is for woodturning)	8:30 am	- 12:30 pm	John Emptage	9758 6103
woodtur ining)	6:30 pm	- 9:30 pm	Laurie Ham	9720 1995
Tuesday	9:30 am	- 3:00 pm	Peter Horsburgh	9879 5144
	6:30 pm	- 9:30 pm	Bruce Allen	9754 5774
Wednesday	9:30am	- 3:00 pm	Ray Norton	9763 5728
Thursday	9:30 am	- 3:00 pm	Charles Bruckner	9801 2197
			Doug Dell	9729 1886
Friday	6:30 pm	- 9:30 pm	Bruce Allen	9754 5774

#### Saturday Morning Hours and Events and the Key Holder

9th February	8:00 am	12:00 pm	WORKING BEE	
16 <sup>th</sup> February	9:30 am	12:00 pm	Brian Douds	9762 3323
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	9:30 am	12:30 pm	Ray Norton	9763 5728
1 <sup>st</sup> March			KNOX FESTIVAL	
8 <sup>th</sup> March	9:30 am	12:30 pm		
Members please note: If no members have arrived by 10:30am the Key Holder has the option of closing the Club rooms				

#### **Regular Club Group Activities**

Day	Time	Regularity	Group		Contact
Monday	Day	Each week	Woodturners	John Emptage	9758 6103
-	Evening	Each week	Carvers	Willy Schlaf	9762 2206
	-		Festival Kit development	Peter Horsburgh	9878 5144
Tuesday	Day	Each week	Festival Kit development	Peter Horsburgh	9878 5144
-	Evening	Each week	Woodturners	Frank O'Connor	9879 7512
Friday	Evening	Each week	Rocking Horse Group	Joe Semenow	9758 6024
				Bruce Allen	9754 5774

# What's On, Coming Up and For Sale etc.

#### **Our Club Activities**

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February Monthly General Meeting at 7:30 pm. Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February Committee meeting at 7:30 pm Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March Monthly General Meeting at 7:30 pm. Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February WORKING BEE Sat/Sun 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> March Knox Festival and Kids Korner etc

#### In the Woodies World

Manningham Club has arranged for Jim Carroll, with his Mobile Shop, to be at cnr. Anderson & Parker Sts, Templestowe (Melway 33E4) 10am-2.30pm Sun 24th Feb. If you wish to order something specific for him to bring, ph Jim on 5251 3874. \$1 charge covesr the cost of a cup of tea. Further enquiries from Charlie Chamberlain AH 9728 2179. 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> April Ballarat Woodworkers Guild Expo at Wendourie

3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> May Albury-Wodonga Woodcrafting Show 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> October Melbourne Timber & Working with Wood Show at the Melbourne Showgrounds

#### On Sale at the Club

Club Caps	\$12				
Club polo shirts	\$22				
Screws (packet)	\$2				
Nails (500gm 2" x	12G) \$2				
Woodturning supplies					
Pen blanks - Brigalow, Jarrah,					
oak, and other timb	ers. From \$1				
Pen kits	From \$4				
Mandrel	\$20 #1 & #2				
Turning blocks	\$4 per kg.				

#### A True Story!!

Now, you know it was necessary to keep a good supply of cannon balls near the cannon ready for firing. They had to be on the decks of war ships. How to prevent them from rolling about the deck was a big problem. The best storage method devised was to stack them as a square based pyramid, with one ball on top, resting on four, resting on nine, which rested on sixteen - thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon.

There was only one problem -how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding/rolling from under the others as the deck rolled. The solution was a metal plate with 16 round indentations, that they named a "Monkey". But if this plate was made of iron, the iron balls quickly rusted to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make "Brass Monkeys".

Few landlubbers realized that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannon balls would come right off the monkey. Thus, it was quite literally, **''cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey''!** 

And all this time, you thought that was a vulgar expression, didn't you?