

ILLAWARRA WOODWORKERS GROUP INCORPORATED

www.illawarrawoodworkers.org.au



Illawarra Woodworkers Group

2026 NEWSLETTER

Committee 2025/26

President	David Lipscombe
Vice -president	Horacio Rodrigues
Secretary	Michael Cappelin
Treasurer	Darinka Radinovic
Assistant Treasurer	Julien Leveugle
Public Officer	William Perry
Coordinator (Organising)	Rick Funnell
Coordinator (Maintenance)	Pat Keefe
Coordinator (Workshop)	Jason Hedley
Club sales Coordinator	Darinka Radinovic
Librarian	Darinka Radinovic
Newsletter Editor	Virginie Schmelitschek / Julien Leveugle
Website Coordinator	Julien Leveugle

Hello Fellow Woodies

A quick newsletter for you, before I depart for my trip to the Netherlands next Tuesday, visiting my relatives, including 5 brothers and sisters, plus nieces, nephews, friends, etc.

Member news: IMPORTANT - IMPORTANT - IMPORTANT - IMPORTANT

Our AGM has been postponed to SATURDAY 13 JUNE, so you can all have a think about what you would like to see happening in YOUR group and YOUR shed. Your chance to have input and you will not be roped into anything, unless you want to. Without willing volunteers, our group will fall down. We need a Committee for legal reasons as well.

Stalls and Events



Our colourful stall at the **Illawarra Quilters Expo**. It raised more than \$300 for our group.

Fairy Meadow Demonstration School Cross Country

On the 20th March members held a BBQ for the school's Cross Country event, which raised over \$900! It was non-stop cooking, serving, taking money and getting more drinks!!

It was also very enjoyable to see the happy faces of our current pupils of the weekly class in our shed.

Next year with 1 or 2 more members to assist plus more drinks, and more eskies to keep everything cold, it will be an even better event.

Thanks to members David, Horacio, John, Phil, Warren and yours truly it was a good morning.

Workshop Safety – a monthly 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

Do NOT use metal rulers on the table saw top, as this can trigger the stop when the machine is still going and the blade still turning. This happened recently and we had to replace the cartridge (= brake)at \$ 160, a costly oversight.

Use plastic or wooden rulers if you must measure something on the table saw top.



Bill showing the blade with the broken brake.

For more information check out this article:

<https://www.festool.com.au/saws/advice/sawstop.html?srltid=AfmBOoqszF9SuQKzCvdhdX0Lqn9ZDi3dMkD7fVZ1lgKQHAqoBn45Jlz3>

SHOW AND TELL

Bill made these 2 boxes (a special order) to go on a vintage Vauxhall, used for spare parts, made out of New Guinea Rose wood. The timber cost \$200 – and these are finger/box joined.



Ingenious!

Jan made these 2 very useful items: (l) a desk tidy and (r) a lifter to put toilet rolls up on a high shelf.



perfectly.

This side table had been made higher and wider as a job and fits the bill



Pat's beautifully crafted bottle stoppers.

Other Woodworking groups

If you are interested in what other Woodworker Groups are doing, the Knox and District Woodworkers Club (Vic) NEWSLETTER is one.

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

They have other links: <https://www.knoxwoodies.org.au/links>

This is your lot for this short newsletter.

Please send in anything you think may be useful/fun for our members. The next newsletter will be after I return in June, once I am over my jetlag. Someone please take photos at meetings for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Cheers

Virginie Schmelitschek
(Editor)

