



## September 2023 Newsletter

### Special Dates

#### October 2023

- 1<sup>st</sup> Daylight Savings Begins
- 6<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting
- 13<sup>th</sup> T.o.M. – Greg Scrivner
- 15<sup>th</sup> Laurieton Markets
- 20<sup>th</sup> Monthly Meeting

#### November 2023

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Committee Meeting
- 10<sup>th</sup> T.o.M.
- 17<sup>th</sup> Monthly Meeting



(Sounds logical! – Displayed on campsite)

## “Thirst Factory” Field Trip and Lunch.

*Our intrepid on the spot reporter and photographer Roger Kilburn was at the scene and filed this report.*

Who would have thought that today’s field trip would be next door to President Greg’s home. We were tantalised when he alluded to the destination as a “Thirst Factory”. I had in mind perhaps a craft brewery or one of our local vineyards, but not at all. We visited “The Water Place”, the home of Seaview Springs bottling plant, the home of fine artesian spring derived bottled water.

Our host, the owner/manager Dave Kearsey gave us a splendid tour of the operation. He explained that the water used in Seaview Springs products comes from an artesian aquifer some unknown depth below the earth’s crust and only accessible from a couple of places across eastern Australia. Yippin Creek is one of them. Who would have thought?

Of great interest was the nature of his business. Primarily the plant provides large water cooler bottles for offices, business and homes. To a lesser extent, various sizes of bottled water are produced. These are for discriminating buyers and for health and medical niches in the market. He explained that particularly people who have undergone transplants cannot consume tap water and so doctors “prescribe” the pure, filtered water that they offer. Dave gave us an in-depth discussion on the measures his company takes in ensuring quality through a rigorous monitoring regime, which

includes frequent sampling and laboratory testing by an independent agency.

In addition to spring water, the company rents a variety of water coolers for a modest annual fee and the service to replenish water routinely in locations as far away as Woolgoolga in the north and Nabcac in the south as well as servicing the hinterland between those places.

The feeling of our group of 14 members was that the tour was another very positive and informative field trip in a series of such organised by President Greg.

Following the field trip, we retired to Yippin Creek Park where Bob Robinson and Will Howard, chef extraordinaire x 2, prepared a tasty lunch for all.

Below are some photos of the day's activity.



*Packaging*



*The gathering*



*Questions*



*Explanation*





*Chefs at work*



*Time to eat!*



## Show and Tell

After the monthly meeting, it was time for Show and Tell. As you will see, it was a great display of quality items. With the usual banter, the show began.

**Bill Johnson** displayed a bag full of stirrers. We all know Bill likes to stir, but these were different. These were “fair dinkum” food stirrers. After rescuing some pine pallets, Bill was able to plane, shape, cut and sand the timber into usable stirrers. Nothing like re-cycle timber. They were finished with Grapeseed oil which is a food grade oil.



**Rod Hoare** also reclaimed some timber and created the Elephant pen holder. Another creative piece of work. After being away for several months, Rod is straight back into his woodworking.





**Jon Ward** was brave enough to move away from his earring making into crafting book marks. A clever idea. Jon loves his CNC machine and is becoming more and more adventurous in what “it” makes. Timber is either Huon Pine or Myrtle. Finish is mirror-tone.



**David Wells** has a great reputation in making quality jewellery boxes. These are two examples.

- a. Jewellery box made from Silky Oak and some brown timber found at home. He very carefully used a scroll saw to cut out the shape on the lid. Precision was important because it all had to fit together with no gaps. Small jewellery trays were made to fit within the box. Finished with a wax.

- b. Jewellery box with exposed dovetail joints. Again, small trays inserted for jewellery. Made from White Cedar with a wax finish.





**Greg Scrivner** had a creative flair one day when he was near the containers. He found this piece of Camphor Laurel with plenty of grain character. After due care and perseverance Greg was able to enhance the grain and bring out the true character of the timber. Finish was an oil and wax.



Greg also crafted two bowls. The brown one, was from Teak. Teak can be a hard timber to work with. The other bowl was a piece of Camphor Laurel. Finished with an oil initially and an overlay of wax.



**Robert Miles** shared two of items with us.

- a. A beautiful Vanity Mirror which he has been working on over many years. Most of the tools used were hand tools with a little help from a drill press. The flower on the glass adds that extra class to the job. Robert is thinking about making some small trays to go in the drawer. Timber was Rose Gum and finish was shellac.





- b. To show his “toy side” of woodworking Robert presented two car semi-trailers. These were different because the items had to interlock. Beside a great semi to push around it is a puzzle putting items together. What a great idea. Truck was made from cedar and the cars from pine with a finish in shellac.



## Where are those benches?

### The search was on!

After lunch on meeting day, we needed to visit the containers at Viv's place. Some of us usually have a 'snooze' after lunch, but on this day, we gathered our strength and drove to Viv's place.

Purpose – to find four benches in the containers and transfer them to Greg's place.

Hats and gloves went on, a quick drink of water and all psyched up, we faced the warm sunshine and the task.

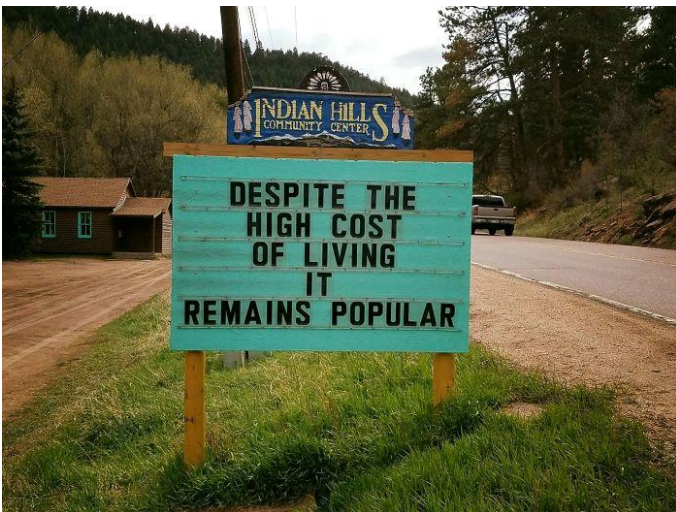
Eventually benches were found, at the back of the container of course! Several members went into the container to start moving items out so we could get the benches. Container temperature was high and combined with the dust it was a difficult task. Eventually, with perseverance, we were able to grunt and groan and move the benches out.

Another band of strong members upended the tables onto trailers and lashed them down. Greg and George used their trailers to carry the tables and other members followed. Upon arriving at Greg's place, the grunts and groans continued until the benches were off loaded. Whilst they were away the other strong members put the other items back in the container.

Yep, it sure was a warm day, shirts felt damp and faces were flushed. That snooze must come soon!

For a bunch of “older guys” we did well. Goal achieved; everyone was pleased.

*(Photos by Bob Robinson)*



*Humorous road sign*





*Moving things away – Tom and Greg working efficiently! Rod and Roger taking a break. Someone has emerged from the back of the container!*



*Ready to go.*



*George ready to take a load to Greg's place. Safety conscious as always, wears his fluoro shirt and favourite straw hat.*



*"Many heads make light work" First bench onto trailer.*



*Last one, over to George to move it out.*



*Second table – more grunting*



## September Laurieton Markets

6.30am and members arrived at the site. Some were yawning, others were saying they wanted a coffee, others saying they hadn't been out of bed this early for a long time. Trailer was unloaded and the stall was set-up. Easy when you know how.

While waiting, the usual banter kept us going. A few of us checked phones, chased down a coffee and/or some brekkie and the banter continued.

About 10am, as Rod predicted, we were busy. People arrived and we were coaxing them to buy. Even tried to get some men to buy some of Jon's earrings. I think the 4" nail and hammer to pierce their ear turned them off!! I think!!

Day drew to an end. 12.30pm we began to pack-up and by 1pm when the gate opened, we were ready to leave. Pack up went like clockwork thanks to the efficacy of members. Warm day made all of us think about the cold drink waiting at home.

Thanks everyone for your effort and well done to those who got a sale. We could hear Ka-ching ring out during the day, so he was happy. Rod got some great sales as well. All of us enjoyed each other's company. Our neighbouring store holders were amazed at how quick we responded to each other's bantering during the day. I think they enjoyed it.

The next market is

**THE BIG ONE - CWA Exhibition and Sales.**

*(Photos by Max Garland)*



*Display*



*Bob and Jon's display*







*Latest way woodies communicate. Beats talking!*



*Jon trying to get a sale. Raffle table in foreground.*

**\*\*There is more to come, keep reading\*\***

# 2023 CWA Exhibition and Sales

## 29/30 September 2023

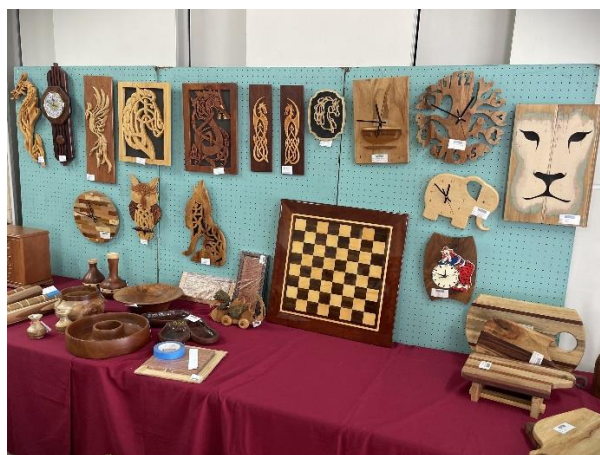
What a way to finish the month of September. Excitement had been brewing amongst members for quite a while. Woodies were putting their finishing touches to the items and asking, should it be for display or sale? What price should go on the items; too cheap is unfair/too expensive no-one will buy it?

All these dilemmas were resolved by 28 Sept – it was time to set-up the CWA room. Some keen members arrived early, doors were opened and the chairs were moved to create floor space. As other members arrived and unloaded, the action increased rapidly when President Greg arrived with the trailer of display equipment. Teamwork plus began; tables and cloths set-up, discussions about what and where arose, then the items started to spill from boxes as members began to set-up their items. A few jokes and a bit of stirring went a long way to keep the members busy setting up.

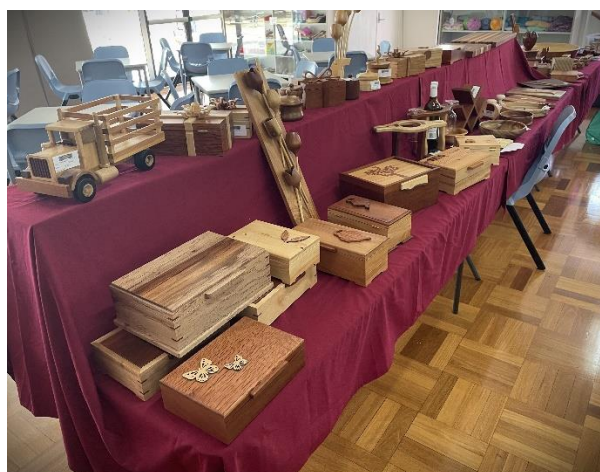
*Some photos from set-up day by Max Garland*



*Some minor maintenance, Greg will fix it.*



*Great display – lot of work*



*More items – many options*





*Two wise gentlemen in discussion*



*Must be serious – concentration is high.*



*More displays – such variety*



*"We've done all the setting-up, what now??"*



*More goodies. People are spoilt.*

## *Day One begins.*

Well, the doors opened on time. Bright sunny day – a worry for us because people move to beaches.

Anyway, we began. Sales were slow but picked-up during the morning. Members enjoyed the CWA scones with thick jam and cream and a cuppa (tea/coffee).

Some members stood outside and "encouraged" the public to view the display. Watching their faces as they entered the hall was priceless. They were impressed with the variety and quality of items.



By 3pm, day one was over. Time to go home.

*Some photos below by Roger Kilburn and Max Garland*



*Roy is distracted by a potential ticket buyer as he guards the raffle prize.*



*Guardians of the door – both want money!  
Double trouble!*



*Beautiful display. Note woodies enjoying morning tea in the background*



*President Greg stands proudly amongst the display*



*Good old chat – nothing better*





*Check out the display of different timbers used by members*



*Something different*



*A break between sales- nothing like a woodies chat.*



*This is how you use the coffee table. Just needs a cuppa to cap it off.*

## *Day Two – Final Day*

The final day began like the previous day, slowly. During mid-morning sales picked up. Quite a few woodies had smiles on their faces because they began to get some sales.

During each day Rod and a few others had the job of encouraging the public into the display room. Many tricks were applied, even looking after the family dog whilst the owners checked out the display.





*Rod going beyond the point of duty for the guild – dog sitting service.*

By 1.30pm the number of visitors dropped to zero – it was time to pack-up. Doors were closed and the process began. Members worked quietly and efficiently. Once the trailer and vehicles were loaded, members went their separate ways till next time.

All woodies should be proud of the two-day exhibition. Items were sold, with many looked at and thought about. People were amazed by the quality of the items and many favourable comments were given to various members.

We all know these days are special. We get a sale; we get positive comments from the visitors and we freely give woodwork advice to those requesting it.

But, in many cases the opportunity for us to get together to share, laugh, support, are just as important. Rod was instrumental in making the community aware of the event and he did it well. Many others undertook roles so a smooth event occurred.

The CWA ladies contributed to the two days with scrumptious scones and tea/coffee. Their enthusiasm and happy smiles were infectious.

Thanks everyone for making it a great exhibition.