

Port Stephens



Community
Woodworkers
Inc.

Woodnews

Official Newsletter of

PORT STEPHENS COMMUNITY WOODWORKERS INC.

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ABN 16 502 165 623 Website: <http://www.pswoodworkers.com.au>

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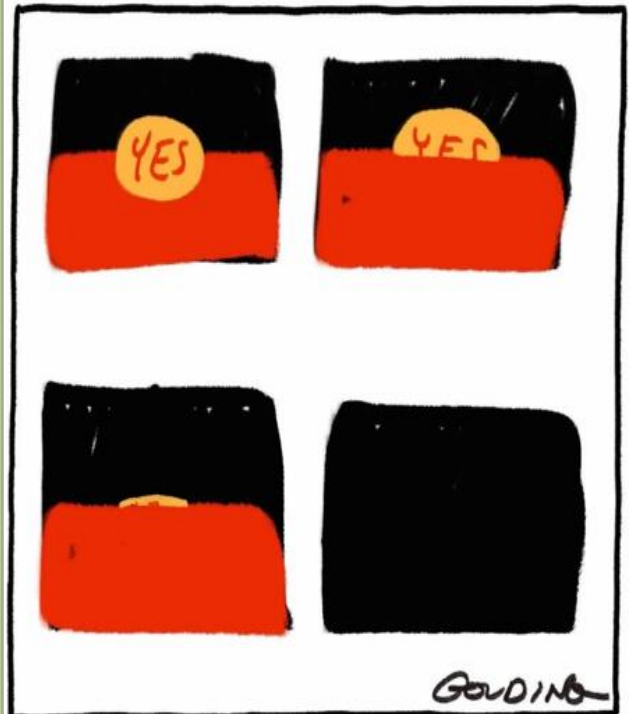
Public Officer Keith Bryars 0418 884 482

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Schools Coordinator Allen Beard 0424 230 628

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Dates to Remember

Christmas Party	Thursday	14 th December	6.00 – 10.00pm
Bunnings BBQ	Saturday	16 th December	9.00 – 4.00pm
Next General Meeting	Tuesday	10 th October	1.00pm

WELFARE REPORT

By Bob Grant

- **Chris Sturt.** It's good to see him back in the workshop after his knee operation. We wish you a full recovery Chris.
- **Graeme Sosso.** Graeme is still receiving treatment for his cancer. He is still scheduled to see the specialist again at the end of the month. His current treatment makes him very tired and he spends most days sitting in his favourite chair. He is not able to drive at the moment, and as Vera, although licensed, hasn't driven for several years, they rely on their children to chauffeur them around. We keep thinking of you Graeme and wish you all the best.
- **Bob Grant.** Bob's foot ulcer has returned and he is receiving treatment locally at the High Rick Foot clinic in Newcastle. His next appointment in Newcastle on Monday.
- **Rod Wither.** Rod is recovering from knee replacement surgery from 2 weeks ago. He is at home administering physio himself which he admits is painful. He is scheduled to see his specialist at the end of October.
- **Warren Cannon** has recently had eye surgery on both eyes and only requires glasses for very fine reading.

SHOW & TELL

- These two items were made by Lyle Johnson. The first is a knitting yarn bowl in jacaranda, deep enough to hold a large ball of wool. It's finished in Feast Watson oil.
The second is a bowl with lid in silky oak. Lyle split the lid and decided to make a feature by band sawing the whole thing and filling with resin. Nice recovery, Lyle.



- Ken Richards showed us a large wooden Peterbuilt truck that has taken him around 8 months to complete
The truck was made from cedar and oak which came from Ken's mother in-law's commode (too much information Ken!).



- Chris Sturt showed us this beautiful whale he has carved out of silky oak, sanded with 800 grit and finished with Danish oil. It's magnificent Chris.



- Peter Haynes didn't get to the meeting but he made this very nice cedar bowl, with a little help from his friends.
Well done Peter.



James Crombie Memorial Award

- **The Tomarree High School** Year 12 Industrial Technology – Timber (woodworking) prize was won by Bianca Bragg.



Roger presented Bianca with our James Crombie Memorial Award Certificate along with a \$100 prize. Her work shown here was a beautifully intricate piece, a four drawer desk jewellery cabinet.

Bianca also came 1st in Manufacturing and Engineering, 1st in Mathematics Standard 1 and 2nd in English Studies. Well done!

TID BITS FROM THE SHED

- **Secretary.** Rod Wither has resigned as Secretary, unfortunately. Really sorry to see you go Rod but pleased that you'll still be coming along to the workshop. By law, the club must have a Secretary, so we do need someone to step up. Any volunteers, pleeeaaase??? There's a brand new laptop awaiting you and a printer as well, if you need it.
- **Solar Panels.** Our solar feed in has reduced gradually from 290kw to 80kw per quarter! You can see from the



pictures the build-up in leaves and residue on the panels. Roger and Tim cleared the leaves and cleaned up the panels, so hopefully we'll start producing more power but we'll need to check more regularly, maybe every quarter. Don't forget to turn off the lights downstairs if there's no one else there and also turn off the upstairs machine dust extractors when you're finished, as they burn heaps of power. If we use our own solar power we save 27c/kwh

- **The Tomaree High School Community Liaison Officer** asked if we could restore their silver Sean Moss Memorial Trophy for Determination in Sport. The silver was well corroded, the bakelite base was broken and it was running out of space for name plates.



Geoff McClelland took on the job. He used a leg from a snooker table that came from the Williamstown air base and made the base higher for three tiers of name plates. He restored the silver by soaking in a baking soda solution with a piece of aluminium. It was presented to Zac Harrison at this year's Graduation and Awards Ceremony.
Great job, Geoff.

- **New Festool Drop Saw.** The new Festool was installed by Bob and Geoff, with a fair bit of modification to the saw bench. The new saw features a double laser light guide, a 6 speed control dial, a depth gauge that can be engaged/disengaged, compact slide arrangement that can be locked off, if not needed, a bevel up to 47° with a fine angle adjustment and rear locking mechanism and a mitre angle of 50° and 60°. It seems to have been well received!



- **Tormek.** Lyle has installed our new Tormek grinding machine. Tormek have a bench grinder attachment that can be used to shape wood turning chisels that are badly out of shape before they are sharpened on the wheel. We'll look at getting one.



- **Dave's Back.** Welcome back Dave. Not the best trip for Dave's fishing sojourn north this year. On the way up he hit a pothole that snapped a U-bolt on his caravan axle, with a lot of consequent damage. In Mount Isa he had his caravan broken into and his Landcruiser stolen. It was trashed by the local boys who stripped everything out. The worst thing was that they took his fridge full of fish that he never managed to restock. Think he might have voted No in the referendum!!

PROFILES

Steve Jones

I was born Stephen John Jones 6th May 1952 at Burton House in Stafford UK, to John and Beryl Jones.

We lived with my Nan and Grandad for a short time and then moved into a quaint old stone cottage consisting of two up and two down (rooms) in Great Heywood. After my brother was born, we moved to an estate in the same area. I attended a church school in Great Heywood.



Before I turned 12, my parents decided to become £10 Poms and emigrate to Australia to give my brothers and I a better start in life. Opportunities were not great in the UK at that time, so it was decided to come to Australia. We sailed from Southampton on 2nd October 1964, arriving in Brisbane early November, on what was an exciting but long adventure at sea.

Arriving in Brisbane we went to live with my Mum's brother (Bob Parrish) and stayed until Dad got a job and house for us in Sydney. We live in Belmore and I went to Kingsgrove North High School. We settled into life in Belmore, where I made many friends, who I still see today. I became involved in sport and did my apprenticeship as a panel beater/spray painter at Mazda House.

I met my wife, Chris, in 1971 and married in 1973, had two sons and became involved in Go-Kart racing in which I became 250cc Enduro NSW champion, a sport which I still love today.

I worked in the transport industry, starting out panel beating and spray painting trucks, repairing trucks, driving trucks, delivering road freight then fashion trucks (where I met Olivia Newton-John), from and onto Air Freight starting at 4.00 am. I was with TNT and Direct Freight Express, finishing up in the radio room and becoming a radio despatcher before retiring.

I became involved in baseball for the benefit of our sons, as I believe that sport is a great teacher and I wanted them to be involved in a team sport and learn commitment. Although I didn't really have any knowledge of the game, I came to love it and I spent (along with my wife) all our weekends setting up grounds, coaching and umpiring, working in the canteen and loving it. The highlight was taking a team to Japan in 1995, which included our youngest son.

We move house in 2009 and settled in Narellan Bay. During that time, both sons married and blessed us with four grandchildren. I must include that I proudly became an Australian citizen on 16th May 1995.

Fast forward to 2008 and we decided to tick off a bucket list dream and travel to the USA, which included a trip to Yankee Stadium. What an Experience!

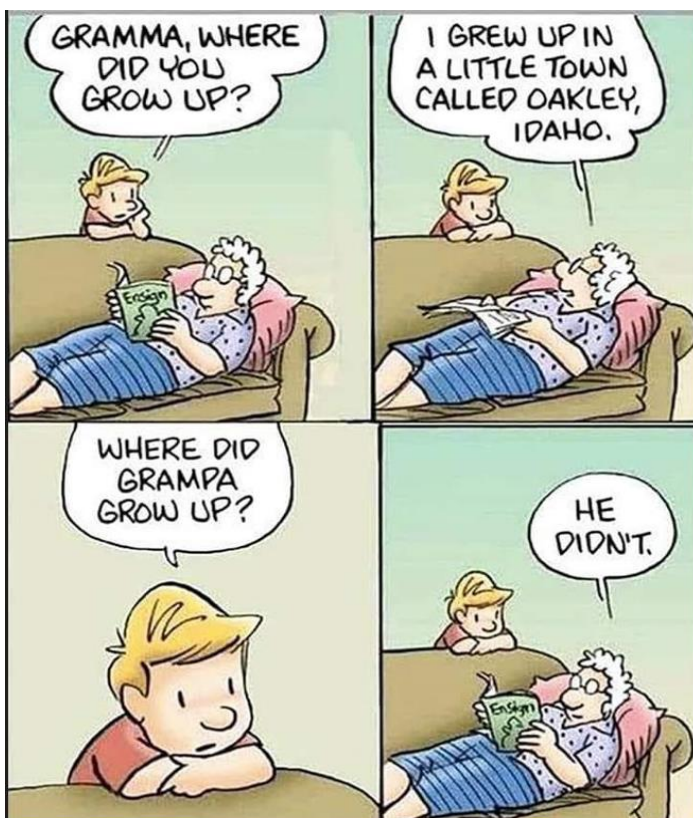
In 2019, we decided to retire and move to Nelson Bay and, guess what? We live near uncle Bob again and it's great.

I am very thankful that my parents made the decision to emigrate to this country. It would not have been easy with two boys packing up and leaving your country and loved ones to move to a new place, let alone a new country.

They did it for us, they worked hard, as all our family have and we have enjoyed the benefits that Australia has given us.

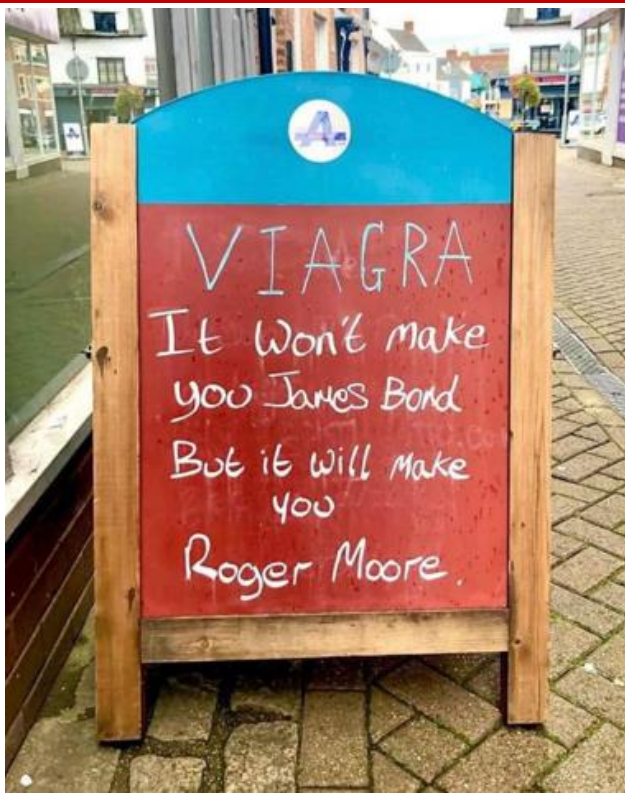
Editor's Note: Nice story, Steve. Now we can see why you drive a big ute and love going away in your caravan!

Jokes of the Month



This little guy told his Dad that he wanted to learn how to train his dog and his Dad said there were lots of dog training videos on YouTube. So here he is, showing them to the dog!





**Nobody told me that
when you get a
husband the ears are
sold separately.**

An American Businessman

An American businessman was at the pier of a small coastal Mexican village when a small boat with just one fisherman docked. Inside the small boat were several large yellowfin tuna. The American complimented the fisherman on the quality of his fish and asked how long it took to catch them. The fisherman replied that it only took a little while. The American then asked why didn't he stay out longer and catch more fish. The fisherman said he had enough to support his family's immediate needs.

The American then asked, "But what do you do with the rest of your time?"

The fisherman said, "I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children, take siesta with my wife, Maria, stroll into the village each evening where I sip wine and play guitar with my amigos. I have a full and busy life, señor."

The American scoffed. "I am a Wharton MBA and could help you. You should spend more time fishing and with the proceeds, buy a bigger boat. With the proceeds from the bigger boat you could buy several boats. Eventually you would have a fleet of fishing boats. Instead of selling your catch to a middleman you would sell directly to the processor, eventually opening your own cannery. You would control the product, processing and distribution. You would need to leave this small coastal fishing village and move to Mexico City, then L.A., and eventually New York City, where you will run your expanding enterprise."

The fisherman asked, "But how long will this all take?" To which the American replied, "Fifteen or 20 years."

"But what then?"

The American laughed and said, "That's the best part. When the time is right you would announce an IPO and sell your company stock to the public and become very rich. You would make millions." "Millions? Then what?"

The American said, "Then you would retire. Move to a small coastal fishing village where you would sleep late, fish a little, play with your kids, take siesta with your wife, stroll to the village in the evenings where you could sip wine and play your guitar with your friends."

Heaven and Hell

An engineer dies and reports to the pearly gates. St. Peter checks his dossier and says, "Ah, you're an engineer — you're assigned to hell."

So the engineer reports to the gates of hell and is let in. Pretty soon, the engineer gets dissatisfied with the level of accommodations and starts designing and building improvements.

After a while, they've got air-conditioning and flush toilets, escalators, elevators and so on ... and the engineer is a pretty popular guy.

One day, God calls Satan on the telephone.

"So, how's it going down there in hell?" God says.

"Hey, things are going great. We've got air-conditioning and flush toilets and escalators. There's no telling what our engineer is going to come up with next!" Satan says.

"What? You've got an engineer? That's a mistake — he should have never gotten down there. Send him back immediately!" God says.

"No way! I like having an engineer on the staff — I'm keeping him!" Satan says.

"Send him back up here or I'll sue!" God says.

Satan laughs uproariously and answers:

"Yeah, right. And just where are you going to get a lawyer?"

Babies

Annie, six years old, gets home from school. She's had her first family planning lesson at school. Her mother is very interested. "How did it go?"

I nearly died of shame, she answers. "Why?" asks her Mother.

"Well, Katie from down the road says that the stork brings babies".

Sally next door said you can buy babies at the orphanage.

Jack in my class says that you can buy babies at the hospital".

Her mother answers laughingly "But that's no reason to be ashamed".

"No, well, that's how I felt when I had to tell them that we were so poor, that you and Daddy had to make me yourselves".