

what's on



CRAFTY ADVICE

Two high-school teachers have opened Perth Wood School and say it's never too late to start learning skills to make your own furniture

THERE'S never been a better time to tool up and start working with wood. That's the message from David Howlett and Mike Scarfone of the newly opened Perth Wood School.

These experienced high-school teachers have started running adult woodworking classes from their Welshpool premises in a bid to show the people of WA – from absolute beginners to more experienced woodworkers – that it's never too late to hone the skills they need to make their dream projects.

David and Mike met at university in the 1990s and both have 11 years of experience in teaching design and technology at Perth high schools behind them.

They say their plan to offer their expertise to the broader public is a first for Perth.

"We know that people have all these tools but are not necessarily confident using them. We want to give them the knowledge to make their own furniture," David says.

The Perth Wood School workshop is set up with quality hand tools, and top-of-the-range Festool power tools.

Available courses include introductory woodworking, cabinet making and wood turning, as well as furniture framing, restoration and traditional woodworking.

There are also courses in leadlighting, stained-glass work and home maintenance.

The focus, David and Mike say, is that like-minded people get to meet, have a great time and produce something worthwhile.

Course costs begin at \$120 for Introductory Woodworking. All timber and hardware are supplied.

Kerry Hodson

★ *Perth Wood School, Unit 1, 117 Ewing St, Welshpool. Open: Monday-Saturday (day and night courses available). Phone: 9358 0500. www.perthwoodschooll.com.au*

Top: Mike Scarfone, left, and David Howlett.

Pictures: Stewart Allen and Richard Polden