



Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Woodturners Inc.

Mission Statement: "Promote woodturning as a creating skill for all ages"

EDITION 302

APRIL 2026

Blue Mountains Leura Village Festival 2nd and 3rd May 2026

The Leura Village Festival is this coming Saturday 2nd May 26. Again, it falls on our usual May Saturday meeting. The festival will be our substitute Saturday monthly meeting.



It starts at 9.00am but we always need help to erect the tents, transport the tent and prepare the display, that happens from 7.00 am. Trailer is loaded at the club on the Thursday.....

We also need members to display their skills on the lathe, this activity generates interest in our display and perhaps, sales. The festival gives us an opportunity to make our presence known to prospective members at the event.

The event also gives our members a chance to sell their excess creations to the public at not much expense, the club is paying for the site and setting it up. If you can't be there just make sure you tag the items with the price tag. We can sell it on your behalf. Have it to the Calver St. Club house by the Thursday before for packing.

There will be 2 sites for us to prepare a larger than usual display

Keep it in mind, it's a great day out in the mountains.

Lend a hand

We are also preparing a lucky dip so we would appreciate any items you can spare, it will be a \$5.00 lucky dip so the more articles the better. Have a look around and see what you can spare.



Ernie turns with tools.

For our April demonstration, Ernie Newman showed us that we don't necessarily need gouges or shews to turn wood. He used an axe, a spade, a rifle and other weird implements. Along the way he will demystified a few fundamental turning techniques. He showed some new designs for strange spinning tops that behave outlandishly. So – laughs galore and some serious technics to boot.



Axe



Shovel



Guiding hands

He also taught us about thread chasing.



Thread chasing

Blue Mountains Wood Turners
Presidents Report May 2026

Greetings fellow turners of wood. It was encouraging to see a good number turn up on Saturday for Ernie's demo. It was a stimulation to many and a new world to others. It was great to be reminded of things I used to make and forgotten how I made it. And welcome to our new member.

Our next challenge is the Leura Fair in May. Please get your brain in gear and your hands moving to get lots of stuff to display and sell or just display. This type of gathering is a great chance to display our skills. Also, next Thursday please turn up as we need to oil the stuff made by Brian and Jan, so they look the best to sell on Saturday, this is a money spinner for our club.

We have two sites, so we need a lot of objects to display.

So, let's pull together to make our club effective.

See you on Thursday and congratulations to John Krook on getting his work of art into the Easter Show.

John H
President

Coming up Tops

Fred's school had a craft fair, and he wanted to get involved by making something. So, over the last month or so, his dad, Charlie, been teaching him a little woodturning.

Here he is with his stall selling the 30 or so spinning tops he made himself. Father and son are equally very proud.



Woodies shine at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Blue Mountains Woodturners own Simon Begg and John Krook had an amazing time at the Royal Easter Show in Sydney this year. The competition was fierce and there was an amazing array of work on display. The photos below are courtesy of Andy Georgiou on the Woodies WhatsApp.



Simon Begg Vase



John Krook Bowl



Simon Begg Bowl



Blue Mountains Wood Turners
Lend a Hand April 2026

Rocking Horse -Robbie (2). (Supporting a local charity)

The rocking horse will not proceed until the club has made a large dent in this year's toy numbers .

Toy program-

Target 150 units. As per last year

A good start has been made.

- ☐ New back-to-back turned 'coupé' 16 off: To be painted and wheels to be fitted
- ☐ Some skipping rope handles: Have been turned. Rope to be fitted. More required.
- ☐ Nancy's: 16 currently being turned.
- ☐ Car bodies: Left over from last year. Require painting of waxing and wheels to be turned and fitted.

Club safety.

Safe operation instructions are displayed at every machine or attached to the machine. These documents are

to be checked to see that they are still current.

New Long series drill for Skipping rope handles and Nancy's

The current drill has been modified, a plug drill has been drilled out and fitted to the drill, being held in position by a grub screw. Effectively this is a 12.5mm dia. countersink drill. This permits drilling two different sizes in one operation.

A new lathe.

A new Nova Orion lathe has been purchased; it requires transport wheel to be fitted.

New club shirt

20 "new design" club shirts have been ordered. They will be sold to club members as required.

Public assistance.

- ☐ A telephone stool required two new, between leg spacers to be made, Thank you Allan.
- ☐ A new handle was fitted to a garden rake. Thank you Klaus.
- ☐ Three finials were made. Thank you John Cossey
- ☐ Two old fashioned delivery trucks (Men's shed toys). Needed Whine Barrels. Thanks John Craft

Contact: Clive on s_clyle@hotmail.com
Hope to catch up with you sometime. Clive

Adventures with Resin



Last month we had a picture of Ernie Newman making a huge mess as he turns a resin and timber egg

This is the egg.

Roman Goik – a very helpful chap and has used resin before - put red tinted resin around and inside the she-oak.



Ernie describes the creation process once the resin was hardened:

“I found that the best way to sand it was off the lathe with a flexible leather disk. After I got to 1000 grit the resin needed much finer sanding, so I used Roman's micromesh starting at 1500 and on to about 2500 or 3000. The resin blunted my HSS tools and I sanded for ages.

If I never do it again, it will be too soon. However, when I put a small amount of resin into a wooden bow tie, it was relatively quick and painless to sand. The base is a eucalypt that I found near Springwood cemetery which turned into a shallow platter.”

Ernie isn't the only one experimenting with resin.



Tony Brewster (with Roman again setting the resin.) made a bowl with a piece of wood he was going to discard. (I have forgotten the type of wood. My apologies. I will find out for next time.)



Our club has a significant and growing library of woodturning and woodworking books, magazines and articles that are available to be borrowed for up to two weeks at a time. You can also feel free to scan or copy any article or pages for your future reference as you undertake any of the projects you find. If you need to extend your book loan, just check in with our librarian Clive.

Our library collection is an excellent resource for you to take advantage of. So please feel free to browse through or borrow from the library when you visit the club house.



Clubs Event Diary 2026

May 2/3: Saturday only. Leura Harvest. Load trailer clubhouse Thursday 30th

Unload trailer 7.00 am Saturday May 2nd

September: Saturday: Springwood Festival TBA

October 2/3: Saturday only. Leura Spring festival. Labour Day weekend

Nov 11 th : Remembrance Day; Whitton Park 11.00 am. Gateway international, Salvation Army & St Martians Purse.

Please let us know if you are interested in taking part in these events. Or if there is another even not listed here you think the Club should be involved with. Email: turningchatter@gmail.com

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If any member has a story to share or a tale to tell, please send it to turningchatter@gmail.com.

Remember: Articles are more likely to be included if they are in Word format and photo's (not embedded in documents) as Jpegs. The cutoff for publication is the 20th of each month. Please try to get your article in by then to ensure it is included.

Thank you for your help with this. It will make life a little easier.

Until next time, keep those wood chips flying,

Bec