Turning Chatter

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Woodturners Inc.

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

EDITION 308 *OCTOBER 2026*

Blue Mountains Woodturners Inc. – AGM

Our AGM was held on October 3. The results are below. Congratulations to our newly elected team. Thank you to everyone who has decided to step back.

Elected Committee Members October 2026-2027

President..... John Mulquin

Vice President..... Clive Lyle

Secretary..... John Turner

Membership Secretary..... Roland Daellenbach

Treasurer..... Brian Coates

Publicity Officer..... Steve Ward

Committee Members..... Des Lane, John Cossey, John Craft, Brad Beeby

Appointed Officers

Public officer. ..... Tom Fox

Librarian..... John Cossey & Clive Lyle

Workshop Manager..... Clive Lyle / Allan Game

Editor of Turning Chatter..... Roman Goik

Webmaster..... Andy Georgiou

Facebook Coordinator..... Sue Ward

Safety Officer..... Tony Trainer and Allan Game

Welfare Officer..... John Mulquin

First Aid Officers..... Tony Trainer

Entry Officer..... Available club members

Club Sales Officer.....

Catering Officer ..... John Craft

Site Manager..... John Mulquin

'Show and Tell' Coordinator / Demonstration coordinator… Brad Beeby

Demo Day November 7, 2026

At the November club meeting ***Ken Cooper*** will demonstrate the finer art of turning bowls and plates with a technical chat about chuck applications and uses, with a Q&A to conclude.
19 Calver Avenue, Mt Riverview, 10 am -12 pm, Cost: $10 (to cover expenses) + a cup of tea/coffee



Ken's Bio

Ken Cooper may be the least qualified carpenter in Australia. He completed a carpentry apprenticeship without ever doing a carpentry course at TAFE. He enrolled in cabinet making by mistake. Ken graduated and went in to do a post trade course – in cabinetmaking! all the while working as a carpenter. He is a terrific woodturner and has collaborated with some of the best wood artists in the world. He has also competed in the World Skills Olympics and was placed 4th in Australia in the cabinetmaking category.

Club's Event Diary 2026

November 7 – Demo day – Ken Cooper explores turning bowls and plates.

November 11 – Remembrance Day; Whitton Park 11.00 am TBA

December: Christmas Party and hand over. TBA

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

Leura Village Fair – October 10th, 2026

Story and pictures by Tom Fox



A Soggy Start

The Club's Dawn Patrol struggled to establish a foothold at Leura Village Fair on Saturday 10th October. We were hit by sudden (and soaking) rain before the marquees were erected and before the lathe could be sheltered.



We're away!

Nevertheless, things improved soon after - the sun shone (mostly) and the punters duly arrived, albeit somewhat later than usual. A good number of members turned up, sales were satisfactory and a few people asked about the Club and/or turning lessons.



Brisk Business

Rude Osolnik

American Woodturner – 1915-2001

Rude Osolnik was an American woodturner, author, and educator. He is considered an important figure within the American studio woodturning movement and in contemporary woodturning in the United States.



Image Credit: Rude Osolnik, Five Candlesticks, 1988, mascassar ebony, 6 1/4 - 14 1/4 in. x 2 3/8 in. diam. (36.2 x 6.1 cm), Smithsonian American Art Museum, Gift of Fleur and Charles Bresler in honor of Kenneth R. Trapp, curator-in-charge of the Renwick Gallery (1995--2003), 2003.60.44A-E

Rude Osolnik's candlesticks were his trademark production pieces. He created more than one hundred and fifty thousand during the 1950s and 1960s for various department stores. Their simple, elegant silhouettes are perfectly balanced and flow with the gentle grain of the dark macassar ebony. Osolnik

didn't switch his lathe off between pieces, preferring not to waste time, and he perfected his production of candlesticks to such a point that he could produce **forty** before breakfast.

Credits

Smithsonian American Art Museum & Renwick Gallery - https://americanart.si.edu/
Wikipedia - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rude_Osolnik

Further Reading and Viewing

Osolnik Gallery - https://www.rudeosolnik.com/
The Art of Craft – Rude Osolnik: Video - https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/8b608612-bf2f-4be5-a95c-f7470ec46486/the-art-of-craft-rude-osolnik/
Moderne Gallery – Rude Osolnik - https://modernegallery.com/artists/rude-osolnik/

On the Lathe

Ernie and Steve getting their groove on – making drumsticks for Steve's grandchildren





First natural edge bowl using wood from Les Ball. Thanks Les







Getting more Vegies in your Diet



Richard Raffan turns an avocado stone into two bowls

YouTube Video – https://youtu.be/8L_U7Zp_4QY?si=XUgc06p6SCAO48-N
Richard's Channel on YouTube is: https://www.youtube.com/@RichardRaffanwoodturning

The Library

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 you 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.

Contributions to the Newsletter

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,