Turning Chatter

Newsletter of the Blue Mountains Woodturners Inc.

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

EDITION 307 SEPTEMBER 2026

BLUE MOUNTAINS WOODTURNERS INC. AGM

THIS SATURDAY OCTOBER 3,2026

A BBQ will be provided.

Come along and put your hand up to help out.

Meeting will be MC'd by Tom Fox, all office bearers will retire, and new office bearers elected.

As there is no demonstration for the October meeting (as it is the AGM) would like all members to bring along one or two pieces they have turned in the past.

If you have been turning for some years, then an early piece and a recent piece.

Members who have only recently started turning could bring something, it doesn't matter if it's just a piece of wood with dig-ins. We've all been there.

Nominations details for the AGM are below and attached separately.

A reminder that only members can stand for positions and vote in our AGM.

Membership is $35 annually and can be direct deposited into our account: -

St. George Bank BSB: 112-879

account no. 495 712 594

New members have an additional, once off fee of $15.

Blue Mountains Woodturners Inc

Committee and Office Bearer Nomination Form, 2026--2027

Office Nomination:

President : .....

Nominated By_____ Seconded By._____

Vice President : .....

Nominated By_____ Seconded By_____

Secretary: .....

Nominated By_____ Seconded By_____

Treasurer: .....

Nominated By_____ Seconded By_____

Committee Member .....

Nominated By_____ Seconded By_____

Committee Member: .....

Nominated By_____ Seconded By_____

Committee Member: .....

Nominated By_____ Seconded By_____

Committee Member: .....

Nominated By _____ Seconded By _____

Office bearers required and appointed:

Publicity Officer... Public Officer..... Workshop Manager....

Editor of Turning Chatter... Webmaster..... Facebook Coordinator....

Safety Officer..... Welfare Officer..... First Aid Officer .....

Entry Officer..... Club Sales Officer ..... Catering Officer.....

Site Manager ..... Show and Tell Coordinator..... Member Secretary.....

I agree to be bound by the Rules, Constitution and By Laws of the Blue Mountains Woodturners Inc.

Please return your completed nomination form to the Club house or via email to :-

Mjturner @live.com.au or jhmhbm@bigpond.net.au

Leura Village Fair October 10th, 2026

By John Turner

The Leura Village Fair is coming up on the Saturday following our AGM. The 10th of October.



The trailer will be prepared on the Thursday for transport on the Saturday.
Just like Springwood it is a great day for preparing the display and meeting and greeting the fair goers and letting them know of the Blue Mountains Woodturners existence and availability for them to come and learn about woodturning and woodworking skills required.

Both pictures are from the Leura Spring Festival 2025



It is a great opportunity for the woodies to meet and reach a lot of people interested in the things we do.
It is usually a two-day event however the festival organisers understand our logistics in preparing for a two-day event and are happy for us to be there just on the Saturday.

We need your help and hope you can come along and bring any of your precious turnings to display and perhaps sell to make room for your next creation.
See you at Leura.

Demo Day November 7, 2026

At the November club meeting Ernie Newman will demonstrate

FALSE TEACHINGS IN WOODTURNINGS – MINE AND OTHERS

Stupid and dangerous instructions in books, articles and videos - including his own.

Ernie has taught woodturning in nine countries and written almost 100 articles.



Clubs Event Diary 2026

October 3: AGM – 10am, 19 Calver Avenue, Mt Riverview

October 8: Load Trailor for the Leura Spring Festival. – Volunteers welcome

October 10 - Leura Spring festival. Labour Day weekend. Saturday only.

November 7 – Demo day – Ernie Newman explores Woodturning Furphies, his own and others.

Nov 11: Remembrance Day; Whitton Park 11.00 am TBA

December: Christmas Party and to 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

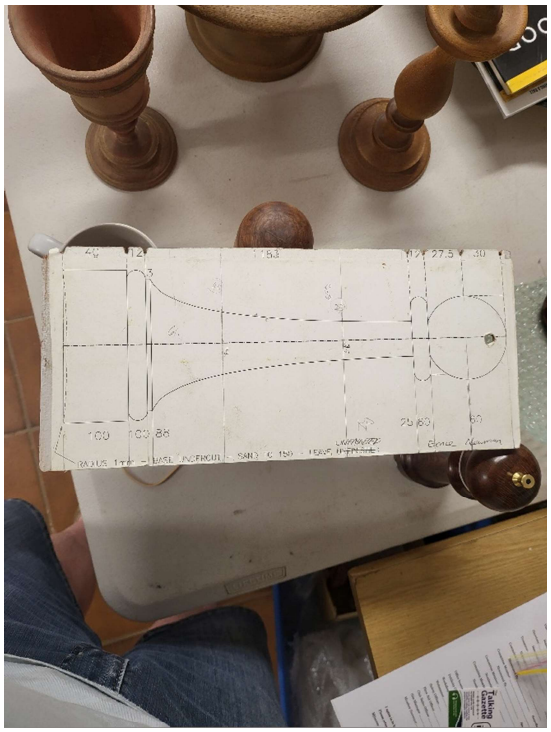


Club Demo September 5

The club demo on September 5 featured the work of Ernie's students from his Tuesday and Thursday classes. John Cossey explained what the pieces are.

Brad Beeby sent some photos from the day.





The Springwood Festival – 19th Sept 2026

By Tom Fox

The Club had a successful day at the Springwood Festival. Many people attended and about a dozen members turned up to help with the stall.



Setting Up at the Springwood Fair

The weather was crowd-pleasing, if a little hot at times, and sales were satisfactory for Springwood – approaching about $1000 in all.

The heat got to some of us and, as we unpacked Ray's trailer at the clubhouse around 5:30pm, there was a feeling that it had been a rather long day!

Worth it though.



Klaus turns a mystery object for the crowd



Our Stall was next to the Florist for the Springwood Fair this year.

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.



Steve Ward sent me this link to a YouTube video of a group of German men creating a water wheel axel from a tree trunk including turning it on a makeshift lathe. It is fascinating to see these old skills in action. There is a part of a series of videos featuring old skills and well worth the viewing time. If the link attached fails (which it probably will) look up Traditional Hand-Powered Lathe (#2) by Crafted History.
Thanks Steve.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h9iOMcPPQxA

Saint Brian of the Mountains

By Ernie Newman



A recent issue of Turning Chatter featured a short piece about Des Lane's generous donation of wood to my students. This time another old friend of his and mine, Brian Smith, stepped up.

In September, Brian donated wood and some tools for the class. This recalled an earlier act of generosity. Brian put up a large sum of his own money to start the Australian wood art Collaboration in 2000. This had never been tried in Australia so he didn't know if he would see the money again.

It was an event that attracted sculptors, carvers, turners and furniture makers from around the country and around the world. It was held every two years for twenty years but didn't survive Covid. The first event generated a substantial surplus, so Brian did get his dough back. There was enough so that internationally renowned artists from NZ and the USA were brought in for the follow-up event.

Appreciation for Your Contribution to the Lapstone Hill Tunnel Community Open Days

Blue Mountains Woodturners Inc members have received a letter of thanks from the Blue Mountains City Council for our group effort at the Lapstone Hill Tunnel Community Open Days. A brief extract from the letter, signed by BMCC Mayor Mark Greenhill OAM and CEO Rosemary Dillan, is included here and will be sent as a separate attachment with this newsletter.

John Turner sends his congratulations and thanks to all who took part.

“On behalf of Blue Mountains City Council and the wider Blue Mountains community, we would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation for your outstanding contribution to the recent Lapstone Hill Tunnel Community Open Days.

The success of these events was made possible through the dedication and generosity of volunteers such as yourselves. Your involvement in the event provided visitors with a unique experience to see the work the Blue Mountains Woodturners does, in bringing together the community. The Open Days attracted approximately 2,200 attendees across the three event days, demonstrating the strong community interest in the tunnel precinct and its heritage significance.

Your willingness to share your passion, and time reflects the very best of community service. Volunteers play a vital role in fostering community connections, and your efforts enriched the experience for residents and visitors alike.

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your support and participation. We look forward to continuing to work together on future initiatives that celebrate and promote the unique heritage of the Blue Mountains.”

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 life easier.

Until next time, keep those wood chips flying,
Bec