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## NORTHERN WOODTURNERS CLUB INC. NEWSLETTER

<u>President</u> ?	<u>Committee</u>		
<u>Vice Pres.</u> ?	<u>Members</u>	<u>Kitchen Manager</u>	Antonio Simonetti
<u>Secretary</u> Gordon Watt	? Beryl Watling	<u>Hall/Equip. Main.</u>	Lionel Hart
<u>Treasurer</u> Peter Lucas	Lionel Hart	<u>OH &amp; S Officers</u>	Gordon Watt
	Ian Beckett		Lionel Hart
<u>Newsletter Editor</u>	Beryl Watling	Please address all correspondence to	
<u>Librarian</u>	?	Secretary	
		<a href="mailto:secretary@northernwoodturners.org.au">secretary@northernwoodturners.org.au</a>	
<u>Ass't Treasurer</u>	<u>Ian Beckett</u>		
<u>Ass't Secretary</u>	Kath Clifford		
<u>Ass't Librarian</u>	?		

Items of interest are welcome for the newsletter.

The Story of another hobby you enjoy.

Items for sale.

Photo and article about a project you have made.

Your Own Story.

Club Meeting to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2024 at 9:00 AM

Following the meeting we will spend the morning making Kururins to give to children in hospital.

Afterwards there will be a barbeque lunch.

## *A Community Project – Beryl Watling*

Recently I was looking for a project that I could do and possibly donate to a children's ward. I came across this simple toy from Japan. We could give it a generic name of a fidget toy which many children use as an aid to combat anxiety stemming from the covid years.



It is called a Kururin, another name is Mokuru.

These videos will show you some of the tricks that can be done. It encourages good eye hand coordination and focus.

<https://youtu.be/BoJHhV4Wads>

<https://youtu.be/WOGuO6RoX8Y>

I thought that we could make it as a community project. Many clubs make things for their local community eg toys, puzzles etc.

We will be making these after the June meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> June.

Materials and a template will be supplied, you will just need you're a roughing gouge, a parting tool and maybe a skew (shudder), a steb centre and sandpaper.

At lunchtime we will have a barbeque.

## *Announcing The Jan Pennell Award for Woodturning*

13 February 2024



Maker and photo credits, clockwise from top left: George Parke (image Georgina Steytler), Hugh Mackay, Catherine Ritter, Vince Rush, Kevin Richardson.

Australian Wood Review is proud to announce the inaugural Jan Pennell Award for Woodturning. This new annual AUD\$1,500 award is a generous bequest from the estate of the late Jan Pennell. It will be presented to the entry that displays the best woodturning from across all categories for Maker of the Year 2024, presented by Carbatec. The winning entry may be created by means of other woodworking techniques and may be made in collaboration with others, as per the competition T&Cs.

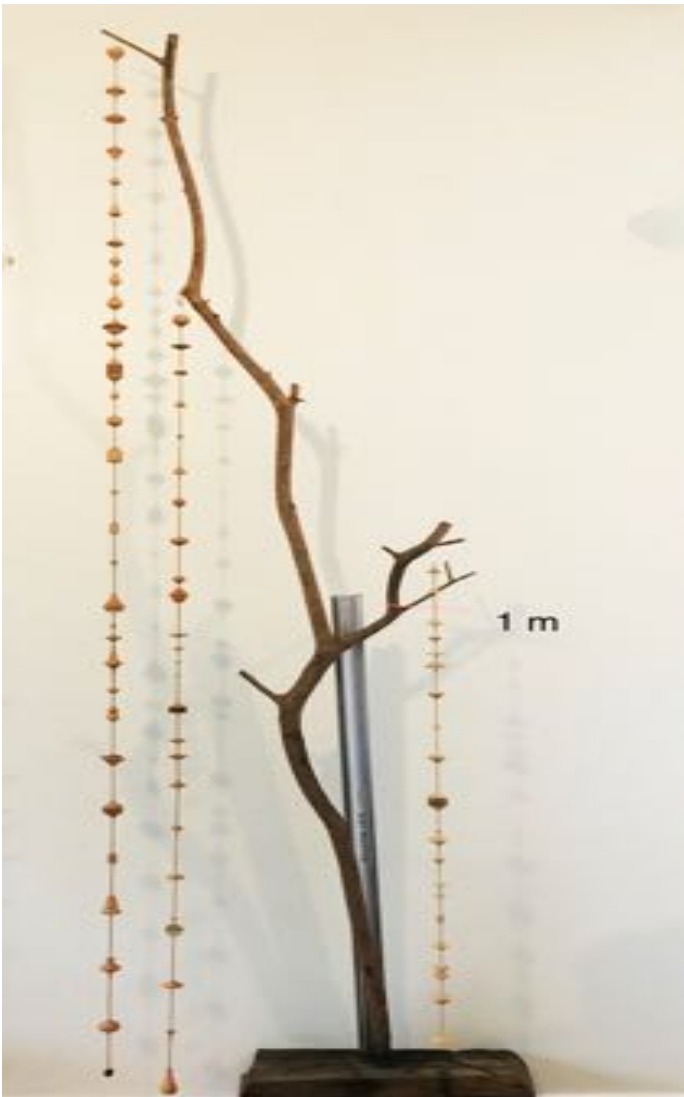
Below, Ernie Newman tells about the woman in whose memory the Award has been created.



This image of Jan Pennell shows her holding giant chess pieces. The Blue Mountains Woodturners made ten sets and donated them to local primary schools. Jan was a big contributor.

Jan Pennell was born in 1948 and grew up in country NSW, trained as a nurse and brought many babies into the world. She joined the RAAF in the Medical Core and rose to the rank of Wing Commander, equivalent to Lieutenant Colonel in the army. She was an expert skier and represented the Australian armed forces in skiing overseas. One of her pleasures was mentoring her staff and she spoke fondly of them decades later.

During her service, Jan Pennell was involved with many exercises in managing local and overseas disasters. She saved many lives in the first 24 hours after the Bali bombing in 2002 when she co-ordinated the aeromedical evacuation for the Australian Air Force. In 2003 she received a commendation from Peter J. Cosgrove, AC, MC, General and Chief of the Defence Forces. The award noted: ‘As the Staff Officer Health, you displayed excellent professional initiative, inspirational leadership and dedication to duty during an extremely challenging and demanding situation.’



When Jan retired, she took up woodturning and completed a five-year course in four. Her sculptural piece for the course was an assemblage of three trembleurs. Shown right, the longest was over 2.1 metres with a diameter of under 3mm, possibly the longest trembleur ever turned. To make it she had to join two lathes together. The World of Woodturners Forum featured the assemblage and sent an image all around the world.

Every two years for a decade Jan participated in the Australian Collaboration, a workshop which attracted many of Australia’s and the world’s best wood artists.

She was a wonderful asset to the Blue Mountains Woodturners club for 20 years. Her formal roles included president, treasurer, first aid officer and librarian. But she also shared her knowledge and used her managerial and people skills to solve problems and create a positive experience for members. A combination of intelligence, common sense and respect for others made her a terrific leader.

Jan wasn’t all strawberries and cream. She could be as sharp as her chisels when she detected foolishness and the term, ‘fiercely independent’, doesn’t do her justice. Tougher than ironbark. Pain was her faithful friend towards the end but if you asked, the answer was always, ‘I’m okay’.

Jan's generosity extends beyond the grave in at least two ways. First, she left all her woodworking machines and tools to the club. This is a substantial bequest because as she once observed, 'The one who dies with the most tools wins.' If she didn't win, she was in the final. A second way her generosity lives on is in those of us who knew her. It was infectious. It was an honour and a privilege to know a woman of insight, integrity and kindness. The best of this world can't be told. Words are only shadows. We farewelled one of the best.

**WOODTURNING  
DEMONSTRATION  
SATURDAY  
20<sup>th</sup> JULY 2024  
9:30 AM to (approx) 3:30 PM**

**BY**



**PAUL BARTON**

Forest Hill Woodturners are pleased to invite you to a demonstration at our Blackburn South clubrooms by well respected turner

**Paul Barton.**

- Paul will be demonstrating his
- Japanese inspired box,
  - A thin walled bowl and
  - Split hollow form (if time permits)

Day includes a door prize, morning and afternoon tea and a sausage sizzle lunch. Also a raffle of Wood Turning related prizes.

**FOREST HILL  
WOODTURNERS**

**32 Richmond St  
Blackburn South**



**\$30 FHWT Members**

**\$35 Non Members**

Payment by direct debit, use your name as reference.

Payment in advance please

A/C # 380044

BSB #033061

Payment may be made on the day with cash or card.

**Bookings essential**

**SMS Steve on 0403 007 882 OR**

**Email [stevehood10@gmail.com](mailto:stevehood10@gmail.com)**

**Booking close 1<sup>st</sup> July OR when all seats are taken.**

## Berwick District Woodworkers Club Annual Expo: 12 - 14 July 2024

Following the outstanding success of last year's Expo, the Berwick District Woodworkers Club Inc. will again hold an exhibition of members' work on the weekend of 12th July (5pm – 8pm), and 13th and 14th July (9am – 5pm daily) 2024. Entry is free.

Held in the Club's clubrooms and workshop in the grounds of The Old Cheese Factory, 34 Homestead Rd., Berwick, this year's Expo will display a broad range of members' woodwork, some of which will be for sale. We will also have a dedicated Sales area, where members will be offering non-exhibition pieces for sale as well as a selection of timbers. A number of live demonstrations will run during the Expo, including wood turning, rocking horse making, band saw, scrollsaw, toy making, carving, and pyrography. A chain saw sculptor will be in action outside the clubrooms, and there will also be a kid's corner, a raffle with great prizes, and drinks available.

We will also be conducting our popular monthly Farmer's Market on the Saturday morning till 1pm,

So, it promises to be another great weekend, and we would love to see you there. For further information and queries, contact John McMahon 0437096840 or our club secretary at [bdwwcsec@outlook.com](mailto:bdwwcsec@outlook.com)

### Show and Tell



Peter Fisher has made these twig pots from Pine. The finish is bees wax.



Another piece from Peter, a lidded box from Paperbark.



For a Great Woodcraft Exhibition  
Visit our Workshop & Clubrooms  
**FREE Entry for All**

Children under 16 to be accompanied by an adult

### Woodworking Demonstrations, including:

Wood Turning / Band Sawing / Scroll Sawing / Dremel  
Toy Making / Routing / Pyrography / Wood Carving



Various items produced by our members on display. With a selection of great items for sale. Kids Activity Corner. Raffle with great prizes. Tea & Coffee available.



Contacts:

John McMahon: 0437096840  
Email: [bdwwcsec@outlook.com](mailto:bdwwcsec@outlook.com)



A character pot by Peter from English Ash.



Lionel Hart has made these egg cups from spalted Ash. I wonder if they are cheaper by the dozen ;-)



Jeff Hollis has made this natural edge bowl using Nectarine and he has finished it with Superglue.



Another project by Jeff, a stool / bedside table in Pine made from a single piece. We wait to see the matching table.



Antoine has made this candle holder with a barley twist from Oregon and other woods. The finish is oil.

### *Fly Fishing – Cath Clifford*

Last year my son gave me a fly-fishing rod for Mother's Day! It's a Gillies 6wt. What a great gift! I had no idea what doors it would open.

Welcome to the world of fly fishing! It's the style of fishing with a light flexible rod, a floating line and tiny flies which can sink, float or seem to swim to attract and trick a (mostly) trout into eating it. Trying to work it out by myself, I had several sessions at Sugarloaf reservoir and local parks trying to cast. How hard could it be? I had seen Rock Hudson learning '10 O'clock, 2 o'clock' in "Man's favourite sport" years ago. Well, after losing quite a few flies with my 'whip-crack' technique, getting hopelessly tangled and nibbling my 9' leader down to 4', I figured I should ask for some help.

Join a club! The Red Tag Fly Fishing Club is close to our house. They have great website and are a friendly and active club. Recently my husband joined the club too, it's a great family activity for all ages. There are other clubs, Northern Flyfishers and Red Tag have friendly annual competition up around the Goulburn, (we're still the winners with a 66cm 8lb trout this year!). Ballarat Fly Fishers – lucky them, they have their clubrooms right on Lake Wendouree – visits are arranged to host us and take us out on the lake in their boats.

*Casting pool at sunset.*



Casting Practice at the Casting pools at Fairfield. Open 24/7. Saturday mornings see senior club members available to show new members the basics and to help other members with learning new casting techniques or finessing existing skills. I've discovered that I like casting, a lot. There's such a science and art to it. I'm looking forward to being able to cast with ease like some of our mentors. They do have a bit of a head start though; some have been fishing for over 70 years! Sometimes I go over early in the morning, when the wind is minimal or else in the evening as the sun is setting and the bats are flying off for their evening forage.

Fly tying lessons are held once a month for newbies like me. Senior

members conduct lessons, provide all material and share when and where to use the flies, as well as etymology. The aim is to 'match the hatch'. They have great names like: Zebra Midges, Woolly Buggers, San Juan worms, Bead headed Rubber Leg Peacock, Elk Hair Caddis, Royal Coachmen and Pheasant Tail nymphs. Sizes vary from a tiny 24 (size of a quarter of the width of a fingernail, to those big enough to mimic mice and frogs (these are mostly for fishing in New Zealand).

Not only is it useful to understand the lifecycle of the food that trout usually eat, it is important to know about the lifecycle of trout themselves. There is a closed season in the rivers of the high country from King's Birthday to late September to allow for the salmonids to do their natural spawning. Lakes and rivers away from the high country are open all year.



*A Hopper that Cath tied.*



## *Below First wild caught fish on the Jamieson River*



Gearing up means getting the basics which include: waders, boots, rod, net, lines, flies. We started out just getting the cheap “gumboot attached” style of wader. They might still be OK for standing still in a lake, but are downright dangerous when trying to negotiate slippery rocks in fast running water while trying to cast and land fish. It’s just like walking in buckets with overalls attached! Also, if you’re fishing in a small stream,

creek or river you need to be able to scramble in and out of the water, up banks, around trees and past the ever-present blackberries. We’re almost through the acquisition stage and we’ve got enough of the basics to jump right in. Funnily enough, there’s always something else you could buy (fly fishing stores are like big lolly shops!)

We’ve joined in some of the club trips that are regularly scheduled, either as day trips or up to weeklong trips like our last trip up on the Mitta Mitta. Weekends up at Millbrook and even weeklong trips to New Zealand are organised. So far, we’ve fished in the Goulburn, the Rubicon, Stevenson’s, Little Stevenson’s, Taggerty, the Acheron, Murrindindi, Yarra, Jamieson, Howqua, Ovens and Gellibrand rivers as well as the Merri Creek and Lake Colac.

## *Right Fishing on the Mitta Mitta*

One of the first trips new members are encouraged to join in are ‘Catch and Release’ sessions at the Noogee trout farm. It’s important to know how to carefully release fish so they aren’t damaged by incorrect handling or gear (use wet hands and a rubber coated net, keep the fish in the water as much as possible while you release them from the barbless hook). Yes, a big surprise for me is the sport of fly fishing usually entails releasing the fish you just so carefully caught! That probably explains why I didn’t find any recipes for smoking trout on the club website.

Sometimes things don’t always go to plan. We’ve had many days where we didn’t catch a fish, not even a nibble (that I know of). Mostly that’s offset by going out and spending time in lovely places, generally away from crowds of people. Occasionally a hard lesson is learned, like: NEVER rest your new rod in the back opening of the car, the rod won’t survive being crushed! It seems I’m not the only one to break a rod and a quick web check shows lots of repair kits for sale and many YouTube tutorials on the best techniques. Once in a while you can get lucky like me and find a distributor who has the spare part you need!

Community involvement. Red Tag are involved in a group called Mending Casts. Its name comes from a play of words on a technique used to arrange the line on the water so that the fly is presented in a natural way to the trout. The group, Mending Casts are involved in giving Breast Cancer patients and survivors a chance to put their medical worries aside for a while and to go out fly fishing and just have



a fun break. Some of our Club members are mentors and the more experienced fly tyers prepare flies that can be used by participants.

Environmental activities include catch and release programs where native fish are caught and relocated to depleted water ways. There is also a concerted effort by the government to improve fish habitat and it has resulted in much more interesting and productive waterways. Natural features like logs, gravel banks and boulders have been returned and apart from more pleasant views, fish find more safe areas to feed and multiply.

Are there any links to Woodturning? Making Rods, bobbins, reels. I've been trying to find ways of combining my woodturning with my fly fishing. I'm planning to make some small bobbins for fly tying with my many sewing threads collected over the years. Some very clever turners even make wooden spools for reels. It would take a lot of dedication, sometimes I think I'd rather just go fishing!

We have more than 20 members, if everyone shared one story about their other interests, we would have enough articles for a little more than 2 years and I wouldn't have to 'bully' people ;-)

**Who would like to offer an article for next month.**

### *Session Times*

Our weekly hands-on session times are:  
Tuesday, 7:00 pm -10:00 pm  
Wednesday, 8:00 am – Noon  
Thursday, 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Monthly Meeting on the third Saturday of the Month, 9:00 am.  
Except December.

We appreciate the opportunity from Bunnings to raise funds at their stores.  
They support us so please support them.

