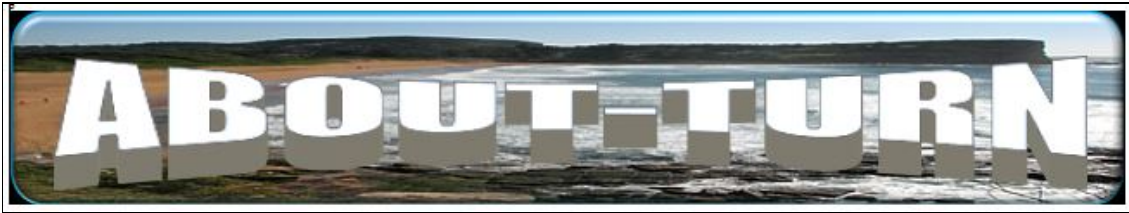


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**Sydney Northern Beaches
Woodturners Inc**

*Sydney Northern Beaches
Woodturners*



Newsletter - October 2025

In this newsletter find out about:

October Meeting

Q &A with Master Turners

Show & Tell

The Cammeray Project

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

New Beginner Class

Club Shop opportunity

Welcome to new members

October birthdays

Important Dates

Saturday 6 December - Bunnings BBQ. More volunteers needed & items to fill the Lucky Dip box

Friday 12 December - Possible participation in new Frenchs Forest Bunnings Store Opening Day. Further details to be provided.

Saturday 13 December - Workshop close and final clean for the year

October Meeting

The October Members meeting was held on Sunday 19 October. The following information was provided:

- The most recent Bunnings BBQ at Belrose had record takings despite volunteer numbers being down making it a very busy day for those who manned the stall.

From March 2026 it is likely we will be asked to provide our sausage sizzle at the new Bunnings Frenchs Forest store. We have been invited to demonstrate there on the store Opening Day, Friday 12 December. It is yet to be confirmed if we will be able to sell turned items.

- The Committee will be introducing tokens for payment for attendance at the Club. Members can purchase packages of tokens. The Members voted to change the daily charge to \$5 each visit, making each token equivalent to \$5. Implementation date to be advised.
- The Committee announced Members meetings would be quarterly commencing March 2026. Also the next meeting will be March 2026.
- Supervisor Thursdays will be introduced allowing Supervisors to turn if a maximum of two supervisors are present. This was because Supervisors without a lathe at home are unable to turn when they are supervising. Only Supervisors can attend on Thursdays.
- Royal Easter Show competition entries close early February for those who wish to enter. If you wish to sell turned items during the Show you must be present on the day your Club is demonstrating and take home your unsold items at the end of the day. Failing that you need to collect them at the end of the Show. Further you must man the sale stall the day your Club is demonstrating.
- Julie Jarvis reported on the Open Day in August which was heralded a success for increasing knowledge of the Club amongst our local community; for the Club; and for its Members. The next market day planned is Terrey Hills on Sunday 3 May 2026.
- The Committee requested volunteers to organise the Club Christmas Party.
- The Committee has decided to phase out the Club shop. The plan is to sell off the stock and when at a low level, close it. As an incentive Members will receive a 2 for 1 offer for the best Show & Tell. Members get one for themselves and the other to turn for the Club for sale at markets with proceeds going to the Club or inclusion in Lucky Dips or the like.
- Exterior signage is now underway - a 1m x 1.5m sign advising Club details and open days. Further, a brand new member, Jody Williams, is a Northern Beaches Councillor, and offered to speak to the correct people to have a directional street sign installed at the lights on the corner of Forestville Avenue and Warringah Rd.

At the time of publication a formal record of the meeting was not available. If there are any inaccuracies or omissions in the information provided please [email the editor](#)

Jack & George



Both Jack and George are Life Members of our Club and were awarded with a badge commemorating the fact.

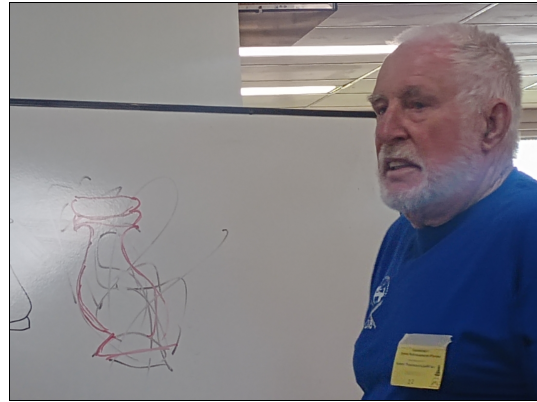
Alex Bendeli created a wonderful Life Member Board with the names of our Life members. Both Jack & George were Life Members prior to Incorporation so really have been Life Members much longer.

It is a great work of art although Alex mentioned he was disappointed he could not turn it, but instead had to carve and use a router.



George was invited to commence proceedings. He began by giving us a potted history of his career with many years teaching at TAFE NSW. He then moved on to his views on woodturning.

One fascinating point from George is 'he can't draw'. He believes it is hard to design from nothing. So, to design items he starts with a scribble and sees what shapes he can make from it and moves from there. This is shown with his scribble in this photo. He believes design is very personal and doesn't comment on it but rather stresses correct proportions.



Jack enlightened us on the history of the Club and how we ended up in Forestville. He spoke about his own career and how he ended up in woodturning, but of course, didn't go into details on how he became so skilled at woodturning. He did however enlighten us on his finishes. He claims not being skilled with a paintbrush so uses a Rustins spray.



Both Jack & George were invited to bring examples of their turning. George advised since someone broke an item worth \$4000 he doesn't do that. Jack on the other hand brought a fabulous display. The photos don't do them justice.

There were lots of questions from the members present, too many to include here. Just enjoy Jack's pieces shown below.







Show & Tell

There were many items at the Show & Tell, perhaps because Jack & George agreed to comment on the work.

Finn Thorvalsen: Finn was interested to receive advice from the Masters that his proportions were uneven in the top of his pepper and salt grinders. The following Friday he valiantly attempted to correct that design flaw.

His gnomes received praise and he also showed us some delightful Christmas decorations he had turned.





Chris Falvey: Chris had created what he called 'Wonky Tubes' from some Red Stringy Bark turned green with grain horizontal rather than the norm, vertical. They showed off the gorgeous rich colour of the Red Stringy Bark.

Jenny Talbot: Jenny tried Catherine's version of piercing and carving using a Dremel and found it a very unsatisfactory implement.



Next Jenny showed us a very intricate sphere jigsaw. To achieve it she created her own jig.

Nick Vertes: Nick had finished and waxed the two different styles of segmented rolling pin but found in the heat the different timbers had moved. Now he will have to sand and re-finish them.



Catherine Ritter: Below are 6 contributions by Catherine.

1. A Neil Turner-esq design vase from Eucalypt.
2. A pen pot that started out as a salt pig but cracks in the Cypress Pine changed its future.
3. A dish from Banksia. Catherine advised Banksia is very difficult to carve.
4. A carved/pierced dish from Liquid Amber. Catherine used a dental drill to achieve this in a 2mm thick dish.
5. A square plate from Tasmanian Myrtle. The piercing represents the North-west coast of Tasmania.
6. A Salt Pig. The segments were created on a table saw. It has a very neat swivel lid.





The Cammeray Project



In 2023, the SNB Woodturners Club turned what has become known within our Club as the "Collaboration Platter" - a large trophy-like platter for the Cammeray Golf Club. A number of people were involved in turning the platter, hence the term "collaboration".

The timber for the platter (Sydney Blue Gum, *Eucalyptus saligna*), was sourced from one of the larger trees on the Golf Course which was cut down as part of the remodelling of the Golf Course associated with the Warringah Freeway Upgrade/Western Harbour Tunnel project.

The Collaboration platter is now proudly displayed in the newly-refurbished Cammeray Golf Clubhouse and is awarded annually to recognise outstanding environmental contribution and achievement at the Golf Club.

In 2024, we were asked by Cammeray Golf Club if we could turn another six items. These would be given to the winners of golf championship/tournament events, for the winner to keep at their home for a 12-month period. The substantive trophy (most of which are pre-existing 'silverware') are traditionally presented to the winner and then returned to their place inside a trophy cabinet at the Clubhouse.

The only requirement was that the turned item had to be from wood that came from a tree that grew on the Cammeray Golf Course and which was cut down as part of the Golf Course redesign/freeway upgrade project.

From his time working on the Freeway/tunnel Project, Chris Falvey still had a limited stash of cut logs from trees felled as part of the Golf Course redevelopment. There were two flat blanks of Southern Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*), two logs of Sydney Blue Gum, one log of Tallowood (*Eucalyptus microcorys*), and two logs of Paperbark Melaleuca (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*).

Chris would like to express his thanks to his fellow 'collaborateurs' for being part of this project, for their generous gift of time, and acknowledge their amazing skills as woodturners.

Collaboration platter: Jack Butler, Ken Cooper, Angus Ireland.

Individual trophy items: Alex Bendeli, John Donnelly (yet to be completed from Tallowood), Julie Jarvis, Catherine Ritter, Nick Vertes, Chris Falvey.

Alex Bendeli - Silky Oak bowl/dish





Julie Jarvis - Tallowood statuette

Catherine Ritter - Melaleuca pierced bowl



Nick Vertes - Emerging bowl from
Tallowood

Chris Falvey - Chris made two of these from Red Gum, one club is a driver and the other, shown here, an iron.



Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

The most recent Bunnings Sausage Sizzle was an outstanding success. Our best financial result ever.

A HUGE THANK YOU to the 12 members who helped on Saturday. The day was hot, the hours were long, the demand was steady, but our team hustled and kept up with the demand even through the midday peak. The willingness of everyone to “get in and help” is appreciated and makes these days flow.

On Friday we sliced 20kg of onions before morning tea. On Saturday we cooked and served 800 sausages (we sold out!) and sold more than 200 cold drinks .. hence the high net profit for our club.

The Ladies on the till (Julie & Sandra) encouraged the children to dig into our Lucky Dip box. The tops and wooden pieces brought a big smile from the children. Keep turning please! Christmas trees for December would be nice!

The Bunnings Events Organiser was happy with our signage, operation and SNBW service to Bunnings Customers. We penciled in the first date for 2026: Saturday March 7 2026.

Our next Belrose BBQ is **Saturday December 6**. We expect it will be a very busy pre-Christmas day. We need lots of volunteers so please sign up or [email Will](#). And don't forget to turn some Xmas themed items for the Lucky Dip.





Thanks to Will for this article and photos

New Beginner Class



The first "beginners and basics" course has kicked off in our Clubrooms with a class full of enthusiasm and high expectations.

The course is designed to meet a long-identified need for the Club to better support new Members, particularly those who do not come from a trades or craft background.

Members can still learn at their own pace under supervision on any of the Workshop open days - Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

However this new course is designed to take a more structured approach, and with a higher level of supervision.

President John Donnelly has developed the course using approved materials and

resources from the Club Library. John himself of course a former teacher and long-time Club Member. No pressure, Mr President!!!

The Club Committee has approved the course being run as a six-week pilot, and it is one of the key pillars of the Committee's considered response to a broad-ranging discussion around the Club's approach to Work Health and Safety matters. We look forward to the results.

Photo caption: First class and well on their way to alumni status: from left: Jonathon Livesey, Club President John Donnelly, Phil Skelton, Tim Doherty, and Gary Munns.

The Club Shop

As was mentioned earlier in this newsletter, the Committee plans to use up the stock in the shop and then close it. There are lots of goodies you can take advantage of in the meantime saving you a trip to Timberbits or elsewhere.

Any Supervisor can help you find what you're looking for. Simply pay with cash or direct debit. A list of the extensive array of items available is kept in the shop cabinets. See some examples below.



Letter openers



Clock parts



Cake slices



Pot Pourri lids



Pen cases



Wine stoppers



Happy Birthday to the members who celebrate their birthday in October

Ken Cooper, Eleanor Derix, Nischal Shetty, Jim Vatiliotis,
Todd Whiley.

We hope you enjoy your day.

Welcome to our new members:

Nischal Shetty ,Vladimir Korol, Toby Hosemans, Jody
Williams. We hope you enjoy your time with us.



Club T-Shirts

If you are representing the Club at any event,
including a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle we would be
very pleased to see you wearing a Club T-Shirt to
promote the Club.

We have plenty of stock in all sizes - just \$25. Ask a
Supervisor to get one for you.



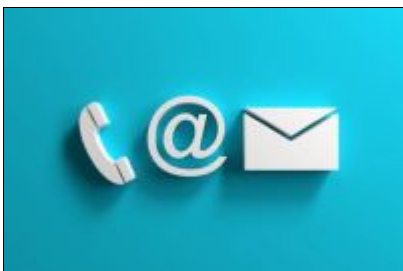
Tuesdays & Fridays 9.30am - 1pm
Saturday mornings 8.30am - 1pm
2nd & 4th Friday each month
9:30am - 3:30pm



Your Committee

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Vice President:	Alex Bendeli
Secretary:	Vacant
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