

Splinters

October 2025

*The newsletter of Christchurch
Woodturners Association Inc.*



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The Art of Wood

An Event of The National Association of Woodworkers NZ Inc.

“Promoting, fostering and encouraging art and craft in wood”

The National Association of Woodworkers NZ Incorporated brings together both amateur and professional people from all over New Zealand who are skilled in working with wood.

Check out the Award Categories, entrants and other winners

<https://theartofwood-2025.naw.org.nz/awards>

Congratulations to our Christchurch Club Member - Mike Ginty

Mike won **2nd Place in the Domestic Category**, (sponsored by Timberly Woodturning) with his ‘Emerging Seed Bowls’.

His piece was ‘Four emerging bowls for children’s sweet treats. The European beech block is turned on multi axis centres and supported on tapered legs. Laser engraved flying dandelion seeds emerging from the plants continue the emerging theme. The finished item is 245mm x 245mm x 95mm.





Wanted

The club has received another request from a blueberry grower, for as much sawdust as we can collect.

If you have excess sawdust can you contact Nigel

Text: 021 186 2768

Email: president.chchwoodturners@gmail.com

For Sale – Liming Wax

LIMING WAX

Club Special

Only \$40

normally \$70-\$90
full retail

All proceeds go to the club

Contact: Nigel president.chchwoodturners@gmail.com
or buy direct from the club workshop

Upcoming Events Calendar

Christchurch Club Sessions

Thursdays Afternoon (1-4pm) or evening (7-9pm) turning at the clubrooms

Wed 22 Oct Club night demonstrator: Keith McFadden - Box with Insert

Wed 26 Nov Club night demonstrator: Noel Graham + Abraham Faid - Christmas Ornaments

Wed 1 Oct Miniature Turning at the Clubrooms, Auburn Reserve

Wed 8 Oct Embellishment Session - bring your project and tools and share your skills and questions

Sat 29 Nov Making Christmas Ornaments

2026 Collaboration Workshop (30 Jan - 1 Feb) put this weekend in your diary

Regional Events

20 Sept South Island Fun Day (Ashburton)
Everyone is invited. If you are interested please let Nigel (our club President) know.
Each club is to present a display table.
The main item to be made will a hat stand. Six turners from each club will make two matching hat stands, no measuring devices are allowed!

31 Oct-2 Nov Spin Around Waitaki (Oamaru)
A 3 day woodturning event featuring demonstrations by guest demonstrator Paul Barton.
Each demonstration is followed by time in the workshop so that those attending can have a go at the projects demonstrated. To see examples of his work, visit Paul's Instagram page: [@paulbarton_woodartist](https://www.instagram.com/paulbarton_woodartist)

Not happening - please note that sadly there is no Waiora Turn Inn planned for 2026, but they are looking at alternative events.

Competitions – To be judged at the November meeting

You are all invited to make an entry for the two club competitions:

Peter Hutchison Trophy

A trophy in Peter's name is awarded annually to the member who displays the best coloured and / or embellished work. The scope of Colouring and/or Embellishing includes, but is not necessarily limited to one or more of: paint, dye, carving, burning, pyrography and incorporation of other materials etc. The judges will be specifically looking for how colour or other embellishment has been used to enhance the work.

Jim Dunford Memorial Trophy

The Jim Dunford Trophy Competition will also be judged at our November meeting. The competition theme for this year will be Wig Stands (and they will all be donated to the club contacts who will distribute them to those in need).

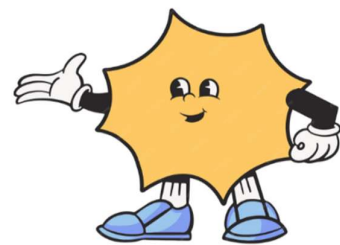
So get creative people and see what you can produce for each of these competitions...

September Club Meeting - Show table...

Peoples Choice this month...

Apologies but I completely forgot to take a picture of the entry sheet and the winners sheet - so see if you can identify who has entered what.

Bring your completed list to the club meeting next week - first correct full list will be a winner...





September Monthly Meeting Demo

Noel Graham - making a vase from Oamaru Stone

Make a little wooden chuck:

- round out your timber
- put in 50mm spigot in one end
- take shaft down to 25mm (so it will fit neatly into the hole through the Oamaru Stone)
- cut / file a groove / inset about 20mm long into the shaft, so a piece of dowel can be lodged in there when the chuck is twisted into the Oamaru Stone
- use a cup live centre or a small piece of timber (disc about 2-3mm thick) to hold the Oamaru Stone in place when locked into the chuck

Working with the stone:

- drill a centre hole (about the size of Noels little finger!) through the vase
- shape the stone into your desired vase shape using the roughing gouge, or any other tool, as the Oamaru stone is very soft and not bad on your tools
- once roughed out you may see holes or unevenness - these can easily be sanded out using 60 or 80grit sandpaper
- Note - there is no up or downhill with stone
- Square up the bottom of your vase

Next step is to turn a decorative insert for the top of the vase i.e. to hold your flower in place

- Choose a small piece of timber (e.g. 60mm square)



- Drill a hole right through the centre (e.g. 10mm)
- Round off the timber with the roughing gouge to desired diameter e.g. if the top of the vase is 40mm then take the timber down to 40mm diameter
- Shape the top and then bring the rest of the timber down to 25mm i.e. so that it fits into the top of the stone
- Put decoration on the top of your timber e.g. rings, texture etc

Then part it off **AFTER** checking that it definitely fits into the stone vase, or you may have to do some remedial turning if it doesn't fit and you have parted it off!

Using the stone grinds - collect these, add a colour or some other material and use it to fill holes and cracks in bowls. Once you have filled the crack with the mix, then cover it with super glue to fix it in place.

You could finish the vase with a sandstone sealer.

To glue your **decorative centre** in, you can use Clear RTV Glue works really well as it is flexible. This is needed as the timber may contract and expand with heat changes, but the stone doesn't.

Ensure you make the insert undersized to take up any contraction and expansion.

The link for tonight's video is:

[Oamaru_Stone_Noel-24sep25.mp4](#)

Great demo, you make it look so easy. Many thanks Noel.



Suggestions Welcome

We are always keen to receive ideas for demonstrations or workshops and requests for specific demonstrators/tutors. Please email one of the Committee members above with your suggestion.



This month's Club Member Profile...

Summer Denzie

I have been wood turning since the end of 2023.

Turning on my dad's lathe when I was a kid was great fun, that was probably the inspiration for always wanting to learn to turn.

I have been part of the club since March 2024.

My journey into woodturning began with childhood memories of using my dad's lathe.

That early experience sparked a long-standing interest, and I finally took the plunge at the end of 2023, buying my first lathe. Since joining the club in March 2024, I've been steadily building my skills and experimenting with different techniques. Each piece I create teaches me something new, and I love the challenge of transforming a raw block of wood into something beautiful and (sometimes) functional.

Keep your mind open to learning new ways of turning. There's always something to learn, whether it's a new tool, a different approach, or a fresh perspective from another turner.

I find woodturning really therapeutic - it's incredibly satisfying to create something out of wood. The process is calming and the results are rewarding and this inspires me to keep woodturning.



I'm really grateful to be part of a community that shares knowledge and encourages creativity. Looking forward to many more projects and learning opportunities ahead!



Come along to our club nights and enjoy the company of like-minded people. There is always:

- ***tea and coffee with a biscuit (or two)***
- ***a friendly person to chat with***
- ***show table pieces to look at and vote on***
- ***books to borrow from our library (remember to return them when you are finished), and***
- ***a raffle.***

We meet on the fourth Wednesday evening at the Harvard Lounge in Wigram at 7.00pm.

A link you may be interested in checking out...

[Will Makes Everything](#)

[Q Branch Woodworks](#)

[All you need for Woodturning](#)

[Woodturner 21](#)

Christchurch Woodturners Association Contact Details

Patron: Soren Berger
Life Member: Noel Graham

Committee

President:	Nigel Elson	021 186 2768	president.chchwoodturners@gmail.com
Vice President:	Dee Morgan	03 359 4386	vp.chchwoodturners@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Bill Parsons	03 351 5647	treasurer.chchwoodturners@gmail.com
Secretary:	Evan Gow	021 033 8065	secretary.chchwoodturners@gmail.com
Membership:	Peter Clemett	03 342 5242	membership.chchwoodturners@gmail.com
Newsletter:	Tina von Pein	027 201 1000	news.chchwoodturners@gmail.com
Webmaster:	Paul Blackburn	022 600 3762	webmaster.chchwoodturners@gmail.com
NAW Course:	Noel Graham	027 240 8112	noelgraham5@gmail.com
Members:	Mike Ginty	022 164 3322	
	Andrew Biggs	021 342 438	
	Abraham Faid	022 038 9919	
	David Feind	027 545 5787	

Club Information

Club Membership	Details and registration, visit https://www.woodturning.nz/membership/
Woodturning Course	For information, visit https://www.woodturning.nz/courses/
Past Newsletters	Can be downloaded from https://www.woodturning.nz/newsletters/

Regular Meeting Schedule

Club Meetings	4th Wednesday of the month. 7pm at the Harvard Community Lounge
Open Workshop	Thursdays 1-4pm, 7-9pm at the Workshop, Auburn Reserve
Miniature Turning	1st Wednesday of the month. 7pm at the Workshop, Auburn Reserve

Embellishment *

2nd Wednesday of the month. 7pm at the Workshop, Auburn Reserve
Bring along your embellishment project and tools, share your ideas, skills and questions.

Collaboration weekend 2026

CHRISTCHURCH WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION INC.

REGISTER NOW FOR COLLABORATION, JAN 30 – FEB 1, 2026

Please complete the registration process and forward with your remittance as detailed below



Join us fun weekend of craft, teamwork, and learning. You will collaborate as a member of a small team to design and create an art piece inspired by the weekend theme. You don't have to be an experienced turner to take part. This is an occasion to bring all of your hobby and craft skills together, as a diversity of ideas, perspectives, materials, and techniques will produce the most interesting results.

Teams will be selected to ensure there are at least 2 members in each who can commit to the full weekend. If you are unable to commit for the whole time, you can still join as a 3rd member in a team.

The cost for taking part in Collaboration will cover workshop operation, provided materials, and refreshments. There will be a shared meal on the Saturday evening which guests are welcome to attend, but please indicate the number attending on your registration.

Further details and "what to bring" will be emailed out to all registered attendees.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday 16th January

You must have submitted your registration form (one form per person) and made payment of \$35 by the deadline date to be assured of a place. Registrations after this date may not be accepted.

Option [1] Bring your form and payment (cash) to a Thursday Workshop session and give it to Noel or Peter.

Option [2] Email the form or a good quality photograph of it, along with confirmation and date of your internet banking payment to Peter: membership.chchwoodturners@gmail.com

Club Account is: Westpac 03 1705 0048498 00

Please ensure your name and initials are used in the payee reference field and "Collab" in the particulars field.

Please complete all parts

Name:	Email:		
Phone:	Pay \$35 by: (tick one)	Cash	Internet Banking
I will be attending the meal on Saturday evening:	YES / NO	Number of additional guests:	
Emergency Contact* Name:	Emergency Phone*:		

**Contact in the event of an accident occurring at the Club workshop and requiring assistance to travel*

CHRISTCHURCH WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION INC.

COLLABORATION WEEKEND, JAN 30 – FEB 1, 2026

Our Club is affiliated to the National Association of Woodworkers NZ Inc.(NAW).

The National Certificate of Woodturning course is administered by NAW. Visit <https://naw.org.nz/> for more information

