

Splinters

February 2026

*The newsletter of Christchurch
Woodturners Association Inc.*



In this month's Newsletter:

Chairman's Welcome
Tribute to Don Morgan
Invitation to attend special service for Joe Hayes
Upcoming Events
Central Districts Woodworker's Expo
Event Report: Collaboration Weekend 2026
Renewal of Membership
January Club Meeting Show Table
First Aiders
NAW National Wood Expo 2026
Club contacts

Chairman's Welcome – February 2026

As we begin 2026, I'd like to acknowledge the passing of three of our members — Joe Hayes, Don Morgan, and Alec Mills — who have all laid their lathes to rest. Each made a valued contribution to our club and will be fondly remembered and truly missed. January saw our first meeting back, and already we're into our second, a reminder of how quickly the year is moving along.

I hope everyone enjoyed a good break and is ready to get back into the workshop. It's been great to see our regular members again and to welcome those who've recently joined us. Last year's show table was a great success, and I'd love to see that continue in 2026, so please don't forget to bring along your pieces for us all to see. Here's to another year of learning, good conversation, and enjoyable time at the lathe.

Regards
Nigel Elson, Chairman

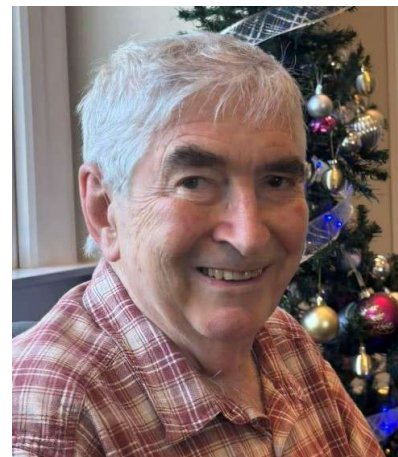
Tribute to Don Morgan

Don was a man who had a passion for things wood especially woodturning. He showed a special interest in embellishment – that is the adding of interesting bits to his work from bone to colour to texture.

Don joined the Christchurch Woodturners Assn in 2009 (#716). In 2013 he started as a student on the ninth Aoraki Polytechnic Certificate in Woodturning run by the woodturning club. Don keenly passed on his considerable knowledge and ideas to others in his quiet and considerate way.

After completing one of the courses which included how to bleach and set bone into wood Don brought in some sun-bleached bone (i.e. from a long dead cow) that he and Dee had collected on a visit into the high country hills. The bones looked ugly – cracked, grey in colour. To our surprise they did turn and finish just like the newer butcher bought bone.

Don won the Club's prize for the competition table in 2015. This was judged over 12 monthly entries of woodturned objects presented at our demonstration meetings. Don, along with Dee, worked to bring



the art of pyrography to our club. This was done at monthly evening classes at Cobham Intermediate School.

Strokes defiantly slowed Don down. He was less able to participate physically in his clubs' activities. His mind and ability to voice well thought through and meaningful ideas never faltered. Early last year I was invited to collect some turning wood from his home. He was totally apologetic for being unable to assist with loading of it on the trailer.

Our thoughts are with you Dee, Michelle, John and Fon.

Thanks Don for all that you have contributed. You will be deeply missed. Rest peacefully – you have earned it.

Invitation to attend special service for Joe Hayes

Woodturners have been invited to attend a rather special memorial service is being held for Joe Hayes – Lighting Designer extraordinaire for the Court Theatre and many other national and internal theatres and shows:

- Saturday 28 February 2026 @ 2:30pm
- Stewart Family Theatre, Court Theatre

Upcoming Events Calendar

Christchurch Club Sessions

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

Wed 28 Jan Trophy judging, more raffle items, more fun!

Club night demonstrator: David Feind - turning scoops 2 ways

Wed 4 March Miniature Turning at the Clubrooms, Auburn Reserve

Wed 11 March Embellishment Session - bring your project and tools and share your skills and questions

Regional Events - More to come in the new year

2-3 May 2026 **NAW National Expo** - Papatoetoe, Auckland (see advert in the newsletter)

17 May 2026 **Central Districts Woodworker's Expo** - Palmerston North (see advert below)

Central Districts Woodworker's Expo

Date: Sunday 17th May 2026 8.30am -3.30pm Barber Hall, Waldegrave St, Palmerston Nth

Features of the day include:

- Wood turning demonstrations from noted turners, Dick Veitch, Neil Joynt and John McKenzie. So, if you are a wood turner or interested in becoming a woodturner or just like to know how things are made, here is an opportunity to see three of the best woodturners in the country strut their stuff. Each demonstration will be about 1.5 hours long and will show the whole process from the starting block of wood to the decorated, finished article.
- Two inter-Guild team turning competitions where each team member makes an individual part of the object.
- Inter-Guild table competition where each Guild will display the 10 “best” objects that have been produced in their respective Guilds this year. An independent judge will select

the best display table as well as the three top items on show, including a people's choice award.

- A range of trade exhibitors, with goods for sale including specialist items you won't see in your regular hardware store.
- There will be demonstrations of wood carving, turning, a CNC machine, pyrography and scroll saw work as well.

Come and see what the Central Districts Woodworkers have been up to and indulge yourself in some retail therapy at the trade displays. **See you there on the 17th of May.**

Event Report: Christchurch Club Collaboration 2026

Peter Clemett

The end of January rolled around, summer weather finally returned after a rather uninspiring post-Christmas period, and students were gearing up to resume school – time for our annual Collaboration weekend.

This event has become a regular fixture in our Club calendar, this being the 6th year in a row it has been held, with the format proven and essentially unchanged. At the start, there is a draw to determine who you will be partnered with and prompts to inspire your creations are shared. You work with your partner to imagine and build your design, aiming to have a finished piece on the table by closing time on Sunday. There is no competition involved, no judgement, and no requirement that participants be skilled woodturners. The whole point is to have fun, do something you may not have done before, and experience the thrill of collaborating with others. Many who have attended the event for the first time have done so with doubt and trepidation but have rapidly become converts and enthusiastically return in later years.

Up until now we've deliberately kept the event in-house, wanting to prove the format and being conscious of our limited workshop capacity, to give our members the best opportunity to take part. This year, keen to find some fresh inspiration, we decided to ask a few others from around the country to join us, and we were thrilled that Emma James-Ries (Tauranga) and Bruce Wood (Dunedin) took up the challenge. Ironically, Emma and Bruce (both former South Auckland Woodturners Guild club-mates) drew each other as collaboration partners, although that just made it interesting and inspiring for the rest of us to watch them create. Both were more than happy to show the enquiring mind what they were up to and share their knowledge and techniques.

This year, teams were asked to design and produce a centrepiece for a dining table, free-standing or suspended, to suit an occasion of their choosing. Each design had to incorporate elements inspired by one or more of the prompts:

Balance - in or out of balance, scale, or proportion

Feet - individual feet, a footing or pedestal, or something with feet

Three – the number, as easy as one-two-three

Red - the colour or symbolised by the colour

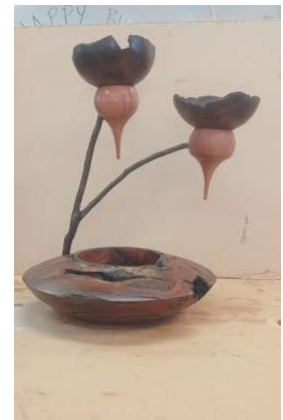
It seemed to take very little time for all teams to settle on their designs and get cracking on securing wood blanks, other materials needed, and their work areas. The weekend was then occupied with turning, sawing, carving, burning, texturing, colouring, polishing, and joining, with all pieces finally coming together by Sunday afternoon. A regular fixture of the event is the barbecue and shared meal on Saturday evening, with delicious salads and dessert catered by Julie Clemett – a fantastic, relaxing way to reinforce the easy camaraderie amongst participants.

Ben's photos taken throughout the weekend and of the finished pieces will give you a good feel for the action and outcome. I'm already looking forward to next year and hope to see you there.

AFTERWORD

Don Morgan, a long-time Club member, partner of Dee, our Vice President, and an enthusiastic participant in Collaboration over the years, sadly passed away just prior to this year's event. I, and others

who've had the pleasure of being partnered with Don remember him as a keen collaborator, bringing his own flair and contributing ideas, but also willing to try new things and "go with the flow". It was quite fitting in a way that the service to celebrate Don's life was held on the Saturday of the event. A contingent of us took time out to attend the service and pay our respects to Don and Dee, returning to the workshop afterwards to resume making shavings. I can't think of a better tribute to a great club mate.



Renewal of membership

Christchurch Woodturners' Association

Renewal of your Club membership is due before the end of March. Acknowledging the sharp increase in general cost of living over the past few years, your Committee has chosen not to increase fees for the new subscription year, which remain at \$50 per annum. We would really appreciate your prompt payment.

Christchurch Woodturners' Association is a registered charity, which means that any donation over and above the membership fee can be claim for a tax rebate. So, if you want to give over and above the membership fee, then we will send you a receipt for the donation so you can use this with your tax return.

Your membership amount, and any donation you may choose to make can be paid using one of the payment options listed below. An early renewal will simply add an additional 12 months to your existing expiry date. You will not lose any time off your existing membership. The membership period runs from 1 April to 31 March each year.

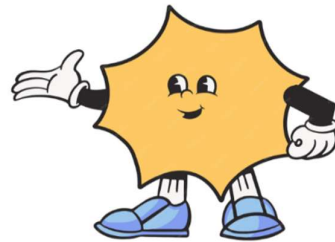
Christchurch Woodturners' Association has a great year planned for you. Remember, the workshop is open every Thursday 12.00 – 2.00pm and 7.00 – 9.00pm. There are classes on the first three Saturdays, and on Wednesdays we have Small Turning, Embellishments, and Club Nights. Check the e-newsletter for details.

If you have changed any of your contact details, please contact Peter Clemett on membership@woodturning.nz. If you have any questions or want to offer wood, tools, services, etc., then please email Even Gow on secretary@woodturning.nz.

January Club Meeting – Show table...

Peoples Choice this month...

- 1st** Kyle B - ring box
- 2nd** Kapila - off-centre bowl
- 3rd** Andrew B - enclosed hollow form





Are you a trained First Aider and do you attend the workshop or club activities?

We are wanting to make a list of all certified first aiders (and their Certificate expiry date) so that we are aware of the expertise we have at the workshop sessions should if there be an incident.

Can you please email Nigel as Chairperson

Chairman@woodturning.nz, letting him know:

- your full name
- What first aid certificate you hold
- the expiry date of the certificate

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.



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.

NATIONAL WOOD EXPO



Papatoetoe Cosmopolitan Club
53 Rangitoto Road, Papatoetoe
Saturday 02 May 8.45am - 5.00pm
6.15pm - Gala Dinner
Sunday 03 May 9.00am - 2.45pm



Andi Wolfe
USA (2 Demos)

Live Woodturning Demonstrations:
including: morning tea and lunch
both days and afternoon tea (Sat only)

Weekend: Just \$120 with Early Bird
Special (01-31 March) for NAW
Members



Emiliano Achaval
Hawaii (2 Demos)

Gala Dinner just \$50

Non NAW Members very welcome -
extra \$50

FREE ENTRY to extensive trade hall
featuring: Carbatec, Timberly,
Treeworkx Sandpapers & Woodgrain NZ



Troy Grimwood



Robbie Graham



Rene Baxalle

PLUS SOMETHING NEW - We are
offering workshops on Monday 4th
and Tuesday 5th and if you come to
the whole weekend you can apply
for a space in either Emiliano or
Andi's workshop its just \$135



**REGISTRATIONS OPEN 01 MARCH
FOR YOUR EARLY BIRD SPECIAL**

Visit naw.org.nz and register online

Proudly
sponsored by



Christchurch Woodturners Association Contact Details

Patron: Soren Berger
Life Member: Noel Graham

Committee

Chairman:	Nigel Elson	021 186 2768	Chairman@woodturning.nz
Vice Chairman:	Dee Morgan	022 354 1671	vice-chairman@woodturning.nz
Treasurer:	Bill Parsons	03 351 5647	treasurer@woodturning.nz
Secretary:	Evan Gow	021 033 8065	secretary@woodturning.nz
Membership:	Peter Clemett	03 342 242	membership@woodturning.nz
Newsletter:	Tina von Pein	027 201 1000	newsletter@woodturning.nz
Webmaster:	Paul Blackburn	022 600 3762	webmaster@woodturning.nz
NAW Course:	Noel Graham	027 240 8112	tutor@woodturning.nz
Members:	Mike Ginty	022 164 3322	
	Andrew Biggs	021 342 438	
	Abraham Faid	022 038 9919	
	David Feind	027 545 5787	

Please note the change in the Committee email addresses and update your email contacts

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.

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



Copyright (C) 2026 Christchurch Woodturners Assoc. All rights reserved.
You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:
Christchurch Woodturners Assoc 18 Creese Place Redwood Christchurch, Canterbury 8051
New Zealand