

WOODTURNERS
SOCIETY
OF QUEENSLAND INC.

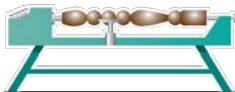
TurningTalk

Vol. 40 January 2026



Eccentric turning by Len Mengel.

Happy New Year!!!



Editor's Note

By Joyce Arnold

Happy New Year and welcome back to The Woodturner's Society of Queensland. Here is our first edition for 2026. Thank you to the contributors who have produced these articles in the middle of all the celebrations and family time. I would like to extend our thoughts and care towards the victims of the Bondi Beach massacre and reinforce that this club is an inclusive club united by our common interests.

Happy reading and if you have items for future editions, please send them to me at

drjoycearnold6120a@gmail.com

phone 04 66650 048.

President's Report

by Mike Dunne

I trust that everyone enjoyed a safe and merry Christmas with family and friends. The club reopen on January 6th, and we are looking forward to having a great year ahead. Over the coming year, the Committee will continue to focus on developing new initiatives to both benefit existing members and attract new members to WSQ.

Acknowledgement and Thanks

Reg Weber and Bob Kennedy have stood down from the Committee. On behalf of the Club, I would like to sincerely acknowledge and thank Reg Weber and Bob Kennedy for their dedication, commitment, and outstanding contributions over many years of service. Their time, effort, and leadership have played an important role in the ongoing success of the Club, and they leave a legacy that is greatly appreciated by members past and present.

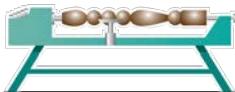
Their commitment, reliability, and positive attitude have set a strong example for others and have helped ensure that our activities and initiatives ran smoothly and successfully. I am truly grateful for the effort, energy, and care that Reg and Bob have consistently shown in supporting both the Club and its members.

Their contributions have not gone unnoticed; they are deeply valued and very well deserved. Thank you once again for your service, teamwork, and dedication. I look forward to seeing you remain actively involved with the Club.

Competition 2026

We are in the process of finalizing the 2026 competition schedule. The complete schedule and competition entry forms are currently under review, and further details will be communicated in due course.

Until next month.



Treasurer's Report

By Richard Watkins

Hope you all had a merry Christmas, happy New Year, and a restful break. A summary of the key results for November was presented at the December Management Committee meeting. The regular monthly financial reports were supplemented with reports through to December 7 to properly include the Mt Coo-tha exhibition.

Major sources of income for November were: November exhibition, Shop sales, Workshop fees and Membership fees.

Major expenses for November were: Shop purchases, November exhibition, Supplies and materials and

Payments for members sales (in first week of December)

The Mt Coo-tha weekend was held 28 th to 30 th November, resulting in commission sales and payments to members of \$15,439. Total income for November Exhibition was \$5,294 (commissions sales are not included in the figure), and total expenses at \$1,315, so a profit of \$3,979.

At the end of 7 December, the Business Cheque and EBA account balances were \$26,768 and \$1,742 respectively, total \$28,509.

The sausage sizzle on Saturday, December 6 th had sales of \$2,755 and profit of \$2,238. Many thanks to Australian Country Choice for donating the sausages again. We greatly appreciate ACC's support with this important fund raiser. The next sausage sizzle is Saturday, January 24 th, 2026.

The annual financial report will be prepared in January, then the annual audit will be initiated.

Membership Report

by Therese Richards

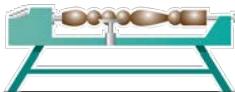
The following are the members who have birthdays in December

- Alex Suppini
- Brian Creese
- Rosie Thornton
- Jeanette Donaldson
- Brian Underwood
- Christopher Barnes
- Wayne Francis
- Alwyn Clark
- Carla Caneris
- Mike Scott
- Uwe Koinzak
- Martin Payne
- Ian Smerdon
- Chris Smith
- Alexander du Plessis
- Brooke Paul
- Clayton O'Brien
- Lyndon Sanderson

and January

- Joy Loxton
- Sue Owens
- Wendy Hillhecker
- Yvo Keulemans
- Liz du Plessis
- Geoff Osbaldstone
- Ian McKenzie
- Grace Sung
- Rod Iffinger
- Barry Wilson
- Geoff Holbeck.

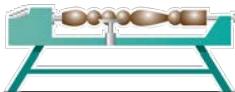




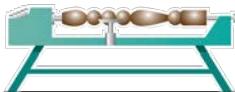
Convenors' Roster

Mike Mason- Convenor

Week #	Date	Session	Time	Session description	Convenor	Convenor
1	6/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Open Workshop	John Donaldson	Brian Creese
	6/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Downstairs Workshop/Toy group	Barry Wilson	Reg Weber
	6/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Library	Mike Mason	Peter Wyer
	6/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Shop	Don McMillan	-
	6/01/2026	Tuesday Arvo	1pm Till 4pm	Open Workshop	Alan Short	-
	6/01/2026	Tuesday Arvo	10.30am Till 2.30pm	Pyrography Group	Joyce Arnold	-
	6/01/2026	Tuesday Arvo	1pm Till 4pm	Box Making	Harold Wiltshire	Reg Weber
	6/01/2026	Tuesday Evening	6pm Till 9pm	Open Workshop	Mick Phythian	Dan Woodward
	6/01/2026	Tuesday Evening	6pm Till 9pm	Pyrography	Dan Woodward	-
	9/01/2026	Friday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Open Workshop	John Reed	Don Randall
	9/01/2026	Friday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Carving Group	Keith Greenland	-
	10/01/2026	Saturday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Open Workshop	Paul Machin-Everill	-
2	12/01/2026	Monday Arvo	2pm Till 5pm	Training program	Paul Machin-Everill	-
	12/01/2026	Monday Evening	6pm Till 9pm	Training program	Paul Machin-Everill	-



13/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Open Workshop	Alwyn Clark	John Carney	
13/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Downstairs Workshop/Toy group	Barry Wilson	Reg Weber	
13/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Library	Mike Mason	Peter Wyer	
13/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Shop	Don McMillan	-	
13/01/2026	Tuesday Arvo	1pm Till 4pm	Open Workshop	Don Randall	Clayton O'Brien	
13/01/2026	Tuesday Arvo	10.30am Till 2.30pm	Pyrography Group	Joyce Arnold	-	
13/01/2026	Tuesday Arvo	1pm Till 4pm	Box Making	Harold Wiltshire	Reg Weber	
13/01/2026	Tuesday Evening	6pm Till 9pm	Open Workshop	Mick Phythian	Dan Woodward	
13/01/2026	Tuesday Evening	6pm Till 9pm	Pyrography	Dan Woodward	-	
16/01/2026	Friday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Open Workshop	Keith Greenland	John Carney	
16/01/2026	Friday Morning	8am Till 3pm	Toy Group	Barry Wilson	Peter Churchward	
16/01/2026	Friday Arvo	1pm Till 4pm	Open Workshop	Don Randall	*Must Pre-book*	
17/01/2026	Saturday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Open Workshop	Paul Machin-Everill	-	
3	19/01/2026	Monday Arvo	2pm Till 5pm	Training program	Mick Phythian	-
	19/01/2026	Monday Evening	6pm Till 9pm	Training program	Mick Phythian	-
	20/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Open Workshop	Rob McKee	John Donaldson



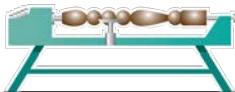
20/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Downstairs Workshop/Toy group	Barry Wilson	Reg Weber
20/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Library	Mike Mason	Peter Wyer
20/01/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Shop	Don McMillan	-
20/01/2026	Tuesday Arvo	1pm Till 4pm	Open Workshop	Rob McKee	John Dash
20/01/2026	Tuesday Arvo	10.30am Till 2.30pm	Pyrography Group	Joyce Arnold	-
20/01/2026	Tuesday Arvo	1pm Till 4pm	Box Making	Harold Wiltshire	Reg Weber
20/01/2026	Tuesday Evening	6pm Till 9pm	Open Workshop	Rob McKee	Brian Creese
23/01/2026	Friday Morning	8am Till 12pm	Open Workshop		

Date Claimers

Binny Willis.

Demonstrations and Show & Tell Forums All members must sign in and pay the \$5 entry fee. Starts at 9 am.

Date	Title	Description
Saturday February	“Legs on bums” - Dan Woodward	You might well ask what this is all about! Come along and see what Dan can do to the ‘bottoms’ of bowls.
Saturday 21st February	Show and Tell	There must be lots of things that you have done over the break, or that you have done with the ‘bottom’ of bowls, that you could bring along and talk about over a cuppa and a bikkie with your fellow Members.



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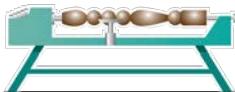
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Health and Safety Report

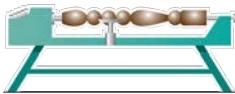
by David Williams

Recently on a few occasions there has been some timber brought in and machined in our workshop. This timber has given off dust/fumes that have caused irritants to some of our members breathing it in and has created distress for them. The management committee has decided and now request that these timbers being machined/turned that cause issues be no longer allowed in the workshop. We have to be considerate to all our members. Please turn these items in your own workshops but not in a place where there are many people who have all sorts of allergies. Thank you.

There are a couple of face shields that belong to WSQ in the workshop. They are not in a very good state due to turners managing to put too much finishes or

super glue which has not fully cured on the job. This then sprays up all over the shields not to mention your clothes as well. The club has to continue to renew these. Also the thought of the sweat bands on these soaked in other people's bodily fluids is just "icky!!" We would encourage all members to supply and be responsible for their own shields. Please do not use those silly bubble shields as they do not pass Australian standards. Please only use Australian Standards approved safety shields. They are readily available in our store at very competitive rates.

Always remember when you are starting a job or new procedure ask yourself "Am I doing this safely?" If unsure, ask a Convenor. Also please remember to blow out your lathe chucks before returning to the Tool/Store Room.



Show and Tell forum report

by Joyce Arnold

Our final forum in 2025 was well attended as this is a more popular event at WSQ, a great place to share achievements, learn some new ideas and get help from our friends. There was a theme as most items reflected the eccentric turning demonstration by Len Mengels showing that many members took advantage of the techniques, and many members had been doing this for many years.

Ron Brown shows some of the bells he has been making.



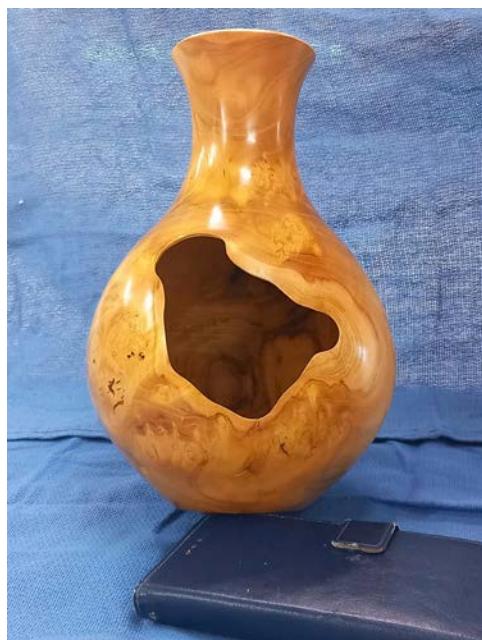
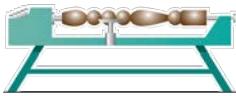
Rob McGregor showed the eccentric turning and the self made chick he used which was an impressive piece of engineering.



Peter Wyer showed these lovely pieces.



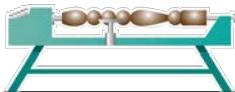
He showed us one made by Michel Blankenship who is blind. He demonstrated these bells at Turnfest this year.



Pyrography Report

By Joyce Arnold

Welcome to 2026. We will kick off the year with an Introductory pyrography class, free to members, on 28th February 9 am to 12 noon. As we have a limited number of pyrography machines, you will need to register and even if you can bring your own machine, register so we will have enough materials to supply. Contact secretaty@wsqld.org.au.



Carving Report

by Keith Greenland

2026 is looking very promising for our carving group. We have embarked on several types of carving projects, each as individual as our group members. Today's woodcarver is as likely to be found behind a computer screen as they are behind a workbench.

While many of our group has been focusing on small project 3D carving, there will be opportunities to combine wood turning and carving in the new year. By incorporating carving into your turning, we can add texture, movement and organic forms to perfectly symmetrical objects.

The most critical part of combining these crafts is knowing when to stop the lathe and pick up the carving knife or gouge.

- Leave it Thick: If you plan to do deep relief carving, you must leave the walls of your bowl or spindle thicker than usual.
- Make it Thin: A thin-walled turning won't provide the "meat" required for structural carving. However, it does lend itself to piercing in either random or regular patterns.
- Keep the Tenon: Do not remove the base or tenon of your piece until the carving is finished. Keeping the piece mountable allows you to put it back on the lathe for final sanding or to use the lathe's indexing head as a steadyng vice.

There are several ways to transition from a smooth turned surface to a carved masterpiece:

A. Surface Texturing

The simplest way to start is by adding texture to a turned rim or the outside of a bowl.

- V-Tool Accents: Use a small V-parting tool to create "fluting" or radial lines that flow from the center of a bowl out to the rim.

- Dimpling: Using a small ball-nose burr or a small gouge, you can create a "hammered" effect that plays beautifully with light and shadow.

B. Pierced Carving

This involves carving all the way through the wood.

- Turn a thin-walled vessel and then use a high-speed rotary tool to carve lace-like patterns. This is particularly effective on "white" woods like Jacaranda, which can then be dyed or scorched for contrast.

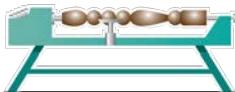
C. Breaking the Rim

Instead of a flat, circular rim, use a carving gouge to create a "scalloped" or undulating edge. This mimics organic forms like flower petals or waves and immediately makes the piece look less "machine-made."

You don't need a full professional carving set to start, but a small number of high quality tools bridge the gap between the two crafts



A lidded box I did recently. The lid was created with off centre turning then carved and pierced for effect. The Chinese character was done with stringing and is the character for "double happiness" often displayed in marriages and other celebrations.



Club Reports

by John Carney

Chuck & Lathe Maintenance

Thursday 4 th December 2025 saw an excellent turnout of members to assist in the biannual chuck and lathe maintenance. Following a quick run-through of the servicing procedure, members in groups of three with service guidelines in hand, serviced all our lathes. We took a well-earned break for smoko and good conversations. Back in the workshop with all the clubs' chucks on the table. Members who had not serviced a chuck before were given a demo on the process and once again diligently formed groups to service all our chucks.

There were a couple issues identified that needed further work. The Stubby lathe needs a drive belt replacement which will be done when we start back. The chucks that needed extra work have been finished and are back in place. Following some donations from earlier in the year two 100 chucks have been fitted with pen jaws and are now available to WSQ members to use in workshops. Personally, I had concerns as it was my first foray without the guidance of Reg Weber. I was very pleased to see such a good turnout of members, and I sincerely thank each and everyone of you.

Bunnings BBQ Captains

There will be an information evening for BBQ captains at Bunnings Mt Gravatt on Friday 9 th January 2026 5.00 pm -6.00 pm. Following on from having had to hand back a BBQ for Boxing Day let us make the best of this opportunity. WSQ needs 2 captains per BBQ, one for the morning and one for the afternoon.

All the items required for each BBQ will be put in place by the clubs Providore. Captains will be responsible for liaising with the other volunteers to arrange the transport of equipment to Bunnings and set up; follow the guidelines set by Bunnings throughout the day; arrange with the afternoon volunteers to clean, pack up and return items to the club premises. Please respond to Mike Dunne to confirm your availability to captain and attend.

Turning Pens with WSQ

Apologies for the earlier announcement but the evenings clash with other scheduled activities. Wednesday mornings in February 2026 the 4 th , 11 th and 18 th commencing at 8.30am to 12 ish pm. We have two confirmed starters currently with room for 4 more financial members who have lathe accreditation. Course costs are \$75.00 plus workshop fees. You will be guided by the very capable Don McMillan completing 2 pens. All materials and a set of printed notes are included in the course. Please confirm your interest or attendance with John Carney via email to jscarney83@gmail.com

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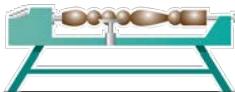
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Demonstration Report

by Richard Watkins

Eccentric Turning – Len Mengel



So, let's clear up what we mean by "eccentric" right from the start. To be clear, we are not talking about woodturners being odd or peculiar, rather we are talking in the geometrical sense of "not having the same centre; not concentric" (Dictionary.com). How is this possible on a lathe which only turns around the one axis?" I hear you ask? Well, Len Mengel did a great job of showing us just that!

The session started with the Secretary acknowledging Len's 26 year membership of WSQ and handing him his 25 year membership badge (some things take a while). Len then showed us various chucks which do all sorts of things I didn't know chucks could do, including his first eccentric chuck, which a friend made for him (I wish!) then a French Escoulen chuck, Vicmarc version, and a Vermec radial movement chuck.

Having amazed us with chuck complexity (and price), Len then proceeded to show us how to do eccentric turning, ... using shark jaws... because most people have them! (thanks Len). Starting with a block of wood about the size dad used to buy for firewood, Len mounted it with a steb drive and a live centre and proceeded with great alacrity to transform it into a cylinder, then a cylinder with a ball on the end, plus a neck to allow movement of the piece when mounted in the shark jaws. Using a 12mm bowl gouge, as you do. (I'm thinking of selling my spindle roughing gouges now). Len uses the bowl gouger because of the overhang between tool rest and the work piece. The piece was then mounted in the shark jaws, offset to showcase the colour in the wood, and the end turned into a goblet, again with great alacrity. Note to finish sanding before shifting the axis of rotation. Len then proceeded to turn the goblet stem in three other axes, making it look as easy as only someone who has been doing this for over 20 years could.

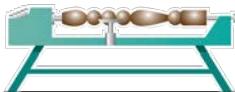
Having amazed us all with his four-axis goblet, there was still time to spare (did I mention the great alacrity with which Len worked?) so he then showed us how to turn a porcupine. This was comparatively simple, using only one axis and an off-centre mount with a steb drive. Overall, an awe-inspiring demonstration and many thanks to Len for sharing some of his many years of experience with us.

Technical Links ('cos I was curious):

Woodworking Supplies S/E QLD - Escoulen Eccentric

Chuck #3

Multi Centre Chuck V.21



**Woodturners Society of Queensland Incorporated
Management Committee**

President: Mike Dunne 0410 400 954
President@wsqld.org.au

Vice President: Alwyn Clark 0414 622 715
membership@wsqld.org.au

Secretary: Binny Willis 0438 091 053
secretary@wsqld.org.au

Treasurer: Richard Watkins 0418735909
treasurer@wsqld.org.au

Assistant Treasurer Jan Chapman ,0403777432

Membership: Therese Richards 0437516954
membership@wsqld.org.au

Members Barry Wilson 0409 260 786
Therese Richards 0437516954
David Williams 0411 126 215
John Donaldson 0407 022 403
Katherine Ogg 0431 193 987
Neil Howard 0409 980 057
Jan Chapman 0403777432,

Other Positions

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Web Coordinator: Murray Ralph 0427 115 359
Librarian: Mike Mason 0431 825 571
Assistant Librarian Peter Wyer 0402 688 948
Storekeeper: Don McMillan 0439 704 622
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