

WOODTURNERS
SOCIETY
OF QUEENSLAND INC.

TurningTalk

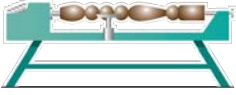
Vol. 40 May 2026

Wood&Craft SHOWCASE 2026 29-31 May | FREE ENTRY Belmont Shooting Complex



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President's Report

Member Database Upgrade: Moving to Tidy HQ

The Woodturners Society of Queensland is in the process of upgrading its member database from our current Microsoft Access database to a new cloud-based system called Tidy HQ in early May 2026. Our existing database has supported the Society for many years, but it is now time to move to a more modern system that is easier to maintain, more secure, and better suited to the way the Society operates today. Tidy HQ is designed to help clubs and member-based organisations manage information such as member records, renewals, communications, event details and general administration in one central place. We have spoken with other organisations that have moved to the platform and heard firsthand the benefit of undertaking this work.

Why are we making this change?

In the short term, this upgrade will help us clean up and organise our member information, reduce reliance on older systems, and make it easier for volunteers to access the information they need to support members.

Over time, the new system will help the Society improve how we manage membership records, send communications, track renewals, support events and maintain accurate information. It will also reduce the risk of important Society information being stored in one outdated system that is difficult to update or support. This is an important step toward making our administration more reliable and sustainable for the future.

What are the risks during the transition?

As with any system change, moving information from one database to another can take time and may not be perfect straight away. We are working carefully through the process, but there may be some temporary issues while records are transferred, checked and updated. The main risks are that some information may need to be corrected, some processes may take a little longer than usual, and some communications may not work exactly as expected while the new system is settling in.

What issues might members notice?

- During the transition, members may experience or notice things such as:
- Receiving a duplicate email or notice
- Receiving an email with outdated or incorrect details
- A delay in membership information being updated
- A renewal notice that needs to be checked or corrected
- Contact details, membership status or other information needing confirmation
- Small changes in the way Society emails or notices look
- Volunteers needing a little extra time to respond to database-related questions

These issues are expected with a system upgrade of this kind and do not mean anything has gone seriously wrong. They simply reflect the work involved in moving from an older database to a new system.

How can members help?

We appreciate your patience while this change is underway. If you notice anything that does not look right, please let us know so we can check and correct it. This is also an opportunity to update your details with the club if you have not done so in a while. This feedback will be very helpful as we make sure the new system is accurate and working well for members.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we make this important improvement to the way the club manages its information.

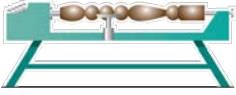
Belmont Showcase

Don McMillan has placed the sheets on the notice board for members to note their interest in tables at Belmont. The final date to request table/s will be May 5th . A reminder that we will also be calling for volunteers to assist with the café, parking, raffle, and sales. Sheets are on the notice board for members with tables to register their availability over the weekend, or you can advise Don when submitting your table request.

If you have booked tables, it is expected that you will contribute some time to assist as a volunteer over the weekend. Flyers are available for members to distribute to family and friends or for a mailbox drop for those feeling energetic.

Until next month,

Mike Dunne
President



Editor's Note

By Joyce Arnold

In this May 2026 Turning Talk you will find all the information for the month of calendar activities. You will find reports from the Committee who all work hard to keep your Club running smoothly. This includes the large amount of work that goes into the Belmont Showcase this month. It is always good to display our skills to the public as well as a weekend of catching up with each other. Don't forget to put in your order for a table in time and volunteer for one of the many jobs available.

We also thank John Linek, member number 3, for his donations to the club. We wish him well for his future. Terry Martin gives us a glimpse of his talk this month on a famed French woodturner and introduces us to his visitor Randy Pi, a committed collector of wood art.

Happy reading and if you have items for future editions, please send them to me at drjoycearnold6120a@gmail.com phone 04 66650 048.

Secretary's Report

by Binny Willis

Management Meeting 11th April, 2026

Meeting opened at 7.30am

Present: Mike Dunne, Alwyn Clark, Binny Willis, Richard Watkins, Katherine Ogg, David Williams, John Donaldson, Therese Richards, Barry Wilson, Neil Howard, Jan Chapman

1. Minutes

1.1 The Minutes of the March meeting, as presented, were accepted.

1.2 The Minutes of the AGM held on 24/03/26 were accepted into the record.

2. Correspondence The Correspondence List was accepted

3. Finance

3.1 The Finance Report for March was presented and accepted

3.2 The Treasurer reported that there is to be an upgrade of QuickBooks to link to the BoQ accounts.

4. Membership

4.1 The Membership Report was accepted noting that Membership stands at 260.

4.2 The Applications for Membership from Ben Williams and Joseph Roth were ratified.

5. Workplace Health & Safety

5.1 No Accident/Injury Reports were received

5.2 A Saturday morning Toy Workshop was discussed and possible Convenors canvassed

5.3 A Fire Drill to be scheduled across all Workshops in May

6. Building & Grounds

6.1 John Donaldson reported on the issues around the dust filters in Jets

6.2 Pest Inspection and treatment is due and will be organised

7. Tools & Equipment

7.1 Chuck & Lathe maintenance is scheduled for 3 rd June

7.2 The tailstock on the Stubby has been repaired again

7.3 The new Laguna bandsaw has been installed and is operational as is the new

Scrollsaw

7.4 The Powermatic bandsaw needs refurbishment

8. Events & Activities

8.1 2026 Competition Information sent to all Members

8.2 Belmont organization is well in hand

8.3 The Joe Kelly Parkinson's Fun Walk scheduled for 19 th April. WSQ is a Bronze supporter.

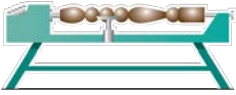
9. Governance

9.1 The Annual Return to Dept of Fair Trading will be posted on Monday

9.2 The Asset Register was discussed. Katherine Ogg is look into possibility of giving a

Member limited access to the Database for the purpose of maintaining the Register

Meeting closed at 9am



Treasurer's Report

By Richard Watkins

The financial report for March was presented at the April Management Committee meeting. At the end of March, we had \$32,791 in our two operating accounts, compared to \$37,209 at the end of February and \$30,810 at the end of January.

Major sources of income for March were shop sales and workshop fees.

Major expenses for March were plant and equipment, including Laguna bandsaw and Carbatec scroll saw; Association Liability Insurance; and charity donations (The Big Walk and the Ambulance as thanks for the CPR training).

There was no sausage sizzle in March, nor for April. Next sausage sizzle is Mother's Day, 10 th May.

Membership Report

by Therese Richards

We have / had a few members away touring, internationally, as well as at home. We wish them all safe travels, I feel life is meant for good friends and great adventures and we delight in hearing all about these new experiences, which add life to our days.

An interesting month hearing about members' competition ideas and I've appreciated the tips given to us newbies to improve our entries for the comp. Thanks very much.

Please make welcome our new members who joined in March / April:

- Joseph Roth
- Maree Jarrett
- Liane Burns
- Husnain Ali

Happy Birthday to our members for May

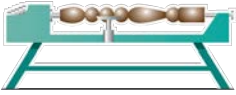
- Mike Dunne
- Paul McIlroy
- Charlotte Fung
- David Groves
- Nadia Dean
- Philip Oostenbroek
- Peter Loth
- John Macrae
- Bhimal Ramsing
- Mark Benson
- Daniel McGilp
- Bruce Wilson
- Michael Watkin
- Cathy Garrett
- Therese Richards
- Steve Labruniy
- John Lindsay

WSQ Competition 2026

Have you got your entries ready for submission in the Woodturners Society QLD 2026 Competition?

All entries must be submitted by **24th June 2026** and physically delivered to WSQ Auditorium by **12.00 noon on Wednesday, 8th July**, clearly labelled with the entrant's name.

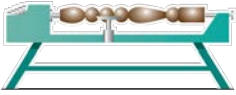
Enter via our website: <https://www.wsqld.org.au/competition-form-and-rules/> digitally or by downloading a printable entry form for submission with your items. GOOD LUCK!



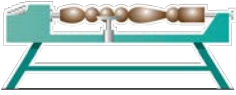
Convenors' Roster

Mike Mason- Convenor

Week #	Date	Session	Time	Session description	Convenor	Convenor
1	1/05/2026	Friday Morning	8am - 3pm	Toy Group	Barry Wilson	Peter Churchward
	1/05/2026	Friday Morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Neil Howard	-
	2/05/2026	Saturday Morning	8am - 12pm	Demonstration day	-	-
	5/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Alwyn Clark	John Donaldson
	5/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Downstairs Workshop/Toy group	Barry Wilson	Reg Weber
	5/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Library	Mike Mason	Pete Wyer
	5/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Shop	Don McMillan	-
	5/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	1pm - 4pm	Open Workshop	Brian Creese	Mike Mason
	5/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	10.30am - 2.30pm	Pyrography Group	Joyce Arnold	-
	5/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	1pm - 4pm	Box Making	Reg Weber	-
	5/05/2026	Tuesday Evening	6pm - 9pm	Open Workshop	Mick Phythian	Dan Woodward
	5/05/2026	Tuesday Evening	6pm - 9pm	Pyrography	Dan Woodward	-
	7/05/2026	Thursday morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Keith Greenland	-
2	8/05/2026	Friday Morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Neil Howard	-
	8/05/2026	Friday Morning	8am - 12pm	Carving Group	Keith Greenland	-
	9/05/2026	Saturday Morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Paul Machin-Everill	-
	11/05/2026	Monday Afternoon	2pm - 5pm	Training program	Paul Machin-Everill	-
	11/05/2026	Monday Evening	6pm - 9pm	Training program	Paul Machin-Everill	-
	12/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	John Donaldson	John Dash
	12/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Downstairs Workshop/Toy group	Barry Wilson	Reg Weber
	12/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Library	Mike Mason	Pete Wyer
	12/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Shop	Don McMillan	-
	12/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	1pm - 4pm	Open Workshop	John Reed	John Dash
	12/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	10.30am - 2.30pm	Pyrography Group	Joyce Arnold	-
	12/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	1pm - 4pm	Box Making	Reg Weber	-
	12/05/2026	Tuesday Evening	6pm - 9pm	Open Workshop	Mick Phythian	Dan Woodward
	12/05/2026	Tuesday Evening	6pm - 9pm	Pyrography	Dan Woodward	-
	14/05/2026	Thursday morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Keith Greenland	-



Week #	Date	Session	Time	Session description	Convenor	Convenor	
3	15/05/2026	Friday Morning	8am - 3pm	Toy Group	Barry Wilson	Peter Churchward	
	15/05/2026	Friday Morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Alwyn Clark	-	
	16/05/2026	Saturday Morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Brian Creese	-	
	18/05/2026	Monday Afternoon	2pm - 5pm	Training program	Paul Machin-Everill	-	
	18/05/2026	Monday Evening	6pm - 9pm	Training program	Paul Machin-Everill	-	
	19/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Alwyn Clark	John Reed	
	19/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Downstairs Workshop/Toy group	Barry Wilson	Reg Weber	
	19/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Library	Mike Mason	Pete Wyr	
	19/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Shop	Don McMillan	-	
	19/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	1am - 4pm	Open Workshop	Bob Kennedy	John Dash	
	19/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	10.30am - 2.30pm	Pyrography Group	Joyce Arnold	-	
	19/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	1pm - 4pm	Box Making	Reg Weber	-	
	19/05/2026	Tuesday Evening	6pm - 9pm	Open Workshop	Brian Creese	Mick Phythian	
	21/05/2026	Thursday morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Clayton O'Brien	Lucas Watts	
4	22/05/2026	Friday Morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Mike Mason	-	
	22/05/2026	Friday Morning	8am - 12pm	Carving Group	Keith Greenland	-	
	23/05/2026	Saturday Morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Paul Machin-Everill	-	
	25/05/2026	Monday Afternoon	2pm - 5pm	Training program	Mick Phythian	-	
	25/05/2026	Monday Evening	6pm - 9pm	Training program	Mick Phythian	-	
	26/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Rob McKee	Alwyn Clark	
	26/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Downstairs Workshop/Toy group	Barry Wilson	Reg Weber	
	26/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Library	Mike Mason	Pete Wyr	
	26/05/2026	Tuesday Morning	8am - 12pm	Shop	Don McMillan	-	
	26/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	1am - 4pm	Open Workshop	Rob McKee	John Dash	
	26/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	10.30am - 2.30pm	Pyrography Group	Joyce Arnold	-	
	26/05/2026	Tuesday Afternoon	1pm - 4pm	Box Making	Reg Weber	-	
	26/05/2026	Tuesday Evening	6pm - 9pm	Open Workshop	Rob McKee	Brian Creese	
	28/05/2026	Thursday morning	8am - 12pm	Open Workshop	Clayton O'Brien	-	
5	29/05/2026	Belmont WoodCraft Show					
	30/05/2026	Belmont WoodCraft Show					



Date Claimers

Binny Willis.

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

Saturday 2nd May 2026 9am-12noon	A Morning with Jean-Francois Escoulen	Explore the intricate woodturning art of world famous Jean-Francois Escoulen through an audio-visual display prepared by the man himself and, with his permission, presented by his friend Terry Martin.
Saturday 16th May 2026	Show and Tell	Bring along your latest work or simply come along to see what others have been up to.
Saturday 6th June 9am-12noon	Bowl with undercut rim – Dan Woodward	Dan will demonstrate the techniques of using a hook scraper to get clean, controlled cuts while removing material and refining the shape of the undercut rim of a bowl. He will also speak about the sharpening technique that he uses on his hook scrapers and de-mystify this specialist but very handy tool.
Saturday 20th June	Show and Tell	Come and join in the discussion and see what your fellow Members have produced. Maybe you need some help with a project – this is the ideal forum to get some great advice on the tricky bits of woodturning and woodcraft.
Saturday 4th July	From Bowl Turning 101 to 201 - Rob McKee	This is a demo not to be missed by recent graduates of our Introductory Woodturning Courses and those who need some reminders about assessing the grain in a bowl blank to accentuate its features, choosing which side of a bowl blank should be the top and bottom, planning for a foot or recess and turning a balanced, pleasing curve on the outside and inside of the bowl. If time permits, Rob will focus on various turned embellishments that enhance the visual appeal of a bowl.
Saturday 18th July	Show and Tell	This will be a great opportunity to marvel at the entries in the 2026 Competition and maybe have a discussion with your fellow Members on some of the pieces. See if you can pick the winners in the various categories.

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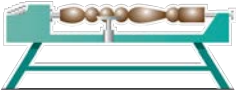
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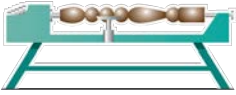
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Workshop Report

by John Carney

The First Lathe and Chuck Maintenance for 2026 will be held on Wednesday 3rd June commencing at 8.00 am. Members are encouraged to attend this volunteer effort in maintaining the club's equipment. It is also an opportunity to learn how to maintain your own equipment. Instruction will be offered in how to maintain both the lathes and Vicmarc chucks. A set of notes will be made available to those volunteers who assist in the session.

Pyrography Report

By Joyce Arnold

Thanks to John Linek for his donation of two pyrography machines which will be stored in the locked cabinet but available for use by all club members.

Library Report

By Mike Mason

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to John Linek and his family for their recent and generous donation of an extensive collection of woodturning and woodworking books and magazines.

This donation features invaluable books on design and techniques, including several authored by true 'Titans of the lathe' such as David Ellsworth, Mike Darlow, Dale Nish, and Stephen Hogbin, alongside our very own Terry Martin and John Linek himself. These books are a fantastic resource that will undoubtedly inspire and educate our members for many years to come.

Library Displays Report

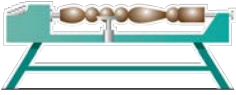
By Joyce Arnold

Due to the current shortage of petrol and price rises, Stage 2 in Australia's crisis management plan, we have suspended library displays. We prefer that the petrol is available for special needs and not to put our members in the position of paying for this now expensive commodity. Thanks to the team for collecting the items which will now be stored until the crisis is over. Libraries have been contacted and although sad at their loss, they fully understand the situation.



Exclusive Members only facebook group

A members only Facebook group serves as a virtual extension of the club, providing a space for members to share their projects, ask for advice, and stay connected even if they cannot frequently visit the club. This platform can also be used to announce events, share resources, conduct informal polls to gather member input on various initiatives and buy and sell timber/tools/equipment between members. You can join the members only group on facebook via this link: [Join WSQ FB Group](#) or scan the QR Code.



Presentation on the woodturning life of Jean-Francois Escoulen

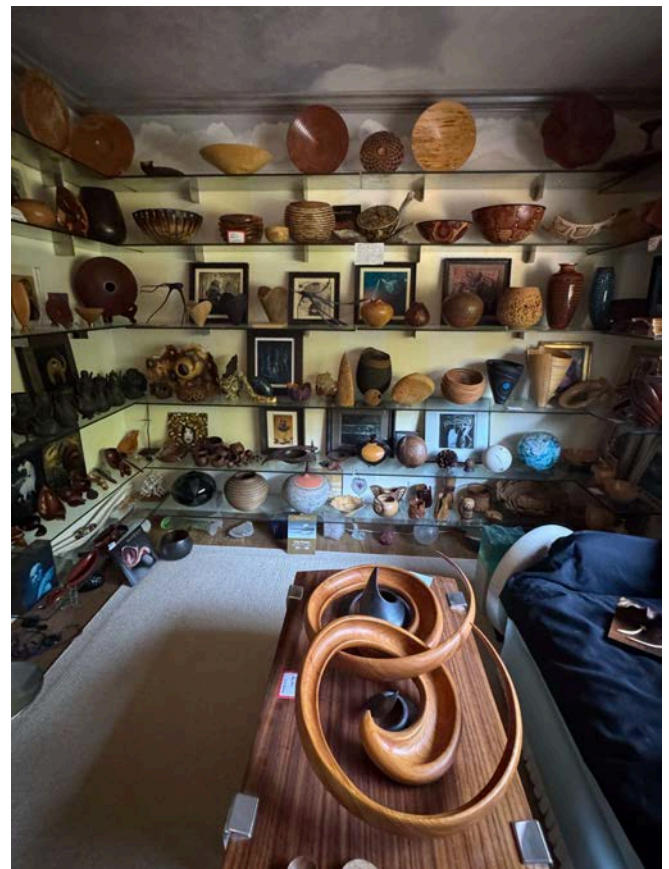
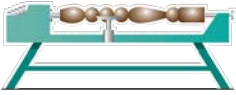
by Terry Martin



He sent me his PowerPoint and I was so taken with it that I asked if I could share it with our club members. Jean-Francois and I have been close friends for 32 years and he happily agreed. I encourage members to come and see his presentation. There are photographs of the most amazing old woodturning workshops and images from the years when he changed woodturning in France forever. If you are interested in his work, in the history of turning, or just a good woodturning story, please come. I will be adding some photos and insights that are not in his PowerPoint, which I think will make it even more interesting.



The presentation at the WTSQ clubhouse is on Saturday 2nd of May. Jean-Francois recently gave a PowerPoint presentation on his life as woodturner to members of the French Association for the Turning of Art in Wood. He began his presentation with the words, "My name is Jean-Francois and I'm a woodturner." He then proceeded to take the audience on a journey through his life that began as a 15-year-old who trained as a traditional turner under his father and ended up with him being one of the most respected woodturners in the world. This year he is being given a Lifetime Achievement Award by the American Association of Woodturners.

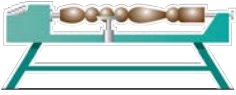


Upcoming Club visit

by Terry Martin

Randy Pi is the most significant collector of turned wood art in the world, and he is coming to stay with Terry Martin from the 3rd of May. He has been collecting for many years, and his home is like a museum of everything that has ever happened in the field. He not only buys new work, but he very selectively purchases work from earlier collectors who are selling their collections, or from deceased estates. His collection is so huge and so diverse it is almost impossible to describe its significance.

For example, he has the best collection of David Ellsworth's work in the world, so he is very excited to see David Ellsworth's Man and the Forest piece that is in our library that David made during a demo for our club in the 1980s. It will be a rare opportunity to meet one of the collectors who many members will have heard of but never thought they would meet. Randy will be at the club on Tuesday morning, the 5th of May and will be happy to answer questions about his passion.



Woodturners Society of Queensland Incorporated Management Committee

- President:** Mike Dunne 0410 400 954
President@wsqld.org.au
- Vice President:** Alwyn Clark 0414 622 715
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- Secretary:** Binny Willis 0438 091 053
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- Treasurer:** Richard Watkins 0418735909
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- Assistant Treasurer** Jan Chapman ,0403777432
- Membership:** Therese Richards 0437516954
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- 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

- Newsletter Editor: Joyce Arnold 0466 650 048
 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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