



## NORTHERN WOODTURNERS CLUB INC. NEWSLETTER

		<u>Committee</u>		
<u>President</u>	?	<u>Members</u>	<u>Kitchen Manager</u>	Antonio Simonetti
<u>Vice Pres.</u>	?	?	<u>Hall/Equip. Main.</u>	Lionel Hart
<u>Secretary</u>	Gordon Watt	Beryl Watling		Mario Fenech
<u>Treasurer</u>	Peter Lucas	Lionel Hart	<u>OH &amp; S Officers</u>	Gordon Watt
		Ian Beckett		Lionel Hart
<u>Newsletter Editor</u>		Beryl Watling	Please address all correspondence to	
<u>Librarian</u>		?	Secretary	
			<a href="mailto:secretary@northernwoodturners.org.au">secretary@northernwoodturners.org.au</a>	
<u>Ass't Treasurer</u>		<u>Ian Beckett</u>		
<u>Ass't Secretary</u>		Kath Clifford		
<u>Ass't Librarian</u>		?		

Items of interest are welcome for the newsletter.

The Story of another hobby you enjoy.

Items for sale.

Photo and article about a project you have made.

Your Own Story.

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Club Meeting to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2024 at 9:00 AM

The monthly project is a Lidded Pin Cushion  
and other items to show the other members.

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*It's Official – Our Website is Live.*

Thanks to the hard work of Ian Beckett, we now have our own domain name, set email addresses and stage 1 of our new website.

Check it out now (the more views the higher we move up on Google searches).

<https://northernwoodturners.org.au> is the website.

[info@northernwoodturners.org.au](mailto:info@northernwoodturners.org.au) is the email for information on the club.

[secretary@northernwoodturners.org.au](mailto:secretary@northernwoodturners.org.au) is the email for our secretary and

[treasurer@northernwoodturners.org.au](mailto:treasurer@northernwoodturners.org.au) is the email for our treasurer.

## *Club Hall Clean - up*

We had a great start to a long needed cleanup after our last general meeting in March. This was stimulated by a failure to keep an exit clear after a council inspection. That resulted in some re-arranging of furniture and the disposal of 31 chairs which were surplus to our needs, sold for \$250 on Marketplace.

These chairs were the main reason to contemplate hiring a skip. However, with them now gone we have decided to postpone the hiring of a skip until we have done further work to assess what we have in all our cupboards, shelves, cabinets etc. We have over thirty years of materials, wood, tools, equipment etc which we may not need any more. Also, our new representative from Scouts Australia, Ross Millward, has been a little more proactive than the previous rep. and may be removing some old Scouts Australia bits and pieces we inherited when we took over the Scout Hall. I.e. stuff cluttering our minimal storage areas.

Cath and Beryl are looking into the office and having a bit of a clean-up in there, eg library. This may be used for morning tea

**++++If any members have a secret stash of stuff hiding in places in the hall or back rooms now would be a good time to remove them and take them home otherwise it may end up in hard rubbish, or sold off. The hall shouldn't be used for personal storage. ++++**

We will continue to review and collect stuff for disposal which will be stored in a central point. When we get enough to put into a mini skip, we will hire one at a later date.

Thanks everyone for the excellent progress so far but more work needs to be done.

Peter Lucas  
Treasurer

## *Hazardous Dust*



Dust of any wood can be detrimental to your health, if you are concerned about a timber go on the safe side.

**If you have allergic reactions or symptoms to various timbers, take precautions, also record it in your information sheet**

**Do not use Treated Pine, Craftwood or Spalted timber on the lathes. They are banned from the workshop.**

The workshop has overhead dust filters that are regularly serviced by cleaning or replacing the filters...

The dust extractor bags should be checked every session.



## Personal Safety

- Members are responsible for ensuring their own safety and providing personal items of protection. Eye protection, Mask and hearing. Do not use the machines if you are tired or unwell...
- Be aware certain medication may make you drowsy.
- Guards are provided to protect users; they must always be used when machines are operated.
- Push sticks must be used with the saws to keep members fingers clear.
- When changing blades or removing machine guards for any reason the power must be turned off and the power cord removed.

## Projects



Peter Fisher has made these hollow forms from Pine and finished them with Beeswax.



Peter Lucas has made this 'Trinity' Celtic Pen set using Red Mallee Burl and Resin. The finish is CA glue.



Ian Beckett has made these items. The pepper grinder is Pear and finished with Nitrocellulose lacquer. The off centre Salt and Pepper shakers are assorted woods and finished with Nitro. The bud vases are Pear and Birch and finished with Shellawax.



Lionel Hart has finished these pieces for John Wheeler.



Lionel has also made this large fruit bowl from some sort of Ash and finished it with Nitrocellulose Lacquer.



Lionel Hart has made the 6 items above and on the left. The bud vases are Banksia Nuts and the bowl above is a tree root. No, it's not a case of Lionel working non stop just a delay in having a day with the right conditions for spraying Nitrocellulose Lacquer.



Bob Porter has made these 2 laminated bowls. He has finished them with Glow.

### *Black and Decker Workmate*

How many of us have a genuine Black & Decker workmate? I was repairing mine recently. I probably have had it about 35 years. I was looking on YouTube and Google. Some people collect them. One collector has recorded 34 different designs.

The inventor, Ron Hickman came up with the idea after a bad experience cutting timber on a piece of furniture that he damaged. He came up with the design in wood and steel. He tried to convince companies to market it under license. They were not interested.

The Stanley tool company told him the device would sell in dozens rather than hundreds. Other companies told him the design would not sell at a reasonable price. It has since sold 30 million units around the world. After these rejections he started selling them at trade shows and other venues himself.



In 1973 Black and Decker expressed an interest in the workmate and they went on sale the following year. Ron Hickman received a royalty of about 50 pence for each item sold.

Ron Hickman was born in South Africa and moved to England and worked as a music publisher.

From 1954 he worked for Ford at Dagenham, first as a clay modeler and later helped style the 105E Ford Anglia.

In the 1960's he became the director of Lotus engineering and designing the Lotus Europa, Lotus Élan and the Lotus plus 2 and part of the Lotus GT40 bid. He left Lotus Engineering in 1967. Lotus cars have appeared in James Bond movies.

researched from various sources



## *Calligraphy – Peter Lucas*

I have always dabbled in Calligraphy and did an Uncial course many years ago. I usually do 40-75 Christmas cards each year which is a great way to practice a certain script. When I retired in 2014, I stumbled across the Calligraphy Society of Victoria which I promptly joined (late 2014).

It was through that that I discovered pen turning. The Society was asked to demonstrate at the Melbourne Pen show (late 2015) where I was mesmerised watching a beautiful fountain pen made from jarrah burl. I bought it and said there and then I wanted to do that. I started that journey in early 2016 – nearly 3,700 pens later ...

Back to Calligraphy. At the Society I learnt many new scripts (Uncial, Fraktur, Foundation, Italic, Copperplate – the old cursive script) and then proceeded to learn about backgrounds, structure and my own personal flair. I was inspired by the style of certain professional calligraphers and put my spin on their styles. Like any new skill it requires many, many hours of practice, perfection is difficult – one slight slip however there are certain techniques the ancient monks used on the papyrus documents they worked on to help fix a problem – this became part of the character of the project.

I concentrated on a lot of war themed poems and bits and pieces and some of my own creations. There are some very talented people in the Society and one of the ladies ran some box making courses which came in very handy for my high end pens. I also did a course on Lindesfarne characters which incorporates complex animals and shapes etc. I decided to write my will in this style.

During the Pandemic years 2020 -2023 I decided to do something a little different to other pen turners and decided to incorporate my calligraphic skills with the box making to make themed sets of fountain pens. Some of those sets also used my book binding skills (maybe another article in that). Included in those sets were fountain pens depicting characters in the stories : King Arthur and the Knights of the Round table, The Six Wives of Henry VIII, Primal Rock (the ACDC collection), The James Bond Collection (each actor who played James Bond), The Piano men (Rick Wakeman, Billy Joel, Elton John and Brian Cadd), The Harry Potter set 'DouGlouChris' – the biggest project I've done, The Da Vinci code, The Commemorative Queen Elizabeth II set (5 pens with accents of her favourite colours) and The Swords of King Arthur. Coming up Queen (the Band) and the Australian Bushranger series. These were very time consuming and the Calligraphy, as well as box making and book binding, helps to set them apart from work of other pen turners around the world – a very unique skill set.



A famous 1934 poem by Ataturk, the leader of the Turkish troops at the disastrous Anzac cove. This is inscribed on a stone plaque on the shore at the beach.

## Anzac Commemorative Medal

This is a modified replica of a bronze medallion struck by the Australian Government c.1966-67 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of landing at **Anzac** Cove.



The medal was issued to surviving members of the Australian Defence Force who served on the Gallipoli Peninsula, or in direct support of the operations from close offshore, at any time during the period from the first **Anzac** day in April, 1915 to the date of the final evacuation in January, 1916.

A framed commemorative ANZAC medal.

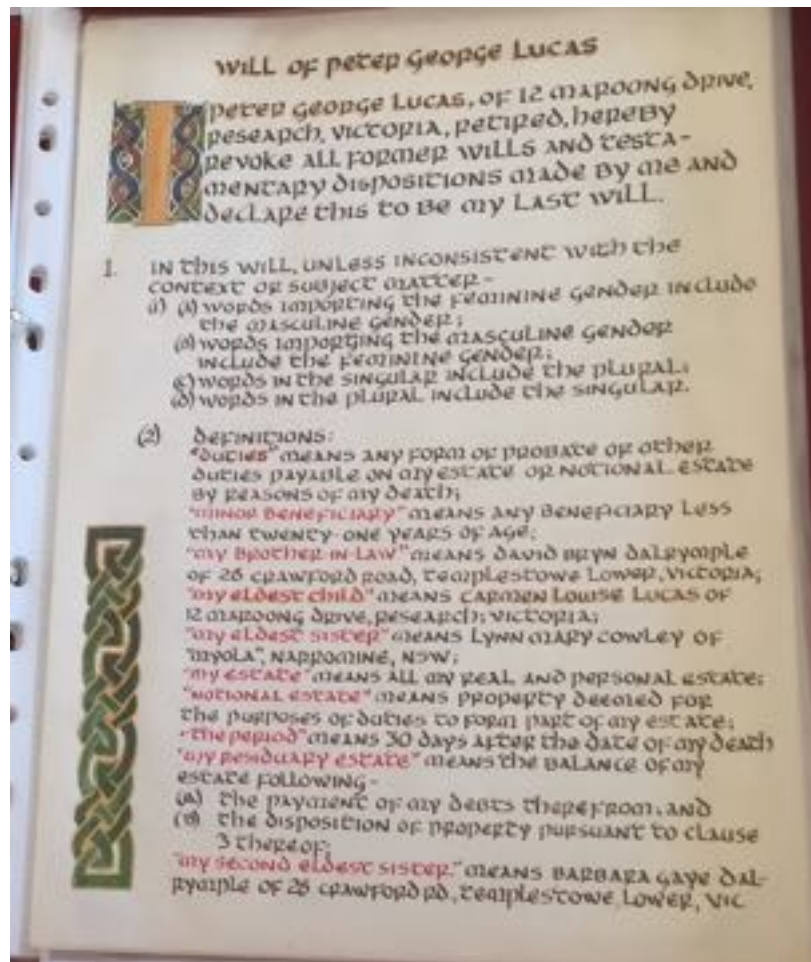


'Chipivillus' - I re-wrote this piece to make it about wood turners rather than ancient scribes (Originally Titivillus – google this)





King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table boxed set.



A snapshot of my will.

Thank you, Peter, for sharing your hobby with us. This has certainly raised your pen making to another level. Please send some pictures and a short text to be included in a future newsletter.

### *Session Times*

Our weekly hands-on session times are:  
 Tuesday, 7:00 pm -10:00 pm  
 Wednesday, 8:00 am – Noon  
 Thursday, 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Monthly Meeting on the third Saturday of the Month, 9:00 am.  
 Except December.

We appreciate the opportunity from Bunnings to raise funds at their stores.  
 They support us so please support them.

