

February 2026 NEWSLETTER



BENDIGO WOODTURNERS INC.
BOX 1259 BENDIGO CENTRAL VICTORIA 3552

Volume 40: Number 02



Bendigo Woodturners Activities Program

General Meeting:	4th Monday Monthly	7.00pm
Executive Meeting:	1st Monday Monthly	6.30pm
Tuesday Group:	Every Tuesday	9.00am to 12.00pm
General Woodworking:	Every Thursday	9.00am to 12.00pm
Toy Group:	1st & 3rd Saturday Monthly	9.00am to 12.00pm
Pyrography Group:	1st & 3rd Tuesday Monthly	7.00pm
Carvers Group:	1st & 3rd Tuesday Monthly	7.00pm
Triton Group:	1st & 3rd Tuesday Monthly	7.00pm
Scroll Saw Group:	2nd & 4th Tuesday Monthly	7.00pm
Wood Turning Group:	2nd & 4th Tuesday Monthly	7.00pm
Group Activities:	Saturday (as required)	9.00am to 12.00pm

Bendigo Woodturners

President:	Steve Brereton	Ph: 0419 389 259
Vice President:	Arthur Curnick	Ph: 0459 422 273
Past President: & Welfare Officer	Harald Mai	Ph: 0437 178 552
Secretary:	John Phillips	Ph: 0488 666 006
Treasurer:	Tammy Miatke	Ph: 0408 000 629
Assistant Treasurer:	Malcolm Hill	Ph: 0427 496 477
Editor:	Heather Pascoe	Ph: 0409 663 835
Committee:	Malcolm Hill, Andrea Tozer, Helen Franklin Sharon Bonazza, David Alexander, Heather Pascoe	
Librarian:	Dawn Eason	Ph: 5446 3200
Assistant Librarian:	Cheryl Curnick	
Grounds Committee:	Jeff Willey	Ph: 0407 683 585
Public Officer:	John Phillips	Ph: 0488 666 006
Auditor:	Rod Lester	
Safety Officer:	Jeff Willey	Ph: 0407 683 585
Shop Operator:	Arthur Curnick	Ph: 0459 422 273
Assistant:	Norm Eason	
Equipment Officer:	Malcolm Hill	Ph: 0427 496 477
Assistants:	David Alexander, John Phillips, John McDonald	
Woodturning:	Arthur Curnick	Ph: 0459 422 273
Triton Group:	John Phillips	Ph: 0488 666 006
Pyrography Group:	Allan Edwards	Ph: 5432 6659
Scroll Saw Group:	Heather Pascoe	Ph: 0409 663 835
	Helen Craig	Ph: 0423 069 514
	Harald Mai	Ph: 0437 178 552
Carvers Group:	Bruce Guilmartin	Ph: 0428 387 550
Toy Group:	Kevin Trevan	Ph: 0487 851 878

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Show and Tell

This section of the meeting is open to all members to enable them to exhibit any interesting items that they have made, brought, found or otherwise acquired.

Monthly Competition

The competition for February is Scroll Saw. March's competition is Carving.

The open competition is for any other items. One entry only in each section per month and once an item has been entered it cannot be entered again later. Entrants will be invited to discuss their entry detail allowing members to gain from your experiences.

President's Report

Hello Woodies,

Well, here we are again and welcome back to 2026, with another big year ahead of us.

Australia Day is already in the rear-view mirror, even though it was a very hot day, it was still a successful day, sales were just slightly down on last year but raffle sales and toy sales were high, so a good day and it finished an hour early due to the heat.

I am sure most of you are aware by now that our good friend and member Gary King passed away from his very short battle with cancer. Gary was a wonderful member, always positive, his work ethic was second to none and a friendly pleasant man who will be sorely missed around the club. I am not sure if anyone from the club will be able to make his celebration of life in Narre Warren but flowers have been sent to his wife and family.

Just a reminder to members that U-turn is on again this year, numbers are down to the level that is not sustainable but Jeff has decided to go ahead this year, if you are keen, undecided or even just interested, have a chat to Jeff, Malcolm or myself and we can give you all the details. This will be the last year if numbers don't improve.

Easter and Seymour are not far away time wise, so remember we need to increase our wares as I think there is only 2 weeks between the two events.

Our major project for the fundraiser "Tracks of Care" is well and truly in full swing, all of the bases have been cut, drilled out and prepped for a spray coat, many thanks to Jeff, Malcolm, John Chris and a few others for their efforts in getting the project to this stage in such a short period of time.

A Bunnings BBQ was held on Feb 8 so a big thank you to all those who assisted on the day, I believe just over \$1100 was raised.

Our new thicknesser has been purchased and installed at the club, please remember to use the magnet to check for metal in the timber, if you are not sure how to use it; please see Malcolm or John.

That's all for now but as the Byrds used to say, "Turn Turn Turn".

Steve Brereton, President

Secretary's Report

Hello to everyone,

As this is our first newsletter for 2026; I would like to say Happy New Year to everyone and hopefully we will have another great year.

First of all; I wish to pass our condolences to Kerryn King, wife of Gary King who passed away recently after a short battle with cancer. Gary had only been a member of the club for a couple of years but he certainly endeared himself to everyone he met with his booming voice and happy smile. Gary was always busy helping the club with his scroll sawing skills and making our give away gifts for Bunnings activities.

Since my last report in November, we have had a couple of new members. Please join me in welcoming:

- David Gray, and
- Mitch Towan

The Club has also been active with the following events since November:

- Bunnings Sausage Sizzles:
 - Fri 21st Nov 25 Made just over \$500;
 - Sat 29th Nov 25 Bit over \$1,500,
 - Fri 19th Dec 25 About \$550, and
 - Sat 8th Feb 26 Nearly \$1,100
- We also had an activity stand and cooked the BBQ for Bunnings at their Christmas Activity Evening in December and received some Bunnings vouchers for our work
- Thank you to everyone who helped at any of the above events
- Club Christmas Sales were successful with sales not as high as the last few years but still very good.
- Australia Day this year was very hot and part of a long weekend which combined means foot traffic is less. That being said, we still had good sales and our fantastic raffle ticket sellers did a great job bringing in nearly \$600.
- Again, thank you to those who helped at these events

The Club has been busy helping a local business, Powers Country Express, in a fund-raising activity with all money raised going to Bendigo Health. The idea is to make a limited and numbered memento from the old Bendigo Tram Line with our assistance being in making the redgum bases. This fund raiser will possibly make over \$100,000 for Bendigo Health. Thank you to everyone who has helped in the production with particular thanks to Jeff Willey for taking the lead. (See photos below)

The Executive Committee is always trying to improve the amenities and equipment within the Club and obviously this is dependent on availability of funds. We are very happy with our latest upgrade with a 20" Helical Head Thicknesser. The cost being approx. \$5,000.00 but this will be offset by sale of old thicknesser by tender. (Tenders close this Friday 20th Feb 26).

This year is already flying along with Easter and Seymour Alternative Farming Expo quickly coming around. (Easter 3rd – 5th April, Seymour (17th – 19th Apr). So get busy and make a few bob for yourselves.

I would like for everyone to know that our Club is now officially part of both the Victorian Men's Shed Association (VMSA) and the Australian Men's Shed Association (AMSA). Our membership within these organisations does not change any, and I say again, any, of our operating procedures. By joining the VMSA and AMSA we can utilise many of their advantages. One that we have immediately taken advantage of is club and indemnity insurance that has saved the club approx. \$1,400.00 compared to our previous methods.

On behalf of the Club, I would like to thank Sharon Bonazza and her partners at Adroit Conveyancing located in King Street Bendigo for their sponsorship to the Club of \$500.00. So don't forget to check them out if buying or selling a property or any other conveyancing work you or friends might need.

Finally, the last few months have been tough for several of our members with health problems and family losses, hopefully this year will be much better for everyone.

Stay safe,

John Phillips

Secretary



Figure 1 Jeff Willey with Damian and Emma Power and the Bendigo Tramway fundraiser with which we are helping

Christmas Lunch at Chaser's Junortoun



Vale Gary King



An all-round great gentleman.
Thank you for all the many “critters” you
cut on the scroll saw.
His great smile and g’day mate will be
greatly missed.



Figure 2 Flowers the Club sent to Kerryn, Gary's wife

Monthly Competition

January 2026 – Open Section



Figure 3- 1st Heather Pascoe Intarsia Mirror also a raffle prize

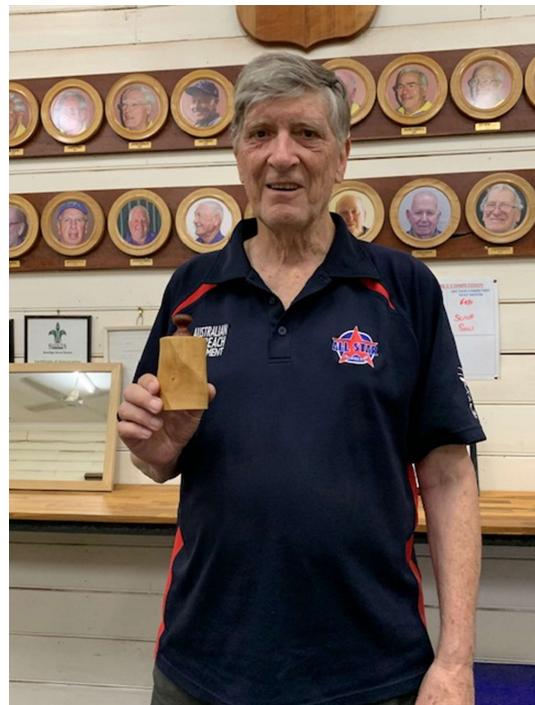


Figure 4 - 2nd Jeff Juffs offset turned ornamental pear

For Sale



\$2,000 negotiable

Phone Harrison on 0413 886 597

Formerly owned by Danny Whitford a Life
Member



Lost Trades Fair – 28-29 March at Hanging Rock

<https://losttradesfair.com.au/> tickets are online only

Save the Date!

1st - 3rd May 2026 U-turn Ararat

We need you! A great weekend of wood turning, scroll sawing, raffles and laughter.

Partners welcome; there's also craft in the main hall if you're not a Turner also good fun. Unfortunately, if we don't get the numbers, it will be most likely cancelled – see Jeff Willey for all details

Our Sponsor

An experienced team of professionals provide a range of conveyancing and property services to our local and interstate clients.



Events Calendar

February 2026

2nd Executive meeting
23rd General Meeting

This month's competition is Scroll Saw

March 2026

2nd Executive Meeting
23rd General Meeting
28th – 29th Lost Trades Fair – Hanging rock

This month's competition is Carving

April 2026

3rd – 5th Easter Fair
6th Executive Meeting
17-19th Seymour Alternative Farm Expo
26th General Meeting

This month's competition is Wood Turning

May 2026

1-3rd U-turn at Ararat
4th Executive Meeting
25th General Meeting

This month's competition is Pyrography

June 2026

1st Executive Meeting
22nd General Meeting

This month's competition is Scroll Saw

July 2026

6th Executive Meeting
27th General Meeting

This month's competition is Carving

August 2026

3rd Executive Meeting
24th Annual General Meeting

No competition this month

Our Supporters

