

COLLIE WOODTURNERS

John Wallace member number 43 gathered some people to form a woodturning club in Collie, with the first meeting of the Collie Group being held at the Collie Shire meeting room on 1st July 1988. This group developed into 25 members. Meetings were held at the telephone Exchange, Christian Brothers College and at the Wallace residence.

The Collie Group joined the Western Australian Woodturners on the 14th of April 1990 with 17 members. John Wallace and Mike Kenny were members of WAWA in 1985.

By the AGM on 16th October 1990 the following 25 members were part of the Collie group: FS Scharf, J Johnston (Stanton) H King, D Hicks, J Lerm, R Tannian, D Smith, J Imrie, R Fitzmaurice, H Kirk, J Wallace (Convenor), J Harnby, L Beaglehole, K Baddock, J Atherton, R Shepherd, L Stanton, L Hann, C Abbot, F Piavanini, R Tuin, O Isbel, P Holker and J Murphy. *(More information on some of these members can be found on the Western Australian Woodturners Association Website under Life and Merit Award Members).*

Since 1989/90 Collie had a claim to fame with two lady members join. Joyce Harnby and Joan Johnston (now Stanton) both of whom carried out office Secretary very graciously. Joan was also Convenor at one time.

Over the years John Wallace and his wife Jan hosted many of the Collie monthly workshops at their residence for which members have been very grateful. John has always been keen to demonstrate various turning methods and has been very helpful to the newer members. Using members premises for meetings paid off with the woodturners spouses joining into the activities. Even today members freely share their knowledge of woodturning. Collie has annual awards of most improved and best clubman.

The group has visited other groups, Wilga, Donnybrook (two locations), Wellington Dam, Goldfields and have attended many weekend workshops in Perth and the country. They are locally involved in the Collie Agriculture Show, Bunnings Trade Nights, Rotary Club Conventions, Collie Clan Festival, Local Weekend Markets, Teaching at the Day Care Centre and various demonstration venues. The Collie group has been proud to be part of the Griffin Festival of Arts, by assisting to help set up the venue and exhibiting their art and craft of woodwork as well as being on the roster to man the show.

John Imrie member 264 specialises at his own "show and tell. He would cut fallen farm logs (windblown



The group slabbing at John Imrie's property

only) for the group. His words were, "show me where to cut and tell me how much you want..." – a very generous man.



Collie Clubrooms



Currently (2023) the Collie group has about 35 members. They meet in a hall Cnr Wittenoom & Steere Streets Collie. Visitors are welcome. *(Meeting days, times and contact information is available under the Collie Group on the Western Australian Woodturners Association Website)*

