



## **The Woodturners Association of Western Australia (Inc)**

### *Life Membership*

**Viv Paust - 319**

Viv Paust, the Wood Turners Association of Western Australia honours you and confers upon you Life Membership in recognition of the outstanding contribution you have made to the Association.

Viv joined the Association in June 1987 and has been a member for 23 years.

During that time, he became an active member, quickly and frequently involving himself in practical workshop demonstrations and readily participating in workshops at both Association and Group level.

His training as a Manual Arts teacher has enabled him to professionally and enthusiastically pass on his knowledge, practical skills and design to members at all levels.

His demonstrations, based upon years of experience and laced with a unique humour, have always been well received and interesting, his approach to challenges has always been enlightening.

Viv spent two years as a Committee Member and was most active in the administration aspects and contributing a great deal of input.

In the early days of the Joondalup/Wanneroo Group moving to its current premises he made his home available when the club rooms were not available to members for meetings, hands on & woodturning activities.

His turning is of the highest standard, resulting in his being awarded the Cyril Jones trophy on three occasions, 1997, 2001 and 2003.

Viv, you are a worthy recipient of the Life membership Award.

Presented 2011



## PROFILE OF A TURNER

(extract from Newsletter number 70, dated Aug/Sept 1997)

Viv Paust like many of our turners, has had a wide and varied experience, both academically and practically. His father was a school teacher, serving in many country towns. Viv finished his primary schooling in South Perth.

Secondary schooling was firstly at Kent Street and then at Perth Modern School. While academic subjects presented no terrors to Viv, he always preferred the more practical subjects such as technical drawing and woodwork. From Modern School, he went direct to Teachers Training College at Claremont without first having had to be a monitor. He also had to convince the Education Department that he could be trained as a Manual Arts teacher without first being a tradesman.

To enlarge his manual skills, Viv undertook a wide variety of activities such as boat building, fibre glass and ceramic work. During this period, he supplemented his income by spearfishing and selling his catch to fish shops. Upon graduation, he requested an appointment near the coast as he was a member of the State Spearfishing team. The Department complied, by sending him to Norseman. Not all was lost with the move, as this is where he met Verna who became his very supportive wife. During his time in Norseman, he was required to commute by train to Esperance in order to open a Manual Arts Centre there.

From there he served in Mt Helena for two years then to Applecross for five years during which period he studied for an Art Teaching degree in Fine Arts. Just to keep properly busy during this time, he built a house and helped Verna raise their family. Promotion saw the family in Collie and then back to Perth and lecturing at Nedlands Teachers College in Audio Visual. This job suited his combined talents of practical work plus his art training.

Always one to contribute to the community he became heavily involved with Lions. Viv was awarded a scholarship to study in the United States but by this time he had become very disenchanted with education policy and did not take up the scholarship.

As a complete change in life style, they bought a caravan park in Jurien which they ran very successfully for five years. Following another venture Viv returned to teaching firstly at Applecross then Moora and finally at Wanneroo. Having previously built themselves homes in Bayswater and Karrinyup, plus one for his father-in-law in Norseman, Viv undertook to build two houses in Jurien.

It was while in Moora that Viv picked up his wood turning and on his return to Perth discovered WAWA. The first demonstration he saw was conducted by Ivor Bridges and at first, he thought Ivor was doing everything back to front. He soon discovered that there was much to learn about tools and how they best worked and he has been more than happy to give whatever he can to furthering the objectives of WAWA and its members. Those who have benefitted from his demonstrations can attest to his skill as a teacher and a communicator.

Since his retirement, Viv has undertaken two voluntary assignments which have given him great satisfaction. One was teaching some children on a sheep station out from Meekatharra and the second was in East Timor for the Silesian Religious Community in Dili. Viv set up a combined teaching and production line workshop for young men aged 18-25 years. All were East Timorese orphans or school drop-outs. The success of the venture can be measured by the degree of hope expressed by the people involved including writing a song about it. This venture has led to further projects, one being in agriculture and another in sewing.

Viv is now in the process of building another home, this time at Bindoon, mostly using recycled timber bought at auction or from demolition sites. We all wish him well and we know he shall continue to encourage the craft of woodturning and to indulge in the fellowship of his WAWA membership.1997

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(extract from newsletter number 157 dated Nov 2011)

Viv Paust with My Tools My Way.

