

PROFILE OF A TURNER

Chris Allen member 1840

After retiring as a carpenter with Western Power in 2000, Chris began woodturning lessons from Eric Walker at Colin Kleinig's business in Farrell Rd, Midvale. After his four lessons he was invited to attend a Swan Woodturners Group meeting. When he saw the fantastic pieces on show, he almost decided to give it up. He would never be that good. At that stage he didn't even have a lathe, but after attending a few more monthly meetings, he joined in March 2001, bought his first lathe and was hooked.

Around the same time Richard Barkman joined and later they went on the committee together. In 2007 he took on the Convenor's role and one of the highlights of Chris's time was working with Richard to put together the Swan Woodturners' 25th Anniversary Exhibition in Midland. They also worked together writing up procedures for club activities and were a great team on the barbecue at the Weekend Workshops for a number of years.

Doing demonstrations and helping with Hands On gave Chris the satisfaction of helping new members, and he has enjoyed teaching some of them at home in his workshop.



The camaraderie during meetings and while participating in the demonstration stalls at various events is what keeps Chris coming to the club. There is always something new to learn, new techniques to try and new members to meet. Swan Woodturners has made his 21 years of retirement both a rewarding and busy time.

Chris is a valued member of the Swan Woodturners. 2021