

PROFILE OF A TURNER

Kevan Hunt number 844 joined the Western Australian Woodturners Association on 17th February 1991.

Kevan was born in Albany. He was the fifth child, one older brother and three other sisters. He grew up in Albany and all his schooling was completed in Albany. After year ten Kevan started working with a TV Repair and Installation Firm who also moved furniture and did carpet laying. Then Kevan changed to working with the Western Australian Railroads in Albany, working all over the Southwest and Kalgoorlie, finally settling back into Bunbury. Kevan also worked in the State Emergency Service. He retired from the occupation of train engine driver.

In 1973 Kevan married Meryll, and they have three sons who also reside in Bunbury. They now have four grandchildren.

Years ago, one of Kevan's neighbours mentioned woodturning to him and because he was always interested in woodturning joined the Bunbury group in 1991, mostly learning the craft from John Shinnick. Kevan liked to make a variety of items, including pedestals as well as many lamp stands. Kevan used to tell new members that they needed to start woodturning before they retired as they would need income to purchase all the tools required for this art form.

Kevan loved being part of the Bunbury group especially with the older members who used to attend. Kevan had a saying that woodturning was a reason to get out of bed. The comradery and banter with the older members was special. Kevan relates seeing their faces light up when seeing a demo and they then would produce the item for show and tell. The sharing of a cuppa and chat along with learning something was enjoyed by all. Kevan tells me he still misses these older members.

Kevan held the positions of Bunbury Treasurer followed by Secretary and then Convenor between 2011 and 2012, then Convenor again in 2017-2018. The Bunbury group presented Kevan with a Merit Award in 2017.

In 2009 when Kevan retired from work he, Mick Johnson and Stan Zieba decided that it was time for the Bunbury group to access a suitable building for wood turning. The continued use of Cathedral Grammar School was not expected to last too many more years. An approach to South Bunbury Rotary and an approach to Royalties for Regions also failed to find suitable premises. Kevan wrote many letters to the Bunbury Councillors and along with Lyn Poli and Barry Laidler attended meetings with the Bunbury Council. The process of finding a venue went on for two long years until in 2011 the club was offered a share of the building it currently occupies with the Bunbury Apex Group.



Today Kevan is finding it difficult to get around as he has issues with his legs, but he still gets out in his shed, sits and does some turning on his small lathe. I have only just met Kevan and I found him passionate about woodturning and his pride in the achievement of being instrumental in procuring Bunbury's workshop will continue to be a highlight of his life and is still a satisfying memory.