

Extract from Newsletter issue 78 October/November 1998

PROFILE OF A TURNER

Neil Basden

Neil was born in Bruce Rock, WA and was educated at Albany Primary School and Norwood (now Mt Lawley TAFE) and later attended Perth Boys School.

His working life began in the Commonwealth Bank followed by a short period as a trainee radio technician with the Department of Civil Aviation and work with a real estate agent. In 1952 he commenced work in the State Public Service, firstly with the Forests Department and later with the Metropolitan Water Supply Department where he spent the remainder of his working life, apart from three years in other departments. In 1966 he was awarded a Diploma in Accountancy of the Perth Technical College as it was then known.

In 1963 he married Kath and they have two sons and eight grandchildren.

In 1980 he passed his full Amateur Radio Licence. Other interests are caravanning and his church.

It was during a trip to Tasmania in 1985 that his interest in woodturning was kindled while watching a turner demonstrating in the Huon Valley. Later his very good friend and workmate, the late Cyril Jones, introduced him to the Woodturners Association which he joined in 1988. He learnt the basics of woodturning during two night school terms at Leederville TAFE and is grateful to his many friends of the Association who have taught him a lot more about turning.

Since joining the Association Neil has served as Convenor of the North of the River group for two years, as Association Secretary for four years and served a further six months on the Management Committee as well as working with the Shopping Centre Committee and Weekend Coordinators Committee.

