

The Woodturners Association of Western Australia (Inc)

Merit Award Citation

Richard Barkman – 1842

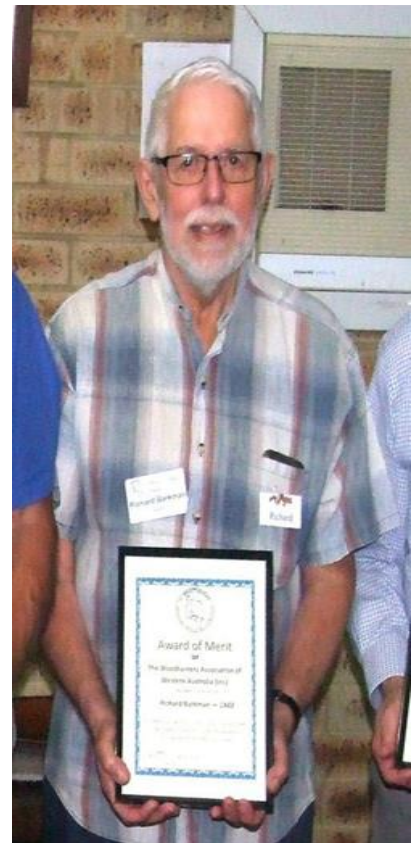
Richard has been a member of the Woodturners Association of WA, since April 2001. During his 19 years he has been a regular demonstrator for the Swan Group and continues to be so.

His knowledge of turning and finishes is inspiring and he is happy to impart this knowledge to anyone attempting to improve on their finished items.

Richard has been responsible for writing Swan Group's Duties of Management Roles as well as drawing the demo items which can be found on the WAWA web site.

He was a Swan Committee Member from 2004 to 2018. Convenor in 2015 and 2016.

Swans 20-year Anniversary Exhibition was a great success due to Richard's organisational skills.



Presented by Brian Mather (Swan Convenor) Dec 2019

PROFILE OF A TURNER

RICHARD BARKMAN

WAWA MEMBER NUMBER 1842

Richard was born in the Canadian city of Steinbach in the province of Manitoba, where he lived with his 2 siblings. After finishing high school, Richard completed a degree in architecture and remained working in Canada as an architect before moving to Australia in 1968. He initially explored Sydney and Melbourne before settling in Perth, where he met his wife June and raised their 2 children. He worked for two of the top architectural firms in Perth and was an associate of one of these when he retired. In addition to architecture, Richard's recreational interest in creation and design extended to pottery, having a pottery studio at home and teaching pottery for several years at Perth Technical College.

On retirement, a lifelong interest and appreciation of wood, along with his keen interest in design lead him to take up woodturning. Richard became of a member of the Woodturners Association of WA in 2001. He has been an active member of the Swan Group since that time, being a Swan Committee member from 2004 - 2018 and taking on the role of Convenor in 2015 and 2016. He was the organiser of the Swan Group 20 - year Anniversary Exhibition. Additional duties he has taken on include writing the



Swan Group's Duties of Management Roles, as well as completing all the technical drawings for the Swan Group and WAWA libraries. Richard is a regular demonstrator at the Swan Group and is keen to share his extensive knowledge in woodturning with fellow woodturners. In appreciation for his efforts in 2019 the Swan group awarded Richard with a Merit Award.

Richard enjoys turning both functional and artistic pieces, and with his background in design, prefers a minimalistic aesthetic with clean lines and smooth flowing curves. This, along with his appreciation of Western Australian timbers, means his turned pieces usually have minimal embellishment and are finished in an oil (i.e., Livos) to highlight the natural beauty of the wood. Bowls in Jarrah, Sheoak and also Jacaranda are favourites, but he has turned most projects over the years and also enjoys turning nicely finished pens and colourful children's spinning tops. Richard's excellent technical skills in woodturning and his experienced design "eye" ensure the pieces he turns are pleasing visually (in relation to form and grain) and his attention to detail in the finish ensure they are also pleasing to the touch. Richard's work has been shown and sold in Australia and overseas.