

Gosnells Gossip

Let's jump straight into the New Year with some insights and stories from one of the long-term, skilled Gossies Turners. Interview with **Rob Woodward**

Q. How long have you been turning wood and how did you first get interested in it?

Approx. 11 years, always been interested but never able to do it until I retired.

Q. How did you develop your basic skills?

I've been in the building industry for fifty-three years working alongside many different trades gathering many ways of doing things.

Q. How long have you been in the Gosnells and/or other groups?

11 years in the Gosnells group and 12 years in the Scrolling group.

Q. What changes and developments have you seen in the club and in Woodturning?

From starting at the Gosnells woodturning group at Southern River College where we were mixed in the same room as the students, we eventually were given our present location in the school which works out really great for us. Along the way we have upgraded our lathes and equipment

Q. What have been your proudest achievements?

Being able to get to advanced turner and to help others in the group, I think most of all receiving the Merit award.

Q. Do you have any other goals in Woodturning?

Just doing what I'm doing and try new ways of doing things.

Q. What advice would you give to newcomers?

Just take things steady, look and learn and also practice, practice. Ask for advice - everyone is very forthcoming.

Q. What else would you like to say about Woodturning?

Woodturning is a great hobby - lots of things you can make and great camaraderie with everyone. Ed. Rob explains the origin of the two Don Quixote type figures below. I have included them because they are prize winners and because it demonstrates Rob's ability to integrate wood scrolling with wood turning. Rob does this frequently and produces fascinating and creative results:

"I made these two men when I was helping Dave Mcloughlin, he brought an old one from someone at his Men shed he wanted to make one the same as a challenge, so I set to and made a pattern. Having done that, I decided to make one. Then David said his daughter would like one but larger, so I made the pattern larger then decided to make one as well. Later when the Canning show came along, Dave decided to enter his. He offered to take mine in as well - I came first twice, Dave came second. Sorry Dave."



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The Gosnells Woodturners Award for determination, persistence and creative repurposing of materials goes to our good friend and colleague, Mr Robert Woodward, who 'turned' this: into these:

Rob will give you a good price for a set of toothpicks!

