

Waikato Guild of Woodworkers



Members' Newsletter June 2026

8 Storey Avenue, Te Rapa, Hamilton
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6 Cambridge Road, Hamilton East, Hamilton

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Storey Ave – Workshop Sessions

Monday Morning	Dave Croucher	07 846 4554
Monday Evening	Rodney Haynes/David Jones	021 027 04031 / 07 843 3424
Wednesday Morning	Bob Hoyle	027 484 039
Wednesday Evening	Rodney Haynes	027 218 4950
Thursday Morning	Richard Matthew	07 856 9285
Thursday Afternoon	Clive Dyson	07 829 7256
Thursday Afternoon	Hugh Oliver	07 847 9541
Friday Morning	Keith Buick	021 072 0269

Whatawhata Road – Workshop Sessions

Monday	9:00am – 12:00pm	Youth Class
Monday	6:00pm – 9:00pm	ACE Students only
Tuesday	9:00am – 3:00pm	
Wednesday	9:00am – 12:30pm	
Wednesday	6:00pm – 9:00pm	
Thursday	9:00am – 12:00pm	ACE Students only
Thursday	6:00pm – 9:00pm	

Members based out of the Storey Ave workshop are also welcome to join these sessions. Please contact **Murray Price** (murray.price@xtra.co.nz) to book a space.

Storey Ave – 2026 Workshop Fees

Membership and workshop fees for those who are based out of our Storey Ave workshop are as below:

NAW-Affiliated Membership	\$85
Non-NAW Membership	\$100
Under-18 Membership	\$50
Workshop Fee	\$10 per session

Whatawhata Road – 2026 Membership and Fees

Membership and workshop fees for those based out of our Whatawhata Road workshop are as follows:

NAW-Affiliated Membership	\$60
Non-NAW Affiliated	\$75
Workshop Session	\$10 per session
Tuesday Session	\$20 per session

All sessions are payable on invoice from the Treasurer at the end of the period.

Note that Whatawhata Memberships are slightly less than Storey Ave Memberships due to the different membership cycles of the predecessor clubs. All memberships will align at next AGM.

Club Night

This month's Club Night will be at 7pm on Tuesday 16th of June at our Storey Ave workshop. This month, we have **Colin McKenzie** demonstrating Wave Bowls, as well as a quick update on the Cambridge Road project.

This month's challenge prompt is something **Ornamental**; and for those looking for a head start for next month's display table – next month's prompt will be **Hollow Forms and Vases**. Both of these are categories in the Art of Wood competition, have a look at last year's entries if you want some ideas: <https://theartofwood-2025.naw.org.nz/>.

Hall setup and tea prep duties for this month's Club Night will be the Friday Morning workshop group.

Fraser ACE and Youth Workshop – Learning and Tutoring Opportunities

Thank you to all those who have offered to support John Baker in tutoring our Fraser ACE and Youth Classes. These are both important outreach programmes for the club and is an excellent way for us to pass on our knowledge, skills, and love of all things wood to the wider community.

A message from John Baker:

Recruit or Die

Clubs and similar organisations everywhere are struggling to survive. Throughout the country, clubs of all types continue to disappear because of the loss of older members and failure to recruit new members. This inevitably leads to a smaller pool of contributors, increased difficulty maintaining systems or financial viability, and eventual closure.

John's view is simple: if we do not recruit, we die. Our club demographic has traditionally been male, white and older. Through the Fraser ACE Introduction to Woodturning courses, however, we have attracted younger and female members. Around 30% of the former Hamilton Woodturners are Fraser ACE alumni, and around half of those are women.

We have now formed an exciting new merger between the two woodturning clubs. All of this bodes well for our future, but we need to continue. We are in the club because we enjoy woodwork of all types. Are we encouraging others to become part of what we do and experience? Are we sharing our passion and passing on our skills?

We now have a good team of tutors doing just that. We may be looking for more in the future. As one tutor recently remarked, "I'm happy to tutor; I don't need to make any more bowls."

You may well have a new recruit in your regular club session. Please do everything in your power to help them and make them welcome. They are our future.

- John Baker

Cambridge Road Updates

Works at Cambridge Road remain on track for our move-in later this year: our first shipping container has now been delivered and is ready to support the next stage of storage and timber handling; internal painting, sanding and fit out are progressing well – thank you to all those that have contributed to our recent Working Bees. We are currently looking at relocation to begin late-August; however, this is a moving target as there are still many moving parts involved.

On the financial front, we have received a \$150,000 grant from the **Lottery Grants Board** as well as a \$10,000 grant from **WEL Energy Trust**. These latest grants give us much more certainty around our spending and timelines, and we are looking on track to complete and move in as expected later this year.



Above left: Shipping container arriving at Cambridge Road.

Above right: New bathrooms taking shape.

As always, please get in touch with us if you can help us share the workload or provide items to the project:

- **Regular Working Bees: Every Wednesday morning and Saturday morning** from 9am unless otherwise advised. These have been attended by a few members, and we strongly encourage all members to attend where possible. If those times do not work for you but you would still like to help, please contact Kevin or Grant; there is always something useful to do during the week, including tasks suitable for members who are less physically able.
- **Wood Shavings Wanted:** Please keep bags of clean wood shavings over the next two months for use in the new gardens around the Cambridge Road workshop. These can be stored in the shipping container or brick building until the garden work begins, expected around early August.
- **Corner Office Desks:** We are looking for four to six corner office desktops to use as shelving in the general workshop storage area. Delivery would be ideal in early July, but early confirmation would be appreciated; please contact Grant.
- **Timber Identification Help:** When shelving is installed in the shipping container and timber is being moved in, we will need quick and knowledgeable timber identifiers, or members comfortable using phone apps for this. This is likely to be around early August.
- **Official Opening:** As we move closer to move-in day we will be looking to ramp up the preparation for our Official Opening. Andrew Sheerin will be leading the charge on this but will need your support; please get in touch if you are able to help.

Other Notices and Events

Storey Ave and Whatawhata Road Working Bee – 27th June

We will be holding a Working Bee on Saturday 27th June at 9am for both our Storey Ave and Whatawhata Road workshops. This will be a general maintenance and clean-up of the existing workshops, as well as a quick stocktake and organisation before our scheduled relocation. Please note that this Working Bee will replace the regular Working Bee at Cambridge Road for that week only.

Rewarewa Available

Barry O'Donnell has a trailer-load of wet Rewarewa available to give away to members. The timber has been trimmed and cut into blocks of various sizes. Please contact Barry: barry.jennyod@gmail.com.

Community Fundraiser Donations

We have been contacted by Zoe from the Waikato Diocesan School for Girls who is organising a Quiz Night and silent auction fundraiser for World Vision's 40 Hour Challenge. They are seeking contributions of items or experiences for the event. Proceeds will support families in the Solomon Islands. If you have capacity to contribute, please contact Niels or Zoe directly (zoekatesignal@gmail.com).

Scam Alert

There are a number of scam emails circulating pretending to be a member of the committee requesting items or a response from you. Please be vigilant, double check all email addresses and phone numbers before responding; if it feels wrong or if you are unsure of the legitimacy of the request, please speak with a trusted member of the Committee.

Tauranga Woodcrafters Demonstration

Terry Scott will be providing a woodturning demonstration at the Tauranga Woodcrafters Club on Sunday 21st June. Members are welcome, and Tauranga Woodcrafters would appreciate RSVPs so they can manage numbers. For further details, please see attached notices or email tgawoodcrafters@gmail.com.

Manawatū Round Up 2026

Manawatū Woodworkers Guild is hosting Round Up 2026 from Friday 3 July to Sunday 5 July at Ashhurst Village Centre, Manawatū. Full weekend registration is \$180, Saturday registration is \$105, and Sunday registration is \$75. For further details, please see attached notices or email keith@farmsense.co.nz.

Lake Taupo Woodworkers Guild Jamboree

Lake Taupo Woodworkers Guild is holding its 2026 Jamboree and 40th year celebrations at Wairakei School from Friday 2 October to Sunday 4 October. Lathe sites, rental lathes, self-contained caravan and campervan sites, and day visitor tickets are still available. Registration is required by 20 September. For further details, please see attached notices or email taupowoodturner@gmail.com.

NAW Art of Wood

Entries for the annual Art of Wood will open again from August to September 2026. The Hamilton clubs have had great representation in previous years, and we would love to have our members' pieces showcased again this year.

NZ Centre for Fine Woodworking

Based in Nelson, CFW offers a number of courses and workshops throughout the year in all aspects of woodworking. Please visit their website (<https://www.cfw.co.nz/>), or contact Robert Hughes (info@cfw.co.nz) for details on CFW and other courses on offer.

Givealittle

Please follow and promote our Givealittle page for the new Cambridge Road Workshop: <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/waikato-woodcraft-hub>.

Facebook Group

The Club has a Facebook Group where you can find our monthly newsletters, notices, photos and more. Please follow this link: <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/15yuajiDjn/> to join.

Wig Stands

Our wig stand project to support local cancer patients is ongoing. If you would like to help with this project, please contact Rodney Haynes; the club has a good supply of timber set aside for you to use.

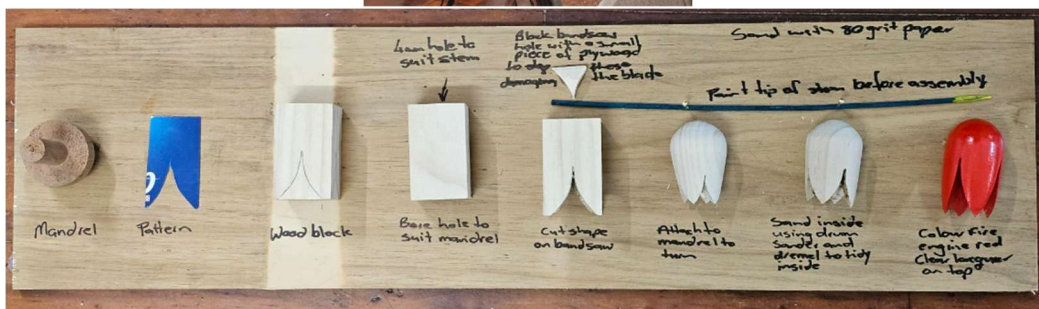
Calendar Events

Ongoing	Cambridge Road Working Bees – Every Wednesday and Saturday morning
Jun 16 th	Club Night 7:00pm– Colin McKenzie demonstration
Jun 21 st	Tauranga Woodcrafters – Terry Scott demonstration
Jun 27 th	Storey Ave and Whatawhata Road Working Bees – 9am
Jul 3 rd - 5 th	Manawatū Woodworkers Guild Round Up 2026
Jul 21 st	Club Night 7:00pm
Oct 2 nd - 4 th	Lake Taupo Woodworkers Guild Jamboree

Gallery

Please send in photos of your own projects to Niels so we can include them here in the next newsletter – if possible, please also include pieces' names, wood species and any special notes. As always, if there are any errors or missing details, please let Niels know.

Thank you to Mark de Lisle for taking photos at last month's Club Night.



Above top: **Michael Doyle** demonstrating tulip creation at May Club Night.
 Above bottom: **Tulip turning mandrel, pattern and stages** from Michael's demonstration.



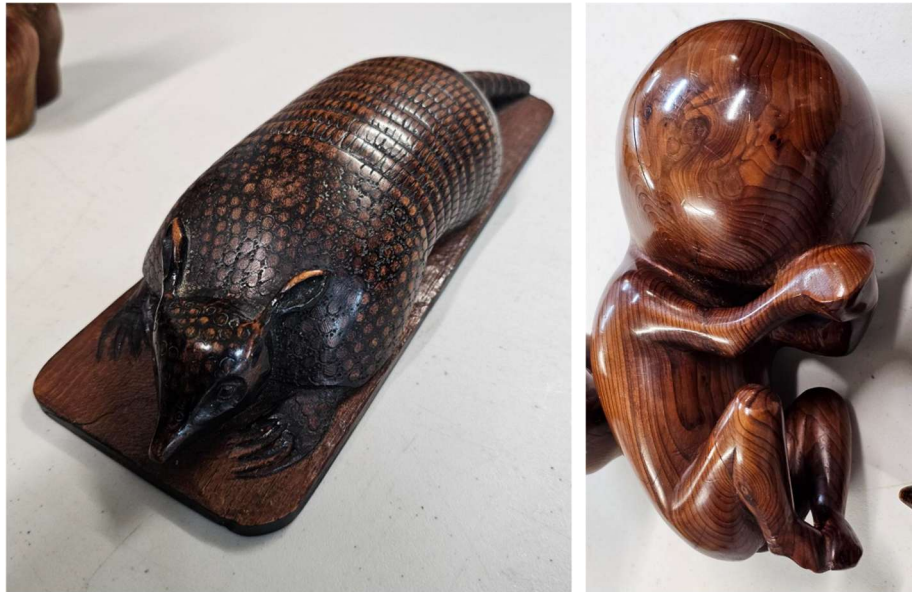
Above left: **Bowl.** Bede Geoghegan. Rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*).
 Above right: **Percy the Penguin.** Denis Whittle. Green silky oak (*Grevillea robusta*).



Above left: **Scent Vase.** *Dave Jones.* Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) and Olive (*Olea europaea*).
Above right: **Bowl with Pierced Rim.** *Colin Mackenzie.* Rata (*Metrosideros sp.*).



Above left: **Platter.** *Dave Crowley.* Using a bread board from Clive Dyson; unknown timber.
Above right: **Venus Figurine.** *Hugh Oliver.* Yew (*Taxus baccata*).



Above left: **Armadillo.** *Hugh Oliver.* Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*).
 Above right: **Baby Figurine.** *Hugh Oliver.* Yew (*Taxus baccata*).



Above top: **3D Illusion Vase.** *Stephen O'Connor.* Kwila (*Intsia sp.*), oak (*Quercus sp.*), walnut (*Juglans sp.*), ash (*Fraxinus sp.*), macrocarpa (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) and blackwood (*Acacia melanoxylon*) base.
 Above bottom: **Turned Set.** *Peter Watt.* Various timbers including Lemon (*Citrus limon*), Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and Walnut (*Juglans sp.*), with embellishments.

Thank You to Our Donors and Supporters

