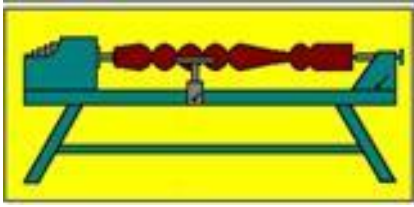


Turning Talk

Volume 34 Number 4

May 2020



Presidential Words *For May 2020*



Hello everyone,

For the first time, I am writing to you in the role as WSQ President, after returning safely from a long holiday overseas and riding with fellow bikers in the Otway's, Victoria. Officially I assumed the role on the 25th April 2020.

This year will be a tough one for us all, in so many ways. During this period the focus of the Committee will simply be to maintain 'some degree of normality' for members. I am acutely aware of the important role WSQ plays in the lives of many of us, and in this regard our Tuesday morning sessions are now being conducted by Teleconference, and I sincerely hope many members dial in and participate. From past experience they do work and offer an opportunity for the social interaction that is the backbone of our regular Tuesday talks.

Forums and Demonstrations hopefully will have a Videoconference capability as well as a Teleconference option. The successful Saturday forum recently run by Ian Symes was excellent. Some used the video facility, and some dialed in and participated using the phone option. 20 members participated. Details on "how to" for the Tele / Video conference sessions will be forwarded to members who have expressed an interest in participating well before the sessions.

The other component of maintaining a sense of normality is simply by contacting fellow members by phone or email. Many of us need this, and all will appreciate the 'catch up call from a mate'.

Toni Dowd has recently joined the Committee as a Committee Member, filling the casual vacancy left when John Carney accepted the role of Vice President. Welcome Toni! We have a strong working Committee, who will continue to meet regularly.

Turning Talk will remain our main communication medium with most members. Please remember, our long serving editor needs articles to publish, and I encourage all to help him in his endeavours.

And lastly, I sincerely thank Brian (and Helen) for their commitment and energy over the past two and a half years. Brian's leadership and guidance over recent times, as President, and the preceding years as Treasurer, have left 'big shoes to fill'.

With this in mind, I have asked him to consider attending Committee Meetings in an advisory capacity, when he is available.

Stay safe till we open our doors again.

Bob Kennedy
President

My Journey at WSQ: Reflections of a Past President

My interest in woodwork and woodturning began as a schoolboy, when I used to spend time after school in the woodwork shop where my father taught. However, it was not until 2000 that my passion for woodturning was ignited, when I inherited my father's old Woodfast lathe that he bought in 1983 when he retired from teaching. I had moved to Brisbane from Canberra a few years earlier, and transported the lathe from Goulburn in my Nissan Pintara station wagon. I spent a few frustrating months trying to teach myself woodturning before enrolling in Rob McKee's Introductory Bowl Turning course at Mt Gravatt TAFE.

I had heard about the Woodturners Society of Queensland from Rob McKee, but my first encounter with WSQ was at the Timber & Working With Wood Show at the RNA Showgrounds in May 2001. I was immediately impressed by the professional display and warm welcome from the WSQ members at the Show. I filled in my membership application form and paid my membership fee of \$55 (including \$15 joining fee). Another Past President, Phil Harris, also joined at T&WWW Show in 2001, as well as stalwarts Lyndon Prescott and Col Fraser. In 2001, the Society attracted 43 new members and finished the year with a total of 277 members (compared with only 193 members today). The Management Committee had only six members, including Jim Thallon as President (first year of his 2-year term), Trevor Pfingst (first year of 8-year term), David Thomas as Vice President, Rex Bower as Secretary, Reg McIlwain and Henry Warland.

When I joined WSQ in 2001, I was still working full-time (for Progen Industries, a small Brisbane-based biotechnology company) with a lot of domestic and international travel, so I had little time to participate in WSQ activities and events. However, I enjoyed reading the monthly newsletter *Turning Talk* and occasionally attending the monthly Members' Forum meeting (third Wednesday evening) or Demo (fourth Saturday morning). The monthly demos by club members such as Jim Thallon, John Sheppard, Doug Bates, Mal Downes, Rob McKee, Theo Haralampou and Allan Dickson exposed me to a range of woodturning styles and techniques, consolidating my woodturning skills. One of my first contributions to the Society was helping TT editor Bob Cleland with the folding and labelling of over 300 copies of the newsletter for mailing out, together with David Thomas, Phil Harris and Albert Takken. A few years later, I started helping Trevor Pfingst on the Sales Counter at the biannual Mt Coot-tha Exhibitions, stepping in for Trevor in August 2005 when he was away for his father's funeral.

In 2008, I started my "transitioning to retirement", taking on a new part-time job 3 days/week, working from home for an international contract research organisation. With fewer travel commitments, I was able to spend more time at the club, ride sharing from the Western suburbs with Phil Harris. I learned much about the management and recent history of the Society from Phil, who had

become President in 2005. The Management Committee had expanded to 9 members following Constitutional Amendment in November 2004. When a casual vacancy arose on the Management Committee in May 2008, following the resignation of Frank Kert, Phil Harris had no trouble persuading me to fill the position – I leapt at the opportunity. Trevor Pfingst was also delighted when I indicated that I was willing to take over as Treasurer at the end of that year.



Set of stackable cylinders, Huon Pine, one of my first pieces shown at a WSQ Forum night (the left-hand photo is reprinted from *Turning Talk*, June 2008 edition)

I served as Treasurer from 2009 to 2014, except for a 12-month break in 2010-11 when Helen and I were living in The Netherlands. Helen was awarded a prestigious Residential Research Fellowship with the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies at Wassenaar (near Leiden). Because I was working remotely, I was fortunate to be able to continue my job as usual while living in the Netherlands. During this absence, Harold Wiltshire did a marvellous job looking after the Society's finances but was ready to hand back the job when I returned to Brisbane in July 2011. Rob McKee took over from Phil Harris as President at the beginning of that year, and another Constitutional amendment in November 2010 saw the Management Committee increase further to a total of 11 members. It was an exciting and rewarding time to be Treasurer, with lots of work related to the planning and construction of the Auditorium extension, including multiple grant applications. It was a defining moment for WSQ when our Patron Ian McKenzie officially opened the Auditorium in March 2012. Another highlight during this period was the celebration of WSQ's 30th Anniversary in June 2009. My time as Treasurer was a great opportunity for me to learn more about the management of the Society from Presidents Phil Harris and Rob McKee, and Vice President Kev Kruger.

In 2015, Helen and I had another opportunity to live and work overseas, this time in Jerusalem for 6 months. Helen was again pursuing her academic research career with a Fellowship at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. I was again able to keep doing my job remotely (now as a sole trader providing consultancy services to drug development companies), and also benefited from living close to Eli Avisera's woodturning workshop, where I spent one morning each week. John

Reed took over as Treasurer at the beginning of 2015 before I departed for Israel.



Woodturning class with Eli Avisera, Jerusalem, September 2015

I re-joined the Management Committee in January 2017, focussing on the organisation of Eli Avisera's visit to Turnfest and WSQ in March of that year. I had thought that I might be able to serve as Secretary or Vice President the following year, and that such additional experience would be of benefit before considering the top job. However, it turned out that Rob McKee adamantly wanted a well-deserved break from the Presidency and that no-one else on the Management Committee was willing to step up into the role. I did not stand for President at the SGM in

November 2017, but was appointed to the position at the December Committee meeting.

The highlight of my Presidential term was undoubtedly the 40th Anniversary celebrations last years. I enjoyed being a part of the organising team for this historic occasion, not just for the actual Anniversary ceremony on 22 June, but also the Egg Competition and Open Days in March, the Competition and Stephen Hughes demo in June, the 40th August Mt Coot-tha Exhibition in August, the Brisbane Square Library Exhibition in October to December, and the 75th Mt Coot-tha Exhibition in December.

With my son and his family moving to Ireland in January 2020, I was looking forward to a year of travel with fewer responsibilities at WSQ. However, I agreed to stay on as President until April while Bob Kennedy enjoyed his overseas travels. I congratulate Bob on his recent appointment as President and also new Vice President John Carney, and wish them well for the challenging months ahead as we continue to navigate through the corona virus pandemic and prepare for reopening the club later in the year. My travel plans have unfortunately been put on hold, and I will still be around to assist the new Management Team in their endeavours.

Brian Creese

Past President (January 2018 – April 2020)

Diary for May 2020

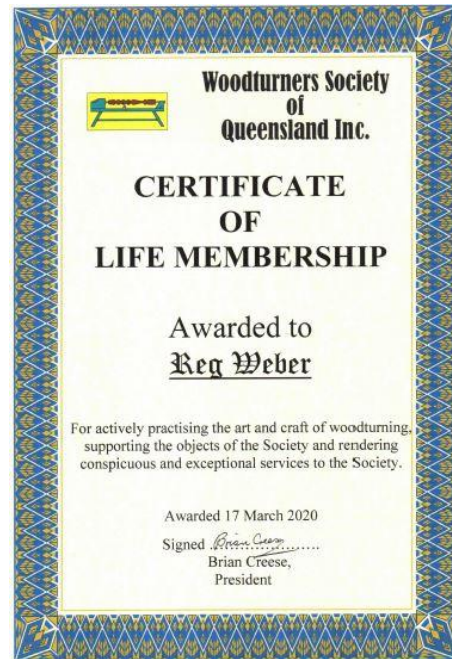
Date	Day of Month	Session Title	Convenor	Times
2 May	1 st Saturday	Demonstration by Theo Haralampou – "Turning a Sphere from a Log, Without any Jigs" [Using Zoom application]	Ian Symes	3:00 – 4:30
5 May	1 st Tuesday	Weekly Tele-smoko Meeting	Brian Creese	9:30 – 10:30
9 May	2 nd Saturday	Management Committee Meeting Demonstration by Theo Haralampou – "Turning Small and Off-centre Toys" [Using Zoom application]	Bob Kennedy Ian Symes	9:00 – 10:00 3:00 - 4:30
12 May	2 nd Tuesday	Weekly Tele-smoko Meeting	Brian Creese	9:30 – 10:30
16 May	3 rd Saturday	Show & Tell Videoconference – Topic – "Off-centre Turning" [Using Zoom application]	Brian Creese	9:00 – 10:30
19 May	3 rd Tuesday	Weekly Tele-smoko Meeting	Brian Creese	9:30 – 10:30
26 May	4 th Tuesday	Weekly Tele-smoko Meeting	Brian Creese	9:30 – 10:30

Geoff Holbeck

Editor – Turning Talk

Life Membership Awarded to Reg Weber

According to WSQ's Constitution, an ordinary member who has actively practised the art and craft of woodturning, supports the objects of the Society and has rendered **conspicuous and exceptional services** to the Society is eligible for Life Membership. A Life Member is elected on the recommendation of the Management Committee at an AGM or SGM. Only one Life Membership Award can be made in any calendar year. This year, the Management Committee considered five members who satisfied the criteria for Life Membership, and recommended Reg Weber for this prestigious award. Since becoming a WSQ member in 2008, Reg has always been an active member of the Society and contributed in many ways. He has used his engineering background and career to provide outstanding service in maintaining and repairing our lathes and other equipment. He has served continuously on the Management Committee for 10 years. Reg's dedication, commitment and service to the Society were applauded by WSQ members at the Annual General Meeting on 17 March when the Committee's recommendation for Life Membership was endorsed. Unfortunately, Reg was unable to be present at the AGM, but his Life Membership certificate and badge will be presented to him when WSQ reopens later this year (hopefully).



Brian Creese
Past President

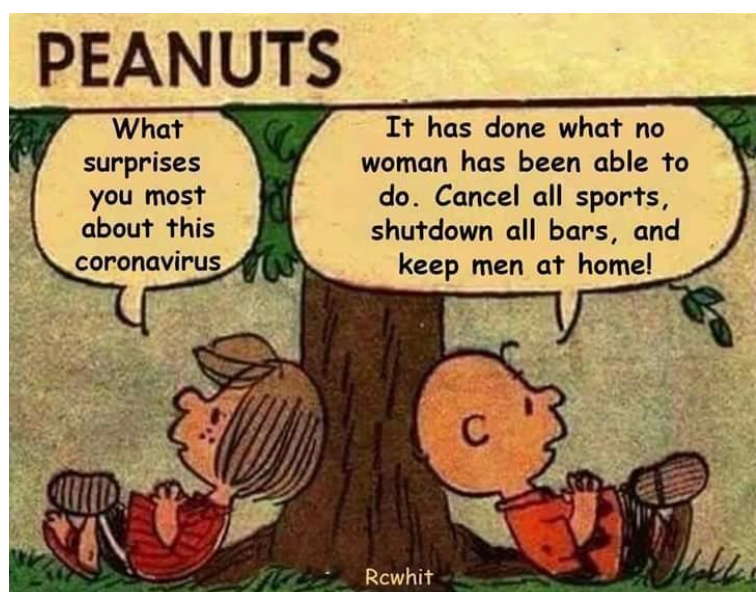
Why Men Need Toolboxes



To see the answer, hold down the Ctrl key and click on the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oe8rAnL0Xu4>

Anonymous
WSQ Member



Treasurer's Report

A summary of our financial position for March 2020 is:

Receipts

Container Refunds	\$ 127
Workshop Events	\$ 987
Memberships	\$ 670
Shop Profit	\$ 248
Sundry Income	<u>\$ 270</u>
	\$2,302

Less Payments

Accounting & Audit	\$ 116
Cleaning	\$ 480
Electricity	\$ 255
Insurance	\$ 403
Library Purchases	\$ 14
Newsletter Expenses	\$ 88
Property Expenses	\$1,311
Rates	\$ 156
Telephone & Internet	\$ 104
Training	\$ 648
Workshop Expenses	\$ 48
Other Expenses	<u>\$ 195</u>
	\$3,149

Net Profit/(Loss) (\$1,515)

Cash at Bank \$47,181

Mike Dunne
Treasurer

Members' Birthdays in May

- ❖ Claire Aitkenhead
- ❖ Mike Dunne
- ❖ John Macrae
- ❖ Loretta Scaini-Clarke
- ❖ Tai Nguyen
- ❖ Philip Oostenbroek

Alwyn Clark
Membership Secretary

Library News

For those members who have books, magazines or DVD'S out on loan, please keep them in a safe place and return them when we start back.

Stay safe and only go out if it is essential.

Alwyn Clark
Librarian

Enjoy Life

Cheery news to ponderPutting things into perspective.

If you had bought \$1,000 worth of Qantas shares one year ago. You would have made \$49.00 today. If you had bought \$1,000 worth of AIG shares one year ago. You would have made \$33.00 today. If you had bought \$1000 worth of Lehman Brothers shares before the GFC. You would have made \$0.00 today.

BUT If you purchased \$1,000 worth of beer one

year ago, drank all the beer then returned the cans for recycling. You would have made \$214.00 today. So, based on the above, the best current investment plan is to drink heavily and recycle!!

MAKES YOU PROUD TO BE AN AUSSIE. DOESN'T IT??

Anonymous
WSQ Member

Some Tips for Security on the Internet

As we are faced with self-isolation from our friends and families many of us have turned to technology that we would have otherwise ignored. This is a new learning experience for some of us and we may feel that the water is a bit deep or the current too strong. The following is a guide and is by no means comprehensive.

- Share with care. Be aware of what you share on social media sites. Adjust your privacy settings to limit who can see your information. **AVOID SHARING YOUR LOCATION.** This relates directly to the next point
- Use security questions whose answers are impossible for others to guess. Think about how much information is out there. Your mother's maiden name or your first home town are questions that have answers that are easy to find. Check the information you have included in personal profiles don't associate security questions that contain information you have made public
- Create strong Passwords. Strong passwords include Upper and Lower case letters together with numbers and special symbols (\$, %, @, etc) and are more difficult to guess. Change them regularly particular ones relating to financial / bank accounts. IT may be inconvenient but don't save sensitive passwords to your computer, phone or device. If you have to enter them all the time you will find that you will remember them more easily.
- Shred or destroy personal or financial papers before you throw them away. Keep them in a secure place if you wish to retain them
- DO NOT trust someone simply because they know personal information about you
- DO NOT disclose your PIN (personal identification Number) or Password to anyone. Banks and other financial institutions, The Australian Tax Office, Australia Post etc. will **NEVER** contact you and ask you to provide your PIN or password
- Emails and communications that create a sense of urgency such as a problem with bank accounts /tax is likely a scam
- When in doubt throw it out. Clicking on a link within an email is often used by scammers to obtain personal information
- When you forward emails delete any references to others addresses. Check emails that have been forwarded to you for ads or items that have been added to the body of the email. These are usually found at the bottom of the message. It may be easier to copy the message and paste it in a new email
- If you are entering personal and/or financial information, make sure that the site is using '**https://**'. Sites beginning with '**http://**' do not provide the same level of protection as **https://**. Sites using '**https://**' are using layers of security protocol (HTTP and SSL), meaning that the session between your Browser (Google, Safari, Internet Explorer, Mozilla etc.) and the web server is encrypted.
- LOG OUT of websites and apps when you are finished using them
- Education is the best form of protection. Learn as much as you can about new technology. Seek help from family, Children and Grandchildren.
- Technology changes rapidly, upgrading equipment can be costly but older devices can fail and operating systems that cease to be supported by the creator are no longer secure. Little steps in upgrades are easier to learn than giant leaps
- Do keep the virus and security software up to date on your computers and mobile devices.

These are tips have been gleaned from life experiences, shared knowledge from friends and colleagues, and Google searches. I hope they are of use to you and maybe a helpful reminder to others. Now that we are all over 25 we realise that we don't know everything and yearn to learn more each day. Remember the knowledge and skills you have now were perhaps daunting at some stage in your life. Apply the same to technology embrace it, get to understand it and make it work for you, it is not going away. Thanks to Ian Symes for his assistance with this article.

John Carney
Vice President

Theo's Live-Streamed Yo-Yo Demo

As well as being a historic day for Australia's Anzac Day tradition, Saturday 25 April was a memorable occasion for WSQ: Theo Haralampou presented our first remote interactive woodturning demonstration. The stimulus for the occasion was the shutdown of the Society's normal activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to maintain member engagement and contacts during the shutdown. The demo was organised by Ian Symes using the Zoom platform. A link to the meeting was sent out to WSQ members by e-mail one week beforehand. About 25 members joined in the fun simply by clicking on the link on their computer, tablet or smart phone. Theo presented the demo from his home workshop, which is set up with a Record Coronet lathe and three video cameras, which gave us excellent close-up views of the work on the lathe. A control console next to the lathe allows Theo to select which camera or cameras are screened to the remote audience. The live interactive Zoom platform allowed us to ask Theo questions as he showed us his tricks and skills. A big advantage for the demonstrator was that he had all tools and equipment at his fingertips and didn't forget to bring anything with him!



Computer screen shot showing Theo working on his lathe at home and a few of the smiling faces of WSQ members watching the demo remotely.

The first part of the demo was about making a spinning top using one or two CDs mounted on a spindle and held in position with a turned ring glued on top. Unfortunately, it wasn't until later in the demo that Theo mentioned something about screen shots, so I didn't capture any images from the first part.

In the second part of the demo, Theo showed us how he makes a well-balanced yo-yo from a single piece of wood. He used a piece of beefwood about 75 mm square by 35 mm in length (along the grain). So that the timber grain runs parallel to the yo-yo's axle for maximum strength, the blank was mounted between centres. Theo made sure that the drive and live centres did not penetrate too far into the timber so as not to waste timber when turning away the centre marks on each side of the yo-yo. After rounding up the blank, Theo created a short (3 mm) square spigot on the tailstock side that was the same diameter as the jaws of his chuck when opened by 3 mm. This ensures that no chucking marks are left on the spigot, which remains on the face of the finished yo-yo. Theo then marked the position of the central groove using a narrow parting tool, but without going to the full depth at this stage. He also created a matching spigot on the headstock side.



The blank held between centres showing the square spigot either side and the beginning of the central groove. Note the black rubber mat over the bed and banjo, allowing viewers to see the work more clearly. Note also the black electrician's tape around the chuck jaws, which prevents them damaging Theo's knuckles as they spin around.

Theo then mounted the work in the chuck, allowing him to shape one side of the yo-yo with a spindle detail gouge, removing the stub where the centre was, creating a pleasing domed profile and leaving about 1 mm on the spigot.



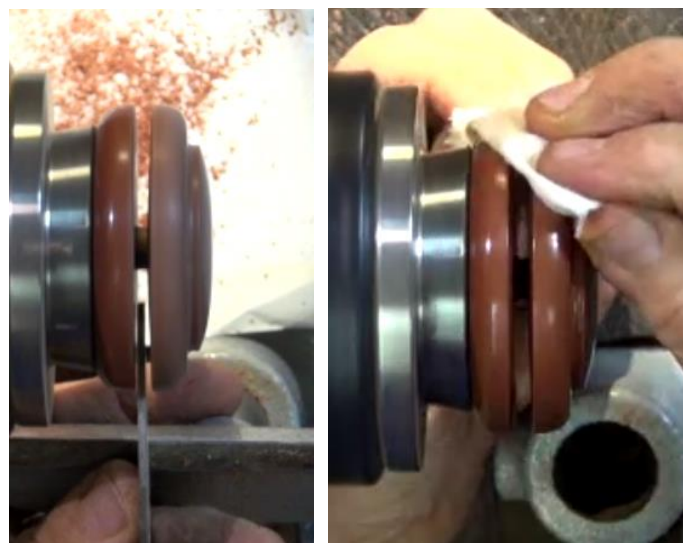
The yo-yo mounted in the chuck for shaping the first side. The composite photo on the right is from a single screen shot, i.e. the images are simultaneous. Note Theo's preferred grip with left index finger curled around behind the tool rest for extra control of the spindle gouge

The first face of the yo-yo is sanded through the grits (180 to 400), then finished with EEE wax and U-Beaut Aussie Oil. The first side is finished completely before the yo-yo is reversed in the chuck.



Sanding and finishing the first face of the yo-yo before reversing in the chuck.

After reversing the yo-yo in the chuck, the second side is shaped and sanded before the central groove is cut down to its final depth, leaving an axle about 10 mm in diameter. After applying finish to the second side, the final steps were to remove the yo-yo from the chuck, add the string and make sure it worked! The audience applauded Theo for giving us this informative and entertaining demo, and Ian Symes for organising it.



Cutting the central groove to its final depth and final finishing

WSQ Competition 2020

I am not sure what may happen to the competition this year - may even have to be next year? It is obviously contingent on what restrictions apply and WSQ's return to some sort of normality before the event can be revisited.

In the meantime, we had already selected a set of categories that we were going to promote, prior to the Covid-19 interruption. These are set out below:

Items in all categories shall be predominately made of wood, except where indicated.

A Large Turned bowl - Diameter greater than 200mm. Opening must be greater than 50% of maximum diameter, overall height must be less than maximum diameter.

B Small Turned bowl - Diameter less than 200mm. Opening must be greater than 50% of maximum diameter, overall height must be less than maximum diameter.

C Turned Plate or Platter - Height must not be more than 15% of the maximum diameter

D Turned Vase or Hollow Form - Vase - height must be more than the maximum diameter. Hollow Form - must have an opening which is less than 20% of the maximum diameter.

E Spindle Turning - Long grain, turned between centres. Examples include balustrades, lamp stand, legs of table or chair, bedpost, finial etc.

F Turned Lidded Container - Any size. Lid may be free, threaded or hinged, Hinges and threads of other material allowed.

G Laminated or Segmented Turned Form - Solid or Lattice forms

H Pens/Pencils - substantially turned from wood or acrylic materials. Can include features of wood, non-ferrous metals, acrylic or other material that is turned in the production process of producing the pen or pencil. Must be capable of producing writing.

I Identical Pairs or Matching Set - Must be turned and identical in every way. Examples include goblets, eggs or fruit, chess pieces, set of coasters, salt and pepper grinders.

J Turned Article Incorporating Other Work or Materials - Item includes additional Work to enhance the basic turned article, such as carving, pyrography, colouring, routing, piercing, scroll sawing or CNC work. Other Materials may incorporate metals, leather, plastic,

K Turned Miniature - Scaled version of a real item. Finished item must fit within a 50mm cube.

L Christmas Tree Ornament - Item to decorate the ABC Christmas Tree. Item should be substantially made of wood and highlights the beauty of the selected species and the skill of the woodworker.

Monthly Challenge - The challenge for the month, will be a Tea Pot. Any size, any finish, incorporating a handle and spout. We will get the judges to review this category and provide a score under the applicable judging rules.

As our members have plenty of time in the workshop these days, I thought it may be useful for them to get started on some items in anticipation of the competition whenever it may eventuate. Obviously, there is no excuse this time for not having enough time to produce an entry!

Harold Wiltshire
Competition Organiser

All contributions for the June 2020 edition of Turning Talk need to be submitted by no later than Friday 29 May 2020.

The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Woodturners Society of Queensland or its Management Committee.

Other organisations are welcome to use, with appropriate acknowledgement, editorial material from this publication.

You're invited to contribute to the content of TT.

To do so, preferably by Email:

gholbeck@hotmail.com

Or, by mail:

C/O TT EDITOR @ WSQ



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Tree of the Month – Gidgee



Botanical name: *Acacia cambagei*

Other common names: Gidga, Gidya, Gidyea, Stinking Wattle.

Distribution: Limited to the dry inland plains of New South Wales and Queensland. One of the many Acacia trees Gidgee is a small hardwood with a short twisted trunk making recovery of boards difficult.

Colour: Heartwood is a dark chocolate brown with distinctive growth rings that tend to black in colour. The sapwood is a rich deep yellow and makes an interesting contrast.

The timber: The grain is variable. Mostly straight grained but some trees produce wood with a very wavy figure which is much sought after for turnery. Texture is very fine.

Mechanical properties: A very high density timber which will not yield to steam bending techniques. High strength and crush resistance. Suitable for both internal and external applications. Kiln dry density of 1200kgs/m³ (75lb/ft³).

Working properties: Due to Gidgee's density and grain variations cutters need to be very sharp and the angle reduced to 15 degrees to avoid grain tear. Pre-drilling is necessary before nailing or screwing to overcome resistance and splitting. Glues well and finishes to a very high polish. Boards are limited to lengths of a maximum of 1m (3ft).

Uses: High class furniture, cabinet work, turnery, flooring, musical instruments and small carving. Not available as a veneer.

Availability: Abundant in the wild but the timbers are only available from specialist stockists.

Related species:

A. pruinocarpa - Tawu or Black Gidgee- grows throughout the Western Australian goldfields through to the Nullarbor Plains. It is almost identical to *A. cambagei* in its appearance and properties.

A. crombiei - Pink Gidgee - grows in the same regions as *A. cambagei*. The only difference between the two is that Pink Gidgee has a fine pink-purple layer between the sapwood and the heartwood.

A. argyrodendron -Black Gidgee - is located in inland Queensland. Its timber is similar to *A. cambagei* - possibly slightly darker.

A. Georginae - Georgina Gidgee - is another species that grows throughout inland Queensland. It has the same contrast between golden sapwood and dark chocolate heartwood.

A. calcicola - Myall Gidgee



Pink Gidgee Timber



Purple Gidgee, Huon Pine & Mackay Cedar Segmented Bowl by Allan Short

Please press the Ctrl key and click on the following link to see more about Gidgee:

<http://www.ttlt.id.au/treepages/gidgee.htm>

Geoff Holbeck

Editor – Turning Talk

The text, timber image and tree image were sourced from "Timber in Australia in Colour" by David C Clark, and the turned image was provided by WSQ.

Turning Talk

Published by the
Woodturners Society of Queensland Incorporated

Management Committee

President: Bob Kennedy 3892 4675
Vice President: John Carney 3245 6135
Secretary: Rhonda Clark 3803 4270
Treasurer: Mike Dunne 0410 400 954
Members: Alwyn Clark 3803 4270
Barry Wilson 0409 260 786
Bob McGeechan 3394 1839
Geoff Holbeck 3901 6782
John Donaldson 0407 022 403
Reg Weber 3206 2325
Toni Dowd 3175 0383

Other Positions

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Membership Secretary: Alwyn Clark 3803 4270
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Assistant Librarian: Toni Dowd 3175 0383
Storekeeper: Don McMillan 0439 704 622
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Asst. Training Manager: Wayne Molloy 3273 2659
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Competition Organiser: Harold Wiltshire 3390 3646
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Caretaker: Len Young 3397 8827

That's Not My Job!

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

Anonymous
WSQ Member



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