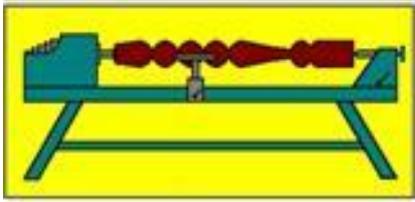


Turning Talk

Volume 34 Number 10

November 2020



Presidential Thoughts *For November 2020*



Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the year moves towards a close and we look back on the impact of COVID at WSQ, I am acutely aware of the challenges we have faced, along with the rest of the Community. It has impacted every aspect of our lives at WSQ, and will continue to do so well into 2021.

We have maintained a COVID Safe workplace at Pine Street, and also in our homes. Again a significant achievement. And, we will do it again at the upcoming Annual Exhibition at Mt Coot-tha in late November. It will be different ... and it will be good!

Nevertheless, this year we have embarked on the development of a Strategy which will set our goals and direction for the future, under the guidance of Toni Dowd. And, it will be premised on 'what members have asked for'.

This is an achievement in itself which we can all take pride in, as we look ahead.

By the time you read this, we will have held our Annual Competition. Sadly our Competition Awards day had to be cancelled due to a computer malfunction on the day. At this stage of writing, I am unaware of the outcome, however, we have a record number of entrants (31) and entries (148) this year and, Categories have increased by 2 to 15. I see this as indicative of increasing member support for the inclusion of 'kindred arts' in our weekly offerings for members.

On Tuesday 17 November we will hold our Special General Meeting at Pine Street, to elect the Committee for next year. In the past 10 years there have only been a few occasions where positions were contested (i.e., we had to vote). I am hopeful that this year is one of those. A good Committee team is essential for the ongoing viability of our Society. All positions are declared vacant on the day. Nominations from the floor will be accepted for unfilled positions.

On a personal note, I have found my role as President unnecessarily challenging beyond belief, and I am still considering my options. If I am to renominate, I am cognizant that WSQ needs a united and cohesive Committee. I have had such a Committee this year, and look forward to working with members next year, in some capacity at least, to achieve our short-term objectives and long term goals.

My Best Regards

Bob Kennedy
President WSQ Inc.

Diary for November 2020

Date	Day of Month	Session Title	Times
3 Nov.	1 st Tuesday	Open Workshop Library Open Workshop Pyrography Workshop Open Workshop	8.00am to 12.00pm 8.00am to 12.00pm 1.00pm to 3.30pm 1.00pm to 3.30pm 6.00 pm to 9.00pm
6 Nov.	1 st Friday	Toy Group Open Workshop	8.00am to 3.00pm 8.00am to 12.00pm
7 Nov.	1 st Saturday	Demonstration	9:00am to 10:30am
10 Nov.	2 nd Tuesday	Open Workshop Library Open Workshop Pyrography Workshop Open Workshop	8.00am to 12.00pm 8.00am to 12.00pm 1.00pm to 3.30pm 1.00pm to 3.30pm 6.00 pm to 9.00pm
12 Nov.	2 nd Thursday	Pre-booked Project Tuition with Rob McKee	9.00am to 12.30pm
13 Nov.	2 nd Friday	Open Workshop	8.00am to 12.00pm
14 Nov.	2 nd Saturday	Management Committee Meeting Open Workshop	9:00am to 12:00pm 8.00am to 12.00pm
17 Nov.	3 rd Tuesday	Open Workshop Library Open Workshop Pyrography Workshop Open Workshop	8.00am to 12.00pm 8.00am to 12.00pm 1.00pm to 3.30pm 1.00pm to 3.30pm 6.00 pm to 9.00pm
20 Nov.	3 rd Friday	Open Workshop	8.00am to 12.00pm
21 Nov.	3 rd Saturday	Show & Tell Forum	9:00am to 10:30am
24 Nov.	4 th Tuesday	Open Workshop Library Open Workshop Pyrography Workshop Open Workshop	8.00am to 12.00pm 8.00am to 12.00pm 1.00pm to 3.30pm 1.00pm to 3.30pm 6.00 pm to 9.00pm
26 Nov.	4 th Thursday	Pre-booked Project Tuition with Rob McKee	9.00am to 12.30pm
27 Nov.	4 th Friday	Open Workshop Not this Month due to	8.00am to 12.00pm
28 Nov.	4 th Saturday	Open Workshop Mt Coot-tha Exhibition	8.00am to 12.00pm
N/A.	5 th Tuesday	Open Workshop Library Open Workshop Pyrography Workshop Open Workshop	8.00am to 12.00pm 8.00am to 12.00pm 1.00pm to 3.30pm 1.00pm to 3.30pm 6.00 pm to 9.00pm
Future Events and Important Dates			
Saturday 7 November		Ian Symes will be conducting a demonstration at the more challenging end of the spectrum Titled "Six Diamonds" - 9am to noon - Cost: \$5 - Be there if you can, it will be good, and you will learn a lot.	
Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 November		WSQ Woodturning Exhibition at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens Auditorium - 9am to 4pm - Cost: FREE - Refreshments available at modest cost	

Geoff Holbeck
Editor – Turning Talk

November Show and Tell Forum

We will be meeting live at the hall at 9.00am on 21 November. Bring your pieces, complete or a work in progress. If you would like to attend and are regularly unable to attend, let me know, maybe a more suitable time to the members could be found.

This is a valuable chance to get help with your pieces. The topic this month is "Teapots".

Peter Wyer
WSQ Member

This is to advise all members that in accordance with the constitution of the
WOODTURNERS SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC

There will be a
SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

At 19 Pine Street, Greenslopes

At 9.30 am

Tuesday 17 November 2020

For the Following Purpose Only:

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 17 March 2020.
2. Election of the Management Committee for 2021.
3. Other Business

Lathe Maintenance

WSQ provides a biannual preventative maintenance program for all our lathes. The program involves the inspection of the lathes, normally in May and November, by Reg Webber and his team of volunteers. Any matters detected are addressed. This program allows problems to be detected early and repaired before they escalate into major problems. The program appears to be working well.

However, if you become aware of a problem with a lathe you are using, please report it to the Convenor on duty, and complete a "WSQ Lathe Maintenance Service Request and Fault Report" form. Please help the club to keep our equipment in top condition - report problems as soon as you detect them.

Reg Weber has advised me that he and his team conducted the most recent lathe maintenance exercise on October 19. Our thanks go to Reg Weber, Bob McGeechan, Alwyn Clark, Alan Loxton, Mike Dunne, Barry Wilson, Toni Dowd, John Reed, Mike Dodson, and John Donaldson. Well done team!!!

Geoff Holbeck
Editor – Turning Talk

Treasurer's Report

September 2020 summary. A grant was approved by the Brisbane City Council to cover the cost of roof repairs in September. The repairs have been completed and the cost will be reflected in October. Income and expenses are in line with prior months.

Mike Dunne
Treasurer

Last Vicmarc Order for 2020

The last order to Vicmarc for 2020 is being compiled. Items can be ordered up to 9pm on 10 November.

Orders will also be accepted in the shop.

Regards

Please send your orders to Don McMillan Ph.
0439 704 622 or
Email. donwmcmillan@hotmail.com

Don McMillan
Store Keeper

Alternative Forms of Woodturning – Making Wooden Cam Clamps

Philosophy

Fellow sawdust makers. Unlike some, I have a broad definition of what constitutes the term woodturner. I believe that when you turn bits of a once living plant into something useful or aesthetically pleasing, you are, in fact, woodturning.

Driving Force

Some may have noticed that, for a period of time, I have been attempting to fashion a ukulele, three in fact. It's taking far longer than I anticipated. Gaining experience in matters of wood is more often in the journey than in the outcome. I keep getting distracted and taking alternative pathways. I like to think this makes me older and wiser.

The Quest



The Ukulele Jig

As I read the instructions on how to make the ukulele, it appeared that I would benefit from having a wide throat F Clamp, preferably light weight. Why not make one? How hard can it be? I immediately consulted Doctor Google (YouTube). There was a six minute video of how to make one. And here it is:

Making a wooden cam clamp.

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

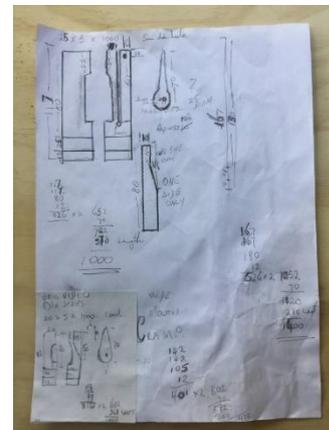
It's worth a watch and I would like to share with you my experiences.

The driver was to get something that would go in through the sound hole, (In the top, still to be added), and clamp the bridge where the strings come through to the top of the ukulele. The clamps needed to have long jaws, preferably lightweight.

Resources

As can be seen when you watch the video, the key is to start with a single piece of timber about a meter long. This you cut into various lengths, suitably shaped and then glued together to make the clamp. The video suggests using 20mm wide by 5mm high.

In the dungeon downstairs, I found bits of scrap of various widths and thicknesses and attempted to mentally adjust the dimensions to suit a variety of sized clamps. I used 25mm and 30mm pieces. Roughly 5mm thick. This is my quick attempt to calculate the amendments needed for the different sizes I made. The notes from the video are in the bottom left corner.



Drawings

Results



The outcome is that I have four very usable light weight clamps that were available for service. I gave them a coat of grapeseed oil for protection and durability. The results can be seen in the photo to the left.

This photo shows the four different sizes that I made. I added some cork squares to the jaws to protect the piece being clamped. These were cut from a thin cork pad that I picked up from my favourite shop. You never know when they might come in handy.

The first design flaw was that in some versions, I had made the stop, below the bar, too short. You can see the difference in the next photo. The first time I used it, the pressure was too great, and the glue gave way. It was a new bottle of Titebond 3. Thus plan B. I used some 15mm x1mm nails to give support. To ensure the timber didn't split, I had to use a very small hand drill that I picked up at a



flea market. This hand drill accepts 1mm shaft drill bits. Most electric drills and drill presses won't hold so small a bit. I knew it would come in handy one day. The timber used needs to be at least 5mm thick otherwise the tips protrude and require further attention.

The clamps were immediately put to use in ways not originally foreseen. I had made four, to see which design best suited my original intent. I am also making different sized ukuleles. However, to clamp the bracings to the top and bottom I was able to put them to immediate use as you can see in the photo below. Note that wooden clothes pegs can also double as clamps in appropriate circumstances.



Learnings

The summary of learnings is as follows:

1. Ensure the timber is robust and is uniform in height, width and is suitably smoothed. (Otherwise the slide bar is too tight or too loose.)
2. Don't short cut the design phase. Take time to ensure your recalculations are correct. As stated earlier, the base support was able to be rectified. The incorrect siting of the hole for, and in, the Cam would be much more difficult to fix.
3. The hole at the base of the vertical cut in the movable jaw must be in the centre. (If it is on the tangent, the timber will split. Can you spot the one that required re- modelling?)
4. Make sure that, before you start, you have the right sized pieces of kit. (The video uses 5mm dowel for the cam swivel. After drilling the holes, I discovered that Bunnings only sell 4mm and 6mm dowel rods. Redrilling a hole is not the easiest of tasks. After so doing, I was advised that the cheap shops sell small lengths of 5mm dowel in their Art sections.
5. I would recommend using nails to strengthen the bottom as well as the proposed correct length of wood stopper.
6. The vertical cuts in the movable jaw were made with a Japanese pull saw, which cut through like butter. Just like in the video. Make sure you align the cut to start at the void in the movable jaw. And that your indents in the jaws only go in for half the distance from the face to the cut line.
7. My main cuts were done with a drop saw using a stop block which ensures consistency of components. The indents in the jaws were cut using the bandsaw. But as you can see from the video hand tools are an option.

The bottom line is that these clamps were relatively easy to make. They took little time from start to finish. They required almost no outlay.

Try a different path to woodturning.

Maurie Page
WSQ Member

Spotlighting WSQ Members

Today, we are going to hear from one of our elder statesmen, John Sheppard, who joined the Club in 1993 and became a Life Member in 2005.



John Sheppard

John, can you share a little about who you are and your background before joining the Club?

I was a motor mechanic by trade and had my own business in the UK. We wanted to come to Australia – mainly for the sake of our four children. My wife's sister had immigrated 10 years before us and was happy to sponsor us. We arrived here on the 1 December 1974 - just after the big floods – it was bloody hot!

Did you do any woodturning in the UK?

I did carpentry at school and had done a few jobs at home. I made a glass cabinet and a few other pieces of furniture. But I hadn't done any woodturning until I came to Australia.

What motivated you to join the Club?

I went to a show at Mt Coot-tha a couple of years after we arrived from the UK. I watched Terry Martin in the lathe stand. Also met Rob McKee when he was a TAFE teacher. I did two courses with Rob and joined the Society in 1993. I used to come along on Tuesday nights. I watched and learnt a lot from a few turners like Terry Martin. I attended the first Turnfest in Coolool in 2003. Turners came from other states, other countries. I used to watch what they were doing and think to myself "That is simple, I'll try it"! Sometimes it worked and sometimes it didn't. But you learn from just having a go! Some say Turnfest is expensive. But I think to myself "If I go to Turnfest and pick up 5 – 6 ideas, then it's worth the money". I wouldn't miss it.

What was the first item you ever turned?

A bowl. I did it over a weekend with a teacher at Ipswich College guiding me. I remember the first piece that I completed by myself. It was a vase. Kevin Rosetta told me it was "bloody horrible and it was only good for firewood" – he was a hard task master but an excellent mentor! He took me under his wing! Like many of his contemporary mates in those days they made their own tools. Kevin used wooden chucks. He invented the pull chuck. Bret Wallace did thread chasing. Others like Eric Seymour, David Thomas, Bob Cleland, Jim Barten have passed on now but all of them were Founding Members of the Club. I had a lot of respect for them. They were great turners.

When did you first get a lathe?

When money arrived from the UK one year, I got a second hand one. It was hand made with 4 speeds – you had to change the belts. It cost me \$500. I used it for 2 years. I upgraded to other lathes over time – most were second hand. Used them all for a few years. The lathes became more sophisticated as they moved from mechanical to electrical.

When I got my Vicmarc 100 it got me into turning the little, small things. It took me a long time because I had to sit and really think hard about things. I got more satisfaction from that – it was much more "mind challenging"! I eventually brought a JET variable speed mini lathe – it was used straight away at the Mt Coot-tha show!

What other things have you turned?

I've tried all sorts of things – boxes, platters, dishes, bowls, vases, handles. I like a challenge to do something I haven't done before.

Do you have a favourite piece of timber?

It's got to be jacaranda. I like to turn it wet. You can dry it out while turning – use your hand and sandpaper to create heat. I also enjoy turning outback timbers like Conkerberry, Flame She Oak and Gidgee.

What do you like to make from jacaranda?

Anything really but with plates, platters and the like you have to avoid the end grain.

What do your family and friends think of what you do?

Barb, my wife, has really encouraged me to do turning over the years. She loves what I make.

She's done a lot here at the Club herself. My friends don't say much but I think they like what I do.

What have you enjoyed most about being a member of the Club?

Well, besides turning the other thing I enjoyed doing was going away to Camp Quality camps. Four of us used to go for 3 – 4 days. We would turn anything the kids wanted - within reason. I remember when I first went along – I was just waiting to see what happened and a little kid looked at me – that brought tears to my eyes! When you have grandchildren round the same age of a little one with cancer it makes you realise how lucky you are. One year Allan Dickson took an apple box full of Queensland nuts. The kids had a lot of fun mashing them with a mallet on the concrete! We went to Camp Quality for

about 10 years. Then we started a program with the Alzheimer's group.

As, one of the longer serving active members of the Club, do you have any suggestions about how we could better support new members?

Well, I always ask them what they want to do? Sometimes they don't really know. But if somebody new comes up and asks me about different things I'll help them if I can. Just like people did for me when I first came to the Club all those years ago. I like coming here, I really enjoy listening and watching new members settling in. Sometimes I'll just go up to them if I see them struggling to maybe show them a different way to try something.

Toni Dowd
Management Committee Member

Update: “Looking Back: Moving Forward”

We continue to hasten slowly with our review of our current practices and our planning for the future. Like all clubs like ours, it is essential that we are prepared to contribute ideas and actively participate in formulating the direction that will keep our members interested in belonging to WSQ, and also attractive to new members.

To this end, it is very important that we say what we do and do what we say. In reviewing our survey findings and developing a plan for the coming years we need to be mindful of the need to understand just exactly who we are as WSQ so that we are prepared to respond to the changing times as well as the changing needs of our members.

You might like to ponder the following questions that will be discussed at the Tuesday meetings in the near future:

What is WSQ all about – just who are we?

How do we tell the wider community who we are and what we do?

Is WSQ as relevant and valued by its members in 2020 as it was in 1979 when it was founded?

Binny Willis 0438 091 053 secretary@wsqld.org.au &
Toni Dowd 0439 78 4245 strategy@wsqld.org.au

Competition Awards Day 31 October Cancelled

Dear Members,

It is my sad duty to advise all WSQ members and friends, that it has been necessary to cancel the Award Presentation Ceremony scheduled for Saturday 31 October.

At the conclusion of the Judging Day on Wednesday, it was discovered that a significant amount of the data did not save correctly to the computers. Fortunately, some data was able to be retrieved, sufficient to allow one complete set of results and comments to be used with the additional

assistance of Rob McKee. (Rob was one of our judges, and I am truly grateful for his help on this occasion).

The results and the Awards of the 2020 Competition will now be based on this set of data.

Due to the amount of work involved post judging, in preparing for the Competition Awards Day, there is insufficient time for this to now occur as scheduled. Consequently, it has had to be cancelled.

Presentation of Awards will now take place at a Tuesday Workshop session.

The other flow-on consequence is that there will be no ZOOM Video Session on the day.

Competition entries can be collected from Pine Street on the following Tuesday.

My apologies for this late notice.

Kind Regards

Bob Kennedy
President WSQ Inc.

Images of Some of the Competition Entries



Geoff Holbeck
Editor – Turning Talk

Workshop for Greenslopes State School

On Monday 30 November WSQ will host the graduating class of 2020 from Greenslopes State school. The class will be treated to a brief outline of woodturning using our pole lathe and the treadle lathe to demonstrate some of the history of our craft. A demonstration using the equipment in the auditorium will show the students how a snowman is created from a timber blank. Following a short question time each student will be given a snowman crafted by club members as a gift to take home. The students will then be broken into groups and given a tour of our premises before heading back to School.

2020 is the second year WSQ has hosted this demonstration. It is the second part of a programme that sees an article made by members given to the lower grades as part of

their studies. In 2019 wooden eggs were decorated by year 3 and 4 arts classes. 2020 saw some bilbys made by several members given to the school. Covid 19 interrupted the process for the students as it has interrupted all our lives this year.

This is a small, but I feel worthy, programme to reach out to the younger members of our community. It is a chance to make them, and perhaps their parents aware of us and our craft. The graduating class will have an opportunity at high school to undertake some form of woodwork. I hope this programme will be continued into the future as this is an opportunity to recruit members in the future decades.

John Carney
Vice President

Invite to Contribute Christmas Decorations to Brisbane Square Library Display

Dear Toni,

We are celebrating an in-house Christmas display this year, showcasing Christmas memories or traditions from our staff members.

We will be displaying recipes, decorations, tableware with a story of what we share in our cabinets and I think that Christmas decorations from your members will complement these cabinet displays beautifully. We would love any of the decorations that you make - Christmas trees, reindeer, angels, Father Christmas for example. would all work really well. We also have our diagonal cabinets that will be utilised so a wide variety of woodworking would be wonderful.

Here is a photo of our wooden tree. As you can see it is very big - our staff member is only 150cm tall so the tree is 2.5 times her height!



My concern is the baubles/decorations will be very exposed there and for impact would have to be a bigger size than normal. Happy to display on the tree if those who make them are happy to have us hang them fairly high.

Our staff will be bringing in their items in by the middle of November. If you have some wooden decorations that we

Would your members be able to create a hook or loop at the top of the ornaments for the tree that we could thread fishing wire through to hang them? You will recall from your previous display that we do have many cabinets on level 2 – whatever does not work on the tree will go in the cabinets. We will make it beautiful.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions

Kindest regards,

Marcelle Collins

Senior Librarian-Programs, Brisbane Square Library | Library Services

2020 Competition Review

Now that the 2020 Competition has concluded it would be appropriate for us to reflect on the conduct of the 2020 competition. If members are inclined to make comments about the conduct of this year's competition now would be a good time to do so.

I ask members to forward me written comments which include suggestions for improvement in the future. I will consider all comments whether good and otherwise and discuss such comments with the appropriate people.

My email address is wbmolloy@gmail.com

Many thanks

Wayne Molloy.

Competition Convenor

Membership Matters

New Member

- Chris Taylor lives at Middle Park 4084

New members, when signing in please look on the small white board next to the cash tin for your name badges.

Alwyn Clark
Membership Secretary

All contributions for the December 2020 edition of Turning Talk need to be submitted by no later than pm Friday 27 November 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

Council Library Displays for November

North - Zillmere

South - Annerley



WSQ's October Display at the Inala Library

Geoff Holbeck
Editor – Turning Talk



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Turning Talk

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I've ever purchased
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