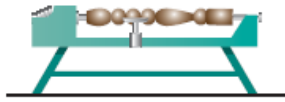


# Turning Talk

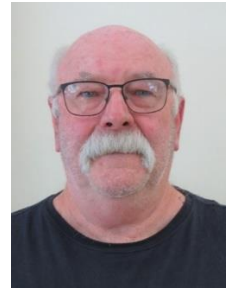
Volume 38 Number 2 March 2024



WOODTURNERS SOCIETY  
OF QUEENSLAND INC.



## Presidential Words For March 2024



My report this month will be brief as it has been a relatively quiet month.

### Competition 2024

The Competition milestone dates have been set and outlined below.

Submission of Entry Forms by 5pm

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Submission of Entries 5pm

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July

Judging

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July

Announcement of Winners

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

Entry forms, competition rules and judging criteria will be available on the WSQ website and in the auditorium from March 12<sup>th</sup>.

### Yourtown Visit



On Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> February we had a morning tea visit from *Yourtown's* Marie Coleman, Corporate and Community Impact leader, and Dan Batkin, Strategic Partnerships Coordinator, to present a very elegant 'Thank

you' certificate to our toymakers for their Christmas donation of toys to the children involved in their Children and Families program which provides refuge and support for women and children escaping domestic violence. Marie also spoke briefly of the work of *Yourtown* and its prize home lottery that funds the Kids Helpline, Australia's only 24/7 free counselling service for young people. Dan spoke about their programs that support young people to find gainful employment, and the practical support given to the very young parents of newborns. It was certainly valuable to hear about the fantastic contribution that *Yourtown* makes to our community and to know that our WSQ Toy-makers have contributed, that is so very much appreciated.

### Bunnings Power Pass Cards

Sana Va'ai has been in contact and advised that he will be the WSQ National Account Rep contact for Bunnings Trade. WSQ members made purchases totalling \$92,000 between July 2022 and June 2023. The total purchases from July 2023 to January 2024 totalled \$65,000. Due to the volume of purchases, the discounts received using the Power Pass cards increase across the range of products.

Please feel free to contact Sana if you have any upcoming projects, quotes, collects, special orders, deliveries you need done or for any product information. As a National Account Rep, Sana can assist in placing orders in any Bunnings location. If anyone contacts Sana, please let him know that you are part of the Woodturners Society.

### Sana's Contact details

[AVaai@bunnings.com.au](mailto:AVaai@bunnings.com.au)

Until next month

**Mike Dunne**

*President*

19 Pine Street, Greenslopes (Brisbane), Queensland, 4120, Australia  
Phone: (07) 3397 8156 Email: [WSQ@bigpond.com](mailto:WSQ@bigpond.com) Website: <http://wsqld.org.au>  
Founded June 1979 and incorporated September 1986

# The Secretary's Jottings

## Management Committee Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> February 2024

The meeting opened at 7.25am

1. **Attendance:** Mike Dunne, Alwyn Clark, Binny Willis, Brian Creese, John Donaldson, Reg Weber, Katherine Ogg, Barry Wilson, Bob Kennedy, David Williams, John Donaldson
2. The Minutes of 13/1/24 were accepted
3. The January Financial Statement and the Annual Financial Statement were accepted
4. The need to find a Treasurer to replace Brian Creese was discussed and Members will be canvassed for interest in filling the position
5. An Application for Membership was received and ratified by: John Dash, Peter Driessen, Robert Leach and Roy Smith.
6. A Certificate of Appreciation will be prepared for Tradelinks in recognition of their support with the purchase of the new hot water cistern
7. A report from the meeting with Salesforce was presented but further clarification of options is necessary to ensure that the product suits the database needs of WSQ activities
8. A new, large Urn is to be purchased to solve our 'smoko' dilemma
9. Further investigation of the cold water dispensers is necessary
10. The Safety Officer cited 1 Accident Report of a member having a catch on a piece he was turning. Rob McKee, as Convenor, offered feedback on tool presentation.
11. The issue of the impact of the seepage on the large bandsaw in the downstairs workshop was discussed. Further drainage work is necessary.
12. A new, large fan has been purchased for the downstairs workshop.
13. A member has offered a refrigerator as well as an upright freezer which will replace the chest freezer.
14. Repairs are necessary to the taper on a number of Forstner bits and a large drill bit due to incorrect usage.
15. Bunnings BBQ scheduled for Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February and 30<sup>th</sup> March which is Easter Saturday.
16. Pine St will be closed over the Easter 4 days.
17. There will be a Competition in 2024 with work continuing on the re-formatting of the Rules, including changes to Categories, Levels, Promotion and the Entry Form in line with the recommendations of the Review committee. Members will be asked to help with the organization of the event.
18. The Complaint and Dispute Resolution Policy was circulated for updating in preparation for inclusion in the Constitution at the AGM.
19. Open Day is scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2024. Members will be asked to assist with demonstrations, Come 'n Try activities and food service. Sales tables will be available.

**Meeting Closed: 9.19am**

**Binny Willis**

*Secretary - WSQ*

## Treasurer's Report

In the February issue of Turning Talk, I reported a preliminary figure of net profit for year-to-date of \$4,881, based on accounts up to 28 January. That was before the purchase of a new hot water system for \$873 and a pedestal fan for the downstairs workshop for \$139 at the end of January, as well as the January cleaning bill (\$210) and replenishment of shop supplies with an order to Carroll's (\$405). The final figure for net profit in January, ratified by the Management Committee, was \$2,689.

The Bunnings Sausage Sizzle on Saturday 17 February resulted in total sales of \$2,717 and net profit of \$2,028. Thank you to all the volunteers on that day. Another major source of income in February was \$4,770 for sub-lease of WSQ Hall to R M School of Woodworking. Major expenditure items were \$1,065 for our Association Liability Insurance policy, \$627 for the audit of last year's accounts, \$461 for a new 30-litre Birko hot water urn to replace our aging Zip system, and \$2,598 for two cold water drinking fountains/ water bottle refill stations. One of the drinking fountains is being funded by one of our members.

**Brian Creese**

*Treasurer*

## Bunnings BBQ's

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February saw 9 of number Alwyn Clarke, Andrew Bruce, John Dash, Mallick Ramlackan, Allan Short, Keith Greenland, Joyce Arnold and Brian Creese participate in our most successful BBQ held at Bunnings Mt Gravatt. Our Secretary, Binny Willis, who attended the Monthly Forum and was ferrying Brian to Bunnings, was called upon to drop into the supermarket on a resupply mission.

The day ended with us cooking and selling 52 kg of sausages, 32 loaves of bread and over 230 cans of soft drink and water. Our total sales for the day was \$2,717, leaving our club with a **profit of \$2,028**. It was a big day and everyone present should be congratulated on an outstanding effort.

Apart from the financial reward, I found it personally satisfying to work and socialise with my fellow members. John Dash is one of our newer members. He came to our club after being left a lathe by his Father. I got more than a bit envious when Allan told me that he got to play with FA18 Hornets and Iroquois helicopters in the RAAF. He was living many of our dreams.

These BBQ,s are a great fund raiser, giving WSQ funds to maintain the excellent workshop facilities and equipment that you can access. As two guests had mentioned in their thanks to our Toy Group on Tuesday Morning 20<sup>th</sup> February all volunteer groups struggle to raise finances to continue their work.

I urge all members to give some time to this activity. It has been broken down to 3-hour shifts on the rosters but we welcome any time you can give. The BBQ captains currently number 2-3 and we would welcome some more assistance at this level too. It would be ideal if we got a couple of captains for the day allowing a half day each. Please speak to myself, or Mike Dunne and we will cover what is expected of the Captain by Bunnings.

Our next BBQ is Easter Saturday 7.30am to 4.00pm. There is a Roster Sheet on the notice board. Indications are that we can expect a good outcome.

**John Carney**  
WSQ Member

## Diary/Convenors' Roster

Week	Date	Day	Session	Convenors	Convenors	Time
1	01/03/2024	Friday Morning	Open Workshop	Don Randall	Alwyn Clark	8am Till 12pm
1	01/03/2024	Friday Morning	Toy Group	Barry Wilson	Peter Churchward	8am Till 3pm
1	02/03/2024	Saturday Morning	Demonstration			9am Till 12pm
1	04/03/2024	Monday Arvo	Training Program	Mick Phythian		2pm Till 5pm
	04/03/2024	Monday Evening	Training Program	Mick Phythian		6pm Till 9pm
1	05/03/2024	Tuesday Morning	Open Workshop	John Reed	John Donaldson	8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Arvo	Open Workshop	Alan Short		1pm Till 4pm
		Tuesday Evening	Open Workshop	Mick Phythian	Dan Woodward	6pm Till 9pm
		Tuesday Morning	Downstairs Workshop	Barry Wilson		8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Morning	Shop	Don McMillan		8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Morning	Library	Peter Wyer		8am Till 12pm

Week	Date	Day	Session	Convenors	Convenors	Time
		Tuesday Arvo	Pyrography Group	Rosie Thornton		1pm Till 3.30pm
1	07/03/2024	Thursday Morning	Convenor Workshop	All Convenors		9am Till 12pm
	07/03/2024	Thursday Arvo	Segmenting Course	Alan Short		1pm till 4pm
2	08/03/2024	Friday Morning	Open Workshop	Don Randall	Alwyn Clark	8am Till 12pm
2	09/03/2024	Saturday Morning	Open Workshop	Paul Machin Everill		8am Till 12pm
2	11/03/2024	Monday Evening	Training program	Mick Phythian		2pm Till 5pm
	11/03/2024	Monday Evening	Training program	Mick Phythian		6pm Till 9pm
2	12/03/2024	Tuesday Morning	Open Workshop	John Reed	Alan Short	8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Arvo	Open Workshop	Alan Short		1pm Till 4pm
		Tuesday Evening	Open Workshop	Mick Phythian	Dan Woodward	6pm Till 9pm
		Tuesday Morning	Downstairs Workshop	Barry Wilson		8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Morning	Shop	Don McMillan		8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Morning	Library	Peter Wyer		8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Arvo	Pyrography Group	Rosie Thornton		1pm till 3.30pm
2	14/03/2024	Thursday Morning	Project Tuition	Rob McKee		9am till 12pm
3	15/03/2024	Friday Morning	Open Workshop	Don Randall	John Reed	8am Till 12pm
	15/03/2024	Friday Morning	Toy Group	Barry Wilson	Peter Churchward	8am Till 3pm
3	16/03/2024	Saturday Morning	Open Workshop	Brian Creese		8am Till 12pm
3	18/03/2024	Monday Evening	Training Program	Paul Machin Everill		2pm Till 5pm
	18/03/2024	Monday Evening	Training Program	Paul Machin Everill		6pm Till 9pm
3	19/03/2024	Tuesday Morning	Open Workshop	Rob McKee	Alwyn Clark	8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Arvo	Training Program	Rob McKee		1pm Till 4pm
		Tuesday Evening	Open Workshop	Rob McKee	Mick Phythian	6pm Till 9pm
		Tuesday Morning	Downstairs Workshop	Barry Wilson		8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Morning	Shop	Don McMillian		8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Morning	Library	Peter Wyer		8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Arvo	Pyrography Group	Rosie Thornton		1pm Till 3.30pm

Week	Date	Day	Session	Convenors	Convenors	Time
3	21/03/2024	Thursday Morning	Convenor Workshop	All Convenors		9am Till 12pm
4	22/03/2024	Friday Morning	Open Workshop	Don Randall	John Reed	8am Till 12pm
4	22/03/2024	Saturday Morning	Open Workshop	Paul Machin Everill		8am Till 12pm
4	25/03/2024	Monday Evening	Training Program	Paul Machin Everill		2pm Till 5pm
	25/03/2024	Monday Evening	Training Program	Paul Machin Everill		6pm Till 9pm
4	26/03/2024	Tuesday Morning	Open Workshop	Rob McKee	Alwyn Clark	8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Arvo	Training program	Rob McKee		1pm Till 4pm
		Tuesday Evening	Open Workshop	Rob McKee	Paul Machin Everill	6pm Till 9pm
		Tuesday Morning	Downstairs Workshop	Barry Wilson		8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Morning	Shop	Don McMillian		8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Morning	Library	Peter Wyer		8am Till 12pm
		Tuesday Arvo	Pyrography Group	Rosie Thornton		1pm Till 3.30pm
4	28/03/2024	Thursday Morning	Project Tuition	Rob McKee		9am Till 12pm
5	29/03/2024	Friday Morning	Good Friday			8am Till 12pm
5	30/3/2024	Saturday Morning	Easter			8am Till 12pm

**Mick Phythian**  
Convenor



Foundation principles have not changed to this date - to offer one of Australia's most extensive ranges of workshop machinery and machine tool accessories, at the best possible price. Currently we are one of the largest stockists and suppliers of machine tools, sheet metal and fabrication equipment in Australia. Hare & Forbes Machineryhouse aim to serve all machinery needs throughout Australia. Head office is located in Northmead Sydney & with supply showroom branches in Melbourne, Brisbane & Perth.

Turning Talk – March 2024  
**Date Claimers**

**for Demonstrations and Show & Tell Forums**  
**All members must sign-in and pay the \$5 entry fee.**

Date	Demonstration	Show & Tell Forum
<b>Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2023</b>	<b><i>Bangles galore</i></b> Allan Short will demonstrate turning a segmented bangle. This demonstration is great value because you get two bangs for your buck. Allan will explain the segmenting process he went through and as well show you how to turn a bangle. Another skill to add to your repertoire.	
<b>Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2024</b>		Great opportunity to bring along your latest endeavours – maybe even a segmented bangle! Come and join in the conversation and share a cuppa with your fellow members of WSQ.
<b>Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2024</b>	<b><i>Router Rituals</i></b> Neil Howard will build on his 2023 escapade using a router to embellish turned work. He has been working on the development of new jigs to facilitate the use of his routers to create novel enhancements to a variety of turned pieces.	
<b>Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2024</b>		Have you made some jigs to help you add new dimensions to your turning? Perhaps you simply want to see what others have done. Maybe you simply want to chat about something to do with turning. This is your opportunity to get some practical advice from experienced fellow members over a relaxed cuppa.
<b>Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>	<b>TBA</b> This is the weekend of the Maleny Wood Expo and it is likely that this demonstration will be cancelled due to the unavailability of a demonstrator	
<b>Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>		This would be a great morning to come along and share what you've been turning or making recently, or to show off any recent purchases of equipment you have made.
<b>Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024</b>	<b>Ken Rays</b> Ken has yet to decide what he will demonstrate, but rest assured it will feature innovation, great skill and lots of humour.	
<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>		Come, join us and enjoy the conversation about what other members have been doing in their workshops.
<b>Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2024</b>	<b>Finishes</b> Marilyn Kunde will pass on her years of experience in using a range of finishes to enhance your work.	

**Binny Willis**  
 Secretary – WSQ Inc.

# NOTICE

This is to advise all members that in accordance with the Constitution of the

## WOODTURNERS SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

there will be an

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

at 19 Pine Street, Greenslopes

at 9.30am

**TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

### AGENDA

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Special General Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2023
2. Receive the Annual Report of the Management Committee
3. Receive the Annual Financial Report and the Auditor's Report
4. Appointment of the Auditor for 2024
5. Adoption of the Complaint and Dispute Resolution Policy into the Constitution of WSQ
6. Election of Life Member
7. Other Business

**Binny Willis**

*Secretary – WSQ Inc.*

## Volunteer Toymakers, Designers, Painters, Packers, Sewers Needed.

If you have, or would like to develop your skills, to help us get a toy out to a child for their birthday or into a hamper that goes out to families in need at Christmas time please contact us.

**Barry Wilson** 0409 260 786 (m)  
*Toy Group Co-ordinator*

**Toni Dowd** 0439 78 4245 (m)  
*Volunteer Toy Maker*

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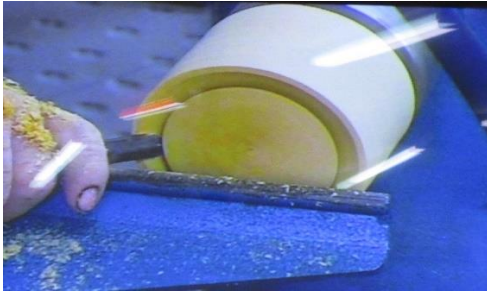
Email: [info@asign.com.au](mailto:info@asign.com.au)

*"Founded in 1982 as A Sign Design, by artisan woodworker, Terry Lucas, in a one-man operation, a.sign has grown, and now supplies quality signage to local, national, and international clients. Still a local family-owned company, a.sign manufactures all types of signage... anything from a desk nameplate to a building sky sign."*

*a.sign is proud to support Woodturners Society of Queensland*

## Demonstration – Creating a Carved Lidded Box

Dan mounted the Huon Pine blank, which was coated in candle wax, on the lathe. He turned it to round and created a small spigot on the bottom. He used a skew chisel as a negative raked scraper to refine the surfaces of the blank. Dan then mounted the blank using the spigot into a scroll chuck. He refined the surfaces again. He used a parting tool to cut and remove a conical section from the bottom of the blank. This would later become the lid of the box.



Dan discussed the rule of thirds and how woodturning that use it produce results that are quite appealing to most people. He marked the blank into thirds to guide him in the shaping the box.



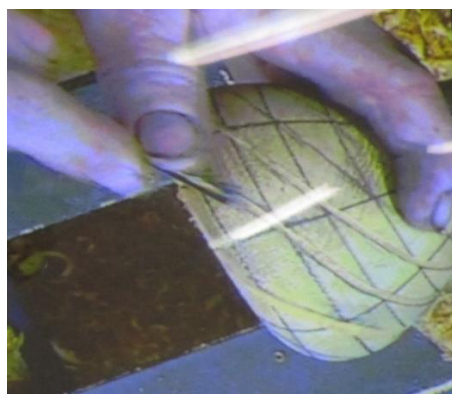
He shaped the box.



He set the toolrest at centre height, as close to the box as possible and made horizontal lines along the side of the blank, separated by 3 clicks of the indexing system. This resulted in 8 “threads” spiralling around the body of the box. It’s a complicated process. and ends with the blank marked as shown below.



Using a small carving chisel Dan started the carving stage of this project. He compared this process to chip carving and the need to do little pieces at a time keeping as smooth as possible.





Next, he used a V carving chisel to enlarge the groove being carved. The next step was to use a Dremel with a bigger cutter which allows him to cut down to the required depth and feather either side, removing waste and shaping the box.



At this point Dan introduced a new piece of equipment. It was an adjustable carving post, designed to fit into the standard Vicmarc banjo.



This let the powered sanding begin using 32mm diameter Velcro backed sanding pads. He started with 320 grit pads. Dan believes that lower grits are too aggressive. He worked from the centre out, working both sides of the line.



The next bit of "equipment" to be introduced was 2 bags of rice which were placed on the lathe bed.



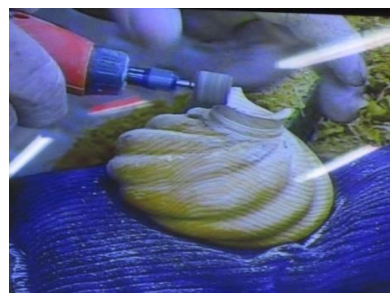
He reduced to 400 grit to polish out any scratch marks. Then he used Scotch Brite pads for the finishing sand.

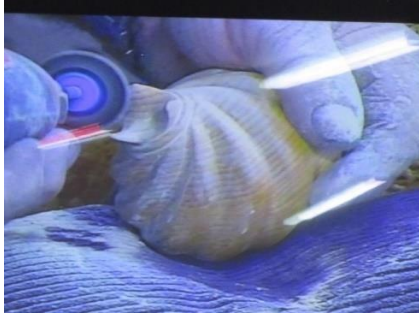
Dan remounted the box onto the lathe and carefully removed the waste from inside the box using a bowl gouge and a round nose scraper. He was aiming for a 5 to 8mm wall thickness. He sanded the inside with 80 grit, keeping the paper moving. Dan power sanded through the grits, finishing with the Scotch Brite pad. He applied superglue to the inside surface and sanded it. He would normally spray the box inside and out with lacquer, but there was not enough time in this demo session.

Dan remounted the box on a scroll chuck using the top opening of the box. He reduced the spigot to a 30mm diameter, added a small bead with a detail gouge, and shaped the outside wall of the improve its appearance.



He then removed the waste from inside the foot, carefully. He used the indexing system to establish where the 3 feet he was going to cut would go, and marked it. Dan removed the box from the chuck and placed the box on the rice bags where he cut out the 3 feet using a Dremel using a Barrel cutter. He sanded the feet with a 320 grit pad in the Dremel.





That was the end of the demonstration. The members and friends present gave Dan a round of applause and bombarded him with questions, suggestions, and congratulations. Thanks for another excellent demonstration, Dan.

A completed one of these projects pieces looks like the one below.



**Geoff Holbeck**  
*Editor – Turning Talk*

## Council Library Displays

Joyce Arnold and I would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to those members who have loaned us some of their wonderful, turned items to use in our library displays for another year. Thank you very much. The library staff we deal with all comment about how much their customers like and comment favourably about our displays.

Month	Northside	Southside
March	The Grange	Stones Corner
April	Strathpine	Wynnum

**Geoff Holbeck & Joyce Arnold**

## Membership Matters

Birthdays for March	Birthdays for March	New Members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roy Smith</li> <li>• Scott Salisbury</li> <li>• Don Johnson</li> <li>• Belinda Rabe</li> <li>• Michael Schwarer</li> <li>• Hannah Coyle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paul Betzien</li> <li>• Paul Spruce</li> <li>• Trevor Cornes</li> <li>• Rachel Halech</li> <li>• Don Doolan</li> </ul>	Angela Malone from Thornlands 4164 Dusty McTrusty from Capalaba 4157 Lynn Matthews from Moorooka 4105

**Alwyn Clark**  
*Membership Secretary*

# Dan Woodward's Adjustable Carving Post Design

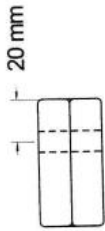
## Step 1



Cut M30 x 3mm thread @ 50mm long drill 12mm hole in center fit threaded end of 12mm bolt 3mm from end and plug weld

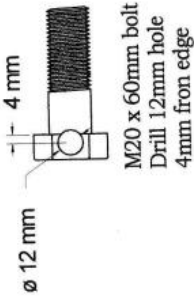
**Note**  
weld 30mm nut before plug welding

## Step 2



M20 deep nut 60mm long Drill 10mm hole 20mm from end

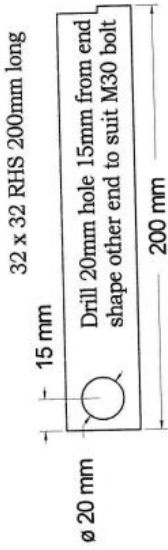
## Step 3



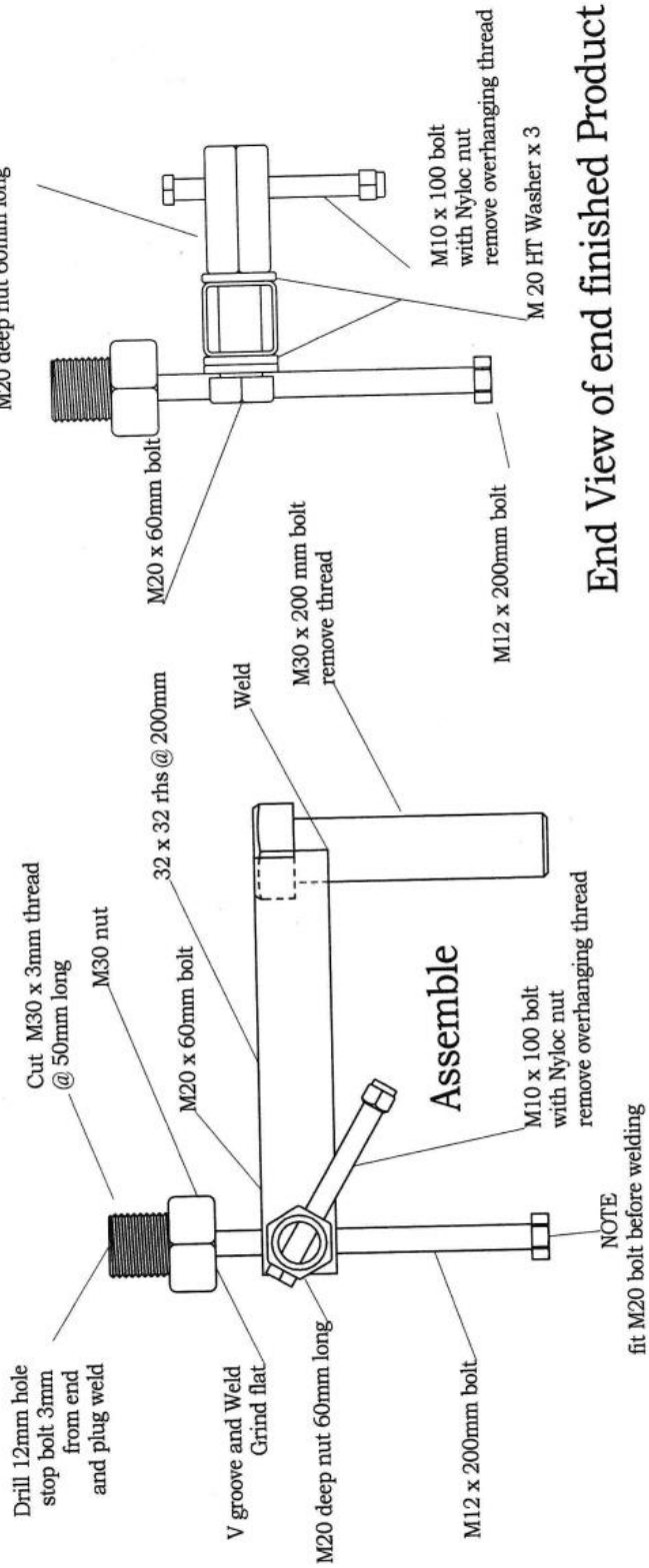
M20 x 60mm bolt Drill 12mm hole 4mm from edge

**Note**  
fit 20mm bolt on to 12mm bolt before plug welding

## Step 4



32 x 32 RHS 200mm long Drill 20mm hole 15mm from end shape other end to suit M30 bolt



End View of end finished Product

**Geoff Holbeck**  
Editor - Turning Talk

## Letter to the Editor

23 February 2024

Good afternoon,

Thank you very much to everyone who has contributed to these wooden toys to enable Christmas for many children in the communities to receive a small gift underneath the Christmas tree at our Aboriginal Christmas services at Inala, Musgrave Park, Stradbroke Island and Cherbourg.

The Toys mostly appreciated were the Australian animals. Eyes lit up even the adult eyes! They just loved the Australian animals of the bush and the sea. The broomstick horses are classic. Also, the older children enjoyed wrapping some of the toys for the younger children. It gave them something to do that fitted in with the real spirit of Christmas – giving back or giving.

We also received fabric bags that accompanied the toys. Those bags come in handy for toiletry packs that Murri Ministry makes up for people in need who have been admitted to the hospitals and for family funeral gatherings to support them with toiletry packs in their homes and in the hospitals, they are greatly appreciated.

So, thank you to all the toy makers, the sewers and everyone who contributed. We might have some new ideas also along the track to share with you.

Kind regards  
RAVINA

Ravina Waldren –  
Murri Ministry  
Coordinator  
Tel: 38911931      Mob: 0408707101  
Email: [waldren@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:waldren@bne.catholic.net.au)

Address: 84 Park Rd, Woolloongabba, 4102.  
(Place of Whirling Waters)

I ACKNOWLEDGE & PAY RESPECT TO THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THIS LAND, THE TURRBAL PEOPLE, THE JAGERA PEOPLE, UGARAPUL PEOPLE, YUGGERA PEOPLE & THE ELDERS BOTH PAST& PRESENT, ON WHOSE LAND I WALK, I WORK & I LIVE FOR THEY HOLD THE MEMORIES AND HOPES FOR FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES.

### CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS *“Gifting and Giving Back”*



**Murri Ministry packs and delivers Christmas toys and hampers**

## Lee Wilson - A Man with Beauty in his Soul

Some of you will remember that the passing of our fellow member, Lee Wilson, on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> of January was mentioned in the last edition of *Turning Talk*.

Many of you will remember Lee for his amazing, colourful shirts and as a very talented woodturner. His exquisite finials and very thin-walled turnings, his amazing collection of unusual timbers and his determination to never waste even the tiniest bit, his dogged determination to coax his failing limbs to turn a tulip to replace a broken one for Jane, his beloved wife, as he sat at the sit-down lathe at Pine St., and his unfailing good humour about and amazing acceptance of the toll that MND was taking on his body – this is what I will remember about Lee Wilson. However, I didn't recognize that raw but beautiful poetry resided in his soul.

At the Memorial gathering, Jane gave a copy of a number of his poems to one of our members. Many of the poems chart his fateful dance with MND as it quickly robbed one faculty after another. But the one I want to share is an expression of unadulterated joy at the beauty he saw and the comfort he drew when he was taken to Roma Street Parklands by Ambulance Wish, a service by Ambulance Queensland to those living with a terminal illness, providing specialist transport and medical care to enable them to fulfil a final wish.

I think it is a window into the very spirit and soul of the man, Lee Wilson.

### Binny Willis

Secretary - WSQ

*As I am in the final stages of MND, I am confined to the house. Imagine my delight when Ambulance Wish took me to the Roma Street Parklands – an outing in the fresh air that allowed me to drink in the glorious colours of the gardens.*

*The people who took me were kindness personified, dealing with aplomb with the many difficulties of my transport. Words cannot convey the depth of my gratitude. I can recommend Ambulance Wish very highly. Bless all involved.*

*Here are my thoughts in verse.*

### Roma Street Parkland (Ambulance Wish)

*Outside! Outside! I'm outside.  
The tracked chair bumps down,  
Scarily exhilarating, as I sniff the air,  
A swaying journey later,  
We roll under rustling trees  
Dappled in delight –  
It's too much to take in!  
A giddy whirl or two on the stretcher.  
And I see it – orange, red, white, lavender,  
blue, purple  
Deep green, long nodding green  
As the air itself seems to crackle  
With loveliness;  
The colours gather in blocks  
Regular in line  
But chaotic in the segments –  
A perfect balance between order  
And blessed profusion.  
Spider lilies nod their blessing  
Near raucous ginger, shouting  
Over the green;  
A lizard whispers swiftly away  
As water babbles beside the path;  
Topiary figures startle – look!  
A kangaroo, ducks, cones and*

*Razor straight hedges march by.  
The photographer smiles and clicks –  
How can I forget this?  
I wave at a questioning passer-by:  
See how special I am!  
On and on roll the colours –  
Petunias, salvias, candle plants,  
Alyssum, cone plants, bright leaves  
Fill the world.  
Lunch to gather my breath  
And fish-and-chips,  
Then back home with  
Gently reassured kindness  
Enfolding me.  
More photos; farewells.  
I look at the world with  
A new man's eyes – My spirit is buoyant,  
It has been washed clean  
By the bright beauty and calm.  
I love the world extremely  
And I feel part of it again.  
Am I, perhaps, a flower in God's garden?  
I glow anyway.  
Thanks, from the heart.  
13/12/23*

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## Turning Talk

Published by the  
Woodturners Society of Queensland Incorporated

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## Just a Moment



Anonymous  
WSQ Member

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