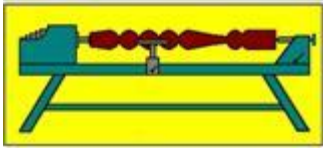


# Turning Talk

Volume 31 Number 2

March 2017



## Presidential Words

*For March 2017*



Dear Members,

### Bunnings BBQ

Sunday February 19 saw 10 WSQ members cook over 1,000 sausages, 16kg of onions, use 29 loaves of bread, 5 litres of sauce, and sell a few hundred drinks. This meant that after we take our costs out we made about \$1,000.00 for our efforts. From my prospective as President it is a wonderful way for members to meet and get to know each other while working on a common goal.

### Buy & Swap Meet

On Saturday February 25 we had about 10 members with tools and equipment for sale. Although not all members made a killing, and even one member was heard to say he bought more than he sold, it was a successful morning. We are planning to run another morning like this later this year with more promotion, and an advertisement in the Courier Mail Garage Sale Section.

### WSQ Store Revamp

A group of hard working members have improved the walls on the northern and western sides, installed insulation and painted both inside and out. We have installed a new air-conditioner, shelving, and we are currently restocking. To date 5 members have put their hands up to be Store Persons in the new store. Training for these members will begin shortly. We plan to have the store fully operational by the end of March.

### Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on Tuesday March 14 between 9.30am - 10.00am. At the AGM we approve minutes from the previous SGM in November 2016, and Management, the Treasurer's and the Auditor's Reports are presented. The other main business will be election of our Life Member for 2017.

### Eli Avisera Demonstration and Hands- On Days

Eli is one of the leading wood art masters in Israel, and his creations are exhibited in many exhibitions both locally and around the world. We are lucky to have him for 3 days at the end of March. He will be

conducting 2 hands-on days on Wednesday the 29th and Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup>, and the demonstration on Friday the 31<sup>st</sup> of March. The demonstration will give our members a wonderful opportunity to see this master for a full day. As a profession woodturner I feel that this one day session is a not to be missed session as we will get to see the whole picture as to how Eli creates his intricate and striking forms.



Till next month

**Rob McKee**  
*President*

# Diary & Looking Ahead at WSQ

## March 2017 and Beyond

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day of Month</i>	<i>Session Title</i>	<i>Convenors</i>	<i>Times</i>
2 Mar	1st Thursday	WSQ Safety & Workshop Induction for New Members		9.00am – 12noon
3 Mar	1st Friday	Toy and Open Workshop Toy Group Open Workshop	Peter Churchward	8.00am – 3.00pm
7 Mar	1st Tuesday	Open Workshop  New Member Training Evening Open Workshop	John Sheppard & Bob McGeechan	8.00am – Noon  1.00pm – 3.30pm 6.00pm – 9.00pm
9 Mar	2nd Thursday	Pre-Booked Project Tuition Cost - \$25.00	Rob McKee	9.00am – 12.30pm
11 Mar	2nd Saturday	Management Meeting		9.00am – Noon
14 Mar	2nd Tuesday	Open Workshop New Member Training Evening Open Workshop	Lyndon Prescott	8.00am – Noon 1.00pm – 3.30pm 6.00pm – 9.00pm
18 Mar	3rd Saturday	WSQ Monthly Forum		9.00am - Noon
21 Mar	3rd Tuesday	Open Workshop  New Member Training Evening Open Workshop	John Sheppard & Bob McGeechan Rob McKee (Former DVA Team members welcome) John Sheppard	8.00am – Noon  1.00pm – 3.30pm 6.00pm – 9.00pm
23 Mar	4th Thursday	Pre-Booked Project Tuition Cost - \$25.00	Rob McKee	9.00am – 12.30pm
25 Mar	4th Saturday	WSQ Demonstration	<b>No regular demonstration in March</b> <b>See below for details of Eli Avisera's Master Classes and Demonstration</b>	9.00am – Noon
28 Mar	4th Tuesday	Open Workshop New Member Training  Evening Open Workshop	Rob McKee Rob McKee (Former DVA Team members welcome) Allan Dickson	8.00am – Noon 1.00pm – 3.30pm  6.00pm – 9.00pm
N/A	5th Tuesday - Only if one falls in the month	Open Workshop New Member Training Evening Open Workshop	Rob McKee Rob McKee Rob McKee	8.00am – Noon 1.00pm – 3.30pm 6.00pm – 9.00pm
<b>Future Events and Important Dates</b>				
Tuesday 14 March		Annual General Meeting - from 9:30am to 10:00 - Cost: \$4		
Friday 24 March to Sunday 26 March		Turnfest Symposium at Seaworld Resort, Gold Coast – Cost: \$595 twin share		
Wednesday 29 and Thursday 30 March		Eli Avisera will conduct 2 Master Classes - 9:00am – 4:00pm - Cost: Participant \$90 per day (WSQ member) or \$100 per day (non-member) Onlookers \$50 per day (WSQ member) or \$60 per day (non-member)		
Friday 31 March		Eli Avisera will conduct a Demonstration - 9:00am – 4:00pm - Cost: Participant \$50 (WSQ member) or \$60 (non-member)		
Friday 14 April to Monday 17 April		Easter		
Saturday 29 April to Monday 1 May		Maleny Wood Expo - details available at the following web site <a href="http://www.malenywoodexpo.com/">http://www.malenywoodexpo.com/</a>		
Friday 12 May to Saturday 13 May		Cooroora Woodworkers Club Annual Show - details available at the following web site <a href="http://www.cooroorawoodworkersclub.com">http://www.cooroorawoodworkersclub.com</a>		

# Treasurer's Report

A summary of our financial position at the end of January is:

<b>Receipts</b>	
Memberships	\$805
Meeting Income	\$1,693
Store Sales	\$74
Hall Rent	\$1,132
Sundry Income	<u>\$222</u>
	\$3,926
<b>Less Payments</b>	
Meeting Expenses	\$402
Competition Expenses	\$900
Property Expenses	\$101
Repairs and Maintenance	\$116
Equipment Purchases	\$569
Other Expenses	<u>\$1,214</u>
	\$3,302
<b>Cash Surplus</b>	\$624
<b>Cash at Bank</b>	\$71,517

With the club shut for the first part of the month, January was relatively quiet from a financial perspective.

Competition expenses were payments to the judges of the 2015 and 2016 events, which had been inadvertently overlooked.

Equipment purchase of \$569 was for the cost of an air conditioning unit being installed in the store as part of its revamp.

**John Reed**  
*Treasurer*

## Library Displays of WSQ Turned Items

	<b>NORTHSIDE</b>	<b>SOUTHSIDE</b>
<b>February</b>	Nundah	Mt Gravatt
<b>March</b>	Hamilton	Stones Corner

Many thanks to all those people who have loaned items for display. If you are willing to offer some of your pieces for display, Sandy and John would be pleased to talk to you.

**John Byrne**  
*WSQ Member*

**Sandy May**  
*WSQ Member*

## New Members

There were five new members in the last couple of months, i.e.

- Malcolm Heidenreich
- Eli Shay
- Yuval Luski
- Bronwyn Platz

- Layman Gillies

Please make these new members welcome when you meet them next at WSQ Hall.

**Alwyn Clark**  
*WSQ Membership Secretary*

NOTICE OF THE 2017

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THIS IS TO ADVISE ALL MEMBERS THAT  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
WOODTURNERS SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC  
THERE WILL BE A

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
AT 19 PINE STREET  
GREENSLOPES  
AT 9.30 AM  
TUESDAY 14th MARCH 2017

FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSE ONLY:

- Welcome and Apologies
- Confirmation of Minutes of Special General Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016.
- Presentation of Management Report.
- Presentation of Treasurer's and Auditor's Reports.
- Appointment of Auditor for 2017
- Life Membership Award
- Other Business

## Jest a Moment

Most seniors never get enough exercise.

In His wisdom, God decreed that seniors become forgetful so they would have to search for their glasses, keys and other things, thus doing more walking. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God saw there was another

need. In His wisdom, He made seniors lose coordination so they would drop things requiring them to bend, reach and stretch. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God considered the function of bladders and decided seniors would have additional calls of nature requiring more trips to the bathroom, thus providing more

exercise. God looked down and saw that it was good.

So, if you find as you age you are getting up and down more, remember it's God's will. It is all in your best interest, even though you mutter under your breath.

**Anonymous**  
*WSQ Member*

## ELI AVISERA Master Classes and Demonstration 29-31 March 2017

Eli Avisera is an internationally renowned woodturner, based in Jerusalem, Israel. He will be visiting WSQ for three days during the week after Turnfest.

The program for Eli's visit to WSQ is:

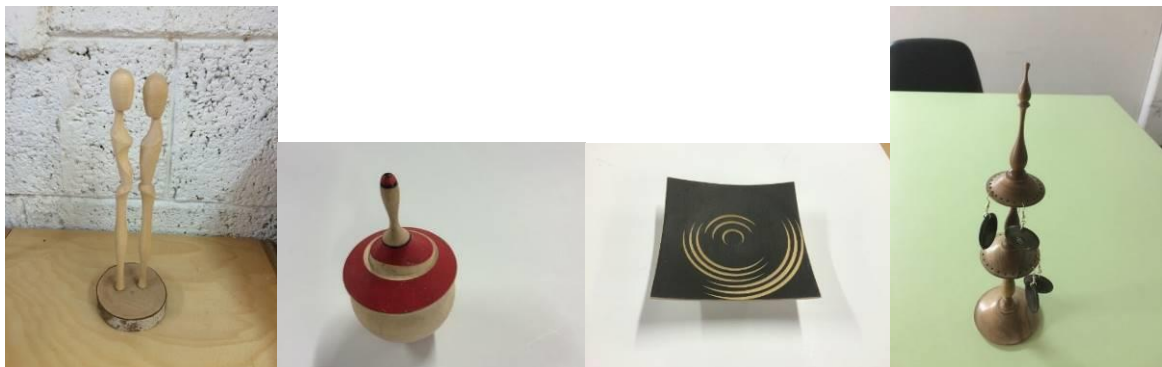
**Wednesday 29 March, 9 am-4 pm:** Master Class "Off-Centre Stick Figures"

**Thursday 30 March, 9 am-4 pm:** Master Class "Lidded container with off-centre spinning top lid"

**Friday 31 March, 9 am-4 pm:** One day demo, topics will include a square dish with off-centre ornamentation and a two-tiered earring stand (with earrings, time permitting).

The two Master Classes will each be limited to 10 active participants, and up to the same number of onlookers. Active participants in the Master Classes are encouraged to bring their own tools, and a limited number of WSQ tools will also be available; there are no special requirements. WSQ will be providing blanks of American Rock Maple for the Master Class projects for an additional fee, although participants may prefer to bring their own timber (dimensions to be advised). If the Master Classes are oversubscribed, members and non-members registering for both days may be asked to nominate their first preference.

The registration fees, set out in the attached registration form, include morning and afternoon teas and lunch. Registrations for non-members will open on Monday 13 February. Closing date for registrations is Friday 24 February. Please note that all registration forms must be accompanied by the appropriate payment, either by cash, cheque, credit card or direct bank transfer. Bookings without payment will not be accepted.



**John Reed**  
*Treasurer*

## WSQ Christmas Party 2017



A belated photo from the Christmas party.

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





## 2017 WSQ Competition

It has been decided that the dates of the WSQ Competition for 2017 be brought forward to May/June. The Presentation of Awards will take place on Friday evening, 9 June following judging taking place on Wednesday 7 June.

This change brings with it benefits for WSQ members.

A key benefit will be the opportunity for members entering the Competition to display their entries at the WSQ Open Day weekend on 10 and 11 June. This will provide opportunities for those members who wish to sell their entries at the Open Day. Members who do not want to sell their competition pieces can also display their pieces on Open Day. Members can also display their entries at the Mt Coot-tha display weekend in August.

More details on this year's Competition will be provided in the coming weeks. This will include information on the various categories for entries as well as details of the various key dates associated with the Competition.

### Your thoughts and ideas please

Should you have any thoughts on Categories for entries, or indeed any other aspect of the Competition that will broaden the appeal of this year's Competition to all members, please speak with any of the members of the Competition Committee i.e. Rick Harrison, Brian Creese, Sandy May, Phil Harris and myself. Your thoughts will help ensure that the 2017 Competition is one of the best in recent years.

### Start preparations now

May and June will quickly come around. Members are encouraged to commence planning for their entries now. Wood selection and design are important decisions that should be 'front of mind' now.

I look forward to your participation in the 2017 WSQ Competition.

Good turning,

**Richard Cooper**  
*Competition Co-ordinator*

## WSQ Buy & Swap Meet

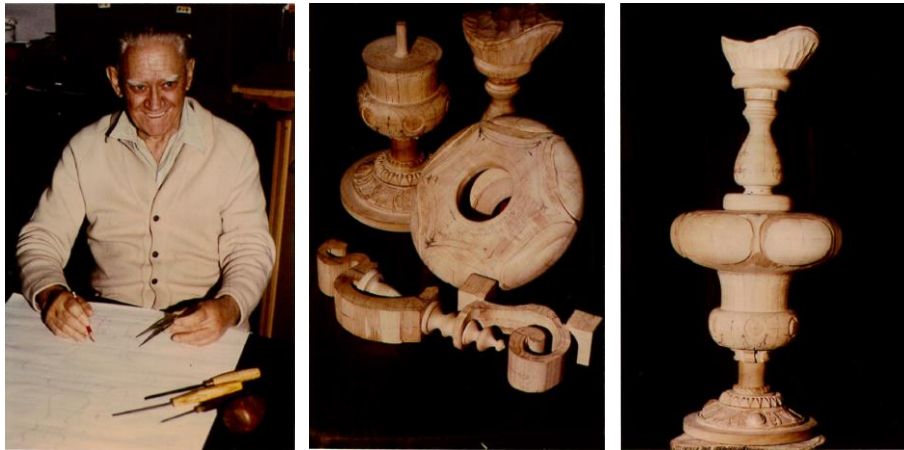
The following photos were taken at this event on Saturday 25 February 2017.



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

## Ben Flack and his America's Cup Replica

Arthur "Ben" Flack was a Foundation member of WSQ (membership number 002), and the first meeting of the new society was held at Ben's home in Sunnybank in June 1979. Ben was editor of Turning Talk in 1985, and was one of the first three Life Members appointed in 1986 (Les Stennett and Joe Stick were the other two). Ben was a master of woodcarving as well as woodturning, and one of his crowning achievements was a full-size replica of the America's Cup. The project was inspired by Australia II winning the Cup from the New York Yacht Club in 1983. When the Cup was on display in Queensland in 1984, Ben took hundreds of photos, which he used to prepare line drawings and plans for replica.



Ben used Queensland beech wood for the project, which took approximately 800 hours to plan, turn, carve and finish. He displayed the finished replica at WSQ's Mt Coot-tha Exhibition in August 1985. Although valued at \$15,000, Ben said that the project had taken up too much of his life to be sold. Following Ben's death in 1996, aged 87, the cup was donated to the Royal Perth Yacht Club by Ben's daughters, Mavis and Noela.

While holidaying in Perth in December last year, I took the opportunity of visiting the RYPC to view the cup, and to find out more about it. I am grateful to Kelly Scott, Public Relations Officer at RYPC for welcoming me and for arranging for the Cup to be taken out of its locked glass cabinet so that I could photograph and hold it, and to John Readhead, RYPC Archivist, for providing the three photos above and other archival material. The photo on the left below is from the Courier Mail, which published an article about Ben and the America's Cup replica in October 1985 (reprinted in Turning Talk in November 1985).



**Brian Creese**  
*WSQ Committee Member*

## Hats and Hatblocks

To make a hat the material has to be shaped over a mould and the material allowed to harden to take on the shape of the mould. The mould is called a hatblock. A hatblock can be made from all sorts of materials e.g. polystyrene, metal and compound materials, but they are most commonly made of timber.

The choice of timber is important. It must be stable, and maintain its shape through temperature and humidity variations. From the block maker's point of view, it must be a good timber to work with i.e. can be turned, carved, shaped and sanded, preferably light in weight, and nontoxic. From a milliner's point of view, it should be light weight, easy to insert pins into and remove them from, durable, maintain its shape, and not crack. During the blocking process steam can be used to shape the hat. In the past, all sorts of timbers have been used. Red cedar produces a red dust and is unpleasant to work with. Chipboards and similar materials are hard to work with, both to make and use – hard to shape and insert pins into. Also, the dust from the resins is undesirable to work with. The most common timber to use these days is Jelotong from Malaysia. It meets all the requirements.

A block is required for each hat design and each size. This is good news for the block maker. Hats come in all sorts of designs and sizes. The crown is normally worn sitting firmly on the head. Fascinators and hatinators are smaller headwear pieces that are attached to the head by a clip or elastic. Depending on the design, a brim may also be required. The crown is measured around the head at the forehead position. Heads are not round. They

are closest to oval in shape. This shape can also vary from person to person. Crown blocks usually match the brim with the crown size.

Not all blocks are round/oval. Round/oval blocks can have much of the shaping done on the wood lathe. Irregular shapes can be sculptured completely freehand, or at least the basic shape is cut out with a bandsaw.

Brim blocks are made so that the crown size matches the crown block. Brim blocks are often made larger so that the milliner can trim the brim to the desired size. Brim blocks can be made as double sided, depending on the design required and the thickness of the timber available. These blocks are a bit cheaper to make, and also save on storage space.

Add-ons for crown blocks can be cheaper to make and save on storage space.



Some Hatblocks Rob brought along

**Rob McGregor**  
*WSQ Member*

## Demonstration – Turning Hatblocks

On the morning of Saturday 28 January 15 members attended WSQ Hall to witness a demonstration about making hatblocks by Rob McGregor. Rob spent the first half of the session discussing how hats are made and about the hatblocks that are required. The article above is an edited version of his comments.

In the second half of the session Rob demonstrated how to make a basic hatblock on the lathe. He had prepared a blank consisting of 2 rounds of Jelotong timber about 200 mm in diameter glued together. He marked the centre point and 2 off-centre marks in a straight line, one either side of the centre. Rob attached a small faceplate using the centre point and mounted it on the lathe. He then used a bowl gouge to round the blank and shape the top of it to match a

template. He used a large straight scraper, at a steep angle, to refine the surface.





Rob then attached the small faceplate to one of the off-centre points. Rob repeated the shaping and refining process, with a bit more care, as is required with off-centre turning. The faceplate was relocated to the other off-centre point and the previous process was repeated. He relocated the faceplate to the centre point, and remounted the blank.



With the lathe off, Rob used an angle grinder with a Dremel cutter to perform the final shaping of the blank. He hand sanded the blank to its final state.

It was a very interesting demonstration. The members present expressed their appreciation of Rob's efforts, and, no doubt, left with a new appreciation of hats.



The Completed Hatblock

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

## Letter to the Editor

Hi Geoff

If you have room, the Letters to Editor section could possibly include the following message and attached photo from **Kelvin Burton from Texas**, posted on WSQ's Facebook page last weekend:



*"I just wanted to share a picture of the piece I made from the block of Camphor Laurel that your members gave me when I visited your club while in Brisbane visiting my daughter last April."*

Cheers

**Brian Creese**  
WSQ Committee Member

## Correction



In the February edition of *Turning Talk* I included an article "Turned Eggs – with a Twist" which Alwyn Clark had sent to me by email. I assumed that Alwyn had turned the objects in question and written the article. I was surprised that Alwyn would have turned such a piece, but who's to know what members work on in their home workshop.

After publication Alwyn drew to my attention that Ian Symes had created the pieces in the article

and had sent the article describing the process to Alwyn who forwarded it to me.

Humble apologies for my mistake. Congratulations to Ian Symes for undertaking such a difficult turning project and writing it up so well.

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

# Tree of the Month

## Blackbutt



Blackbutt Tree

**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus pilularis* & *Eucalyptus andrewsii*.

**Other common names:** New England Blackbutt.

**Distribution:** A large hardwood which can grow to 60m (180ft) with diameters to 2m (6ft). Indigenous to Eastern Australia in a band from Southern New South Wales through to Southern Queensland in coastal forests.

**Colour:** Pale brown to brown, with a pinkish tinge when freshly cut. Very diverse range of colours.

**The timber:** Blackbutt is generally straight grained but occasionally will present wavy or interlocked grain. The texture is medium and even. Fine gum veins may sometimes be present.

**Mechanical properties:** Blackbutt has high crushing strength, is stiff and has a low steam bending classification. The timber is very durable. It is stable in service but can develop slight surface checking.

**Working properties:** Blackbutt is a very hard and strong timber of high density and can be moderately difficult to work with machine and hand tools. Tools

need to be kept in a sharp condition and cutter angles reduced especially on interlocked grain to prevent grain tearing. Blackbutt works to a medium to fine polish and takes glue, stain and finishes well. Pre drilling is advisable for nailing and screwing to avoid splitting.

**Uses:** The timber is used for flooring, furniture, bridge construction, mallet heads, cladding and turnery.

**Availability:** Plentiful.



Blackbutt Timber



Blackbutt Burl Natural Edge Bowl by Allan Dickson

**Geoff Holbeck**  
Editor – Turning Talk

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

## Turning Talk

Published by the  
Woodturners Society of Queensland Incorporated

### Management Committee

President: Rob McKee 3207 1785  
Vice President: Kev Kruger 3202 5846  
Secretary: Lyn Woodward 3879 9305  
Treasurer: John Reed 3263 1861  
Members: Alwyn Clark 3803 4270  
Bob Kennedy 3892 4675  
Brian Creese 3378 4041  
Geoff Holbeck 3901 6782  
Mike Dodson 3824 2777  
Paul Tierney 3288 3509  
Reg Weber 3206 2325

### Other Positions

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Newsletter Editor: Geoff Holbeck 3901 6782  
Membership Secretary: Alwyn Clark 3803 4270  
Librarian: Alwyn Clark 3803 4270  
Assistant Librarian: Barbara Sheppard 3275 2764  
Storekeeper: John Sheppard 3275 2764  
Mt Coot-tha Co-ordinator: Rob McKee 3207 1785  
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VL240 Lathe Specifications	
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490mm	Swing Over Bed
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No. 2 MT	Headstock & Tailstock Spindle
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Speeds	EVS 10-3000 rpm
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75mm	Quill Travel
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The NEW VL240 Swivel Head lathe has an electronic variable speed drive that gives up to 200% torque on low rpm with a powerful 1.5kW motor. The cast iron lathe is mounted on an adjustable 4mm thick steel plate stand, which has been designed with a 700mm wide footprint for stability and rigidity.

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*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](mailto:gholbeck@hotmail.com)

Or, by mail:

C/O TT EDITOR @ WSQ

19 Pine Street, Greenslopes

Brisbane, Qld 4120

**All contributions for the April 2017 edition of Turning Talk need to be submitted by no later than Wednesday 29 March 2017.**