**Artist Biography**

**Rob Walker**

I moved to Coochiemudlo Island in 2017 and retired the year after. I first moved to Australia in 2008 from Bristol in England where I had worked as an engineer for Rolls-Royce Military Aeroengines for 33 years. In Australia, I became a Citizen in 2012 and I decided to try something completely new and I became a bus driver in the Redlands for 10 years. Then I moved to Coochie to retire and enjoy the beach and bay breezes… and develop my new hobby based on years of working with metals and wood.

I love what I do. I take metal and wood and design and make items from them. I started off making Yard Art out of old tools, the type of things mainly found in the garden e.g. bird feeders, owls, lizards and dogs (springer spaniel from an old car spring). I like the idea of reusing and recycling materials and giving them a new purpose that can be quirky and fun. I don’t like the idea of things going to landfill that with a bit of imagination could be simply repaired or turned into something useful or artistic to enjoy.

I moved onto things that are a bit more complex and take a bit more time. I have taken kitchen utensils and plumbing equipment and turned them into sculptures that with electrics are now unusual lamps. I’ve taken an old drum kit and made a side table and I’m in the process of making it’s companion from the base drum, a combined wine/magazine rack. Life Stages of a Butterfly Sculpture, Copper Flowers, Wind chimes and Horseshoe Animals.
I weld, spraypaint, melt/cast/mold metal and basically can beat things into a new shape. I do occasionally accept some interesting commissions.