## Livin' With Parkinson's Disease.

## And Tryin' To Make Wooden Toys For Kids.

Not long after makin' me little racin' car I was so proud of it I sent a couple of images of it to a good friend M.J.B. who worked as a radio announcer for a station down on the Gold Coast, I got an e-mail back tellin' me he wanted one. Why on earth did my good friend want a small toy racin' car, so I sent an email back asking him why he wanted one. I first meet M.J.B. when he was our local radio announcer years ago, he knew of my health battles and was always there when I needed someone to talk to when I struggled to cope. His reply that came back was that it would be the only brand new car that he would ever own and he'd like one. Well for my friend I decided to build a racin' car that would be really special, he loves his Bundy Rum product

and being born on the 31st day I decided to build him the 'Bundy Rum 31'. Knowin' the problems I had when I built the first little car I was aware of what I faced and it wasn't too hard to get all pieces cut out. Shed time was limited to how me body was actin' up but once I got all the power tool work outa the way it was just a case of hand sandin' all parts to get them just as I wanted them.



With all the pieces dowel pinned it was a case of sanding, put it together, pull it a part sand some more and put it together until I was happy. I used a spray can undercoat and that turned out to be a bit of fun, with a tremor some parts got more than a good coating of paint and there were many runs in the paint that I would spend time sanding out but I got there. When I was happy I sanded back to the timber the areas that would need to be glued and finally had all together for the final top coat which was to be Yellow.

Spending hours on the computer of a night time I searched for Bundy Rum images along with other images that I could cut and paste and resize for the decals I had decided to put on the car. Makin' decals for any of me toy creations in the future I will not be doin' due to the hassle involved to get them right.





I chose a day when I was feelin' pretty good to use a can of spray paint to paint the car, I took me time and was pretty darn happy as to how it was all lookin' when from outa nowhere came a bloody cockroach. Of all the places to land it landed on the wet paint on the front of the car and walked leaving a trail in the paint down the front and out onto the aerofoil just as I was making one final pass with the spray can. No I wasn't happy but several days later after the paint had hardened out came the sandpaper and all was finally fixed up and I got the last coats on without anymore dramas.

The biggest problem was gettin' the decals I had made onto the car, I can't recall how many sheets of decal paper I used printing these things out but cutting them out and applyin' them wasn't an easy job. Chasin' a decal around to get it into position took a lot of time but bein' a special car it all finally came together. I'm told that the tremor I have is what is called a 'Resting Tremor' and believe me there is nothin' more inappropriately named than me bloody tremor.

With all it's decals on the car was set aside for a few weeks to make sure that everything was dry before I attempted to give it all a final coating of lacquer. On the Internet again I went searchin' for all the different types of lacquer that were available to me, you just can't use any lacquer because things can go horribly wrong with the decals and paint. Finally I decided to take me little pride and joy to town when the wife and I did our next fortnightly shop and seek the advice of an expert. Now this is where everything goes hell west and crooked, the experts I should have consulted are those who make models for a livin', not one that runs an everyday paintshop who thinks he's an expert on all he sells. Yes I had made models for years and had applied many decals that came with kits and used what they advised to use on decals and paints, what I was now building was different and I guess I only had me self to blame for not researchin' more about the lacquer I needed.

At home armed with what I had been advised to use and how to apply it I took the 'Bundy Rum 31' outside in the nice warm sun to apply its first light coat of lacquer, I placed it in dust free area of the shed where it could dry until the following day and everything looked good. I apologise for not having any images to show of the car from here on because I sorta wasn't in a good mood the next day when I looked at it to take any photographs. Now come on everybody does get a little upset at times now and then, when I saw me little car the next mornin' with blistered decals and cracked paint it sorta took on this flyin' through the air ability out the workshop door. Yes I wasn't happy at all, like a spoilt little kid I spat the dummy, picked it up again and throw it out onto the metal driveway out side the shed. From the house the wife had a pretty good indication that something had gone horribly wrong.

Yes I did eventually settle down and started all over again to cut out and build the racin' car again, finally after a year and a half from when me friend M.J.B. had asked for one I finally got to give him his 'Bundy Rum 31' racin' car. By now he had moved to a Radio Station closer to us as the breakfast announcer and the wife took me to see him so I could give him his car. The only design change was I put a small metal skull in the drivers seat just to remind him of the trouble I had in buildin' it. I found a small Bundy Bear which became a good holder for the car so when he finishes playin' with it each day after he gets off air he has a place to store it.



Take Care, Stay Safe and Travel Safe.

Hooroo

Kev (The WIZARD of OZZ).

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