



## Tutor's Tidings - No.22

### Friday 28th November

#### Salutations to all ye turners of wood

**KNOWLEDGE / INFORMATION** section is first up this week.

#### **More about OILS.**

Tung oil is made from the nut of a tung tree, Linseed oil from flax seeds, Poppy oil from the poppy plant, sunflower oil from the sunflower plant. However, Danish oil is not made by processing bits of a Danish tree or plant.

**The term Danish oil** came into fashion during the latter half of the 20th Century, a time when many items of fine Scandinavian furniture were exported to many parts of the world.

A special feature of this high quality furniture was the low sheen together with the excellent protection achieved by using combinations of white spirit, naphtha, driers, tung oil, natural and synthetic varnish, resins, mineral and vegetable oils. (Scandinavians are expert innovators, discoverers and experimenters it seems)

Today, makers of "Danish" oil have their **individual recipes**. However, the amount of non-evaporating solids is the most important aspect to consider when purchasing a tin of Danish oil.

In New Zealand, several brands of Danish Oil are available at varying prices. So which is the best brand? High quality Danish oil has a higher amount of non-evaporating solids. A good idea is to read the ingredients information on the tin before you purchase. Top quality Danish Oil is specifically made to be absorbed INTO wood, protecting and "nourishing" the wood from under the surface. So you need to experiment somewhat then settle on the brand you find best.

#### **Why use Danish oil?**

First and foremost it is a 'safe' oil when dry!

High quality Danish oil contains at least 50% tung oil.

It is very easy to apply.

Danish oil will enhance the natural colour of the wood.

Drying time is about six hours per coat. (but you do need to make several coats and sanding between each coat)

It does not leave a surface film.

It will not chip, flake, crack or peel.

It will resist stains from wine, beer, coffee, tea, fruit juices and food items.

#### **How to apply**

Use a lint free clean cloth.

Use liberally and evenly working the oil into the wood until the wood can absorb no more. Allow time (say 15 minutes) for the oil to penetrate then wipe away excess oil in the direction of the grain. Set aside the work to continue the drying process for at least another 24 hours.

When dry use a fine-grade sandpaper or 0000 grade wire wool to lightly sand the first coat of oil. The dust created should be removed using a lint-free rag dampened with white spirit.

Repeat this process 3 to 6 times.

#### **Repairs**

Furniture that has been protected with a Danish oil application can be revitalised even after a year. If the wood has a scratch or knock mark, a light sanding should fix the problem then you can apply a coat or two of Danish oil which will blend in with the original finish. OK, now have a go with Danish oil on your next turning project.

## **HEALTH and SAFETY**

More opportunities have been provided to ensure our club members are suitably trained in the use of club machinery. The committee accepts this responsibility very seriously and requires all members to undertake training to familiarise themselves of the safe workings of all machines.

Eight Thursday turners have now been accredited to use the small band saw. Further appropriate training will take place as soon as other machines are commissioned for use

### **Further accreditations this week.**

**JAN**

**MALCOLM**

**RON**

**DAVE**

**RAEWYN**

**DAVID**

**JAMES**

**BOB**

and **ANDRE`**

These folk and other previously accredited members are now invited to use the SMALL band saw as and when necessary for productive and safe sawing.

## **THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL MENTIONS**

**MALCOLM** had his first experience with using a vacuum chuck and not without a bit of drama. Move over Steve Adams, Malcolm can skilfully land a spinning bowl in a basket from a distance of 6 metres and around a corner too!

**RAEWYN** multi-tasked having two projects on the go managing to give time to an apple-wood natural edge bowl and a fancy candle holder.

**DAVE** plugged away at his lidded bowl using rock-hard wood and at one stage tested its hardness by bouncing it on the concrete floor.

**Note:** Raewyn and Dave use similar styles when using the 13mm gouge. Long continuous

bevel-running cutting strokes, taking just the right amount of wood away with each cut.

Very effective chisel work, so well done to those two turners.

**Sharp chisels make an enormous difference** when removing wood from turnings. So special thanks to **BOB** for keeping club members supplied with keen-edged tools and for taking on the task of training members to sharpen their own chisels.

**DAVID** continued work on his maire wood masterpiece. Holes and resin inlays to come next.

The most meritorious mention this week goes to **MURRAY** and **PAUL**. These two keen members spent many hours at the workshop on a day last week expertly installing a ducting system which, in a very short time, will be connected to our new, large dust extraction unit. Special thanks to Murray and Paul for their hard work, time, commitment and consideration for members' health and safety.

### **THURSDAY'S HIVE OF INDUSTRY**

It was heads down and XXXs up all session this week.

Herewith the sounds and sights of a busy session.

- A dremel tool fitted with a ball cutter drones monotonously as the operator punches about 35,000 texture dots into the beautiful swamp kauri wood. This guy must have the patience of a saint.
- Dust rises from a turner's kauri sanding job but his mask keeps him safe.
- Another sugar bowl challenge is completed. Anyone for tea?
- A new chum skilfully shapes his garden dibber. This is a winner.
- An anxious face peers through his foggy visor while adding decorative lines to his masterpiece.
- The band saw clatters as it slices through a slab of 19 layers of ply.
- A piece of high quality kauri discovered in a river bed while out hunting begins its rebirth as a pewter inlay bowl.
- An ancient white maire slab that once lay in a forgotten swamp emerges as a highly figured, shallow bowl. Competent and clever creations.
- The second-to-last pen in a series of many is completed. (Betcha he makes about 10 more!)
- Someone turns the best parting chisel ever made. Maybe it's too good looking to use now.
- Another turner darts from one lathe to the other, successfully creating a twin set of soon-to-be table lamps. So that's how you make two to look the same eh.....use two lathes.
- Someone says, "Ok I've done that small bowl now I wanna make a bigger one next week!". Unbridled enthusiasm here. Goodonya!

Reminder - repeat notice .**CHRISTMAS BARBEQUE - Ron Pedder's place. Sunday 14 December 2014 starting at 11.30 a.m.**

Directions: Ferguson Road is about 14km west of Hamilton.

- Take **Highway 23** (Whatawhata Road) via Dinsdale towards Raglan.
- Just after Whatawhata, cross the Waipa River. (*use the bridge or you'll get wet*)
- Then turn left into Te Pahu Road.
- **Ferguson Road** is the first on your right.
- The **108 letterboxes** are on your left, 200m before the hill.
- Head down the drive and go straight ahead for **108B**. Take care through the dip. (*Dips are for sheep only*)
- There is plenty of parking at the house. (*and no sneaky ticket-issuing parking wardens!*)

Cheers

**Clive**