



# Tutor's Tidings

# TT

No 24 - Friday 24th July, 2015



*a bag of misery*

**APOLOGIES!** I have been absent for both the past week's turning sessions. I have just survived a really rotten week health wise. Recovery is painfully slow.

A severe chest infection put me in bed for five days. The only good thing coming out of it was having breakfast-in-bed for the first time in my entire life. *(Nah.... it's not my style)*

**As a result, this week's TT may be the shortest on record.**

The Salt/Pepper Mill project for the Thursday group was delayed one week and will now get under way on Thursday 30th July. Interested Tuesday members will commence the project on Tuesday next.

***I am anticipating an awkward shortage of 28mm Forstner bits so if you can bring a sharp one along that will be a big help.***

### Sunday's Mid-Winter celebration and exhibition:

As soon as you arrive please hand your exhibition pieces to me for processing (each piece needs to have your allocated number taped to it). Hopefully, if you have two or even three pieces then each item will be differentiated with an (a), (b), or (c) suffix to the number.

See you on Sunday.

Cheers, **CLIVE**

## SALT AND PEPPER MILLS PROJECT

Welcome to the salt and pepper mills project. In this project you will re-visit old skills and learn new approaches to making a very popular item. Salt and pepper mills make great gifts for family and friends.

Mills can be plain, traditional, funky, tall, short, chunky, dumpy, fat or thin. This is one turning project where you can really make a statement. The mills are easy to make and you can let free all your creative skills in the design.



**The wood you choose for your mill is the most important decision in the whole process.** I recommend a quite dense hardwood as those woods sand and finish really well – some woods rather spectacularly!

Here's a list of the bits you will need for mill making.

1. The best wood you can possibly find, clean and defect free, square section, any length between 250 - 600 mm
2. A standard ceramic mill (Carbatec **GRIND-17**)
3. **40mm** Forstner bit (**1 ½** inches)
4. **28mm** Forstner bit (**1 1/8** inches) - Try hard to get one.
5. **Extension for Forster bit ( with correct shaft size )**
6. **A 7mm drill bit**
7. A jamb chuck with a **40mm dia spigot** (15mm long)
8. A lathe chuck fitted with 35mm spigot jaws.
9. Sanding equipment
10. Your favourite finish
11. An instruction book (Usually \$6 but free if you purchase a fundraiser block of wood)
12. Instructions on how to make a jamb chuck (I will provide)

Herewith a slightly amended list from last week's TT notice

**The following skills will feature in this project:** Re-centering an off-center hole; long hole drilling; power sanding in the spindle mode; making a spigot with a tungsten tipped Easy Wood tool; making and using a jamb chuck; plug cutting and fitting; cutting the aluminum square section shaft to size and re-shaping the shaft base; applying a finish; fitting the mechanism; and Beall system buffing to a preferred shine.

**SPECIAL:** How to correctly fit, re-fit chuck jaws.



## New Zealand's Native Trees

# TANEKAHA

Tanekaha is a New Zealand native with species found growing in the North Island from Northland to Taranaki, and in the Marlborough, Nelson areas of the South Island.

This attractive native with a conical shape typical of the conifer family is often found growing naturally with Kauris which also favour the same infertile, lowland soils. The upright, tall, pyramid habit of Tanekaha makes it an excellent specimen tree or for planting in groups.

The tree can grow up to a height of 20 metres, spreading to 3 metres in width, with the smooth barked trunk often measuring one metre in diameter at maturity.

The **common name 'celery pine'** refers to the fernlike, leathery branchlets which resemble celery leaves. Technically these flattened stems are called cladodes. Both male and female flowers and cones occur on the same tree, the female cones being small and purple. While the male cones, in clusters of 5 – 10 are deep purple they change to a crimson colour.

**Historical uses** Early Maori pounded the bark and soaked flax garments and mats with this pulp in cold water before bringing the whole mixture to the boil. This produced a red-brown dye. In the late 19th century tanekaha bark was exported in large quantities to Germany as a source of red and pink dyes and to London for use as an organic mordant in the manufacture of kid gloves.

The dye was used in World War One to make the soldiers khaki coloured uniforms.

**Uses:** Tanekaha produces a quality timber which is strong yet pliable. The wood has a range of uses from mine props and in threshing machines. It is a good stable wood for carving, even when freshly cut.

Its flexibility makes it suitable for fishing rods. Young saplings are sometimes knotted and shaped to form walking sticks with handle and left to grow till they are of the right thickness and maturity before being harvested and dried.