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*Remember, if I cannot break it, no-one can!*

027 491 3868 Clive Wilson (Tutor)  
Issue No 39 - Friday 24th November

Please quote this code when shopping at  
Timberly Woodturning. HC2017

**TT's TOP TURNING for this week**



HOWZATT for colour and interesting grain?

**CHRIS Littlewood** found a piece of walnut on a trailer load of wood, which was deemed as huckery junk. The pile of wood was destined for the fireplace.

However, this bit of “firewood” was rescued and worked into a really smart turning.

Well done CHRIS!



31 days to  
**CHRISTMAS**

*Have you made any  
Christmassy things on  
the lathe yet?*

This week's **completed turnings.**



COLIN McKenzie's corner



James



Malcolm P



Michael



Graeme Surgenor



Gideon du Tois



Oscar Aarsen



David Mollekin



**CLUB PROJECT for 2018.**  
**Turning a spherical shape.**



## Info series

### Understanding the difference between hardwood and softwood?

**Hardwood** is not necessarily a harder material (more dense) and a **softwood** is not necessarily a softer material (less dense).

Different types of construction projects call for different kinds of timber, **both hardwood and softwood are used for everything from structural to decorative.**

Softwoods and hardwoods are distinguished botanically in terms of their reproduction, not by their end use or appearance. *All trees reproduce by producing seeds, but the seed structure varies.*

**In general**, hardwood comes from a **deciduous tree** which loses its leaves annually and softwood comes from a conifer, which usually remains evergreen. Hardwoods tend to be slower growing, and are therefore usually more dense.

Softwood trees are known as a gymnosperm. Gymnosperms reproduce by forming cones which emit pollen to be spread by the wind to other trees. Pollinated trees form naked seeds which are dropped to the ground or borne on the wind so that new trees can grow elsewhere. Some examples of softwood include pine, redwood, douglas-fir, cypresses and larch.

A hardwood is an **angiosperm**, a plant that produces seeds with some sort of covering such as a shell or a fruit. Angiosperms usually form flowers to reproduce. Birds and insects attracted to the flowers carry the pollen to other trees and when fertilized the trees form fruits or nuts and seeds. Hardwoods include eucalypts, beech and blackwood.

The hardwood/softwood terminology does make some sense. Evergreens do tend to be less dense than deciduous trees, and therefore easier to cut, while most hardwoods tend to be more dense, and therefore sturdier. In practical terms, this denseness also means that the wood will split if you pound a nail into it. Thus you need to drill screw or bolt holes to fasten hardwood together. But structural lumber is soft and light, accepts nails easily without splitting and thus is great for general construction.

### Some **hardwoods** found in New Zealand

- Beech.
- Black maire
- Tawa.
- Pohutakawa.
- Kowhai.
- Manuka/Kanuka.
- Pukatea.
- Puriri.
- Rata.
- Titoki
- Rewarewa
- Mangeao

### Locally-grown **exotic hardwoods** include:

- Australian blackwood (Acacia)
- The Eucalypt family
- English elm
- European ash
- English oak
- Robinia

### Some **Softwoods** (coniferous) found in New Zealand

- Monkey puzzle tree
- Cedar
- Celery-top pine
- Douglas-fir
- Kauri
- Larch
- Pine
- Rimu
- Spruce



# CHRISTMAS FUNCTION - SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER

## Directions



## TUTOR's Tip: An aspect so important I reckon it's worthwhile to repeat the information in this week's TT

The sharper the tool the better the job, the quicker the task, the smoother the finish and so on..... No apologies for sounding like I'm harping on about this most vital of wood turning ideas... BUT you **must** use **SHARP TOOLS** to achieve the success you expect!

OK having got that off my chest I need to explain how a tool cuts wood.

**So what is cutting?** **CUTTING:** Where the edge of the tool meets the individual wood fibres the term "Cutting" is synonymous with breaking. If you press the point of the tool against the wood fibres with sufficient force each fibre will break into two pieces.

A cutting edge transfers all the force driving the tool at its point. OK got that?

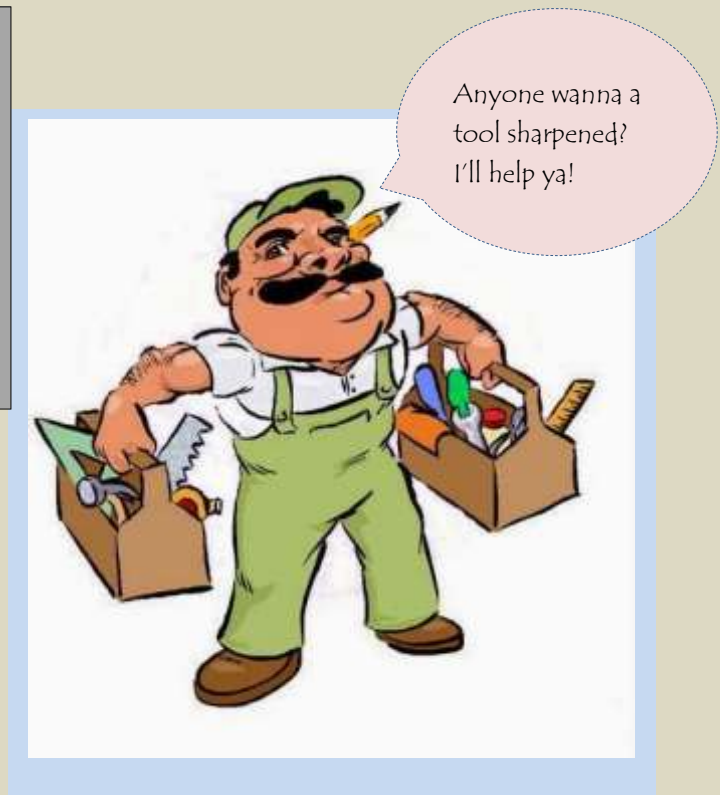
Now because a sharp edge ("razor sharp" edge you often hear me say) contacts only a small amount of the wood surface, the **resistance is confined to a tiny area.**

**Thus it follows that the keener the point, the smaller the resistance and the smaller the force required to cut.**

The wood fibres separate along a narrow line determined by the path of the tool, and the now cut surface appears smooth and even. (no bumps, ridges or valleys on the work)

**CHALLENGE:** While attending sessions at the Hamilton Club , members are expected to sharpen their own tools. Can you do this essential task? If you need assistance there are lots of helping available. Don't be in a hurry. It takes time to learn all the skills.

**BLUNT TOOLS:** A blunt tool contacts a larger surface area. Consequently there is **more resistance** and it requires more force to cut. The fibres fall along a wider, irregular defined line and the cut can appear ragged, torn and



## Flashback !



- (A) Can you identify the turner responsible for this special woody project ?
- (B) What variety of native wood was used?

**Clues:** (1) The turner is a current member of our club.  
(2) The work was completed and shown in March 2015

OK. That's the club happenings round-up for this week.

A special welcome to **MELISSA BROUSSARD** as a new member of the Wednesday group. It was also special to note the return of **MIKE BURNINGHAM** after his 3-month absence while traipsing about the world.

The **ALL BLACKS** play their final (and hopefully finest) game of footy this weekend.

**ALL BLACKS 28**                      **WALES 13**    ----Yaaaaay! Roast leeks for dinner on Sunday!