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An advertisement for Terry Scott, a NZ Agent for Burnmaster and Woodcat products. It features a photo of a person in a blue helmet and safety glasses, a product bottle labeled 'BURNMASTER', and a product box labeled 'Woodcat'. Text includes 'Parade Responders', 'See website for more', 'Contact: timberly@stra.co.nz for an info sheet or ph: (09) 297 7051', and 'Remember, if I cannot break it, no-one can!'.

TERRY SCOTT  
NZ Agent for  
BURNMASTER®  
Also  
Woodcat

See website for more

Contact: timberly@stra.co.nz for an info sheet or ph: (09) 297 7051

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

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(Tutor)

**2018**

Issue No 6 - Friday 9th March



## Turning of the week

**STEPHEN O'CONNOR** made a great job of his Tasmanian Blackwood bowl.

The stunning wood grain in the centre has been ring-fenced with a track of black-coloured resin, visible from the top and underneath sides.

An excellent example of a successful mix of creativity, patience and our NEAGE philosophy.

Lots of "Goodonyas" for this one!



A special welcome to **ROBERT PENDERGRAST** who has joined the Tuesday session team.

Although Robert has had some experience with turning wood on a lathe he opted to kick-start his time with club by undertaking the induction programme.

A wise decision indeed as the induction programme involves learning and reinforcement of the essential (basic) skills.

**ROBERT** tasted immediate success with his knockout bar project. His enthusiasm and his keen eye for shape will be important ingredients for the projects ahead.

## INFORMATION - A process for wood preparation



When chain-sawing a log section lengthwise to form bowl blanks, lay the log on its side, **and support it to prevent rolling**. Cut along the grain, as shown.

### Preparing the log

What wood turner can drive by a downed tree without thinking, "Hmmm, turning stock!"

In this article, (*acknowledgement WOOD magazine staff*) you'll learn how to cut up logs and preserve wood for turning projects.

**Because the ends of a log start to dry immediately after cutting, seal them right away to avoid checking.**

**Use a commercial green-wood sealer.** These sealers clean up with water, dry clear, and are superior to paraffin, which can flake off, and paint, which may require several coats for a good seal.

*If there is checking (posh word for 'cracking') on an old unsealed end, make a fresh crosscut to expose an unchecked surface; seal it immediately. **Leave the logs in long, yet manageable lengths, until you are ready to cut them into turning blanks. This limits potential checking (and waste) to just the two ends of the log rather than both ends of multiple blank-length sections.***

**Leave tight-gripping bark in place. Bark slows moisture loss, helps prevent checking, and leaves the option of using the stock for a natural-edge vessel.**

When ready to cut blanks, saw the log into sections about 4" (100mm) longer than its diameter. This way, if you find any checking after sealing and storing the blank, you'll have ample stock to trim from both ends, exposing check-free surfaces.

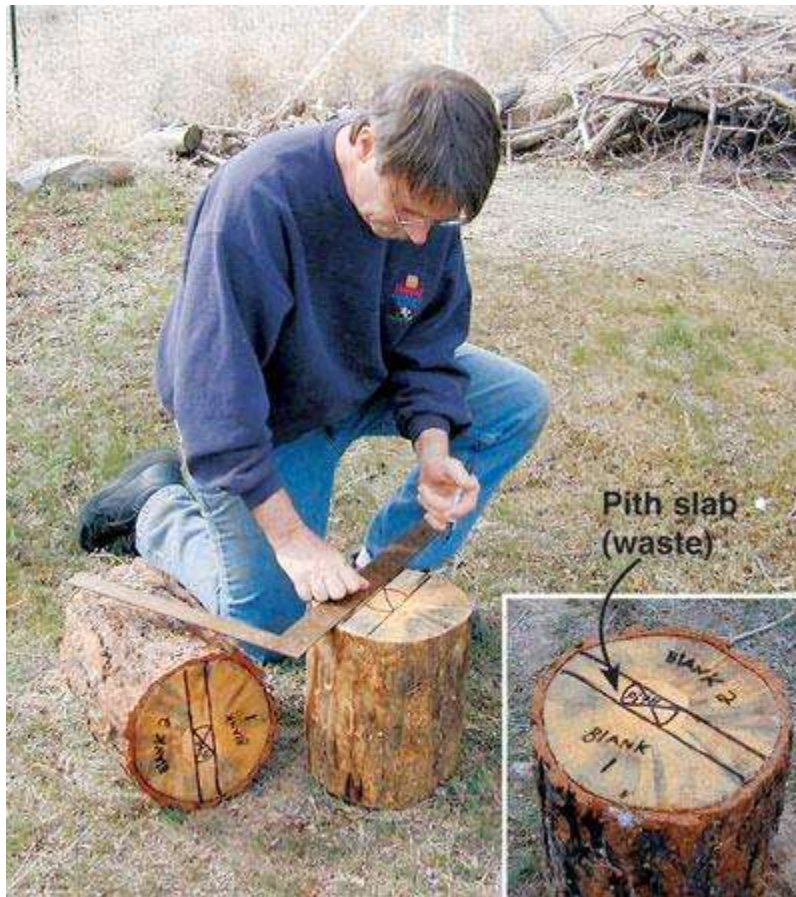
***Do not stand the log section on its end and cut across the end grain.***

***Doing that takes longer and can overheat and dull the chain.***



## Removing the pith

At the center of a log is the original tree stem, called the **pith**, surrounded by a zone of very unstable wood. You'll usually be able to recognize this unstable zone by a change in wood-grain color. The size of this zone varies more with wood species than log diameter. Because this unstable wood may cause uneven drying and splitting, remove it.



The pith section is quite unstable and should be removed, then those bits could be added to the heap of firewood.

To remove the pith and an unstable zone beside it, draw lines with a permanent marker to guide your cuts. The waste slab marked in picture is about 40mm wide.

When slicing log sections with a small-diameter unstable zone (1" or less) into turning blanks, make your cut through the pith. For log sections with a larger-diameter zone, remove additional wood adjacent to the pith, as shown in the photo.

## Working with the end grain



Apply a liberal amount of sealer to the blank ends with an el cheapo 3" brush.

NOTE: End sealer like the stuff shown in the picture is available at our club for just \$12 a litre, which should be sufficient for a very long time.

Seal the end grain of blanks, as shown *above*.

**If the wood is particularly prone to drying stress, such as some fruitwoods, coat the entire piece. Plum** is a beautiful wood for turning but is prone to cracking, so coat all over with sealer for best results. (***pohutukawa and kanuka likewise***)

Make sure you mark each blank before you apply the sealer because the sealer leaves a waxy surface and will be difficult to mark after the wax goes on.

Store the clearly marked blanks off the ground in a dry, well-ventilated area.

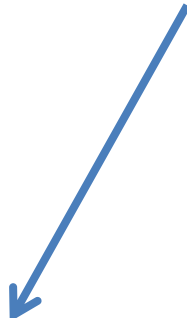


# Woodturning and the Internet

## This Week's Video Clip

**SANDING SEALER:** What is this stuff that lots of turners talk about? This video will unravel any mysteries about sanding sealers. While a particular brand is promoted in this clip any other brand is OK too. **Learn about the use of sealers.**

This is a useful link to a video clip.



Go to your internet  
Type in: [woodturnerscatalog.com](http://woodturnerscatalog.com)  
Click on: Finishing  
Finishers  
Sealers  
Mylands cellulose sanding sealer  
Click on: WATCH VIDEO

Make a few notes for future referral.

**Especially note the bit about using 0000 grade steel wool.**



**Old rags:** We need old rags for all sorts of applications in our workshop. If you have any unwanted rags then please bring them to the next session.

Old toweling or soft-ish cloths are especially good for buffing the wood after applying a polish/wax.

Many thanks for your help!



**Old, clean rags wanted**

## Workshop Happenings This Past Week



**GARY** surprised himself with his excellent spindle turning of a garden dibber. A special skill was learning to use a mini tool.



**JAMES** produced a highly colourful, natural edge pot. A short time later a rather spectacular bowl was on the way.



**MALCOLM'S** rimu wood bangle makes a great gift for some lucky person.



**GIDEON** achieved a really smart finish to his black walnut beaded-rim bowl.



**AARON** produced this well-crafted mini pot using Tassy blackwood. A natural twig has been fitted to the lid to add interest.



**RAY**, one of our keen new members, made an excellent first-shot at making a sphere.

## RARE OPPORTUNITY - READY-TO-USE WOOD SALES A SUCCESS



The club has benefitted from a donation of hard-to-find, ready-to-use, well-seasoned native timbers, most of which involved beautiful blocks of swamp kauri. Club members snapped up the bargains and must have been in awe of the unusually low prices for members only. This was a special fund raiser targeted at supporting the club's lathe replacement programme. A good quantity remains for ongoing sales to club members.



**ROSS** produced a real beauty with his deep platter using a flawless block of redwood for the job. A top turning here!



**KELLY** surprised herself and everyone else too with a remarkably well-crafted swamp kauri bowl. An excellent finish topped it off.



## The Friday Flashback



- (A) Club members' Christmas display - 2015  
(B) Can you see the turning you made? Do you still have it?

While we have had several enrolments this year there are still vacancies to fill especially in the Tuesday day session and in the Thursday evening session. Bring a friend and introduce them to the wonderful world of wood turning.

Learning is fun working alongside a happy bunch of buddies.

An important occasion for the club will be **Monday 19th March** , 7.00pm start at the workshop, for the annual club members meeting. This will be an opportunity for everyone to contribute ideas for the direction of the club. Do take the time to share your views.

**Cheers, Clive**