

This week's  
**TUTOR'S TIDINGS**



**BEAUTIFUL WOODS of  
the WORLD**  
(No 2 in a series of 10)

**Week 8**

**Friday 25th March, 2016**

**Bocote** » *Cordia elaeagnoides*



*Bocote is a small tree native to Central America and the West Indies. Bocote wood is highly valued among woodworkers and artisans for its distinctive swirl patterns.*

*Its appearance is its more striking feature, but it also boasts several benefits in the mechanical and wood working categories.*

**PROPERTIES of BOCOTE wood**

- **Bocote** wood is stronger than many other species.
- This hardness helps protect the wood from dents and scratches, and preserves its natural beauty.
- **Bocote** wood works easily with both hand and power tools, and this makes it ideal for wood turning projects.
- Nailing, screwing, and gluing all work well with **Bocote**.
- When your project is done, it can be stained and polished to an excellent natural finish.
- **Bocote** wood has excellent steam bending characteristics.

**Appearance:** A beautiful, mesmerizing pattern of dark brown streaks dance in wild swirls against a golden brown backdrop. This makes for a truly unique decorative quality, and is the reason why **Bocote** is used in so many different design applications, such as cabinets, furniture, vehicle trim, and flooring.

Bocote is also used for gun handles, decorations, veneers, and jewelery.

Because of its relatively high cost, **Bocote** wood is usually reserved for smaller applications. Its use in larger pieces is inhibited by price. For an upper class home, however, few woods can beat **Bocote** hardwood flooring at providing that perfect high end look.

Between its durability, simple workability, and completely unique exotic appearance, **Bocote** wood is a worthwhile option when choosing a wood for your project. Cost can be an issue, but otherwise it is the perfect blend of beauty and practicality.



***Mexican Bocote tree***

*Bocote, (Cordia elaeagnoides) is a tree growing 6 - 10 metres tall*

The tree is sometimes harvested from the wild for its strikingly beautiful wood.

*Note: I have some of this Mexican bocote wood stored in my workshop so I will bring a sample or two to our clubrooms workshop for your interest. Cheers,*

## What's happening in our workshop?



### A heap of big thanks to Andre`

**ANDRE`** used his time to complete a project for the club. We now have four more handled bowl gouges for members' use.

(He also shouted a tasty supper for his mates)



**MUHANNAD** turned a bowl using 2,500 years old swamp Kauri wood.

Note the beady embellishment made with a small bowl gouge.

The process for the finish was:

- *EEE*
- *Liberon finishing oil*
- *then a coat of wax.*



**BEFORE** the application of “EEE”



**AFTER** the application on “EEE”

The base of **COLIN**'s large White Maire wood natural edge bowl takes shape. White maire is a heavy, dense wood displaying magnificent random grain lines. This bowl will have a rugged look with part of its natural, heavy bark rim left on the topside.



Picture left shows **ROBERT** preparing another platter for the upcoming Terry Scott weekend.

Another matai wood platter on the way.

**SPENCER** has just reversed his block of highly-figured rimu wood and is about to remove the wood from the topside centre.

Next week's session will start an hour earlier to allow additional time for project completion. The workshop will open at 5.00pm for an immediate start.



**MUHANNAD** launches into his cylinder of Tasmanian (Australian) blackwood.

Another pepper mill is on the way and this one is heading to somewhere in Queensland.

At the beginning of the session **DYLAN** watched a brief demonstration of using a hot metal tip to etch wood.

By the end of the session he had added interesting embellishments to his matai bowl. WOW!



# **SPECIAL NOTICE**

*Next Thursday, 31st March, is a special session as it marks the end of Course One for the THURSDAY group.*

*At 8.00 pm all **“MISSION NOT-IMPOSSIBLE”** projects will be displayed showing off their embellishment features. –OK yes projects can be fully completed or presented as work in progress!*

***Some turners may need a little extra time so I will open the workshop at 5.00 pm next Thursday for an immediate start. (no pre-session discussion)***

***This extra time may assist the completion of projects.***

***The evening will also feature the usual shared supper.***

*The THURSDAY group would like to extend an invitation to **friends and family, and fellow club members who attend the TUESDAY sessions**, to share the celebration of turning progress. Come join our happy crew to see what's happening and stay for supper – 7.30pm would be a good time to arrive.*

***See you there!***

*Progress with Mission Not-Impossible projects*



**CHRISTINE** has finished the base, turned the block around, fitted the spigot into a chuck, made sure there is a no-wobble spin, removed the face plate and is about to remove wood from the topside centre.

Tooling: 13mm gouge and a scraper.

**MIKE** is experiencing success with his block of box elder wood. The consistency of the shavings on the floor indicates some very patient and skilled wood removal.

Hey Mike, there's still 6-8pm available at next week's session which is time enough to turn the bowl around and remove the topside centre. Go for it!



Have a safe and happy Easter weekend.

See you all next week Tuesday and Thursday.

*Clive*