

The club's new office holders have been appointed, the committee's workload has been shared with role allocations and the work has started. We look forward to a busy, productive year.

I have started to analyse the results of the project survey form you all completed and will use that information to suggest a number of projects that will be linked to ***your individually-expressed turning interests.***

For example: The Thursday team will be introduced to a common turning project involving the **making of paper knives/letter openers. (26th March)**



**COLIN** has been busy in his workshop producing another fine artwork from his stack of Black Maire. Note the excellent use of the timber's natural features.

**TUESDAY SESSION (10th March)**

***Sorry folks but this edition of our TT will be a bit thin with information relating to the club's Tuesday all-day session due to my absence on that day. The same situation will occur next week as well.***

***All will be restored from the 24th March session.***

***Thanks for your patience.***

***Cheers***

***Clive***



**MUHANNAD's Eggs.**

***Wow! There could be many days of omelettes for breakfast or lunch here.***

***Many thanks once again  
Muhannad.***

## Thursday sessions

Next week's session, on Thursday March 19th, is the last night of the FIRST 10-WEEK COURSE. The flask project ends next week too so all flask makers are asked to bring their completed projects to place on an exhibition table.

As is our custom, we celebrate all our woodturning experiences and learning by sharing a supper at the end of the night. Bring a plate evening next THURSDAY.

The SECOND 10-week COURSE for the year begins on Thursday March 26th, with our wooden paper knives/letter opener project. Please remember to return your booklets inside their plastic covers as you will need these for the new group project.

The *practice wood* is prepared and, many thanks to COLIN, some really *beautiful black maire* wood will be provided for the final edition.



**CHRISTINE's** bud vase project nears completion with a sanding sequence using astra-dot grits 80, 180, 240, 320, 400, and 600.

The next step was the EEE application to finish the surface smoothing job. Finally the vase was given a light buffing.

The finish achieved was quite outstanding.

Great work Christine!



The completed bud vase made from 2,500 years old swamp kauri



# Timbers of New Zealand



*Rimu (red pine)*

The **second** in a **series** of articles about New Zealand's native trees, which will be included in the upcoming weekly **Tutor's Tidings (TT)**



*The branchlets have a distinctive pendulous character, those on young trees being particularly graceful in appearance.*

*The leaves are small and awl-shaped.*

# Timbers of New Zealand

## **RIMU** (*Dacrydium cupressinum*).

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Rimu is a slow-growing, evergreen tree with a straight trunk.

The tallest reach up to 50 metres (164 feet) high but most are within the 20 to 35 metre (65 to 115 feet) range.

The branchlets have a distinctive pendulous character, those on young trees being particularly graceful in appearance. The leaves are small and awl-shaped.

They are usually found in temperate rainforests such as mixed broadleaf or podocarp forests. Rimu live between 800 to 900 years on average.

They are endemic to New Zealand and exist on the three main islands of the country. Their greatest concentration is found on the West Coast of the South Island, while the biggest examples of Rimu are found in a number of forests around Taupo.

Rimu was once a main source of wood in New Zealand and used for housing and furniture. It is now illegal to cut down rimu on public land with some limited logging on private land still happening today.

The timber of the rimu is comparatively hard and dense. The tree is a conifer belonging to a group of forest trees, which includes the genus *Podocarpus*, that is widely represented in highland forests in countries on the west side of the Pacific. In the genus *Dacrydium* there are about 16 species, of which seven are found in New Zealand, with representatives in Malaysia, New Caledonia, Tasmania, and Chile.

**Rimu is the most widespread of all New Zealand forest trees**, occurring throughout the North, South, and Stewart Islands. The large trees can be anything up from 700 to 800 or even 1,000 years old. The facts of age and structure of such forest have given rise to the theory that the rimu is a relic of past climates which have been more favourable to it. It is certainly not replacing itself. However, along the edges of some forests on the pumice plateau of central North Island the rimu is younger, and intermediate age-classes and regeneration do occur. It is also present in secondary “scrub” on clay soils of the north.

On the West Coast of the South Island and on Stewart Island a special type of forest, usually referred to as rimu pole forest, occurs on flat, very wet terraces. In these there is complete representation of age-classes from plentiful regeneration onwards.

## Other Thursday session happenings



**ROBERT** gets sprayed with long trails of shavings that fly off the tip of his chisels.

He is using **EASY WOOD** chisels fitted with razor-sharp tungsten carbide tips. These tools produce an amazingly smooth finish and remove the wood with relative ease.

Robert has mastered the use of these tool wonders and now uses them in preference to all other types of turning chisels/tools. A check on the quality of his work may convince you too.

The picture below shows **ANDRE`** swapping a parting-off chisel for another tool that can do the same job. He is making an insert "button" to fit on the side of his wooden flask.



**SPENCER** hollows out his fast spinning flask first from one side then the other.

(It's important to remember the amount of wood hollowed out is directly proportional to the amount of whiskey the flask will hold).



*COLIN has already finished his wooden flask so launches into turning a piece of soft cedar wood. (Is that an EASY WOOD tool he is using?)*

**MURRAY**, like many other turners, can be affected by rimu wood dust, so wears a nifty battery-powered face mask for protection.

*These excellent lightweight protectors are available from Carbatec Ltd.*



PAUL has reduced a square-section length of swamp kauri wood to a cylinder and now works on his tool handle shape.

He shows very clearly that he has mastered a basic turning skill with the use of gouges.

“Rubbing or running the bevel” with a razor-sharp tool will remove the wood easily and leave a good quality finish on the wood.

Goodonya Paul!

**WAIKATO SHOW:** Our club wishes to have a display stand at the upcoming Waikato Show. This idea will become a real possibility if we can get enough members to help out with attending the stand over the course of the three-day exhibition. **CAN YOU HELP?** Contact Murray or Clive



***STEPHEN** carefully removes the bottom of his well-designed bowl. It's a bit of a challenge to remove the spigot on the base but Stephen has plans to use a jam chuck and tailstock support to do the job.*

## HEALTH and SAFETY

**Repeat notice: All club members** are reminded about **Health and Safety practices** such as:

1. Ensuring that you have had training and re-checking of the skills needed before you become an accredited user of the band saws.
2. New club members will be issued with the club's H&S policy
3. ANY accident, (even seemingly minor ones) that have occurred MUST be recorded in the club's records.

## OUR FLASK MAKERS



**Yayyy! The bung fits!**



***MUHANNAD's** flask project nears completion with the making of the bung. The last bit was a turning challenge as it involved making a small round ball shape. A tricky operation here.*

## This week's demonstrations/tips and information included:

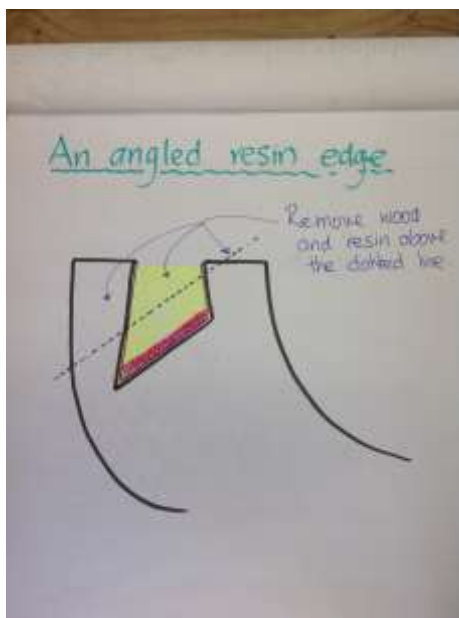
1. COLIN presented his fine piece of black maire that he had fashioned into an irregular leaf shape.
2. A discussion was held about the MANAWA wood and its growth habits (all turners)
3. How to remove a steel shaft from an old chisel for recycling. (Paul)
4. Fitting a brass ferrule to a tool handle (Paul)
5. Applying EEE to bare wood (Christine)
6. Using the buffing system (Christine)
7. The price charged for the brass ferrules was incorrect. (Not \$10 each- they are \$5 each!) As a result, I owe Jan one brass ferrule.(all turners) Christine your ferrule will cost only \$5
8. A reminder that there will be no session on Thursday April 2nd (Thursday turners)



## FLASHBACK!

Do you remember our *resin bowl* project?

Does anyone want to try another resin bowl project?



One method for making a sloping or angled resin edge

Well that's it for another week  
**HAPPY TURNING**

*Clive*