

Hamilton Woodturners Club

Website: www.hwoodturners.org

Tutor: Clive Wilson 027 491 3868

ISSUE No 4 Friday 26th Feb 2021

This week's woodturning news

This week's STANDOUTs (two)



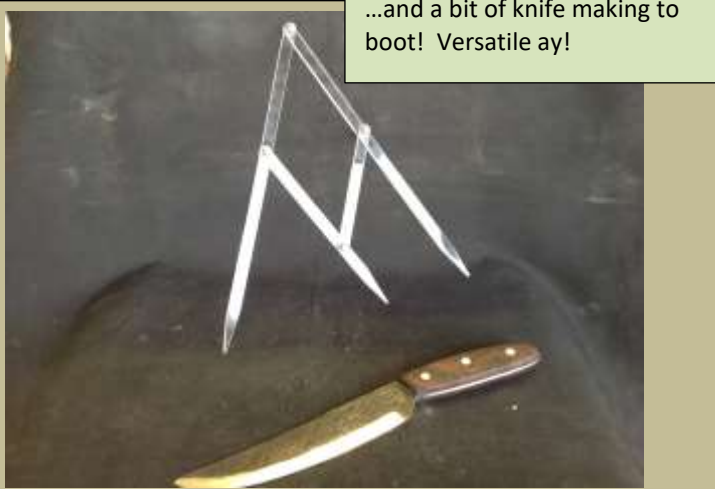
Our **DAVE** has been busy

Here's a couple of excellent 'Goodonya' jobs turned by **DAVE FREW**.

A thin-walled, deep bottomed bowl featuring a continuous arc from rim to rim.



Murray has been busy making a set of Golden Ratio Calipers. ...and a bit of knife making to boot! Versatile ay!



WAYNE O'HALLORAN took time away from his tomato orchard to turn his super platter from a lump of driftwood. A top turning job.



DAVID ROSE used puriri wood for this beauty.



JOHN BAKER commenced this project in **MICHAEL DOYLE's** workshop where this team of two shared their talents and knowledge.

Part one was success with getting all the various coloured wood segments fitting accurately.

JOHN then set about hollowing out the centre, turning the lid and the matching finial.

Oak wood is a good choice to use for the base as it provides an effective colour contrast.

A really clever outcome all round!

www.timberlywoodturning.co.nz



Purelite Respirators



35 Pen K1 Styles



STARBOND CA GLUE

TERRY SCOTT
NZ Agent for
BURNMASTER®

Also

Woodcut
TOOLS LIMITED

See website for more

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

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

No free turning session
TOMORROW 27th February
in it's place will be the
Annual General Meeting
9.00 am (tomorrow)
SATURDAY MORNING
followed by a SHORT working bee

See the working bee task list
printed elsewhere in this newsletter

AIR DRYING YOUR VALUABLE WOOD FOR TURNING

A well-proven method as used by **CLIVE**

A challenge all turners face is the availability (and cost) of good quality wood for turning projects. One sure way of having a continuous supply is to have your own shed full of air-dried wood in your backyard. While there are many ways to season wood **the simplest process is air drying**. This is also the slowest method but always the cheapest way to get your wood ready to use on the lathe.

People often ask me how long it takes to dry say a 100mm slab of native timber. This is a difficult question to answer as each variety of wood may well have a different answer.

The variables are:

- The thickness of the slab
- The initial moisture content
- Late spring season cut wood or Autumn/winter cut wood
- The density of the wood - hardwood or softwood
- The weather conditions the wood is dried in. (Air flow, temperature)

However, my usual response is “allow 12 months for every 30mm thickness of the slab”. This is hardly a scientific answer but it is a useful guideline that gets quite close to reality.

Right! Enough of the nearly-scientific burble.

Onward and Upward!

1. Ok, let’s start with obtaining some wood. Suppose your neighbour, or bloke up the road a bit tells you he is about to fell a tree that apparently annoys him because the leaves fall everyday into his swimming pool.

His tree is about to be euthanized – it’s gotta come down! So now you might turn up at his place with your trailer and chainsaw, all the safety gear and a litre of log sealer.

2. As soon as possible after the felling **cut the logs into lengths** that measure at least **100mm more than the diameter** of the trunk/big limb. WHY? - End checking (cracking) happens because wood shrinks as it dries. Aha! So that's why you need to allow an extra 100mm - to cope with the checking. This is a really an important point to think about. **Processing your log is best started within minutes not hours, days or weeks after the tree is felled.**

3. Turn the now-cut log rounds on their ends and chainsaw them lengthways right down through the pith. Now you have two half-round blocks. If they are really big then cut again.

4. Cut the half-round blocks into good-sized slabs and remove the bark from the outer slab. Yes, get rid of the bark as it will hold the moisture in and is generally no good for turning anyway.

5. Brush on a generous coating of waxy end-sealer (thick, milky goeey stuff) to the ends of the slabs. (We have some of this sealer stuff for sale at our workshop.)

This waxy application **will SLOW DOWN the loss** of moisture through the end grain pores. **Moisture will escape from the timber much faster through the end grain than anywhere else on the slab.** If the ends are not treated with wax sealer then uneven drying can occur and your wood might end up looking like one in the picture just below.

No log sealer applied to end grain. Ends lose moisture faster than other parts of the slab so severe cracking is likely to happen.



Timber stacked for drying. End grain painted with log sealer. Slabs stacked correctly with gaps between each slab to allow air flow.





A lump of driftwood (variety unknown) that **RICHARD** has transformed into a work of art.



LYNDAL, a newbie turner, has made an excellent job of turning her first bowl. Next steps: inlaying a coin into the bottom.



DON McNAUGHTON's creative contributions to the driftwood initiative.

- 1. A beer can holder to sit beside his Lazyboy while watching the cricket.
- 2. Hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil
- 3. An offering of driftwood's floral art.

Zany, clever and fun!

MELISSA's MIGHTY MAKINGS



A lathe-turned tool for weavers.

Left: A WEAVING SWORD

Right: A FLAX BREAKER

Sycamore wood.



WORKING BEE TASKS to be undertaken on Saturday 27th February

1. Ensure band saw blades are aligned with the guide wheels.
2. Service all lathe beds with a spray of silicone then wipe off excess.
3. Ensure all banjo and tailstock locking levers tighten correctly.
4. Service chucks by ensuring screws are tight. CRC spray the chucks.
5. Rearrange/tidy all wood on the rear shelves.
6. Tidy the shelves above the tool sharpening grinders.
7. Blow any dust out of all lathe headstocks - especially the DVRs.
8. Ensure all lathe tool racks have complete sets of gouges etc.
10. Compressor is losing air through the hose and fittings – repair this.
11. Empty the two scrap wood bins. (might need a trailer)
12. **The next task is a biggie and will need time and expertise to remedy its poor performance. DUST EXTRACTION UNIT**
The unit continues to operate inefficiently – suction is weak at all points and hose fittings need repair. One of the air gates is broken.

REPEAT
NOTICE re
Annual
Members
meeting

Hamilton Wood Turners Club
Annual General Meeting
9.00am Saturday 27th February



It seems that if you are a wood turner then you also have to grow tomatoes.

COLIN McKENZIE reckons he just plonks a couple of plants in the ground and leaves them to it. However, he did build a wooden frame around his two plants to support the weight of the monster crop.

Woo Hoo!



WENDY's determination and newly learned skills helped produce this very smart blackwood bowl with its penny coin inlay. Potential plus evident in this turning job.



A cherry wood treasure from **GARY JUDKINS**.

Skilful use of the dremel tool put some super smart etchings around the rim of this prominently grained bowl.



TRAVIS submitted his turning effort last night and his labelling shows he has a fine sense of humour. Things didn't go quite right with this job.....so....wearing a big smile he just got onto making another.

Goodonya TRAVIS!



COLIN found a lump of swamp totara on the farm and then gave it the boot. There's only a foot to go to complete the job.



Believe it or not....this was just a piece of driftwood lying on the banks of the Mokau River about a month ago. Look at it now. Superb!



MIKE needed to use the XXXOS size "Wilsonworth" chuck to hold this super-large kauri wood bowl.

A particularly fine grained selection of wood for the job. A top turning Mike.



AARON experimented with some pin oak wood and black boot polish. An interesting effect was created as only the prominent growth rings absorbed the black colouring.

Wow! What can we do now?

It's been a busy month with well-attended sessions, several new members and the driftwood initiative to get operations underway. All members are asked to bring their completed driftwood projects next week and add these to the whole-club display.

See you all at tomorrow's AGM and working bee. Cheers, kind wishes to all Clive.