



Website: www.hwoodturners.org

TUTOR: Clive Wilson 027 491 3868
cdwilson@xtra.co.nz

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TUTOR'S COMMENT

Saturday morning free turning session starting at 9.00am.

Duty Officer: Murray Price

The raffle for the slab of Kauri enters its final selling week. Have you got your ticket yet?

We have had some super-smart turnings completed this past week. (*check out Don McNaughton's dazzling root stock kauri bowl*)

In keeping with the idea of sharing expertise among members, another turning demonstration led by a club member, is scheduled for next Tuesday.

Our challenge is to work out ways of timing these special events to enable the greatest number of members to be present.

Terry Scott  WOODTURNING 

Woodturner: Woodturning Lathes Tools and Accessories

www.timberlywoodturning.co.nz

timberly@xtra.co.nz 320 Hunua Rd
092977051 Papakura 2583
021998493 Auckland New Zealand



MICHAEL used tulip wood to turn this very smart bowl of contrasting colours.

The spalting effect is well advanced.



JOHN continued his foray into off-set turning projects.

Great choice of wood -Chilean Fire tree. (flowers are blazing red)

DID YOU KNOW.....THINGS AND FACTS ABOUT WOOD

DID YOU KNOW.....that the **forest removals** on the Amazon region are 92 percent or more by burning down the forest, converting the land to poor pastures for cattle grazing, and not by logging and sawmilling?

DID YOU KNOW.....that about 50 percent of all logging (commercial and also by individuals) is used for cooking and heating and not for housing, furniture, etc.

Until we come up with alternatives for cooking and heating fuel, people will continue to cut trees (small and large; of any species without regard for the environment -- it is survival for them) and we will see worldwide forest removals that seem to be damaging the environment.

Plus, such cooking and heating activity takes carbon in the wood (technical term is sequestered, meaning it is locked up) and converts it to carbon dioxide when the wood burns, which is then added to the amount of greenhouse gas in the atmosphere, which we strongly suspect adds to global warming.

DID YOU KNOW.....Some woods split easily when we hit them with a hammer, chisel or even a cannon ball in the old days. But one species, called **tan oak**, has wood fibres that are twisted within the wood. These fibres that are twisted resist splitting.

In fact, in the War of 1812 in the U.S.A. there was a ship that used tan oak for building the sides of the ship. When the British cannonballs hit the ship, they bounced off instead of penetrating and damaging the ship. So, this ship got the nickname of "**Old Ironsides.**"

DID YOU KNOW..... If you are in the Southern U.S.A. most of the young kids will know about some creeks and rivers in the area that have black or very dark coloured water. In fact, many of the stream and rivers have the word black in their names.

What makes the water so black? It is the tree that has tannic acid within plus a little bit of iron from the soil mixing to form iron tannate. Iron tannate is a black liquid. Even more, this tannic acid sanitizes the water and acts as a preservative.

So, in the old days before plastic jugs and containers, water on ships and other locations **was carried in wood barrels**. If the water was “black water,” the tannic acid would keep the water fresh and drinkable for months. Sailing ships were delighted to find these black water rivers so that they could get good drinking water.

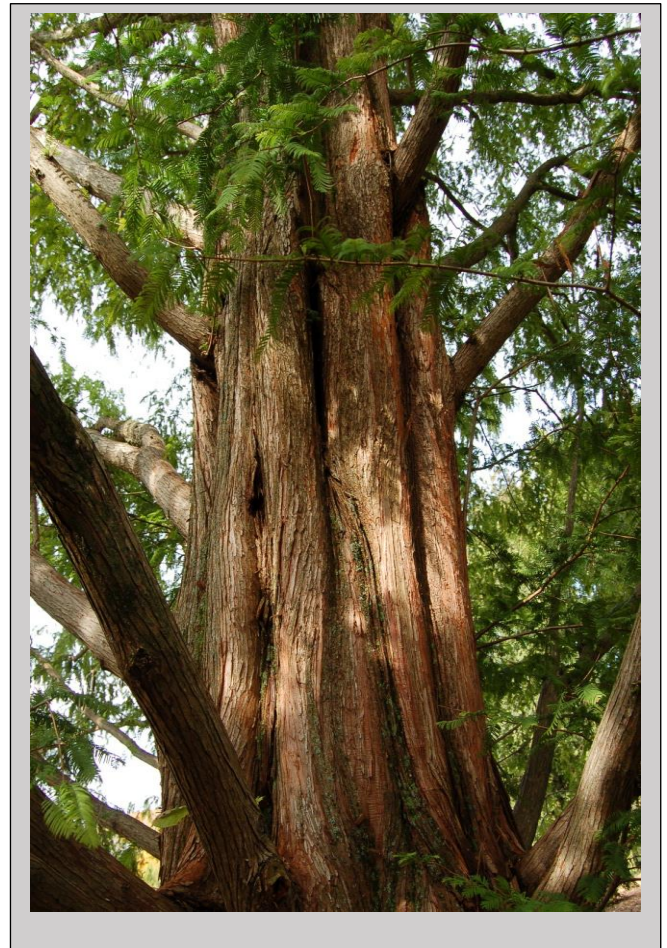
DID YOU KNOW..... In the old days, and before we had plastic, nylon, and a whole lot of different fabrics, **leather was very important for jackets, hats and many clothing items.**

But, leather, which was the skin of cattle, deer and a few other animals, had to be dried out and made nice and soft and supple. This process was called tanning and was usually done outside. To help the process and prevent unwanted mould, the skin was treated with tannic acid. The major source of this mild acid was from the bark of trees, especially the **hemlock tree**. The bark was soaked in water to extract the acid. The acid was so valuable that in the earlier days, trees were cut down in the forest and the bark was peeled off the logs and taken to the tanning factory. The wood was left in the woods to rot and return to the soil rather than be taken to a sawmill. In fact, in those days, the bark was more valuable than the wood.

DID YOU KNOW..... People often study fossils, especially the fossils from trees and plants that lived many centuries ago. One of these fossils was for a tree called *Dawn Redwood*. Everyone thought that this huge evergreen tree was long extinct and only existed as a fossil specimen. But around 1942, some people found a small grove of dawn redwood trees growing in an isolated valley in China. They recovered some seeds from these trees and planted the seeds. Today, we have these trees growing all over the world.



GIANT DAWN REDWOOD TREES



Coastal Redwood trees in Washington state in the USA are known for being among the world's tallest trees.

An outstanding grove of these SEQUOIA trees can be found in Rotorua, New Zealand.

DID YOU KNOW.....A lot of people have wooden decks in the back of their house. But did you know that in many places sidewalks were wooden instead of concrete? They were sometimes called boardwalks. Did you know that sometimes roads and streets were not paved but were made of thick pieces of wood lumber, called planks. The roads were given names like "Plank Road." They used this wood because there were so many trees in the U.S.A. Wood was readily available, but other building materials were not close by.

DID YOU KNOW..... When the early surveyors in the mid 1800s were surveying the Great Plains especially Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, the Dakotas, Oklahoma and Texas, they had a problem on how to mark the spots they surveyed so someone else could find the spot later and know where the land that they bought was located exactly.

They did not have a GPS or even a lot of metal posts to stick into the ground. Carrying all the weight would have been impossible. So, what they did was to carry a bunch of wooden stakes. So that someone would be able to tell the difference between their stakes and just an old piece of wood that fell off of a nearby tree, they brought stakes from trees that did not grow in the area they were surveying.

For example, they might have cherry from Pennsylvania, a tree that which does not grow in Nebraska. Also, to make sure that the wood did not rot quickly but would last for 100 years, they tested the wood in a campfire. From time to time we still find these old survey stakes that help define the property lines...a burned piece of curly wood...but we do need to use a microscope and do need to clean off the burned part to identify the wood.



WAYNE used his great sense of proportion to fashion this rather solid bowl-on-a-stand.

A collection of kauri wood bits well-put together.



ALAN crafted a lump of spalted tulip wood to accommodate a glass tea-light candle. Good for romantic dinners these candle thingies!



RICHARD Jackson's wizardry with cherry wood and a central carved double insert painted with glossy black.

A special piece of quality turning and carving.

This is destined to become a wall hanging.



STEPHEN O'Connor fizzles with enthusiasm when something different is being tried. Here's this week's contribution to excellence.

A laminate of purpleheart, oak and rimu woods now turned into an eye-catching bowl.

Goodonya Stephen.

DEMONSTRATION TIME AGAIN.

COLIN MCKENZIE will show us how to make a wave bowl!"

TUESDAY May 3rd 9.30a.m. All welcome.

The demonstration will be followed by all attendees having a shot at completing a **wave bowl**. Please bring a suitable medium-sized block of dry wood for your bowl. Some wood will be available at the workshop.



MURRAY'S highly successful combination of lathe turning and Dremel carving.

This project was completed over considerable time, lots of planning and a great dose of creativity. The project is fair testament to Murray's high level of care and patience.

Turning, carving, staining and painting skills to the fore.



MELISSA shows us another totally functional outcome of a turning project.

Small objects are Melissa's focus and her projects are mostly linked to practical household tools or gadgets. Invariably her projects demonstrate Melissa's skill with mini-turnings and precision finishing.

This week it's a tool for making eyelets for fabrics.



DON McDAUGHTON and his very special, highly-coloured bowl made out of the root of an ancient Kauri tree.

Don took his time to draw out the spectacular grain features of this iconic treasure.



COLIN's wave bowl.

This is the project which will be demonstrated next TUESDAY May 3rd.

Participants are asked to bring suitable wood for this special turning.

The wood block should be approx., 140mm square and 90mm thick.

All members welcome.



ROBERT's smooth-finish pepper mill fitted with a standard grind mechanism.

Ergonomically designed to fit anyone's hand.



STEPHEN HAWLEY's beautifully made lidded pot.

The spalted wood base adds interest to the turning's eye-catching shape.

Stephen reckons he will repeat the lid using wood to match the base.

Good one Stephen.



GARY's two dinkies with their firm fitting lids.



Another win coming up.

Ho Hum