

# Splinters

The Newsletter of  
Christchurch Woodturners  
Association Inc



Unite  
against  
COVID-19

New Zealand Government



## COVID-18 LOCKDOWN

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## **Upcoming Events**

NO Meetings – NO Workshops Until further notice

From: Peter Clemett

As I write this, it's clear our Club is not going to be able to function in the normal way for at least a month, and possibly longer. For those of us used to the regular Club gatherings and dropping in to the workshop to work on own projects or for classes, it's a considerable change. But just because we can't meet together doesn't mean we can't exercise our skills or find outlets for our creativity.

Several of your Committee members recently kicked around ideas to keep "Club life" going during our enforced isolation, and are keen to offer everyone the opportunity to participate in a series of remote challenges. Each of these will be run as a "virtual show table", meaning everyone will work on the challenges on their own and then on the due date submit photographs and a brief description of their piece. All entries will be collected together and then made available for everyone to view. Pieces can be created using any combination of methods and materials consistent with the theme – you don't have to confine yourself to "round and brown". Make do with what you've got available to work with and the materials to hand.

The aim is to make this accessible even to those who rely on our Club workshop for access to lathes. Put your thinking caps on and I'm sure you will find a way to keep involved.

Here's the first list of challenges and submission dates for you to participate in as many or few as you like. Email your photos and a description of your creation to [membership.chchwoodturners@gmail.com](mailto:membership.chchwoodturners@gmail.com) on or before the due date.

## Virtual Show Table Challenge

BY: Peter Clemett

The theme for the week ending 6<sup>th</sup> April was: *Containment* - Something that holds, confines, contains, encloses, secures, or otherwise suggests containment

Here are the items:



[1] **Noel Graham**

My containment project consists of Megan (the bear) contained in ply.

I made Megan years ago when illness confined me to the couch. The bowl has been bias turned from a piece of ply 250mm square.



**[2] Peter Clemett**

My take on containment was inspired by the synonym “secured”. A bolt and nut joins and secures a pair of arms. The bolt is approximately 36mm in diameter. The arms are jarrah, bolt head and nut are from ash, and the shank of the bolt from a scrap of timber I haven’t identified yet. Threads were cut with a tap and die set, I borrowed from our editor – thanks Joe.



Time to get stuck into the next challenge now, and looking forward to seeing more entries. Don't forget to email your photos and a description of your creation to [membership.chchwoodturners@gmail.com](mailto:membership.chchwoodturners@gmail.com) on or before the due date.

Due **Monday 13th April**. Theme = *Easter*. What do you associate with Easter?

Due **Monday 20 April**. Theme = *Movement*. Make something which features a moving part or parts

Due **Monday 27 April**. Theme = *Autumn's End*. Something which reflects the changing seasons



## Virtual Show Table Challenge

BY: Peter Clemett

Entries are in for the COVID-19 Lockdown Weekly Virtual Show Table Challenge for 13<sup>th</sup> April.

The theme for the week: *What do you associate with Easter?*

Here are the items:

### [1] Keith McFadden

This Easter bunny arrived a day early for the Challenge, despite a busier than usual weekend this year.

The eggs are mostly different timbers, including three Corian ones.



[2] **Matteo Sgaggero**

Hope you are having an awesome Easter in the safety of your bubble.



This is my creation for the Easter competition.

Not your typical egg :-)

Hope you will enjoy it, I cannot wait to see the other works.

The Japanese style tray is turned from a scrap piece of cherry wood and the egg has been turned on the lathe and then pierced and dug out with a Dremel style drill.

The egg is also cherry wood and it took 6 hours to be finished. Shavings are Eucalyptus wood :-)



Stay well and safe.



[3] **Ray Morgan**

My entry for the Easter competition



This is what happens when you leave a chicken and rabbit alone in the workshop. I'm not yolking!!



## [4] Peter Clemett



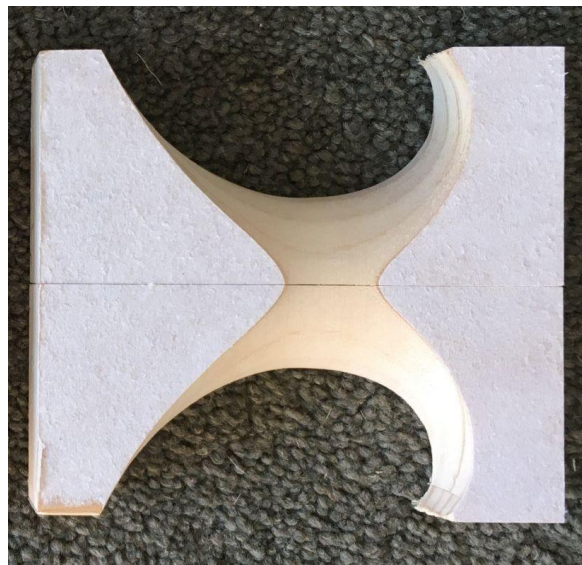
I've been playing around with an idea for creating a heart shape void on the lathe and combining it with a contrasting "teardrop" finial.

The emotions of love and sadness reflected in the imagery seemed to me an appropriate fit for the Easter theme.



The void was turned "inverted" in a square of timber which was then cut and rejoined to sandwich the finial.

My initial attempts to turn a single blank at a time failed with too much breakout around the edges of the cut. I achieved the successful example here by laminating two blanks together along with outer waste blocks – all PVA/paper joints for ease of separating later. The pictures below show the twin of the finished article, after turning, separating, and sawing down the centreline.





**[5] Campbell Botting**

Decided I needed to do something so this is my morning's effort.

**Easter Egg Hunt**

The wood I used was a piece of Manuka. Had splits and some hidden bark inclusions.

Should have created some templates but did it freehand. Came out OK but eggs are not all traditional egg shape!



Also found it hard to release the jam chucks. Was using custom wood and found that if I made band saw cuts through almost to the piece being held and then just broke the custom wood the piece released with no damage.



## Virtual Show Table Challenge

BY: Peter Clemett

Entries are in for the COVID-19 Lockdown Weekly Virtual Show Table Challenge for 20<sup>th</sup> April.

The theme for the week: ***Movement** - something which features a moving part or parts*

Here are the items:

[1] **Keith McFadden**



My entry for the "movement" show table challenge. The wheels turn, but it needs a bit of a push to get it started.

It will probably get claimed by one of the grandchildren, once the lockdown ends.



The side wheel arches are made by doweling two pieces of wood together and shaping them then transferring the dowel positions to the body of the car. This makes it look symmetrical.



The pen in the picture above shows the scale.

Cheers, Keith



**[2] Peter Clemett**

Lockdown has us all communicating by phone and computer these days. I was using Facetime on my phone during the week, talking to my son in Italy, and getting very frustrated that I couldn't find a successful way to prop up my phone for hands free operation. Of course the solution was obvious – I had to make a phone stand.

So, with a little thought I came up with a solution to my problem which also neatly addresses this week's theme.

The ball is just over 10cm diameter and being made of Elm has a good mass to keep it steady. The base is Kwila – yes, more left over material from my Summer of decking several years back.

It's not like any other phone stand I've seen before and I'm really pleased with the result.

It also has comprehensive specifications:

- suitable for a range of phone sizes
- landscape or portrait orientation
- full 3-axis (pan, tilt, roll) adjustment





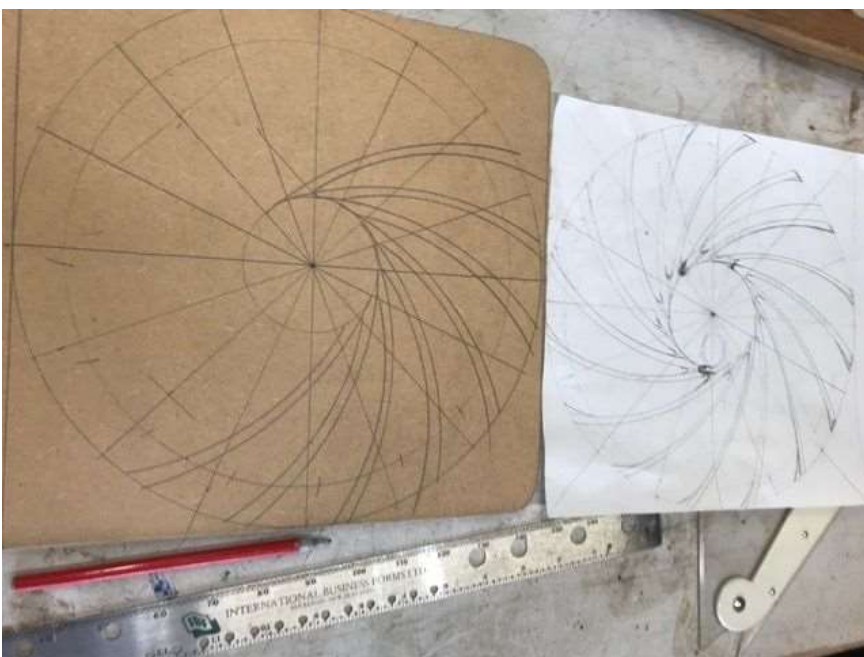
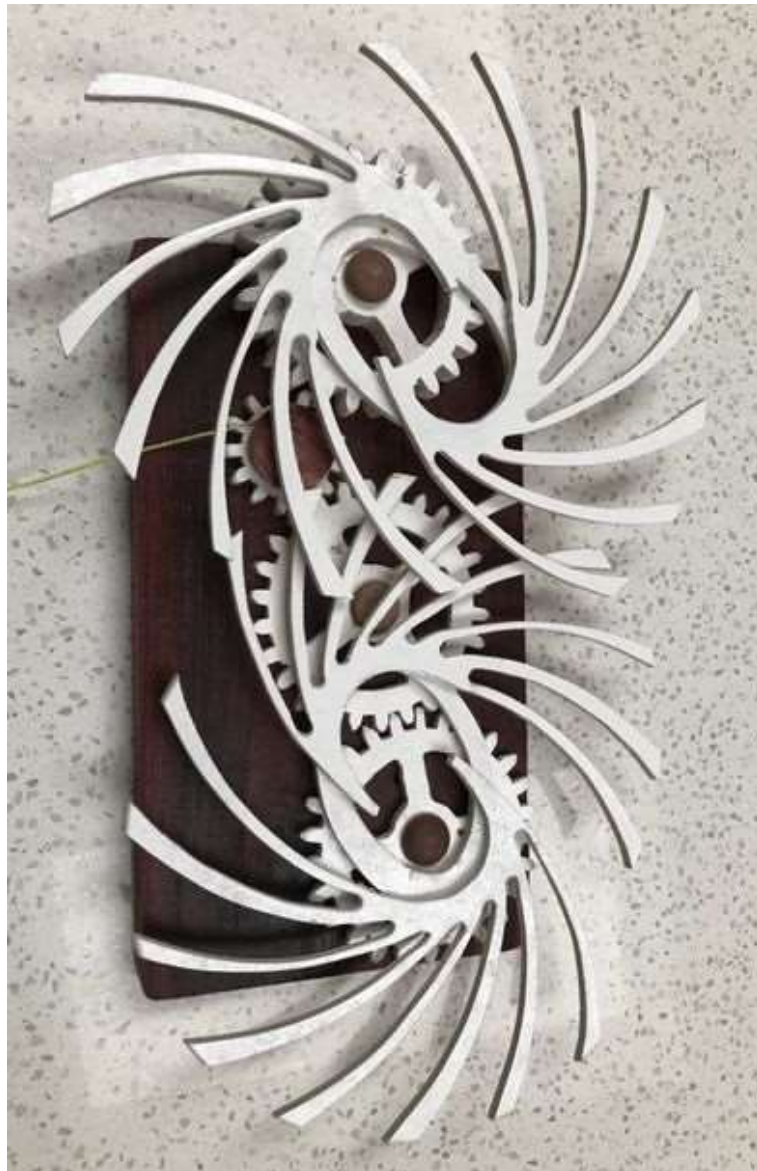
### [3] Campbell Botting

Was inspired by the work of David C. Roy (<http://woodthatworks.squarespace.com/kinetic-sculptures/#.Xp0G-EMzYUE>).

*[Editor's Note: If you haven't seen David's sculptures before then treat yourself and look his work up on YouTube or visit his website above. He makes kinetic sculptures which are a marvel from both an engineering and visual perspective.]*

This is a prototype using mainly custom wood for the moving parts. Took some interesting searching on making cogs and still have a wee way to go. The piece doesn't rotate evenly as some of the teeth catch, but a good first attempt. One needs to use the software or similar to be able to see the finished product working. Mine was a long way off his visual!

All the holding pins with stepped shafts were turned as were the initial form of the cog. I did the teeth on the circular saw using a jig. Didn't have time to create a sliding bed for my router (really too big for this sort of thing) to be able to use the indexer on the lathe. Great fun working through the issues as things transpired.



[4] **Ray Morgan**

Here's my "moving" piece for this week's challenge.



Unfortunately we can't link the camera movie function with our PC for some reason. This would have provided evidence of the "Double Cone" moving up an incline.

For an explanation of the Physics of why and how this happens go to the following internet listing:

[Double cone experiment – Zoran Milosavljevic.](#)

We are going to try another camera tomorrow once we get new batteries from the supermarket and if successful will send additional photo and video.



## Virtual Show Table Challenge

BY: Peter Clemett

Entries are in for the COVID-19 Lockdown Weekly Virtual Show Table Challenge for ~~20~~<sup>th</sup> April and are displayed on the following pages.

Time to get stuck into the next challenge now – we're all looking forward to seeing your entries. Don't forget to email your photos and a description of your creation to [membership.chchwoodturners@gmail.com](mailto:membership.chchwoodturners@gmail.com) on or before the due date.

Due **Monday 4 May**. Theme = *A Splash of Colour*. Go wild or exercise restraint – the choice is yours

Due **Monday 11 May**. Theme = *Sum of the Parts*. Something that consists of two or more separate, but related items (a pair, a set, a collection etc.)

Due **Monday 18 May**. Theme = *Creepy Crawlies*. Your take on something that walks, crawls or slithers – either from the natural world or pure imagination

## ENTRIES

First off, a belated entry for the *Containment* challenge:

### [1] Jo Keleghan

This is a cook's salt box made from recycled rimu. The lid is attached and swivels.





This week's theme was: ***Autumn's End*** - something which reflects the changing season

Here are the items:

[2] Jo Keleghan

2 pens made from pinecones and resin - not perfect but a very interesting exercise



Acorn boxes



[3] Ray Morgan





#### [4] Peter Clemett

I can remember as a child growing up in England looking forward to Autumn for its riot of colour and abundance of natural “playthings” free for the taking. Chestnuts and conker-fights were popular of course, but for me it was the seeds of the sycamore that held most attraction, in no small part due to my interest in aviation and model aeroplanes.

So, for this week’s challenge I chose to re-create a sycamore seed on a larger scale and see if I could get it to fly. All those long suppressed aeromodelling skills dusted off and put to good use again.



I needed a strong, lightweight material for the spine or leading edge of the wing. I do have some balsa wood stored away, but I decided that would be too fragile in thin sections. Fortunately, I also had some 3mm thick basswood (*Tilia americana* = American Basswood, Linden, or Lime) I’d got a while ago from Acorn Models and which is just the perfect combination of light weight, ease of working, and strength. I settled on paper for the wing. Here’s the prototype.

A washer to emulate the mass of the seed was selected by trial and error (left).

On the real thing, I had planned to replace the washer with a wooden form of similar mass. Here are the rough forms (right) and the finished piece (below).



The paper wing is attached to the seed/spine with double-sided tape, for easy replacement if necessary. Does it fly? Very well, actually.





Remember, you can still submit an entry in any of the past categories, as well as the one for the current week. In case you've mislaid the list, here it is again:

Due **Monday 6th April**. Theme = *Containment*. Something that holds, confines, contains, encloses, secures, or otherwise suggests containment

Due **Monday 13th April**. Theme = *Easter*. What do you associate with Easter?

Due **Monday 20 April**. Theme = *Movement*. Make something which features a moving part or parts

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Due **Monday 4 May**. Theme = *A Splash of Colour*. Go wild or exercise restraint – the choice is yours

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**February  
Competition  
Table**



1<sup>st</sup> Campbell Botting

2<sup>nd</sup> Rex Marshall



## February Demonstration ~ Noel Graham looks at hollowing tools

For the February demonstration Noel discussed techniques for getting to know your hollowing tools. The idea is to experiment with tools on a shallow bowl, so that you can see and hear how the tool is cutting in the open. You can experiment with the tool's bevel angles and pressure to learn how the tool cuts before you take it down into the dark mine.

Noel had a look at a whole range of hollowing tools using this concept. The important thing to know is how the tool cuts and how to control it before you start on a project.



## South Island Fun Day

The 2020 South Island Fun Day that was going to be held in Timaru has been postponed until 2021

## 2019/20 Contact Details

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