

Ulster Woodturners Shavings 59 - January 2020

Chairman's comment!

A great entry in our competitions this month! Let's see if we can keep it up. The rest of the years competitions are at the back of this Shavings, so you can print the page off and put it in your workshop to remind you.

The members of the Ulster Woodturning Committee for 2020 are :-

Eugene Grimley, Mark McGranaghan, Paul Finlay, Brendan McAreavy, Ricky McDonald, Stephen Dowie and Billy Ferris with assistance from Peter Lyons, Malachy Totten , Jim Neill and David Stewart.

On your behalf I would like to thank those who have volunteered to help and I would welcome others who would like to help even on an emergency basis by standing in for someone who cannot attend.

Just to repeat, the first off-site demo is at Ballynure on 29th February. We will be part of the annual "Ballynature Day". We have the usual crew willing to attend but as I explained at the demo it is better to have some locals there to support them. Ballynure is quite close to the Woodshed but many people will not know of its existence and locals can more easily direct them. If you can help please let me or Ricky know.

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We will be putting on a show once again for the month of August in Bangor Museum

We wish our members a Happy New Year and hope that 2020 is kind to you all.

The Ulster Woodturners opened 2020 with a packed house and an afternoon demonstration by Fergal Megannety, from Donegal.

Fergal opened his demo by turning a natural edge bowl from a piece of Ash. He said he prefers to use green wood as he feels it is easier on the tools and quicker to get results with than dry wood. The blank was mounted on a faceplate, in preference to a screw chuck,

and held in a chuck while the bottom of the bowl was shaped and a mortice cut for turning the blank onto a chuck expansion grip.



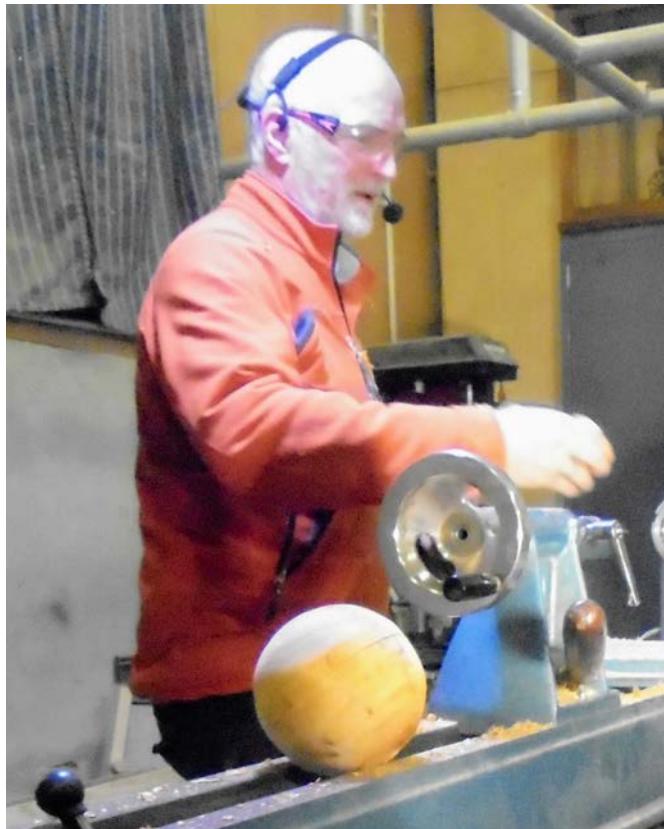
When the blank was reversed and secure in the chuck Fergal used a parting tool to help define the boundary of the natural edge he wanted to retain. Using a bowl gouge, he then removed the wood from the inside of the blank and refined the internal shape and wall thickness with a round-nose scraper. He



advised keeping some CA glue for use in the event a piece of bark broke off the rim.

Conveniently, Fergal finished the bowl just in time for tea so there was a break and proceedings resumed after all were fed and watered.

For his second piece Fergal demonstrated how to turn a sphere and mounted a Yew blank between centres. He trued the blank to a cylinder and then measured the diameter to determine the layout on the blank. A centre



line was drawn around the blank and the 130mm diameter measurement divided in half to set two lines 65mm from the centre line as the outermost dimension of the sphere. Multiplying the diameter by 0.414 gave a measurement of 53.8mm which was used to set the diameter of the tenon that was cut on each side of the sphere.

With the tenon cut, dividers were set at 26.9mm (half the tenon diameter) and layout lines were drawn that distance from the centre line and tenons. These lines were joined up with a straight cut, the new planes divided in half, and those new lines joined by cuts to take the 'corners' off. This resulted in a reasonably smooth surface so Fergal cut the tenons off and mounted the blank between two cup

centres so that he could remove the nubs, true the surface, and then sand the piece by rotating it between the cups until the entire surface was satisfactory. The resulting Yew sphere was very attractive.

We thank Fergal, and his wife, for making the long drive from Donegal to visit us and hope they enjoyed their afternoon with us.

Competition Winners for January

Category 1 1. Robby Hughes



2. Mark McGranaghan



2. Billy Ferris

3. David Stewart



Category 2 1. Jim Stevens



3. Ricky McDonald



The Ulster Woodturners competitions and demonstrators for the rest of 2020 are below

	Demonstrator	Competition Cat 1	Competition Cat 2
Feb 8 th @ 2pm	Pat Walsh	Natural edge bowl	Natural edge bowl
Mar 14 th @ 2pm	Robert O'Connor	Goblet	Long stem goblet
Apr 11 th @ 2pm	Kieran Reynolds	Easter egg (solid)	Easter egg (hollow)
May 9 th @ 2pm	David O'Neill	Bud vase	Vase
June 13 th @9.30	TBA	OPEN competition (see below)	
Sept 12th	Liam O'Neill	Platter	Cake stand (2 tier at least)
Oct 10 th @ 2pm	Jim Kelly	Toy	Toy
Nov 14 th	Ambrose O'Halloran	Bowl	Decorated bowl
Dec 12 th @ 2pm	Eugene Grimley	Christmas ornament	Christmas ornament

Notes – where no time is shown (Sept & Nov) the demo for a day or half -day is still to be confirmed.

All competition entries must be new pieces. Please do not resubmit previous (winning) pieces except for the Open competition at the Seminar in June when pieces entered from Sept 2019 to May 2020 are eligible.