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Note the next Saturday meeting is on the first Saturday ie the 1st October due to the IWG Seminar being on the 2nd Saturday.

Chairman's Comments

By Eugene Grimley

We have a great programme of demonstrations arranged up to May/June next year with three all day demos arranged for the Wood Shed alongside demonstrations following the usual Saturday format.

Firstly, we have Donal Ryan from Limerick a well-known young turner who is one of the newest professional turners in Ireland. This will be followed by Nick Agar in December. Nick who was originally from England now resides in the USA where he teaches and sells his work. Finally, Emmet Kane, a well-known artist/woodturner from Castledermot

who has sold pieces worldwide, will be with us in March.

In providing these all-day demos Ulster Woodturning can provide a programme which is unequalled in other parts of Ireland and the UK. We aim to attract world renowned turners who are able to add that something extra, however, I need to explain that these events are more costly to run. To cope the Committee has to take into account;

- Increased demonstrator fees (which are greater for a professional turner),
- air travel and/or mileage incurred,
- hotel accommodation when with us and
- meals and subsistence.

To ensure we break even financially this means the cost of the forthcoming all day demo's will be; Donal Ryan £25, Nick Agar £50, Emmet Kane £35.

Hopefully you will recognise that the cost of attending is well worth it.

The full Saturday programme is as follows.

October Gintaras Malinauskas

November Donal Ryan (all Day £25)

December Nick Agar (all Day £50 Christmas Sandwich Lunch Provided)

January Sam Abernethy

February, Christine VanBussell

March, Emmet Kane (all Day £35)

April Joe Laird

May Rich Varney

June to be announced.

Weekly demonstrators will be posted on the notice board and Facebook the week before.

National Lottery £10,000

Awards for All Northern Ireland Community fund has awarded Ulster Woodturning a grant of £10,000 which will be used to purchase equipment and resources to attract and support new participants to the craft as well as allowing current

participants to benefit from increased personal well-being, to develop skills and to reconnect with others after Covid.

The recent changes to our demo room have been inspired by this project. It will specifically support ; updating our audio visual and sound equipment, provision of equipment to be used during our community demos, as well as PR materials and other actions to benefit members and woodturning in general during the next year.

Reserve your seat for Nick Agar

We are expecting a high demand to see Nick Agar from our own members, members of the Irish Woodturners Guild and the wider woodturning community. To reserve your seat before general release please notify Paul Finlay and pay a non refundable deposit of £25 or if you wish the full £50. A Christmas sandwich lunch will be provided.

An all-day demo with Nick Agar is a full on woodturning experience.

Tuesday Evenings

Tuesday evenings programme:

20-9-22 David O'Neill

27-9-22 Billy Ferris

4-10-22 Malachy Totton.

11-10-22 Ricky McDonald

18-11-22 Stephen Dowie

25-11-22 Harry Emerson

Childrens Hospital

It is this time of year we start thinking about Christmas at the Children's Hospital and helping the play team by providing woodturned items which staff can use in their activities with young patients. It can't be stressed enough that we make a very valuable contribution each year. As always we will provide Christmas trees but just in case you are bored here is a list of items which you could make as well. Everything is most welcome and used.

- Turned Christmas Trees
- 8 inch flat Stars (made with a bandsaw or fretsaw)
- Big Snowmen turned in different heights which could sit on a shelf in groups
- Blocks of wood (squares, rectangles & cylinders) which can be decorated as presents
- Reindeer and sledges
- Small rolling pins and stamps for use with playdough

Wood Shed News

The Wood Shed will be closed Monday 19th September in respect for Her Majesty The Queen's Funeral

Remember, the Wood Shed will also be closed Friday 7th & Saturday 8th October as Sam and Lynda will be attending the IWG seminar in Monaghan.

Woodturning Exhibition to go ahead

It has been confirmed that Ulster Woodturning will be holding its first major exhibition at the Market Place, Armagh starting the second week of January 2023 for six weeks. All members are encouraged to submit pieces. It is intended to have an open beginner's display of work along with a lathe, tools and an explanatory video. In addition, there will be a juried section which will highlight the range and quality of woodturning undertaken by members.

Balance House Autumn Fair

Paul Finlay will be demonstrating at this event on the 8th October. Any members who can go with him and help would be very much appreciated. Contact Paul if you can go. Tel 07547399533

Country Comes to Town changed

Due to the Queens death The Country Comes to Town day in Portadown has been postponed until 8th October. Please let Ricky McDonald know if you are able to help with the day.

It would also be helpful if members could make some spinning tops which can be given to children as they pass both of these events.

Shavings@Ulsterwoodturning.co.uk 16th September 2022

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IWG News

The IWG National Seminar 2022 will be held on Saturday 8th October and Sunday 9th October 2022 at the Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan. Demonstrators are, Emma Cook UK, Stewart Furini UK, Chris Fisher, UK, Yann Marot France, Robert O'Connor Ireland, Jim Stevens Northern Ireland.

A number of Ulster Woodturning members will be attending. If you are not involved in Country Comes to Town or the Autumn Fair at Balance House this is a great opportunity to see some great woodturning demo's.

Cost Two days £195, Saturday Only £95 Sunday only £85.

Competitions:

The next competition will be at the October monthly meeting in the Wood Shed on Sat 1st October starting at 2pm. You can bring any recently made piece which reflects the announced theme below.

Please Note: Competition Rules can be found in Shavings 73 or obtained from the Competitions Secretary.

September Competition Winners

Category 1

1. Mark McGranaghan
2. Phillip Williams
3. David Stewart

Caregory 2

1. Billy Ferris
2. Eugene Grimley
3. Paul Finlay

October Competition - An Off-centre piece.

September Demonstration Report

By Brendan McAreavy

September saw the return of Pat Walsh to present a demonstration in which he made an offset Christmas tree and a little hanging bird feeder.

An Offset Christmas Tree

Pat used a Beech blank approximately 100mm x 230mm (approx. 4" x 9") and held it between centres. He then shaped the tree with a bowl gouge and put a tenon on the headstock end that he would use later to finish and part-off the tree.

After the tree was shaped a circle was drawn on the tenon base about 6-7mm in radius from the centre and three points marked at 120° intervals that would be punched and used as the offsets. The further the offset when marking the base, the deeper the cuts will be. The tree was, once again, held between centres and lines drawn in approximately 10mm intervals up the tree. These would be the cut lines.

Carefully positioning the tool rest to accommodate the first offset Pat cut a groove in the tree with a Point tool (3-point tool). He has used a spindle gouge and round skew for this job but found the Point Tool easiest and safest to use. The cuts are made on every third line and are cut to cover about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way around the tree so that they overlap. When the first set of cuts was made the tree was repositioned in the next hole on the base to make a new offset. It would be useful to number the holes to record

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where you are in the process.

After all three sets of lines were cut the tree was repositioned in a chuck and the top was cut to finish before sanding. A coat of sanding sealer was applied afterwards.

The tree can be painted in any fashion that pleases you but, being hopeless traditionalists, we decided on red and green so Pat painted red acrylic paint into the cuts without concern for over-painting onto the tree surface because, when the paint was dry (a hair dryer is useful, and pointless for anything else for most of us) the surface was sanded to remove any excess paint. At this stage the surface of the tree is dyed but, should it be attractive wood, a coat of lacquer would be fine. If the wood is going to be dyed and is very porous a coat of sanding sealer sprayed on and sanded off the bare wood will help prevent dye leeching into the cuts.

At this stage we discovered the green dye was empty so a radical decision was taken to use yellow which was eased by the fact it was the only option. (It might be worth pointing out that the writer is profoundly colourblind so colours may vary). Pat used a wad of kitchen paper to dab the dye onto the bare wood. He recommended wearing disposable gloves. After the dye is dry the tree can be sprayed with gloss or satin lacquer.

A Hanging Bird Feeder

The little bird feeder was made from Douglas Fir, a wood that can present some problems when turning so Pat

recommended trying to get as close to quarter-sawn as you can when buying it.

The feeder is made in three pieces, the roof, stem and base. Pat started on the roof by jam-chucking a circular blank of wood about 95mm / 4" onto a jig in a chuck with three pins on a block of wood the same diameter as the roof was going to be. This is not a critical size but Pat does production runs so it's useful to have jigs set to specific diameters to speed up the process. The roof diameter was cut and the inside of the roof was started, the tailstock removed to complete the process. The three pins are enough to hold the blank if gentle cuts are made. A hole 8-10mm in diameter and about 10mm deep was drilled in the centre of the roof to take the stem. The blank was reversed onto the pins and held with the tailstock to complete the roof and then the tailstock was removed to complete the centre. Pat recommended using a stiff backer behind the abrasive when sanding Douglas Fir in order to prevent your fingers causing the abrasive to cut deeper in the soft grain. He mentioned using butyl rubber but the writer bought a cheap, 6mm thick, mouse mat from Amazon and found a pad cut from it very useful for sanding a different project because it gave a much better finish and kept fingers cool.

The base blank was jammed against a chuck and rounded to shape with a tiny tenon on the bottom for reversing. The finished dimensions were approximately 70-75mm x 30mm deep. When the blank is turned into the chuck care should be taken when tightening down because Douglas fir is very weak across the

grain. The same care should be taken when cutting the inside of the base in case the blank gets ripped off the tenon. Pat used a 1/4" bowl gouge and light cuts to shape the inside of the feeder. He left a little pillar in the middle that was drilled with an 8-10mm drill bit about 10mm deep to take the stem. When the hole is drilled the inside can be cut to finish. To remove the tenon the base was pushed onto a jig and secured with masking tape or double-sided tape.

The spindle blank was 75 x 20 x 20mm and mounted between centres. It was held between small steb centres for cutting to final dimension of about 12-13mm. Tenons were cut on both ends and a gentle cove was cut to the centre. Pat used an 8mm wrench to size the tenons because he used an 8mm drill to make the holes. No finish is necessary and Pat said the feeders he made 18 months ago are still fine.

These were two very attractive pieces and we thank Pat for a highly enjoyable demo.



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Data Protection

Some of your personal details, i.e. email address, and telephone numbers, are held in our records. We only use this data to coordinate Ulster Woodturning. If you would like to know what information we hold and how we use it, or if you wish us to remove it from our records, please contact the Secretary, Stephen Dowie. If your information is removed, you will no longer receive any official communication (emails, telephone calls or correspondence)

Covid Reminder

Please Remember and follow our Standard Covid 19 precautions for meetings.

“If you have or a member of your house hold has Covid, a sore throat, headache, or other cold symptoms you are asked not to attend until fully recovered.”

Committee Contact List

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