

Shavings



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Chairman's Comments

By Eugene Grimley

It's great to be back! - I hardly need to say more.

The planned re-openings on Sat.12th March & Tues 15th March were hit by Covid but we did get started on Tues. 22nd March with Billy's demo followed by Ricky and Paul. After the Ulster Chapter AGM and the inauguration of Ulster Woodturning on Sat. 9th April Kieran Reynolds was our first Saturday demonstrator for over 2 years. It was a great feeling and with David O'Neill's & Malachy Totten's demo's it has been a great opening month and hopefully only a taste of what is to come.

We are looking forward to forthcoming demo's by David O'Neill Sat 8th May and all day demo by Shamus Cassidy Sat 11th June. As well as Community activities at the Shane's Castle Steam Rally 1st & 2nd May, and the Shane's Castle Game Fair 25th & 26th June. There will of course be the

usual BBQ and Jumble Sale in August. It is a great time to be a member of Ulster Woodturning.

Covid precautions

Even though there seems to be general relaxation of restrictions, Covid is still prevalent and represents a clear danger to members. Wear a face covering unless exempt. Members attending The Wood Shed are asked to:

- (1) submit to a temperature check and use hand gel provided on entry'
- (2) Wear an appropriate mask, there can be no exceptions.

If you have a sore throat, headache, or other cold symptoms (even if you have a negative flow test) you are asked not to attend.

Tuesday Evenings

Tuesday evenings are in full swing with growing attendance. Each Tuesday Demo will cost £6 with a £2 discount for Members.

Up and Coming Demonstrators:

26/04/22	Eugene Grimley
03/05/22	Mark McGranaghan
10/05/22	Stephen Dowie
17/05/22	Brendan McAreavy

Monthly Demo's (Members only)

May 14 th , 2pm – 4:30pm, Cost £10 Demonstrator David O'Neill
June 11 th All day from 9:30am to approx. 4:30 Cost £15 Demonstrator Sheamus Cassidy Bring a Packed lunch. Tea/Coffee supplied

Wood Shed News

After an extended wait for delivery to the Wood Shed, Record Power AC400 air filters will be back in stock by Tuesday 27th April.

Shanes Castle Traction Rally:

This is only 8 days away on 1st & 2nd May and Ulster Woodturning will have a Marquee with demonstrations and items for sale. Members who wish to demonstrate, display & sell work, or sell raffle tickets are asked to volunteer for one or both days. Please note, Members can only display or sell their work on days they are volunteering. All items for sale must be covered by a members own product insurance. For more details and to volunteer contact Ricky McDonald.

Shanes Castle Game Fair

This will have similar arrangements to the above and will take place 25th & 26th June. For more details and to volunteer contact Ricky McDonald.

Summer Break:

As usual there will be a summer break in our Wood Shed based demonstrations during July and August. Demo's will begin on Tuesday 6th , 7pm and Saturday 10th, 2pm September. Demonstrator Pat Walsh.

August BBQ:

The Annual BBQ and Woodturning Jumble Sale will take place at the Wood shed on Saturday 20th August at 12,noon – all welcome

Children's Hospital.

Wow! A great effort by everyone again many thanks to all those who contributed. It was good to see Jenny who collected the eggs, rabbits and chicks at the Wood Shed and it was also great to hear how these items make real difference to patients in the Hospital and wider afield.

Competitions:

The first competition will take place on Sat 14th May and the competition piece will be " a Gavel " **Please note – Competitors must declare that their piece is recently made** - all competition pieces must be started and made within 4 weeks of the competition.

Committee Responsibilities:

The new Ulster Woodturning committee has met and agreed the allocation of responsibilities as below:

Chairman:

Eugene Grimley Tel 07866620879
chairman@Ulsterwoodturning.co.uk

Secretary:

Stephen Dowie Tel 07771886500
secretary@Ulsterwoodturning.co.uk

Treasurer & Membership:

Paul Finley Tel 07547399533
treasurer@Ulsterwoodturning.co.uk

Competitions:

Billy Ferris Tel 07801981641
billyferris48@icloud.com

Demonstrators:

Brendan McAreavy Tel 07958 303506
brendan.mcareavy@googlemail.com
Eugene Grimley Tel 07866620879
eugenegrimley@btinternet.com

Community Events:

Ricky McDonald Tel 07751326582
woodturner123@hotmail.co.uk

Webmaster & Social Media

Mark McGranaghan Tel 07553656657
markjmcg@ntlworld.com

How About Demonstrating:

Tuesday evenings are a great place to start demonstrating. Getting started is always a big step but with the help others at the Wood Shed it can be fun and enjoyable. Hopefully we can organise a new demonstrators evening on a Tuesday night before the end of June – say 2 or 3 new people each doing a 30/45 minute slot. Contact Brendan if you are interested in doing this.

Membership Subscriptions

Any Ulster Chapter members who have not yet paid a Subscription to Ulster Woodturning and wish to make use of the Tuesday night discount

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and attend monthly demo's should contact Paul Finley.

Reciprocal Arrangement with IWG

Ulster Woodturning would like to thank Pat Walsh (IWG Secretary) for attending the Wood Shed on 9th April and for his best wishes for our activities. Pat's invitation for Ulster Woodturning members to attend IWG meetings & seminars at the same cost as IWG Members was well received and Ulster Woodturning has made the arrangement reciprocal. As with IWG practice, visitors are asked to contact the Secretary to ensure space is available to attend.

IWG Seminar 2022

A number of Ulster Woodturning members will be attending this great opportunity to see some great woodturning demo's and attend the market. The 2022 National Seminar will be on Saturday 8th October and Sunday 9th October 2022 at the Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan. Demonstrators are, Emma Cook UK, Stewart Furini UK, Yann Marot France, Robert O'Connor Ireland, Jim Stevens Northern Ireland.

April Demonstration Report

By Brendan McAreavy

Kieran Reynolds was our demonstrator in April and the first for over two years so was a most welcome visitor. He explained that he was going to make a three-part goblet, in Cindy Drozda style, to show how small burrs can be used to best effect. This was one of his Covid lockdown experiments when he would subject himself to self-imposed isolation in his workshop solely to do the right thing for the World. Such selflessness has to be commended.

A small burr piece was chosen for the cup and a recess was drilled with a Forstner bit to provide a location for a drive. Kieran shaped the bowl taking care to cut towards the burr when shaping the exterior at the top in order to prevent chip-out at the rim. He cut a small tenon for the chuck so that the piece could be turned around for hollowing. A revolving centre in the tailstock provided support while hollowing as the chucking tenon was very

small. A tip was to raise the tool rest to allow better access to the blank when hollowing. Kieran used a bowl gouge and a hollowing tool made from an Allen key to remove wood when access with the gouge was restricted. These tools are easily made but it is worth reminding ourselves that the short arm of the Allen key needs to be reduced by at least half it's length in order to prevent the tool from trying to rotate when used. Sharpening is done with a diamond card on the bevel. The bevel angle isn't critical and, considering the cost of Allen keys, a number of different tools with varying angles could be cheaply produced.

When the tailstock is removed to complete the cuts on the interior of the bowl light cuts should be made to avoid stressing the small tenon in the chuck. The final refining of the interior was done with a negative rake scraper, a tool Kieran has found extremely efficient and less liable to catch than regular scrapers. He sharpens his with a diamond hone on the bevel sharpening towards the top to produce a fine burr edge which gives a superb finishing cut.

In order to sand the inside of the cup Kieran used a small pad with a 50mm sanding disk. The advantage is that the overhanging part of the sanding disk sands the edge of the burr gently which helps to avoid breaking it.

Having finished the inside of the bowl it was turned around onto a small jam chuck with a piece of carpet inside to ease the pressure on the bowl and the tailstock was brought up to support it. Then the small tenon was removed with a spindle gouge and the tiny nub remaining removed with a chisel and sandpaper. The finish applied was Woodoc Polywax. There are various versions and various manufacturers making similar products e.g. Osmo.

The base of the piece was made from a piece of burr the same as the top. Kieran pointed out that it doesn't have to be perfectly round at the edge when shaped because the imperfections are attractive, especially in burrs. The base was shaped with a small tenon to allow the bottom to be finished and drilled for the stem. It was then turned onto an egg-cup chuck to remove the tenon that

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was used for chucking. It was sanded and finished with polywax.

The stem was made from a piece of Oak but Ebony or African Blackwood is Kieran's preferred wood because black works well with other woods. However, in a demo there is less likelihood of disaster with Oak so that is why it was used in this situation. The blank was rounded and a cup cut in the end to hold the top of the piece later. The tailstock was brought up to gently support the end while the profile was being cut. Kieran cut and sanded (to P600) as he went down the stem because it would be difficult to go back later and, at the base of the stem, he cut a tenon to match the hole in the base, measuring frequently to ensure a good fit.

The Oak stem was treated with a vinegar and steel wool mixture, or, in Kieran's case, vinegar and grinder filings although vinegar and rusty nails works just as well. The mixture reacts with the Oak and turns in black. It's a very effective way to produce 5000 year old Bog Oak on demand!

Kieran ended his demo with a display of many three-piece goblets to show that there is basically no limit to what we can do with seemingly 'useless' pieces of burr.

We thank Kieran for his wonderful demonstration and hope to see him back in the Wood Shed again.

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)

