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Chairman's Comments

By Eugene Grimley

Looking forward to the forthcoming all day Demo's. Donal Ryan is on Saturday 12th November followed by Nick Agar in December which is a brilliant opportunity as Nick is based in America and rarely comes to the UK. This is a great opportunity to see a master in action. Check his web site out <https://nickagarstudios.com/>

Registration for the Nick Agar day is £50 which also covers a Christmas Sandwich lunch. A special member's offer is now available – register for Nick Agar on or before this Saturday and you will receive a **£25 discount** on the Donal Ryan day ie you will be able to attend on Saturday at no cost.

Donal Ryan Saturday 12th November

Donal's demonstrations on Saturday will appeal to beginners and more advanced turners alike. He will be selecting 3 items from the following list to demonstrate.

- 1: Square base candle holder or one with timber candle. Depending on time.
- 2: Cauldron style lidded box
- 3: Beaded Base Table Lamp
- 4: Cake Stand.

The day will start at 9:30 am. Remember to bring your own lunch.

Check Out <http://donalryanwoodturning.com/>

Nick Agar - Saturday 10th December

This will be a great day. Nick will be demonstrating a Natural Edge turning, a decorated Christmas candle stick, a bronze textured bowl and a lidded Viking style goblet or chalice.

The day will start at 9:30 am. A Christmas sandwich lunch will be provided.

Wood Shed News

The Wood Shed will be running two one day courses with Nick Agar.

Wednesday 7th December - hollowing a small vessel.

Thursday 8th December - creating the Viking sunset bowl.

A maximum of eight places are available on each course and the cost including lunch will be £110.

Contact Linda at the Wood Shed to reserve a place Tel 028 94433833.

Childrens Hospital

A letter of thanks and appreciation has been received from the Children's Hospital. Jenne will be with us on the 10th December which is only a few days before the official tree day at the Children's Hospital. Providing trees for Tree Day and helping the play team by providing woodturned items which staff can use in their activities with young patients has long been a tradition at the Wood Shed. It can't be stressed enough that we make a very valuable contribution each year. Everything is most welcome and used. Turned Christmas Trees, 8 inch flat Stars (made with a bandsaw or fretsaw), Big Snowmen of 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.

Woodturning Exhibition

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 a 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.

Competitions:

The next competition will be at the November monthly meeting in the Wood Shed on Sat 12th November starting at

2pm. You can bring any recently made piece which reflects the announced theme below.

November Competition – A textured piece

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

October Competition Winners

Category1 - 1st David Stewart

Category2 – 1st Paul Finley

2nd Keith Hylands

3rd Eugene Grimley

October Demonstration Report

By Brendan McAreavy

Gintaras Malinauskas



Ulster Woodturners had the pleasure of watching Gintaras Malinauskas present their October demonstration on Saturday 1st October, a change to accommodate the IWG Seminar on 8th October, in the Wood Shed.

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Whistle Pen

Gintaras started his demo by making a whistle pen as a nod to his craft teacher when he was at school in Lithuania. He mounted a long blank in a chuck and drilled a short pilot hole before following with a long drill bit to drill a hole long enough to accommodate the ink refill from a regular Bic-type biro. The starter hole helps prevent the long bit from wandering off-centre. The bit Gintaras used was one he fashioned from a length of steel by flattening the end and sharpening the wings.

When the long hole was complete the blank was turned and a hole approximately 50mm deep was drilled with a 12mm bit to form the whistle section. Then, the blank was set aside and a small blank mounted in the chuck and cut to fit the 12mm hole in the pen blank. It was about 15mm long. Once completed and a neat fit in the pen blank it was used to drive the pen blank while the nib end was held in a wooden revolving centre that was cut to a point to fit in the nib end. Gintaras then used a skew to shape the pen and, at this stage, decoration can be added. Gintaras used a Decorating Elf to score a pattern and defined it with a couple of 'V' cuts as borders.

After the pen was finished it was removed and the drive spindle in the chuck was sanded to a neat finish in the whistle end and then, locking the spindle, Gintaras shaved about 1.5mm off the top of the spindle part. This is the flat for the inside of the whistle. When this was done the piece was parted off.

Then the whistle slot was cut in the pen blank. Making a vertical cut about 2.5 – 3cm

from the end Gintaras sliced towards it to produce the sloped cut for the whistle and tidied the cut with sandpaper. During the process he fitted the round section to try the sound and adjusted the cut and round section position until he was happy. Using Titebond 2 smeared on the round section Gintaras positioned it until it whistled well. The excess wood on the round section is removed after the glue has set and a slope sanded at the bottom of the whistle end using a sanding machine.

Salt Cellar



After break Gintaras made a salt cellar using an apple wood blank approximately 110 – 130mm X 60 – 70mm. The blank was mounted between centres and trued with a tenon. After being mounted in a chuck the end of the blank was trued and a hole drilled 20mm x 55mm deep with a Forstner bit. Then the blank was marked at 65mm and the measurement cut in to establish the

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bottom of the cellar. With that done the 'apple' was shaped and a substantial stem left at the chuck to provide strength for hollowing the piece.

Gintaras hollowed the apple with a Simon Hope Mini Hollowing Tool Set and the lathe running at 8-900 rpm. He likes the carbide scraper for hollowing because it leaves a good finish inside. Using a straw to blow out shavings Gintaras worked with the straight cutter until he was satisfied with the internal shape and then refined the wall thickness to about 5mm with the swan-neck cutter. He also used an LED light on a wooden base with a magnet glued on that he stuck on the tool rest to get light inside the piece.

With the hollowing complete the piece was sanded using a Simon Hope rotary sander and the base tenon reduced and the bottom shaped to complete the apple form. Two small beads were cut around the hole in the top and the piece finish sanded and polished before parting off.

His next task was to make the plug for the top of the cellar. Gintaras prefers to use a contrasting wood to the stopper so he used Maple here. A small blank was mounted in a chuck and the top cap shaped to a curved profile about 24mm wide and 3-4mm thick to match the apple shape and a tapered tenon cut that would accommodate the rubber bung rings used on a wine stopper. The tenon was cut to accommodate 4 rings from the rubber stopper. The dimensions of the tapered tenon were 12mm at the top tapering to 9mm at the bottom over a 12mm distance.

A small hole was drilled through the top and tenon for salt to get out, the blank parted off, and the blank remounted in reverse to allow a bigger hole to be drilled towards the top to allow salt to get to the exit hole more easily. With that done, the piece was hand sanded and the rubber bung rings fitted.

(Alternatively, the bung blank could be mounted, tenon shaped, cap marked for parting and the two holes drilled from the same orientation. Firstly the small hole right through the shaped tenon and cap, then the larger hole up to the cap and the piece parted off behind the cap and reversed into a chuck to have the cap shape refined)

The final touch was carving the neck of the cellar. Gintaras used a dental drill -type machine to carve a pattern in the space between the two beads he cut in the cellar earlier.

These were two interesting and unusual projects which were thoroughly enjoyable to watch. We thank Gintaras for coming to demonstrate and hope we see him 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)

Thank You

Many thanks to all those members who provided spinning tops for children at local demonstrations. They were really appreciated by all the children who visited our stands with their parents.

Covid Reminder

Please Remember and follow our Standard Covid 19 and general health 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.”

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