

# Shavings



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## Chairman's Comments

By Eugene Grimley

We are currently expecting Saturdays Demo (11<sup>th</sup> March) to go ahead as the current weather is to lighten to rain. If this changes, members will receive a text. If you haven't been receiving texts please send Shavings an email with your correct mobile number.

We had a great response and new members from our demonstration at Ballynure Nature Day and the Armagh Exhibition. Many thanks to everyone who contributed. We are certainly putting Ulster Woodturning on the map with our efforts.

Our recent activities and lottery grant have led to the Belfast Telegraph interviewing Joan, Stephen and Brendan about our involvement with Ulster Woodturning. We

will let you know when this is scheduled to appear.



## Wood Shed News

A two-day Beginners course will be taking place on 24<sup>th</sup> / 25<sup>th</sup> March. Contact Lynda regarding available places.

## Annual General Meeting

Ulster Woodturning's AGM and the April meeting will take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April. The AGM will begin at 12noon. An agenda will be forwarded with the late March edition of Shavings.

## Membership Fees.

Membership fees (£36) (£45 for joint cohabiting partners) will be due in April. Please note they will increase in a year's time (April 2024) to reflect rising costs.

Shavings@Ulsterwoodturning.co.uk 9th March 2023

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## **Childrens Hospital**

Balls, Rabbits, Chickens/Ducklings, Flowers, Pencil Pots and Hearts will be collected by Jenny this Saturday (11<sup>th</sup> March). A letter from Jenny thanking us for our Christmas contributions is attached to this Shavings

## **Emmet Kane - Saturday 11th March**

Remember this will be an all-day demo with one of Ireland's foremost characters and Woodturning Artists. Emmet is credited with significant awards and exhibitions in Ireland, France, USA and UK and will demonstrating in his usual anarchic fashion - so expect to be amazed and entertained. The day will start at 9:30 am. Cost £25 (subsidised by the Awards For All grant). Bring your own lunch, Tea/Coffee supplied.

## **Steam Rally, Shane's Castle**

We have received confirmation re demonstrating at the Steam Rally, Shane's Castle on 30th April and 1st May. We will be seeking volunteers to help. In the meantime, your help would be appreciated in turning spinning tops. They remain very popular with children visiting our events

## **Competitions:**

The next competition will be at the March monthly meeting. Theme 'A miniature turning'. All items must have been made within 4 weeks of the competition date.

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

## **Competition Winners**

### February

- Category 1
1. Paul Spiers
  2. Matthew Ibbotson
- Category 2
1. Eugene Grimley
  2. Paul Finlay
  3. David Stewart

## **Survey**

Mark McGranahan is currently collating the survey results which will be discussed at the next committee meeting and reported at the AGM.

## **Demo Report**

**By Brendan McAreavy**

Ulster Woodturners were very fortunate to be able to invite Christien Van Bussel to The Wood Shed for their February 2023 demo. Christien has been to Templepatrick to demonstrate before and members were delighted to learn that she was visiting again because her work and technique is exceptional.



### Lidded Box

The theme of the demo was a lidded box but with the additional aim of reclaiming a circular picture frame from the part of the lid blank that would usually be turned away.

Christien started with an Ash blank, because

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Ash takes colour well, that would become the base of the box. When preparing the base she cut a shadow line to 'lift' the box, made the base slightly concave, and decorated the tenon in the middle with beads because it was not going to be removed and cut a mortice around the tenon for holding later. 'V' cuts were made with a round skew and the outside wall of the box finished with shear scraping cuts from a bowl gouge.

When preparing the top of the box for decorating Christien cut beads with a spindle gouge and then widened the spaces between the beads with a round skew for burning with a wire. A pyrography pen was used to burn lines in the beads to give an overlapping brickwork/basket weave effect. The burned lines help stop spirit stain colour running between sections.

With the basket-weave done the box was turned and hollowed out with a bowl gouge. When the box was hollowed Christien used a cabinet scraper to address tear-out in the end grain and finished the inside.

## Lid

An Ash blank was mounted on the lathe with a faceplate, the outside and face trued, and a clean edge cut for the frame that would be recovered from the area normally wasted away. Christien used a parting tool to cut about 1"/25mm into the face of the blank and also to cut into the side of the blank but making sure the two cuts didn't meet and that the rim cut would go behind the face cut. With the frame limits defined she cut beads on the borders before texturing. It is important to ensure the finish is perfect because texture will accentuate a poor surface. Nyweb is good for finishing after abrasive paper.

Texture was added to the frame at about 500rpm and coloured with spirit stain that was applied with the lathe running slowly. Any over-stain can be removed with a skew before coloured wax is applied using a finger. The wax is buffed lightly with a soft cloth PAD.

The frame was finished so, to remove it, Christien cut in towards the centre of the blank and past the first, face-side cut. Then duct tape was applied to the outside ring and the cut on the face of the blank finished. The duct tape saves you trying to get down behind machines to retrieve the frame when it flies off.

With the frame off, Christien made a jam chuck to finish the cut surfaces and made a step in the back to hold a mirror or glass. She recommended Tech 7 for glue as it allows movement and turnbuckles to hold the mirror/picture in.

Now the remaining blank for the lid was returned to the lathe and prepared with a spigot to reverse it so that the original faceplate could be removed and the surface flattened and hollowed to remove the screw holes. The diameter of the box was measured and set out on the lid leaving space to sneak up on a fit. When the lid fitted, Christien cut a step and then hollowed the inside making a decorated recess in the lid to allow it to be turned and held with a chuck.

The lid was reversed onto a chuck and the top surface prepared for colouring and texture. Colour was applied with the lathe running slowly and any over-painting removed later when tidying up decorative grooves. Christien used carving chisels to

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texture a band around the rim of the lid and finished the project by tidying up cut lines and beads to remove paint or tool marks.

We thank Christien for this very enjoyable, informative, demo and hope she returns again in future.

### **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**

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

## **Committee Contact List**

### **Chairman:**

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