

Shavings No 33 September 2017

The Ulster Chapter Newsletter

By Peter Lyons and Brendan McAreavy

Welcome to the next Shavings of 2017. If you have anything that will add interest to this newsletter, please let me have it by email.

For Sales or Wanted

Paul Finlay informs me there is some good stuff on our web site. I had a quick look and there sure is. iwgulsterchapter.com.

Announcements

More things to do for you

Training and help before our demos.

We are still going to go ahead with this after the success of those by Jim and Dermot.

Omagh Exhibition

Our Omagh Exhibition is on 26th October. It is important that you give Stephen a list of your pieces, the sooner the better. A good description of the piece, and a name if you want to give it one.

Stephen has asked me to ask you to make your Christmas trees this year in time for the Omagh Exhibition. He wants to put them into the exhibition as a sculptural exhibit to show off what you all are doing for the Children's Hospital. We will work with Jenne to make it special. So please please bring your Christmas trees to the October demo, or of course before that.

Ballymoney Exhibition

If you would like to move your piece on to the Ballymoney Museum exhibition, directly from Omagh, let us know and we will move it for you. We will be giving Ballymoney a list of those pieces so you don't have to have them there too weeks ahead of the exhibition. Ballymoney are looking for more pieces this year, so if you have not exhibited there before, have a go this year. Ballymoney is a good sales opportunity.

If you are just going to do Ballymoney, Friday 10th November is the drop dead date. The new organiser in Ballymoney has asked me to see if we can do a big exhibition this year. So let us see if we can make her happy.

Thank you

A big thank you to Dermot Doherty for doing a finishing masterclass before the September Demo. I could not make it, but all reports were that Dermot did a great job.

Calendar of Demos for 2017

Each demo is £5 unless otherwise stated.

October 7th, **a change from 2nd to 1st Saturday in the month.**

demo is by Robert O'Connor Competition is a woodturned piece incorporating carving in or on the piece.

November 11th Demo is by Jim Johnston. Jim will show us how to make a pen without using a kit. He will also show us how to stabilise wood, very useful knowledge for a woodturner.

November Competition will be an Artistic piece or pieces.

December 9th Peter Lyons
Competition will be an open one.

We will be fitting a screen in front of our lathe. This is because of pressure from insurers.

2018

So far for 2018 we have March booked with Sally Burnett, all day demo. June Seminar, Joss Naigon all day demo. The rest of the calendar is still open. If there is someone you would like to see, please let me know. Names suggested by the committee are: - Kieran Reynolds, Joe Laird, Gintaras Malinauskas, Danny McGeever, Christien van Bussell, David O'Neill, Stuart Mortimer, Emmet Kane, Martin Wilson, Eric Turner. If any of these are for you send me a mail.

September Report

I must start this report with an apology to the competition winners. I was so enthralled with Mark's demo that I forgot to take the usual competition pictures. Thank you to those of you who have sent me pictures. **If Brendan Thompson, Patsy Cassidy and Harry Emerson bring their pieces to October meeting I will correct the error.**
Peter Lyons

Brendan's Report

On Saturday 8th September 2017 Mark Harvey was the guest demonstrator at the Ulster Chapter's monthly meeting where he made an artistic lamp using a glass dome, American White Ash, and an LED light and driver unit, wood laminate and twigs.

Mark began the project by mounting the Ash blank on a faceplate, truing the base, and



making a recess to accommodate the LED driver unit. Because the depth of the recess far exceeded the standard for a chucking point he cut a dovetail recess at the rim to help seat the chuck jaws when he turned the blank around. After the recess was complete and checked to ensure the driver unit fitted, Mark measured the rim of the glass dome to set the diameter on the base. He wanted a smooth transition from the glass to the wood so he cut a tenon on the top of the blank that matched the external diameter of the glass dome and shaped the base by curving from the bottom to the top to achieve a pleasing profile. At one stage there was some tear-out so Mark advised cutting slowly to remove it because that would be more effective than trying to sand it out. When the sides of the blank were parallel and level with the external diameter of the glass dome the piece was sanded.

When the bottom of the base was complete Mark turned the blank around and grabbed it, in expansion mode, using the dovetail he had cut in the mouth of the recess. He then cut a recess to match the internal diameter of the glass dome that would allow the glass to seat on the blank. The tenon was made between 13mm - 19mm to allow the wood

grain to be seen through the glass. This tenon was eased a little to allow for movement in the wood. This is an important consideration when using glass, even little test tubes in bud vases, because movement in the wood can break the glass. When the tenon was complete, Mark cut a tiny 45 degree bevel on the external wall of the base to ease the transition between the wood and the glass and make it smoother to the touch.

After the external features of the base were set and finished Mark cut a 25mm - 26mm



recess for the LED light. He used a gouge to remove most of the wood and a skew on it's side to square up the wall of the recess. Then a hole was cut through the recess into the driver mounting space to allow an electrical cable to be attached to the LED light. After the recess was complete Mark used a sharpened butter knife as a thin parting tool and cut three concentric circles in the top of the base to hold pieces of wood laminate when the lamp was assembled. The glass dome was mounted on the base to ensure the fit was perfect and Mark moved onto the next element of the project.

In order to prevent the brightness of the LED light overpowering the piece Mark made a little Maple bowl to diffuse the light through holes drilled in it's wall. The blank was cut to approximately 90mm in diameter and the walls were made very thin to try to achieve some translucence. Mark cut a tenon to hold the bowl blank and shaped the outside profile of the bowl before turning the blank around and holding it in a chuck. He refined

the shape of the exterior before removing material from the inside of the bowl. When



most of the material had been removed from the inside Mark abraded the outside of the bowl in case the wood moved after he thinned the wall from the inside. He then cut the wall with a 1/8" bowl gouge, continually checking with calipers until the wall was complete. The wall was completed in stages to try to keep as much mass as possible in the blank to aid stability. When Mark reached the bottom of the bowl he ground a micro bevel on his gouge to enable him to traverse the bottom. When the bowl was complete and sanded it was removed and a piece of Poplar mounted on the lathe to be used for a jam chuck.

A recess was cut in the jam chuck to accommodate the little Maple bowl and Mark was then able to finish the bottom of the bowl by removing the chucking point and refining the curve. The bowl is very thin at this stage so be careful not to go through it. Mark occasionally removed the bowl to check his progress with calipers to try to maintain the same wall thickness throughout the piece. When the bowl was finished it was sanded and pierced. The piercing can be in a regular pattern or in little groups of holes to give a more irregular spread of light.

Finally, the lamp was assembled with pieces of laminate cut into thin strip and inserted in

the concentric grooves (like a Stonehenge effect) and some twigs glued into position to leave a forest effect. The completed lamp was a very attractive and pleasing piece that would grace any room.



The LED lights and drivers are available from Maplin and Collingwood Lighting (<http://www.collingwoodlighting.com/en/>). The driver unit, that steps down the



electrical supply, should be rated at a higher

voltage than the LEDs being used. We thank Jim Stevens for finding, and providing a link to glass domes that are available in Ikea (<http://www.ikea.com/gb/en/products/decoration/decorative-accessories/>)

We thank Mark for a very enjoyable, informative, and entertaining demonstration and hope to see him again the The Woodshed.

Brendan McAreavy

IWG Ulster Chapter
Competition Results
Saturday 9th September 2017

Category 1

1st Place
Brendan Thompson
Miniature Bird Box

2nd Place
Patsy Cassidy
Table lamp

3rd Place
Sam Faulkner
Yew Goblet



Category 2

1st Place
Harry Emerson
Segmented Bowl

2nd Place
Dermot Doherty
Segmented Bowl



3rd Place
Allan Chestnutt
Corian and Wood Trophy

