

Shavings No 34 October 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 your pieces, before 24th. He has a form for you to fill in. if you need one send him a mail.

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.

Calendar of Demos for 2017

Each demo is £5 unless otherwise stated.

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 using the theme of remembrance as your inspiration.

December 9th Peter Lyons

Competition will be an open one.

Procedures

We have had a report that a member approached Eugene with a complaint that remembrance was to be used as a theme for our competition. This approach is wrong. Any complaint should be made in writing to the Hon. Secretary. We will not accept any complaint that is not in writing with the name of the complainant signing it.

We used remembrance as the theme because we are meeting on Remembrance Day. How many times in a century does that happen? Stephen has circulated a mail with a diagram that will help you with the idea. It is at the end of this Shavings if you have not already seen it.

2018

So far for 2018 we have February, Danny McGeever, March is Sally Burnett, all day demo. May is Kieran Reynolds, June Seminar, Joss Naigon all day demo. Jason Breach will be here in October or November. We will fill in the rest of the spaces as soon as we have decided on the turners.

September Report

This is one of the missing September photos, Patsy Cassidy's lamp.



October

2017

Robert O'Connor was the guest demonstrator at the Ulster Chapter monthly meeting of Saturday 7th October 2017 in The

Woodshed, Templepatrick, where he turned a beaded bowl and a presentation base.

A 14" Oak blank was mounted on the lathe using a faceplate and Robert proceeded to cut a spigot and shape the bowl while

In order to apply the beading Robert started at the bottom of the bowl and cut the beads using a spindle gouge. He made each bead one millimetre wider than the previous bead



roughing it to shape. During the entire process the lathe ran quite slowly but it became apparent that this was deliberate and allowed Robert more time to do very precise cuts. The outside of the bowl was shaped to give a pleasing curve towards the rim which was going to be a large bead going from the outside around into the inside of the bowl. Robert said the curve on the outside had to be flowing properly before he started

and did so, by eye, with the bevel of the gouge in contact with the wood at all times. It was a slow, deliberate, process that was fascinating to watch. When the beads were cut Robert then made a second pass refining the cut and leaving them pristine.

The bowl was reversed in order to remove the wood from the inside to allow space to



beading it because it would be difficult to Oct demo 2 change it later. The curve was refined using a straight scraper in shear-scraping orientation which left a superb finish that required minimal sanding.



work on the rim. Robert cut the rim from the base of Oct demo 4 the rim on the rear of the bowl around to the inside at the front. He then cut in the opposite direction towards the

rear of the bowl to refine the bead and clean it up, removing any flat spots. The bead was undercut inside the bowl in order to accentuate it. As with the external curve of the bowl, the bead was shear scraped with a straight scraper to refine it and minimise sanding. At this stage Robert removed more wood from the centre of the bowl to allow



assess to the underside of the rim where it comes into the bowl and then, with a small spindle gouge, he cut a series of very fine beads on top of the large rim bead. Like the



exterior beads, these were also cut in one movement, only stopping to change hands when the bead reached towards the back of the bowl where the cut continued in one movement. The resulting beads looked like fine corduroy and each was exactly the same

as the others. When the rim was beaded Robert removed some wood below the rim on the inside where it ended in the bowl to accent the bead and leave space for a bowl gouge to remove the rest of the wood. Before moving on to remove the wood in the centre of the bowl Robert ensured that the rim was finished and perfect because it would be impossible to fix it after the mass of wood was removed from the centre of the bowl as the rim might have moved by then.

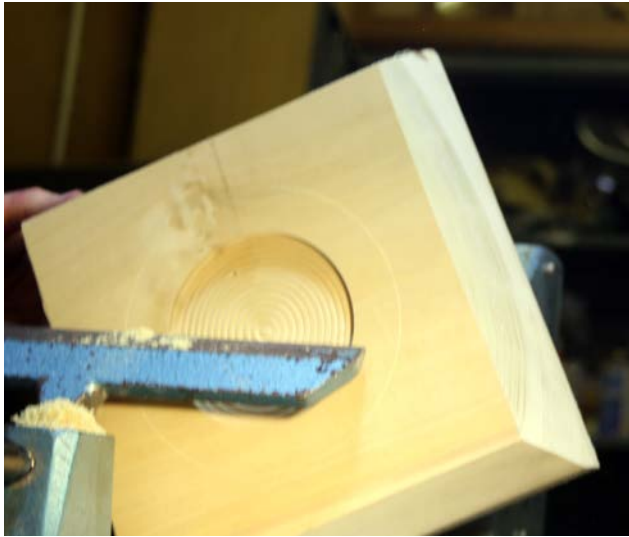


When the inside of the bowl was almost complete Robert used a cabinet scraper to finish the surface. He used the scraper on the opposite side of the bowl with the wood



coming up to the cutting edge. This left a really smooth surface that, once again, required minimum sanding.

If the bowl was to be sold as a stand-alone item the piece would now be reversed on a vacuum chuck or jam chuck and the spigot removed. However, this bowl was going to be mounted on a presentation base so the spigot will act as a tenon to locate the bowl on the mortice in the base.



The base was made using a square piece of Poplar because Poplar takes paint well and the base was going to be sprayed with ebonising lacquer. Robert carefully located the centre of the square blank and, using a locating tool, screwed on a faceplate. He then cut a spigot to allow the blank to be reversed and held in a chuck. After the blank was reversed to work on the top side Robert cut a mortice to match the spigot on the bowl. He cleaned the mortice with a square chisel



and, showing his attention to detail, cut some small beads in the bottom of the mortice in case anyone lifted the bowl off the base.

When the mortice was complete Robert shaped the base into a series of steps, increasing in size as they went towards the base with a bead on the edge of each step. He cut a half bead on the edge of the mortice



to support the bowl and lift it off the base a little. Once again, he reminded us to keep the bevel in contact with the wood at all times when cutting beads.



On completion of the top, Robert reversed the base section to remove the spigot on the bottom. He told us that he would then apply two to three coats of ebonising lacquer and any food safe or hard wax finish to complete the piece.

This was a wonderful opportunity to watch a true expert at work and Robert's attention to detail and careful execution showed why he is regarded as one of Ireland's very best woodturners. We thank him for this excellent demo and hope to see him return again.

IWG Ulster Chapter
Competition Results
Saturday 9th September 2017

Category 1



1st Sam Faulkner

Category 2



1st Stephen Dowie



2nd Patsy Cassidy

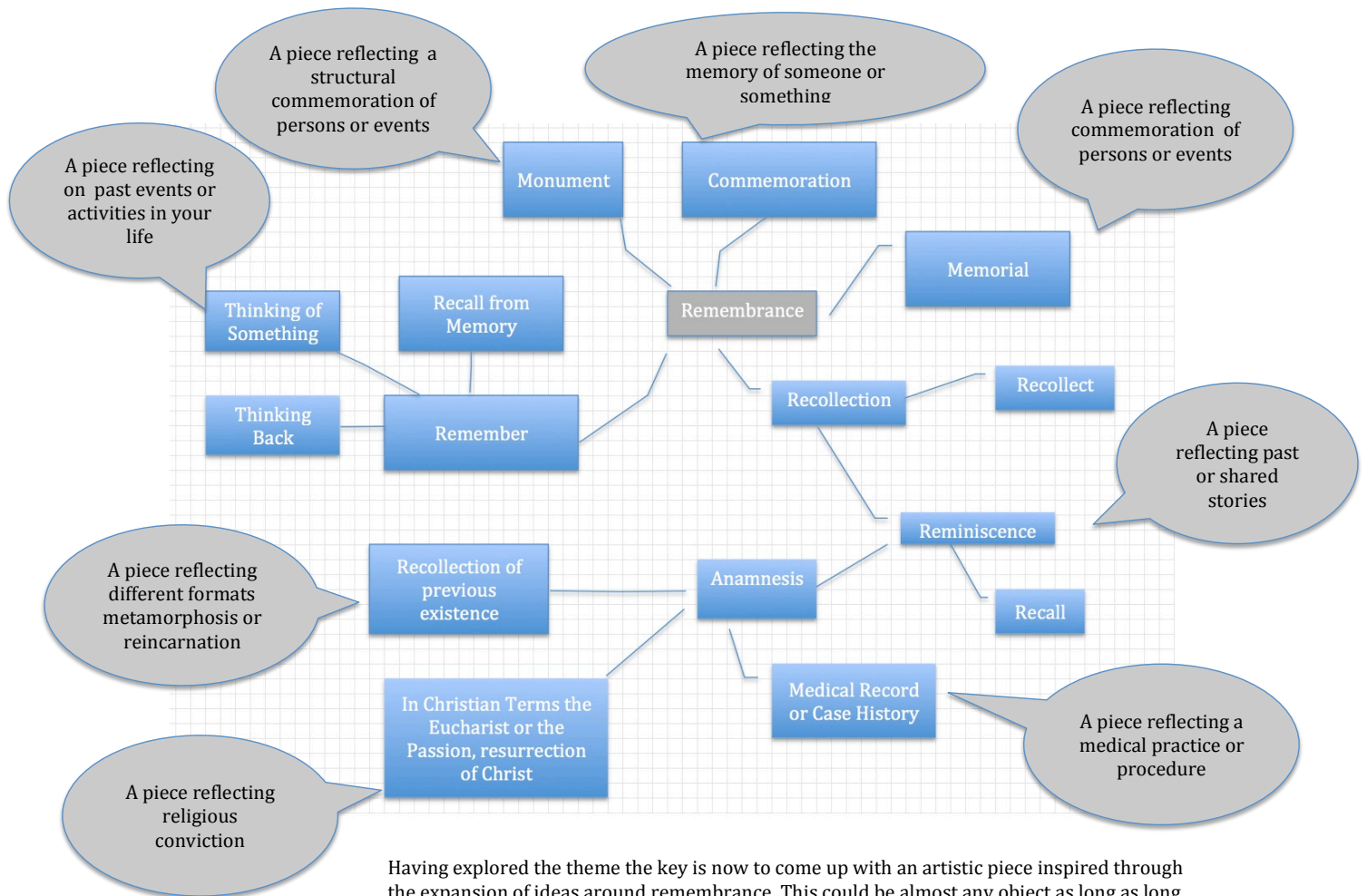


2nd Peter Lyons



3rd Eugene Grimley

Here is a diagram that will help you work out a piece for the remembrance theme for the next competition. Thanks to Stephen for this work.



Having explored the theme the key is now to come up with an artistic piece inspired through the expansion of ideas around remembrance. This could be almost any object as long as you can make the link and take someone through the journey to your final piece



You are cordially invited to the Opening of

Spun Wood: an Exhibition of Contemporary and Traditional Woodturning

This Exhibition will be presented by The Ulster Chapter of the Irish Woodturners Guild

on

Thursday 26 October 2017

in

Strule Arts Centre, Gallery
Townhall Square, Omagh BT78 1BL

at

7.30pm

The Exhibition is available to view from
Friday 27 October - Saturday 11 November 2017

Strule Arts Centre, Townhall Square, Omagh, Co Tyrone BT78 1BL
Box Office: 028 8224 7831 Admin: 028 8225 6224 Fax: 028 8224 0774
Web: www.struleartscentre.co.uk

