



# Dublin Chapter Newsletter

Irish Woodturners Guild

November 2021



## We're Back.

### Inside this issue:

Chairman's Address	P.1
October Results	P.1
Editor's Appeal	P.9
Welcome For New Editor	P. 9
The Aesthetes	P.10
Items For Sale	P.11

### A word from our chairman

It's good that the day we were all looking forward to has finally arrived. We are back together again with a live meeting and demo. Pat Walsh has kindly volunteered to demonstrate on this special day.

The demo is not the important thing today. It will be that we all look after ourselves and don't bring home anything we shouldn't. To help us stay safe we all have to obey the rules that are set out for the meeting. It is in everyone's interest to have masks on all the time, to have all the jabs and to keep up social distancing. To this end there will be no trade stand and no tea served.

I hope we all have a good and safe day and look to our next meeting on Wednesday.

John

October competition Results:  
Our guest judge this month was Alison Hurst.

### Starting this month with the Artistic section.

Brendan Kelly, Olive oil amphora with stand.

I love finding new things to make in woodturning and this amphora is just such a thing. Although Brendan has specified that it is to hold olive oil (so I assume it's hollowed out), its size would have made it very useful for perfume, as the smaller Amphoras were in ancient Greece. The piece is beautifully sanded and finished. The black ring and recessed burn/painted lines are crisp and of good proportion. The base looks sturdy and functional and the choice to blacken it makes the colour of the beech pop. A beautiful piece ticking all the boxes of form, function and finish.



Brendan Phelan, Olive wood bud vase.

Brendan has found a wonderfully figured piece of olive wood and shown it to its advantage in this handsome piece. The humble bud vase is something most woodturners have made at some stage or another. Brendan chose to keep the neck and the base the same diameter. The bulbous belly is a perfect shape to show the figure of olive wood. Brendans finish in terms of sanding and choice of finish looks faultless. It's often difficult to choose a project that perfectly compliments the wood we have at hand, Brendan has done so impeccably.



Brendan Phelan



Cecil Barron



Cecil Barron, Lidded box from Ash wood.

Boxes are another recurring theme amongst woodturners. Cecil has dispelled the idea that a box must stand on its base and opted for one lying on its side. When closed, to the casual eye, it wouldn't be readily identifiable as a box. The pod shape and finial are in charming proportion. As this is a Cecil Barron piece we can assume the lid fits like a glove. The simple grooves cut into the box and lid hide the join perfectly. An appealing version of a simple theme executed to perfection in a native Irish wood. A wonderful addition to any side table and one I think I'll make myself as a tiny sewing kit.

Colum Murphy, Sumac with ash stem.

The Sumac tree is in full glory at the moment with its dazzling autumn colours. I've never turned any of its branches but after seeing this beautiful piece, my sumacs are in peril. The grain, bark and colours are striking. Colum has successfully centred the piece so the grain is precisely balanced on each side. This can be quite tricky with a rounded log. The bark has stayed in place, again a skilful fete. How many times have we tried to keep the bark in place only to have a piece chip out near the end. Colum's piece is elegant and the wall thickness kept thin which makes keeping the bark in place even more impressive. The blackened ash pedestal base works well with the shape of the shallow bowl on top.



Colum Murphy

James Nolan, Elm Burl Bowl.

It's very seldom we see a piece of elm burl. James has been fortunate enough to have such a beautiful piece of wood on which to work. Burl is exceedingly difficult to work on, grain running in every direction, bark inclusions popping up everywhere and the knowledge that its a "good" piece of wood so we don't want to ruin it, all add to the tension. James has allowed the wood to speak for itself and kept the decoration to a minimum. Holding a burl on the lathe can also be quite a challenge. James has used an elegant finish to compliment the bowl. The raw edges around the bowl must have been a terrifying blur to turn. A beautiful piece of wood shown gracefully.



James Nolan

### Moving on to the Beginners Section

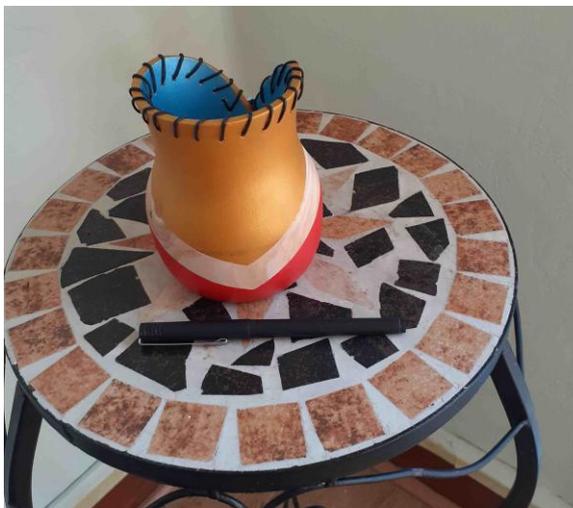
John O' Neill, Cake stand from Elm and Ash.

Using a combination of ash and elm, John has married simple shapes and colours together to make a handsome addition to any home. A cake stand is also incredibly useful to display small woodturner objects, or as a base for floral displays. Johns joins between stem and plate seem to be perfect and his flat plates seem to have stayed beautifully level. Tung oil is a beautiful finish but requires time and patience. John has applied 10 coats! John has successfully made a most ambitious project for a beginner. I have a feeling he will be called upon to make many of these as Christmas presents.



Michael Quinn, Coloured vessel with cord decoration.

Another ambitious project for the beginners section. Michael has made a lovely proportioned vessel, applied iridescent paints, pierced holes, cut away curved areas and applied cord detail. These paints are not easy to apply without streaking, the wood has to be finished to perfection or the paint will show every scratch and flaw and Michael's piece shows no such flaws. The hole piercings can be tricky to achieve without some tear out, and cutting two matching curves down the front requires a very steady hand. The added details of cords and beads compliment a bright happy piece. I love to see a mix of materials in woodturning. Too often we stay with unadulterated wood. It's great to see some experimentation.



Michael Quinn



Renee Kennedy

#### Ash bowl

Bowls are something most woodturners love to turn. There's something very satisfying in making something useful and beautiful from wood. Renee has chosen to use ash for her small 3" bowl. The bowl curves beautifully and I'd say feels very comfortable in the hand. The interior of the bowl has a useful curved lip making the removal of its contents a much easier task. The exterior of the bowl has an attractive gentle bead with a burnt line detail. Overall a practical and pretty bowl.



Renee Kennedy

## Next we have the Experienced section



Brendan Kelly, Laburnum lidded box

Brendan has made a splendid little box from a captivating piece of Laburnum. The top shoulder area of the box singles out the growth rings of the laburnum. The differences in colour are fascinating and the way Brendan has sanded and finished the box shows the wood to its best advantage. Echoes of the proud shoulder are seen in the unusual foot peeping out at the bottom. The box boasts a sweet belly shape in the middle. The problem with turning boxes is how quickly we become addicted to making them.



Brendan Kelly

Pat Costigan, Zebrano Bowl.

Zebrano is an alluring wood to turn. The differences in colour between the rings are delicate and dazzling. Pat has worked with a simple shape to best show the characteristics of this elegant wood. He has made great use of a recessed chucking point with a detail ring to decorate the underside of the piece while making the piece as large as it can be from his blank. The expert finish is a high gloss. The bowl is both aesthetically pleasing and perfectly functional with a soft rounded edge to the top.



Pat Costigan

Sean Earls, Redwood bowl.

Sean has presented a bowl from American Redwood. An amazing tree and one of the oldest on the planet. The grain and colour need no additions from a woodturner and Sean has opted to show the beauty of the wood in simple form. Sean has very slightly undercut the crisp rim of the bowl and used a recessed chucking point of the base. The sanding of the bowl and the finish used on the bowl are most accomplished. The bowl stands splendidly as a tribute to such a beautiful wood.



Sean Earls



Vinny Whelan, Sessile oak clutch pencil.

I love using clutch pencils but have never turned one, so here's something new for my to-do list. Vinny has used sessile oak to great effect here. The long running grain compliments the slender qualities of the pencil. The shape, slightly rounded in top and bottom sections, would be most comfortable to use. The difficult areas to get right on a pen or pencil is where the wood meets the metal rings. Oak can be a brittle wood to turn so managing to finish the joins in such an excellent manner is to be applauded.



Vinny Whelan

### And lastly we have the Advanced section



John Duff

John Duff, Sycamore Pedestal bowl.

The pale qualities of sycamore wood lend themselves to decoration but John has successfully shown sycamore in all of its beautiful creaminess by keeping the shape and finish deceptively simple. The stable low pedestal base includes a gentle recessed bowl shape of its own plus a decorative line or two (its difficult to see if there's one at the edge of the baby bowl). The bowl is perfectly balanced and superbly finished. A welcome addition to any home.



Brendan Phelan, Mortar and Pestle in Maple.

Brendan has turned a most useful piece of kitchen equipment. "Mortar and pestle is a set of two simple tools used since the Stone Age to the present day to prepare ingredients or substances by crushing and grinding them into a fine paste or powder in the kitchen. The substance to be ground, which may be wet or dry, is placed in the mortar where the pestle is pounded, pressed, and rotated into the substance until the desired texture is achieved." Brendan has produced a beautifully curving top edge to the mortar with a satisfyingly deep bowl to contain ingredients. The pestle looks like a comfortable fit for any hand. The finish is impeccable.



Brendan Phelan



Cecil Barron, Stacking spalted beech bowls.

Cecil has created a trio of stacking bowls in graduating sizes. The collection looks appealing when stacked or when viewed individually. A fat rolled rim is an unusual choice and looks delightful. Trust Cecil to come up with that one. The bowls exhibit eye-catching spalting. Catching spalting too early or too late is the fate of many woodturners but Cecil has exhibited a knack for timing the spalting just right. The sanding and finishing is expert.



Cecil Barron

Joe O' Neill, Calligraphy pens.

Joe has come up with a beautiful collection of pens, expertly using pieces of wood that most turners would discard. The pens are elegant and splendidly finished. What a clever project. I particularly like the different woods and decorative treatments which make the pens easily identifiable to the user. I find a pen made from wood is infinitely more pleasing than its plastic counterpart.



Joe O Neill

Tony Hartney, Sycamore Vase.

Sycamore is usually without much colour and figure. This elegant vase from Tony shows that sycamore can claim its place amongst the great figured woods. The vase is classically proportioned, solid and elegant. Simple clean lines work perfectly on this vase. The rim is gently curved and rounded. The sanding and finish are superb.



Tony Hartney, Bowl from apple wood.

Another entry from Tony Hartney. This time a simple bowl from apple wood. It's always a treat to get some fruit wood to work with. This particular piece of apple wood is beautifully figured. Tony has shown this to great effect. Tony has used a matt finish and no decoration to allow the colours of the wood to stand out. A humble well-formed bowl from a beautiful wood. You can never have too many bowls.



Tony Hartney

Paddy Finn.

Candle Stick in European Lime.

Paddy has chosen European Lime for this exquisite candle stick. As lime wood can be quite light Paddy has included a chunky base for extra stability. Excellently proportioned and well finished with a brass insert.



Paddy Finn

## WE NEED YOU!



### A Welcome To Our New Editor

As you know from last month's edition I will be moving to West Cork in the next few months so I put out a call for a new newsletter editor and web master.

John O Neill has volunteered to take on the role of both Newsletter Editor and Web Master.

Many thanks to John for volunteering and I will endeavour to support him remotely in the early days until he finds his feet.

I still need articles for the newsletter. It's difficult to find interesting content every month so I need some help.

So can some of you go on Google and research a topic of interest to wood turners.

I don't expect the Gettysburg address, just a couple of paragraphs will do. I need your support.

## Chapter Contacts.

**Chairman:** John Doran  
087 6393081  
DWT.Chair@gmail.com

**Secretary:** Tommy Hartnett  
086-8284178  
DWT.Secretary@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Vincent Whelan  
087 760 4918  
DWT.Treasurer@gmail.com

**Vice-Chairman:** J. McCloughlin  
087 2610803

**Membership:** Mark Daly

087 9484051  
DWT.Membership@gmail.com

**Competitions:** Brigie DeCourcy  
087 9258766  
DWT.Competitions@gmail.com

**Books & Video:** Frank Maguire  
01 8346854  
DWT.Library@gmail.com

**Exhibitions:** Paul Murtagh  
087 1331292

**Audio/Visual:** Tony Hartney

**Wednesday Demos:** Brendan Phelan

**Newsletter / Web Master:**  
Brendan Kelly  
086 3748183 (Text Preferred)  
DWT.Newsletter@gmail.com

## The Aesthetes.

There are times when we as woodturners try to be original, times when we try to emulate others and other occasions when we try to put our own style on something we saw someone else do.

In reality we are nearly always building on the work and ideas of others who have gone before us. What's popular at any point in time changes just like fashion, styles come and go all the time.

One group who tried to change what they saw around them were the group called the aesthetic movement in the nineteenth century. A British and American movement of the 1870s and 1880s, their aim was to elevate the status of works of art.

they wanted to challenge the materialism of the industrial age by focusing on producing work that was beautiful rather than having a deeper meaning, arts for art sake, just make it look beautiful.

There are several common themes in the Aesthetic Movement: the use of natural motifs, especially flowers, birds and insects; ebonized wood with incised gilt lines; Asian, particularly Japanese, influences; strong blue, green and yellow colours; blue and white ceramics.

Oscar Wilde went a step further, imposing the aesthetic principles on his personality, once going to a party wearing a customised suit made in the shape of a cello, no pictures taken unfortunately.

As a style aestheticism was elaborate, allusive, extravagantly literary, infused with a love of the medieval, going overboard for the exotic and outlandish. Why make an ordinary functional piece when it can be made to look better with the addition of artwork.

Can we apply the aesthetic principles to woodturnings. Many woodturners do, others object to adding decoration and prefer to let the wood speak for itself.

Carvings on wood turned items are a good example of adding an extra artistic layer onto an item.

Next time you try a bit of texturing on a turning be aware that you might be called an aesthete!

John O Neill



A typical chair of the aesthetic period, plenty of work for a woodturner.



They saw themselves as a reaction to the austere Victorian movement,

John Holmes's daughter was in contact with the chapter, with a view to selling her father's shed contents. Attached are the lists provided. She intends to have an open day at the shed on the 13th Nov 2021 from 11am to 2pm for the sale. The address is 31 A Clonkeen Road Blackrock Co. Dublin.

*13th November - 11AM to 2PM.*

**Workshop contents**

**NB Numbers missing reflect items already sold**

No	Item	Comment
1	Clamps - various	
2	Elu Router MOF96	
3	Electric power plane – Wolf 8614	
4	Rutlands Biscuit jointer XT2301 & assorted biscuits	
5	Black & decker Jigsaw & blades	
6	Parkside circular Saw PHKS 1450 LASER & spare blades	
8	Elu Router MOF96E	
10	Dakota vice	
12	Florabest chain saw sharpener	
13	Workzone Circular saw 1500 W with laser MIY-DU10-190/90704	
14	Glue gun & glue	
15	Powerfix Angle clamp	
16	Universal saw guide	
17	Socket set	
18	Pocket hole guide	
19	Parkside multigrinder PFBS9.6 KH3125	
20	Pro-tek 100w soldering gun kit	
22	Stanley Fatmax tool bag (new)	
36	Parkside Airbrush set PABK 60 A1	
37	Powercraft 100W Electric Power gun	
38	Hotair gun Parkside 2000W	
39	Parkside Nailer /Stapler PET 25 A1	
41	Parkside Cordless Drill driver 20V	
42	Powerfix Hole Saw set	
43	Parkside Modelling and Engraving set	
44	Workzone Multifunction tool	
46	Multiset drill bits screwdriver heads, cutters etc	
49	Powerfix Tap & Die set	
52	Powerfix pliers & screwdrivers small set	
53	Powercraft Combitool PBM-160F	
54	Parkside PEC 200 power scraper	
55	Selection of drill bits	
56	Black & Decker drill corded	
57	Parkside Orbital sander XQ600 & sander sitter & sandpaper	
58	Parkside PBS 900 belt sander	
59	Powercraft multifunction saw 3515	
60	Parkside PFS 710 A Saber saw	
61	Selection of saw blades	
62	Selection of spanners	
64	Scangrind 200s – professional wet grinder	See 82, 83, 84, 85
65	Black & Decker Powerfile BD 290 H1	
66	A – 2 Clear lampshades B – Lamp wiring kits C – Random light fittings I – Artisan Pencil kits x 2 & leads K – Rhodium plated Slimline Pencil kit Q – 3 x hors d'oeuvre serving dishes	

No	Item	Comment
67	A – Ceramic circles B – Nut cracker C – Walking stick handle D – 5/8" flower vase inserts E – Spinning top kit G – 24 kt Ball bearing yoyo kit H – 2 x large clock exposed workings I – 3 x cheese knife blades	
68	B – Pendulum type clock face E – Clock face adhesive numbers F – selection of clock hands G – Clock workings- various H – random clock parts	
69	Glass cutter x 2	
72	Powerfix Drill bit sharpener	
74	Rutlands workshop series Router & Hitachi router FM8	
75	Power fix Perforator set of 3	
77	Strong magnets x 2	
78	3 x spirit levels	
80	Protek Heavy duty bench grinder	
82	Base unit for Scangrind 200/200S Art no. 3800025	
83	Diamond dressing tool Art No 3800029	
84	Jig for planer jointer blades Art No 3800024	
85	Sliding guide for grinding jugs Art no 3800026	
87	Larger Tap & Die set	
88	Diamond wheel x 4 (wet / dry cutting)	
89	Richmond Mitre Saw	
91	Record Dowling Jig	
92	Drill burrs – various	
93	Letters for stamping into wood	
94	Range of wood turning chisels etc	
(BOX)		
96	Clamp	
97	Logan 400 mat cutter	
98	Toggle Clamps x 2	
100	Dakota DK 2040 Extendable universal base	
105	MT2-J16 + ? accessory	
109	Wood threading kit	
110	Saw sharpener	

#### **Additional items**

- Selection of hand saws hanging on wall
- Drawers with range of screws, nails etc
- Work-masters x 4
- Wood, Large quantity- various sized pieces – e.g. holly, apple, cherry mahogany etc etc dried over years
- Other random tools, fittings etc

Contact Audrey on 086-2214368 / [amalkaisy@gmail.com](mailto:amalkaisy@gmail.com) if you would like a photo of any item