



Dublin Chapter Newsletter

Irish Woodturners Guild

July 2023



Editor John O'Neill

Please check both your email and the Chapter website (<http://www.dublinwoodturners.com>) regularly for updates.

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Our demonstrator is Danny McGeever from the Sligo Chapter. A selection of Danny's work shown on the right.



The Irish woodturners guild had a stand at Bloom 2023. It was a great success by all accounts. There was a special visitor, Uachtarán na hÉireann, Michael D. Higgins who was presented with an ash platter to mark the 40th anniversary of the guild.

There was a steady stream of visitors to the woodturners stand and it was a great opportunity to present the work of the guild and its woodturners.

Pic below shows Kieran Reynolds, Pat Walsh and Colum Murphy at the woodturners stand.



May 2023 competition photos

I had problems with the photos this month, pictures of individual pieces were corrupted, apologies to all.



1st Beginners
Claire Godkin



Entries in the experienced category



Advanced category entries



Entries in the Artistic category

Saturday Demo
Demonstrator Kieran Reynolds
Notes by Pacelli O'Rourke
Pictures by John O'Neill
Subject Large fairy mushroom house

The first thing I noted was how Ciaran uses cling film as a retarding agent against wood, especially logwood, cracking. He first told us how he had come straight from Bloom to which he would be returning after this demonstration. His choice of item was largely determined because it covers several turning skills, eg Faceplate, Spindle and natural edge work.

Essentially, the fairy mushroom has two major parts: the 'house' or stem and the roof. The first task then, is



to round off the 'house' blank and create a spigot for hollowing. The blank is held between Stebcentres. Ciaran is using a large bowl gouge rather than a roughing gouge. He recommends that we should continually check the tension on the tailstock. It's surprising how quickly the tailstock hold can work loose. The end is trued up and a spigot is created. The 'house' is profiled with a gentle concave toward the top. The chuck is now modified with 50mm jaws for stronger hold, as the part is reversed.

Hollowing

Tailstock support is removed and a Forstner bit is held in the Jacobs chuck, which is brought up to the cutting point.

RPM needs to be kept low; the last thing one needs is to start wood burning! We are shown how simple it is to create an effective depth gauge from a length of dowel which is passed through a hole in a flat piece of wood. This piece needs to be long enough to rest across the diameter of the hollowed stem. On the subject of hollowing, Ciaran showed us a fine hollow form which he had hollowed with a hook tool. Our demonstrator is also fond of the negative rake scraper.



Door and Windows

Regarding the positioning of the above, Ciaran suggests that we give a little time to answering the question: How do I want the item to look...? Both door and window holes are drilled side on. (You are lucky if your lathe has a lock on the mandril!) Small pieces of wood can quite easily serve as both items. You can enhance the look of the item with the use of a small shaping tool or small file, creating the appearance of glass





panels or the like. Similarly, a bit of ebony or other black wood can serve as a door handle.

The Roof

For this, Ciaran used a partially profiled natural edge bowl-shape. For beginners, It is worth explaining that a natural edge bowl comes out of the side of the trunk or branch of the tree. Hence its rim follows the curvature of the bark. In order for the roof to sit nicely balanced our demonstrator



places his hand, palm down and horizontally, on the headstock, stretching it out to the roof blank. Upon rotating the blank it becomes obvious if there is an imbalance. This can be sorted out by repositioning the piece in relation to the Stebcentre at the tailstock end. A spigot is turned on the underside of the roof, so as to fit snugly inside the hollowed stem section. Regarding the outer profile of the roof, it is back to the question: how do you want it to look? On this occasion Ciaran opted for a type of ogee line which looked very well.

small, sharp files would greatly help with this. An impressive gallery presentation was held aloft at the end, by Ciaran, consisting of the fairy house, illuminated from the interior with battery tealights and Christmas style fairy lights, surrounded by several small mushrooms, all sitting on a large slice of log.

Doubtless, any self respecting fairy would be proud to call it home! Thank you Ciaran!

Pacelli O'Rourke



Kieran demonstrating depth gauge



Carbide hollowing tip

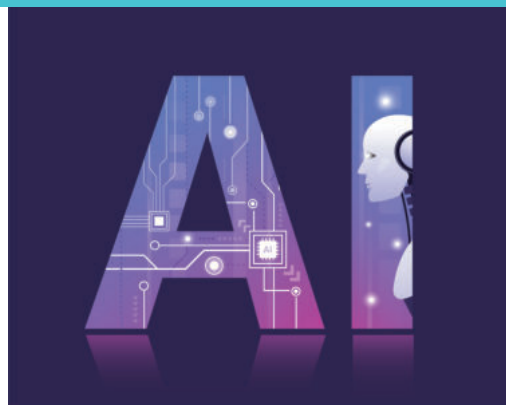


Kieran showing completed house and garden

Question for AI "what is the best way to use a spindle gouge"

Response

The spindle gouge is a versatile woodturning tool primarily used for shaping and refining details on spindle work, such as spindles, pens, table legs, and other cylindrical objects. Here's a guide on how to use a spindle gouge effectively:



1..Safety first: Always wear appropriate safety gear, such as safety glasses or a face shield, to protect your eyes from flying wood chips.

2..Tool preparation: Ensure that your spindle gouge is sharp and properly sharpened. A sharp edge will give you better control and cleaner cuts. If needed, sharpen the gouge using a sharpening system or a grinder.

3 ..Secure the workpiece: Mount the wood securely on the lathe, using a drive center and tailstock or a chuck, depending on the project. Ensure that the wood is centered and securely fastened to prevent any wobbling or movement during turning.

4..Adjust the lathe speed: Set the lathe to an appropriate speed for the size and type of wood you are working with. Different projects and wood species may require different speeds. Refer to the manufacturer's recommendations for speed guidelines.

5..Position the tool rest: Place the tool rest parallel to the wood surface, and adjust its position so that it is as close as possible to the workpiece without touching it. This provides stability and support while turning.

6..Grip the gouge: Hold the spindle gouge firmly but comfortably, with a grip that allows you to maintain control and precision. Position your hand closer to the cutting edge for better control.

7 ..Approach the wood: Start the lathe and bring the spindle gouge gently into contact with the wood. Begin by establishing contact with the bevel (the curved surface on the backside of the gouge) against the wood surface. This helps provide stability and control.



8 ..Engage the cut: Slowly and steadily pivot the gouge to engage the cutting edge with the wood. Apply controlled pressure while allowing the tool to slice into the wood. The bevel should maintain contact with the wood throughout the cut.

9 ..Cutting techniques: There are various cutting techniques you can use with a spindle gouge, depending on the desired outcome:

10 .. Beading: To create beads or decorative details, roll the gouge from side to side while maintaining contact with the bevel. Gradually shape the wood by moving the gouge along the length of the workpiece.

11..Coves: For creating coves or concave shapes, pivot the gouge with the flute facing down. Move the gouge in a controlled manner, sweeping it across the wood while maintaining contact with the bevel.

12 ..V-cuts: To make V-shaped cuts, tilt the gouge at an angle and establish the desired depth. Move the gouge along the wood, cutting both sides of the "V" simultaneously.

13.. Control and precision: Maintain control over the gouge by using smooth and deliberate movements. Take light cuts at first and gradually increase the depth as you gain confidence and experience.

14 ..Tool rest adjustment: As you work on different areas of the project, adjust the tool rest position to provide support and stability. Ensure that the gouge is properly supported throughout the cutting process.

15..Finishing touches: Use the spindle gouge to refine and smooth the surface of the turned object. Light scraping cuts or shear scraping can be used to eliminate any tool marks and achieve a clean finish.

Remember, practice is key to mastering the use of a spindle gouge. Start with simpler projects and gradually progress to more complex shapes as your skills develop. Experiment with different techniques to discover the ones that work best for your specific project and desired results.

Demonstrators 2023

Jul	Sat 1st	Danny McGeever	Wed	Noel White & Sean McMurrow
Aug	Sat 5th	Pat Carroll		
Sep	Sat 2nd	Joe :Laird	Wed	Frank Gallagher
Oct		National Seminar	Wed	Willie Edwards
Nov	Sat 4th	Michael Fay	Wed	Willie Reville
Dec	Sat 2nd	Joe O'Neill	Wed	Joe O'Neill

Chapter Officers

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Audio Visual	Tony	Hartney		
Wednesday	Demos	Brendan		
Newsletter/WebSite	John	O'Neill		webmaster@dublinwoodturners.com
Books & Video				

Competition Table

Beginners	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Totals
Claire Godkin	13	13	15	15	11	13	15						95
Graham Hunter		15	11	13		15							54
Michael Stephens	15		9	11									35
Declan Corrigan			6	9	13								28
Maria Jennings			13		15								28
Brian Houlahan		11	5	7									23
Pat McCartin			7										7
Experienced													
Charlie Byrne	15	11	13	15	11	11	13						89
Hugh Nolan		15	7	13	15	15	6						71
Mark Daly			15	11	9	13	15						63
Ray Ivers	13		11	7	13	7	7						58
John O'Neill		13	9	9	7	9	11						58
Kevin Milton							9						9
Sean Earls			6										6
Advanced													
Brendan Phelan	9	13	11	15	15	15	13						91
David Sweeney		15	15	13	11								54
Frank Gallagher	5	6	13	5	5	9	11						54
Sean Ryan	15	9		9	7								40
Tony Hartney	6	11	7	6									30
Vincent Whelan	5	5		5	5	6							26
John Duff	13				13								26
Paddy Finn	7	7			5	5							24
Tommy Hartnett	11		6		5								22
Willie Edwards			9	7									16
Cecil Barron							15						15
Pat Walsh						13							13
James Gallagher				11									11
Colum Murphy						11							11
Graham Brislane						7							7
Frank Maguire					6								6
Artistic													
John O'Neill		11	13	7	9	11	15						66
Frank Gallagher	11	9	11	9	11	5	5						61
Hugh Nolan			15	11	15	7	5						53
Michael Stephens	13		9	5	13		7						47
Diarmuid Dooley	15	13		15									43
Rich Varney		15											15
Seamus O'Reilly						15							15
Charlie Byrne						6	9						15
Tony Hartney				13									13
Colum Murphy						13							13
Cecil Barron							13						13
Claire Godkin						5	6						11
Tommy Hartnett							11						11
Michael Jordan	9												9
Pat Walsh						9							9
Ray Ivers					7								7
Willie Edwards				6									6
Graham Hunter						5							5
Adrian Finlay							5						5

Competition Pieces for 2023

July: Picture or mirror frame

August: Salt and pepper set

September: Goblet with captive rings for Experienced and Advanced

October: Egg cup with egg