



Dublin Chapter Newsletter

Irish Woodturners Guild

September 2023



Editor John O'Neill

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

	Our demonstrator for September is Tom Ronayne.
July competition	P 2
Saturday's Demo	P 4 Turning for nearly 30 years, Tom is a member of Craobh Cúig Déag in Dublin. He enjoys turning
Wednesday's demo	P 6 unusual pieces, wall hangings, hollowing, airbrushing, colour & texture etc.
Leader Board	P 8

Competition Pieces for 2023

August: Salt and pepper set

September: Goblet with captive rings for Experienced and Advanced

October: Egg cup with egg

November: AGM, competition 300 x 80 x 80

December: Christmas item

Demonstrators 2023

Sep	Sat 2nd Tom Ronayne	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

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



Brendan Phelan

1st advanced Brendan Phelan



Tommy Hartnett

2nd advanced Tommy Hartnett



Frank Gallagher

3rd advanced Frank Gallagher



Claire Godkin

1st Beginners Claire Godkin



Declan Corrigan

2nd Beginners Declan Corrigan



Charlie Byrne

1st experienced Charlie Byrne



Hugh Nolan

2nd experienced Hugh Nolan



Mark Daly

3rd experienced Mark Daly



John O'Neill

4th experienced
John O'Neill
<<<<<



5th experienced
Ray Ivors



Frank Gallagher

1st artistic
Frank
Gallagher
<<<<<<



John O'Neill

2nd artistic John O'Neill



3rd artistic
Cecil Barron
<<<<



Claire Godkin

4th artistic Claire Godkin



Ray Ivers

6th artistic
Declan Corrigan>

5th artistic
Ray Ivers
<<<<<<



Declan Corrigan

Demonstrator: Cathal Ryan (East Central Chapter)
Focus: Turning an 'ancient' helmet

With some modifications this project could be called a 'Corinthian' helmet. As the work neared completion, I could see Dart Vader's headgear coming into light! Definitely "Star Wars"!! At that point I began to see a link between the item itself and the fact that Cathal was wearing a NASA/APOLLO teeshirt!

Picture on right, Cathal rounding blank

So, down to business. There is a stout branch of alderwood lying on the lathe-bed. This is mounted between centres, first ascertaining the centre at each end with a centre-finder. The diameter of the whole blank is reduced. A tenon is turned at the tailstock end for when the blank is reversed. A word on Health and safety for beginners: Do not go near the lathe without wearing facial and lung protection! Our lungs and eyes





are far too precious. The callipers is used to determine an exact marriage with the chuck. Cathal emphasises that the goal is to have a 100% circular hold. Added to this, he tightens each of the four jaws equally. The blank is now mounted in the chuck, with tailstock support. The actual size of the item is of no special consequence. (One would need a very large blank to produce a life sized helmet!) The face is now trued up. Cathal's toolset on upper left.



Picture on right is the blank mounted between centres.



Hollowing

The hollowing process now begins with a sharp gouge. His favourite sequence is to deal with the inside first, then the outside to match. He aims to have the same wall thickness from top to bottom. His callipers enable him to see immediately if the wall is going off the beam, and needing the necessary correction. The wing of the hollowing tool is presented at an angle of 45%.



Cathal advises keeping the gouge steady by keeping the handle under the elbow and arm.

Since the blank was branchwood, the hollowing is going into end grain. This is not ideal for a good finish. However, a sharp tool held at a reasonable angle and lightness of touch will improve matters. Final touches are best done with a scraper. A soft curvature is created

toward the bottom of the piece, following carefully on the outside profile.

Cathal emphasises that there are no set-in-stone angles involved. Also, it is the burr which the grinder leaves which does the actual cutting!



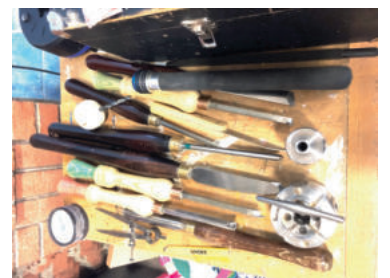
Sanding

Firstly some sound advice: never move to a finer grit until the former has done its job. Cathal keeps his abrasive pieces in sequence, in a clothes peg. Simple and effective. Also, use both hands, one underneath as a support for the other.

We are now introduced to a sanding paste called "True Grit". One great advantage of which is that it doesn't create dust. It contains various

elements including pumice, oils etc. On a wider consideration of the striving for perfection of tool work he mentions two absolute high flyers, namely Glen Lucas and Stuart Batty. The former says "always present a fresh edge to the work."

The latter; "float the bevel". I recall listening to Alan, Stuart's dad, at a seminar in Jordanstown. He presented the image two sword fighters;



first the English yeoman, wading head-on into battle with his unwieldy and heavy broadsword as against a Chinese warrior, with a much lighter and sharper weapon, his blade confusing his adversary to the point of disorientation...Alan's final word was: "wood doesn't like to be cut... it likes to be sliced".

pictured on right, two of Cathal's 'shed' made carbide tools.
Creating facial slots

Being satisfied that all is going well with his project, Cathal now parts off



the helmet and proceeds to create a firm jamchuck hold enabling him to finish the top of the piece. He then carefully creates a pencilled guide to cutting a 'T' shaped pair of slots which in reality, would protect the wearer from facial injury in combat. A small, Japanese saw is used now as an ideal

tool for producing accurate cuts.

finished helmet pictured on right.

And there you have it; A pretty convincing piece of gear, ready to help in cutting any pygmy race down to size. A well spent morning for all!

Thank you Cathal.
Pacelli O'Rourke



Wednesday Demo demonstrator Paul Murtagh subject dual candle/tealight holder

On one of Paul's shopping trips he discovered a dual candle and tealight holder, pictured on the right, turn it one way and its a candle holder, turn it upside down and its a tealight holder, nifty!

He started off with an ash blank which he stated was very dry, been in the shed for a good while.

First he mounted the blank between centres and turned it to round, pictured on left.



A roughing gouge was employed for initial roughing of the blank.

He then turned a chucking point at the tailstock end. He told the audience that his chuck was on the heavier side and held pieces very well.

The tailstock was brought into place for extra support. Then the top of the piece was shaped, a few complex shapes were involved requiring careful use of a gouge.

The main body of the piece was then shaped using combination of spindle



and bowl gouges as he felt which one did the best cut as he shaped the piece, the picture on right shows the shape he produced for the candlestick.



Hollowing out.
Paul produced his 'Jason Breach' hollowing tool. These tools were produced as part of a collaboration between Jason and Henry Taylor tools. Jason is a tutor at the Axminster skills centre and specialises in box making and having felt the need for some tools that he couldn't pick up off the shelf resorted to the make it yourself option. Picture on top left shows Jasons Pagoda boxes, pic below this shows a selection of his boxes. One of his hollowing tools pictured above left. Hollowing out went smoothly, wasn't the first time he did this!



right.

Parting tool used to part off the piece and with a bit of 'tidying up' to follow.

Finishing.

Paul sprayed the piece with satin ebonising lacquer followed by some sanding. Starting with 120 grit and working through the grits.



Next task was to apply dye to the piece.

Green dye applied first, result shown in picture on right. This dye dried quickly and then he applied the yellow dye over the green,



end result of this process on the left.

Dye not applied to the base section, it was left in its ebonised state.



Glass insert placed in its slot and candle holder finished, shown in left.

Great demo Paul, thanks.

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	13	15				123
Declan Corrigan			6	9	13			15	13				56
Graham Hunter		15	11	13		15							54
Michael Stephens	15		9	11				11					46
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	15	15				119
Mark Daly			15	11	9	13	15	13	11				87
Hugh Nolan		15	7	13	15	15	6		13				84
Ray Ivers	13		11	7	13	7	7	11	7				76
John O'Neill		13	9	9	7	9	11	9	9				76
Kevin Milton							9						9
Sean Earls			6										6
Advanced													
Brendan Phelan	9	13	11	15	15	15	13	9	15				115
Frank Gallagher	5	6	13	5	5	9	11	15	11				80
David Sweeney		15	15	13	11			7					61
Tony Hartney	6	11	7	6				13					43
Sean Ryan	15	9		9	7								40
Tommy Hartnett	11		6		5				13				35
Vincent Whelan	5	5		5	5	6							26
John Duff	13				13								26
Cecil Barron							15	11					26
Paddy Finn	7	7			5	5							24
Willie Edwards			9	7									16
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	13	13				92
Frank Gallagher	11	9	11	9	11	5	5	9	15				85
Hugh Nolan			15	11	15	7	5						53
Michael Stephens	13		9	5	13		7						47
Diarmuid Dooley	15	13		15									43
Cecil Barron							13	15	11				39
Charlie Byrne						6	9	11					26
Claire Godkin						5	6		9				20
Rich Varney		15											15
Seamus O'Reilly						15							15
Ray Ivers					7				7				14
Tony Hartney				13									13
Colum Murphy						13							13
Tommy Hartnett							11						11
Michael Jordan	9												9
Pat Walsh						9							9
Willie Edwards				6									6
Declan Corrigan									6				6
Graham Hunter						5							5
Adrian Finlay							5						5