



Dublin Chapter Newsletter

Irish Woodturners Guild

December 2024



Editor John O'Neill

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

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Brian Kellys winning piece for April



Brian Kelly



Competition year results.

Winners

Beginners	Brian Kelly
Experienced	Claire Godkin
Advanced	Hugh Nolan
Artistic	Michael Fay

Promotions

Promoted to experienced
 Brian Kelly
 Barry Dunne
 Maria Jennings

Promoted to advanced

Claire Godkin
 Declan Corrigan
 Michael Stephens
 John O'Neill

Congratulations to everyone on their achievements over the year.

Claire Godkins winning piece for May



Claire Godkin

Hugh Nolans winning piece for August



Hugh Nolan

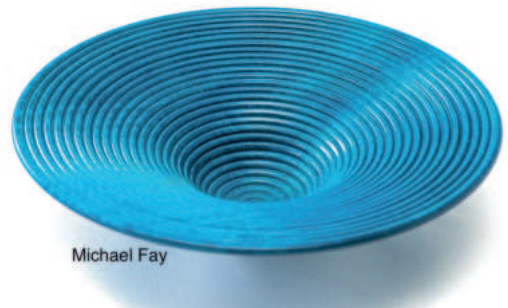
Michael Fay, winner of the artistic category, treated us to some brilliant work in the artistic section over the year. A sample of his winning pieces presented here.



Michael Fay



Michael Fay



Michael Fay



Michael Fay



Michael Fay



Michael Fay



1st
beginners
Brian Kelly



2nd beginners
Barry Dunne



2nd
experienced
Declan
Corrigan



1st experienced Claire Godkin



3rd experienced Graham Hunter



4th experienced Michael Stephens



1st advanced Brendan Phelan



2nd advanced Hugh Nolan



3rd advanced David Sweeney



1st artistic Barry Dunne



2nd artistic Claire Godkin



3rd artistic Hugh Nolan



4th artistic Michael Stephens

Ash dieback update
by John O'Neill

Drive anywhere around the country and you will see evidence of ash dieback, caused by a fungus, *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* which originated in Asia.

This disease is expected to eventually kill >80% of our ash trees.

Research has found a possible new solution.



The wonder substance is called biochar, a charcoal produced by the burning at high temperatures of material in an oxygen deficient environment resulting in a substance which consists of carbon and ashes. It is used by gardeners to increase soil fertility and horticulture productivity. It can also be mixed with animal feed to improve digestion.

The biochar is applied around the base of the tree and can be dug in, while avoiding damage to the tree. 3 or more applications be required but research has shown that the trees make an almost full recovery, picture left.

It is believed that the addition of biochar encourages the ash to repair itself.

Research also indicates that 20% of ash trees have a genetic property which gives them the ability to fight the ash dieback disease, research on using this strain of ash to repopulate disease impacted woodland is ongoing.

To produce biochar a supply of wood is required, there are a lot of completely dead ash trees out there which could be used for the purpose.

The ash may not be doomed after all!



ash bowl by Robert O'Connor

Saturday Demo
Demonstrator: Michael Fay
Focus: Platter with ogee curve
Notes by John O'Neill
Pictures by John O'Neill

Once the AGM was over Michael started into his demo. He produced a poplar blank (not a great wood for pictures!) and mounted it using his pressure plate to turn a spigot, he feels that a spigot is safer than a recess. The platter is to have an ogee curve which is a double curve with a combination of convex and concave



curves.

Ogee curves have been around since before Roman times and are derived from nature, picture on left is an example of wave pattern forming ogee curves.

Michael uses a shearing cut, the wood hitting the tool at 45 degree angle. He took a cut off the headstock side of the blank as when the piece is reversed in the chuck it will not run perfectly true resulting in a variable depth of the rim, finish off the topside of the rim now and it will have an even depth, pictured on the

right. Michael advises "push your body forward, too many body movements causes errors, Take every cut as if its your last finishing cut". There was a small hairline crack on the surface of the piece, you don't see these until you remove wood. The wood has been cut straight across but he wants a slight slope in towards the centre, a total tilt of about 2mm will look best. The finishing cut done with a scraper and a small gouge using a shear cut to produce a clean surface. Shaping of the ogee curve pictured on the left.



Note the speed of the lathe was at 621RPM, Michael rarely checks the speed preferring to 'feel' if its correct. The edge is cleaned up to remove any flat surfaces. The back is finished with the rim thickness brought to 4mm with light shear cuts. The spigot completed, it must match the chuck exactly to ensure secure holding. Normally it would be sanded at this stage, skipped for the demo. When asked what grade sandpaper he would start with the answer was 'whatever is lying on the bench! Michaels finish with the tools require little sandpaper work. The piece was reversed

and remounted in the chuck jaws for topside completion. Tool bar positioned, pictured on right.

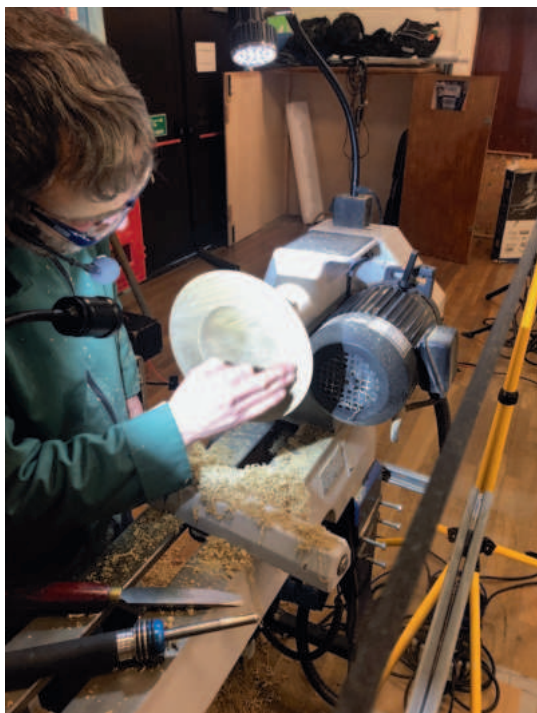
Initially he had an issue with the revolving centre being loose in the tail stock, the MT2 recess required cleaning and that solved the problem.



A note was made of the slight wobble visible on the edge of the piece, enough to have made completion of the rim unviable, he had already completed this earlier.

Michael warns that the turner should always remove the revolving centre from the tailstock, to prevent elbow injury, a lesson often learned the hard way.

When turning the core of the bowl the bevel must always be in contact and slow down the movement when approaching the centre. Initial contact with



the wood was done slow and carefully, let the tool engage before going in to the wood.

He noted that there was a spot in dead centre which doesn't move, take your time removing this and don't push. His gouge has a telescopic feature with the type handle he uses and this helps, shorter reach allows a better cutting angle, pictured top right.

The tool had become a bit blunt so sharpening was called for, a sharpie beside the grinder was used to mark the bevel surface of the tool, when all this marking is removed the tool is sharpened.

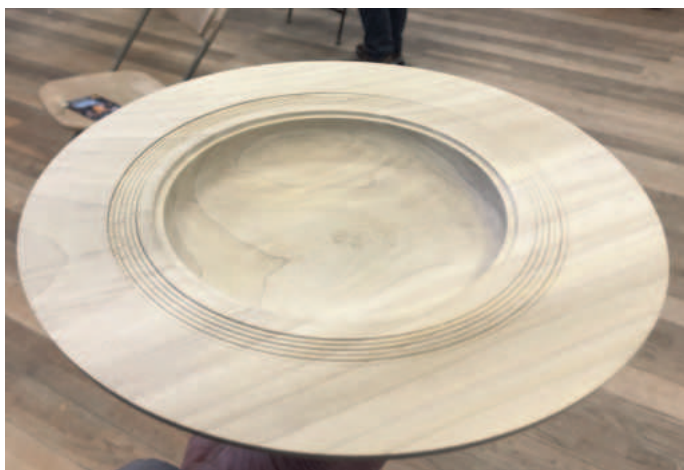
Back to shaping the inside of the bowl with light cuts. He regularly examines progress, pictured on left.

Bit of advice 'if tool starts to bounce push down on the tool rest and not harder into the wood'. A light touch with a negative rake scraper to finish. A bit of beading to be put on the rim surface.

The wood chosen, poplar, is a bit too soft for beading but he progressed using a tool made out of a hacksaw blade, Michael never a man to shy away from a challenge. The beading produced looked ok to the rest of us!

To remove the foot he used a faceplate he made which had the same thread as the headstock, M33. Platter was jammed against the faceplate and foot removed, pictured on the right.

Michael's finished piece on the left.



A great morning's work by a master turner with patience and attention to detail.

Thanks you very much Michael.

Competition Table

	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Totals
Beginners													
Brian Kelly Promoted			13	13	15	15	13	11	11	15	15	15	136
Barry Dunne Promoted			11	15	13	13	15	15	13	11	13	13	132
Peter Gonsalves			15	11	11	11	11		9				68
Maria Jennings Promoted	15							13	15	13			56
Michael Hart		15			9			9		9			42
Experienced													
Claire Godkin Promoted			13	11	13	15	11	13	9	15	13	15	128
Declan Corrigan Promoted	13	13	11	15	9			15	13	13	11	13	126
John O'Neill Promoted	11		15	13	11	13	15	11	11	11	15		126
Michael Stephens Promoted		15		9	15	11	9	9	15	9	9	9	110
Graham Hunter	15						13					11	39
Irene Christie		11	9										20
Ray Ivers		7											7
Advanced													
Hugh Nolan		13	15	11	15		11	15	15	13	11	13	132
Brendan Phelan		15	13		9	15	13	9	13	11	15	15	128
Michael Fay	15			15			15	13		15			73
Charlie Byrne				13	11	9		11	11				55
Tony Hartney	5	11	11				9			9			45
Sean Ryan	13				13	6	7						39
Frank Gallagher	5		9										14
Cecil Barron				7		7							14
Graham Brislane						5					9		14
Pat Walsh						13							13
James Gallagher											13		13
Sheamus McKeefry						11							11
David Sweeney												11	11
John Duff	9												9
Tommy Hartnett	7												7
Vincent Whelan				6									6
Frank Maguire						5							5
Artistic													
Michael Fay	15	15		15	15	13	15	15	15	15	15		148
Charlie Byrne	13	13	11	13	11	9	13		13		9		105
Hugh Nolan	9	9	15	5	5			13	9	11		11	87
John O'Neill	5			11	5		11	9	7	9	13		70
Claire Godkin	6	7	6	5	5	5	6	11	6			13	70
Barry Dunne			5	5	13	6	9			13		15	66
Cecil Barron	11	11		9			7		11				49
Michael Stephens	7	6	7		9							11	40
Frank Gallagher	5	5	9				5						24
Brian Kelly				6	6	7	5						24
Tony Hartney	5				7	11							23
Dermot Dooley				7							11		18
Declan Corrigan	5			5						7			17
Pat Walsh						15							15
Maria Jennings											7		7
Michael Jordan	5												5
Ray Ivers		5											5
Mark Daly				5									5
Peter Gonsalves							5						5

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