



Dublin Chapter Newsletter

Irish Woodturners Guild

September 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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Picture right, our August demonstrator Donal Ryan



Web stuff

Mike Mahonys youtube channel [@bowlmaker60](https://www.youtube.com/@bowlmaker60)

Dave Buchholz is a woodturner living in the Adirondack mountains in New York.
<https://adirondackinspiredturnings.com/>.

Eoin Donnelly who does interesting things with wood
<https://eoindonnelly.ie/>

Elements of sculpture by John O'Neill

Sculpture is an age old craft which we as woodturners can learn from.

It is the skill of creating a three dimensional piece from a two dimensional 'blank i.e. a rock', not unlike what the woodturner tries to do. The beauty of both crafts, stone and wood working, is in the eye of the beholder. The slight difference in approach is that most sculptors start from the artistic point but woodturners generally start from the craft side, how you hold the gouge can become more important than what you produce with it. There are seven elements in sculpture.

1...Line, this is the connection between two points, it is used to create the shape and separates the piece from its surroundings, the eye should easily follow along the line.



Michelangelo's David, a masterpiece of sculpture. Shame noone bought him a lathe.



Maria Jennings

1st beginners Maria Jennings



Barry Dunne

2nd beginners Barry Dunne



Brian Kelly

3rd beginners Brian Kelly



Peter Gonsalves

4th beginners Peter Gonsalves



Michael Stephens

1st experienced Michael Stephens



Declan Corrigan

2nd experienced Declan Corrigan



John O'Neill

3rd experienced John O'Neill



Claire Godkin

4th experienced Claire Godkin



Hugh Nolan

1st advanced Hugh Nolan



Brendan Phelan

2nd advanced Brendan Phelan



Charlie Byrne

3rd advanced Charlie Byrne



Michael Fay

1st artistic Michael Fay



2nd artistic
Charlie Byrne

Charlie Byrne



3rd artistic
Cecil Barron

Cecil Barron



4th artistic Hugh
Nolan

Hugh Nolan



5th artistic John O'Neill

John O'Neill



Claire Godkin

6th artistic Claire Godkin

elements of sculpture contd.

2.. Colour, the mind associates colour with form and material, Colour includes shading which makes a surface more interesting. Various shades/colours evoke different emotions.

3...Value, this is not a monetary property but is the aesthetic feeling it gives to the observer, does the piece have a positive impact on the viewer.

4... Shape, the outline of the piece, its size, edges, volume and the surface. All combine to determine how the item looks.



Colour in Celtic art

Positive Space



Negative Space



5..Space, space is everything! It is an area around, inside, or between an artwork and its surrounding. In the art world it is the foreground, background and middle ground. It is how the piece sits in the world. Other spaces are deep space, negative space, deep space and shallow space. Space is a three dimensional element, a piece should look like it fits from all angles.

6..Texture, the feel, colour and mood of the piece. It interrupts the movement of the eye over the piece and adds interest.



picture on right,
textured piece by
Emmett Kane.

Left sorby texturing
tool



KE

August Saturday demo

Demonstrator Donal Ryan, Professional wood turner, based in Tipperary.

A decorative candlestick comprising four parts: a) curved base with four rising corners, b) the stem or 'stick' c) a turned 'candle' and d) a finial shaped 'flame'.

Notes by Pacelli O'Rourke

Pictures by John O'Neill

Turning Processes

A square blank of spalted beech is screw-



chucked onto the lathe. The first part of the base to be tackled is the exterior. Donal emphasises the need for lighthandedness. The form of the base must be 100% uniform regarding the four thin corners. A very large bowl gouge is produced to do most of the shaping, keeping the tool as near as possible to the wood. 'A nice tight cut!'

The callipers are in fairly constant use to keep to the size and position of everything.

'I can't over estimate the necessity for a controlled,

patient approach'. At this stage Donal needs to establish measurements for the cutting of a rebate which will suit the diameter of the 4 jaw chuck which will be necessary when he is hollowing. The best tool for creating the rebate is a sturdy parting tool, creating the conditions for an expansion hold later. With typical exhaustive checking he runs a ruler across the face of the bottom as is; He really does not want a wobbly candlestick!! 'Keep the bevel rubbing.' All I note



around the lathe are 'feathers' and strings of shavings. 'Go very gently with the corners'. The base is removed from the screw-chuck and reversed for hollowing.

'As I have said already: "Start at a corner, NOT at the centre!' The Project needs to look all of a piece, otherwise it's frustration all round 'Watch that the position of the tool is correct before contact. This requires lifting the tool handle and

turning the angle of the cut.' He now changes back to the hollowing tool. This has a small, partially exposed cutter which can make hollowing easier for the turner. He also uses the spindle gouge for 'touching up' followed by some sanding. For this he uses specially designed handles which take Velcro pads with the various abrading grits. The base is now taken from the chuck.



The next aspect of the project is turning the spindle/stick which has already been referred to. The blank is about 8 inches long, contrasting with the lighter shade of the base. You might think of it as the 'backbone' of the item. It involves pure spindle turning and contains such features as a 'lemondrop', with its ogee surface, a bead, convex and concave tapers.



and concave tapers.

Once more, the blank is

2" by 2" section. Donal felt it would be of advantage to us to understand how to replicate such a piece of turning. For this we would need to make up a story board of thin wallboard or some such. On this we would register linear data, like the



length each feature takes up along the spindle, and transfer these data onto your story board. Equally, you would register the diameters of each feature. As is fairly obvious, the callipers is indispensable! Again in turning a bead there is no tool as brilliant as the skew! Having said that, the parting tool works very well too. Take care to give every aspect of the item its full time and attention. The results will speak for themselves!



Two further sections remain to be turned, namely



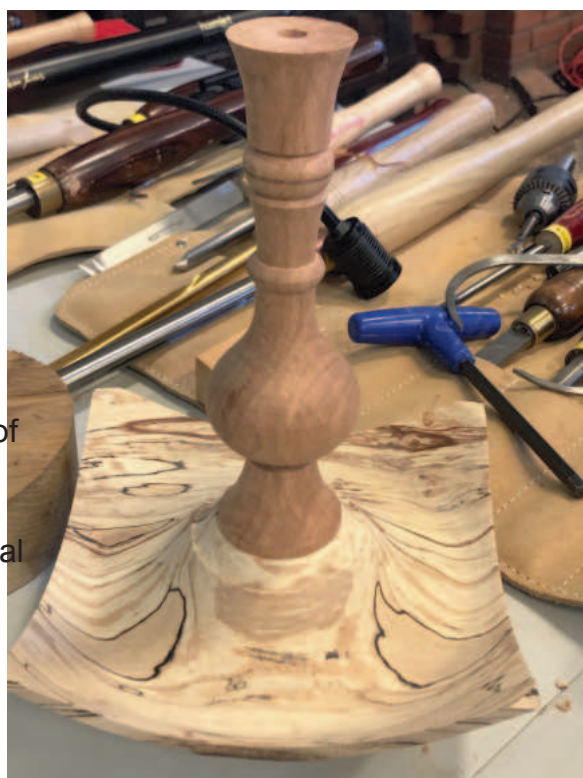
the 'candle' itself, complete with a finial-like 'flame'.

Candle and 'flame'

Donal's candle starts out as a 7" square l"x l" Section. It is rounded with a slight taper. Finally, the 'flame': quite small but well suited to the top of the 'candle' on which it sits.

It has been a pleasure to watch and listen to Donal as he went through the stages of this demonstration.

Thank you David for a truly educative and entertaining morning.



Competition Table

	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Totals
Beginners													
Barry Dunne			11	15	13	13	15	15	13				95
Brian Kelly			13	13	15	15	13	11	11				91
Peter Gonsalves			15	11	11	11	11		9				68
Michael Hart		15			9			9					33
Maria Jennings	15							13	15				43
Experienced													
Declan Corrigan	13	13	11	15	9	9	7	15	13				105
Claire Godkin	7	9	13	11	13	15	11	13	9				101
John O'Neill	11		15	13	11	13	15	11	11				100
Michael Stephens	9	15		9	15	11	9	9	15				92
Graham Hunter	15						13						28
Irene Christie		11	9										20
Ray Ivers		7											7
Advanced													
Hugh Nolan	11	13	15	11	15	5	11	15	15				111
Brendan Phelan	6	15	13	9	9	15	13	9	13				102
Michael Fay	15			15			15	13					58
Charlie Byrne				13	11	9		11	11				55
Sean Ryan	13				13	6	7						39
Tony Hartney	5	11	11				9						36
Frank Gallagher	5		9										14
Cecil Barron				7		7							14
Pat Walsh						13							13
Sheamus McKeefry						11							11
John Duff	9												9
Tommy Hartnett	7												7
Vincent Whelan				6									6
Graham Brislane						5							5
Frank Maguire						5							5
Artistic													
Michael Fay	15	15	13	15	15	13	15	15	15				131
Charlie Byrne	13	13	11	13	11	9	13		13				96
Hugh Nolan	9	9	15	5	5			13	9				65
Claire Godkin	6	7	6	5	5	5	6	11	6				57
John O'Neill	5			11	5		11	9	7				48
Cecil Barron	11	11		9			7		11				49
Barry Dunne			5	5	13	6	9						38
Michael Stephens	7	6	7		9								29
Frank Gallagher	5	5	9				5						24
Brian Kelly				6	6	7	5						24
Tony Hartney	5				7	11							23
Pat Walsh						15							15
Declan Corrigan	5			5									10
Dermot Dooley				7									7
Michael Jordan	5												5
Ray Ivers		5											5
Mark Daly				5									5
Peter Gonsalves							5						5

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