

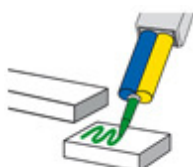


Dublin Chapter Newsletter

July 2011 Volume 3 Issue 26



Inside this issue:



◀ **Stick Around**
for Jonathan
Wigham's guide to
Epoxy Adhesives
on Page 2.

Last month, **Tree Teaser** asked you ▶
to name the tree that produces these
stunning flowers and a popular wood with
turners. Find the answer on Page 3.



▲ **News from the Tallaght
Hospital Exhibition** on Page 3.



▲ **Ball or Box?**
Competition photos and
standings on page 4.



◀ **Demo Report:**
Frank Gallagher on how
to make something for
baby without getting
rattled! On page 4.

Coming Soon

Wed 6 July - **Workshop** (Scout Hall)

Sat 6 August - (Scout Hall)

Demonstrator: Christy Glynn

Competition: Wall Hanging

Wed 10 August - **Workshop** (Scout Hall)

Sat 3 September - (Scout Hall)

Demonstrator: Owen Furniss

Competition: Bowl

Riding John Doran's Lawnmower



Sunday 26 June saw John Doran hold a workshop in his garden (for those who did not come, 'demesne' would probably be a better description than 'garden').

There was a nice easy atmosphere about the place and, although I lost count of heads, there were well in excess of 50 people who came. (Not all were members of our chapter and the impression that was left may well encourage some to decide to join us in the future).



The afternoon was almost like a mini seminar and featured a number of informal demonstrations on topics including chainsaw use and sharpening, carving, using the bandsaw and of course woodturning.



Many things came together to make a great day: Effort on the part of those who came early and or stayed late to help set up and clean up. The various demonstrators who kept their audience entertained. Even the weather lent a hand for once.



John's lovely family were on hand to provide refreshments and there were even trade stands selling timber and chainsaw accessories.



However 100% of the credit for the success of this event, goes to John. **Three cheers!**

Varn.

P.S. I'll be taking a break from the newsletter next month but normal service will resume in September. In the meantime, have a great summer and don't forget to keep sending me material.



Notes from the Chairman

Our summer is here now and for many it's a time to take a nice break and be with their family. For some it will be a trip to far off places and maybe look up some woodturning friend or store with hard to get items on offer. The internet is a new tool in our hands and whatever you need can be got looking up the internet.

It took me some time to get familiar with this new tool and now I cannot do without it. Even when I was in hospital it came in handy to view missed programmes on the TV or radio, or just to keep in touch with friends. Internet outlets on the continent make it possible to keep in touch with family and friends with out having to bring the laptop with you.

There are lots of wood turning sites to look up and everything under the sun can be opened up to us. There are many who shy away from this most useful tool and if only they were to sample a little of what is on offer it could change their mind for the better. Our chapter has its own web site and we have many links with other woodturning clubs and chapters. Only recently we got an email from a New Zealand wood turner who will be visiting us at our meeting shortly. It's a great way of corresponding with other like minded people.

I made a rule when I decided to use the computer that I would not do it during the day and only at late night times and so far it's working for me. I hope that if you try using your children's computer



to access the internet (they will only be too glad to show you how) you will open up a new world out there. You will become a new explorer.

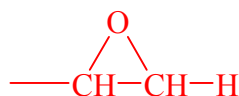
Have a nice summer.

Joe O'Neill
Chairman, Dublin Chapter.

Epoxy Adhesives

The second of Jonathan Wigham 's follow up articles to his talk on the subject of adhesives last year, deals with epoxy.

Epoxy adhesives are based on the chemical structure called an Epoxide group this is a chemical ring structure of carbon hydrogen and oxygen which is part of a complex material called an epoxy resin. These were invented in 1936 and the first industrial manufacture was in 1946.



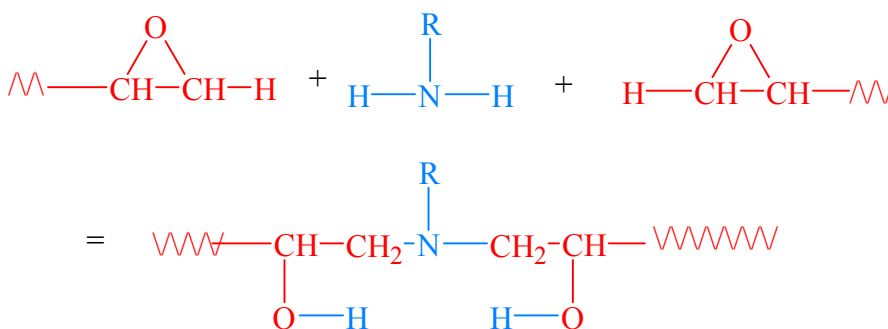
These structures are attached to each end of the resin. The rings can be broken by another chemical usually an amine which is the hardener. This chemical contains nitrogen hydrogen and another chemical group denoted by R, it is the slightly yellow smelly part of the two parts of the adhesive.



The hardener joins to the end of the resin and then can join to another resin group which joins to another hardener group thus forming a chain.



You can see why it is important that the two parts of the adhesive should be mixed in the



proportions that are recommended, as the correct amounts of resin and hardener are required to produce a completely hardened adhesive.

These adhesive can also be "cross linked" that is when one chain is chemically linked to another chain making a very strong material which can resist moisture and aggressive chemicals.

Epoxy adhesives can bond a large number of different materials with a strong durable bond. Other Chemicals can be added to give properties such as toughness or flexibility.

When using two-part epoxy adhesives it important to be aware that the mixed adhesive has a "pot life". This is the time it can be used to make bonds before it becomes so thick it does not work. This time will be specified in the instructions. It should not be confused with the time taken for the adhesive to fully cure which will be a much longer time. The temperature of the workshop is important for these times; the normal test temperature is 22°C. As a rule of thumb the rate of cure doubles for ever 10 degrees rise in temperature and halves for every 10 degrees drop in temperature. A 24hr full cure might turn into a few hours in summer or in winter several days. Also at

low temperatures the reaction may never be completed so the bond is not as good as it should be.

One disadvantage of epoxy adhesives is that some people can become sensitised to them causing rashes and cracked skin. Once this happens it will happen every time the person comes in contact with epoxies. It is wise as with all chemicals to use cheap disposable gloves when handling them.

Another thing to remember is that the liquid adhesive is environmentally unfriendly and should only be binned when solid.



Brands include Loctite, Araldite, Bostic, West System and many others

Always read the label, safety warnings and instructions.

Jonathan Wigham.

Exhibition News

The June exhibition in Tallaght hospital was a great success this year with a record €1120 collected for our charity, the Alzheimer Society of Ireland - €1031 from the sale of items and €89 in donations.



At our June meeting, the Tim McGill trophy competition was held for items donated for sale at the exhibition. There was a great

support from the chapter as ever and the standard was impressive. The judges decided that Michael Fay's platter (left) was the winning entry.

At the exhibition, over 80 items were sold during the three days. We also had some fine examples of our members work on display. Well done to all those who took part whether in manning the tables, contributing items for the show or donating prizes for our raffle.

The high quality of the pieces was the deciding factor in many sales and received a lot of favourable comment. Our team was constantly occupied by the stream of visitors viewing the items on display, discussing the craft of woodturning and making purchases. A very enjoyable



experience for all concerned and a definite date for next year.

A big thank you to Esther Nyambura and Hillary Moss from the Arts Department in the hospital who facilitated us in every way and did a lot to publicise the event in advance.

Frank Maguire
Exhibition Secretary.

Tree Teaser Number 4: Laburnum

Laburnum, which is also commonly called golden chain, is a genus of two species of small trees in the subfamily Faboideae of the pea family Fabaceae, *Laburnum anagyroides* (common laburnum) and *L. alpinum* (alpine laburnum). The Laburnum is a native of the mountains of France, Switzerland, and southern Germany, where it attains the height of 20 feet and upwards.

The trees are cultivated throughout the world mainly for their flowers, which appear early in the spring, in rich, pendent, yellow clusters. The leaves are trifoliate, somewhat like a clover. Most garden specimens are of the hybrid between the two species, which combines the longer racemes of *Laburnum alpinum* with the denser flowers of *Laburnum anagyroides*; it also has the benefit of low seed production. *Laburnum* seed can poison anyone who mistakes the seeds for peas.

Indeed, all parts of the plant are poisonous, and can be lethal if consumed in excess. Symptoms of laburnum poisoning may include intense sleepiness, vomiting, convulsive movements, coma, slight frothing at the mouth and unequally dilated pupils.

The main toxin in the plant is cytisine, a nicotinic receptor agonist. It is used as a food plant by the larvae of some Lepidoptera species, including the buff-tip.

The heart-wood of laburnum may be used as a substitute for ebony or rosewood. It is dark in colour, and though of a coarse grain it is



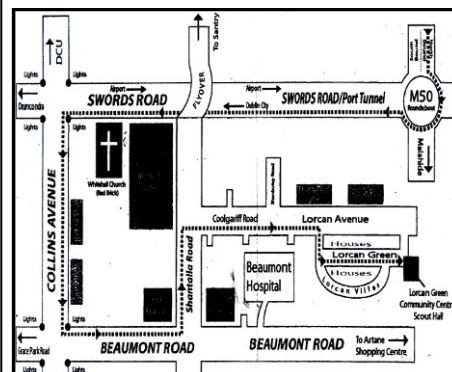
very hard and durable. It is much in demand among turners, and is wrought into a variety of articles which require strength and smoothness. The sapwood is creamy white in colour and is narrow.

Laburnum is easily seasoned, but it is best dried slowly in order to minimise end checking and splitting. Trunks and boughs can be hard to season whole however, so rough turning followed coating of the end-grain is recommended.

The wood finishes well with skews and gouges. Scrapers tend to cause tear out so shear scraping is best where there is no alternative. The wood sands well wet or dry, but wet sanding can stain the sapwood, if present. It finishes well with both penetrating and surface finishes. Oil can darken the wood considerably but when burnished will give a warm glow.

Rich Varney

Other IWG Chapters



Dublin East Central Chapter meet on the second Saturday of each month in **Loran Green Community Centre / Scout Hall** from 2.00 pm.
Tel: 086 8241470
www.eastcentralchapter.com



Dublin 15 Chapter meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month, 7:30pm to 10pm, at the **BRACE Centre, Main St, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15**.
www.craobhcuigdeag.org

Craobh Cuig Deag One Day Seminar

Saturday 9th July 2011, featuring Benoit Averly, Pat Lynch, Willie Edwards & Local Turners. Places limited, see www.craobhcuigdeag.com for details.

Competition Standings and Winners

		Two Christmas Decorations		Table Lamp	Hollow Form	Fruit	Platter	Open Competition	Box
Advanced	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
Michael Fay	83	15	11	7	15	15	15	5	
Cecil Barron	70	5	5	13	13	13	6	15	
Tony Lally	51	5	7	9	5	7	11	7	
Frank Gallagher	39	13	5	5	11	5			
Joe O'Neill	37	9	5	5	7	5		6	
Pat M. Walsh	33			11		9	13		
Albert Sloan	28		9	6				13	
Seamus Carter	27		13			5	9		
Colm McIntyre	25		5	15	5				
Tony Hartney	23		6		5	5	7		
Colm Hyland	20					11		9	
Henry East	15		15						
John Holmes	14				9	5			
Sean Ryan	11	11							
Michael McNamara	11				6	5			
Jack O'Rourke	11							11	
Adrian Finlay	6					6			
Martin O'Halloran	5		5						
Pat J. Walsh	5			5					
Malcolm Hill	5				5				



Cecil Barron (Advanced)



Paddy Finn (Experienced)



Pat Costigan (Beginners)

Experienced	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Willie Reville	74	15	6	11	13	9	15	5
Rich Varney	71	0	15	15	6	13	11	11
Stephen Harbourn	68	11	11	5	11	11	13	6
Gerry Ryan	48	5	13	5	9	5	6	5
Graham Brislane	40	9		6	15	5	5	
Pacelli O'Rourke	40	5	9	9	5	7		5
John Owens	34		5	5	7	5	5	7
Paddy Finn	34		7			5	7	15
Brian Kelly	20				5	6		9
Sean Egan	15					15		
Jonathan Wigham	13			13				
Mark Daly	13							13
Frank Maguire	12			7	5			
Tom Delaney	10		5			5		
Willie Edwards	10				5			5
Sean McMorrow	9						9	
Sean Murtagh	5			5				
Irene Christie	5					5		
John Doran	5							5



Cecil Barron (Artistic)

Beginners	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Peter Curran	70		15	7	11	13	11	13
Noel White	54			11	15	15	13	
Paul Murtagh	50			13	9	11	6	11
Pat Costigan	30						15	15
Alison Hurst	29				13	9	7	
John Duff	25			15	5	5		
Frank Trappe	18		11		7			
Dean Dawson	18			9			9	
Vincent Whelan	15		9		6			
Seamus McKeefry	13		13					
Tony Beatty	7					7		

Artistic	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Cecil Barron	69			15	15	9	15	15
Gerry Ryan	61		11	11	9	6	13	11
Frank Gallagher	42		15	9	11	7		
Colm Hyland	26			13	13			
Joe O'Neill	22		13					9
Henry East	15					15		
Seamus O'Reilly	13					13		
Tony Lally	13							13
Sean Egan	11					11		
Adrian Finlay	5					5		

All competition photographs by Hugh Flynn

Shake, Rattle and Roll

June's meeting saw Frank Gallagher making a baby's rattle. Pacelli O'Rourke was on hand to take notes.

A part from his turning-skills, there is a sincerity in all that Frank does which draws the spectator in. His first statement is a case in point: "I am going to show you how I make a baby's rattle."

The blank, a piece of cherry about 180mm (7") by 50mm (2") is mounted between centres. This is first turned to a cylinder with the roughing-out gouge. A spigot is formed on each end, to suit the chuck. The diameter of the cylinder is 50mm (2"). If you're making a number of this item, it would be a thought to use a hardboard template for the diameter (better for safety also!)



Measure and mark 25mm (1") from the shoulder at the tailstock end. As the blank is soon to be parted in two, Frank wisely suggests putting a pencil mark in-line so that at the reuniting of the two sections, the grain pattern will be true. Now cut in about 3mm ($\frac{1}{8}$ ") just to the headstock side of the 25mm (1") mark. This will become the flange on which the top portion will sit. The top section can now be parted off using the thinnest parting — tool to hand. (Peter Mulvaney suggested a diamond profiled parting tool to prevent binding). In any event Frank leaves the last 6mm ($\frac{1}{4}$ ") or so to be sawn through, so as to avoid grain tear-out. Mind you, on this occasion you'd get away with it, since both 'ends' are going to be hollowed. At any rate Frank uses a pull-saw and as a general rule, advises a slight rotation on each pass to be sure of a true 90° cut.

Frank emphatically focuses his demos on "real beginners". He suggests 'talking to yourself' as you go along. This can be a big help to the all important need to stay focused. Really this demo was sprinkled with many gems. Another example: "NEVER put handles on spanners etc. for extra torque. Whatever the manufacturer supplies is the best for their product."

Hollowing

The longer piece remains in the chuck for hollowing. Put a pencil mark 25mm (1") from the shoulder. Remove the tailstock from the lathe, or if the bed is long enough, get it out of the way. ("Tailstock-elbow" is not funny!). To avoid the dreaded kickback, create a small rebate or ledge

for the gouge to sit on at the start of the cut. Direction of cut; outside-in or centre-out? "Whatever works for you. Whatever feels right." The same principle applies to the use of scraper versus gouge. The former are "excellent for removing ripples and ridges."

I thought Frank made an excellent point at this stage when he suggested keeping samples of our work in the workshop, for reference, because "we, as hobbyists, forget." How true! Back to the job in hand. The depth of hollowing will be about 20mm — as long as it's less than the 25mm (1") pencil line already drawn. Be careful when hollowing near the rim, not to damage the flange. This will be important for effective gluing later on. The longer portion can now be removed, and the top section chucked.

"Always check twice, that you have tightened the workpiece in the chuck." Firstly a 3mm ($\frac{1}{8}$ ") rebate is created to match the flange on the long section. Don't be in any rush at this stage, but frequently offer the long portion up, till you are satisfied you have achieved a snug fit. (Remember, a cat's whisker beyond a snug fit is loose). Hollow the top section as described earlier. The two sections are now ready to be glued back together, cramped and left overnight — but not before the 'rattle-factor' has been inserted. Frank used three ceramic beans on this occasion. Oh, and don't forget to line up your in-line pencil mark. At this point "wags anonymous" talked about the danger of gluing the balls to the inside of the recess. Perhaps we'll draw a veil over further comment!

As you would expect from one who prepares his demo so carefully, Frank now brought out a fully glued and cured piece to deal with shaping etc. This is mounted in the chuck, with T/S support just like the original blank. Firstly give a very light run over the join-point with the roughing gouge. Razor sharp tools are essential now.

Shaping the 'Rattle' Section

The join-point will be at the mid-point between the top (T/S) shoulder and the lowest pencil mark on the long section i.e. a further 25mm (1") down. This area is now shaped to a spherical profile. 'Spherical' does not mean geometrically accurate, as long as the shape is pleasing to the eye — (including the baby's eye!) I noticed that Frank used the gouge ambidextrously in forming the sphere. I was reminded of a comment of Mick Healy one time at a saw-dust party: "If you want to turn, the first thing you need to learn is how to be ambidextrous."

At this point Frank introduced us to his home-

made sphere tool which consists of a handled hole-saw cutter with the teeth removed. Obviously it needs to be of a smaller diameter than that of the sphere. It is applied to the sphere-surface in continuous curves and loops. Of course the tailstock needs to be removed to complete the top of the sphere.

This section can now be sanded and finished (of the latter, more later). The join-point can be camouflaged by cutting a light vee-groove on it, with a further one on either side. Be careful to have both side grooves equidistant from the middle one. A very pleasing effect is achieved by scorching these, as Frank did, using a wire with wooden holding pieces on the ends.



Shaping the Handle

Functionality is an absolute priority for this item, which is to be clutched by a baby hand. Frank achieved a lovely, smooth, slightly tapered profile, flaring out to a knob like shape at the bottom. This flare counter balances a similar one, slightly smaller, where the handle and the sphere-section meet. Now we saw an example of how the tiniest detail can make a big difference to the visual impact of an item. In this case I am referring to a very small fillet at the top of the handle, creating the impression that both parts were made separately before being joined neatly together. A further two scorched grooves (same distance apart as the earlier ones) enhance the appearance of the handle no end.

There followed a short discussion on suitable woods and finishes for this item especially considering its use by infants. Well, beech or fruit woods for the material and any food safe oil, including cooking oil or liquid paraffin for the finish. Obviously you need to steer clear of stains and varnishes of any kind.

And there you have it. Frank described this as a simple item at the outset, yet he came to the podium armed with a list of 27 different pieces of detail which he wanted to impart. I've said it before and I'll say it again. You did us proud, Frank. Thank you.

Pacelli O'Rourke
Photos by Hugh Flynn

Turners' Wordsearch No. 2

N	W	A	S	D	E	T	L	A	P	S	V
T	O	U	W	R	U	N	L	I	Y	D	I
N	L	E	E	N	T	D	N	C	E	T	C
O	L	T	L	E	E	O	A	M	L	I	E
I	I	A	L	R	F	M	O	W	L	B	I
T	W	L	C	I	O	N	A	Y	O	A	R
I	I	P	H	R	S	S	R	N	W	N	O
B	R	E	E	T	T	C	Y	E	H	K	N
I	W	C	R	E	A	T	E	O	E	S	W
H	E	A	R	T	W	O	O	D	A	I	O
X	T	F	Y	H	C	R	A	L	R	A	O
E	O	D	L	A	M	I	N	A	T	E	D

All the words below are hidden in the grid. They are each in a straight line, but may be written horizontally, vertically or diagonally, and may even be spelled backwards!

Draw a line through each one as you find it and also cross it off the list. The letters that are left over at the end should spell out a message – not appropriate to you - (reading left to right).

FRETSAW
LAMINATED
CHERRY
IRONWOOD
VICE
CREATE
SAWN
YELLOWHEART

SPALTED
EXHIBITION
EBONY
WALNUT
BANKSIA
ALDER
BILLET
DEMONSTRATE

HEARTWOOD
FACEPLATE
WILLOW
ACRYLIC
SWELL
LARCH
SYCAMORE

Gerry Ryan

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Joe O'Neill offers classes on Tuesday and Wednesday A.M. & Thursday nights.

Telephone: 087 623 0162
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Woodturning Tuition

Morning, afternoon, evening of full day tuition available for 1 to 2 students. Graduate Lathe per student.

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If you have anything to contribute to the newsletter or any comments or suggestions for what you would like to see in future, please contact the editor by e-mail, by phone, or in person.