



Dublin Chapter Newsletter

August 2013 Volume 3 Issue 44



Inside this issue:



◀ **Richard Murphy gets wired for the July demo, see page 2 for Pacelli's report.**

■ **Competition photos and standings are on page 3.**

■ **Tallaght Hospital Exhibition report on Page 4.**

Riding the Bevel

It was a delight to see Alison Hurst step into the world of woodturning demonstrations at our workshop in July. Alison refused to use the lathe arguing that she could not teach any of us anything about turning. I don't subscribe to that opinion incidentally. The standard of her work says otherwise demos are just as much about ideas and inspiration as technique. The afternoon was certainly loaded with ideas and inspiration.

chair. This was followed by hands on demonstrations (with the audience participating) of piercing and pyrography.



Congratulations and thanks to Alison for an excellent demo. I trust it won't be long until we see her on stage at one of our Saturday meetings.

Wednesday's workshop will take place at John Doran's in Blessington as the scout hall is unavailable. Vinny Whelan will be demonstrating for the first time so come and give him your support.

On a sad note, Craobh Cuig Deag had to downscale their recent seminar due to a lack of advanced bookings. This is a reminder to us all of the importance booking Guild and chapter events early to give the organisers time to plan.

Have a great month.

Varn.



Alison began by giving a fascinating talk about design around the subject of this year's chapter challenge for the seminar in Sligo, a turner's

Coming Soon

Wed 7 August - Workshop (John Doran's)

Sat 7 September - (Scout Hall)

Demonstrator: Tony Rea
Competition: Spinning Top

Wed 11 September - Workshop (Scout Hall)

Fri 27—Sun 29 September - (Sligo)

IWG National Seminar - **BOOK NOW!**

Sat 5 October - (Scout Hall)

Demonstrator: Pat Walsh
Competition: Pen or Handle

Notes from the Chairman

This great summer has put a smile on a lot of faces. It will be a summer not to be forgotten.

There are a few things I would like to bring to your attention. Our guilds annual seminar in September gives a great opportunity to meet some of the best wood turners and renew to friendship and to meet new friends. To me it has always been the highlight of the woodturning year.

We are about to bring and highlight woodturning to the citizens of Dublin. An open invitation from Dublin City FM Radio for us to tell the people of Dublin what we do and where we are is a great opportunity for us. If there are any member who would like to be on the panel

for this radio broadcast please let me know.

We are also invited to participate in the St Maelruain's Flower show where other craft people will be attending. If you have good turning for sale this is the place to be. They have reserved a table for us and this chance should be taken up. The publicity is already announced and is countrywide.

Our Tallaght Library exhibition and demonstration is also to take place in December. We have lots of venues to show our skills to the public.

Sadly our condolence goes to Mr. Frank Dempsey on the death of his mother Bridget



There is just one month to make the chair for the chapter challenge and those intending to compete should start now. My team will be joining me to do this project next week.

Please don't leave any of the above to others as they are leaving it to you.

Take care,

Go on you deserve it.

Joe O'Neill

Mushroom Box

Richard Murphy made an unusual item for the demonstration at the July meeting. Pacelli O'Rourke was on hand to take notes.

Richard puts up a blank of beech about 200mm (8") x 25mm (3") square between centres. This is speedily rounded with a large spindle roughing gouge. The 'top' hand is positioned to deflect the shavings downwards. The fully side-rolled gouge leaves a virtual skew-finish. A suitably sized spigot is formed on either end.



Next business is to mark the cut-off point between stem and dome. This is a matter of choice but Richard advises not to leave the stem 'too long', for stability. Make sure to allow a waste area at each end. Mount the piece in the chuck with the base of the stem at the tailstock end. Richard wisely suggests blowing out chuck jaws first, as shavings can cause running out of true. Use tailstock support.



The stem is now given the concave profile of the mushroom, with the roughing gouge, while the dome profile is partially rolled over, leaving plenty of stock on for hollowing support. Richard sands from

about 180 to 320/400 grit. Finish consists of a few coats of cellulose sanding-sealer followed by melamine lacquer.

The high gloss is very impressive. Be careful only to apply small amounts of the lacquer. He now forms a step at the top of the stem on which the dome will sit. The stem, still with spigot and waste, is now parted from the dome. 'Jiggling' the parting tool slightly from side to side inhibits binding.

Hollowing the Dome

True up the face and soften the sharp edge left by the parting tool.

Richard now uses his callipers to measure the diameter of the stem-top and transfers this to the underside of the dome, then creates a seating for the dome to sit on the stem. Once hollowing is completed, a shallow 'ledge' of this diameter will remain. To ensure a firm fit of dome on stem it is wise to cut this seating shallow at first, in case you need to 'recover'!

Peter Mulvaney suggested cutting at a taper, then pressing male and female surfaces together: hey presto, a register-scorch mark tells you precisely the right diameter to cut to. Richard tried this and it worked perfectly. (Fair play to you, Richard for your willingness to try a suggestion on the spot.) Hollowing now proceeds with a small gouge and a Cobalt cutter-tipped hollowing tool. I notice Richard supports the dome with one hand, which naturally has to be on the 'business' side of the tool rest. Just be very, very careful folks!

His advice for scraper use in hollowing: 'Make sure the tool is as sharp as possible, and approaches the wood in a trailing mode. Strike the tool lightly into the work.' If colouring is your thing, sycamore would be a very suitable wood.

The outside of the dome is 'fine-tuned' to shape as far as possible (on the underside, be careful you don't accidentally remove your stem seating!). A nice curve is achieved around the rim of the dome. Sanding and finishing are performed as before, before parting off.



The stem is now re-chucked, forming a perfect jam-chuck for finishing the top of the dome. But first the top of the stem is slightly dished to ensure the widest hold on the dome.

Once the dome is fully formed, sanded and finished, it is left aside, while the stem is parted off. The stem is now reversed straight into the chuck with very light pressure so as to avoid damage to the wood. Very light tooling is the order of the day here, as there is imminent danger of the stem being pulled from the chuck with possible teeth-grinding consequences!



And there you have it: a mushroom box.

I haven't alluded to the banter-factor in Richard's demonstration. Let me just say he is one of the most generous and good humoured members of our chapter. Always worth watching. Thanks Richard.

Pacelli O'Rourke

photos by Hugh Flynn & Rich Varney

Competition News

Advanced	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Michael Fay	112	15	15	15	15	15	11	11	15
Willie Reville	65	9	5	6	5	11	5	15	9
Paul Murtagh	59	6	11	13	6	5	5		13
David Sweeney	54		13	9	13	13	6		
Tony Hartney	44	11	6	5	11	6	5		
Joe O'Neill	40	5	5	5	5	7	13		
Pacelli O'Rourke	33	5	5			5	5	6	7
Seamus Carter	33		5			5	5	7	11
Albert Sloane	31		7		5	9	5	5	
Michael McNamara	29		5	5		5	5	9	
Pat J. Walsh	28	7	5	7			9		
Henry East	24				9		15		
Cecil Barron	23		9		7		7		
Seamus O'Reilly	18	13	5						
Pat M. Walsh	16		5	11					
Tony Lally	13							13	
Malcolm Hill	10		5	5					
Paddy Finn	10				5	5			
Frank Gallagher	5	5							
James Gallagher	5		5						
Owen Furniss	5						5		

Experienced	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Noel White	88		15	15	13	15	15	15	
Sean Mc Morrow	85		9	13	15	9	13	11	15
Willie Edwards	42		11	9	11	11			
Frank Maguire	27		7			13		7	
Jonathan Wigham	26		6	11	9				
John Owens	20					7		13	
John Sheeran	13		13						
Pat Costigan	9							9	

Beginners	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Seamus McKeefry	118	15	15	13	15	15	15	15	15
Bob Finley	76		9	15	13		13	13	13
Tony Newsome	24		13	11					
Luan Alton	13	13							
Jim Warren	11		11						
Vinny Whelan	9			9					

Artistic	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Alison Hurst	94		15	15	6	15	13	15	15
Seamus O'Reilly	50	15	13		9				13
Sean Mc Morrow	48		7	6	11			13	11
Paul Murtagh	37	13			13	11			
Cecil Barron	37	9	9			13	6		
Pat J. Walsh	37	11		11			15		
Bob Finley	24				15				9
Joe O'Neill	19			5	5	9			
Malcolm Hill	16			9	7				
Henry East	13			13					
John Holmes	11		11						
Michael Fay	11						11		
Willie Reville	9						9		
Luan Alton	7	7							
Willie Reville	7			7					
David Sweeney	7						7		
Tony Newsome	5			5					
John Owens	5				5				
Stephen Coffey	5						5		



Michael Fay (Advanced - July)



Sean Mc Morrow (Experienced - July)



Seamus McKeefry (Beginners - July)



Alison Hurst (Artistic - July)

Competition Photos by Hugh Flynn

Tallaght Hospital Exhibition Report

Once again we had another great three day exhibition/show in Tallaght Hospital 8th – 10th July raising a total of €1090.00 for the Alzheimer Society of Ireland. A total of 93 items were sold for €1065.00 and donations of €25.00 were received. This again was due to the wonderful generosity of our guild members who contributed top quality pieces namely Seamus O'Reilly, Gerry Ryan, Alison Hurst, Pacelli O'Rourke, Malcolm Hill, Albert Slogan and Henry East and also all other members who over time have given items for sale.

Of course the exhibition could not have happened without our loyal band of helpers who took turns in manning the table namely Frank Maguire, our outgoing exhibition organiser, thank you for all your help, Tony Beatty,

Paddy Finn, Joe O'Neill, John Doran, Lorcan Dunne, Bernard Gallagher, John Homes and Jonathan Wigham. I would also like to extend our fond appreciation to Robert Dowdall, for all his help. Robert is not a member but hopes to join in the future. Robert donated a candle lamp holder that sold for €40.00. The remarkable thing about Robert is that he is totally blind and is turning for nearly ten years. I think that says it all and puts everything in perspective.

As usual at our exhibitions there was a steady flow of visitors who were amazed to find out that all items were made by wood turners right here in Dublin and from native Irish trees, with some showing a keen interest in possibly taking up wood turning.

Again we must thank our very helpful facilitator in the Hospital Arts office Hilary Moss and the security officer Donal Willow who provide us with the table and space and lock up facilities we needed for the three days. We hope to be back next year with a bigger and better exhibition/sale. Our next outing will be the craft fair in Tallaght library. This will be for three days in November 2013, check this space for dates. This will be an exhibition of member's items and items for sale for the Alzheimer Society of Ireland. This gives all members ample time to produce some items for this most worldly cause.

I wish to thank everyone who helped me on this my first exhibition.

Paul Murtagh.

St Maelruain's Flower Festival & Festival of Hands

This event will take place at St Maelruain's Parish Church, Tallaght Village on Friday 27th September to Sunday 29th September. It will include demonstrations of various Arts and Crafts and the Dublin Chapter have been asked to be involved at the event.

Proceeds will go toward the renovation and upkeep of St Maelruain's church as well as Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services. On Thursday 26th September there will be a concert of local choirs at the church.

More information is available on at www.festivalofhands.com

Unfortunately this is at the same time as the National Seminar in Sligo, so many of our committee and members will be unavailable.

If anyone is available over these days and can exhibit items, demonstrate, talk about our craft or help in any other way, please contact Joe O'Neill.

An Oversight

It has been drawn to my attention that there were no words of thanks expressed to Michael Fay and Pat Walsh in the newsletter following our seminar in May.

My apologies to both Pat and Michael and of course sincere thanks on behalf of the committee for two excellent demonstrations on the day.

Woodturning Classes

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

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Woodturning Classes

Joe Laird woodturning Studios Half-Day, Full-Day, Evening and Weekend classes available (up to 5 students) for all skill levels.

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