

Dublin Chapter Newsletter

September 2014

I know it's only September but now is a good time to mention the AGM in November. AGM's are not usually well attended which is why the Dublin guild has always tried to keep the time allotted to it short and squeeze in a demo on the same day. Now is the time to come up with the bright ideas that can help develop and grow our guild. Very few people will consent to be on the committee. It's not terribly time consuming, and no special skills are needed. The usual bleat of how the same faces are called upon to serve continues, while others hide, don't attend the meeting or just complain without doing anything about it. Here's your chance. Being a member of the committee will cost you a few hours work once a month. It's a great way to get to know many more members of the guild; it's an opportunity to make real changes to how our group is run. Here's your chance to put some

*of your ideas into action. New members bring a wealth of new fresh ideas, while longer standing members have the gift of experience to give. Maybe you've served on committees previously and could bring those experiences to the Woodturner's table. Next month I will be publishing some of the suggestions people have given me. Please, can **everyone** send in more. Don't wait for someone else to speak for you. There's more to the guild AGM than accounting for monies spent. What would you like to see change? What works well and you'd like to keep? What would make it more interesting for you or someone else? Please be as tactful as you can, everyone on the committee has given their time freely. You may not know all the reasons behind their decisions. Please give your suggestions to me in person, on the phone, text or by email. I can publish them anonymously if you*

wish. Don't wait to be nominated, tell Joe or any member of the committee what position you would consider serving in. I'm hoping that there is someone out there who will take over this newsletter for me. I have a huge workload these days. The next year will be extremely busy for me. Can someone else do this for a while? Perhaps that's one of the things we need to change in the guild. Perhaps none should be required to serve more than one or two terms in office. I know that some of you don't want to put your names forward in case you get stuck in the position for years on end. Remember that if you do as you've always done, you'll get the results you always got.

Alison

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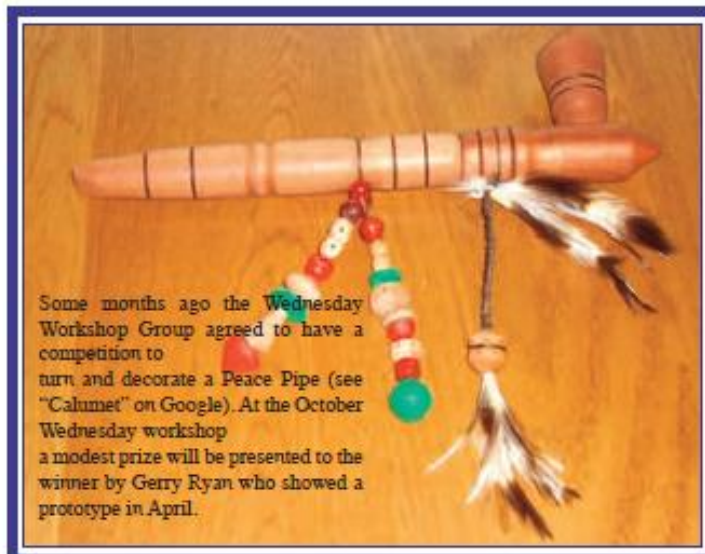


Demonstrators for Saturdays

sept	David Sweeney
oct	Pat Walsh
nov	Owen Furniss
dec	Joe O'Neill

Demonstrators for Wednesdays

sept	Charlie Ryan
oct	Cecil Barron
nov	Jonathan Wigham
dec	Willie Edwards



Some months ago the Wednesday Workshop Group agreed to have a competition to turn and decorate a Peace Pipe (see "Calumet" on Google). At the October Wednesday workshop a modest prize will be presented to the winner by Gerry Ryan who showed a prototype in April.

Competitions

sept	Salt and Pepper Set
oct	Segmented
nov	No Competition (AGM)
dec	Christmas Item

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www.dublinwoodturners.com

Christy Glynn shows his woodturning & carving skills Pacelli O'Rourke was on hand to take notes.



Item: Carving of various furniture legs/feet, characteristic of Chippendale and Queen Anne styles.

Well, that is certainly the most unwieldy description I have ever had to use under the heading 'Item'! It is appropriate however, for it reveals the nature of this demonstration as a very special opportunity to watch a professional master craftsman of long years standing ("I'm turning since I was seven") performing his craft. You cannot separate Christy the man from Christy the past-master. He manifests that wonderfully potent mixture of down-to-earth Dublin humour and spellbinding creativeness in wood.

He puts up a small blank of mahogany, partially shaped, between centres to demonstrate a particular foot at either end. First he rounds it, having marked both a centre- and off centre point at each end. The latter point is used to form the basic graceful cabriole form toward the tailstock end. The amount of the off centre cut in is a matter of personal aesthetic sense. He now reverses the piece and forms a cup toe. Then he turns the Queen Anne foot, which rests on a bead. He only uses three turning tools, because the lathe in his workshop is entirely at the service of the carving.



At this stage the lathe is removed from the platform and Christy brings forward a 915mm(3') sash cramp attached to a board about 100mm(4") wide, secured with two nuts and bolts at one end and captured at the other end between two pieces of glued-on wood. This affair is mounted in the Workmate, providing Christy with his carving bench. While the above setting-up is proceeding, a sheepish Christy acknowledges that he is in The Airport Band and plays clarinet, saxophone and banjo. You know what? If he said he could play all three simultaneously while carving- I think I'd believe him!!

He decides to carve a double claw-ball foot first. He carries his tools in an old style poke, or cone shaped container. On producing his mallet, he readily credits Joe O'Neill with its manufacture, and recalls the old days when his brother used to use a rolling pin to strike the tools. While his tool-handles show signs of having suffered over the years, all the cutting/slicing edges are gimlet sharp! And so, Christy starts chipping and slicing away. I begin to be aware of how deeply he enters into the purpose of every blow - its place in the whole process. Almost magically, the ball, then the claws complete with knuckles, begin to appear. Not for the first time, I must mention Tony Hartney for the excellence of his camera work (hand held!) at this point.

Christy now changes to another piece and announces that he will carve an acanthus leaf at the top. He places a piece of paper over the relevant area to get a register of its overall shape. This is now cut out. Consulting a picture from a furniture journal as his model, he transfers the exact outline of the leaf onto the paper, which he now cuts and places over the wood, marking the full outline. He taps a trench all around this line using a small chisel. He then starts paring down the surrounding wood causing the acanthus leaf to 'emerge' in relief. He begins to scoop out the veins and folds of the leaf, leaving us with the feeling, 'He makes it look so easy!' To achieve the graceful profile of the leg he uses the spokeshave which he says, along with a hand scraper, is a must.

And all this is done while the homeliest of chat is coming from Christy. Toward the end he makes an extremely important practical point which has significance for any of the work we try to do: "When I reach for a chisel, if I can't feel it I stop, because I know I'm tired." Words to the wise.

It is nothing short of a moving experience to be in the presence of Christy Glynn at work. Long live all the Christy Glynn's of the world of artistic creativity and craftsmanship. Thanks Christy. Keep it goin'!

Pacelli O'Rourke



"Tact is the ability to tell someone to go to hell in such a way that they look forward to the trip"

Winston Churchill



"Promote what you love rather than bash what you hate"

Thank You

A big Thank You to Gordon Grimes 'Baholla' Balally Close Dundrum. He donated a treadle lathe, in good working order, to the chapter. We will have great fun using it at exhibitions and demonstrations.

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A Note from the Chairman

Time just flies and when you think of it what did we do to make it go so fast. To someone who is sick time drags and drags also when you are waiting for someone to turn up and they are late giving you grief. When you are enjoying something like your hobby time really flies or at a good film you are so engrossed watching it or on your holidays time seems to fly.

What am I getting at here? let me tell you. We sometimes put off things that may leave till later on and before you know it is never done. How many new friends did you meet today ?? Do you take time to have a good talk with someone that you have not seen for some time ? communication was never better than it is today and do we make use of it ?

There is nothing like surprising someone you have not seen for a long time to make a phone call or send a letter although the internet is instant if you have a computer. Today nearly everything is done by computer. Booking holidays, buying, selling, looking up ebay or Amazon for something you want. There are many sites on the internet on our subject Woodturning and related crafts and you could spend hours gazing at your screen (how time flies now as you can get carried away)

To me the computer is a tool just like a pen or gouge. It takes time to get to grips with the various programs a computer has to offer. Do not be put off by the jargon you will get used to it after a while and begin to have fun using your computer. Using the internet can save you time and money! Over the next few months our chapter will have the usual meetings exhibitions and the AGM in November when we will be electing a new committee and we look forward to some new blood joining up, and if you were never on a committee before now is your chance. Our chapter has been blessed with great members on the committee who without hesitation are most obliging and very willing to do any job with conviction.

A word on our members who are not well and are either in hospital or at home unable to attend our meetings. I have to thank the many members who have called and collected and returned those who could otherwise not be at our meetings. If there is any member you know is not well we would like to know so we can at least visit or call on the phone to bring some little happiness when its needed most. Alzheimer our sponsored charity does receive funding supported by the chapter and its great we can do this for a vey deserving cause.

Items you no longer need or want can be brought to any meeting and you either put a price on them or say for free or put what you think. There is no charge for this service but we take no responsibility of item lost or taken.

Suggestions from members are always welcome, and if you can put your suggestion in writing please it will get our attention.

Joe O'Neill

Chairman Dublin Chapter I.W.G.



Ronnie Butler - Beginners



Seamus McKeefry - Experienced



Cecil Barron - Advanced



Cecil Barron - Artistic

Competition Results

	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug
Advanced									
115 Cecil Barron	15	7	13	15	9	13	15	13	15
71 Pacelli O'Rourke	11	5	5	13	6	7	9	9	6
71 Paul Murtagh	0	13	5	5	5	6	13	15	9
70 David Sweeney	0	0	15	0	13	9	11	11	11
58 Tony Hartney	0	11	7	9	5	0	6	7	13
33 Tony Lally	0	0	9	6	5	0	7	6	0
32 Joe O'Neill	0	5	5	5	5	0	0	5	7
29 Seamus Carter	0	6	11	7	5	0	0	0	0
24 Alison Hurst	0	9	0	0	15	0	0	0	0
24 Seamus O'Reilly	13	0	6	0	5	0	0	0	0
22 Henry East	0	0	0	0	11	11	0	0	0
15 Michael Fay	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0
15 Malcolm Hill	0	5	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
15 Richard Murphy	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11 Albert Sloane	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0
10 Michael McNamara	0	0	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
7 James Gallagher	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0
5 Paddy Flynn	0	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0
Experienced									
135 Seamus Mc Keefry	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
109 Bob Finley	13	13	11	9	11	13	13	13	13
64 Jonathan Wigham	11	11	9	11	13	9	0	0	0
50 Frank Maguire	0	7	7	7	7	0	11	11	0
35 Willie Edwards	0	0	13	13	9	0	0	0	0
26 John Sheeran	0	9	0	0	6	11	0	0	0
Beginners									
88 Frank McCarthy	0	15	15	0	15	15	0	15	13
65 Michael Jordan	15	0	11	0	0	13	15	0	11
33 George Madden	13	0	13	0	7	0	0	0	0
30 Ronnie Butler	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	15
24 Luan Alton	0	0	0	13	11	0	0	0	0
17 Vincent Whelan	0	0	0	11	6	0	0	0	0
13 Kieran Mc C (?)	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0
13 Peter Cashen	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0
9 Ruth Wallace	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0
Artistic									
125 Cecil Barron	13	13	15	15	13	15	15	11	15
90 Bob Finley	15	11	9	13	11	13	5	13	0
36 Paul Murtagh	0	0	11	0	9	0	7	0	9
33 Seamus O'Reilly	11	15	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
28 Tony Hartney	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	13
26 Tony Lally	0	0	0	0	15	0	11	0	0
15 John Owens	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	9	0
13 Pat Walsh	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
13 George Madden	0	0	0	0	0	7	6	0	0
13 James Gallagher	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0
13 Joe O'Neill	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	7
11 David Sweeney	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
9 Malcolm Hill	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Pacelli O'Rourke	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6