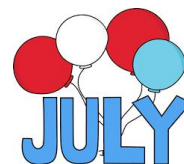


Dublin Chapter Newsletter

July 2017



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Upcoming Events:

- Next DWT Meeting - 5th August.
- Aug Sat. Demonstrator - Michael Fay.
- **National Seminar** - Oct 14/15

'Back to Basics!' with John Doran

Our scheduled demonstrator for June being indisposed, we were faced with the prospect of having no demonstration! ...Enter John D! Straightaway a powerful sense of fun fills that scout hall.

John travels around many of the local primary schools flying the flag for woodturning amongst the young. This morning he gave us a taster of the kind of things he does.

Item 1: Spinning top

All his blanks this morning are varying lengths of 44mm square scots pine/red deal. He is using a scroll chuck with wonderful long, strong jaws. Cleverly, he tries to organise that knots are under



the jaws and not on the finished items. So, the blank is rounded with the skew and marked for the ballast area and stem.

John's account of the rapport he has with the kids was brilliant; "There's a spinning top in there." "No, you're makin' it." "No I'm not. I'm just taking the wood away from around it!!" Within a minute or two he had exposed this morning's "hidden" spinning top! He has a strong leaning toward toy making, and things which will attract children. Much of his work this morning was embellished with burned grooves and strong, bright colours applied with felt tip markers.

Item two: A little 'person'

This comprised a conical top, much like a Chinese person might wear in a rice paddy. This continues, to become a vee shaped 'face' and 'shoulders', finally tapering down to the 'feet'. Once again, burned lines and colours. Finally, a happy expression on the face is done with black marker. And there you are; your very own Chinaman!



John is always delightfully ready to make himself the butt of his own humour; he mentioned now that whereas he owns at least seventy turning tools, he generally only uses four!! (psst! He's in good company!!)

Item three: Mushroom

Again, there is a heavy dependence on the skew. The curved stem-taper is done in two stages: first a series of 'steps', following into a smooth, flowing line. Here John introduced the element of functionality, screwing a small keyring into the base.

Who was winning 10 years ago?

Pictures of Competition winners ten years ago this month. Recognise any of them?

Answers towards the back.



Advanced



Experienced



Beginners

Chairman: Joe McGloughlin
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Vice-Chairman: Peter Mulvaney
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Competitions/W/shops: John Doran
087 639 3081
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Exhibitions: Paul Murtagh
087 133 1292
01 456 5509

Audio/Visual: Open
DWT.Video@gmail.com

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087 989 8793
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Item four: A pygmy baseball bat. (aka “an audio-visual aid for teachers.”
Hmmm...I don't get it either...)

The long jaw chuck is removed and replaced with a prong-drive and live Steb-centre in the tail stock. A blank about 200mm in length is mounted and rounded. Once more the three burned grooves at the ‘business’ end of the bat. Then, as if to remind us that woodturning ought not to be approached too casually, he says; “The worst thing you can do in woodturning is to try to do something too fast.” (Well, ain't that the livin' truth?).

Item five: What's in a name?

Staying with the functional theme, John's fifth item was a dibber (or ‘dibble’ in the more anglicised quarters). The long jaw chuck was remounted. Firstly a standard ogee-profiled handle section was turned, while the lower half was turned to a long taper (“Don't make the point too sharp”) which allows the instrument to perform its plant-holing function.

Item six: The clash-of-the-ash: mounted

A man of many parts, John does stewarding in Croke Park. Hence he comes into possession of many a broken hurley which he uses as pen-blanks. These may themselves be mounted on the boss of a hurley to create a wonderful desk set. Sometimes he might mount an actual sliotar (hurling ball). John actually brought some of these pieces with him and indeed they were truly impressive.

And so, to bring his demonstration to a close, he produced two un-profiled, otherwise ready-to-go pen sections, which he mounted on the pen-mandrill (i.e. The steel bar with sizing bushes on which are strung the barrel pieces for sizing and profiling. He uses superglue for a super gloss finish (Rich Varney usefully mentioned that the small plastic bags in which the pen kit parts come are ideal for saving the fingers from becoming superglued together!) Assembling the whole was a virtual ‘doddle’ with John's trusty pen-press.



And there you have it. Everyone appreciated John's courage in stepping up to the plate, especially when he had precious little time to prepare anything. Not alone that, but poor John must have been up all night putting the finishing touches to one of the most detailed ‘cabaret’ scripts I've ever heard!!

Well done John, and thank you!

Pacelli O'Rourke

Saturday

July - Kieran Reynolds	November - AGM
August - Michael Fay	December - Joe O'Neill
September - John Doran	
October - Pat Walsh	

Wednesday

July - Paul Murtagh	November - John Sheeran
August - Sean McMurrow	December - Joe O'Neill
September - Noel White	
October - Malcolm Hill	

Spalt Your Own Lumber



Learn how wood and fungi interact to create your own beautiful boards.

By Sara Robinson #199–July/Aug 2008 Issue of FineWoodworking.

Any product associated with rot and decay is likely to have an image problem. Spalted wood is no exception: You're more likely to find it in your firewood pile than in your local lumberyard.

However, a growing number of woodworkers are looking past the decay and discovering the beauties of spalted wood (see health note below). These include colors not normally found in wood, contrasting light and dark colors adjacent to each other, and most notably, brown and black lines running through the wood. Unique to spalted wood, these lines can range from one or two running down a board to something resembling contour lines drawn by a drunken mapmaker.

Best of all, like fingerprints, each board of spalted wood is unique. It is this diversity that has drawn me to study spalting academically and to use it as a wood turner. I'll talk about how you can try to re-create this process under controlled conditions at home.

DIY Spalting

Spalting wood is a lot like growing plants. With the right amounts of food, water, and heat, you should end up with good results, but success is by no means guaranteed. Rather like home cooking, every result is likely to be slightly different. First, pick your wood. Maple, birch, and beech are ideal, as their pale colors act as a blank canvas. Due to its hardness, maple is especially good because areas that receive too much spalting won't turn as soft as, say, a piece of aspen.

Spalt wood in a bag or plastic bin. To help maintain an even dampness around the boards, pour in and then wet some vermiculite. [Vermiculite can be typically found in potting soil - Editor]

Air-dried wood comes already laden with dormant spores of different fungi, so there is no need to introduce more spores. Kiln-dried wood is more hit-and-miss because steam sterilizing will kill all the spores, but regular kiln-drying may kill only some of them. In either case, to be on the safe side, you'll need to obtain fungal spores, either by collecting them out in the woods or checking your firewood pile for spalted wood. If the piece is too small to make anything out of, you can cut the wood and use the sawdust or shavings for your spalting experiments.



Bag it or Bin it – The ideal conditions for spalting are darkness with around 80% humidity and 80°F temperature. To achieve these conditions, you can place the wood in either a plastic bag (but don't seal it, because the fungi require oxygen) or a plastic storage bin. These bins are not airtight and they come in a variety of sizes.

If you use a plastic container, it's advisable to pack some sort of filler around the wood to help prevent moisture loss. Vermiculite, a dry, flaky soil additive available at garden-supply centers, is a relatively clean material.

Lay dampened boards in the container and place pieces of fungi in contact with them. Then cover the boards with more damp vermiculite and put a loose lid on the container.



Finally, break the fungi into small pieces and place them on the wood. The board does not need to be covered completely; however, the more places you stick some spores, especially on the end grain, the quicker the piece will spalt. Place the bin somewhere warm and dark, and wait.

The amount of time it takes for a piece of wood to start spalting will vary by species, fungi, temperature, and the size of the piece. Because moving the wood slows the spalting, it is best to place a few small sample pieces of wood in the container at the start of the experiment.

After six weeks, remove a sample block, clean off the vermiculite, and inspect the amount of spalting. Check every two weeks until there is enough.

Starting at six weeks, remove a block every two weeks to check it for softness and color. If you like what you have, remove the board from the bin or bag. If not, wait another two weeks and check again.

After removing the spalted board from the vermiculite, allow it to air-dry. When ready to work, lightly plane or sand the surface and apply a clear finish to display the spalting.

Once you remove the spalted wood from its container, make sure to air-dry it before use (unless you will be turning it that day). The fungi will continue to colonize the wood until the moisture content drops below 20%.

A note on spalted wood and your health: There is a misconception among many woodworkers that working with spalted wood is particularly dangerous. Most fungal spores are about as harmful to a healthy adult as wood dust, so if you sand spalted wood, wear a mask. However, people with immune system disorders should not work with spalted wood.



More On Spalting

Read Robinson's new column on spalting in the woodworking life blog: <http://www.finewoodworking.com/blog/woodworking-life/tag/spalting>

Meet the fungi that create spalted wood and learn how it occurs in the wild:

<http://www.finewoodworking.com/Materials/MaterialsArticle.aspx?id=32485>

Learn how to work with spalted wood:

<http://www.finewoodworking.com/SkillsAndTechniques/SkillsAndTechniquesArticle.aspx?id=32486>

Find out how to make your own spalted wood:

<http://www.finewoodworking.com/SkillsAndTechniques/SkillsAndTechniquesArticle.aspx?id=32484>

Photos: Mark Schofield

June's
Wednesday demo
was given by
Willie Reveille.





Advanced



Experienced



Beginners



Artistic

Competitions Pieces 2017

AUG - Clock
SEP - A Hollow Form
OCT - Three-legged Stool

NOV - AGM
DEC - Christmas Item

Who were the winners 10
years ago - July 2007



Adv - Seamus O'Reilly



Exp - Malcolm Hill



Beg - Brian Kelly

April Competition Winners



Beginners - Colm Murphy



Advanced - Michael Fay



Experienced - Alan Smyth



Artistic - Paul Murtagh

June's **Wednesday Gallery** featured the work of Pat Walsh.



Trade Stands at the Saturday Meetings for 2017.

Aug	The Hut	Nov	The Wood Shed
Sept	The Carpentry Store	Dec	The Hut
Oct	The Carpentry Store	Jan 18	The Wood Shed

Current Competition Positions

Advanced

NAME	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	August	September	October	Nov	TOTAL
Tony Hartney	15	13	11	15	13	11	13						91
Martin Boyle	13												13
Sean Ryan	11	7	5	6	7								36
Pecelli O'Rourke	9		5										14
Pat Walsh Enniskerry		9	5	9									23
Sean Earls			5										5
Adrian Finely		6	9	7									22
Jonathan Widgam		5											5
Seamus O'Reilly		5	5										10
Frank Maguire	7		5										12
David Sweeney		5	7	11	11								34
Bob Finley			13										13
Paul Murtagh			5		7	9	11						32
James Gallagher			5										5
Joe O'Neill				5									5
Paddy Finn					9								9
Michael Fay		15	15	13	15	15	15						88
Pat Walsh (Big)						13							13
Cecil Barron		11	6										17

Experienced.

NAME	dec	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	November	TOTAL
John Duff	15	15	13	15			13						71
Michael Jordan	13				0								13
John Sheeran		13				0							13
Dicey Reilly		11											11
Alan Smyth			15				15						30
Kevin McCormack			11										11

Beginners

NAME	dec	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	November	TOTAL
Colm Murphy	15	15	15	15	15	13	15						103
Michael Colclough			13										13
Renee Kennedy			11	9			9						29
Phillips Gaynor				6									6
Milk McWilliams							6						6
Anthony Carolan			7	11			7						25
Michael Quinn					12		13						26
Mike Simms						15							15
Robert Dowdall		13											13
Tommy Hartnett		11	9	13	11	11	11						66

Artistic

NAME	dec	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	November	TOTAL
Cecil Barron	15	15	13	9	11	13	13						89
Paul Murtagh	13		15			5	15						48
Seamus O'Reilly			11	15	15	11							52
Pat Walsh (Big)						15							15
Michael Colclough			9										9
Tony Hartney			7	13		9							29
Ruth Wallace			6										6
Anthony Carolan			5										5
Renee Kennedy			5										5
Adrian Finely				11									11
Pat Walsh (Ennis)					13								13
Colm Murphy						7							7
Tony Hartnett						6							6



Charlie Caffrey, Tim McGill, Hugh Flynn.
Last issue Peter Mulvaney remembered a trip to Stockport, UK, in his piece about Hugh Flynn. This is a picture of the 3 of them. Thanks to Peter for this photo.

EST 1995

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HOTEL & LEISURE CLUB



We look forward to welcoming you to the
Glenroyal Hotel & Leisure Centre, Maynooth, Co.Kildare
this coming October for the
Irish Woodturners Guild Conference
Book your accommodation before 18th August 2017
to avail of these great rates.
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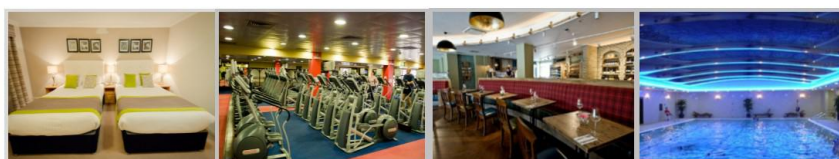
Packages

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Single Stayer: €210.00

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- * Saints Bar & Shoda Cafe



IWG National Seminar 14/15th October - Booking Form

BOOK AND PAY BEFORE 30th JUNE 2017 FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A FREE SEMINAR

Use this form to book your IWG Seminar 2017 place at the Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth
NB: Demonstrations start at 9am on Saturday 14 October and finish at 2.15pm on Sunday 15 October 2017 followed
By Sunday Lunch at 2.30pm.

IWG Membership No: AWGB / AAW Membership No:
Chapter: *If applicable (IWG member rate applies
Name: To members of AWGB and AAW)
Address:
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..... Telephone No:
..... Mobile No:
..... e-mail:

BELOW PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE ACCOMMODATION

CHECK LATEST SEMINAR PRICES AT www.irishwoodturnersguild.com

SEE WEBSITE AND JOURNAL FOR HOTELS AND B&B THAT ARE AVAILABLE

UNDER 18YRS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A FEE PAYING ADULT DELEGATE

Delegate Fee Rate	IWG Member	Non Member	U18/Student
Full 2 Day Seminar (all meals included)	€185 / £158	€195 / £166	€90 / £77
Saturday Only Including Lunch (not including Saturday night meal)	€90 / £77	€100 / £85	€35 / £30
Sunday Only Including Lunch	€80 / £68	€85 / £72	€35 / £30
Full Seminar (No meals Included)	€130 / £110	€135 / £115	€20 / £17

PLEASE NOTE SUNDAY LUNCH STARTS AT 2.30PM

Tea / Coffee & biscuits: breaks included on both days

All extra meals can be pre- booked at the prices below

Meal	Quantity	Cost	Total
Saturday Lunch (hot Lunch tea/coffee)		€14/ £12	
Saturday Night Dinner		€30 / £26	
Sunday Lunch (hot lunch, dessert & tea/coffee)		€18 / £15	

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- (1) Cheque
- (2) Bank Transfer: Euro Account IBAN: IE81 AIBK 9333 8424 2041 72 (BIC AIBKIE2D)
- (3) Sterling Account IBAN: GB58 BOFI 9022 9033 8294 48
- (4) PayPal: treasurer@irishwoodturnersguild.com

I enclose a cheque for (Please make payable to The Irish Woodturners' Guild)

If U18: Name of accompanying Adult Tick Relationship Family ☐ Friend ☐
I have read and accept the terms and conditions Teacher ☐ Other ☐

Signed..... Date ____/____/____.

Please send completed Booking Form and cheque or other details of payment to

Tom Dunlop, Shanbough, New Ross, Co. Wexford. Y34 NT25

Phone: 00353 51 421032 Seminar 2017 terms and conditions are on the IWG website & Journal