



Irish Woodturners' Guild Dublin Chapter

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Aug-Sept 2002 issue



HOLLOW FORM BY THE LATE TIM MCGILL

Editorial

There's not a great deal of news from the Chapter at this time of the year. The monthly meetings are well attended and despite the problems the college have with their essential summer maintenance we are always accommodated, even to the extent of allowing us to change the September meeting to 31st August. We are indeed fortunate in having such a venue and such generous and helpful landlords.

Many in the Chapter are looking forward to our visit to Holyhead on Sept 7th 2002. The ferry leaves Dun Laoire at 0630 so you need to be there well before then. At least seven demonstrators are lined up for the day so it promises to be a very interesting trip. Bring some spare cash in case you find something worthwhile in Albert's shop; he often has tools and various timber blanks for sale. Contact Peter Mulvaney on 01-2802745 if you need further information.

Now that the Cork seminar is behind us-see report elsewhere- the next one to consider is the National, again in Gort, on October 11th, 12th and 13th. Wish I was going as the line-up of demonstrators is impressive, not to mention the great food and meeting of like minds. So, since I can't make it myself I will depend on others to supply me with a report on how they found the experience. Nothing elaborate, your own words and if you have a photo or two, so much the better. I promise to return anything important, except money!

Without the contributions I get from people like Michael Forde, Hugh Flynn, Joe O'Neill, Peter Mulvaney, William O'Callaghan, and a few others who will forgive me, I hope, for omitting their names, it would be impossible to get this newsletter out. I thank you all. And now there is a new contributor to watch and she is Christien van Bussel whose work here should amuse you as much as it did me. Don't forget to thank these people the next time you see them at the Terenure meeting. —————*Chris Hayes*

A worthy cause

Many members will remember the late Tim McGill as one of our finest turners, but he was also one of those people with great concern for others and was responsible for the close association between the Chapter and the Alzheimer Association. Now, the Committee want to commemorate Tim by having an open competition, to be judged on the first day of our exhibition of members work at the South Dublin county council offices in Tallaght during December next. Items entered in the competition are considered donated to this charity although if you wish, you may buy yours back. Entries need not be especially made for the competition but should be priced realistically. —————John Holmes

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box

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For the future

Demo for October-
Frank Foley, table lamp

Competition-October
Advanced/experienced
Pedestal fruit bowl
Beginners
Non-pedestal fruit bowl

July Demonstration

Mushrooms and small itemsby Des McMahon.

As Des settled into position behind the lathe his relaxed unassuming manner set the scene for a most enjoyable demonstration. He started with a mushroom, and since mushrooms come in many different shapes he decided on a free standing, common shaped, natural edge type. After mounting a yew branch approx. 3 ins. long and approx. 2 ins. dia. in his Record chuck the crown was shaped using a gouge, shear scraping for the smoothest finish. Stem and base were initially shaped using a gouge, then a small skew to finish the stem and undercut the head. Des explained that the base should be stable and in proportion to the head. When satisfied with the shape a slight sanding and sealing was followed with two applications of Hut wax, (a hard wax similar to Carnuba), applied to the rotating work and friction melted in. Parting off, removal of the spud and a hand sand to the base completed this part.

Making a mushroom box was next demonstrated by Des. Again a yew branch 5/6 ins. long and 2/3 ins. in dia. was dovetailed at each end to suit the chuck. With one end chuck mounted and using tail stock support at other end, the box and lid were roughly shaped with the gouge. The lid was then parted off and box hollowing commenced. A 1/2 inch hole was drilled to mark the depth and then opened up to size from the centre outwards with a hollowing tool, which was made from a 1/2 inch H.S. steel bar having a flat with an edge ground on end, (see sketch) held horizontal on the centre line, Des called it the centre of tranquility, and a very tranquil and speedy end grain hollowing job he carried out. Correct depth markings were used on drill and hollowing tool. With inside hollowing completed the skew was used to finish the outside and to prepare the top to fit recess in lid. All sanding, sealing and polishing completed the box which was then replaced in the chuck by the lid. Inside of lid was hollowed to shape and a recess for box bottom cut and adjusted, using the skew mostly, and frequently checking until a satisfactory fitting lid was achieved. Inside of lid then finished. With the box bottom then fitted in the chuck, and the lid fitted to the box and supported by tail stock, shaping of lid was completed, followed by sanding and finishing with tailstock removed. Bottom then parted off to complete the mushroom box. The bark was retained on lid and bottom for natural edge effect and polish was two applications of Hut wax.

Lastly, Des demonstrated making small items from small bits of timber, rapidly turning a goblet

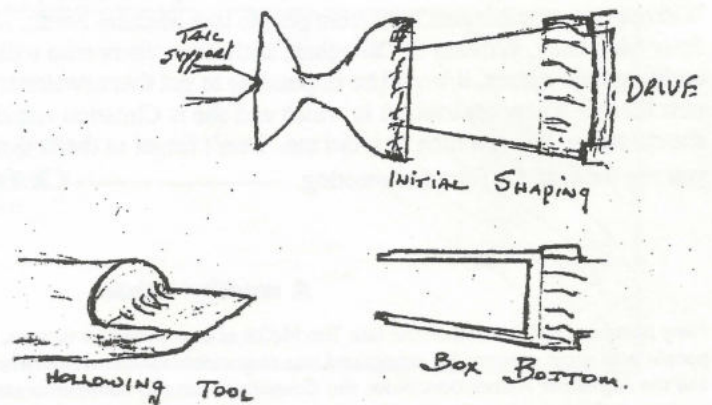


from a 1 inch square of yew 2 inches long, finished size approx 30% less. Using homemade tools from masonry nails to shape and hollow, Des emphasised, "let the tools do the work with such small items, otherwise breakages will occur and such small work would result in improved tool control". A member of the audience was heard to remark "it's also very sparing on sandpaper"

Des made it all look so easy as he nonchalantly demonstrated his skills; it is little wonder he is so far ahead in the competition table.

Thank you Des for a most informative and enjoyable morning.

Michael Forde

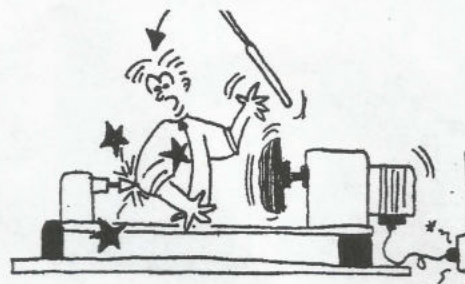


Notes from the August 3rd Meeting at Terenure College

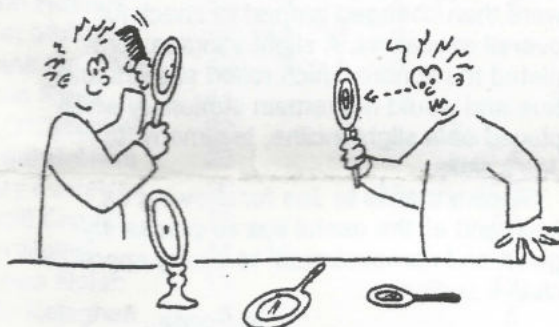
In his customary address to the members (or introductory spiel as some ungraciously call it) our Chairman Seamus highlighted the importance of safety, such as removing the sharp tailstock centre if not required whilst turning. Otherwise you could suffer a puncture, see sketch.

Seamus invited all to support the forthcoming competition to commemorate Tim McGill.

To facilitate the timely start to the proceeding he appeals to members to arrive sufficiently early to have all pre-meeting chores, e.g. returning books or videos, entering competition pieces, dealt with in time so as to be in the auditorium by 10am. In turn the chairman will do his utmost to have all notices ,etc, dealt with by 10.15 to enable the demo to start without further delay.



The competition this month was a hand mirror and attracted an interesting number of ideas. It also gave the judges an opportunity to check on their hair or make-up without anyone noticing. See Christien's view on this.



Failte

**Welcome to Pat Maher,
our newest member**

Editor's comment

The contributions on this page are just what I need to help make the newsletter more readable. Could you come up with something similar? Your own or culled from some other source, I don't mind. Do try.

Woodturning

Fashioned of spirit and light
The heart of the tree
Encased in deadwood
Retains its dignity and reveals
Its inner secrets
Spalded ribs, sapwood, heart
Respond to the gentle touch
As form, shape and beauty
Emerges to salute a new life
In a whirlpool of energy
To honour its Creator.

Una Sheeran



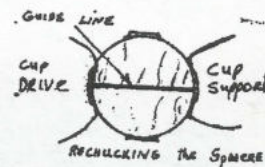
August Demonstration

Spheres by Joe O'Neill

As Joe was getting all his requirements in order for his demonstration, he entertained us with his description of some of the humorous aspects of his recent trip to the U.S.A. and of his contacts with his turning brotherhood there, and specifically sphere turning, which he was now going to demonstrate. He passed around a couple of spheres he had recently turned, tennis ball size approx.; one of yew and the other of camphor laurel with its attractive brown streaks. He then went through the safety checks on the lathe checking for security and satisfactory condition and operation, correct speed selected, and advising us to use hardwood. He mounted a cylindrical piece of beech, 80mm. approx. in dia. and 120mm. approx. long between centres using a ring centre drive. Laying his tools in position, with their polystyrene guards to protect the edge, he showed us the abrasive discs mounted on a faceplate, (similar to the Sorby type) which gives him a smooth bevel, together with a diamond slipstone. After turning the beech to a balanced cylinder with the roughing gouge, he produced the vernier and marked a cylinder of length equal to the diameter and then a broad line in centre of this marked cylinder. This guide line should remain intact until final sanding. Using mostly the parting tool the excess length was turned away to a sturdy spigot at each end leaving the previously marked cylinder.

After placing a white sheet of paper on the bed bars to give a white background; using a 3/8 ins. spindle gouge and sighting aids such as a tennis ball and appropriately arc shaped template, Joe removed the corners and started the curves. He pointed out

side and he demonstrated removing and reversing the driving end without stopping the lathe,— an advantage of the ring drive centre. Using the spindle gouge and skew in cutting or scraping modes, the final shaping in this plane was completed. Removal and rechucking between hollow cups, (for friction drive) and centrally on the initially marked guide line was then done, and the previously used mounting spigots were sawn off.



Again the sharp tools were delicately used until the spherical outline appeared correct; no shadows or blurring showing up against the white background. The mounting points were then changed around to check for overall exactness. A slight sanding completed the sphere which rolled straight and true and would not remain stationary when placed on a slight incline, testimony to Joe's skills.

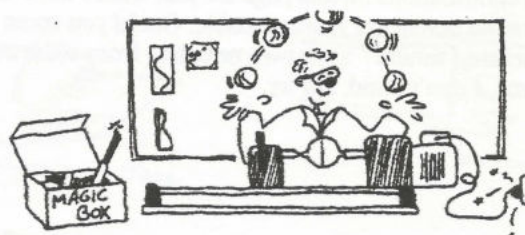
Sincere thanks to Joe for showing us how; and all the useful tips so pleasantly given and demonstrated to a very appreciative audience.

M.Forde..

Here Joe is helping the cameraman



And Joe the entertainer



Monthly Competition results

2001-2002

<u>Advanced</u>	<u>score</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>
Des McMahon	129	15	15	15	15	13	15	15	11	15
Philip Kerr	43			13		6			15	9
Seamus Carter	42				7			11	13	11
Albert Sloane	35			11	13	11				
Cecil Barron	29		11		9	9				
Michael McGee	24		13		11					
Henry East	15					15				
Eddie O'Reilly	15			9	6					
Owen Furniss	13							13		
John Wetherall	13	13								
Albert Dooley	13									13
Tony Lally	7					7				
	0									

Experienced

Pat Walsh	94	9	15	13	13	9	11	9	9	6
Seamus O'Reilly	81	15		7	9	5	9	13	8	15
Theo Elliott	70							<u>48</u>	11	11
M. Fitzpatrick	69			15	15	15			15	9
Niall Cahill	54							<u>54</u>		
John Holmes	54	6		5	11	6		<u>6</u>	7	13
Tom McKeon	52	13	13	9				11	6	
Frank Gallagher	46	7	11	6			15	7		
Sean Ryan	44						<u>37</u>			7
W.O'Callaghan	22				<u>22</u>					
Donal Browne	20					5		15		
Gary Forrester	18			11		7				
Geoff Cronin	13					13				
Jim Molloy	11	11								
James Nolan	11					11				
Billy Keleghan	5					5				
Chris Hayes	5							5		

Beginners

<u>Beginners</u>	<u>score</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>
N. Bannister	74	6		9	9	11	15	7	11	6
Paddy Finn	46	7		6	5	6			15	7
G. Brislane	37							13	9	15
Janete Mulkern	31				13	9		9		
Pat Lambert	22	11						11		
Irene Christie	22								13	9
Eugene Colgan	18				7					11
Kevin Dowling	18					5				13
Dermot Hill	7			7						
Tom Delaney	6							6		

Cork Seminar August 2002

"This was my second visit to the Cork Chapter's Annual Seminar and once again I found it to be very enjoyable and educational. Who could ask for more than to sit with Paddy Lynch and Ned O'Donnell during the lunch break - the stories got better as one outshone the other.

The demonstrators chose very exciting items to show. Francis Morrin has found a new way to clean out large vases in the keyhole surgery mode. Tobias Kay was completely new to me, both in his style of turning and his emphasis on sharp tools. Dick Chapman completed two new items, a new style of inside out lamp and vase. As for Paddy Lynch, what can one say about him? He is the only person I know who can do beautiful turning while spinning stories and paying more attention to the people watching him.

The final word of praise must be for the members of the Committee whose hard work and planning resulted in a great day for all the attendants. To achieve this, the members themselves had to sacrifice seeing even one of the demonstrators at work. It may be a consolation for them to realise just how much others enjoyed a wonderful day. Thank you."

PS: I managed a prize in the competition too, so I was even more pleased with the day!

Donal Browne

Please note :The best 10 scores out of 11 to count



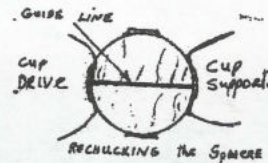
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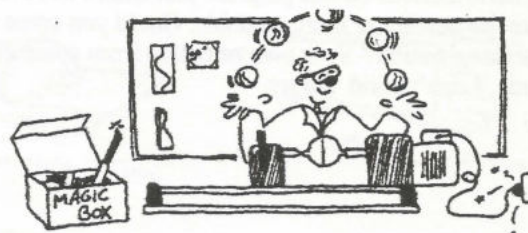
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Secretary—Paeili O'Rourke, 161 Belgard Heights, Tallaght, D24, Tel. 01-4515276

Treasurer—James Gallagher, 25 Osprey Ave, Tempogue, Dublin, Tel. 01-4505981

Workshops—Frank Gallagher, 3 Rosemore Close, Tempogue, Dublin, Tel. 01-4902879

Videos/ books—Terry Cruise, 26 Dun Emer Drive, Sandyford Road, Dendrum, Tel. 01-29563

Competitions—John Holmes, 31 Clonkeen Road, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Tel. 01-2894193

Tom Gibson, 124 Lorcan Ave, Dublin 9, Tel. 01-8420634

Una Sheeran, 4 Grange Road, Grange Abbey, Dublin, Tel. 01-8473413

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Special note

Competition entries to this year's Seminar in Gort will qualify for submission to the Kilkenny National Craft Council Gallery, on view between November 7th and December 1st 2002.

Items will be selected by demonstrators appointed by the Guild committee.



Cecil Barron
223 Ashley Rise
Portmarnock
Co. Dublin

