

Dublin Chapter Newsletter

May 2017

Inside This Issue:

- ▷ April Demo. Christy Glynn - P1.
- ▷ WD-40 Explained - P2.
- ▷ DWT May 6th Seminar Schedule- P4.
- ▷ The Wednesday Gallery - P5.
- ▷ Woodturning in Castillon, Spain - P7.



April Demo - Christy Glynn

Those of us who are familiar with Christy Glynn's work always look forward to his demonstrations, so we had a full house as expected. Christy has been known to get lost and he did. Joe O'Neill had to go to rescue him.

The members arriving on a Saturday never seem to know how many people are involved in preparing and setting up our monthly demo. Arranging the seating, assembling the rostrum, setting up our book club moving the lathe, Jackie preparing the tea break and lots more. We have so many who volunteer willingly that we are inclined to overlook them.

Christy soon had his sleeves rolled up and was ready to go. Today he started with (spinning) his old Dublin word for turning. He put a 3" square of sepele between centres, the corners having been sawn off. He explained how to set it out to make a spindle for a small table with three legs to be used as a plant stand or a wine table. He brought four turning tools with him to do the job. He left areas that he could carve later, or not. "Whatever you want to do to make it look nice" he

said. All of this continued with banter and anecdotes of when the family worked together in Parnell Street in Dublin. The mother allocated the work. It was good work, but if your brother did more than you, then this created rivalry and produced more work.

Then he got to the section a lot of us eagerly awaited, the carving. He produced three legs on the band sawn to the shape that could produce several legs in the Queen style (whatever you want, just do it). When asked "did you ever read a book or watch a D.V.D. about carving " he answered, "I did, but it just didn't work for me". There was not a sound from the audience they hung on his every word.

He took out his carving tools - they were carried in a cone made from a cornflake box wrapped in tape. Using one of the leg blanks and securing the work in a sash clamp secured in a workmate which had to be weighted down with our small lathe, he turned a Queen Anne claw and ball. He then decided to carve a shell on one side of a leg and a leaf on the other side. Talking to himself he said "I'll make a template, then I won't bother". No measurements, no sketch on the wood, he just did it. A lot of the unwanted wood was removed with a spokeshave.

This man is priceless: there will never be his like again. Christy is now the newest member of the Dublin Chapter. Thank you Christy, Peter Mulvaney.



Roger Bennett will be our demonstrator for June.

"Roger Bennett's woodturned bowls ... are stunning, beautifully made sculptural objects." - Aidan Dunne, The Irish Times.

Roger's work can be seen at www.rogerbennettwoodturner.com



Who was winning 10 years ago?

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



Advanced



Experienced



Beginners

Answers towards the back.

What Is The Main Ingredient of WD-40? via J. O'Neill

Before you read to the end, do you know what the main ingredient of WD-40 is?

WD-40 ~ Who knew!

I had a neighbor who bought a new pickup. I got up very early one Sunday morning and saw that someone had spray painted red all around the sides of this beige truck (for some unknown reason). I went over, woke him up, and told him the bad news. He was very upset and was trying to figure out what to do ... probably nothing until Monday morning, since nothing was open. Another neighbor came out and told him to get his WD-40 and clean it off. It removed the unwanted paint beautifully and did not harm his paint job that was on the truck. I was impressed!

WD-40 who knew? "Water Displacement #40".

The product began from a search for a rust preventative solvent and degreaser to protect missile parts. WD-40 was created in 1953, by three technicians at the San Diego Rocket Chemical Company. Its name comes from the project that was to find a 'Water Displacement' Compound. They were finally successful for a formulation, with their fortieth attempt, thus WD-40.

The 'Convair Company' bought it in bulk to protect their atlas missile parts (made in their Kearny Mesa plant). Ken East (one of the original founders) says there is nothing in WD-40 that would hurt you.

When you read the 'shower door' part, try it. It's the first thing that has ever cleaned that spotty shower door. If yours is plastic, it works just as well as on glass. It's a miracle!

Then try it on your stove-top. It's now shinier than it's ever been. You'll be amazed!

Some WD-40 Uses:

1. Protects silver from tarnishing.
2. Removes road tar and grime from cars
3. Cleans and lubricates guitar strings.
4. Gives floor that 'just-waxed' sheen without making them slippery.
5. Keeps the flies off of Cows, Horses, and other Farm Critters, as well. (Ya gotta love this one!!!)
6. Restores and cleans chalkboards.
7. Removes lipstick stains.
8. Loosens stubborn zippers.
9. Untangles jewelry chains.
10. Removes stains from stainless steel sinks.
11. Removes dirt and grime from the barbecue grill.

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Saturday

June - Roger Bennett (tbc)	October - Pat Walsh
July - Kieran Reynolds	November - AGM
August - Michael Fay	December - Joe O'Neill
September - John Doran	

Wednesday

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

12. Keeps ceramic/terracotta garden pots from oxidizing.
13. Removes tomato stains from clothing.
14. Keeps glass shower doors free of water spots.
15. Camouflages scratches in ceramic and marble floors.
16. Keeps scissors working smoothly.
17. Lubricates noisy door hinges on both home and vehicles doors.
18. It removes that nasty tar and scuff marks from the kitchen flooring. It doesn't seem to harm the finish and you won't have to scrub nearly as hard to get them off. Just remember to open some windows if you have a lot of marks.
19. Remove those nasty bug guts that will eat away the finish on your car if not removed quickly!
20. Gives a children's playground gym slide a shine for a super fast slide.
21. Lubricates gearshift and mower deck lever for ease of handling on riding mowers.
22. Rids kids rocking chair and swings of squeaky noises.
23. Lubricates tracks in sticking home windows and makes them easier to open.
24. Spraying an umbrella stem makes it easier to open and close.
25. Restores and cleans padded leather dashboards in vehicles, as well as vinyl bumpers.
26. Restores and cleans roof racks on vehicles.
27. Lubricates and stops squeaks in electric fans.
28. Lubricates wheel sprockets on tricycles, wagons, and bicycles for easy handling.
29. Lubricates fan belts on washers and dryers and keeps them running smoothly.
30. Keeps rust from forming on saws and saw blades, and other tools.
31. Removes grease splatters from stove-tops.
32. Keeps bathroom mirror from fogging.
33. Lubricates prosthetic limbs.
34. Keeps pigeons off the balcony (they hate the smell).
35. Removes all traces of duct tape.
36. Folks even spray it on their arms, hands, and knees to relieve arthritis pain.
37. Florida 's favorite use is: 'cleans and removes love bugs from grills and bumpers.'
38. The favorite use in the state of New York , it protects the Statue of Liberty from the elements.
39. WD-40 attracts fish. Spray a little on live bait or lures and you will be catching the big one in no time. Also, it's a lot cheaper than the chemical attractants that are made for just that purpose. Keep in mind though, using some chemical laced baits or lures for fishing are not allowed in some states.
40. Use it for fire ant bites. It takes the sting away immediately and stops the itch.
41. It is great for removing crayon from walls. Spray it on the marks and wipe with a clean rag.
42. Also, if you've discovered that your teenage daughter has washed and dried a tube of lipstick with a load of laundry, saturate the lipstick spots with WD-40 and rewash. Presto! The lipstick is gone!
43. If you spray it inside a wet distributor cap, it will displace the moisture, allowing the engine to start.

P.S. As for that Basic, Main Ingredient.....
Well.... it's FISH OIL....

April Competition Entrants



Advanced



Beginners



Artistic

Annual Seminar 6th May - Schedule.

09.00am to 10.00am - Registration
 10.00am to 11.30am - 1st demo:- Beaded bowl with beaded rim.
 11.30am to 12.00pm - Tea Break
 12.00pm to 01.30pm - 2nd demo:- Occasional table.
 01.30pm to 02.30pm - Lunch
 02.30pm to 04.00pm - 3rd demo:- Sugar bowl with lid
 04.00pm to 04.30pm - Raffle and competition prize-giving, and farewell.

Competitions Pieces 2017

APR - 250 x 60 x 60	JUL - Fruit	OCT - Three-legged Stool
MAY - Open	AUG - Clock	NOV - AGM
JUN - Lam/Segmented	SEP - A Hollow Form	DEC - Christmas Item

Who were the winners 10 years ago - May 2007



Adv - Michael Fay



Exp - John Killoran



Beg - Tony Hartney

April Competition Winners



Artistic - Seam O'Reilly



Advanced - Michael Fay



Beginners - Colm Murphy

April's Wednesday Gallery featuring the work of Paul Murtagh



Trade Stands at the Saturday Meetings for 2017.

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

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								67
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								12
James Gallagher			5										5
Joe O'Neill				5									5
Paddy Finn					9								9
Michael Fay		15	15	13	15								58
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									58
Michael Jordan	13				0								13
John Sheeran		13											13
Dacey Reilly		11											11
Alan Smyth			15										15
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								75
Michael Colclough			13										13
Renee Kennedy			11	9									20
Phillips Gaynor				6									6
Anthony Carolan			7	11									18
Michael Quinn					12								12
Robert Dowdall		13											13
Tommy Hartnett		11	9	13	11								44

Artistic

NAME	dec	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	November	TOTAL
Cecil Barron	15	15	13	9	11								63
Paul Murtagh	13		15										28
Seamus O'Reilly			11	15	15								41
Michael Colclough			9										9
Tony Hartney			7	13									20
Ruth Wallace			6										6
Anthony Carolan			5										5
Renee Kennedy			5										5
Adrian Finely				11									11
Pat Walsh (Ennis)					13								13

Woodturning in Castellón.

In a recent trip in Spain I witnessed two things: the making of the most delicate piece of woodturning that I have ever seen, and the electrocution of wood.

It was my pleasure to attend the a 2-day seminar of ATORCAS (Asociación de Torneros de Castellón) in the beautiful village of Vilafamés in the province of Castellón (see the picture).

On a warm March morning 50 enthusiasts, and a few curious tourists, sat before Jean Francois Escoulen, founder of the Escoulen School of Woodturning in Provence, S.E France (www.escoulen.com/en/). You may remember Yan Marrot, a teacher from the same school who demonstrated for us in Dublin in September 2015.



Off-Centre Pieces - Jean Francois Escoulen

Jean is a master of off-centre turning and he started by showing us the simplest method, which was between centres, but changing the centres. In this case he changed between three centres marked at each end of the wooden blank. He quickly produced two examples that showed a variety of off-centre effects all with an excellent finish quality (see photo).

Off-Centre Box - Jean Francois Escoulen

After a short break, he proceeded to make an artistic box on a stem, the lid of which served as a holder for a spoon. For this he used a Vicmarc eccentric shuck designed to his requirements which he had a rotatable cup at its centre that the piece was jammed into. He firstly turned the spoon. Excuse the lack of detail. The demo was narrated in French by Jean, then translated into Spanish for the audience. I am fluent in neither.

Then, with a fresh blank, he set about turning the lid of the box. Initially positioning the blank on its spigot in the centre cup, Jean needed to tap the blank into a centre position/alignment. So he removed the tool rest and used the post as a hammer. One less tool to buy! He finished the inside of the lid and put it aside and then mounted another blank from which to make the bottom (using the tool rest again). The first task was to form the bottom of the box and to ensure that the lid fitted on. In this case, the base fitted inside the lid and he ensure a good fit by offering up the lid with the bottom of the lid "engaged", as he turned the spigot that would eventually fit inside the lid. A tricky coordination of moving parts undoubtedly fine-tuned by lots of practice, but the advantage was that it required no measuring, and it was quick, because it avoided having to cut, then test the fit, then cut again and retest the fit, etc., etc..

Happy with the fit, he then taped the lid to the bottom (for safety) and finished the outside of the lid, including a holder for the spoon. Jean then finished the bottom of the box, the stem and the base, which showed off the versatility of the eccentric Vicmarc chuck (see photo).

Electric Platter - Javier Palacios

After an excellent lunch, we resumed in the afternoon for an equally interesting demonstration. Javier Palacios from Lugones in Asturias, started out by turning a platter. He did this in fairly traditional steps. With the piece held by a recess in the base, the top was only partly finished. An area in the centre was left unturned – it would eventually become the bowl at the centre of the platter. The surfaces turned so far, were sanded. Then, the platter, still in the chuck, was removed to a nearby work-table.



Javier then proceeded to make a mixture of bicarbonate of soda and water, which was painted on the back surface of the platter. He was then joined by Antonio (a local electrician – no, he was a fellow woodturner) who assisted in the fun part.

Donning a pair of rubber gloves and standing on a rubber mat, Javier then produced a pair of electrodes and took a stance over the platter like a matador. With comments



such as “how would you like your steak done, Olé, and a few others that I did not understand but seemed to be about health insurance, he used a foot-switch to turn on the electrical current and placed the electrodes on the platter. This passed a current through the fluid on the outside of the platter and with a lot of smoke and some fire, left an interesting pattern burnt into the wood. He repeated the process with the electrodes in different positions and when he was happy with the overall effect he repeated the process on the top of the platter.

After drying off any remaining fluid with a hair dryer and brushing the surface with a soft wire brush, the platter was returned to the lathe where it was sanded. This removed the sooty unburnt areas, but left the more burnt, blackened pattern. The unburnt, centre of the top of the platter was then turned into a bowl and it was ready for finishing. An example of the pattern produced can be seen in the photo another of Javier’s pieces. An entertaining demo that had everyone talking and joking.



"Trembler" - Jean Francois Escoulen

Day 2 was equally pleasant – it was unusually warm for the middle of March. Jean Francois was demonstrating again and he outlined his intention to make one of his signature pieces, a “trembler”. It was so named because it is flexible enough to sway or tremble when moved. I was nervous even picking one up! Take a look at the photo of the finished piece and imagine the skill and patience requires to make something like this.

As with anything this shape, the wood must be perfect. No knots, cracks or variations in the grain. He used a local French pear wood, but he also recommended holly or boxwood for its straight grain.

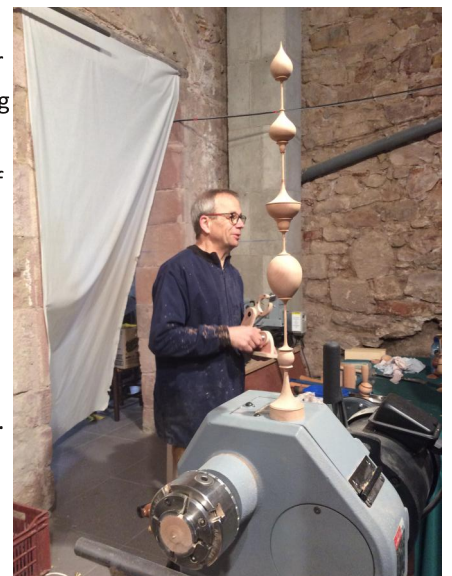
His blank was 30 – 40 cm long and apart from using a roughing gouge at the start, Jean only used two tools, a spindle gouge and the bedan (remember that). I was so transfixed by this demo that I took few notes, so excuse any sketchiness. Having trued the blank to round with the intended base in the chuck and the top supported by a live centre,, Jean put in place a commercial steady (can’t remember the name) about 10 cm from the top. He rounded off the end to make a finial at the top and then shaped a very slender (2.5 mm) stem-like piece below it. The tail stock was removed and the first of his own steadies fixed in place. The steady had magnetic feet which sat on the lathe bed, and the C-shaped top had 4 screws, around which nylon thread



was wound and also around the 2.5 mm stem for support. The commercial steady was moved further down the piece and a second finial/ball was turned. This process was repeated twice more, such that the emerging trembler was finally supported by three home-made steadies, the commercial steady being removed after finial /ball #3.

As each new steady was introduced, Jean was very careful to start the lathe slowly and on increasing the speed listen for any suspicious vibration. Also, as the demo progressed, the level of nervous excitement increased in the audience.

Having shaped the base, he then came to the critical part – the parting off. It required a second person to take the tool from his hand as the base of the trembler needed both of Jean’s hands to steady it as the final cut was made. After unravelling the piece from the steadies, the trembler finally emerged and a sigh of relief rose from the audience. An exquisitely delicate piece of work that got a rousing round of applause.



There are a few pictures of other pieces that were displayed from Jean and other Spanish woodturners.

At mid-day on the second day, the seminar was over. A lively and evocative 2 days of woodturning. On a personal note, my thanks to Sercio Gasullas, the president of ATORCAS, for organising a lively and interesting event and for inviting me to attend. I hope to be back there next year. Hasta el año que viene.

Mike Sims.