



GALWAY CHAPTER NEWS

Issue 85

Oct 2010

Exhibition preparations on the way

It is great that the exhibition is coming up soon. It gives us all a boost to get out into the workshop and get turning. The challenge this month is to make something for the wall. Ballybane library has a lot of walls. It would be great if we had a few nice pieces to display on them.

Selection of the exhibition pieces will be done on Sunday 28th November. That leaves us with about two months. Julie Heryet will demonstrate on Saturday 27th November.

The workshop in September was great as usual. Tim and Des created the shavings. For a change,

guests were asked to bring along any turned pieces they had made. The photographs overleaf show the quality of the work. If we bring our work every time we meet then we may have more turning for the exhibition.

Please bring a wall piece this Thursday, if you can. Discussing the pieces is one the (many) highlights of the monthly meetings.

Come along and have a bit of fun.

George Anderson

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Chairman: Tim Lydon
 Hon. Secretary: George Anderson
 Hon. Treasurer: Sean G Clancy
 Newsletter Editor: Martin Lodge
 Librarian: Tim Lydon

www.galwaywoodturners.com

Ordinary membership €54
 Family membership €57
 Student membership €10
 Associate membership €10

Chapter Proposed Events 2010

Date	Host	Location
21 st January	AGM Meeting	Maldron Hotel
28 th January	Nial O'Sullivan	Moycullen
4 th February	Meeting	Maldron Hotel
20 th February	George Anderson	Renmore
4 th March	Meeting	Maldron Hotel
25 th March	Sean G Clancy	Moycullen
1 st April	Meeting	Maldron Hotel
25 th April	Ambrose O'Halloran	Cregboy
6 th May	Meeting	Maldron Hotel
15 th May	Martin Lodge	Corofin
2 nd September	Meeting	Maldron Hotel
23 rd September	Tim Lydon	Moycullen
7th October	Meeting	Maldron Hotel
21st October	Workshop	To be arranged
4 th November	Meeting	Maldron Hotel
18 th November	Workshop	To be arranged
27 th November	Julie Heryet Demonstration	VENUE TBA
28 th November	Selection of pieces for exhibition	
29 th November	Setting up exhibits in Ballybane Library	
30 th November	Soft opening of Exhibition	
4 th December	Official opening of Exhibition	
Exhibition runs until end of December		

**Challenge piece is to turn a
Piece for the Wall**

SEPTEMBER CHALLENGE



GeorgeAnderson



First place
Martin Lodge



Tim Lydon



Second place
Tim Lydon

Third place
Tim Lydon



Tim Lydon's workshop with Des O'Halloran

Tim Lydon hosted a wonderful September workshop in Moycullen. We were all delighted to meet up again to see shavings fly. Tim, as usual had arranged fine entertainment, fine wine and fine dine. Thank you very much. Des O'Halloran was invited as a special guest for the evening. Whereas most of us could relax and enjoy the hospitality without responsibility, Des O'Halloran would have to earn his crust. No problem to Des.

It is a pleasure to watch Des turning. He stepped up to the lathe and turned out a beautiful spindle. Just like that! The plan had been sketched on a piece of paper detailing key measurements. These were transferred to the blank. A large semicircular bead was completed first. Des likes to use a 13mm skew for as much of his work as possible. It allows him to get a clean cut that requires little sanding. Des explained that many of his designs are the result of trial and error (and experience). By eyeing his spindles over the years he got used to what "looked well" and what did not. Appearance can be improved by increasing the depth of a cove or starting a transitional curve earlier. Tim said he liked the voluptuous curves in Des's spindles. Des's eyes twinkled when he talked about possible sources of inspiration.

In order to reproduce spindles it is important to mark initial measurements accurately. A template made from a piece of card can help. Des explained that it is sometimes necessary to remount the second spindle to make it like the first and to remount the first spindle to make it look like the third. They could all end up very thin in the end! Key thicknesses also need to be respected. The human eye will usually be quite forgiving after that. One trick shared on the night involved



using a 1 inch spanner to help gauge the diameter of a tennon. No open spanner could be found, however an adjustable spanner was set to 25mm and brought up to the spinning wood. The vibrations readjusted the spanner settings and were blamed for the 2% tolerance. To check a verneir calipers was used to double check the measurement. Des joked that he could not read the numbers on the scale but that he could (just) see the spanner.



The resulting spindle was very pleasing to the eye. Classic proportions have been copied for thousands of years, with good reason. Des talked about some of his scaled spindle models. Very nice they are too. Thank you for sharing your knowledge and good humour with us.



Next we all went into the house for refreshments. Beautiful tea, coffee, sandwiches, biscuits, cakes, apple tarts, whipped cream, more tea.....I then had to sit down for a while! As usual we were all spoiled. Thank you again.

As requested, turned pieces were brought to the workshop. There was a lovely array of beautiful work. See the photos! Well done everyone for showing us your work.



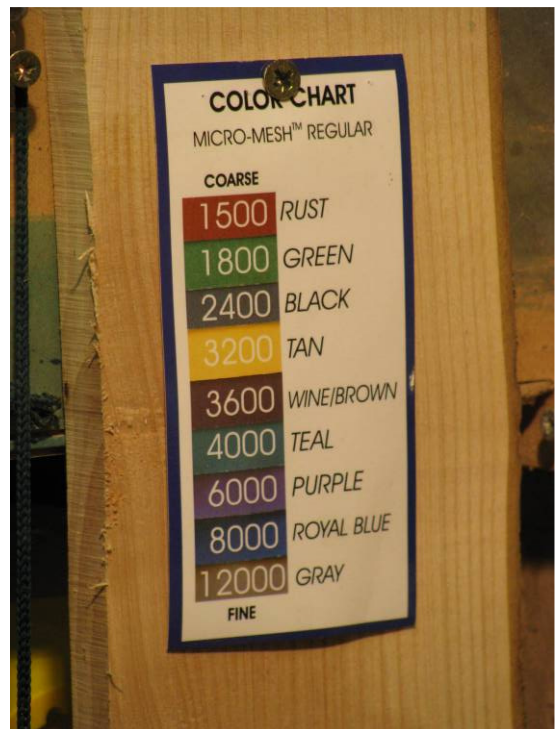
Tim had a fine stand of acrylic ballpoint pens on display. He showed us how to make one after tea. The kits come from America. They are of the highest quality, coming in different precious metal finishes. The acrylic blanks that Tim uses can be finished to a high gloss. The process of using an acrylic blank to make a pen is similar to that of using a wooden blank. Acrylic has some peculiar properties. Firstly it can be difficult to bore through the blank without causing it to burst. The secret is to withdraw the drill bit very often. American pen kits require imperial drill sizes. It makes the difference between an over tight fit, a loose fit and a perfect fit. It appears that there is no metric substitute for an imperial measurement!



Tim glues the metal barrel with superglue as usual, reams the ends off until the shiny metal of the barrel is visible, he places the blank on a 7mm mandrel and brings the acrylic down slowly. Again it is best to be patient. The more haste the more disaster. The blank can easily overheat and detach from the barrel. The acrylic blank is reduced in diameter until it is almost flush with the spacers. Tim chose to dome the shaft slightly. This improves the appearance of the finished product. Now it's time to sand, and sand, and sand. Down through the normal grits, down through the super fine grits and then down to the finest of fine grits. Acrylic needs to be properly finished or else it will not shine. One advantage of the material is its resistance to damage once it is properly finished. Tim showed us the pen kit parts. He pressed the top into the barrel using the vice, inserted the lower part of the pen, et voila all done. The pen was passed around and admired. Some tried to sneak it into their lapel pocket, some attempted slight of hand to vanish it away, none were quick enough, Tim knows the value of his work. Tim decided to present it to one of the young students in the crowd. A very kind gesture indeed. The pen will be put to good use writing essays in the near future. Good luck with the exams Des!

A big thank you to the Lydon household for looking after us all so well.

George Anderson





Photographed pieces on display at Tim's workshop.
Apologies for not getting a photograph of every piece.

