



**Galway Chapter
Irish Woodturners' Guild**
www.galwaywoodturners.com



NEWSLETTER OF THE GALWAY CHAPTER IRISH WOODTURNERS GUILD

January 2016



Ambrose O'Halloran
presenting the Frank
Kelly Memorial Trophy
to John Glynn as overall
winner of the Monthly
Challenge 2015



A new year...

Editor's Corner

Our get-together in December at the Maldron Hotel for our Annual Christmas party was a great success with a chance to chat without the time constraints of monthly meetings or workshops. At the end of 2015 Amby announced his decision to stand down as Chairman and one of his last official duties was to present the Frank Kelly Memorial Trophy to John Glynn as the overall winner of the 2015 Monthly Challenge competition. I think I speak for everyone in the Chapter when I say thank you to Amby for all his hard work over the past few years as Chairman and we look forward to him sitting down along the table with the rest of us.

The start of year meeting in early January helped blow away the cobwebs of Christmas and Martin Lodge was officially elected as our new Chairman.

We have workshops organised for the coming year but there are still volunteers required to host and to report for some months. If you would like to do either, have a look at the back page to see what dates suit and get in touch with John Glynn.

Our workshop this month was hosted by Brian Callan who demonstrated boxmaking. I don't think anybody minds that woodturning takes a backseat sometimes when we all get to learn something new and see craftsmanship at it's best.

Our next meeting in the Maldron will take place on February the 4th and the challenge piece is a **"plate"**.

Contact Information

Chairman: *Martin Lodge*
Hon. Secretary: *John Glynn*
Hon. Treasurer: *Paul Murphy*
Newsletter Editor: *John Burns*
Librarian: *Brian Callan*

Subscription Rates 2015

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

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January Challenge Piece Winners

“Wet Turning”



1st Paul Murphy



2nd Martin Lodge



3^d John Glynn

January Workshop with Brian Callan

Brian is a musical instrument maker and has developed a range of entirely hand-crafted and skilfully made harps suitable for beginners or professional musicians and everyone in-between.

Tonight, Brian is taking a break from instrument making and is treating us to a box building and woodworking machines demo.

How to build a box: Brian selected a 1m. length of beautifully figured Black Walnut, about 100mm wide by 12mm thick. With the blade of the Bench Saw set at 45° and a sliding cross-cut sled, set-up to cut the 4 pieces, aided by a stop block, which may be clamped to 2 marked positions, 200mm & 125 mm, which will give a shape close to the Golden Rectangle! This killed 4 birds with 1 stone, it ensured that both opposite sides of the box are exactly the same length, that all 4 corners are at 90°, that perfect joints are formed and with minimum waste, adjacent sides are matched.

I read somewhere that Routers are noisy, rowdy and have a mind of their own unless you keep them under tight control. The answer to this is to turn the Router upside down, let the cutter protrude through a large baseplate, and hey presto we have a Router Table! Straight away it's less deafening and, you can see what's going on!

The cutter on the Router Table is already set to cut a groove (here's some woodworking techno stuff: if this groove is in line with the grain it's called a Rabbet, but if it's cut across the grain it's called a Dado!) in all 4 pieces to accommodate the base of the box. The base is cut and moulded similar to a panel in a panelled door and when fitted will be 'floating' i.e. no glue is used and the base is free to move with atmospheric conditions. After a dry fit, glue is applied to the corners and a 4-jaw adjustable strap framing clamp is attached low down and tightens up the lot. Then clamps are applied towards the top, squeezing out any excess glue. Brian said, when applying glue try to avoid smadding the inside corners, but if you do he has a neat trick up his sleeve, he used a drinking straw and the principle of capillary action to suck up any surplus glue. Very clever!

That box was set aside and one that was glued-up a few days previously was now going to be used to show us how corner keys are fitted. With the saw blade at 90° and its height adjusted, the box is now placed in another sled and is cocked at 45° and passed over the saw blade; this is repeated 8 times and leaves 2 slots, 3mm wide at 45° to each corner. 3mm slips of jet black six thousand year old Bog Oak is now glued into the slots and left aside to dry.



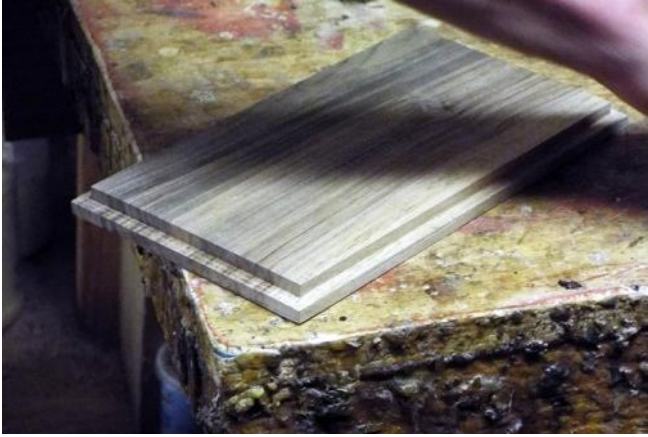
Cutting the sides of the box to length on the cross-cut sled



The box laid out with 45° miter corners



Preparing the sides of the box on the router table



The base of the box



Titebond wood glue

The 3rd box Brian produced was a totally enclosed hollow cuboid and had 12 corner keys fitted, the keys were trimmed on a Band Saw and sanded with 120 grit abrasive on a Vertical Edge Sander. To separate the lid of the box, it is passed over the saw blade once for each side, the depth of the cut is a smidgeon less than the thickness, this guarantees that when parted, the lid will sit true on the box. Parting and trimming of the smidgeon was completed by hand using a surgical blade. The corner keys, apart from being aesthetically pleasing, give great strength to the corners.

Brian then showed us 4 more completed boxes and talked us through designs, lids, handles, hinges, one even had wooden hinges! and the puzzling question of the best finish to use. Wow!

Time for Tea!

Thanks to Edel for providing such a generous spread, and after much banter over Tea, Coffee and Goodies we returned to the workshop.

First to be showcased was The Flat Master Sander, this is a simple, and very effective machine which Brian constructed after sending away for the parts. I was impressed with it and if you think this would be a useful addition to your workshop best thing I can recommend, for all the info and lots of other woodworking stuff, is to visit www.stockroomsupply.com Finally, a look at The Bench Top Drum Sander, for finest finish and thickness control.

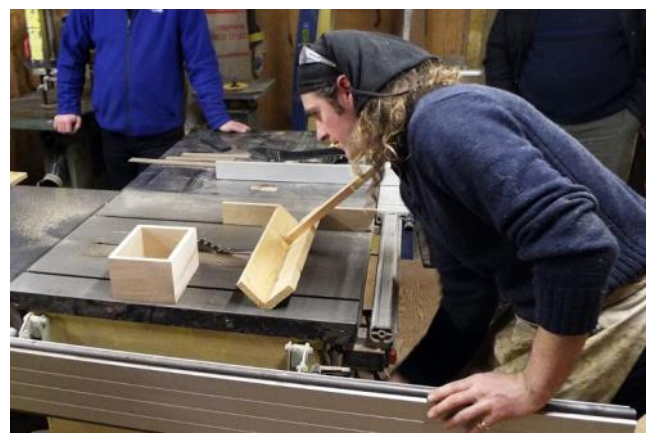
Hours of preparation and vast experience went into this enjoyable and illuminating workshop, thanks Brian.

Kevin G Walsh.

20th Jan 2016



You can never have too many clamps...



Setting up the table saw for the corner keys



A semi-finished box with the rough corner keys



Trimming the keys on the bandsaw



Sanding the keys flat



Flat Master sander



Chapter Calendar 2016

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Reporter</i>
January 7 th	Chapter Meeting: Maldron Hotel, 8.00pm	
January 21 st	Workshop: Brian Callan	Kevin G Walsh
February 4 th	Chapter Meeting: Maldron Hotel, 8.00pm	
February 18 th	Workshop: Volunteer Required	Volunteer Required
March 3 rd	Chapter Meeting: Maldron Hotel, 8.00pm	
March 24 th	Workshop: Niall O'Sullivan	Martin Lodge
April 7 th	Chapter Meeting: Maldron Hotel, 8.00pm	
April 21 st	Workshop: Ambrose O'Halloran	Volunteer Required
May 5 th	Chapter Meeting: Maldron Hotel, 8.00pm	
May 19 st	Workshop: Martin Lodge	Volunteer Required
June		
July		
August		
September 1 st	Chapter Meeting: Maldron Hotel, 8.00pm	
September 15 th	Workshop: Volunteer Required	Volunteer Required
October 6 th	Chapter Meeting: Maldron Hotel, 8.00pm	
October 20 th	Workshop: Kevin G Walsh, John Burns	John Glynn
November 3 rd	Chapter Meeting: Maldron Hotel, 8.00pm	
November 17 th	Workshop: Volunteer Required	Volunteer Required
December 1 st	Chapter Meeting: Maldron Hotel, 8.00pm	

February 2016 Challenge

"A plate"