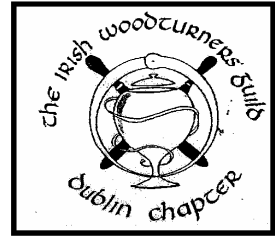


IRISH WOODTURNERS GUILD

Dublin Chapter Newsletter



Volume 2
Issue 3

Editors Comment

March 2007

- Competition results
- Tips and suggestions
- Exhibition notices
- Workshop Stoves
- Sorby Demo in East Central Chapter

**Demonstrator for
March**

Mz Irene Christie

(Chapter)

**Competition
pieces for
2007**

March 2007

A Bowl

April 2007

Open Competition

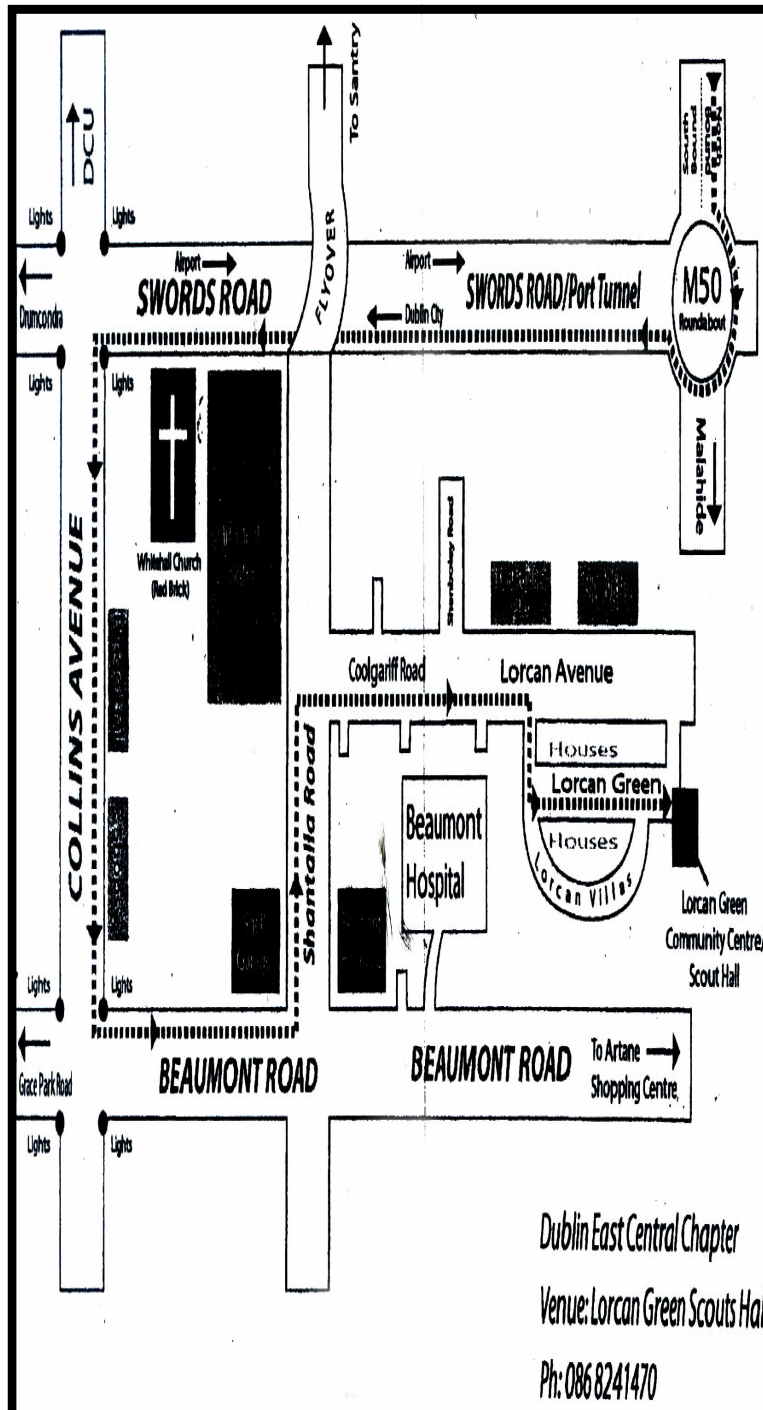
I have some good news and some bad news for the chapter this month so I'll get the bad news out of the way first. Due to a misunderstanding between myself and another person who shall remain nameless I was unable to get any notes for Willie Creighton's excellent demo last month. I was absent due to work commitments but I am going to contact Willie and see if he has any notes available so watch this space in the near future. Willie as usual gave a spectacular demo by all accounts and I believe he has offered to supply some prepared blanks if anybody is interested for a modest fee. There is a bit of work involved in preparing these blanks so as you can understand time is money.

I have finally made contact with the company in England regarding the wood burning stoves for workshops. The company would be happy to offer us a discount dependant on the number of stoves ordered etc. they have two flue types available and as usual one is better than the other and more expensive. The basic setup for an average workshop would consist of a stove, a number of flue sections (minimum of three metres required), a flashing kit suitable for the roof type of the workshop and possibly a revolving cowl top for the flue to reduce the chances of a downdraft. They recommend calculating the cubic capacity of your workshop and selecting a stove with a workshop capacity slightly higher as this has been shown to work more efficiently. If any body needs any further info please contact me or look up the web site: www.thehotspot.co.uk. If anybody is seriously interested in purchasing a stove please contact me as soon as possible and I will compile a list and arrange prices with the supplier for shipping etc. I would suggest we pick one drop off point for delivery to reduce shipping charges and I am going to suggest that the individuals pay the chapter treasurer the full amount due and then the chapter will issue one cheque to cover the total amount.

I have been trying to install a similar type of stove at home except that this one is fancier and more expensive as it is being installed in my front room. There is a great showroom in Clondalkin on Fonthill Road called "**Hearth and Home**" and they have a huge range of wood burning stoves on display and working. They don't have a workshop version unfortunately. While reading the promotional blurb for the stoves I discovered that the average open fire is only 15% efficient while a woodburning stove is 65% efficient. This is one reason why the Kw rating for stoves can be so low for a room size as they are very efficient at delivering heat to the room and not the chimney so bear that in mind when you are selecting your stove. The sales girl gave me the name of a company that supplies the flues for their stoves and they can supply stainless steel flues for workshop stoves which should last at least twenty years. The downside is they cost €115.00 for one section and we would need at least two if not three for our workshop stoves. They have more expensive flues but that's a personal choice. You would have to weigh up the costs of replacing the fairly basic galvanised flues that Hotspot provide after 2-3 years with the longevity of the stainless steel flues. I am assured from the company in England that these stoves can be installed by most people with a reasonable amount of common sense and average DIY skills. And if that fails use a large hammer!! Only joking.

Dublin East Central Chapter

This chapter meets on second Saturday of each month in
Lorcan Green Community Centre / Scout Hall at 2.00 pm.
See map.



Candle stick inserts from America

Anthony Hartney has sent me details
from a site in America which can sup-
ply inserts for candle sticks as well as
many other items.

www.bearwood.com/shop

Click on the search section and type in
candle stick inserts.

Thanks Anthony keep them coming!!

Record Lathe For Sale

Record CL3 Lathe
3/4 HP motor

48" bed bars plus 30" swing
Bowl Attachment and stand
6 " Face Plate
Live Centre
1/2" Jacobs Chuck
RP 3000 Collet Chuck

Variety Of Chisels (Record /Crown)

Very Little Use

Price €1100.00

Phone no:01- 4528130

Wood turning lessons available
from
Joe O'Neill
on Tuesday/Wednesday mornings
from 10:00 –12:00 a.m.
All levels welcome.

Please contact Joe at 087-6230162

Alzheimer's Society Timber Fundraiser

Cecil Barron has dropped me a note to say that the timber supplied at the February meeting in Terenure raised €213.25 and has been sent to the society. Well done to all who gave so generously and a special thanks to Cecil for all his efforts for the Alzheimer's Society

John Berkeley's Thread chasing DVD

Thread chasing just got easier thanks to the terrific new DVD from John Berkeley who hails from England. I know this because I have purchased a copy via the internet and I was not disappointed with its content. I am always a bit apprehensive about DVD's from unknown sources but this one is brilliant. John explains in detail how to prepare a blank for thread chasing and demonstrates over several different projects that it is practise and perseverance that helps to overcome any doubts regarding thread chasing.

The tools are simple and the possibilities are endless. John is well known for his puzzle box's and has demonstrated all over the world and if memory serves me correctly has won a very prestigious prize in Japan for a puzzle box in the shape of an Apple. I will be recommending that the library purchases a copy for the chapter as it will be of great help to those of us who are willing to have a go at something new. John demonstrates how to make a mandrel for mounting a grinding wheel on the lathe and a polishing mop mandrel for finishing off your projects.

John can be contacted at www.johnberkeley.co.uk and I have to say his delivery is very prompt as I paid via PayPal and the DVD arrived within three days, well packaged and at a cost of approximately €37.00 for a two disc set lasting five hours it was excellent value.

Editor's Contact Details

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Dublin 15

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E-mail: boomer3@iolfree.ie

Larch Hill Trees

Interested in helping in Larch Hill?
Want to know more about what is happening there?
Give me a call on 4967188. Or 087-6433061.
Barry Dunne.

**Exhibition Committee
for 2006**

Michael Fay (Chairman)	087-6681345
Helen Mullally (Secretary)	01-6265771
Adrian Finlay	01-4527490
Albert Sloane	01-2956987
Graham Brislane	087-2914770

Competition Pieces For 2007

January 2007	A Gavel and Anvil.	(Hammer and Block!!)
February 2007	A Table Lamp.	
March 2007	A Bowl.	
April 2007	Open Competition.	
May 2007	A Hollow Form.	

Demonstrators For 2007

March 2007	Irene Christie
April 2007	John Holmes

Committee Members for 2007

<u>Position</u>	<u>Members Name</u>	<u>Contact details</u>
Chairman:	Charles Ryan	087-6123936
Secretary:	Tommy Boyle	087-6995111
Treasurer	Paddy Finn	087-9801142
Newsletter Editor:	Richard Murphy	087-2958519
Competitions Secretary:	Tom Delaney	087-9504690
Books / Videos	John Killoran	01-4903410 (H)
Exhibition Chairman	Michael Faye	087-6681345
Committee Member	Chris Lawlor	087-6484380

Good deals for Sanding sealer and Finishing Oil

Mick Byrne a Dublin chapter member has contacted me to say that there is a company called Becker Acroma, 53 Robinhood industrial Estate, Dublin 12 (Access from the Long mile road or Ballymount road).this company will supply Sanding sealer in 5 litre cans for €34.99. If you buy a 5 litre can of cellulose thinners for a similar amount then its possible to obtain a 50/50 mix for approximately €10.00 per litre. If any members re interested then give me a call and if we get enough members we can arrange to mix and distribute a batch amongst those concerned.

Seamus Cassidy obtains his finishing oil from a company called Morrells in JFK industrial estate and a similar arrangement could be made by buying a large can and sharing the cost. The oil is high quality and according to Seamus doesn't go off in the can which should be of benefit to all us occasional woodturners. So as they say the rest is up to you as members to avail of these offers

Tree Week 2007

This year, tree week is from the 3th to the 10th of March

The Scouts have again invited the Woodturners and their families to the closing ceremony on Saturday the 10th. The ceremony will be held at Larch Hill National Scout Campsite (near Rathfarnham) from 11.30 am. until approx. 1.30pm.,at which there will be a ceremonial tree planting lasting about 30 minutes.

Again this year Peter Mulvanney and Joe O'Neill will give a woodturning demonstration. Last year Peter & Joe put on a wonderfully entertaining show with a lot of hands on for the younger members of the audience.

Refreshments will be provided.

So, all we need now, is a fine day and a good turn-out from the woodturners.

Members of the Dublin East Central Chapter are very welcome

If you require any more information or directions call me at 01-4967188 or mobile 087-6433061

Hope to see you there,

Barry Dunne.

Woodturning Exhibition

Ballyroan Library 05/03/2007---10/03/2007

Mon---Thurs 9:45am---8:00pm

Fri---Sat 9:45---4:30

**Wed 08/03/2007 @ 6:30---8:00 Spinning Wheel Demo
by Peter Hoare**

**Thursday 9/3/2007 @6:30---8:00 Woodturning Demo by
Charlie Ryan**

**A sale for the Alzheimer's Society will be held during
the exhibition**

Anyone wishing to exhibit and would like to have their items listed for insurance , please email mfayinireland@eircom.net or telephone

01-4974579 or 087-6681345(eve) no later than one week in advance with details.

Insurance cover will be provided by Ballyroan Library.

Exhibits and offers of help would be greatly appreciated, please contact any committee member.

Exhibition pieces and items for the Alzheimer's sale will be accepted at the March meeting

The committee would like to thank all who supported the recent exhibition in South Dublin County Council offices Tallaght

Total amount raised for the Alzheimer's Society was €1,315.00

Blankety Blanks

(Bowl Blanks from Glenn Lucas)

On a regular basis Glenn Lucas has a supply of good quality bowl blanks (mainly wet timber). As you probably know Glenn is a production bowl turner as well as an accomplished turner of one-off pieces many of which he has displayed in American and European galleries.

His pattern of work is to get a supply of wet timber cut in planks for bowls. He cuts these into round blanks on the band saw. He then uses a bowl-saver to take out the cores. The cores vary in size from **6-7 inch to 12-inch blanks**. The latter are usually ready for drying as he has already taken an 8 or 9-inch blank out of the 12-inch. He also sells some of the larger blanks before he cores them.

Joe Laird and myself visited him before Christmas and got very good value. His wet blanks vary in price from about **€5 to €12**.

Glenn also sells some blanks after drying in the kiln. So they are ready for turning. These are usually about three euro more expensive.

He sometimes has kiln-dried 2 and 3-inch squares, about 16 inches long, suitable for lamps with a base to go with them.

He recently got a supply of nicely patterned flamed beech. He will have a supply of cores from these.

He likes to get rid of all supplies speedily as they are really off-cuts to him and get in his way. Besides, wet timber needs covering, sealing or blank turning fairly quickly to prevent it cracking. So if you want to buy you need to contact him to find out what he has and when it is available.

Glenn now lives outside Bagenalstown in Carlow.

Contact details:

Glenn Lucas: Flanders Cross, Garyhill, Bagenalstown, Co Carlow

Tel: 059-9727070 or 087/2766841 E-mail: glennlucas@eircom.net

Further Information: Michael McGee 8212795

The Old Dilemma - The Budget.

It will not be too long before the beginner realises that the initial outlay on the lathe itself is just the beginning. So many more essentials are needed, and it would be easy to burst your entire budget for several years, all in the space of the first few weeks.

However, maybe all these items are not really all that essential. Luckily several old hands warned against rushing out to buy the first thing you think you need. "Many a one before you ran out and invested heavily in something which they used only once or twice. Now it sits on a dusty shelf looking reproachfully at them". In the December 2006 issue of the *Irish Woodturners' Guild Journal*, Robert Gulley made this point very well - "Granted, *tool lust* is prevalent everywhere in woodworking, and perhaps nowhere more so than in woodturning!" Robert's article goes on to describe ways of making do, without having to have the full range of equipment.

Tool lust. What a great phrase. It describes exactly how I, for one, feel about tools and gadgets that I must have; and must have now!

Make It Yourself.

Tom McDonagh laughed when I asked him what type and size of scrapers I should buy first. Before long I had converted some of my 'second-best' woodworking chisels. Every household has some of these. They are the ones your kids used to punch nails into wood, or that your spouse used to split the bale of briquettes, or to be really honest, they are the chisels you used to prise up floorboards and never quite got round to re-grinding. These were quickly ground to the right profile for scraping. The chance to turn a beautiful wooden handle for this new tool came as a Godsend; and what a great feeling of self-satisfaction to come up with the idea of using an olive from a plumbers compression joint as a ferrule for the handle.

A book from John Killoran's library gave a whole range of ideas for jam and glue chucks, and so more home-made items began to boost the stock of goodies. An old back copy of *Woodturning* had a piece by Bill Jones in which he referred to his faithful old 'Skreever'. This little gadget for very tidy parting-off was simple to make from an old hacksaw blade, and yet another beautiful wooden handle dashed off on the lathe. Not only is this gadget very handy, it also looks crafty and ancient - this gives an impression that its owner is very gifted and clever! The desire to make-your-own can become almost as much an obsession as the lust for new purchases - the very next day after Frank Gallagher's recent workshop I copied his home-made spherical scraper!

Finishing Off.

When it comes to finishing turned pieces, the beginner is also caught in the dilemma of a limited budget. The number and range of finishes seems to be endless and it is all too easy to dash out and buy every product you hear mentioned. It is best to be patient - even if this means that you have to be very limited and selective in your choice. This explains why every single thing I made in the first couple of months was smothered in sanding sealer (a gift from an adviser). This was followed by my "Carnuba Period" with everything in high gloss. More recently all finished articles, not to mention me and my clothes, are subjected to more Danish Oil than they really need. My most recent purchase was much more reasonable, but I can't help wondering if I misheard, or if someone really did recommend castor oil, as a finish for "food-safe" bowls. It is very thick and gloopy and takes forever to work it into any sort of a finish.

If any experienced turners know of any good "cheap and cheerful" finishes would they let us in on the secret. Please.

Until the Next Time.

In case I have mistakenly given the impression of having made much progress, I will ask Richard if he would like me to cover "Twelve Ways of Starting a Giant Bowl, and Ending with an Eggcup" for his next issue.

Gerry Ryan.

Notice

Clear out your old stock of wood turning projects and donate them to the Alzheimer's society.

Tallaght Exhibition raised a staggering €1300.00 so well done to all concerned.

Joe O'Neill will be available for surgery and dental work if anybody is brave enough to let him practice his stitching or gluing techniques on their body. He may not cure you but you will laugh a lot!!

A Prayer for the Stressed

Grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I cannot accept, and the wisdom to hide the bodies of those I had to kill because they got on my nerves.

And also, help me to be careful of the toes I step on today as they may be connected to the feet I may have to kiss tomorrow.

Help me always give 100% at work ...

12 % on Monday
23% on Tuesday
40% on Wednesday
20% on Thursday
and 5% on Friday.

And help me to remember ...

When I'm having a bad day and it seems that people are trying to wind me up, it takes 42 muscles to frown, 28 to smile and only four to extend my arm and smack someone in the mouth!

Competition Results 2007

Competitions 2007

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>
<u>Advanced</u>						
Colm Hyland	39	11	13	15		
Seamus O Reilly	29	15	9	5		
Pat M Walsh	27	6	15	6		
Sean Ryan	24	13	11	0		
Albert Sloane	23	9	7	7		
Martin O Halloran	18	7	0	11		
Henry East	13	0	0	13		
Tony Lally	11	0	6	5		
Cecil Barron	9	0	0	9		
Pat J Walsh	5	0	0	5		
	0					
	0					
	0					
	0					
	0					
	0					
	0					
<u>Experienced</u>						
Michael McNamara	41	15	13	13		
Malcolm Hill	37	13	15	9		
Pat Lambert	24	0	9	15		
John Holmes	18	0	11	7		
Paddy Finn	11	0	0	11		
	0					
	0					
	0					
	0					
	0					
	0					
	0					
	0					
	0					
<u>Beginners</u>						
	<u>score</u>					
Tony Hartney	37	15	15	7		
Gerry Ryan	22	0	13	9		
Sean Egan	16	0	11	5		
Tom Hoare	15	0	0	15		
Chris Lalor	13	0	0	13		
Richard Raymond	11	0	0	11		
Colm McIntyre	6	0	0	6		
Michael O Keeffe	5	0	0	5		

East Central Chapter hosts demonstration by Clive Brooks from Robert Sorby.

I have to say that the East central Chapter looked after their guests well on Saturday last and while Ireland prepared to show England how rugby should be played Clive Brooks was preparing to demonstrate the latest offering from

Sorbys. This was the Pro-edge sharpening system and I have to give credit where its due it done exactly what Clive said it could do and done it very well. The system comprises of a motor driven belt sharpening system similar to the type used by Sorbys for sharpening their tools in the factory. The belts consisting of aluminium oxide, zirconium and ceramic are replaceable and at a cost of approximately €8 - 9.00 for the most expensive ceramic belt it wont break the bank in the form of consumables as they say. The belts also come in several grit sizes up to 240 grit I think.

The Pro- edge comes in two models the basic Pro-edge and the Pro - edge plus. The difference is that the plus model gives you an extra belt or two and a couple of jigs but not all of the jigs that are available for this system. It can be used to sharpen a large variety of edged tools from wood chisels to plane irons to wood turning chisels of all descriptions.

The table on the machine can be set to a variety of angles and locked firmly in place to ensure consistent results every time, the edge obtained on the skew chisel was superb and was easy to achieve using one of the jigs. The spindle roughing gouge was sharpened using a small V-block jig to stop you wagging the handle so to speak and easily cut a smooth bevel all around the gouge edge. I have to say I was very impressed with the machine and if you have already purchased the universal sharpening system like myself then Clive pointed out that you need only purchase the basic model as the fingernail profiling jig is interchangeable and can be used on this machine as well.

Now for the hard part, the machine is not cheap by any means and is available from Richard Goughs for €400.00 for the basic model and €480.00 for the Pro Edge Plus model approximately. I have to say I couldn't see many people spending that amount of money on a sharpening system but as another member pointed out the Tormek system is nearly €500.00 and a replacement grinding wheel is nearly €200.00 so long term the Sorby system will work out cheaper to maintain. Having gotten over the shock of the price Clive pointed out that they have already exceeded their expected sales figures for the machine and are continuing to sell well. So if you are in need of a sharpening system that works and can justify the cost then this is the system to go for. Its well made and simple to use with a variety of jigs to help ensure that you can maintain a consistent sharp and honed edge on what ever tool you are using. Sorby have put a a lot of time and thought in to this machine and it shows so if I come across a few bob in the near future I might just take a deep breath and sneak one into my workshop, I'm sure there's a empty spot just big enough to take one. Oh yes I nearly forgot to mention that the system wasn't even screwed down to a table and it never moved.

Clive continued his demo by showing how to use a variety of the specialist tools from Sorbys and as usual gave a running commentary interrupted only by members asking questions and he dealt with those as well. The specialist hollowing tips and scrapers can all be sharpened on them Pro edge and the difference in cutting performance was marked.

Thanks once again to the East Central Chapter for hosting the event and to Clive Brooks for another superb demonstration.