

Dublin Chapter Newsletter

August 2009 Volume 3 Issue 11

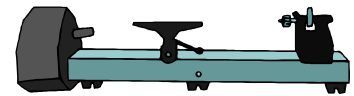
It was a real treat for me to see Pat Walsh demonstrating for the first time at the June meeting. The coming months promise to be equally fascinating as we are graced by a veritable orgy of demonstrations by some of the best turners within our chapter. The talent of these guys is there for all see on a regular basis in the monthly competitions, but it takes considerable courage to stand up and demonstrate to an audience no matter how skilled a turner you are. So hats off to you all.



The call goes out in this newsletter for volunteers willing to host workshops. We are also fast approaching that time of year where we will need new committee members to replace those standing down. Serving on the committee need only take a few hours of your time each month and can be immensely enjoyable and rewarding. I can attest to there being no requirement on skill or woodturning ability and things are pretty laid back. So please take the time to think about whether you could help in any capacity.

If you have anything for the next newsletter in October, you can e-mail to: dwt.newsletter@gmail.com or phone me on 086-8327985.

Varn.



Inside this issue:

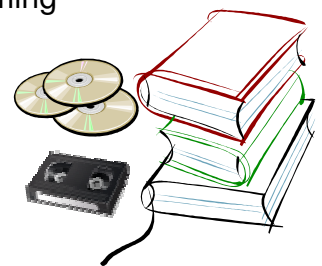
- Competition Results and Standings.
- News from the Committee.
- Turning and Learning, Part 11
- Burning Issues

Library Returns Please.

Before coming to the next meeting,

don't forget to check to see if you have any

books, videotapes or DVDs to bring back to the library.



Coming Soon

Saturday 5 September -

Demonstrator: Tony Lally

Competition: 6 (not necessarily matching) buttons

Saturday 10 October - **Note Change of date!**

Demonstrator: John Doran

Competition: Open Competition.

The Hut

Steve Harbourne will be at the September meeting, with the usual array of tools and supplies.

Committee Members for 2009

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Chairman	Jonathan Wigham	087 795 2296
Secretary	Colm McIntyre	086 155 1625
Treasurer	Joe McLoughlin	087 261 0803
Competitions	Cecil Barron	01 846 1666
Books & Video	John Killoran	01 490 3410
Workshops	Chris Lawlor	087 648 4380
Exhibitions	Graham Brislane	087 291 4770
Newsletter	Rich Varney	086 832 7985

Alzheimer's Association

Colm McIntyre's sale of a deceased member's tools in June raised €50 for the Alzheimer's association. This figure was increased by Pat Walsh's generous donation of his demonstration fee for the June meeting.

Woodturning Classes

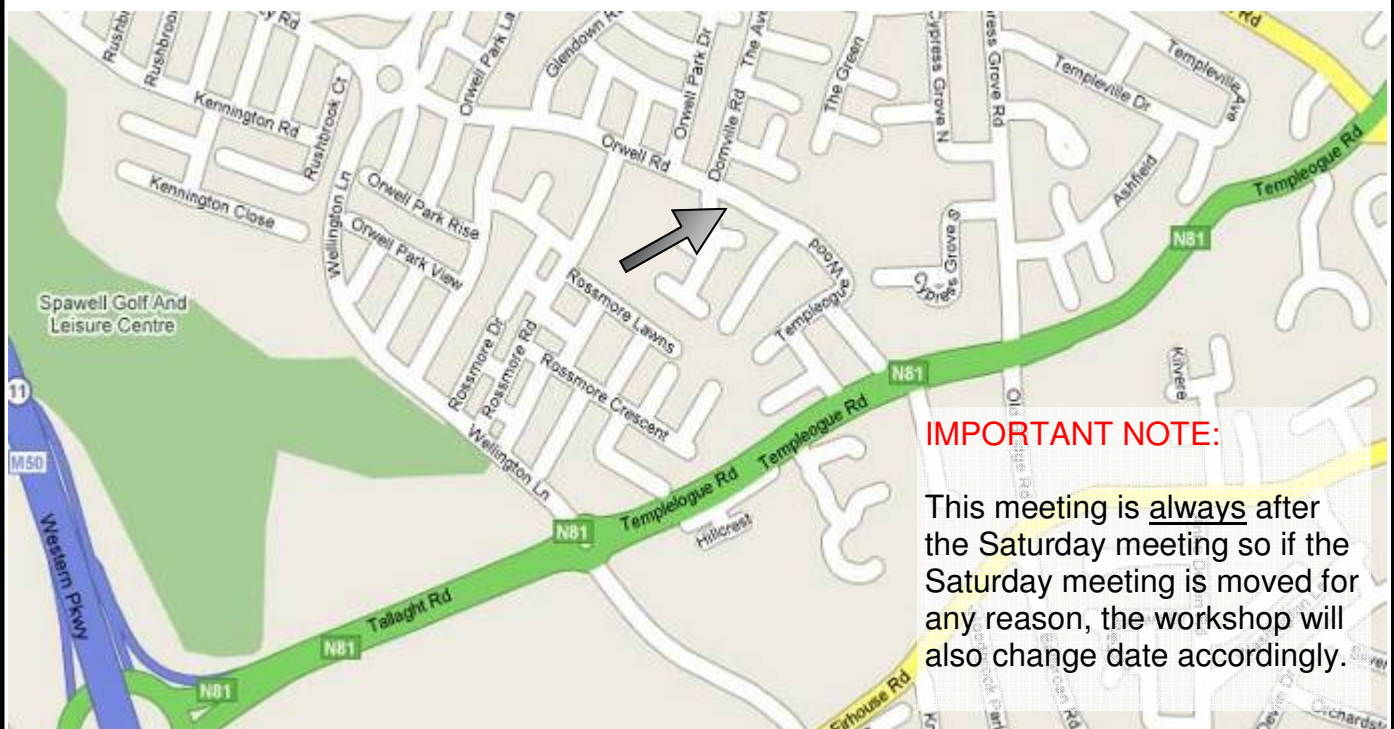
Joe Laird woodturning Studios

Half-Day, Full-Day, Evening and Weekend classes available (up to 5 students) for all skill levels at Ireland's first woodturning school. One-to-one tuition also available.

Ph: 01 825 8079 / 087 269 8027

www.joelairdwoodturning.com

Thursday afternoon workshop



IMPORTANT NOTE:

This meeting is always after the Saturday meeting so if the Saturday meeting is moved for any reason, the workshop will also change date accordingly.

The Thursday afternoon workshop is now regularly taking place once per month on the Thursday following the Saturday Terenure meeting from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Scout Hall, Templeogue Lodge, Templeogue, Dublin 6W. Contact: Joe McLoughlin (087-2610803).

Competition News

June's competition item was a collection of mushrooms on a stand



Rich Varney (Beginners)



Frank Gallagher (Experienced)

The judges for the June competition were Joe O'Neill, Colm McIntyre and Rosalind Watson.



Tony Lally (Advanced)

The July competition item was jewellery

Photos by Hugh Flynn



Jack O'Rourke (Beginners)

The judges in July were Allison Hurst, Joe O'Neill, Colm McIntyre and Pacelli O'Rourke.



Frank Gallagher (Experienced)



Michael Fay (Advanced)

Competition Standings (4 July 2009)

		<i>Christmas Item</i>	<i>Bowl</i>	<i>Plant Stand</i>	<i>Table Lamp</i>	<i>Stool</i>	<i>Open Competition</i>	<i>Mushrooms</i>	<i>Jewellery</i>
	<u>Total</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>
Advanced									
Pat M Walsh	89	15	11	15	7	15	13	0	13
Fran Lavelle	75	13	6	9	13	13	5	11	5
Tony Lally	60	0	5	13	15	6	0	15	6
James Gallagher	36	0	5	11	0	11	0	9	0
Cecil Barron	35	0	0	0	6	0	7	13	9
Seamus Carter	32	7	7	7	5	0	6	0	0
Michael Fay	30	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	15
Henry East	28	0	13	0	0	0	15	0	0
Colm McIntyre	23	5	0	0	9	9	0	0	0
Seamus O'Reilly	22	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Albert Sloane	20	0	9	0	0	0	11	0	0
Colm Hyland	11	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0
Adrian Finlay	11	6	0	0	0	0	5	0	0
Michael McNamara	10	0	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
Owen Furniss	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Richard Murphy	9	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0
Pat J Walsh	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malcolm Hill	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sean Ryan	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0
Joe O'Neill	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0
Experienced									
Frank Gallagher	114	15	13	15	11	15	15	15	15
Tony Hartney	50	13	11	0	13	0	0	0	13
Brian Kelly	28	0	0	13	15	0	0	0	0
Barry Dunne	15	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beginners									
John Doran	61	0	15	0	9	11	0	13	13
Jack O'Rourke	45	0	0	0	15	15	0	0	15
Frank Maguire	39	0	0	0	13	13	13	0	0
Richard Varney	30	0	0	0	0	0	15	15	0
Bernard Gallagher	26	0	0	15	11	0	0	0	0
Sean Egan	13	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tony Newsome	11	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tom MURPHY	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Jimmy Lott	7	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0

Arts Grant



Earlier this year we had a notice in a Newsletter announcing that we had been allocated an Arts Grant from South Dublin County Council, to help with the running costs involved in hosting exhibitions.

At that time we had been informed the grant would be to the value of € 600.00, and this was the value published in the Newsletter.

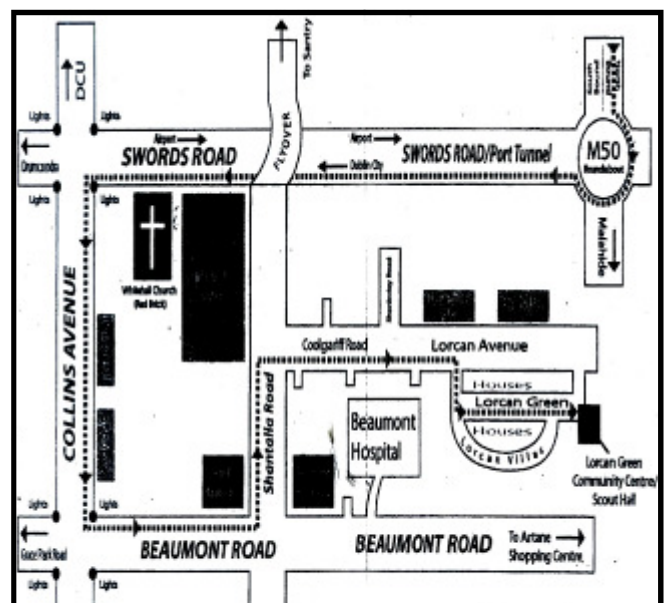
Some time ago we received a direct payment into our bank, to a value of € 700.00, and were unsure as to where it had come from. Joe Mc Loughlin made many attempts to discover the source of this payment with our bank, and eventually has discovered that it is from South Dublin County Council.

The committee on behalf of the members of the Chapter, wish to thank the County Council, and also acknowledge that the grant value is higher than we were originally allocated.

Graham Brislane.
On behalf of the Committee.



Dublin 15 Chapter now meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month, 7:30 pm till 10:00 pm, at the **BRACE Centre, Main St, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15.**
www.craobhcuiigdeag.org



Dublin East Central Chapter

This chapter meets on the second Saturday of each month in Lorcan Green Community Centre / Scout Hall at 2.00 pm. Tel: 086 8241470

Change of date for October meeting.

Sat 10th October 2009



As the 2009 National Seminar clashes with our usual meeting date of the first Saturday in October, the Dublin chapter meeting for October will be held on the following week Saturday 10th October.

Note: the Templeogue Scout hall meeting for October will also move as a result to Thursday 15th October.

Plea for Workshop Hosts

As many members will have noticed, the frequency of workshops has dropped considerably in recent years. The success of the Thursday afternoon get together at the scout hall has some way to fill this void for some members, but not everyone is free on a Thursday afternoon. The success and popularity of workshops held over the years shows they are still a valued opportunity to meet other turners and exchange ideas.

The key problem for us is the lack of people coming forward willing to host a workshop, perhaps one reason for this may be the misconception that workshops can only be held by people with huge premises, industrial lathes, advanced woodturning skills, and an array of pre-prepared projects to demonstrate. This does not need to be the case at all. A workshop can cater for as few as two or three guests or as many as you feel comfortable with. Furthermore, the Scout hall sessions prove that successful workshops can be had with basic equipment and little forward planning as to what should be demonstrated and that information can flow in both directions.

If you are interested in hosting a workshop or would like to know more, please contact Chris Lawlor on 087 648 4380

Woodturning Classes

Joe O'Neill offers classes on
Tuesday and Wednesday A.M.
& Thursday nights.
Ph: 087 623 0162
Email: rudyperudy@yahoo.com

Woodturning Classes

Up to 3 students per class.
Graduate Lathe per student.
One day courses also available.
Contact: Peter Mulvaney
Ph: 01 280 2745

Turning and Learning, Part 11

Chapter Demonstrations.

Pat Walsh - Colour and Texture

Pat Walsh of our Dublin Chapter gave the June 2009 demonstration in Terenure. He had been pressed into service due to popular demand following the stunning quality of his entry for the Chapter Christmas competition. His first project involved a small bowl of beech which he textured and coloured with deceptive ease and speed. Despite the rapid flow of his work he found time to answer all questions and gave valuable tips galore.

Pat textured the bowl - in motion - with a mini 2 inch chainsaw, followed by a nylon disc brush which removed the "hairs" left by the saw. Using an aerosol spray he applied a coat of black - being careful to shield the lathe - while rotating the bowl by hand. Normally he would have more time and would apply sanding sealer before the spray. Having applied a seal over the spray he "peeled" a white wax crayon, which he then applied to the turning bowl. A brilliant contrast between colours appeared as if by magic. Over this he applied an aerosol acrylic sealing spray. Pat finished the inside of the bowl in traditional fashion - being careful not to let the sanding sealer drip onto the textured rim. He finally dried the finish with a hairdryer so it would be dry enough to hand around.



The Chairman gets a close up view of Pat Walsh's Excellent demo

Pat's second item was on a small pre-prepared hollow form of sycamore. In rapid succession he applied a variety of colours to the outside of the piece, spraying from aerosol cans. (He advises shaking the cans very thoroughly, and after spraying, to hold the can upside down and give a quick spray; this helps to clear the nozzle.)

Without letting the initial coat of purple become dry, he used yellow - spraying in short bursts - followed by red, and after this I lost track. After a blast of hairdryer he finished off with a burnishing cream applied with a safety cloth. This type of cream contains some fine grit which helps to give a really great finish. Both Pat's pieces, and numerous other examples he passed round, demonstrated the almost endless possibilities for experimentation. Just like all turners Pat loves the beauty of a nicely grained bit of wood. But as he explained, he took up texturing and colouring to add something to some of the dull and featureless material that crops up from time to time. Thanks to Pat Walsh for sharing his knowledge and skills.





Paddy O'Connor - Stacked Jewellery Trays

Paddy O'Connor from Kildare entertained the Chapter in July with a highly technical demonstration of an elegant stack of swivelling trays to store jewellery.

He had brought a number of finished items, and these were in a variety of profiles, including conical and pyramid shapes. The item he made - and for which he supplied a detailed working drawing - was a "triangular cone", i.e. a cone with one vertical side! As far as I know the material was American white oak. The finished trays certainly had a beautifully grained appearance.

As space is limited here, I hope his drawing ([See page xxx,](#)) and some photos will give a clear picture of the process. Despite the complexity of the stages involved, Paddy gave very detailed and clear advice on all steps along the way.

I would heartily recommend to other Chapters that they invite Paddy to share his expertise with them. As usual I jotted down some useful general turning tips and am grateful to Paddy for the following random list of bits and pieces :-

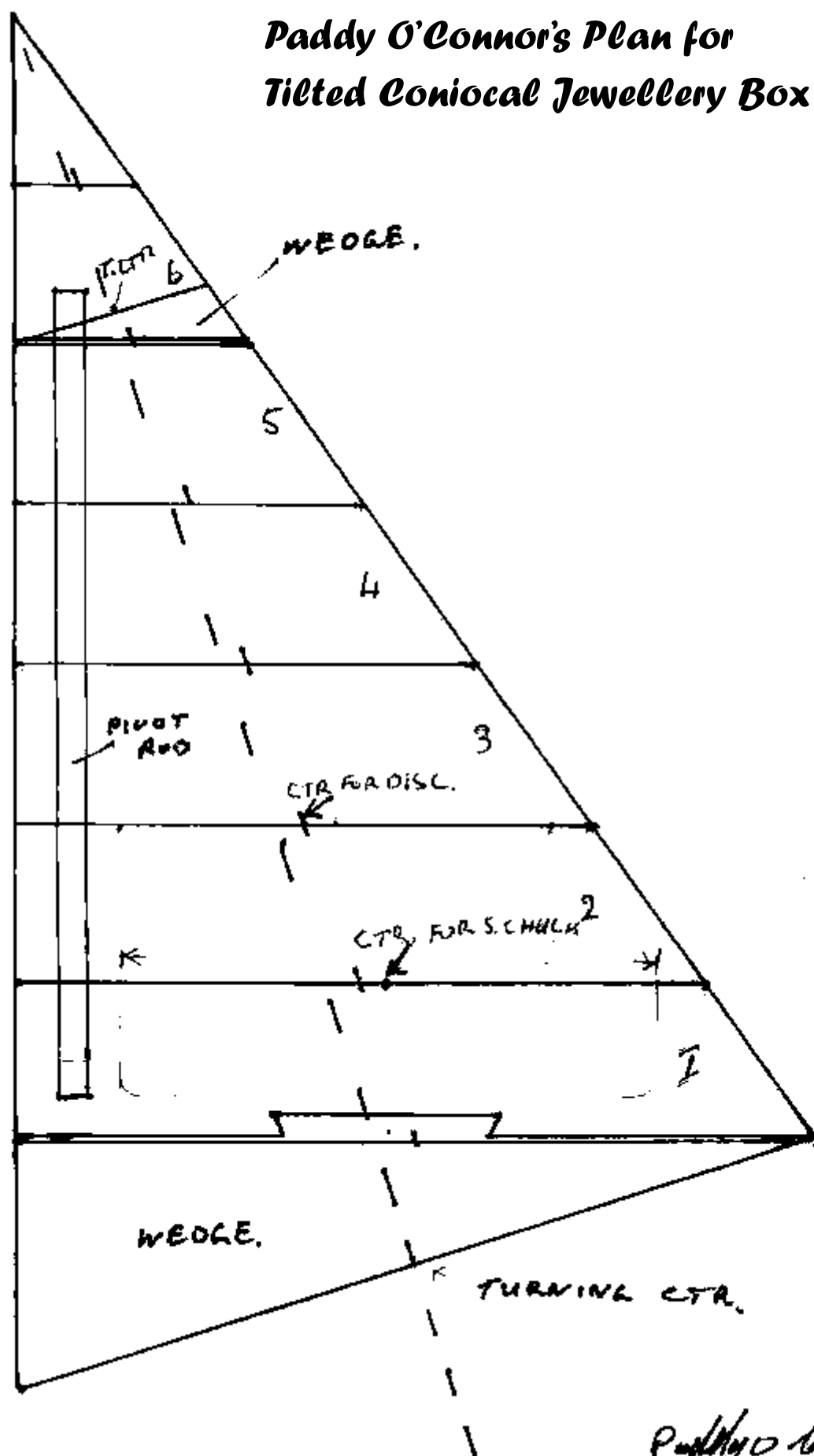
- As his discs had been cut from the same sheet, he put a nick on the front and back of each one so as to keep track of grain direction during drilling and assembly
- When fitting legs under the stack, remember how the balance will shift when trays are rotated to the 'open' position
- If you get a 'high spot' during turning, take it off from the middle - if you work from one end you may take the full length down and still have the high spot
- As a dowel (or brass rod) will pass through each disc/tray to act as swivel, mark centres for hollowing trays half way between dowel hole and opposite side
- Recesses in base of trays - for chucking - can be quite shallow, as the piece is light
- A small piece of MDF can be cut with protruding shape to match the required width and depth of the hollow in the trays. This is useful as there is lots of repetition
- Think safety! "Turning can be a very dangerous hobby".



Many thanks to Paddy O'Connor. The quality of the pieces he passed around was a great tribute to this man who described himself as "a car mechanic who became a hobby turner".



Paddy O'Connor's Plan for Tilted Conical Jewellery Box



Paddy O'Connor
30-06-09

Group Work

As usual we assembled in small groups at our Templeogue venue in June and July, where we discussed our triumphs and failures, and shared the latest gossip on what bargains are available, and where. I have no hesitation in mentioning failures, as I sometimes feel - in the words of Joyce - "threatened with mediocrity"! We were graced with some spirited demonstrations by Tony Lally and Seamus 'the Axe' Carter.

In June, Tony worked up a couple of small off centre goblets. He did this by mounting a 60mm by 120mm cylinder of afrormosia with a spigot in the headstock. He marked the tail end centre, and then loosened the headstock and moved the tail end about 6mm off centre. (This works with flat jaws; if using dovetail jaws insert a slip of wood under one jaw to facilitate moving off centre.) Then he re-tightened and moved up the tail stock to engage the off centre mark.

Working from the headstock end (which would be base of the goblet) he seemed to have no problem with the amount of 'shadow' work, and he then removed the tailstock and hollowed the goblet end with a small gouge. At this stage there was still plenty of bulk behind the direction of cut. He worked towards the chuck shaping the stem, alternately removing waste in the opposite direction. When about half the stem was formed he changed back to the true centre setting and continued to work the stem, and finally the base. He repeated the whole process using 8mm as the off-centre distance and ended up with two off-centre goblets which complemented each other very well.

Seamus Carter started with his firmly expressed belief that we all get caught up buying too many tools, even though we could manage very well with a few basic ones. He demonstrated this by mounting a cylinder of 50mm by 125mm poplar. Using only a single gouge he turned a spigot and, having mounted the piece in the chuck, turned a perfect egg- cup in 2 minutes and 20 seconds. All this with one tool! For his second demonstration of his theory he used a domestic hatchet on a block of 2"x2"x12" poplar. He trued the cylinder, did some 'square to round' shapes, coves, beads and god-knows-whats. All this was with the hatchet. I had seen some of this before, so threw in a sneaky challenge to add a captive ring. Still with the hatchet he obliged with a better ring than I could make with my purpose designed tool.

As if this was not enough, Seamus drove home his point with a beautiful finial from the remains of the poplar using his favourite five eighth inch gouge. There are two obvious morals in this tale - *We all have too many tools*, and, *Never challenge Seamus the Axeman*.

In July, Tony turned two picture frames of different sizes from the same disc of iroko. Space does not allow us to go into detail but the work was well up to Tony's high standard, and lots of tips were offered and debated, much to the benefit of all. He was working on a new lathe purchased and loaned by John Doran. This was a Record DML 305 - VS with variable speed and all agreed it worked very well. John noted that one slight drawback was that it took quite a long while to come to a full stop when switched off. It was generally agreed that this was no great problem as the waiting time could be spent planning the next move - or even in thinking beautiful thoughts. The Thursday group are really philosophers at heart !

Away for the Day

'*Travel in the elder is a part of experience*', according to Francis Bacon, but he never had the opportunity to travel to Carlow to a demonstration by Australian Richard Raffan in the workshop of Glenn Lucas. This was more than just an experience. It was a great privilege to watch this world-renowned master demonstrate his craft. There is no way anyone could do justice in writing to the fantastic learning experience represented by Richard's visit, but I would urge any reader to buy one or two of his books, or if you get the chance, go to listen to him in person. Many thanks are due to Glenn for facilitating Richard Raffan's visit to Ireland.

Gerry Ryan, July 2009
Photos by Hugh Flynn

Throw another log on the fire...

I stumbled across these pictures on the internet. This accident happened last year in Jackson, Tennessee in the United States. The driver was apparently attempting to throw the cable over the logs to secure them, but instead managed to hook the electric power line. The driver reported that “the tyres began to fry within seconds”. He was lucky not to be fried himself!

Rich Varney.

