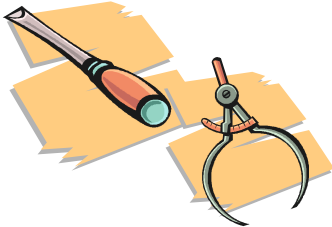




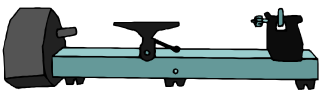
Dublin Chapter Newsletter

November 2010 Volume 3 Issue 19



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Riding the Bevel

It seems like far more than 2 months since I put the last newsletter to bed. It's certainly been a woodturning packed period...

First we had Seamus Carter at the September meeting (more on this inside). I was also lucky enough to make it to the Wednesday meeting where Seamus gave an encore to his demonstration on the preceding Saturday.

The end of September brought the National Seminar in Armagh. A great weekend with some fascinating demonstrations. My favourite was entitled "essential tips for tool safety" Pat Carroll. Richard Murphy can describe this in exquisite detail and Tony Lally has photographs to match for anyone wanting to know more. As usual I was like a kid in a sweet shop at the trade stands and a good laugh was never more than a couple of minutes away throughout the weekend.

In fact, I had such a good time in Armagh I came home begging the family to let me out again the

following Sunday for another fix... But before that I had visit from John Doran. On seeing Happy Place (which was admittedly pretty tidy at the time) John remarked that that he found it difficult to believe I did any turning there!

Bloody Cheek of some people!

Saturday morning saw our regular meeting with Christien Van Bussel making a neat teapot stand.

Sunday came and with another day's absence granted, I set off with Joe O'Neill and the aforementioned John Doran to see Mike Mahoney in action with Ciaran Forbes at Glenn Lucas' workshop. It was another day of great turning and high jinx that did not disappoint.

Calling back to John's workshop that evening was an eye-opening experience. Both John and I got new lathes at the same time back in the summer. I spent several weeks moving everything around to ensure that my new pride and joy got the placement befitting it. But it appeared to me that John must just have thrown whatever was in the way of his new arrival across the shed to make room!

Joking aside, I do enjoy nosing around other people's workshops for ideas and I came away from John's with plenty.

I'm not sure if it was because the truth hurts and John's observation spurred me on. But October did finally afford me the long awaited opportunity to spend some quality time with my new lathe.

To bring the period to a close I managed to follow this up with yet another outing. This time to Michael Fay's for an excellent workshop where he made a cocktail stick holder. Sadly it looks as though the well is about to run dry as I'm being pencilled in for an extensive period of decorating as I write.

I know how Shelley felt when he wrote "Rarely, rarely, comest thou, Spirit of Delight!"

Varn.



Joe and John celebrate finding the lathe.

Coming Soon

Wed 10 November - *Workshop* (Scout Hall)

Sat 4 December - (Scout Hall)

Demonstrator: Joe O'Neill

Competition: Christmas Item

PLUS Tim McGill Trophy (*don't forget we need items for the Alzheimer's Sale*)

Mon 6 to Fri 10 December - Exhibition (Tallaght Library)

Including Demonstration on Thu 9 December.

Wed 8 December - *Workshop* (Scout Hall)



Mike Mahoney and Ciaran Forbes in fine form

The Twister Turns Inside Out!

Pacelli O'Rourke delves into Seamus Carter's involuted lamp demonstration at the September meeting.

Well, leave it to Seamus Carter to set himself a stiff climb for his demonstration. All the more remarkable when you consider he was standing in for Tony Lally, whose demo we still have to look forward to. Above all days, on this day I had to leave at the break and I am indebted to Gerry Ryan for supplying supplementary notes for the following account. Apologies in advance to Seamus and to all, for any omissions or inaccuracies: as Seamus says 'sure it's only a blessed hobby anyway!' (Mind you, 'blessed' doesn't ring a bell!!)

Anyway, on with the story.



Seamus set out to show us how to turn an inside-out table lamp. As ever, size and proportions are not 'laid down'. Seamus' base was 175mm (7") diameter and the stem height about 380mm (15"). All wooden parts were mahogany. The turned component parts comprise:

1. The outer stem - 4 pieces turned inside and out, to match
2. The inner stem - 1 piece, carrying the flex
3. The top - carrying the bulb-holder
4. The base with 4 ball-feet.

Outer Stem

It is essential that all 4 pieces are fully square and of equal measurement. Seamus used 2 discs of plywood as 'gable-ends' for holding the 4 pieces together. The ends are attached to the end pieces by 4 countersunk screws at each end. Prior to screwing these home it is advisable to mark a cross bearing numbers 1 to 4 on the face of each end-piece which attaches to the stem pieces, and similarly mark the stem pieces so that they can be reattached, each with arrows pointing outwards, ensuring that each screw enters the same piece when they are reversed. It is also a good idea to slightly countersink the holes on the inner face of the end pieces so as to be sure that they lie flat and true. As it was, a slight off-centre problem at the headstock end only served to show Seamus' coolness under pressure as he reached for the duct tape.

Mount the whole piece between centres. Mark at each end the limit of the shaped area, leaving a square section. Turn to a cylinder. Turn the profile as desired. Remove, reverse and remount, checking that all arrows are now pointing inwards, and again, numbers matching up. The inner pieces can be glued as 2 pairs if you wish. You have to leave them as 2 separate halves to enable the inner stem to be enclosed later. Mark the limit on each end of the shaped area. Also mark the topmost and lowest points of all beads and coves. Carefully turn the now-outside to match the now-inside. Be very patient now, with no limit to the number of times you stop the lathe to check on the sympathy between the inner and outer form.

Inner Stem

This piece is mounted between centres and cylinderised. It is now long-bored for the flex — 9mm (5/16") dia. there are various forms of long hole boring kits on the market. Seamus used a 12" augur bit.

The piece is then carefully turned to conform to the profile of the outer stem, checking often! It's a good idea to hold the already turned sections in line again and again to get a 'visual' on how the copy-turning is going. A 25mm (1") spigot is turned at one end for eventual insertion into the base of the lamp. This and the outer stem pieces were now glued and clamped by means of suitably sized jubilee clips.



The Top

This is turned separately. It is fashioned to suit the type of bulb-holder you intend using i.e. one which screws straight into the stem or one in which a threaded flange is screwed to the top of the stem. This piece, of course, needs to be bored to accept the cable also. It may be attached to the main stem by the same spigot and hole method as applies to the stem-to-base.

The Base

Seamus used a piece of mahogany 175mm (7") x 37.5mm (1½"). This was mounted on a screw chuck. He turned a bevel of about 25mm (1") so that the ball-feet would be splayed outward for maximum stability. He also turned a dovetail

recess to suit his chuck. This enables the piece to be held while the upper part is formed, and a 25mm (1") diameter hole is drilled which will accept the stem-spigot.



The Legs

Seamus used 4 ball-shaped feet with a short spigot. This necessitated the drilling of the base at 4 equidistant points to accept the foot-spigots. Seamus had a simple method for this: tap the centre with a 4-prong drive and simply 'follow' the lines out to the bevel. Another way would be if you have an old discarded clock face: follow the 'line' of 12, 3, 6 and 9 (thanks to Johnny Weatherall!)



Well, there you have it. Or as much as Gerry and myself can muster, I found that part of the demo that I was able to stay for, as entertaining as it was challenging. Now I daren't finish without meeting a formal requirement by Seamus himself regarding the report of his demonstration. That is, to record his indebtedness to Donal Brown, who was his mentor in bringing him into possession of the sophisticated turning skills involved in this project. So, as well as for Seamus, let's hear it for Donal! Well done lads!

Note: just for those who may be new to lamp-making. Do be careful with regard to your own safety and physical wellbeing when working on such an item. But also, and very importantly, there are strict criteria for the wiring of such a product and the suitability of the electrical components. There are plenty of well informed chapter members, young and old, who can set you straight on all of this. Avail yourself of their knowledge and experience.

Pacelli O'Rourke

Photos by Hugh Flynn, and Tom Delaney

Competition Winners for September and October

Colm Hyland's bowl won the September Advanced competition. ▶



Willie Reville claimed a second win for the year and with it promotion from the beginners section with this lamp at the September meeting. ▲



◀ Tony Hartney confirmed the top spot in the experienced section with maximum points for this laminated bowl in September.



▲ Michael Fay's bowl came first in the Advanced section in the final competition of the chapter year in October



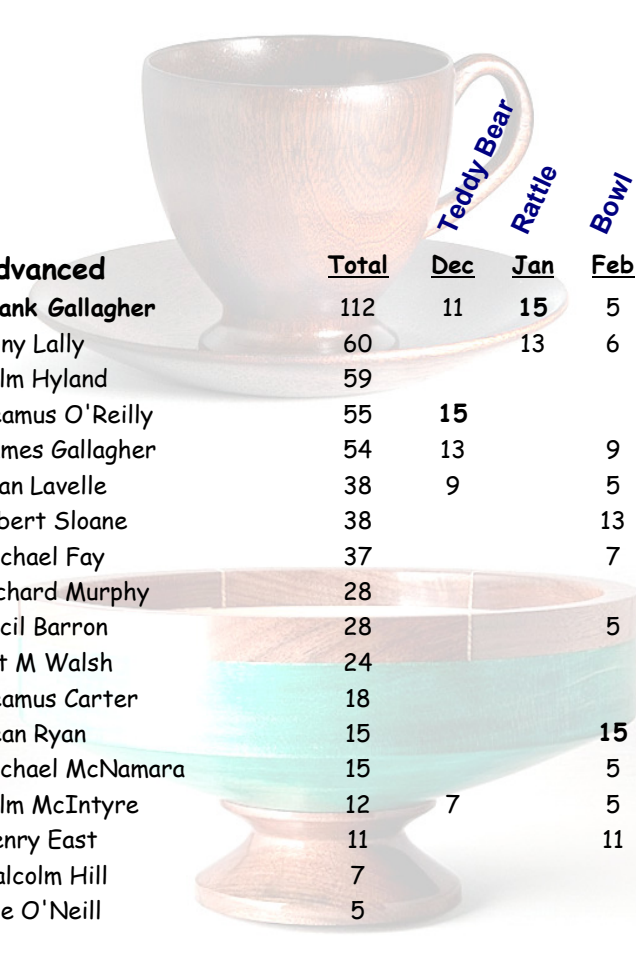
▲ Gerry Ryan took first place in the experienced section for October's Off-Centre Turning competition.



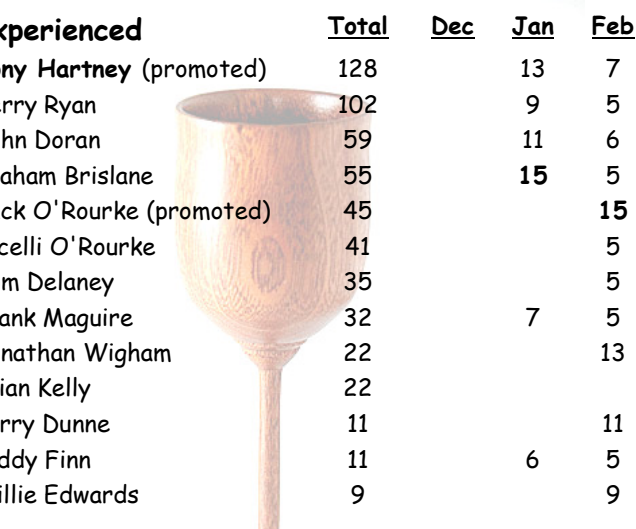
◀ Mark Daly wound up a great year with a fourth win in the beginner's section to make sure he finished top of the table.

Photos by Hugh Flynn.

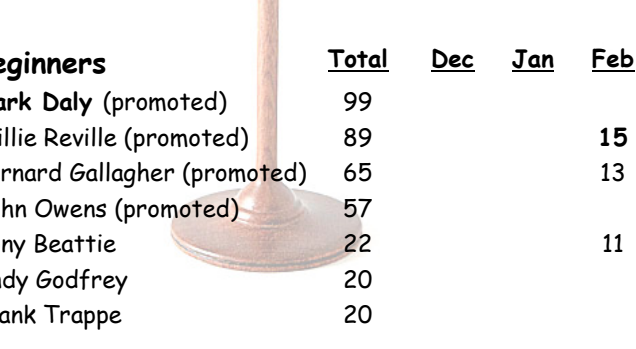
Final 2010 Competition Standings



		Teddy Bear		Rattle	Bowl	Goblet	Puzzle	Open Competition	Platter	Box	Candlesticks	Laminated Turning	Off-Centre Turning
Advanced	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	
Frank Gallagher	112	11	15	5	6	11	15	5	7	15	11	11	
Tony Lally	60		13	6	11	6		5	6	13			
Colm Hyland	59				15		9	11	9		15		
Seamus O'Reilly	55	15			13	9		5				13	
James Gallagher	54	13		9		13	13	6					
Fran Lavelle	38	9		5	9	15							
Albert Sloane	38			13		7		7	11				
Michael Fay	37			7					15			15	
Richard Murphy	28							15	13				
Cecil Barron	28			5				9	5			9	
Pat M Walsh	24						11	13					
Seamus Carter	18								5		13		
Sean Ryan	15			15									
Michael McNamara	15			5	5			5					
Colm McIntyre	12	7		5									
Henry East	11			11									
Malcolm Hill	7				7								
Joe O'Neill	5							5					



Experienced	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Tony Hartney (promoted)	128		13	7	13	11	15	11	15	15	15	13
Gerry Ryan	102		9	5	11	9	13	9	11	9	11	15
John Doran	59		11	6	5		11	6	7		13	
Graham Brislane	55		15	5	6	13	9	7				
Jack O'Rourke (promoted)	45			15	15			15				
Pacelli O'Rourke	41			5	7			5	13	11		
Tom Delaney	35			5					6	13		11
Frank Maguire	32		7	5	5	15						
Jonathan Wigham	22			13	9							
Brian Kelly	22							13	9			
Barry Dunne	11			11								
Paddy Finn	11		6	5								
Willie Edwards	9			9								



Beginners	Total	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Mark Daly (promoted)	99				13	13		15	15	15	13	15
Willie Reville (promoted)	89			15	11			11	13	11	15	13
Bernard Gallagher (promoted)	65			13	15			13		13		11
John Owens (promoted)	57				9	15	15	9	9			
Tony Beattie	22			11					11			
Andy Godfrey	20						13			7		
Frank Trappe	20									9	11	



Tallaght Library Exhibition

Monday 6th to Friday 10th December 2010

This years exhibition at Tallaght library will take place during the week beginning Monday 6th December. There will be woodturning demonstration on Thursday 9th and Frank Maguire is looking for a volunteer to do this as well as volunteers to help man the exhibition during the week.

Frank is also be looking for items that can sold in aid of the Alzheimer's Society at the exhibition to be donated at the chapter meeting on Saturday 4th December. As usual all donated items will be placed in competition for the Tim McGill Trophy.

Anyone willing to offer assistance , please contact Frank or a member of the committee.

Tree Day 2010

Bliain na Beithe—Year of the Birch

Thanks to Malcolm Hill who gave me an interesting newspaper cutting about this years Tree Day. The event took place on 7th October as many primary schools took the opportunity to participate in guided woodland walks at over 120 locations throughout the country. These walks were hosted by Tree Council member organisations including Coillte, the National Parks & Wildlife Service, the Heritage Service of the OPW, the Dublin local authorities and private owners.

Tree Day was first held in 1997 and has since grown from strength to strength with hundreds of thousands of pupils estimated to have taken part in a woodland walk for the day. It ensures that each child who passes through the primary school curriculum will have eight full days of education about trees during the primary school cycle.

Each year a different tree is celebrated on Tree Day. In recent years the trees chosen have included ash, aspen, alder, arbutus. This year it was the turn of birch, one of our most common natives.

The tree council's website has a page devoted to tree day (www.treecouncil.ie/treeday.html) with lots of posters and information sheets to download. There are some interesting facts on the site including:

Birch trees can reach a height of up to 30m. They achieve maturity at about fifty years of age, but can live up to about one hundred years. The tallest birch in Ireland is a downy birch, 25m high growing in Derreen, Co. Kerry. It is estimated that a single, mature, silver birch tree can support up to 334 different species of insect and other invertebrates.

Many place names in Ireland are called after birch in the Irish format beith. For example, Ballybay in Co Monaghan derives from Béal Átha Beithe ('Mouth of the Ford of the Birch') and Glenbeigh, Co Kerry comes from Gleann Beithe, ('Valley of the Birch'). Kilbehenny, Co. Tipperary comes from Coill Beithne ('Birch Wood'). The surname 'Birch' is said to be derived from residing at or near a birch-tree or in a birch wood. A mature birch tree can produce up to 1 million seeds per year.

A resinous substance called birch tar can be extracted from the bark. It is very rich in tannins and has been used for curing leather. The oldest known sample of chewing gum is a piece of birch bark tar estimated to be 6,500 years old. It seems to have been chewed by a person 30-40 years old with a cavity in one tooth!

Dublin Winner in Armagh

It is always lovely to see the chapter represented among the competition winners at the National Seminar. This year was no different as Pat Walsh took third place in the open competition in with this beautiful large platter in figured maple. Congratulations Pat.



Tree Teaser



I wonder how many of you can identify the tree that produces the flower in these pictures?



You can find the answer the next newsletter.

Message from Nell O'Riordan

Colm McIntyre recently received a card from Nell O'Riordan, the wife of our former treasurer Harry O'Riordan, who sadly passed away earlier this year.

As well as expressing her kind sentiments, Nell generously donated €100 to the chapter in Harry's memory.

The committee have decided to pass this donation on to the Alzheimer's Society of Ireland. We would like to express our thanks to Nell and once again offer our sincere condolences on behalf of the chapter.

Dear Colm
 Thank you for your lovely letter of sympathy on behalf of the Woodturners Dublin Chapter.
 Harry loved all of you and always said what a lovely crowd you are. He always felt at ease and happy with you even at the start of his illness. From me and the family my heart-felt thanks - Sincerely Nell.

Advertisements

Woodturning Classes

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

Ace Saw Services

Offer a discount to all members of the IWG Dublin Chapter.
 Earl's Court Industrial Estate
 Beaumont Ave
 Churchtown, Dublin 14
 Telephone 01 2989115

Woodturning Classes

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

Apex Electrical Rewinds

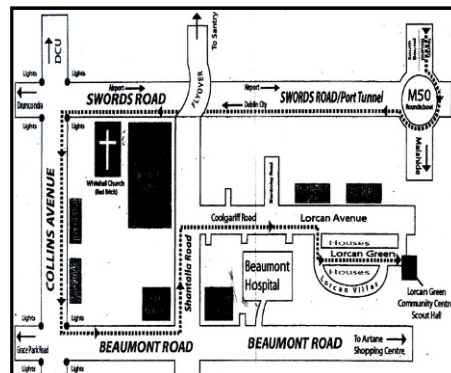
Offer a discount to all members of the IWG Dublin Chapter.
 Marrowbone Lane, Dublin 8
 Telephone 01 4541066/4541135
 www.apexrewinds.com

Woodturning Classes

Joe Laird woodturning Studios
 Half-Day, Full-Day, Evening and Weekend classes available (up to 5 students) for all skill levels.
 Ph: 01 825 8079 / 087 269 8027
 www.joelairdwoodturning.com

Hennessy Glass Company

Are offering a discount to all members of the IWG Dublin Chapter.
 266 Lower Kimmage Road
 Dublin 6W
 Telephone 01 4925920



Dublin East Central Chapter meet on the second Saturday of each month in Lorcan Green Community Centre / Scout Hall from 2.00 pm.
 Tel: 086 8241470
 www.eastcentralchapter.com



Dublin 15 Chapter meet on the 3rd Thursday of every month, 7:30pm to 10pm, at the BRACE Centre, Main St, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15.
 www.craobhcuigdeag.org

If you have anything to contribute to the newsletter then please contact the editor at DWT.Newsletter@gmail.com on 0868 327985 or in person.