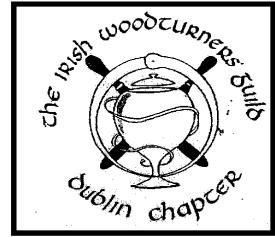


IRISH WOODTURNERS GUILD

DUBLIN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Volume 1, Issue 4

Editor's Comment

April 2006

- **Dublin Chapter member becomes National Guild President**
- Travel News from Una Sheerin down under!
- New committee members
- New demonstrators for 2006
- March Demo Notes
- Upcoming events
- National Tree Week
- Gorey Details

Competition pieces for 2006

May 2006

Salt and Pepper Shakers

June 2006

Pen

The weather has a way of causing mayhem to the best of plans and our plans to have Willie Creighton demonstrate at last months meeting suffered such a fate. Willie and his family found themselves snowed under literally. Willie was trying up to the last moment to travel but had to admit defeat as the weather closed in but hopefully we will enjoy the pleasure of Willies company at a later date this year. Congratulations to Margaret Creighton on becoming the new National Guild Treasurer and we all wish her well in her new position Willie may have to think up some new excuses for attending seminars from now on!!

The problem of a demonstrator for March was still to be dealt with and due to several members attending the Gorey Seminar the task fell to Peter Mulvaney to step in and save the day. Anybody who has given a demo will tell you that there is quite a lot of preparation involved in preparing for a demo such as tool preparation, timber selection, preparing notes arranging for an appropriate lathe to be available and making sure that all your accessories, chucks etc will fit and so on. Peter had no such luxury and in the short time available to him he managed to arrange all his equipment, materials and subject for the demo so well done Peter. And as usual his demo proved to be a great success especially with many of the beginners as he returned to basics and gave a detailed description of the various tools and how to use them along with many of his tips and tricks learnt over the years. The pace of the demo was aimed at the newcomers so that they could absorb the huge amount of information being presented. Unfortunately I was one of the absentee members this month so I am relaying this account from the many people who have commented on Peters demonstration. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Peter on becoming the President of the National Guild at the recent AGM. We also have a new national membership secretary Niall Cahill also from the Dublin chapter.

It is a great reflection on the Dublin chapter that we have so many people committed to promoting all aspects of woodturning both locally and nationally. And it is up to all the rest of the ordinary members like you and me to support them in their efforts. These people give so much of their own family time in order to keep the guild functioning that it should be recognised and supported. Once again the AGM was attended by 59 people out of a membership of several hundred. Come on folks we can do better than that and if we want the international esteem in which the Irish guild is held to continue then we must show our support for the national guild when asked, its only once a year and well notified to all members. With the skills and talent available throughout the country we can achieve any thing we set our sights on!!

Demonstrators for 2006

May: Adrian Finley
June: Charlie Ryan
July: Peter Mulvaney

Exhibition Committee for 2006

Michael Fay	087-6681345
Adrian Finlay	01-4527490
Tom Ford	01-4505543
Frank Gallagher	01-4902879
Helen Mullally	01-6265771

Update on the Family Day Seminar in Larch Hill on July 8th

Larch Hill Family Day

Date: JULY 8TH

Venue: Larch Hill Scout Camp

Time: 9:30 am opening

Cost: €30.00 per person

€50.00 per family

Demonstrations start time

10:00am — 11:30am

12:00 am — 1:30pm

2:30am — 4:00pm

Events for the day!!

Pottery

Falconry

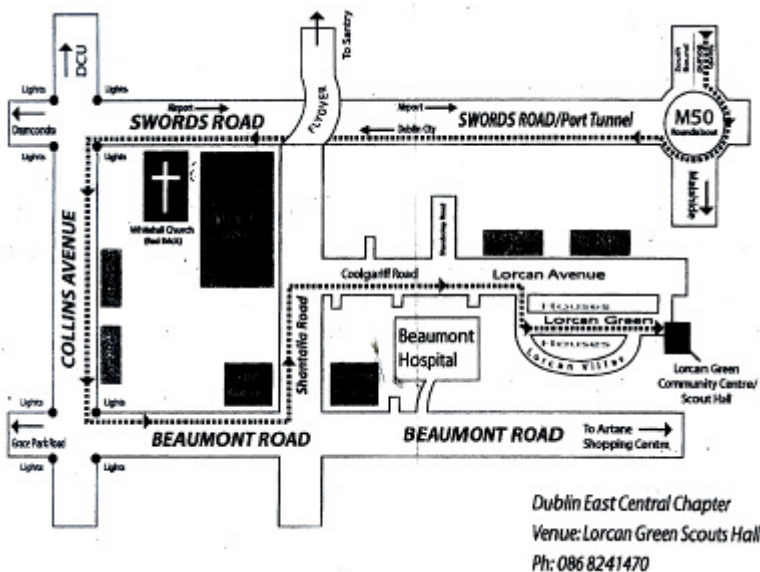
Beekeeping

Pole lathe turning

Photography

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.



Demonstrators will include

Seamus Cassidy

Danny McGeever

Owen Donnelly

Christine Van Bussel

Tom McDonagh

Hugh Flynn

Peter Hoare

Seamus Carter

Joe Laird

Irene Christy

Chris Lawlor

Richard Murphy

Trade Stands In attendance on the day

Booking arrangements

Please use the Booking form on the back page. Completed booking forms including entrance fee should be returned by **June 16th** to facilitate the organisers with food arrangements etc. your help in this matter would be very much appreciated.

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

Travel News From Una Sheerin

Networking in New Zealand

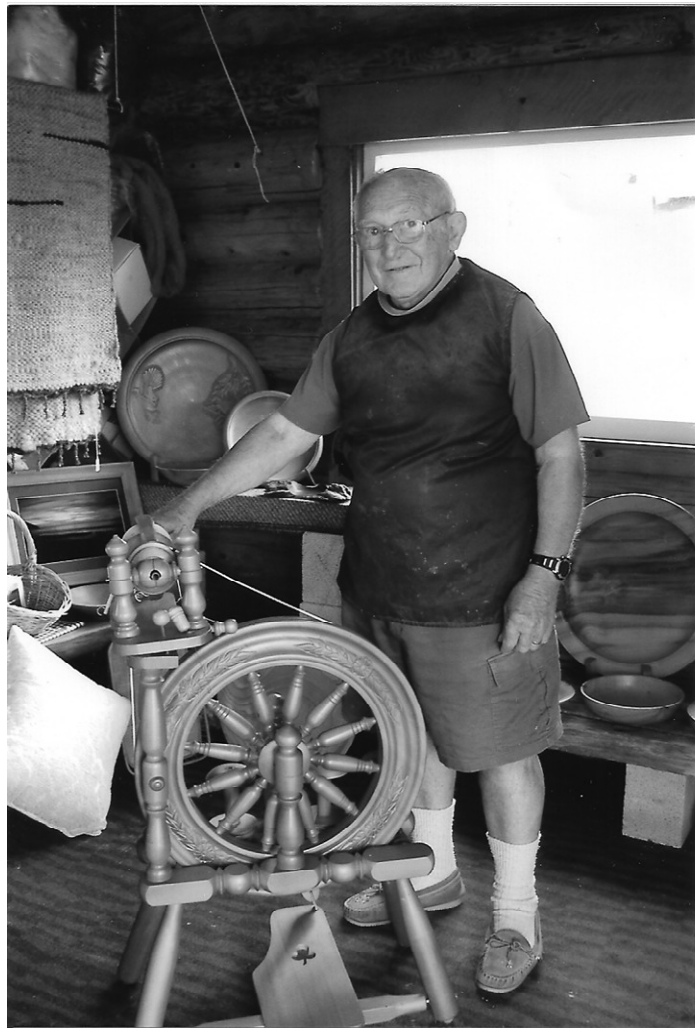
Family occasions can offer many opportunities especially if they are south of the Equator and across a time zone. My niece planned her wedding in New Zealand in February. It's a long way to go for a wedding, so why not include a bit of site seeing, visiting friends of friends and maybe throw in a visit to some Woodturners.

The wedding was in the east coast of the north island, in a place called Mahia on Hawks Bay. A Google search turned up the Woodturners' Guild in Mahia and the contact name was Bill

O'Connell. Well, that was all I needed so I contacted Bill by email and had a very prompt response. Date and time was arranged for a visit to Bills Studio.

Little did I know, having gone astray in Mahia, we would round a corner and land up in Bill's front yard. His house is called Cappamore Lodge — his grandfather being from Cappamore in Co. Limerick. His studio and holiday cottages have the most magnificent view of the cliffs and sea. So we got our directions, agreed on a time for the proper visit and headed off to ensure the wedding took place. It was celebrated on a beach, very different and beautiful.

Next day I arrived at Bills at 11am. He invited me to make some shavings and had a Kauri bowl blank ready to put on his Nova Lathe. Murphy's Law - there was a big knot just beneath the surface, which made the blank difficult to turn.



However, there was much more to learn from Bill. He showed me his selection of tools and gave me an overview and demonstrated his vacuum chuck. The motor was from recycled milking machine, one tube is taken to the outside and buried 3 — 4 ft in the ground, giving good suction when the motor is turned on. It made very little noise (quite soothing) when operated in comparison with the commercial vacuum chucks, and just as effective. Bill also showed me his carvings and equipment — among which was a Dremel. The Studio was well organized with everything to hand. It transpired that Bill who is in his late 70s is slowly losing his sight. However, he has come through a rough period — not turning or carving, but he is happily now back at the lathe. He relies on his wife Margaret to assess finishes for him before the final polishing. Bill uses sanding sealer, oil and bri-wax, depending on the item and finish required. He showed me two beds he turned — real family heir looms. He also turned a spinning wheel (he does not intend turning another one!!) and is an experienced spinner. His wife Margaret, weaves the wool on her loom. They both sell their products locally and through good outlets. The few hours I spent with Bill will be treasured — he is great company and a mine of knowledge and inspiration. We were staying locally, and the following day, Bills daughter and grandson called around with a gift for me of a beautiful carved platter. What a kind gesture by Bill.

Bill invited me to stay for the next weekend seminar. It was very tempting!! A gang from

Gisborne were traveling to joining the local Mahia group for a fest of turning at Bill's place. He was planning a few interesting challenges for the guys. We were traveling home that weekend.

There are strict regulations around bringing wooden items to New Zealand. Wood has to be finished and sealed. They are very protective of their environment. I had a wedding goblet for the Bride and Groom and a handful of key rings for Bill. These were all inspected by Officers at the Airport.

My thanks to Bill and Margaret for a most enjoyable visit.

GOREY DETAILS (Part one)

Albert Harrison.

Gorey Chapter Seminar 2006

Lathe Used for Demonstration:	Vicmarc VL300
Wood used:	Cherry
First piece turned:	Coffee Scoop

The blank was placed in the lathe between centres and turned to a cylinder, each end was then squared off and a spigot turned on one end to suit the O'Donnell jaws that Albert was using. Squaring of each end of the blank also helps the spigot to sit squarely in the chuck jaws. Having reversed the blank into the chuck and ensured it was tightened securely Albert then turned a ball shape at the tailstock end. He used a spindle gouge and a skew to show that it was possible to use either. The ball shape looked perfect to me but Albert had a neat little gadget comprising of a hole saw which is normally used by electricians to cut holes in metal trunking but this one had been modified to be used on the lathe. The hole saw had been adapted by grinding of the teeth and fitting a handle (see diagram A). The hole saw must be a smaller size than the sphere being turned to prevent snatching. The hole saw is used scraper fashion to produce a near perfect sphere in a very short space of time.

Whilst using the skew and the spindle gouge to turn the sphere Albert explained that the tool handle must be kept close to the body for support and to aid control. He then sanded and sealed the ball before moving on to shape the handle section of the scoop and then parted off at the chuck. Albert uses a mould which matches the shape of the scoop to hold it safely whilst cutting the piece on the band saw. He made his mould using car body filler and by pressing a finished scoop into the mixture he now had a much safer way of holding the scoops for cutting once the filler had set hard. After cutting on the band saw he is left with two scoops which must be sanded to a finish along the top edges. Once again Albert had a gadget to make the job easier and quicker. He had taken a square blank and having cut a narrow slot along its length he then turns it to a cylinder. He then wraps a number of different grades of sandpaper around the cylinder and secures each piece with small wedges in the aforementioned slot. The drum sander can be fitted to the lathe and the scoops etc placed against the various grades of paper until the desired finish is achieved (see diagram B). Albert had a small flap wheel sander fitted to one end of the drum and he explained that he used this to remove any sharp edges left after sanding.

Albert then fitted nylon jaws to the chuck to hold the scoop while he hollowed the inside of the bowl section. The nylon jaws can be purchased as blanks and turned easily to suit whatever shape you might need. The scoop's bowl section is held below the centre line and surprisingly it didn't pop out as we expected, however if it is held closer to the centre line then it will have a tendency to work its way loose according to Albert. At this stage Albert had drilled a small 1/8th inch hole in the centre of the bowl section to help gauge the depth when he started to hollow the bowl section (see diagram C). Albert hollowed the bowl using a 1/4 inch spindle gouge which he grinds as a bowl gouge. He removes material cutting from the centre to the outside edge gradually working his way deeper into the bowl section. Having finished the hollowing he then removed any minor tool marks from the piece using a small scraper tip which is available from Sorbys. He prefers to apply a liquid paraffin finish to food utensils or food safe finishing oil.

The finished scoop was passed around for viewing and the finish was superb as usual from Albert.

The newest member (CR) from a newly formed group the "Eastcoast Turners" was heard to remark that he was going to burn his tools when he got home (north or south), probably just as well they looked like trouble makers to me!!

Diagram A

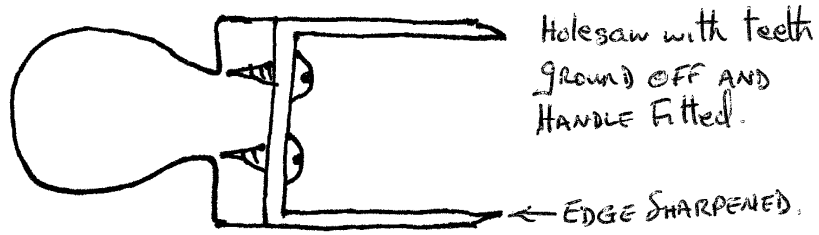


Diagram B

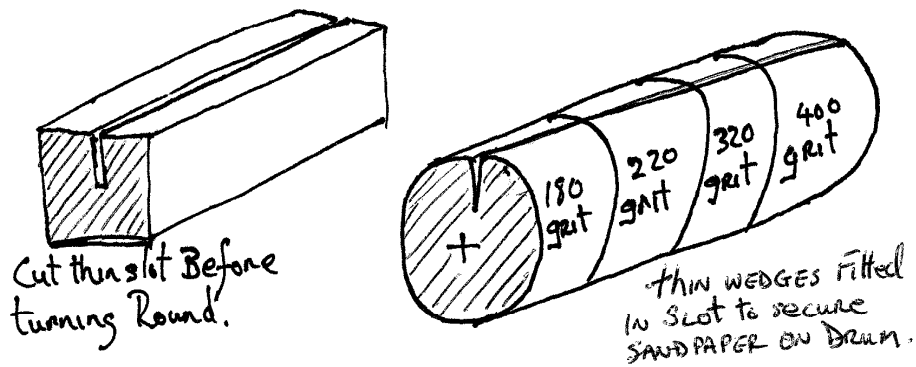
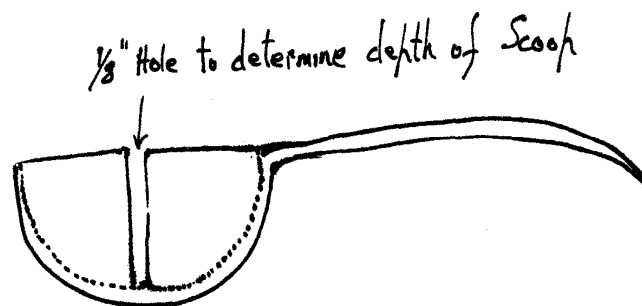


Diagram C



DEMO NOTES

Chapter Meeting March 2006-04-03

Notes supplied by Pacelli O'Rourke

The scheduled demonstrator for this meeting was Willie Creighton. Unfortunately Willie found himself snow-bound. So, in the best tradition of professional performance, 'the show' had to go on, and up to the plate stepped the stalwart Peter Mulvaney

He decided to give a general 'back to basics' demo on spindle turning which I'm sure proved as invaluable to newcomers as it was refreshing to all.. The demo revolved around a number of important tools, including sharpening of same. However, the first item was marking and mounting rectangular stock.

MARKING AND MOUNTING

Peter's preferred method is to hold pencil and fingers steady against one end of the stock, with the pencil-lead just short of the half way mark. Inscribe a line parallel to the edge. Repeat on the remaining sides. It is relatively easy then to find the centre of this much reduced image of the wood-end. The process is now repeated on the opposite end. The drive-prong is now tapped sharply into one of the centre-points. Peter prefers the two pronged drive rather than the four pronged, as it sinks more easily into the end grain providing superior grip. The stock is now ready to be mounted on the lathe. The height of the tool rest, which ought to be parallel to the stock, should be such that the cutting edge of the tool will meet the shoulders of the wood at '9 O'clock (i.e. the height of the axis of drive, if you imagine the end-view of the stock as a clock face). When the wood is held securely between the head and tail stocks, and the anchoring screw on the tail stock has been tightened up, give a final check that the tool rest, which should be about one eighth of an inch from the wood, runs clear through a full revolution. Always stand to one side the first time you spin newly mounted stock-just in case! Regarding stance: The turner should be standing with feet apart opposite the drive end of the stock. Movement along the cutting axis is achieved by bending the legs as appropriate. As regards speed, probably 'moderate' is a reasonable term for best practice. For example on a DML, the middle speed of 900 RPM would suit most spindle turning jobs. Remember, the larger the diameter, the greater the speed of rotation at the circumference. Keep the elbows in to the torso. Let body weight shift from foot to foot in the direction of the cut. Make sure the point of cut on the tool is directly supported by the tool rest. Otherwise you will become an expert on digs'n'catches!! Always turn downhill, where there is fibre-support for the cutting edge of the tool.

THE ROUGHING OUT GOUGE

Peter had wisely brought along his grinder and went through the bevel roll technique for sharpening this tool. We were reminded that it is only when the sparks are 'dancing' over the top edge of the tool, that the all important burr edge is being raised. At this point the tool is simply rolled from side to side at the appropriate angle. Try to end up with a single bevel. It is important that the grinding wheel is continually 'dressed' i.e. kept flat across its edge, countering the depression which will appear from use, around the middle. A small devil stone is used for this purpose. One should never apply much pressure to anything one puts against the grinding wheel. Give it the time it needs. Without minimising the paramount importance of safety, Peter is of the school which maintains that one needs to develop one's own feel for the tool. "Don't be too influenced

Larch Hill Trees

The closing ceremony for tree week at Larch Hill was a great success again this year. Thanks to all who attended. A very special thanks to Peter Mulvaney and Joe O'Neill for a fantastic woodturning demonstration also thanks to Terry Cruise for his help in setting up. Thanks to Christy Byrne for bringing the family along it was nice to meet them.

Thanks again,
Barry Dunne.

Trees At Larch Hill.

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.

New Committee Members for 2006

<u><i>Position</i></u>	<u><i>Members Name</i></u>	<u><i>Contact details</i></u>
Chairman:	Charles Ryan	087-6123936
Secretary:	Peter Mulvaney	01-2802745 (H)
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