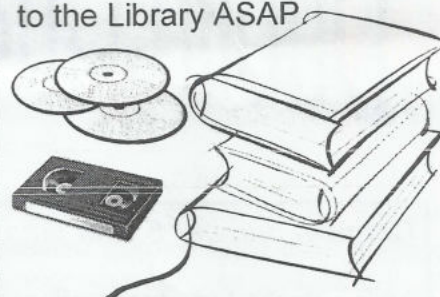


## Committee Members for 2008

<u>Position</u>	<u>Members Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Chairman	Jonathan Wigham	01-4932890
Secretary	Tommy Boyle	087-6995111
Treasurer	Paddy Finn	087-9801142
Competitions	Tom Delaney	087-9504690
Books & Video	John Killoran	01-4903410
Workshops	Chris Lawlor	087-6484380
Exhibitions	Graham Brislane	087-2914770
Newsletter	Rich Varney	086-8327985

## Library Returns Please!!

If you still have any books, videos or DVDs lying around the house please return them to the Library ASAP



## Competition Pieces

- March: A goblet with one captive ring for Beginners  
An off centre goblet with two captive rings for Experienced & Advanced.
- April: A small box (plus special open competition).
- May: A gavel and anvil.
- June: A platter.
- July: A walking stick.



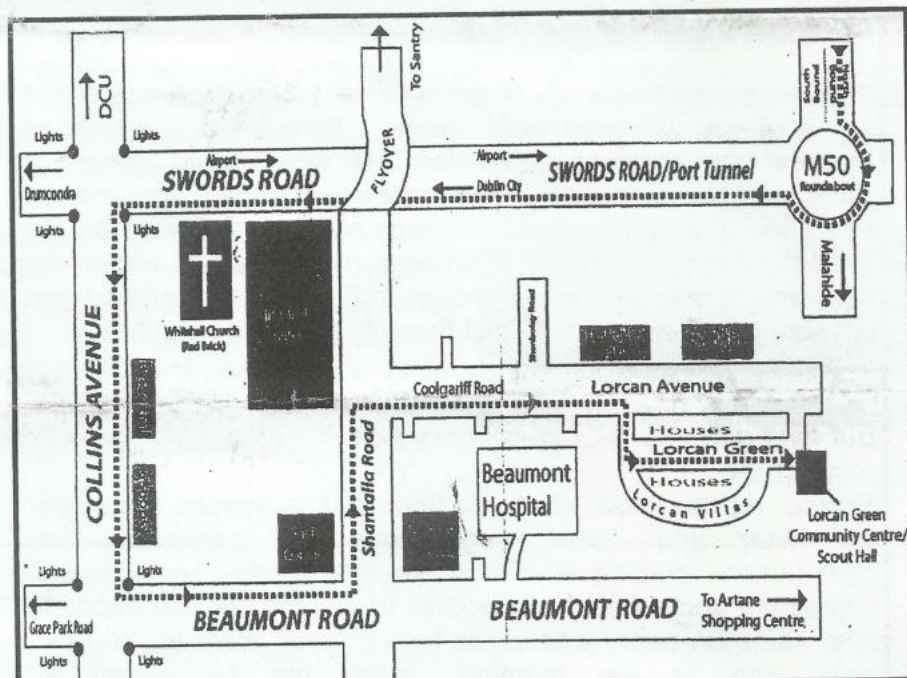
Tony Beattie is looking for old journals etc. that anyone no longer needs or wants.

Contact:

Tony Beatty  
210 St Peters Road  
Greenhills

Tel: 01-4509618

E-mail: [tony.beatty@upcmail.ie](mailto:tony.beatty@upcmail.ie)



## Dublin East Central Chapter

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

## Special Competition for April

Cecil Baron will be providing wood blanks at the February meeting for a special competition to be judged at the April meeting. All of these pieces will be retained by the Chapter to be sold in aid of the Alzheimer's Society at the exhibition at Tallaght Hospital in May.

### Found on the interweb...

My wife came in today and asked if I would go do some turning. "Ahh!", I excitedly asked, "What do you need?" Expecting her to perhaps ask for a new dibber or possibly a rolling pin or a vase. "I have Persimmon, Hickory, Mesquite, a little bit of Walnut and a tad of Oak. What would you like?"

"Oh, I don't care. I need about six bags of shavings for the flower beds."

I have often been asked about using shavings in the garden as a mulch or on the compost heap. Well I use most of my sawdust and shavings on the compost heap provided it is well mixed in with plenty of green material and a little Sulphate of Ammonia. However I came across an article in a magazine recently on this subject which I would like to share with you. It says the following.

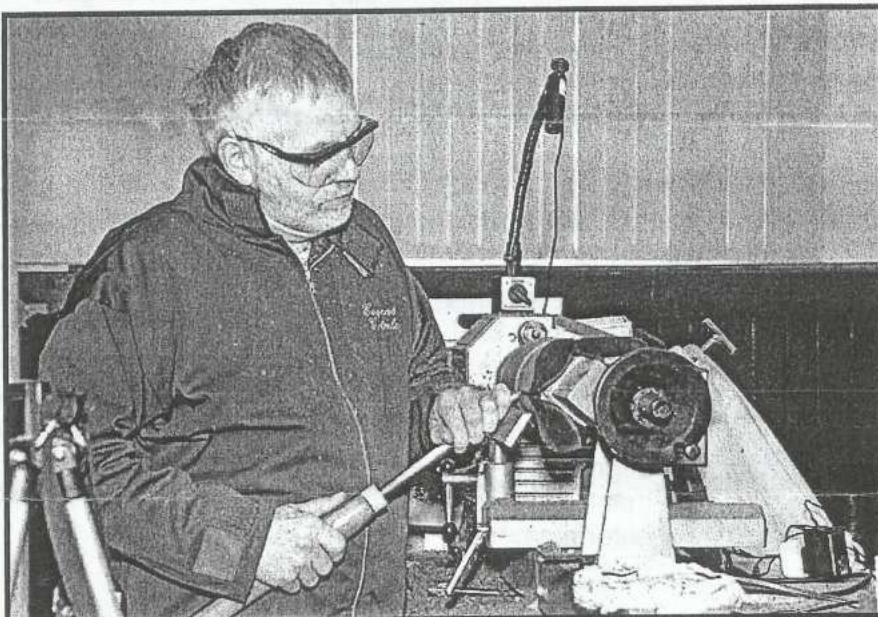
"A 1 to 2 inch layer of shavings or sawdust is an excellent mulch. It holds moisture well and prevents weeds from sprouting. Cedar, walnut and treated timber, however, contains chemicals that plants do not like so you should avoid these. Contrary to popular belief, sawdust will not leach nitrogen from the soil as long as it is left on the surface. It is true that the microbes feasting on the sawdust will seek an additional source of

nitrogen to flourish, but they will not rob much from the soil below if the mulch is kept as a separate layer. A year or so later is the time to dig it in around your plants you should then add some fertiliser and all should be well."

A last word from me to say it is most important to mix sawdust and shavings very well with the green material, turn the compost heap regularly and do not let it get too wet or too dry. Turning a compost heap is most important as it aerates and loosens it up this speeds up the process of making good compost.

*Barry Dunne.*

## Shavings



While we are on the subject of composting... I have a ~80 Litre round plastic (empty, I hasten to add) compost bin that is taking up much needed space in my garden. It's free to anyone that wants it on a first come basis.

Contact Rich Varney on  
086-8327985

*Eugene Grimley demonstrates inside-out turning at January's meeting.*

## Inside Out.

Eugene Grimley, Secretary of the Irish Woodturners' Guild, was our first Demonstrator of 2008. (Actually I think I recognised his face from among the many photos of the Ballina attendance that are reproduced in the latest IWG Journal - we are really lucky to have such a good journal.... Yes, Joe O'Neill's picture is there too.)

Eugene gave a brilliantly clear demo of an "inside out" turning. I cannot remember many demonstrations that kept the audience so quiet and attentive. A good number of those present felt that at last they were prepared to "have a go" at something they had considered too challenging. I for one was very impressed that he used only one tool for 95% of the work, and he didn't sharpen the gouge even once.

Without trying to describe Eugene's work in full I stored away the following bits and pieces:

- Good old-fashioned Resin W, and just a few spots of it, was enough to bond the sections together
- While the sections have to be reasonably level and square, the work does not require rocket science
- He is not above "scavenging" material, and table legs worked admirably
- His mix of 50/50 sanding sealer and thinners dried extra quickly
- Keeping a bit of webrax in the polish tin and using it as an applicator is a great idea
- His ingenious use of a sock to prevent his square wood "drive centre" from damaging the finished inside of the work piece
- He pressed an ancient drum sander into service to finish the curved outside leaves
- If we could not afford the excellent Steb centres he was using, we could just stick on a piece of scrap wood to avoid the point of the centre splitting the sections apart
- He did not forget safety tips which were important due to the extensive "shadow" areas just waiting for unwary fingers.

Finally, the members are unlikely to forget Eugene's motto - **"Don't ever say it cannot be done"**.

Gerry Ryan.

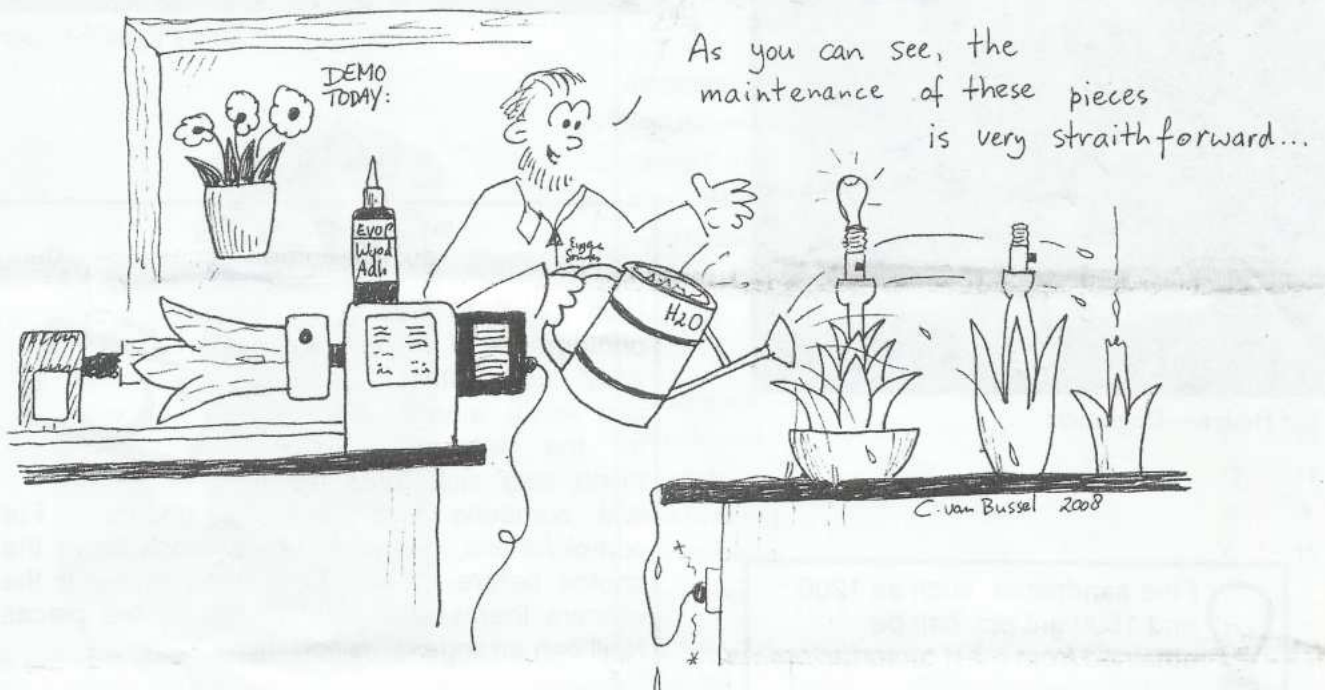
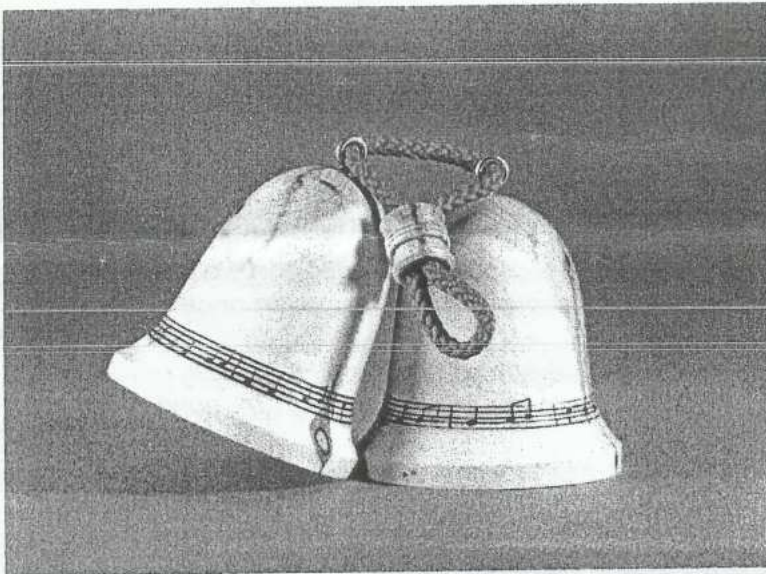


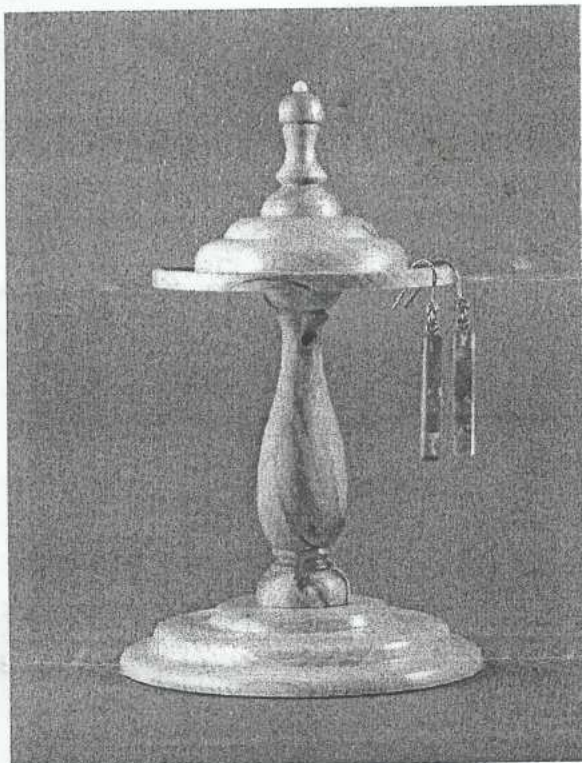
Illustration by Christiën van Bussel

December's competition item was a Christmas item.

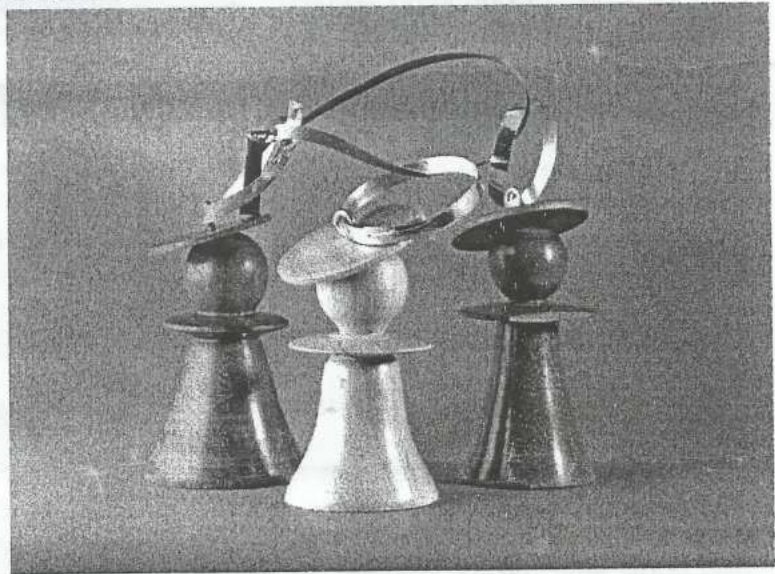


James Gallagher—Advanced

All competition and demonstration photos by Hugh Flynn.



Liz Boden—Beginners



Gerry Ryan—Experienced

### Photo Request

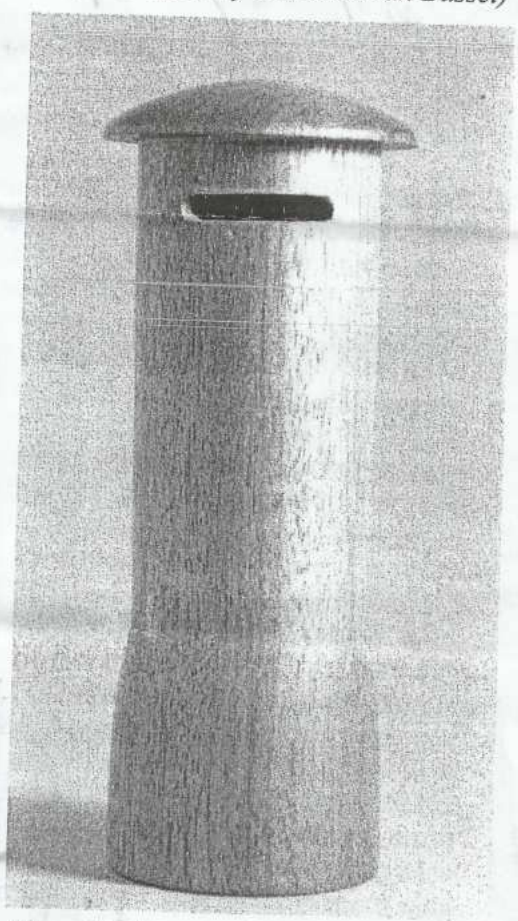
Niall Cahill is looking for photographs of the January 2007 competition (Gavel and Anvil) winning pieces for the website. Hugh Flynn was sick that time and someone else took the photos. For completeness, he would like to track down the photos before it's too late. Alternatively if the winners themselves have photos of the pieces Niall can arrange to upload them.



Fine sandpaper, such as 1200 and 1500 grit etc. can be obtained from most motorfactors.

Mick Byrne

January's competition item was a money box.  
 (Illustration by Christi n van Bussel)



Steve Harbourne—Beginners



Michael Fay—Advanced



Tony Hartney—Experienced

### Competition Results 2008

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>Jan</u>
<b><u>Advanced</u></b>			
Cecil Barron	24	13	11
Michael Fay	24	9	15
James Gallagher	15	15	0
Pat M Walsh	13	0	13
Albert Sloane	11	11	0
Tony Lally	9	0	9
<b><u>Experienced</u></b>			
Colm McIntyre	24	11	13
Brian Kelly	24	13	11
Gerry Ryan	24	15	9
Tony Hartney	15	0	15
John Holmes	7	0	7
<b><u>Beginners</u></b>			
Liz Boden	15	15	0
Steve Harbourne	15	0	15

## Escape to Happy Place

There are two places at home where I can pretty much guarantee being on my own. One is the office - I work from home and it often seems that if I'm not in there working, I'm still at my desk, surfing the internet or keeping in touch with friends. Everyone says I spend too much time in there, Jacq (my wife), the kids, the dog, even me!

The other is Happy Place - that haven from the stresses of life. I can go out there and do whatever I'm in the humour of doing. Many people don't get it, only the occasional like-minded individual can understand that having somewhere to do nothing in particular is the whole point of the exercise. Jacq certainly thinks I spend too much time in Happy Place "playing" with my "toys."

Until recently Happy Place was a 12' by 8' wooden garden shed. I could barely move in there. By the time you have a lathe and one or two other tools standing around, plus assorted garden tools and boxes of heaven knows what, 96 square feet is not a big area. Added to this, the floor was springy to say the least. I never expected to be able to turn huge eccentric pieces on the DML, but if I ran anything that was even slightly unbalanced on the lathe, the shed moved around like a bouncy castle with 20 kids on it. And then there was also the issue of security. All in all, it's fair to say that I had become pretty unhappy with Happy Place and was spending less time there.

After a long concerted campaign of petitioning, whining and begging I finally convinced Jacq (or "An Bord Pleanála" as she is known around here) to release funds, and more importantly garden space to a more suitable and bigger replacement. When outline permission was suddenly granted, I was like a rabbit in headlights. I was torn between getting in builders or doing it myself, which would never have gone down well with the boss for a variety of reasons. Not least of these being that I still had to break it to her that I needed to house the contents of the shed in her conservatory for the duration. Things didn't move on for ages, while I weighed up what to do. I'd given some consideration to a steel structure, but not much as I was put off by the thought that it might be very noisy and some that I had seen about the place looked like little more than glorified shipping containers. (Hope I'm not offending anyone with a container in their back garden)

I then came across a company "Shanette Sheds" who provide steel buildings made from insulated Kingspan panels. They looked passable as far as Jacq was concerned and I felt that the insulation would help keep the place warm and soundproofed. Another big factor was that I would be able to have a good level of insulation without needing the wall thickness that would be required in a block built structure. This was important to me, given that I wanted the internal floor space of the shed to be as big as possible, while strict limits had been placed on the external dimensions.

So with my mind finally made up the new 18' by 12' shed was ordered and I set about emptying and dismantling the old one. Three months down the road the new shed is already cluttered, but that is because for the most part, stuff is sitting on the floor while I sort out storage. It's still early days, but thus far I'm extremely happy with the decision.



Happy Place is living up to its name once more.

Rich Varney

### Forthcoming Demonstrators

1 March 2008	Peter Donagh (North East Chapter)
5 April 2008	To be arranged.
3 May 2008	Roger Bennett