

routine you might say, well it would take you approx 1 minute to do that, and time is money. So Glen came up with an idea to fix his bowls to the lathe quicker. It involves a faceplate that stays on the lathe, this faceplate has two pointed spigots protruding from it on either side. In the centre of the faceplate a shaft about 20mm in diameter and 40mm in length protrudes from the centre. Now this small shaft is fitted with a bearing so that when the blank is placed on it it spins with the blank not causing any heat friction.

So all Glen has to do is drill a 20mm hole in the centre of his blanks, so when he has finished one bowl he simply removes the completed bowl from the lathe and quickly slides another bowl on, and brings the tail stock up to lock the blank onto the lathe.



One of Glens great abilities is to not lose his audience, his method of constantly explaining what he was doing and why kept everyone locked into his demo. The first item he turned was a square edge bowl, which was superbly executed from start to finish. Glen demonstrated his turning method to us (no not another one) yes.. It is really quite difficult to explain this in words, but basically the first thing the sharpness of his tools are amazing, now if you hold a bowl gouge and draw a red line down the middle of the flute, you then present the gouge holding it at a 45 degree vertical angle to your work piece. Now looking at the red line in the flute roll the gouge to your left until you can only just see the red line. Now putting your gouge tip onto your work so that the bevel is still rubbing, you can start removing wood...sorry that's the best way I can put it, come and see the video and all will be explained.



GLEN LUCAS DEMONSTRATION

As I said earlier this demonstration was a real gem, and if you missed it you have to see his video which we will be screening at this months meeting.

As we all know Glen is an Irishman thru and thru, and moment you see him with his infectious smile you feel as if you have known him all his life.

Glen started his demo by showing us a slide show of his daily life back in Ireland, and if you think all Irishmen spend all day in the Pub, sorry you are wrong. I don't think I have ever meet anyone with the work ethic of Glen.

As a comercial woodturner he supplies a commercial customer with several sizes of wooden bowls. Well no big deal, a lot of woodturners do much of the same thing. Well probably not on the scale of this turner, how about 300 bowls a week. If you stop and think about this, turning the bowl, ok, but also think about handling that much wood. He has a mill that slabs his wood for him, he then has to cut the slabs, take the slabs to the bandsaw to be cut into rounds, turn the wet blanks(by pallet load) that then have to be put into a container with a dehumidifyer to dry until they have a moister content of about 10%. They are them removed and taken into the turning shop to be turned to completion. The order is then formulated and packaged and dispatched to the client. Now if that is not enough, Glen also runs a turning school from the same premises and is demonstrating all over the world for six months of the year.

Time is money when you are a profesional, so to reduce the production cost of making his bowls he explained and showed us one of his time saving methods. Now to pick up a blank, get the faceplate and screw it onto the blank, then screw that onto the lathe?. Fairly standard