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Crafts Council *of* Ireland

Crafts Council of Ireland newsletter

september 2003

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CRAFT INDUSTRY REPORT
Key Findings for 2002

For the past three years, the Crafts Council of Ireland has commissioned a sectoral analysis of the craft sector in Ireland. This annual Craft Industry Report provides the basis on which key business and development decisions are made both by CCoI, funders and craft companies – and as such in an invaluable source of information.

This year's report has changed slightly in that it was conducted on a calendar year basis (Jan. – Dec.) and the focus of questions was altered slightly to provide more indepth results – in particular more accurate turnover figures.

Despite the negative economic news stories that have been circulating for quite some time, the financial results for the craft sector in 2002 were not all doom and gloom. Indeed the sector reported a marginal increase in turnover – despite many craftspeople feeling that it had been a tough trading year.

While the boom days of the Celtic Tiger may have reached an end – there seems to be a general consensus that this level of growth was unsustainable and bound to steady or plateau.

The reassuring news for the craft industry is that as a sector it is still growing, albeit at a slower rate. Turnover in 2002 rose to €84 million, up from €76 million in 2001 (this figure was revised and recast based on new information gained in the recent register update).

However, less encouraging was the fact that over 70% of individual craft businesses have a turnover of €30,000 per annum or less, and that approximately 2.5% of craft businesses account for 34% of the total turnover of the sector.

These and the many other areas explored in the Craft Industry Report 2002 will be extremely influential during the development of the upcoming Strategic Plan 2004-2007 – pinpointing areas of concern and highlighting current economic factors and trends, which will impact on the industry in the coming years.

A summary of the OCS report will be available on our web site (www.ccoi.ie) in the coming weeks and will be distributed by post by the end of September. A full version of the report will also be accessible on line. The second CCoI Strategic Plan (2004 – 2007) will be unveiled in the latter part of this year.

THE IRISH ASSAY MARK – SOME ISSUES FOR JEWELLERS

Many queries come to the Crafts Council regarding Hall Marking or the assaying of Gold, Silver and Platinum.

One of the major concerns expressed is the compulsory requirement that all small silver pieces under 7 grams be sent to the Assay office for stamping. Many jewellers are probably aware that in the UK it is an optional choice as to whether silver items under the 7 gram weight are marked or not. Some items weighing 1 to 2 grams have a silver value not much higher then the cost of stamping itself. It has been commented on to the Council that the logic of compulsory assaying of such tiny products is questionable.

The original concept of assaying was to protect the customer from under carating or deception. Silver in these small amounts is not expensive and protection seems hardly warranted realative to the cost of the consumer. Assaying a large item or a piece of silversmithing is a different affair and an assay stamp very much adds to the value of the item.

Another concern expressed to the Council is the dropping of the Date Mark – makers and manufacturers now have to request it. At present you pay an extra one euro to have the date stamp. The suggestion put to the Council is that it should be the other way round – you get it unless you specifically say you do not want it, and the cost is part of the overall assay charge not an extra.

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News and Reviews

DESIGNyard – News and Facts

On August 24, the Sunday Business Post and Sunday Times announced the acquisition of the DESIGNyard title and assets by Gerry Crosbie of Whichcraft. The Council hopes that the revival of the outlet will be successfully carried through under private sector management for the benefit of all concerned, not least for the suppliers who supported DESIGNyard for so many years.

While the press report of a possible re-opening was very welcome, it also contained comments on DESIGNyard's closure being due to the withdrawal of funding by CCoI. Given the continuing inaccuracies in some media reporting since the Essex Street galleries' closure, the CCoI would like to take this opportunity to clarify the Council's relationship with DESIGNyard and give more accurate information on the Council's decision not to renew a funding agreement which had come to the natural end of its term in 2002.

First it should be noted that between 1993 and 1998, DESIGNyard operated without any financial support from CCoI. When the Council relocated to Kilkenny in 1998 and closed its Dublin gallery, it established a five year funding agreement with DESIGNyard which gave the organisation a total of 330,000 euro over the 1998-2002 period. The funding was solely for the first floor retail/commissioning gallery so that it could match the contribution to DESIGNyard's overheads provided by the jewellery gallery and so help the not-for-profit organisation become self-sustaining by the end of the five year agreement.

The agreement was concluded on 31/12/02 with a final payment of €45,000. DESIGNyard requested that it be extended on the basis of a €50,000 ongoing annual grant and a once off payment of €350,000 which was to be used for a marketing campaign. No DESIGNyard policy change - other than better funded marketing - was put forward to support the agreement's renewal. Despite recognition of its contribution to promoting quality in design, the Crafts Council of Ireland felt it could not support this proposal for a variety of reasons, the most important being:

1. Facing current political and economic realities and an 8.9% cut in its own state funding, the CCoI Board judged that the DESIGNyard proposal would have to have been met from its own resources rather than additional exchequer grant. To do so would have required cutting CCoI projects or full programmes for a year or more. For example, closing the National Craft Gallery, the Regional Exhibition Product and Marketing Development Programmes.

2. In addition, the Council's Board took special note of the Indecon Report commissioned by DESIGNyard to look at options on its future. Based on their research, the Indecon consultants pointed out that all similar high profile retail galleries in Europe were private sector funded.

3. There were access, building and frontage issues which DESIGNyard did not address in its proposals to CCoI but which CCoI felt were as vital to DESIGNyard's future as it's proposed high profile marketing campaign.

4. The CCoI Board considered that if the €330,000 received by DESIGNyard in a period of unprecedented economic expansion had not created sustainable sales for the retail/commissioning gallery, then a further injection of exchequer funding in a period of economic slowdown was even less likely to do so.

The decision not to renew the agreement was passed to DESIGNyard in January this year. The Council fully accepts that in not renewing its funding arrangement, it presented DESIGNyard's directors with a real challenge on how to run the galleries purely from sales revenue. Nevertheless, the pro-active sales campaign they mounted in May – which, according to DESIGNyard staff, lead to the best sales figures ever achieved in that month since the galleries opened - indicated that the challenge could be well met if this approach was adopted year round. In light of that, the announcement of DESIGNyard's closure in June was completely unexpected by the Council and very much regretted.

The Council's immediate response to the news of the closure was to ask its own legal advisers how the interests of craftspeople who supplied the galleries on a sale or return basis could be best protected. The advice we received was that sale or return stock should be returned prior to formal liquidation of DESIGNyard, or ownership by its suppliers would have to be proven to the liquidator before it could be released to them. As there was no formal contract between DESIGNyard and its sale or return suppliers this would have been very difficult to do. As a result, sale or return goods could have been retained as DESIGNyard assets to be disposed of in its liquidation.

This information was promptly passed to the DESIGNyard board and was acted on by them prior to the liquidator's formal appointment. As a direct result of the potential impact the galleries closure had on "sale or return" suppliers, the Council will shortly issue guidelines on how to best protect the supplier's interests when providing stock on this basis.

I have written very fully so that readers, and particularly DESIGNyard suppliers, can better understand the background to the Council's decision, its inevitability in the circumstances and that it was not taken lightly.

Les Reed - CEO, Crafts Council of Ireland

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In general, jewellers appear to believe that the Assay Office has an important role to play and that the assay mark is a valuable marketing tool in that it is an independent confirmation to the general public of the intrinsic value of jewellery. However there are concerns that have been passed to the Council and which appear reasonably based. CCoI will invite the Assay Office to comment in the next issue of Stopress.

If you have any views on this item, please e-mail stopress@ccoi.ie or post a letter to our Kilkenny office marked for the attention of Nicola.

CELTIC CLAYS MADE FOR AMERICA!

Celtic Clays owned by **Ciaran O'Conboirne & Jenn Fitzgerald,** was recently announced the winner of **Made For America** award. The winning entry, entitled **'The Brown Bull of Cooley',** fought off tough competition from leading craftspeople to win this coveted award.

"Winning this award is both an honour and a privilege and hopefully it will open more doors into the Irish American market to put Celtic Clays firmly on the trading map." Said Ciaran.

Their prize includes: transport, accommodation and a promotional showcase at The Celtic Marketplace Trade Fair, Chicago, September 14-16 2003, a $1000 cash prize, a trophy and certificate, photography and guided visits to Celtic stores in Chicago area.

Runners up where **Michael Kennedy** Ceramics, Co Sligo, **Michelle Butler** Ceramics, Co Tyrone, **Helen Conneely,** Celtic Roots, Co Offaly. They will also travel to Celtic Marketplace, Chicago.

The Made For America Design Award is jointly sponsored by The Crafts Council of Ireland (CCoI) and The North American Celtic Buyers Association (NACBA) and it celebrates the very best in Irish Celtic design and craftsmanship. The theme of this year's competition was 'Celtic Legends'. *For further information contact Helen Lynch, Tel. 042 9373005or e-mail helen@ccoi.ie*

CCoI Graduate Design Awards

Winners of the CCoI Trainee Design Awards

Neil Boyle
Advanced Pottery Course 2003

James Hake
Pottery Course 2003

Leo Conalty
Jewellery Course 2003

Design is a key issue for craftspeople facing an increasingly style conscious consumer. Trainees graduating from the pottery and jewellery courses are rewarded for honing their design as well as their production skills when the Council's chief executive - a design graduate himself - awards €150 prizes to the most successful pieces in their final show.

The RDS National Crafts Competition

WINNERS 2003

John Piekaar

The winners of the RDS National Crafts Competition 2003 were announced on Thursday 31st July in the RDS.

The major award of €6,500 was won by **John Piekaar** from Co Down, for his *Black American Walnut barrel cabinet*, John is a furniture maker studying in Buckinghamshire College. Second prize went to NCAD graduate **Clare Grennan** from Ballinteer in Dublin for her aeroplane jewellery.

The New Entrants prize of €1,500 went to Margaret Cunnane, Galway for her crazy log cabin wall hanging. The Graduate Prize of €1,500 was won by Caroline Moran, now living in London, for her Hair Shirt, based on the traditional Hair shirt constructed using a layer of copper wire on cow hair then a layer of wool yarn.

Clare Grennan

For full listing and details of the RDS National Crafts Competition Winners please go the news section on the CCoi website:

www.ccoi.ie

CONTEMPORARY FUNCTIONAL CERAMICS

The Contemporary Functional Ceramics Group met up for a 'Show and Tell' session in July at the Mill in Thomastown, Co Kilkenny – home of the CCoI Pottery Skills Course.

They were showing each other the new work which they had made following on from a year of individually directed research and development activity aimed at producing new product. Vincent O'Shea of CCoI Exhibitions spoke to the group about developing an exhibition of their work for the National Craft Gallery in 2004.

Photo: *From left: Geoffrey Healy, Anthony O'Brien, Etain Hickey, Michael Jackson, Jim Turner, Lucy Dolan & Roger Harley*

News & Reviews contd.

hands on
supporting craftspeople online

CRAFTSONLINE....www.meathcrafts.ie/

Simplicity is a theme that comes up often in the sites that I review. Part of that is because of personal preference and part because the majority of sites are designed to be simple. In theory this makes them easy to use and allowing them to communicate effectively.

The Meath Crafts site is one of these. Again, it starts with a splash page using a predominant strong colour, and from there you go to the home page of the site with 3 elements:

1. *Short statement on crafts in Meath*
2. *Links on the left allowing you to browse by craft type*
3. *Drop-down menu at the top allowing you to browse by craftsperson.*

That is great – the options given will cover what the vast majority of visitors to the site will want to do.

Going further into the site and pulling up individual craftworker details you are given similar information for each – full contact details and website addresses where applicable. A small map is also shown – in some cases detailed enough and in others just showing the location of the nearest large town/village.

4 product thumbnails are shown for each – it would have been nice to be able to access pop-ups of each so that more detail could be seen. But that is a detail that is not necessary for a site whose function is to give out a small amount of detail on a variety of craftpersons and then direct you to them.

A couple of things I would change to improve the site. It is not obvious when you get into the site how to get back to the home page. As it turns out it is the "Meath Crafts" text in the top left hand corner. And when you do figure that out it brings you back to the splash page and not the home page. So you are still one click away from where you want to be. And on the home page itself I would perhaps use the text to talk about what the site is for, and a little less to tell everyone about how great the craftspeople of Meath are! Finally the site actively encourages people to suggest improvements – using a feedback link in the bottom left corner. This is always good to see. **A good site – simple, easy to use and effective.**

Keith Bohana - Project Manager, Hands on

GREAT NEWS! - AMNESTY e CARD CONTRACT!

Amnesty International, Irish Section, has just agreed to work with CARDmarket to create a free ecard site on their existing web site www.amnesty.ie

All CARDmarket members are eligible to submit designs for selection. The copyright of your design will remain with you, and the design is only licensed to be used as an ecard. Your name will appear beside the card so anyone sending the card will know who created it. We have promised to keep the designs submitted exclusive to Amnesty for the life of the ecard.

Initially the site is to be launched as a free ecard service as an addition to the existing Amnesty website. The long term plan is to introduce a commercial element, details yet to be finalised. The likely format is that for a small charge or annual membership fee, all cards sent will be subject to a royalty being payable to the Artist in the region of 15cent every time the card is sent. The success of the initial launch will determine the timeline. Ultimately, if the site is successful there is a possibility of linking to all Amnesty Sites Worldwide!

60 designs are required. Cards requested fall into all the usual categories Birthday, Anniversary, Irish, Christmas, Wedding, New Home, Thanks, Love, Sympathy, Miss You, Hello, Congratulations, Friendship & Blank. Artists will receive £125.00 per design less 15% commission payable to CCoI. As a good will gesture for every design purchased we require each artist to donate a design to help launch the site! A sort of buy one get one free!!!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff in Tek2 for helping me secure this prestigious contract and I look forward to seeing the finished result! Janice Stevenson Project Manager. For further information contact: T: 028 9756 3838 or e-mail Janice@cardmarket.co.uk
www.cardmarket.co.uk

News from Craft Design Industry Liaison programme, Carlingford Office:

Report from the 'Hidden Art' Conference – London 9th-10th July 2003 London Metropolitan University.

Mazorca Projects, a not-for-profit company in East London fostering business development for designer/makers in their locality, presented their 4th annual conference entitled 'Hidden Art'. The conference was attended by CCoI's Design for Industry participants *Peter O'Kennedy, Tom O'Rahilly, Patricia Murphy* and *Michael Quigley (of Patricia Murphy)* and Project Manager of Design for Industry, *Danae Kindness.*

The forum was designed to bring together, designer/makers, manufacturers and retailers to discuss case studies, issues for designers working in the current climate, and to network developing opportunities.

The conference gave opportunities to see the design and home product industry from a number of perspectives. There were many stories shared of company growth, of both successful and difficult projects. Advice was gleaned on issues as diverse as design licensing, promoting oneself as a designer, approaching a retailer, to ideas of how to earn income from all of one's creative activities. There were also many opportunities to network during the two hot and intensive days of the conference.

All of this took place against the background of the Furniture Works project, a new manufacture and business enterprise, which has developed out of the design department of the London Metropolitan University. Here access to sophisticated machinery is offered to young designers to enable the development of prototypes in addition to technical and business consultation.

In addition to many young designers and design groups, speakers included: Jonas Ahman of Hitch Mylius, a small but highly successful British upholstery manufacturer - for them design is central to their success and hence they continue to work with young designers; Sue Holmes, formerly a buyer with Liberty; Nina Lewis of Purves & Purves, the contemporary design store in Tottenham Court Road; Laura Slock of Flo a project established in 2001 to produce and distribute furniture, lighting and home accessories from emerging design talent; Amelia Coward of Young British Design, a design consultancy who work with big name clients on interior/ home products; and Piers Roberts and Rory Dodd of Designers Block, the highly successful fringe design show run in parallel to 100% DESIGN.

Opportunities

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Stopress Deadline for October issue	13th Sept. 2003
Display Clinics - Displaying, Selling and Promoting	
Dublin	4th Sept. 2003
Athlone *	15th Oct. 2003
Cork *	4th Nov. 2003
Design Innovation Workshop - Trends 2004	Oct. 2003
Trade Missions *(closing date for receipt of expression of interest forms for Spring 2004)*	30th Oct. 2003
Made for America at Celtic Market Place (Chicago)	14th-16th Sept. 2003
Closing date for Excellence Awards	Oct. 2003
2nd Selection (Christmas Presence & Showcase Appeals)	17th Sept. 2003
Cardmarket Seminar - *'So you want to get into Print'*	17th Oct 2003
Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show	13th - 16th Nov. 2003
Subsidised Photography Scheme - open to all disciplines	Dec. 2003
Christmas Presence	10th - 14th Dec. 2003
Showcase	18th - 21st Jan. 2004

** = Date now changed since last announced in the July / August issue of Stopress*

Enterprise Ireland

New Product Development Seminars

Here are three inescapable facts about product development: it is expensive, risky, and time consuming. Managing the process of new product development, therefore, is an important factor in reducing cost, time and risk. Studies have shown that having a formal process with review points, clear new product goals and a strong marketing orientation underlying the process leads to greater success.

The seminar, which is tailored for Showcase exhibitors in particular, will address a number of issues such as developing a new products strategy, critical success factors, new products process, building the voice of the customer into the process and how to design and implement a strategy for your own specific needs. CCoI recommend registered companies to attend.

With this in mind Enterprise Ireland is running 3 one-day workshops:
One Day Seminar on Product Development (Best Practice)
Cork - 24th September
Galway - 25th September
Dublin - 2nd October
€100 per company (up to 4 participants per company)

For further information contact Lorraine Egan at 206 6384 or Greg Battersby at 206 6373.
To register contact Amanda Farrell, Enterprise Ireland T: (01) 206 6271
amanda.farrell@enterprise-ireland.com

UP-COMING WORKSHOPS

DISPLAYING, SELLING AND PROMOTING

This year the Crafts Council is presenting a workshop focusing on wholesale fairs and in particular Showcase.

4th	*September*	*Dublin*
15th	*October*	*Athlone*
4th	*November*	*Cork*

Time: 9.30am – 5.00pm - COST: €35

All clinics include a stand makeover and the following:
- *New product and its promotion on how best to optimise your stand*
- *Attracting buyers and securing sales*
- *Developing the best promotional material*

For all those who attend the clinics there will be a chance to win a stand makeover for either Showcase or the National Craft Fair. A chance not to be missed!
For further information contact:
Mary Whelan, Crafts Council of Ireland
t: 056 61804 e: maryw@ccoi.ie (Book early!)

DESIGN INNOVATION WORKSHOP

An innovation workshop with Pat McCarthy Studio Design team focussing on individual development of new products, outlining trend information and advising on shape, colour, texture and sourcing of material.

The workshop, which takes place in **October,** will work with the participants from initial concept, with particular attention to ***packaging, design*** and ***promotion,*** through to market placement. Places limited.
For further information contact:

Mary Whelan, Crafts Council of Ireland
t: 056 61804 e: maryw@ccoi.ie (Book early!)

Advertisements

Courses available

Ben Russell resumes his much enjoyed Introduction to Woodcarving courses this autumn, and there are some places still available. During the 3-day course participants learn all the basics of woodcarving, by working first on introductory exercises, and then a project of their choice. The workshop is well equipped and has a reference library. Lunch and refreshments are provided, and tools can be bought.
Cost: €250. Dates: Oct 1st - 3rd, 8th - 10th Nov 5th - 7th, 12th - 14th (follow-up course) More details from Ben on 027 66133 or at benr@esatclear.ie

Weekend glass-blowing classes for beginners will be held from Sept to Nov in Dublin City centre glass artist's workshop. Classes consist of one-on-one tuition in paperweight making and blowing glass vessels. Design a vase and learn how to make it!!! For inquiries phone Ed on 087 2325841 or email: glass-studio@email.com

Craft courses in Co Mayo; spend a day learning spinning, weaving, dyeing,rag rugs, felt and paper making, including silk paper. For details phone Suzie Sullivan, Derryaun Crafts, t: 098 21888 www.derryauncrafts.com

The Busherstown Creative Centre, Moneygall, Co. Offaly will run 1 & 2 days courses in Sept & Oct in Painting, Art & Craft for Children, Origami & Paper Craft – Paer Sculpture, Calligraphy & Illustration, Jewellery Making, furniture Restoration. Contact: t: 0505 45206 f: 0505 45451 or www.busherstown.com

Interesting new embroidery courses in Autumn. Madra Dubh Needlecraft, Ballinaboola, Co. Wexford. Learn about Making Tassels, Candlewicking embroidery, Metal Thread embroidery, Temari, Chinese Blackwork, Embroidery Illusions, Making Miniature Clothing for 6" dolls. For further details contact: Jean @ madradubh@eircom.net

Stands available

Tus Craft Network is holding a four day Christmas Fair this year. It will run on four consecutive Sundays November 30th and December 7th, 14th and 21st in the Galway Bay Hotel. If you wish to participate on all the dates (or the dates of your choice, space permitting). Please contact Mary Ryan on 091-557930 or tus@eircom.net for full details. As usual photos will be required from new exhibitors.

Westport Experience Festival, Co Mayo; Craft Fair to be held in the Town Hall, Westport on Saturday 25th October 2003. Any craftworkers wishing to apply for a stand, please contact Suzie Sullivan, t: 098 21888

Interested in exhibiting in Wexford and Dublin during November and December in a high quality fair with media coverage? If you are interested then get in touch. Small portfolio or photographs of work will be required. Contact Erica or John @ t: 012691180.or johng@arandasys.com

The Old Market House Arts Centre, Lower Main St., Dungarvan, Co. Waterford is looking for submissions from Craft Workers who would like to have their work displayed in the Christmas Craft Exhibition which will run from November 18th to December 23rd 2003. Craft workers in all disciplines are asked to submit their C.V. with details and images of their work to the above venue marked 'Crafts Exhibition' before 12noon on Friday 22nd August 2003. t: 058/48944 e: artscentre@waterfordcoco.ie

Annual Christmas Craft Fair in aid of REHAB In the Ardboyne Hotel, Navan on Sunday, 7th Dec. From 11am to 6pm Over 45 stands of a wonderful variety of crafts at just the right time for Christmas. Co-ordinator: Anne Steen. 046-21748 e: asteen@eircom.net)

Take a stand at the Christmas Art, Craft and Garden Fair at Ballykealey Manor Hotel, Ballon, Co. Carlow, on Sun 30th Nov. If you would like to exhibit and sell your work at this event please contact Catherine or Deirdre @ t: 0503 38022 or @ Tyndall Primary, Killeshin Road, Carlow.

Peannairi, the Irish Calligraphers Society is hosting the Regional Day for Calligraphy and Lettering Arts Society of Great Britain on Sat. 11th Oct in Oatlands College, Co. Dublin. Participants must book in advance by sending a fee of €20 to Deirdre Doherty, 14 Sandymount Avenue, Dublin 4.

County Down Crafts would like to invite you to apply for a stand at Narrow Water Castle Christmas 14th – 16th Nov. Space is limited. Contact: Jan Irwin, The Fountainhead, 11 Scotch St., Downpatrick, Co. Down, BT30 6AQ t: 028 (048 ROI) 44616234 e: jan.lrwin@virgin.net

October Bank Holiday weekend 26th/27th - €210 8ft Table/Space. Silver Springs Moran Hotel, Cork. 4 Star Venue - Arts Crafts, Gifts, Jewellery, atural Health. Supporting Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind. Contact: Jennie White @ t: 0861703635 or e: gregfwhite@esatclear.ie

November 23rd - 6110 8 ft Table/Space. Rochestown Park Hotel, Cork. 4 Star Venue - Arts, Crafts, Gifts, Jewellery, Natural Health. supporting Kathy Sinnott/Hope Project - children with learning difficulties. Contact: Jennie White @ t: 086 1703635 or e: gregfwhite@esatclear..ie

Applications are now being received for this year's Limerick City Crafts and Gifts Exhibition, taking place in Limerick City Hall Saturday and Sunday 29th and 30th Nov. Cost of participation is €150 for the two days. This includes full shell system display stand, lighting, twin power points, table, chair and name sign. Deadline for receipt of applications mid-September. For further information and application form, please contact Event Manager - Caroline Roche, Carousel Marketing. t: 086 2436347; e: carolineroche@eircom.net.

Situations Available

Part-time Potter wanted Brothers of Charity Services, Ennis, Co. Clare. Applications are invited for the above post. The successful applicant should have a ceramic qualification and experience of working in a pottery studio. For further details contact Eoin Mellett @ t: 065 6823123

For Sale

For Sale:
(1) Test Kiln P5900 12238, 240 Volts Phase 1 & N Kw 2.5, Max. Temp. 1,300c, (2) Opperman, Pugmill Tempo, Type TD5, Ratio 56.7-1, Output 25 rpm. These items are 10 years old and in excellent condition as they have not been used. Contact Eileen Singleton, Alchemy Studios, Ballinacurra, Midleton, Co. Cork. (087) 9017148

Pure iron
is a material on the market with qualities comparable to old wrought iron, ie. mallable and ductile with a high resistance to corrosion. Now available in bar sections and sheet, Ideal for blacksmiths, metalworkers and sculptors. For information and supply contact: Paul Devlin: 056-40148 or Tommy Madden: 0505-21093

For sale
Black mohair €20 per 1000g retail price €44, also smaller quantities in white, purple, pink. wool on cones multi and plain colours €20 per 1000g. Knitting machine table knitwear: tops,skirts,dresses,last season stock:open 2 reasonable offers. Designer hats by Dawn Knight also for sale. Contact Marianne McGrath, studio29 @ t: 064 42217 /41527 e: studio29@eircom.net

9.9 cu.ft fully electronic kiln for sale.
Instruction video and manual supplied, no prior knowledge of kilns needed. Price €1,500. Contact Mary @ t: 086 8538455

Attention woodturners.
Turning blanks and other timber: Black Walnut, Elm, Oak, Spatlted Beech in crosscut, rip and burl, soon to be available: African Blackwood Ebony and Mahogany. Minimum order €300. Contact: Andrew @ 086 2956151 or e: eireharp@indigo.ie

Larch –
3 standing, suitable for planking on sculpture. Average height 15 Ft and circumference at base is 3 feet. Contact Elizabeth @ t: 064 37538

Calling craftspeople

A newly established Artists/craftworkers co-operative
reopening an up-market Gallery and retail outlet in Listowel, North Kerry. We would like to hear from other craftworkers who would be interested in joining us. Contact Jacinta at 066 7134047

A start-up Dublin business
is currently seeking craftspeople to supply a range of outdoor planters in a variety of materials, particularly slate, wood, ceramic and any metal and various finishes. Contact "B" on m: 086 3853073 or e:lriehn@eircom.net

Inspirational Awakening'Glass Society of Ireland 4th Biennial Conference and Workshops
17th – 21st September 2003. We are now taking bookings for the workshops and conference. Places are limited so early booking is recommended. If you would like to receive more information and booking forms for this event please contact info@glassartireland.com or find the registration form on our web site: www.glassartireland.com

Craft fairs

Co. Limerick Craft Fair,
Clarina Village. Sunday 5th October from 11am – 6pm. Please come along.

'Sea & Shore' Felting exhibition at at Trim Visitor Centre from Weds 5th of Nov to Weds 26th Nov by Feltmakers Ireland. Trim Visitor Centre, Meath County Crafts, Castle Street, Trim, Co. Meath ph: 00 353 (0)46 9437227 fax: 00 353 (0)46 9438053e-mail: trimvisitorcenter@eircom.net website: www.meathtourism.ie

Space available

Large workshop / studio to rent..Drogheda area. Reasonable rent. Contact t: 086-8650039 or e:terry002@gofree.indigo.ie

Are you interested in the possibility of renting a centrally located workshop in Kilkenny with good access to the public? At this point a local craft group is only looking for serious expressions of interest, but if you would like to put your name forward for any studios which may become available then contact Box 100, CCoI, Castleyard, Kilkenny by email (caroline@ccoi.ie) or post.

Opportunities

Crafts people are you interested in showing and selling your work in December?
In a gallery which is in the foyer of a theatre with a captive audience who love the idea of marrying the visual arts with the performing arts! Guarantee great exposure as well as great sales with low commission rates and extensive insurance coverage! If your interested contact Fiona t:.028 70324645 e: f.ohara@ulster.ac.uk

Situations wanted

Wanted an apprenticeship
in jewellery making. Contact Breda Keville@ t: 091 561345 (ring evenings only)

Young man (18) seeks apprenticeship in craft woodwork/carpentry.
All offers considered. Will do trainee period if required. Good ability & experience. Excellent references. For C.V. t: Fionn Daly @ 01 4577287 or 087 9874472.

Wanted: Blacksmith willing to train/sponsor apprentice. ph.086-6890087 or email eamonn_gannon@yahoo.co.uk

Exhibitions

Sculpture in Context 2003 Exhibition, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9. 12 September to 10 October 2003. For further information please contact: Ana DuncanSecretary Sculpture in Context, 81 Llewellyn Lawn, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16 t: 01 4931723, m: 087 6258258 e:anaduncan@eircom.net

Exhibitions & Events

INSPIRATIONAL AWAKENING

The Glass Society of Ireland/Contemporary Makers present "Inspirational Awakening"

on 17th -21st September 2003 at Waterford Institute of Technology Art College, College Street, Waterford City, Ireland. Inspirational Awakening will bring together International and Irish artists to a city renowned for its glass making heritage. They will lead three days of challenging, stimulating and interactive workshops and a two day conference covering both historical & contemporary glass topics. Contemporary Irish Glass Art, 1st Major Exhibition of the 21st Century will also open Friday 19th September 2003, 7.30pm in Greyfriars Art Gallery, Waterford. For brochures and bookings contact the GSOI/CM t:+353 (0) 51 845488 f:+353 (0) 51 845401
e: info@glassartireland.com: www.glassartireland.com

This project is supported by the CCoI Network Scheme.

FINE IRISH FURNITURE AT CREATE 2003

An exciting new exhibition focusing on fine furniture will take place at Fota House in East Cork in September of this year.

Entitled "Create 2003", this exhibition - the first of its kind in the country - will focus on high quality contemporary designed and made Irish Furniture. The event is sponsored by Coillte, and supported by the Crafts Council of Ireland and Letterfrack Furniture College.

Furniture Makers selected to exhibit at "Create 2003" include some of the leading exponents of fine furniture from all over Ireland. These include Shane Holland Design Workshop, Monough Workshop, Klimmek and Henderson, Gabriel Furniture, Eric Connor, Nick J Smith Furniture & Design, Hands On Furniture, Brian Murray, Robert English Designs, Duncan Russell, John Lee, Eric Pearse, Roswell Stanley Furniture, Fergus Costello and Imago Alternatives Ltds. The exhibition, which runs from September 27th to October 5th 2003, is a must for anyone with a love and appreciation of fine furniture with exhibits ranging from small hand made items to larger one off pieces. As well as viewing these wonderful examples of Irish craftsmanship, visitors will have the opportunity to purchase some of the exhibits and for those wishing to commission their own unique piece of furniture, detailed information will be available on each exhibitor.

For further information on 'Create 2003' contact Cork Visitor & Convention Bureau at Tel: 021 - 4815740. Email: info@cork4conferences.com

This project is supported by the CCoI Network Scheme.

Pictured at the opening of Ceramics 3X3 during the Kilkenny Arts Festival week were:
Claudia Woolgar (Director, Kilkenny Arts Festival), John Purcell (Chairperson of Kilkenny Arts Festival), John O' Donoghue, TD (Minister of Arts, Sport and Tourism), and Vincent O' Shea (Curator of The National Craft Gallery).

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The copydate for September 2003 Stopress is October 13th.

Advertising in Stopress is free and is welcomed. Submissions for articles from craftspeople and those interested in craft are also always welcome – please contact Joanne Lawlor, Stopress – t. 056 61804, e: stopress@ccoi.ie

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