

Events – Year of Craft 2011

14 February 2011

Last Updated 22 March 2011

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Anyone who has regenerated, restored or replicated an old vessel understands the concept of craft.

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The author Jeannette Winterspoon stated recently in Craft “the art of making, “The most satisfying thing a human being can do ... is make something”. Crafted objects are very different from mass produced items. “Making is personal, making is shared and making is a celebration of who we are”.

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The bringing together of manual dexterity and artistic skill or function and art has been practised on board recreational, residential and working vessels possibly, forever. Looking at our barges and boats from their hulls to their living quarters, we could almost set up our own Craft Guild with the many examples of both heritage and contemporary craft produced, commissioned or restored by our members in metal, wood, glass, textiles, ceramics and furniture.

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Examples on board are: wooden furniture - cabinets, tables and seating, wooden doors and facades to steel doors, steel and wooden wheelhouses, light fittings, brass fittings, canvas work, forged steel, stained glass, photography, wood turning in posts and flagpoles, ceramics and pottery, frames, candles, textiles, wool and needlework, sign painting and rope work. The list is endless with each boat having a unique range of craft on board.

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Throughout Ireland during 2011, the Year of Craft is being celebrated.

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While navigating the Three Sisters there will be many opportunities to spend an hour or so visiting exhibitions and artisans, with Kilkenny, home of the Craft Council of Ireland, always close when travelling along the Barrow, Nore and Suir. In the Midlands there are various events along the Shannon or within a short drive.

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Here are just a few of the shows and demonstrations you may want to visit. There are displays to suit everyone, so check the Craft Ireland 2011 events pages to find your particular interests and perhaps, pick up some tips for your next project on board.

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When

South East

What

Address

Mar 18-May 11

Kilkenny

Irish Craft Portfolio

Castle Yard

Apr 6-8

Garryhill

Ray Key Woodturning

Flanders Cross

May 5 - 8

Waterford

Architecture and Craft

People's Park +

May 20 - Jul 6

Kilkenny

21st Century Icons

Castle Yard

Jun 6 - 10

Bennettsbridge

Mosaics Re-cycle

Castlerin Studios

Jul 15 - 27

Kilkenny

Graduates Exhibition

Castle Yard

Aug 6 - 14

Kilkenny

Woodturning Exhibition

Ormond College

Sep 1 -

Carlow

Bronze Casting Exhibition

Visual Centre

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When

Midlands

What

Address

Feb - Dec

Athlone

Exhibitions - various

Ballinahown Village

Feb - Dec

Carrick on Shn

Various crafts people

<http://intoleitrim.com/ldh/artists/>

Mar 4 - 16

Manorhamilton

Ironwork exhibition

Leitrim Sculpture Centre

Jul 16 - 17

Ballinlough

Country Fair & Crafts

Ballinlough Castle,Westmeath

Aug 27 - 28

Birr

Country Fair & Crafts

Birr Castle, Offaly

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