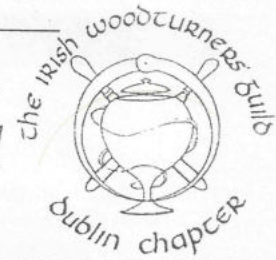


Rec. Book Train Spotting

Dublin Chapter, Irish Woodturners Guild



Newsletter Volume 3, Number 1 Jan, Feb 1996



AGM TIME AGAIN

Editorial Jan, Feb 96

The new year has well and truly come and now our A.G.M. is upon us once again. The Chapter has made leaps and bounds in the last twelve months. This has been proven by your growing numbers coming to the monthly meetings and your very positive response to the recent survey. I will not dwell on the past year as there are a number of separate end of year reports by Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, of which the latter two are also end of term reports that conclude their stay in their respective chairs. **Tom Hayes**, as Secretary, must be especially thanked as he is stepping down from the Committee and will be sadly missed by all his friends for his dedication and help, especially his invaluable contribution to the craft sales. The good news is that he will still be assisting from time

to time and his contributions are always welcome.

This Month the newsletter is mainly taken up with A.G.M. matters, also is a short piece about making a dowel maker and an article about a footswitch for the lathe from **Frank McCann**. The Green Corner by **Philip Byrne** is again excellent reading and well worth a look by the experienced turned too.

A word of thanks to **Harry Kampff** for his accurate keeping of the scores in this years League Table as seen on page 6.

A short word on the questionnaire, "Many thanks to all", 62 sheets were returned and the response was extremely positive. All comments, no matter how negative, were constructive and we on the Committee will be looking into all of these comments over the next few months. Many of your

Editorial Continued on
Page 5.

- Competition**
- March- Beginners Candleholder not bigger than 8" high
 - Ex-Ad Pedestal Bowl
 - April- Beginners Handle for turning tool (tool not required)
 - Ex-Ad Vase 10" to 12" high
 - Demonstration Beginners
 - March-Bowl, Tom Hayes
 - Senior Demo
 - March- Pens...Hugh Flynn
 - April- Chucks, Willie, Phillip, Others

Chairmans A.G.M. Address Page 1 by Seamus O'Reilly

Inside this Month

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It is indeed a pleasure to welcome you all to this our first A.G.M. in Tere-nure College. There appears to be a feeling that 1995 was a good year for the Dublin Chapter. Certainly if one is to judge by the ever increasing attendances at our "first Saturdays", we would appear to have got it right! While there is still a certain amount of nostalgia for Larch Hill (and rightly so) our move to the college was, I feel,

a winner. We (the Committee) have tried to be a little innovative. The introduction of the two tier deno's has proved very popular. The increase in competition entries has been achieved by the three level system of entries, coupled with a more streamlined system of voting and I might add that some of last years beginners are now competing very strongly in the 'experienced' and

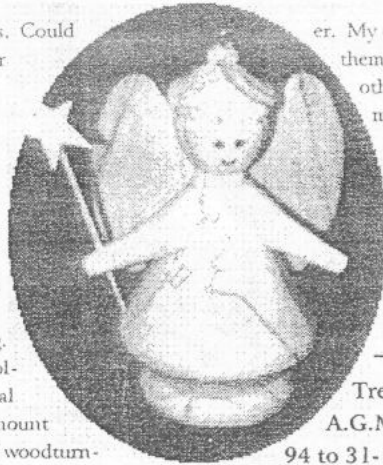
'advanced' levels. Could I make a plea for more entries (please).

You may not be aware that the Arts Officer of South Dublin County Council was present at our last meeting. She was there following a proposal that we would mount an exhibition of woodturning in the foyer of the County Offices. We are appealing for submissions of pieces which you might feel suitable. What we are trying to do is project the image of woodturning as an Art Forum. A small committee has been set up to select suitable pieces and generally organise the exhibition.

I mentioned at our last meeting that our Secretary (Tom Hayes) has been in contact with a group of English woodturners who are anxious to visit us and see how we organise ourselves. It has almost reached the stage of a commitment by us to entertain a mixed group, probably taking in our March meeting. We would need the offer of accommodation for four or five couples for two nights. A committee under Tom Hayes is working out the details so he would like to hear from you. Naturally the visit will be reciprocated by our English friends later in the year.

Phillip Murray is continuing the production of "The Journal" to a high standard which improves with every issue. Phil would like to hear from you, particularly if you have points to raise be they complimentary or otherwise.

Finally as you already know the 'Two Toms' are standing down from office. However, they will be very much involved in the day to day running of the Chapt-



er. My deep thanks to them both and to the other committee members for their contribution which has made the Dublin Chapter so successful. Very best wishes for 1996. Seamus...

Treasurer's A.G.M. Report 1-12-94 to 31-12-95.

Details of revenue and expenditure for the financial period including 31st Dec 1995 will be presented at the A.G.M. on 3rd February 1996 in Terenure College.

Revenue for the period amounted to £4314.51, Expenditure was £4621.67 leaving a deficit of £307.16.

There was however a surplus of £1306.05 carried forward from the previous year, giving a balance of £998.89.

There was a substantial increase in members attending the monthly meetings, yielding additional revenue. Additional costs were incurred in refreshments, postage, certificates and prizes ect... and of course a lathe was bought for the college. In regard to the refreshments, the girls are to be congratulated on their 100% attendance and on the choice of biscuits with the tea and coffee. Incidentally the cost works out at a little over 60p per serving which is good value.

As I will not be going forward as Treasurer for the coming year I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Committee and members for the past three years.

Tom McDonagh.

As Editor I wish to thank Tom on your behalf, for his constant efforts over the past three years and for keeping us in the black and up to date with all the accounts...

SEC AGM Report

Our biggest change in the year was the move to Terenure College - our first meeting there was in March and the only comments to the Committee were approving. Certainly the new venue has added a dimension of comfort that we are unused to and has widened the attendance at demonstrations. Attendances have remained high at Terenure with numbers averaging 70+ at all meetings.

Another important change was the introduction of a beginners demonstration. It was felt that the main demo was perhaps somewhat daunting for new turners and that it was time to revisit the basics. This is an area where perhaps more of our experienced members might consider volunteering.

Suggestions for demonstrations would be welcomed. In 1995 our demonstrations covered sphere, platter, finishing, routers, dust extraction, spoons, use of chain saw, christmas decorations, sharpening and table lamps. This was a pretty wide range but it would be helpful to have feedback from members.

The competitions continue to show the steadily improving standards of members of all classes and steady promotion from beginners to experienced to advanced. Competitions ranged from a turning from an 8"x 8"x2" blank, through mushrooms, toys and kitchen items to the superb display of turned tables at the January meeting.

We have had correspondence from the Northern Federation of Woodturners in Britain and as you know a series of reciprocal visits is in hand with the first UK group of 15 visiting us in March and we still need accommodation for a few of these, please volunteer. You will be able to avail of a return visit in September...



THE GREEN CORNER

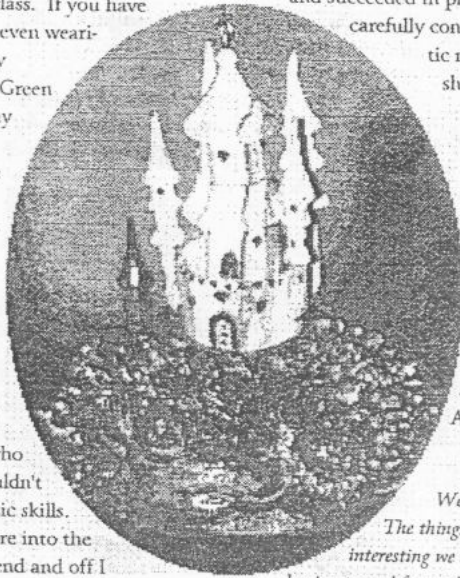
Well Christmas has come and gone and with it all the plans for lots of practice on the lathe. It would seem that turkey and plum pudding don't turn very well. My excuse is that it was too cold out in the workshop and I really did want to catch up on all those old black and white films that come around every year like Haley's Comet.

Anyway, come the hour, come the man. January dawned and with it came the current batch of resolutions, many of them old friends that make their appearance every year at this time! But in the middle of the hardy annuals was a very definite resolve to get back to the turning. What was needed was a class. If you have been avidly or even wearily following my exploits in the Green Corner you may recall that my first experience with night classes in turning has not been good. The last fiasco was a class of 10 people for ten weeks with two lathes and an instructor who couldn't or wouldn't pass on the basic skills.

Well, once more into the breach dear friend and off I went to enrol in the local community school, St.Killians in Bray for their 10 week night beginners course.

So far I have only had one class but the 'luxury' of having a lathe dedicated to each student holds out promise of good things to come. It's interesting to note that this school seems to be capitalising on the shortcomings of the other class I referred to earlier. Their

woodworking classroom now has ten spanking new DML 24's to be paid for no doubt by the evening class revenue but there for the benefit of the day students, their main priority. There was one incident that happened at the class that perhaps other members of the Guild can throw some light on. We had started roughing some very wet timber into cylinders, the lathe was running at the slowest speed, some of the bark had been removed which left an unusual pattern spinning between the centres. I found looking at this difficult. In fact it made me feel quite dizzy until I had removed the remainder of the bark. Has anyone else experienced the same phenomenon? Anyway by the end of the night we had all worked very hard, not even stopping for the regulation tea break and succeeded in producing lovely, carefully constructed, artistic neat piles of shavings.



You know, sooner or later I'm going to have to actually make something other than shavings from all this wood. Ah! Happy days!

Well done Philip.

The things that you find so interesting we take for granted, having turned for a while. Thank you for reminding us about all the things that we found perplexing until someone explained them to us. That dizzy feeling you described earlier is a form of 'Stroboscopic effect' caused by the light hitting the lighter timber and reflecting back at you at, the Lathe speed divided by 60, so a piece turning at 400 rpm, would give 6.66 flashes per second. If flourecent lights are used, they can give the effect of the piece being stationary, which can be quite dangerous. Ed...

To Ruth McNally a Warning

Re: Wooditis - Betty Healy

The first sign Ruth is when the car tool kit acquires a bow saw or in extreme cases a chain-saw and there seems to be now a homing device in the car tuned to the sound of a chain-saw and tree felling. You will be told how he was to get the 1/2 ton of wood in the boot and the view is much better with the front of the car in the air. The garage of course is the ideal place to store it, anyway the car is better in the open air.

The people who bring all shapes and sizes of wood to your door are "friends"! Beware of ones with trailers. The spread of wood has so far taken over the glasshouse, outdoor toilet, conservatory, garage and odd piles around the garden. A new use has been found for the Microwave oven. I am yet to be convinced that the bedroom is the best place to finish off the seasoning. Mick says the temperature is more even there as we don't raise the temperature as often as we used to (wonder what he means), but anyway no wood. I don't think there is any known case

for wooditis, in self defence. I have heard all about the grain shapes, colour, names of the wood and to call our garden shed "the Workshop". And to find odd pieces of wood in our suitcase and not to pass craft shops. Guess what our holiday snaps are of. Mick says the muscles I have from polishing his masterpieces (his words) are becoming. God help us.

Betty Healy

A DOWEL MAKER

Question: Where can I get Dowels

Answer: Make your own with 'A Dowel Maker'

The following is an article on how to make a dowel maker by Trevor Robinson, taken from 'Fine Woodworking' on 'The Small Workshop' a Taunton Press publication. I myself have a 5/8" wooden Tap and Die set and I find it almost impossible to get Imperial dowel sizes, and so I make my own in a suitable timber. The address at the end of the article is for a metal rounder by Peter Hindle as used by Jack Hill 'Chairmaker'

Because commercial dowels are made only in birch, beech or maple, and large diameters are expensive or hard to get, it is useful to be able to make your own with the simple tool shown here. Properly sharpened and set, the tool runs easily around a square length of hardwood, cutting it smooth and round in a single pass

The body of the tool is made from a block of hardwood about 2-3/4 in. square and 7-1/2 in. long. First locate and bore a hole the diameter of the

desired dowel. Then on the lathe a conical depression is turned to meet the hole so that about an inch of the cylindrical bore remains. For a 1-in. dowel, the mouth of the cone is 2-1/8 in. wide; for other dimensions the cone should allow the square of wood to enter about 1/2 in. before it encounters the cutter. This means that the large diameter of the cone is about twice the small diameter. The next step is to drill the holes for the four screws that will fasten the two sections together. By drilling them before sawing the block; alignment is automatic. Two saw cuts separate the clamping section from the main block. Mating channels are then chiselled along the inner faces of the two pieces to hold the cutting blade, which is just a saw kerf thicker than the resulting channel. Thus the cone remains smooth, and the screws hold the blade tightly.

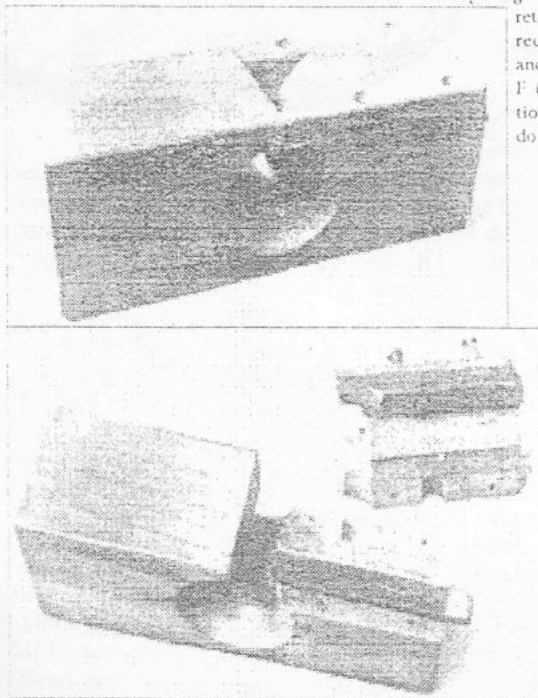
Blades can be made from old files. The file should first be annealed by heating red-hot and cooling slowly. Then a suitable length can be cut off and shaped. Before the final sharpening the cutter should be retempered by heating red-hot, quenching, and reheating to 475° F (light-orange oxidation color) before you do the last quench.



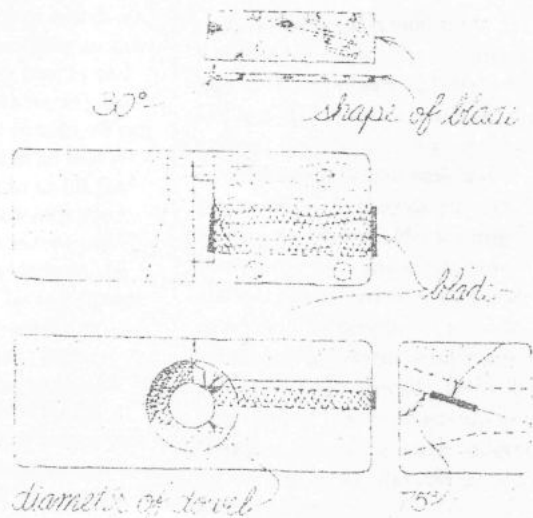
The position of the cutter is very important for getting a smooth dowel. The heel end of the cutting edge should just graze the surface of the finished diameter so that the dowel is a snug fit as it comes through. Waxing the bore will make it go more easily. The square of wood to be cut should be just slightly larger than the diameter of the dowel—about 1-1/16 in. square for a 1-in. dowel. It helps to chamfer off the four corners at the leading end of the piece to get it started without splintering. Then the wood can be held vertically in a vice and the tool turned without forcing it down. With a sharp, properly positioned blade the weight of the tool is enough to keep it moving along the wood.

Ashem Crafts 2 Oakleigh Ave. Hallow, Worcs WR2 6NG.

Tel: 0905 640070 (Suppliers of stall engines, rounders, and trapping planes which are used in conjunction with a lathe for chair-making)...



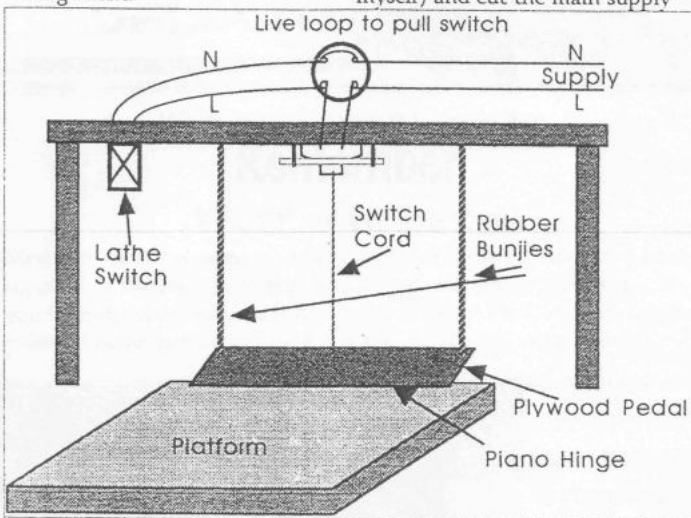
Dowel maker, top is made of one block of wood cut into two parts, bottom. Note rounded heel of cutter - it just grazes finished dowel.



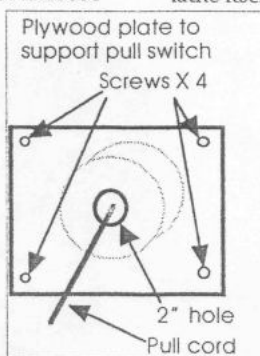
Lathe Foot Switch

By Frank McCann.

Looking at Del Stubbs video 'Bowl Turning' I was completely 'taken' by the idea of operating the lathe with a foot switch, keeping my hands free. It was not possible to use the same system on my Coronet No 3, so I devised my own arrangement.



My garage floor being concrete would not be very comfortable for standing on for long periods so I have always had a wooden platform. This is a simple affair made from an old packing case. It is about two inches high and measures 8' x 4'. This made the base for my footswitch. I got the heaviest bathrooms full switch I could find and mounted it under my lathe bench. I then got a piece of 1/2 inch plywood to make the pedal this is 36" x 18" and connected it to the platform



with two 3" hinges which means that you can press it no matter where you are standing and there is no trouble finding it with your foot. I supported the pedal on both sides with two "rubber bunjies" (or shock cards as some people call them) hooked to two cup-hooks also screwed to the underside of the bench. I then fixed the cord of the pullswitch to the centre of the pedal.

I took out the fuses (to be sure I would not electrocute myself) and cut the main supply

to my lathe switch. I put a junction box on this break from which I hooked the live supply through the pullswitch. In this the lathe switch overrides the foot switch so that when you are working on the lathe itself (changing chucks and belts or whatever) it is advisable to turn off the lathe switch so that if you happen to hit the foot switch with your foot by accident you will not switch on the lathe. If by any chance you have a relay to reverse your lathe fitted, you must turn off the lathe by the lathe switch before you switch over or the polarity will be reversed and you will blow your

fuse or trip the E.L.C.B.

After a while in use I found that the switch was unable to stand up to the pressure and its screws pulled out of their threads (it's a pity you can't put a really heavy duty pullswitch). However this is easily overcome by cutting a hole in a piece of plywood which is about 2" bigger than the size of the switch base, slide this up over the pullswitch mechanism and screw it through the your corners to the underside of the bench over the full switch.

Editorial Continued from Page 1.

suggestions may be implemented and your comments looked into. We may in fact have future questionnaires at yearly intervals to get your views on all aspects of Chapter life. Due to time constraints this month, I have been unable to compile a concise breakdown of the questionnaire and because I feel it is so interesting it will be in the next issue for all to see. However do not hesitate to contact me or any of the Committee in confidence with any suggestions you feel strongly about. As Editor, I will try to bear in mind your comments about the Newsletter, and I will try to be more vigilant, so bear with me.

A last note, last month we started to distribute the new name tags to those present at Terenure College. They will be available again at the next meeting for those whose names I did not have last month or where their details were in error or missing. Please bring them along each and every month and wear them prominently for all to see, so that people like me who are terrible at remembering names can get to know you all. This will help old and new members alike. "Remember, wear your name Badges" we want to know who you are. Ed Phillip Murray...



We want to know who you are

Remember

Wear your badge

Members are encouraged to wear their name badges. These have been supplied by the chapter so that we all know who we are talking to. If you have not received your badge, contact any of the Committee with your full name and we will have one for you the following month...



Above, Willie Caffrey demonstrating at a recent meeting. Proud winner, Paddy Sheridan, Left, showed his winning piece to all at Terenure College. Page 2, features Harry Kampff's Angle, from the December competition, Which was to make a Christmas ornament and on the opposite page is Mick Healy's Fairy Castle.

Competition League Table To January 1996

Advanced Winners

1	M. Healy	2838	9
2	T. McGill	2523	8
3	H. Flynn	1401	5
4	P. Mulvaney	793	3
5	T. Newman	773	3

Experienced Winners

1	H. Kampff	3098	11
2	J. Wetherall	2573	10
3	E. O'Reilly	2353	8
4	O. Furniss	2172	8
5	P. Sheridan	2071	7
6	S. O'Reilly	1478	7
7	H. East	1287	6
8	W. Reynolds	667	3
9	G. Cronin	609	3
10	T. McDonagh	553	2
11	C. Caffrey	488	2
12	T. Hayes	457	2
13	P. Murray	406	2
14	A. Finlay	362	1
15	F. McCann	354	2
16	J. Whelan	320	1
17	W. Caffrey	294	1
18	P. Doyle	229	1
19	M. Bourke	188	1
20	D. Percy	174	1
21	A. Graham	130	1

Beginners Winners

1	A. Sloane	2745	10
2	M. Forde	1431	5
3	A. Lalor	1248	5
4	N. Castle	1110	5
5	M. Kenny	775	3
6	G. Forrester	678	2
7	M. Hunter	598	3
8	J. Binnie	520	3
9	B. Dunne	468	2
10	D. Begg	437	2
11	P. McArdle	435	2
12	N. Redmond	289	1
13	V. Lowe	273	1
14	J. Kelleher	268	1
15	J. Grant	256	1
16	C. Hayes	250	1
17	J. Byrne	228	1
18	P. Kelly	203	1
19	B. Bourke	192	1
20	R. O'Connell	149	1

Well done to all who entered the competition this year. With 46 entries in all, this represents more than half the monthly attendance. Make 96 a good year too. Ed...

Chapter News

North Strand V.E.C.

Last Thursday of the month 7.15 - 9.30p.m.

January was bring and tell as we do every month, plus chucks and their use.

The meeting came down heavily on the side of the scroll chuck for price and being so versatile.

February Elliptical turning by newcomer Ken Byrne,

March Mick Healy continues on the subject of finishing,

April Hugh Flynn on Pens. Continuing talk on chucks and their uses. Plus each month, bring and show and tell.

All are welcome to attend and enjoy the discussion...

Exhibition

The Irish Woodturners Guild Dublin Chapter request exhibition items for a series of exhibitions which are being organised by the Committee. It is our intention to hold a number of exhibitions of our best work around the Dublin area over the next Year. We are looking for a diverse range of your best exhibition items that can fully show what the Dublin Chapter can do.

The first of these exhibitions will take place in the South County Council offices in Tallaght from 26th of April for two weeks. These items will need to be listed eight weeks earlier for the catalogue, so do not waste time, get turning.

If you have any currently made items which you believe are of exhibition quality, please contact any of the Committee with your details so that we have an idea of the number of pieces that are available to us.

Further details will follow in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Photos

Photos or the quality of the photographs in the Newsletter, have not been of the high standard that we expect in recent times. Although the originals taken by Hugh Flynn, are of excellent quality, when these are scanned from Colour to the 32 scales of grey that the computer generates, the result is causing some problems. The dark green chalk board behind the demonstrators seems to be the biggest problem and we are hoping to remedy the problem by hanging some light coloured cloth across the board.

However this may not sort out all of the problems, so here is where I am asking for your help. If any of you have experience or advice with regard to desk top publishing (DTP), Half tone printing or Grey Scale Scanning, could you please contact me with whatever advice or help you can, to improve our situation. I and all of the other Newsletter readers I am sure would be very appreciative.

Please contact me at 494 1269
Phillip Murray (Editor)...



Notice to Woodturning Teachers & Students.

The following is a list of Turners who give classes (at home or in schools). Would

those who wish to have their names included on this list please forward their details in writing, to myself or any of the committee, Ed...

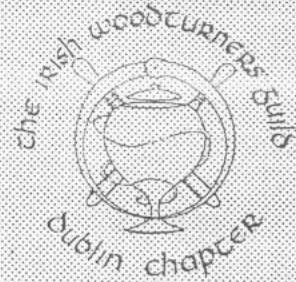
Gerard Byrne St Killians School
Phone 2866874

Joe O'Neill 27 Ballinteer
Drive, Phone 4541822/298441

Tom Newman St Tiernans
Comunity School, Phone
2987141

Willie Caffrey North strand,
Phone 8481725

Charlie Caffrey Walkin-
stown, Phone 4502451



The Dublin Chapter is a local area Chapter of the Irish Woodturners Guild. Our purpose is to provide a meeting place for local turners to share ideas and techniques and to educate the general public regarding the art of woodturning.

The Chapter meets on the first Saturday of the month in Terenure College at 10.00 a.m.

Those that are interested are asked to come along and meet like minds.

The following are the current Committee and new members are asked to phone their nearest Committee member with regard to queries or any advice.

1995 Committee

Chairman Seamus O'Reilly
20 Ballyroan Road, Templeogue,
4947095

Vice Chairman Hugh Flynn 20
Lakelands Close, Stillorgan, 2887830

Hon Sec Tom Hayes
124 Clonkeen Road, Blackrock,
2895552

Hon Treasurer Tom Mc Donagh
3 Cherbury Gardens, Booterstown,
2886351

Editor Phillip Murray 17
Idrone Close, Knocklyon, 4941269

Committee Willie Caffrey 9
Maryfield Crescent, Artane, 8481725

Committee Mick Healy 8
Belchire Park, Poppintree, 8427924

Committee Harold Kampf
2 Drumartin Close, Goatstown,
2982425

In order to help the newer members of the Guild, the Committee are making their details available to all. Please phone the nearest Committee member to you and they will help answer your query or put you in contact with others in your area.

Advertisements

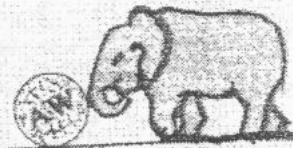
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 Wicklow
Ph 0404 40504

**Philip J. Dix &
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 Dublin, 13.
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 Fax (01) 832 5968

For Sale Chain saw Oil

The chapter now has stocks of oil
 for chain saws available at 75p. per
 litre (minimum 4 Litres) Contact
 Committee or Frank McCann.

For sale Master Chuck

3/4 16 tpi with many extra collets
 and accessories, New and unused,
 still in box, Worth £140. Will sell
 for £70. O.N.O.
 Contact Frank McCann
 Phone 4582303.

Wanted

A third person required to make
 up a 'three person group', for a one
 day Spindle turning course with
 Willie Steadman. Cost per person
 £55. each (If you were at the January
 meeting you will know just how good he
 is Ed.) For further details please
 contact Phillip Murray Editor As
 soon as possible...

Acknowledgments

Philip Byrne, The Green Corner
 Hugh Flynn, Photographs
 Betty Healy, "Ruth McNally"
 Frank McCann, Lathe Footswitch
 Trevor Robinson, A Dowel Maker (Fine Wood-
 working)
 Committee, Committee News
 Harry Kampff, League Table
 Chairmans Address, Seamus O'Reilly, Phillip
 Murray, Editor- IWG Dublin...

Page 8



Phillip Murray, Editor
 17 Idrone Close,
 Templeogue,
 Dublin, 16.
 Phone, 494 1269
 Fax, 494 1269
 e-mail

Address Label Here