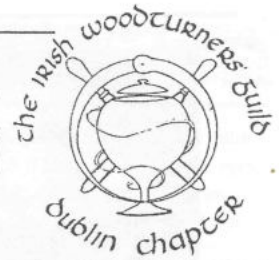


# Dublin Chapter, Irish Woodturners Guild



Newsletter Volume 3, Number 3 May, Jun 1996

Page 1



### Competition

To be announced at June Meeting

### Demonstration

To be announced at June Meeting

## THE END OF FIRST YEARS GROWTH RINGS

It is now one year since the first of the new Newsletters was published. This will be the ninth and we will finish the year in Dec with six issues under our belt. It is also one year to the day that my son and heir was born. We both have, the Newsletter included, crossed many milestones in the last year, and with your help we will cross many others. There have been other changes and some improvements, and yet my initial work for a general look has remained the same over the past twelve months. This is in no small way due to your support and your submissions whether big or small. And so, I look forward to another year in which I hope to be able to report back to you,

all the comings and goings-on of the Chapter.

This brings me to another point. To those of you who pay your membership fee each year and never attend Terenure College. This, then is your only contact with what is going on in the Dublin Chapter area and I hope that it is of some help to you. Just because you don't attend the meetings this does not mean that you cannot drop me a line and let me know your opinion or your experiences. I hope that each month there is something for everyone, from the Green Corner, by Philip Byrne, to the project page featuring some new tool or technique that the advanced of you

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## Creative Woodturning Exhibition

H/Q South Dublin County Council Talagh

by Mick Healy

The exhibition was formally opened by Cllr. Breda Cass Cathaoirligh of the Council. This was followed by our own Seamus O'Reilly, a talking turner, who presented Cllr. Cass with a Burr Elm vessel and also presented a Burr Elm

dish to Gina Kelly the Arts Officer of the Council who is the brains behind it all.

It's our first major exhibition of the Chapter's work, and we were showing wood-turning as an "Art" form, (we have not quite reached that goal yet, but



Liam Caffrey Aged 2years 2 months. You are never to young to start

## Editorial Continued from Page 1.

may find of some interest.

And finally, just to let you know that I can be reached by Post, Phone/Fax, and now finally by E-Mail . If you wish you can also contact **Chris Hayes** Assistant Editor (His details on Page.5) who will forward any items to me. As editor I need to know everything that is happening within the chapter so that I can accurately report all our goings on as detailed as possible. There have been

occasions in the past when I have not known about some of the chapters activities until they were over and so I was unable to let all of you, the membership, know about these events or activities. I would therefore ask everyone who reads this Newsletter to inform me, no matter how trivial, and do not presume that others will tell me, about anything, so that we may all know about the chapters activities.

Wishing you all successful Summer turning. Phillip Ed...

## Creative Woodturning Exhibition From Page 1

are on our way). There were sixty pieces on show plus a special table showing small items including a thimble, napkin-ring, small goblets, spoons, boxes etc. It would be very unfair to mention any one item. They were all of exhibition quality . It should be said we were a little heavy in bowls and lamps. It was good to see that 99% of the wood used was from the Dublin area.

The Dublin Chapter can justly feel proud of our exhibition. Well done to ourselves. Thanks to **Gina Kelly** for her help and encouragement.

*This has been the first of many exhibitions we wish to hold in the Dublin Area. Well done to all who participated...*

## Our British visitors

By Tom Hayes

Some months ago we received a letter from Len Jones, Chairman of the Northern Federation of Woodturning Groups, based in the North of England and representing woodturning clubs in that area and in Wales. He suggested a series of reciprocal visits between the Federation and the Dublin Chapter.

We hosted the first visit, as twelve turners, and two wives, spent the weekend of March 1st to 4th with us, availing of the hospitality of some of our members. Our visitors attended our Terenure meeting, having brought a superb mini-exhibition of their work, really quality pieces. They, in turn, were invited to join in the voting for our competition. On Saturday afternoon the visitors were brought to Aravon school workshop for a turning session hosted by Willie Caffrey, ably assisted by Harry Kampff - this was a session of good chat, exchange of ideas and tips and plain gossip in the stunning sylvan setting of Aravon, near Bray.

An informal reception for our guests, their hosts and members was held in Doyles of College Green on Saturday night. Guinness and Chicken and Chips oiled

a pleasant evening of more chat and conviviality.

Sunday was spent at Willie Caffrey's workshop in Artane when the visitors demonstrated their skills to their hosts.

We have had a very flattering "thank you" letter from Len Jones and our return invitation is for the weekend September 27th-30th. At this stage we don't know how many Dublin members can be accommodated, but anyone interested in visiting the UK turners on this occasion should contact Tom Hayes (2895552).

Great help was given willingly by all members - we had only to ask! Particular thanks are due to the Dublin hosts and their wives

Phillip Byrne (who also arranged hospitality packs for guests) Allen Graham, Paddy O'Gorman, Bill Kilpatrick, Harry Kampff, Mick Healy, Tim McGill Hugh Flynn also Jean Binnie and Owan Boyle, whose intended guests had to cancel. Special thanks also to Willie Caffrey who arranged Aravon and for the use of his workshop, and to all who rallied round when needed...



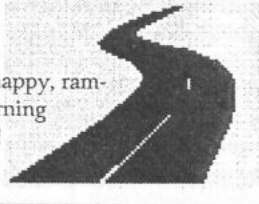
With the arrival of Summer the creativity of turning gives way to creativity of other kinds. For me it's painting. Do I dabble in oils? Potter in pastels? Wash in water-colours? I hear you ask. Not a bit of it! I'm a six-inch-brush-and-emulsion man. Having been blessed, or plagued with a white house that has the happy knack of turning grey each winter the arrival of the cherry blossom has me up the ladder splashing away to my heart's contempt!

However the arrival of the long evenings does bring it's own blessings as well. You know, not only is life funny but it has a very winding path. My recent interest in wood-turning has broadened my horizons in other directions as well. I have often heard Joe O'Neill and others talking about the Tree Council of Ireland and the planting sessions in Larch Hill. But until recently I never really looked at trees - couldn't see the trees for the wood so to speak. One Sunday about a month ago I heard a forest walk at Avondale being advertised on the radio. So off we went along with about 20 other souls that had turned up for the occasion. What an experience. The head forester at Avondale did the tour and I found myself literally entering another world. He knew each tree individually as if they were old friends and shared with us many interesting and informative pieces of information. So speaking with all the zeal of the convert, get out into the woods, open your eyes

and be amazed.

If like me you know little or nothing about trees going out to the woods can present a few problems. All the books seem to contain illustrations of hundreds of species that you can recognise on paper but all look the same when you get into the wild. Well don't be discouraged, I've found the very thing you need. It's a book called 'The Tree Book' (surprise, surprise!) written by J. Edward Milner and was published to go with a Channel 4 documentary presented by Dick Warner. For anyone who wants to get to know about wood without having to sacrifice a rain forest it's the business...

Have a happy, rambling, turning Summer!



**Demo by Christy Glynn at Meeting of Dublin Chapter of Woodturners Guild on May 4th 1996**

Christy was introduced by the Chairman, Seamus O'Reilly who reminded us that we were about to see a demo by one of the country's most skilled and creative carvers.

Christy began his show by explaining how he approaches many of his carving projects. No elaborate sketches, drawings or designs, just an appreciation of form and an innate feel for proportion is what one needs, he explained. At least I think that's what he was trying to put across! He took a short Queen Anne style leg, band sawed roughly to shape and proceeded to fashion a very creditable ball and claw using a variety of gouges and chisels without a mallet. Next he added a traditional shell on one side and a leaf on the other starting with a design drawn out freehand on a piece of card

and transferred to the wood as a guide. All done at a furious rate - to our eyes - and this would be the norm for any carver who was earning a living from the craft.

Christy showed us how to produce a rope edge on a piece of MDF. After rounding the edge with spokeshave and scraper he chiselled in a series of

cuts and the job was done. Another free hand design on the face of MDF panel and with another few deft strokes the unmistakable outline of a branch of a tree.

Then we were shown how shell and leaf carvings for the front rail of, say, a hall table, could be obtained simply by gluing a suitable blank to a scrap of wood and transferring the finished job afterwards to its final position.

It was amazing to see how quickly Christy could take down a square section to the round using only spokeshave. This was done as a basis for showing how he marked out spirals by hand with the help of ever useful piece of cardboard. Mallet and chisel again and chips flying in all directions. It was a most enlightening exhibition of a very skilled artist at work, and one who clearly enjoyed what he did and was pleased to show others some of the secrets of the trade. After looking through the many photos of past projects undertaken by Christy I can only shake my head in admiration at the prodigious output of this man over many years.

Thanks to Joe O'Neill for enabling us to see the demonstration in such fine detail.

Chris Hayes...

*This is the first of the outlines of the monthly meetings in Terenure College by Chris. In future months there will be the two previous demos, in profile, in the following issue. For this undertaking I am sure that we are all most appreciative. Phillip Ed...*



# Terenure College

## The visit to the Dublin Chapter of the Irish Woodturners Guild

On the second and third of March the Dublin Chapter of the Irish Woodturners Guild had kindly invited members of the North Federation of Woodturning Groups to a weekend of turning, talking and exchanging ideas. A party of twelve turners, and two spouses arrived, representing the Woodturning Association of Gwynedd, High Peak Woodturners, West Manchester Woodturners Association and West Riding Woodturners.

The weekend was an experimental interclub workshop which aimed at giving the visitors a flavour of how another club runs, and promoting the exchange of ideas. All those involved will agree it was a resounding success.

On Saturday morning we attended the monthly meeting of the Dublin Chapter. All were impressed with how smoothly the meeting ran. Both club members and visitors had brought pieces to display, as well as the competition entries. The work was both interesting and of a high standard, and provoked a lot of discussion. Tom Hayes demonstrated bowl turning for novices, and Hugh Flynn gave tips on turning a wooden pen. Members and visitors also participated in judging the competitions. The Chapter have a three tier competition system, with a league table to move up through the tiers, which seems to be an excellent system, encouraging turners at all levels of experience to enter. Another point for our clubs to note and hopefully imitate - the Dubliners are heavily involved in tree planting.

Saturday afternoon and Sunday were informal sessions where turners from both sides of the water demonstrated skill, techniques and new ideas. All who attended felt they learned a great deal in this setting, as the exchange of ideas was much easier than at a formal lecture.

All the visitors expressed their gratitude for the hospitality shown both by the club and by their individual billets. We were provided with a gift on arrival, lunch on Saturday, and a social evening on Saturday night including supper, all complimentary. Several of us rounded the weekend off on Sunday night with an evening at Foxes, a real "spit and sawdust" Irish pub.

This was the first visit of its kind, and worked well. Visits between our members clubs would possibly be equally successful. Those who went on the trip are keen to ensure that our seminar in September matches the excellence of the hospitality, incorporates some of the informality of this visit, and hopefully recreates the friendly atmosphere.

## Membership cards

For a number of reasons members attending Terenure College meetings are asked to bring along their current membership card for the years 96/7. This is especially important to those of you who wish to use the library, as those who do not have current membership will not be able to use the library facility. You may also be asked for your card from time to time when paying your two pounds at the door. Your assistance in this matter will be much appreciated by the Committee at the running of the meetings...

## Competition League Table To May 97

### Advanced Winners

1	H. Kampff	1017	3
2	T. McGill	908	3
3	P. Sheridan	846	3
4	P. Doyle	843	3
5	O. Furniss	802	3
6	W. Caffrey	705	2
7	M. Healy	704	2
8	H. East	644	2
9	J. Wetherall	629	2
10	P. Mulvaney	576	2
11	J. O'Neill	382	2
12	H. Flynn	280	1
13	T. Newman	269	1
14	S. O'Reilly	247	1

### Experienced Winners

1	T. Hayes	628	2
2	A. Sloane	590	2
3	E. O'Reilly	550	2
4	W. Reynolds	461	2
5	F. McCann	333	1
6	M. Forde	328	1
7	G. Cronin	302	1
8	A. Graham	274	1
9	P. O'Gorman	271	1
10	A. Finlay	265	1

### Beginners Winners

1	D. McMahon	958	3
2	B. Dunne	861	3
3	M. Kenny	855	3
4	M. McGrane	641	2
5	T. Lally	619	2
6	T. Forde	619	2
7	M. Hunter	546	2
8	N. Castle	542	2
9	A. Lalor	514	2
10	J. Binnie	498	2
11	B. Byrne	356	1
12	E. Walshe	348	1
13	J. Gordon	307	1
14	S. McPartland	296	1
15	M. Murphy	286	1
16	D. Begg	264	1
17	V. Lowe	243	1
18	M. Lally	222	1
19	D. Acres	216	1
20	C. Hayes	187	1
21	P. McArdle	86	1

# Chapter News

## North Strand V.E.C.

The last meeting was at 7:15 - 9:30pm on Thursday, 18th April. There will be no meetings over the summer, until school reopens in September.

September Demo to be announced, plus each month, bring and show and tell.

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

## H.S.S. bars / cutters

Harry Kampff is available to advise members on availability and use of tool steel and HSS cutters...  
Phone 298 2425

## Wanted

Second hand DML 24 lathe for a new member. If you have one for sale or know of one please phone Christy Byrne at 4519225 or the editor...

We want to know  
who you are  
**Remember**  
Wear your  
badge

## Acknowledgements

Creative Woodturning Exhibition-Mick Healy. Philip Byrne, 'The Green Corner. Our British Visitors- Tom Hayes. May Demo- Chris Hayes. The Visit To Dublin- North Federation of Woodturners Hugh Flynn, 'Photos'...

## 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. Phone 458 2303

## Kiln up and running

Frank McCann will take roughed bowl blanks at the monthly meeting and return them the following month dried, cost to be nominal. Contact Frank for further details and rates.

Also large stock of timber available which can be cut into blanks, to your own specifications, balanced if necessary. Contact Frank for further details at 458 2303



## 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...

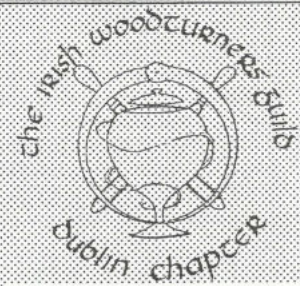
Gerard Byrne St Killians School  
Phone 2866874

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

Tom Newman St Tiernans  
Community School, Phone  
2987141

Willie Caffrey North strand,  
Phone 8481725

Peter Mulvaney 33 Ardmoer Pk  
Phone 2802745



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.

### 1996/7 Committee

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

Vice Chairman Mick Healy 8  
Belchurc Park, Poppintree, 8427924

Hon Sec Hugh Flynn, 20 Lakelands  
Close, Stilorgan, 2887830

Hon Treasurer Harold Kampff 2  
Drumartin Close, Goatstown, 2982425

Editor Phillip Murray 17

Idrone Close, Knocklyon, 4941269  
Assistant Editor Chris Hayes, 85  
Willowpark Grove, Glasnevin, Dub, 11.  
8422525.

Competitions Willie Caffrey 9  
Maryfield Crescent, Artane, 8481725

Librarian Ed Farrell 29 Deanstown  
Green, Finglas, Dub, 11. 8346818

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

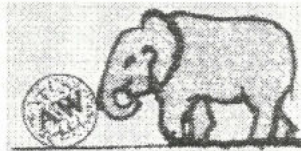
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