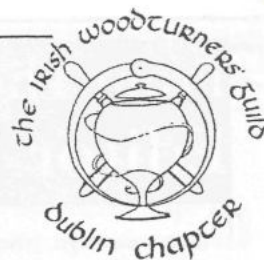


# Dublin Chapter, Irish Woodturners Guild



Newsletter Volume 3, Number 5 Sep, Oct 1996

Page 1

## Competition

October-

Tray

November-

Christmas Decoration

December-

Candle Holder

## Demonstration

October-

Adrian Finlay,  
Carving on the Lathe  
Paddy Sheridan,

Talk on making 20 Trophies

November-

Mick Healy,  
Christmas Decoration.

December-

Ed Farrell,  
Making a lamp.

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

'**W**oist with his own petard' I was never quite sure what that meant but I'm beginning to know. It's bound to happen sooner or later. We get caught in our own trap. In this case being caught is rather pleasant. I'm talking about all the advances the Chapter has made over the last couple of years. Numbers have increased dramatically, the availability of Terenure College, the monthly competition and the huge increase in the standard of woodturning.

**P**art of the trap is the public image we have created. Thanks to the numerous

exhibitions we've laid on, people are now realising that woodturning is an art form requiring the skill of the craftsman, the eye of the artist and a love for the beauty of wood.

**B**ets get back to the 'trap'. We've gained the attention of so many individuals and private and public companies all of whom are desirous of displaying our creations that it seems there aren't enough days in the week. Thankfully we have an excellent committee. I've been on committees all my life and I can truthfully say

(See "From the Chairman":  
continued on page 2)

## Inside this Month

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## Tallaght Exhibition & Sale

**T**he Exhibition Committee have arranged an Exhibition & Sale in Tallaght from the 13th to the 21st of October. There will be four tables available for those who wish to participate in this Exhibition & Sale. Normal sale conditions apply, that is all pieces must be priced and coded and a complete list of the items submitted should be prepared in advance for the Committee member in attendance. A special retention of 20% applies as follows: 10% to Charity, 10% to Chapter and 80% to Sellers.

As the tables will be in a relatively open

area a minimum of 5 people must be present at all times, one for each table and one on cash. One of the conditions of participation in this sale is that you must be willing and prepared to man the exhibition or have someone man on your behalf. Due to the openness of the exhibition the Committee cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage of pieces, although all care and attention will be taken of the pieces.

For further details contact the exhibition Committee:

Tom Hayes: 289 5552, Tom Mc Donagh:  
288 6351, Mick Healy: 842 7924...

## From The Editor

Thirty years ago, when the first of the modern guilds were beginning to form, the information that was available was almost non-existent. In previous times the guild system was a closed fraternity to all but it's members and their information and skill was passed down from generation to generation, through example and by word of mouth. The writing down of such knowledge was seen as a loss to that trade. However, as technology and scientific advancement proceeded at breakneck speed in the fifties and sixties, technology took over and left the crafts back in the stone age. Formal guilds folded or died off due to no new members and a falling membership and as each generation of craftsmen died so their skills died with them.

And so at the beginning of the seventies a new age dawned. No longer were these skills to be used in the commercial field, but for pleasure and recreation. Potters, turners, instrument makers, model makers and many others, whose skills were used for industrial processes, were now to be used for leisure. The one thing they all lacked was the fine detail, the hints, the tips and the tricks of the trade that had only been taught by word of mouth in the old guild system.

However there was a new

breed of craftsman running the guilds, and their first task was to amass as much information particular to and associated with their craft as possible and publish it for all. In the first ten years it was a struggle as many of the older members preferred to keep their information to themselves, but as time went on and the basic information was gathered, more and more books were written on the craft subjects, and many of the skills have been retained. A by product of this amassing of information is that the quality of workmanship within guilds is higher than ever before and also available to all.

Today as any new member, finds out, there is a vast reservoir of information to dip into. From books, magazines, videos and even on computers via the internet, if you are into that. Many of the smaller guilds like my own (Guild of Americal Luthiers) where there are so few people involved in the field worldwide, it is so important to pool their information and use the library facilities offered and also to share your 'no matter how small' information so that others can gain from your experience.

I would urge everyone to participate in the guild and share in whatever way they can for all our sakes. And to the new members, please do make use of the library facilities and ask for help from any of the more established people that you encounter.

As always pass on your ideas to me or your queries, or to any of the current committee. Enjoy the Newsletter and the National Journal and turn whatever you can whenever you can

'just enjoy it'...

*("From the Chairman"*

*: continued from page 1)*

I've never met better. Each member has a specific job to do and co-ordinates perfectly with the others, needless to say the 'Two Toms' continue to do trojan work.

Priority must be given this month to the Tallaght Exhibition, 13th-21st October inclusive. Mick Healy's exhibition committee would like to see pieces coming in as soon as possible. Mick will be glad to give details. By the way as the labourer is worthy of his hire this will be an exhibition and SALE.

You will be pleased to know that the President has graciously agreed to accept on our behalf a decorated Christmas tree which she will present to a hospital or similar. Christmas is just around the corner so will you all pull out the stops and make this a truly worthy presentation.

As I write, some of our members are returning from a reciprocal visit to our friends in England who were with us this summer. Doubtless Tom Hayes will fill us in at Saturdays Meeting.

NB Buying of votes, gerrymandering or any form of corruption will be frowned upon in the race to get the Chairman's job!

Seamus O'Reilly...

**D**ue to work commitments, Philip Byrne has not been able to prepare his green corner articles. Hopefully we can have one from him for the November/December Issue. In the mean time we hope Philip can find the time to return to turning and telling us of his extraordinary exploits. Ed...



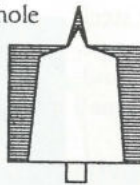
### Waldock Gallery

Eoin McElligott of the Waldock Gallery is looking for quality turning for display and sale. Business is on a sale or return basis with a 33% mark-up in price. Any one interested should contact Eoin for further details...

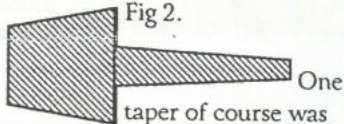
**Waldock  
Gallery,  
Blackrock  
Centre, Black-  
rock,  
Co Dublin.  
Phone: Fax:(10)  
2781861**

### Demo by Tim Magill Thimbles, 3rd August 1996

Tim assured us that most timber was suitable for thimbles and presented an opportunity to use those odd pieces lying around the workshop. He suggested starting with a piece about 1" square (25mm) and drilling a tapered hole using a specially ground down 7-8th inch flat bit and the point removed too see Fig 1.



To facilitate things Tim suggested making up a Morse taper thimble chuck and showed us how to go about it! He set up a short length of wood between centres, turned it down to the round and proceeded to taper from the centre towards each end leaving a shoulder near the middle, see Fig 2.



One taper of course was turned to the dimensions of the internal Morse taper of the headstock - the exact measurements are easily obtained from the pronged drive (easier if you have a vernier) - and the other end was made to conform to the dimensions of the tapered drill bit. When he was satisfied with the shape the new "chuck" was inserted in the headstock and the drilled blank pushed

onto the other end. Tim was now able to rough down and finish to the desired shape without any more changes. Sanding and finishing are treated in the usual way.

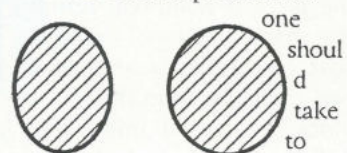
Decoration of the outside is a matter for your own taste but usually consists of concentric rings at the business end and one or two beads on the outside. Tim finds that these are in great

demand and indeed lots of people collect them, displaying all the different kinds whether made from ceramics, metal, ivory or wood or whatever in specially made "houses"

So there you are. Before you have your next clear out of the workshop put aside those small pieces for a thimble session sometime and see if you can better Tim at this interesting art

### Demo by Peter Mulvaney 3rd August 1996 Bunch of grapes

Peter usually begins his demonstrations with a few reminders about the hazards associated with inhaling dust and the sensible precautions



(Demo's : continued on page 6)

Last year at a local craft show, Jay Weber showed me a tree ornament that he had turned. It seemed to be a good seller for him, so I was bound and determined to come up with an ornament variation of my own. What follows is probably not an original design, but it is the first object I have ever made that I cannot produce enough of, especially around Christmas time.

The only special tool that you will need is a "bent angle" tool like the ones originated by David Ellsworth. The one I use for hollowing the ornaments is simply a piece of 1/4 inch mild steel with a short piece of 3/16 inch high-speed silver steel, silver soldered at about a 40 degree angle.

Other than that, I use a 1/4 inch round-nosed scraper, a spindle gouge, a small skew, and a small roughing-out gouge.

The finished ornament measures about 2 1/2 inches in diameter and about 6 inches long, but could easily be larger or smaller depending on personal taste or woods available.

Begin by gluing the "globe" stock to a piece of waste wood. This, in turn, is held by a three-jaw chuck. (Fastening it to a faceplate works just as well). I turn the square down to a cylinder or a globe, making sure that enough material is left on the waste-block side to allow the interior to be excavated (photo 1). Drill a 1/2 inch hole all the way through the globe into the waste block, and then hollow the interior, using the 1/4 inch round-nose scraper and the bent angle tool (photo 2). There is no need to be particular about the interior; the idea is to remove mass so that the ornament is light and does not weigh down the tree. Once the piece is hollowed, refine the shape and sand, apply a coat of sanding sealer, and part the globe from the waste block. Keep in mind that you have drilled a hole through the ornament when

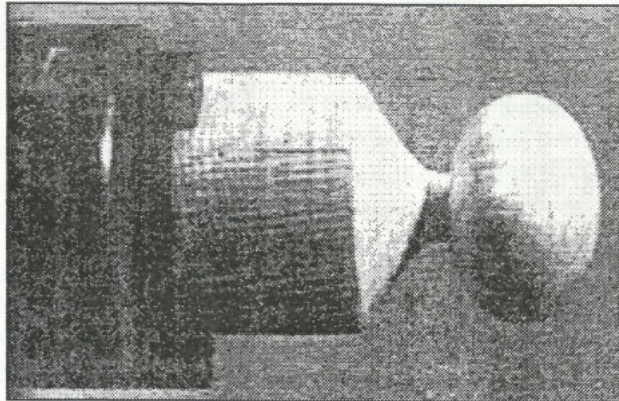


Photo 1. Globe ready for hollowing.

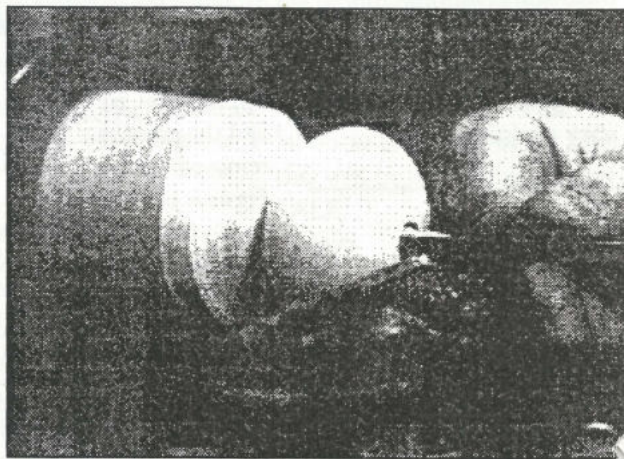


Photo 2. Hollowing out the globe portion of the ornament.

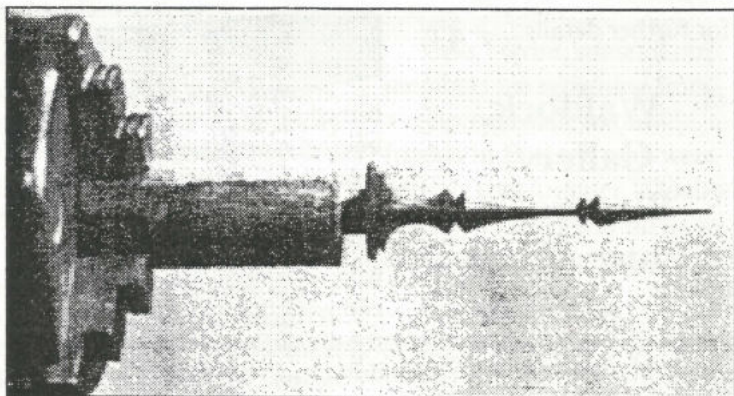


Photo 3. Icicle is turned from the tip working toward the lathe. Finish one section before moving on to the next section.

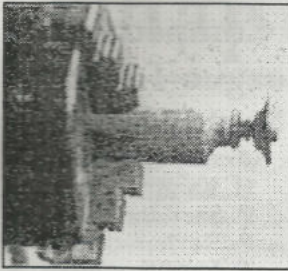


Photo 4. The top of the ornament is made from the remainder of the icicle stock.



Photo 5. Ornament parts just before gluing together.

parting it from the waste block.

At this point, you have a hollowed globe with a 1/2 inch hole in the top and bottom. The next step is to make the "icicle" that hangs down (photo 3). I start with a 1 1/2 inch cylinder about 6 inches long held in my three-jaw chuck. (Again, you can also glue the cylinder into a piece of scrap wood on a faceplate). Turn the icicle, starting from its tip and working back toward what will be the bottom of the globe. I sand and apply sanding sealer as I go, as the finished product can be very delicate and otherwise may break. When the lower icicle is completed, leave a 1/2 inch tenon, which is glued into the base of the ornament. While a nice fit is a joy to behold, I would rather err on the side of a slightly loose fit, since you can destroy the ornament at this point by forcing the parts together. I use five-minute epoxy for assembly, which allows for a little play.

Make the top of the ornament from the remainder of the icicle stock (photo 4). Turn and fit the tenon first, and then part off the remainder of the cap. At this point, assemble the ornament. Insert a very small brass screw eye into the top of the assembled ornament and spray the finished piece with one or two coats of Deft semi-gloss spray lacquer.

The finished product can be pretty impressive. The uninitiated are always amazed to discover that the ornament is hollow, and most can not figure out how it was hollowed in the first place.

Robert Rosand is a self-taught, professional woodturner. He lives in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania.

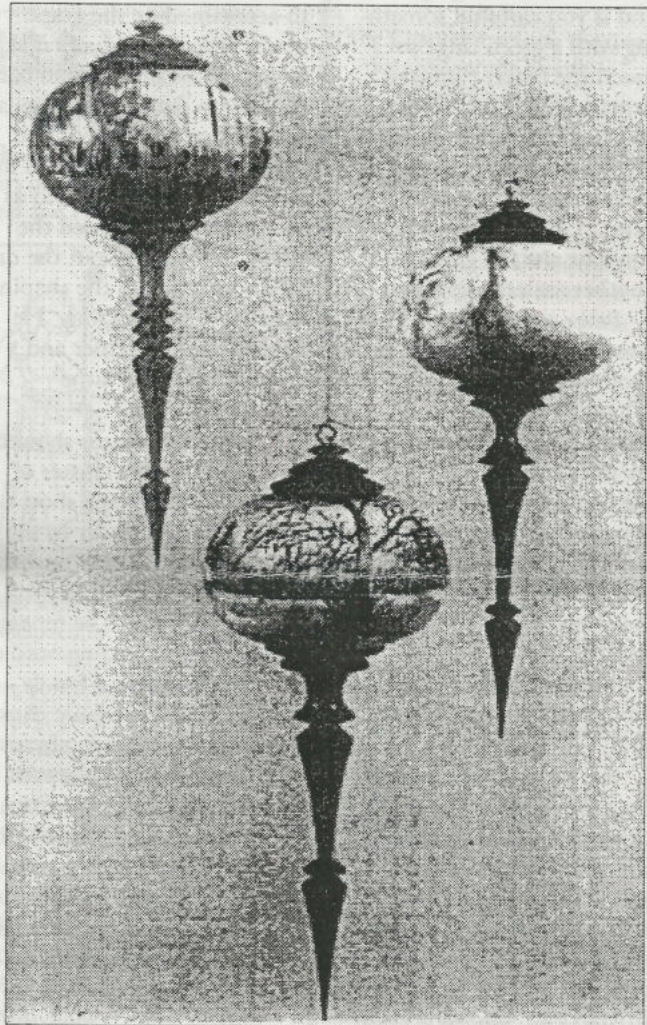


Photo 6. Finished ornaments, one hand-painted by Susan Rosand

# Terenure College

Page 6

*("Demo's": continued from page 3)*  
reduce these risks.

He began by pointing out the difference in shape between the white and the red grape, white is more of an oval than the red and it is, he claims, helpful to keep a bunch of the fruit nearby as you work, for reference of course, not to eat!

Tip! Select a close grained wood if possible, sycamore or poplar are suitable for white grapes and if you can find something with a green tinge so much the better ( joinery firms such as Sisks in the Bluebell industrial estate often have offcuts to give away or sell for a nominal sum). Obtaining wood to simulate the red grape is another matter altogether.

Peter suggested roughing down a 35mm square piece about 300mm long to a cylinder - one way is to roughly shave off the corners with a chisel and jam the end into the headstock. For the demo he mounted the wood between centres and rounded down using the skew. (Tip; work towards the drive where possible to help keep the prongs embedded in the end.)

He began shaping with the skew, working from the tailstock end and pointing out again the necessity to follow the contour of the fruit , a grape being longer in the direction of the stem.

Peter turned the first to his satisfaction, sanded accessible parts using 150, 280

and 400, parted off and squared off the end ready to start all over again.

Next he showed us how to finish the operation assuming sufficient quantities completed to make up a bunch -typically 25 to 27 in a cluster. With a Jacob's chuck mounted in the headstock and a suitable twist drill he pushed the 'grape' onto the bit resting his arm on the toolrest and took care not to drill too far. The hole size he reminded us should be made to accommodate the grape 'stem' which he usually makes from pipe cleaners , dyed black - try Colron dark oak or similar, (others use black telephone wire bent over and pushed in as a tight fit) Having drilled as far as necessary he allowed the 'grape' to rotate about the drill bit and continued the shaping with skew and sanding. He applied sanding sealer and dried off with the lathe running.

Our demonstrator showed how to build up a cluster of grapes by attaching a short length of pipe cleaner to the 'grape' with PVA glue pushed into the hole with a pointed stick. This would be repeated for the others building onto one full size cleaner and finally fixing this to a carefully chosen twig from the garden, always with one eye on your model in front of you (if you have not yet succumbed to hunger)

Thank you Peter for a very enjoyable demonstration.  
Chris Hayes...

## Competition League Table To September 97

### Advanced Winners

1	H. Kampff	1834	6
2	P. Sheridan	1436	5
3	P. Doyle	1412	5
4	T. McGill	1228	4
5	H. East	1146	4
6	J. Wetherall	1112	4
7	P. Mulvaney	1112	4
8	O. Furniss	1078	4
9	W. Caffrey	705	2
10	M. Healy	704	2
11	H. Flynn	586	2
12	T. Newman	565	2
13	J. O'Neill	382	1
14	S. O'Reilly	247	1

### Experienced Winners

1	D. McMahon	1725	6
2	T. Lally	1616	6
3	E. O'Reilly	1197	4
4	A. Sloane	1177	4
5	M. Forde	921	3
6	T. Hayes	628	2
7	A. Finlay	601	2
8	P. O'Gorman	582	2
9	W. Reynolds	462	2
10	F. McCann	333	1
11	G. Cronin	302	1
12	A. Graham	274	1
13	G. Forrester	260	1
14	K. Kellett	165	1

### Beginners Winners

1	A. Lalor	1018	4
2	B. Dunne	861	3
3	M. Kenny	860	3
4	M. Hunter	754	3
5	J. Binnie	659	3
6	T. Forde	619	2
7	M. McGrane	614	2
8	M. Ryan	606	2
9	S. McPartland	566	2
10	J. Gordon	563	2
11	N. Castle	542	2
12	V. Lowe	456	2
13	C. Hayes	444	2
14	P. McArdle	414	2
15	B. Byrne	356	1
16	E. Walshe	348	1
17	L. McMahon	290	1
18	M. Murphy	286	1
19	D. Begg	264	1
20	H. O'Riordan	262	1
21	M. Lally	222	1
22	D. Acres	216	1
23	N. Cassidy	199	1

# Chapter News

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## North Strand V.E.C.

The next meeting takes place on the last Thursday in October at 7.30 - 9.30pm, also November at the same times. Details to be announced of demos. Plus each month, bring and show and tell. All are welcome to attend and enjoy the discussion...

## Seminar 96 Monaghan 18-20 October.

As announced at the A.G.M. this year, the Annual Seminar is to be held in Monaghan. After a three year term in Kilkenny, I am sure that the Committee are planning plenty of ways to improve on their excellent results in the past, for our enjoyment this year.

For further details contact Tom Dunlop, Booking Sec. and look out for further details in the next National Journal due out soon...

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

## Acknowledgements

From the Chairman By Seamus O'Reilly. Philip Byrne, The Green Corner. Demos, Chris Hayes. Project Christmas Decoration By Robert Rosland c/o American Woodworker. Phillip Murray Editor...

## This Space is reserved for your small adds

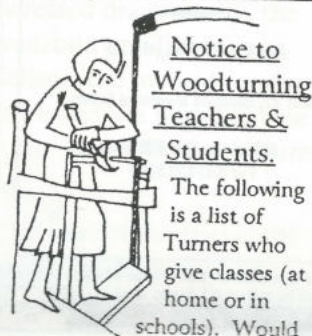
contact the Editor for details

## 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 at Phone 458 2303.

## H.S.S. bars / cutters

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



## 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...

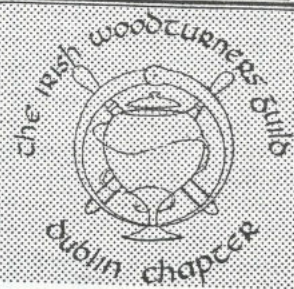
Gerard Byrne St Killians School  
Phone 2866874

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

Tom Newman St Tiernans  
Comunity School, Phone  
2987141

Willie Caffrey North strand,  
Phone 8481725

Petrer Mulvaney, Dunlaoghaire,  
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  
Belchure 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

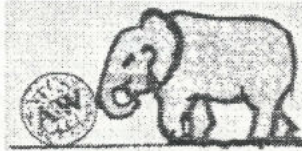
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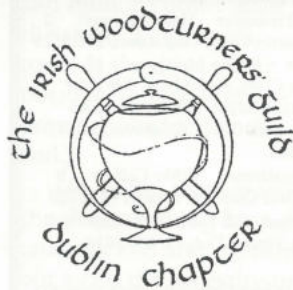
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 Footprint, Draper.  
 Call for further details.

Disclaimer: While every effort to cheque details is made prior to publication, there may be errors or omissions. The Irish Woodturners Guild Dublin Chapter cannot accept any liability for such errors and wherever possible corrections will be notified in following issue...

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 Lake Purdy,  
 New York 10578