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Editor's Comments

Richard Bird has reminded me that there should always be contact information included in the Newsletter, because the members' address list which I referred to in the last edition is currently out of date, and members may not have it to hand anyway. Point taken! Thank you Richard. All queries, apart from material for the Editor, should be addressed in the first instance to the Secretary, Mike Collas, whose details are now included in the column on the left.

Unfortunately, I was not able to be present for the March meeting, and even more unfortunately, because of a technical hitch, I have not been able to reproduce other pictures taken during that evening. If I can resolve the problem, the pictures will appear in a future Newsletter.

I am pleased to report that the proposed MWA stand at the Windsor exhibition has now been confirmed. More details in due course. I also confirm that the set up day for the Middlesex Show will be Friday 19th June.

A correction. When writing up the Ruislip Fun Day, I omitted to say that MWA will be supporting our Charity, the Shooting Star Children's Hospice on that day.

Alan

The 'Graddage' Award.

The committee would like to remind you that the Graddage Award is presented at the MWA Seminar each year. It is for the best item made by a MWA member and submitted for the award, and shown in the Instant Gallery, with the following provisos:

Only one piece may be submitted by each member.

The piece must have been made during the past 12 months.

The Graddage Award is held for 1 year, and is handed back to be re-awarded in the following year

March Meeting

Chris Wallace is an occasional demonstrator whom we have not seen before. His demonstration was concerned with techniques for using unseasoned wood and the use of the microwave oven. It is reported that what was shown needed no special tools or equipment, and involved methods which anyone could try, with every chance of success. As noted in the Editor's comments, it is hoped that pictures from this demonstration may be available at some future date. It would be interesting to hear from any members who try the techniques. Even better would be to see the results.

MWA Seminar Update

Places are still available at the MWA Seminar, which takes place on Sunday May 17th. The ticket price is £15.00, which includes lunch, teas, coffees, etc. Each ticket is numbered, and there will be a "Ticket Prize" in addition to the usual draw at the end of the day. The venue in Great Kingshill is easy to find on road A4128 from High Wycombe, and a local map showing where to park etc., accompanies the tickets.

This is one event in the MWA calendar that should not be missed. It offers a full day with an expert turner, an Instant Gallery of delegates' work, good food, and great camaraderie. All for just £15! What a bargain!. Get your tickets from Derek Pollecutt.

Spinning Tops Competition - Last Words.

Any design of top may be entered in the competition. You are reminded that tops must be made by the competitors, and must be made entirely of wood. No inclusions of metals or plastics will be allowed. Tops will be spun on a level glass surface, and spins will be timed by stopwatch under the eagle eyes of fellow competitors and committee members! Good luck!

ICE!!

The following has nothing directly to do with wood turning, but may well be something we should all think about.

'ICE' is the idea of a paramedic, who when attending emergencies and accidents was always faced with the problem of getting in touch with relatives or friends of the persons being attended to. Almost everybody these days carries a mobile 'phone, and a look at the Address Book of any phone reveals many, possibly hundreds of names, often only first names. Who then to call?

'ICE' stands for '*In Case of Emergency*' The idea is to place in the address book of the phone you carry with you, numbers prefixed with ICE1 ICE2 etc. of people who should be contacted in any emergency involving yourself. Simple really! My mobile now has two 'ICE' numbers, which I hope never have to be used. Will your mobile have them? *Alan*

A Reminder

Next month, the **Sorby Road Show** will be with us. Sorby will be demonstrating its latest products, and will have various tools and equipment for sale. If you are looking for some new kit come prepared. Sorby may have just what you want, and you can see it in action if you wish.

