



# THE TRADE TOOLS GROUP

## NEWSLETTER No. 6

JULY 1992

### PRESIDENTS REPORT - Terry Butcher

"I would like to welcome all the new members that have recently joined our group - I hope we live up to your expectations - if not please don't hesitate to air your views either at the meetings or to any of the executive and we'll try and sort it out.

Steve Johnson a Tafe teacher has very kindly donated to the group two pieces of wood working machinery. Unfortunately they have spent some years in the open air and the result, though not terminal, will take a considerable amount of TLC before we can call them Exhibition Pieces, but don't despair - they can make it!

What we have is a Treadle Lathe and a Treadle Circular Saw. Full details on both pieces are covered in the article by Bob Crosbie later in this Newsletter.

The pieces were moved from the Johnsons back garden by Henry Black, myself and Bob Lee with his truck. We transported them to a members house for temporary storage until something more permanent can be found. We will keep you posted on developments and any other additions to the collection. Through the Newsletter I would like to thank the Johnsons for their magnificent gesture which is much appreciated.

### THE LAST MEETING - JUNE 17th

Twenty seven members attended the last meeting at the Balmain Leagues Club.

- Terry opened the meeting and outlined the format for the evening.
- Notice was given of the 'Working With Wood Show' at the Showground from July 24 - 26 inc and the need for a committee to organise our involvement.
- Photos of the machinery acquisitions were passed around.
- Ian Goldsmith offered to assist with the distribution of the Newsletter.
- The minutes of the last meeting were adopted.
- The date for the next meeting was set for August 12th at the Balmain Leagues Club at 7.30 pm

## GENERAL BUSINESS - Michael Dale

The main theme of the evening came from a letter to the last Newsletter regarding the care of tools. This can be a very contentious area with everyone having their own thoughts and beliefs about what is 'right'. Despite this several members were good enough to share their ideas with us all and to illustrate their points via some interesting examples of tools in various states of care and restoration. Henry Black, Paul Gregson and Ian Goldsmith showed a variety of tools and discussed their criteria for deciding on the future of tools that come their way. This ranged from tossing it out to a full strip and restore. It was interesting to hear the debate about 'as new' restoration versus 'still looks old' restoration. Ray Weston showed an old collection of coach wheel spanners and discussed the care of metal tools and an old 'snake skin' spanner was finally identified as a home made spanner made from an old rasp. Our thanks to all those who participated in the discussions and hopefully you can make it to the next meeting where the topic will be 'Adhesives', something we all use, but which is often not that well understood.

## WORKING WITH WOOD SHOW - JULY 24-26

This show is with us once again and this year promises to be even bigger than last year. We have the opportunity to participate in the hope of promoting The Trade Tools Group to a wider audience.

Work is underway gathering together bits and pieces to exhibit and a helping hand is needed to bring it all together. If you have something to offer or can help call Terry on 699-2391

Henry Black is organising a roster to man the stand and give out membership forms etc. anyone able to help can contact Henry on 774-7875. Or just show up.... I'm sure those there could always stand an extra smoko!

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the show, which as reported earlier looks as if it's going to a 'must see' event.

## FIRST MACHINERY ACQUISITIONS - Bob Crosbie

Several items of old machinery have recently been donated. These comprise a treadle circular saw, a treadle lathe stand, a wooden lathe (unmounted), a grindstone wheel, various lathe parts and various attachments for the circular saw.

All the items are in poor condition and the group needs a permanent home for these machines although temporary accommodation has been found. The circular saw seems complete. The key moving parts have been removed and Terry Butcher has started work on these. The wooden parts need replacement and I have offered to make these in due course.

Readers will be interested in the following details of the machines:

### Treadle Circular Saw

The castings are marked :WF&J Barnes & Co  
Rockford. Ill. USA.  
Pat. Jan 20. 1874  
Pat. Oct. 5. '75  
Dec. 21. '86

Despite the poor appearance the machine is mechanically sound and restoration should be relatively straight forward.

### Treadle Circular Saw Attachments

- 1) Fret saw - seems complete, though wooden arms need replacement.
- 2) Boring Spindle - poor condition.

### The Lathe Legs and Treadle

Castings are in good condition, the wooden parts are virtually all missing. The legs are marked: WF&J Barnes & Co.  
Rockford. Ill. USA

### The Wooden Lathe

Very poor condition. It could be last century and is probably home made.

### Various Lathe Parts

Several well cast tool rests and posts. Some poor quality 'home made' items with modern welding etc..

### Grindstone

This is good quality and could be mounted.

All help and/or advise regarding these pieces would be much appreciated.