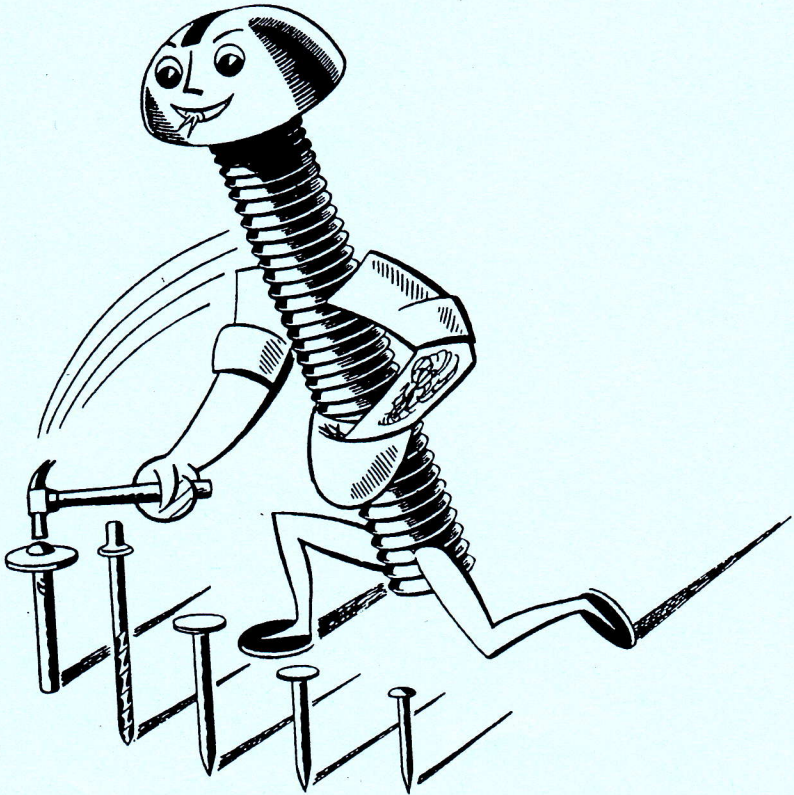


TGT



Newsletter 57
February 2001
The Traditional Tools Group Inc

TTTG Inc.

THE TRADITIONAL TOOLS GROUP (Inc.)

TTTG Newsletter No. 57. February 2001.

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Cover:

Sidney Cooke Ltd. advertisement, 1950.

2000-2001 Subscriptions are due.

Subscription Rates :

Sydney \$30, Country \$22.50. Pensioners \$22.50.

Postal Address.

The Secretary TTTG

P.O. Box 240 Grosvenor Place

Sydney N.S.W.1220.

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Enquires: Mike Williams

02 9144 6356

Bob Crosbie

r.crosbie@bigpond.com

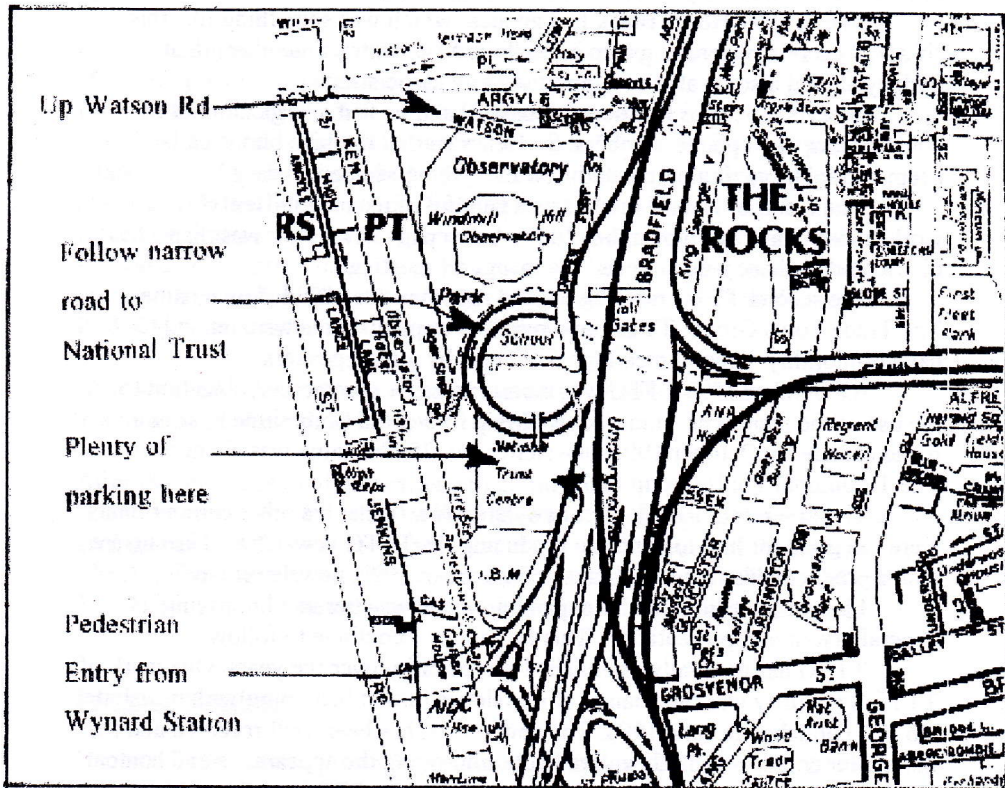
Next Meeting

Tuesday 13th February 2001

National Trust Centre, Annie Wyatt Room

Observatory Hill

Commencing at 7:00pm



PROGRAMME

1. EDGE TOOL MANUFACTURE- FLINTS TO ALLOYS. RICK MITCHELL WILL ILLUSTRATE HIS TALK WITH PHOTOGRAPHS AND EXAMPLES. RICK VISITED THE UK LAST YEAR AND EXPLORED THE HISTORIC SITES ASSOCIATED WITH TRADITIONAL TOOL MANUFACTURE.

2. WOTSIT. ANY UNUSUAL

WOTSITS TO CONFOUND THE EXPERTS.

3. SUPPER BY MARIO DATO

Editors' Notes.

"When did TTTG start ?"

This is a question often asked of TTTG Committee members. A few official TTTG facts may be of some interest to readers.

Late in 1991 Henry Black had an idea, which was something like this; "if a tool users'/collectors' group in Melbourne can attract members then Sydney should also be able to support such an association".

Henry's tool sales had been successful and he had a large number of contact names and phone numbers. So Henry started to make phone calls. I remember Henry ringing me and how everything seemed so easy !

As a result of Henry's initiative a handful of us meet in Henry's workshop on the 27 of November 1991. A two page newsletter was then distributed to those who attended the inaugural meeting.

The second TTTG meeting elected a Committee, decided on a name, The Trade Tools Group. TTTG, and resolved to publish a newsletter and to have bi-monthly general meetings with talks by guest speakers.

By October 1993 TTTG was incorporated. A commercial objection to the use of the name The Trade Tools Group forced the Committee to seek a name change. In October 1995, newsletter No. 25, the name was changed to The Traditional Tools Group Inc.

The first editor found, after newsletter No. 6, that his other commitments were too great for him to continue producing the TTTG newsletter. The current editor produced his first newsletter in September 1992, newsletter No.7.

I began my editorship by expanding the newsletter and improving its general layout and presentation. This is a policy I continue to follow.

TTTG has gradually established its credibility over the years. One mark of TTTG's maturity was the change of newsletter format beginning with newsletter No. 41, published in June 1998. The new format has been well received and the newsletter committee has been gradually improving the appearance and content of the newsletter and actively seeks suggestions from TTTG members.

Current developments will allow further improvement. The new postage rate for the newsletter has resulted in a 50% reduction in mailing costs. All the members of the newsletter committee now have compatible computers and the TTTG Web Page is in the process of being created.

The newsletter is only made possible by the efforts of a number of TTTG members. The editorial committee sees to the production process but without the contributions of TTTG members the newsletter could not be published.

A "Made in Australia" theme has emerged through the newsletter and the editor is actively seeking to publish material on Australian tool makers. This is surely one of TTTG strengths, but we need you to share your knowledge about Australian tools. The library is seeking any old tool catalogue, even copies !

Next Meeting.

National Trust Centre, Annie Wyatt Room. Observatory Hill. The Rocks.
Tuesday 13th February 2001. Commencing at 7:00 pm.

Speaker: **Rick Mitchell**. Topic: **Edge Tool manufacture, Flints to Alloys**.

Rick Mitchell is well known to TTTG members and has been a guest speaker at several previous Tuesday evening meetings.

Inspired by his recent holiday in the British Isles, where he visited industrial museums, historic buildings and early railways, Rick has offered to present a talk on the development of all types of edge tools in the western world. Starting with flint knapping, progressing to tin and copper smelting, applying forced air drafts to iron ore extraction, perfecting charcoal and then coal as fuels and culminating in the steel making processes of the eighteenth and the nineteenth centuries. The story of edge tool development will be illustrated by Ricks' extensive collection of tools and photographs.

Rick Mitchell's presentation will be followed by Freds' Wots It. There will then be a short break for refreshments.

After the intermission the Auction will commence.

Members you have items they wish to have auctioned should make the necessary arrangements with the auctioneer before the formal opening of the meeting. The Auction Table will be adjacent to the Treasurers' Table (Clints' Office). The commission for items sold is a donation equal to 10% of the price realised.

Previous Meeting.

National Trust Centre, Annie Wyatt Room. Tuesday 12th December 2000.

Speaker: **John Bates**. Topic: **Screws and Threads**.

John kept the audience engaged with his knowledge of screw threads and with his examples of the tools and techniques used to produce threads. All thread types were considered and all production techniques from primitive deforming taps to tangential thread rolls were illustrated.

The audience enjoyed the talk and John's sense of humour lightened the task of absorbing the vast quantity of information presented.

"Fred' Wot's It" again confounded most members and with Mario's supper the audience could relax before the tension of the auction.

The auction was perhaps a little protracted but surely the reason lies with the exceptional bargains secured by the bidders. And there are more to come!

Information Wanted.

Mike Hendrikson seeks information about a flour milling machinery manufacturer. The manufacturer is Thomas Robinson & Son Pty. Ltd, marked "made in Australia". Perhaps Thomas Robinson & Son Ltd. Rochdale, near Manchester were the parent company of the Sydney manufacturer Thomas Robinson & Son Pty. Ltd.

The advertisement below is from Engineers' Handbook.

Official Journal Of the Australasian Society of Engineers. 1949 ? page 159.

**THOMAS ROBINSON & SON
PTY. LTD.**

*Flour Milling And
Woodworking Engineers*

:: ::

160-166 Sussex Street, Sydney

TELEPHONE: MA 2812

6 Inch Try Square. Cusack & Moore Melbourne Australia

Aluminium stock, graduated blade, in eighths.

Stock has letters C & M one side, Made in Aus. other side.

Blade inscribed Cusack & Moore Melbourne Australia.

The editor asked Rod Thomas about this square and he provided the following facts.

-Various marks of Cusack and Moore of 46 Greeves St Fitzroy (Melb. Vic.) are known.

-The only date known is 1953.

-Sightings to date consist of Try Squares - 12", 8", 6", Mitre Squares - 8", 150mm, Carpenter's Combination Square, Sliding Bevels, one 12" aluminium rule, (possibly the 12" rule was from a combination square.)

Rod questions my description of the stock as Aluminium. He comments that the 12" rule previously mentioned is pure aluminium or an alloy very much predominantly aluminium, the stocks of the try, mitre and bevels would be a high percentage of zinc with aluminium and whatever else to form the alloy.

Rod concluded with this remark "I have grown up calling this medium Diecast, this of course being the process rather than the material used. Input from someone with a greater understanding of metallurgy and possibly terminology may clarify this-any takers?"

Information Wanted.

Australian blowtouches, soldering iron and primus stoves.

Chris Hay is looking for information concerning Australian manufacturers of blowtouches, soldering irons and primus stoves.

Brand names include Darlton, Companion, Landray.

Chris would like to correspond with anyone who has information.

Please write to ;

Chris Hay

P.O. Box 30. Uranquinty NSW 2652

Turner Lufkin Tape Measure.

A reader has a Turner Lufkin tape measure.

The tape is marked Stanley, Made in England.

Did Turner use Stanley parts ?

Stanley did take over Turner and it is possible that Stanley parts were used, however I think it is more probable the tape is a replacement.

STUD CENTRES

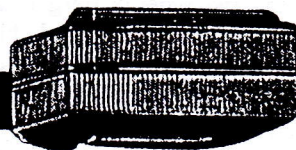
LOKMATIC is the first tape rule in Australia with 18" stud centre markings which are clearly indicated in red. LOKMATIC has been designed especially for Australian conditions and will prove a boon to the building industry.



DOUBLE MARKINGS

Now you can use LOKMATIC for all measuring jobs — first 12" of the line are marked in 16ths and 32nds of an inch for fine work. Saves you carrying two types of rules.

CLEAR, ACCURATE MARKINGS



Turner Lufkin LOKMATIC White Clad Tape Rule is easy to read, with brilliant red foot markings and jet black inch markings on a snow white background. This ensures that the tape is easy to read under any conditions.

Detail from an undated leaflet for **Turner Lufkin LOKmatic.**

Information Wanted.

UNEEDA.

A cast iron "universal" saw handle has been sighted. The letting in the casting reads "UNEEDA" and "Patent appld for."

It sounds Australia and any information will be appreciated.

Electric Glue Pots.

Several electric glue kettles dating from the 50's and 60's have been reported. Two types are common, namely, Aluminium Kettles and Copper Kettles. Both types are two pot water jacketed. The aluminium kettle has outer and inner pots made of aluminium, the copper kettle has a copper outer pot and a plated inner pot. The cooper kettle was made by Hecla and the aluminium kettle by S.E.M.E. Does any member have any information on S.E.M.E. ?

Hecla Electric Glue Pot Repairs.

A member has a Hecla electric Glue pot which needs the element replaced. The element is a cooper coil. If any one knows of some one who can do this repair will they please contact the editor.

Erik Anton Berg Chisels and Plane Irons.

Anton Berg chisels and plane irons are known to have been made for Australian tool dealers and makers. Sighted examples are:-

- Wood plane type tapered iron marked Erik Anton Berg and T Atkins Sydney.
- Firmer chisel marked Erik Anton Berg and T Atkins Sydney.
- Stanley type plane iron marked Erik Anton Berg and Turner Australia.

At least two types of Berg/Turner blades in the full range of sizes are known.

Did Erik Anton Berg supply blades to other Australian makers and retailers?

Given the popularity of Berg's Shark Brand chisels in Australia this seems very probable. Are any other Berg marked tools known to readers?

H R Armstrong. Ashfield. Quality Wood Tools and Handles.

Coach wood chisel handles with steel ferrules and the decal above have been seen. Any further information is sought.

The Cooper Handy Worker.

Ray Gurney has acquired a universal vice/anvil/ hold all/ wot's it with the title The Cooper Handy Worker. Bits are missing ! Has any reader seen one complete ?

The Billy.

I have a tapered wood plane iron stamped "The Billy". Does any reader know which manufacturer used this trade mark ?

Information Received.

SHOK-RENCH.

Sailor, and long term TTTG member, Hugh Johnson is almost back in port and may have the key to the origin of the SHOK-RENCH featured in Newsletter 56.

Hugh sent this news to the editor ;

“The ship I am on has finally left Newcastle after two years so I should be able to get along to some more meetings. The wrench illustrated on the cover of the last magazine is very similar to one we have on board the ship, it came with the ship when it was sold to us by the yanks. I think there is a manual and I will dig it out and photo copy it.”

Chance & Son Planes.

Terry Butcher writes with the latest on the origin of **Chance** and **Chance & Son** planes.

“An update on plane maker CHANCE. I have received a letter from a fellow Rhykonologist in Canada who informs me that many moulding planes have been found in Ontario and Quebec. They are generally stamped W Chance and W Chance & Son. the “W” which does not appear on my planes is in fact very faint on the Canadian examples. The name Chance does appear in the English Dictionary of Trades and Merchants as Hardware Merchants of Birmingham. It is now believed that he bought unmarked planes from a local manufacturer, stamped his name, and exported these to Canada and Australia. But when we don’t know, tracking down the manufacturer is the next step. My Canadian friend has identified a hardware business in Ontario with name Chance Hardware and it is believed he came to Canada from England and set up a branch to handle products from the home office in Birmingham.

Those of you lucky enough to possess any Chance planes please examine the mark closely to see if in fact there is a faint “W” before Chance.

Any information would be gratefully received.”

Editors’ Reply.

I feel that the above hypothesis needs more sound evidence. Can we assume that Chance, Chance & Son, W Chance and W Chance & Son are all from the same merchant or maker ? Indeed can we assume a connection with Chance Hardware ?

I have a number of Chance & Son planes. They all appear to be second half of the nineteenth century and of English manufacture. All the stamps are very sharp with no suggestion of a “W”. I recently acquired a Chance & Son Dado plane. I compared this to my Chance & Son Sash Fillister and the general details and the fittings of both planes suggest a date in the 1850’s or 1860’s. However, at this stage, more evidence is needed.

Johns' Page.

John Daniel

MitAMit Hand Drill.

Ratchet Hand Drill No.26R-Australian made.

In the Information Wanted section of News No. 52 there is a request for a MITAMIT catalogue or advertisement. So far there has been no response.

The following information gives another example of a MITAMIT hand drill and will perhaps inspire someone to supply some information on MITAMIT.

"Made in Australia", isn't that a statement we see less and less on hand tools. For that matter, on a lot of other hardware as well.

Now that I have that off my chest, I'll get on with it.

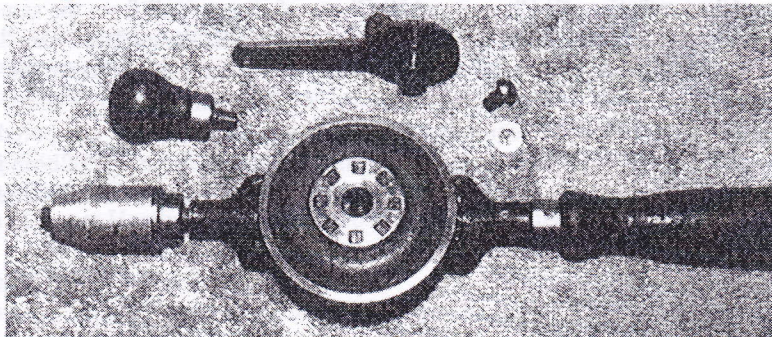
I recently found a hand drill in a garage sale, I arrived late and didn't really expect to find anything, however this little hand drill had been overlooked, no doubt because of the cotton reel used as a replacement knob. My attention was immediately drawn to the ratchet mechanism and then to the maker MITAMIT.

It became a "must have" so I walked out with it for the princely sum of \$2. Back home in the shed I gave it a good clean and removed the improvised handle.

On closer examination I was intrigued by the simple ratchet mechanism, which not only allowed forward and reverse rotation, but also allowed it to be locked, a spring loaded pin setting these functions. The pin has a bevel end that locates itself on a notched machined face on the crown wheel, the spring loading allows the pin to be lifted and rotated to the required setting. The top of the pin is knurled to allow a more positive "feel" when lifting and rotating the pin.

Millers Falls (USA), as illustrated in their January 1935 catalogue, manufactured and retailed a two speed ratchet hand drill No.1980 which utilised the same ratchet mechanism. Perhaps this may have been the inspiration for this drill by MITAMIT, the MITAMIT No. 26R- Ratchet Hand Drill- Made in Australia.

If any reader has other examples of ratchet mechanisms applied to hand drills, or for that matter, would like to comment on similar hand drills that they may have seen, I am sure our Editor would welcome a letter and be only too pleased to pass it on through our newsletter.



Mitamit hand drill disassembled showing the notched crown wheel.

Is It An Aussie ?

Austra Drill Jig.

Perhaps this was made by Austral Tools Pty Ltd, Sydney, NSW. <1950>

Austral Tools Pty Ltd are known to have been manufacturers of "Engineers & Carpenters Tools", engineers' knurls, nail & centre punches.

Z1910—AUSTRAL DRILL JIG, SERIES 1B

The series 1B Austra Drill Jig comprises a Meehanite iron body and jigplate supported on two columns, which is capable of vertical movement by means of a rack and pinion. The pinion is connected to the operating lever through a cam and roller clutch which locks the jigplate in the down position, thus clamping the work. The jigplate is instantly released and raised by moving the operating lever in the reverse direction. Operating handle is completely clear of extended work pieces.

Any desired arrangement of jig holes may be bored in the jigplate to accommodate drill bushes, and location of the work may be achieved from either a jigplate or the base. Provision is made in the base for a key-slot and four holes which may be machined to suit the work supporting plate. The relation of the jigplate to the body is held in fine precision limits, and wearing surfaces are hardened and super-finished to maintain this accuracy.

Extra jigplates, which are interchangeable, can be obtained. Effective jigplate area, 4 x 3 in.

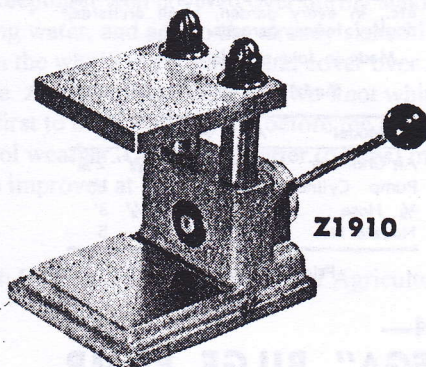


Illustration for McPhersons' Centenary Catalogue 1956.

Wanted Wanted Wanted!

Ray Gurney wants to buy slotted head steel woodscrews.

With the increasing use of power drivers and Philips/Pozidrive screws, good old-fashioned slotted head woodscrews are becoming hard to find. Ray needs them for his restoration work, especially the not so common sizes and gauges. Preferred gauges are 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. If you can help, please contact Ray on (02) 9569 1241.

Workshop Space.

Workshop space is becoming available in Ray Gurney's Styles Street Leichhardt workshop in about 6 weeks. Would suit woodworker or other craftsman. If you are interested, ring Ray on (02) 9569 1241.

Is It An Aussie ?

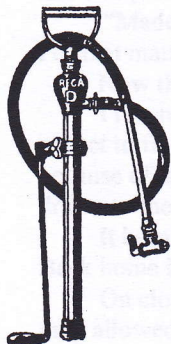
Rega.

Rega products appear in various McPherson's Catalogues between 1932 and 1970.

Rega products appear in Scruttons Pty Ltd Catalogues.

The illustrations below are from a range of these catalogues.

A883— "REGA" BUCKET SPRAY PUMPS



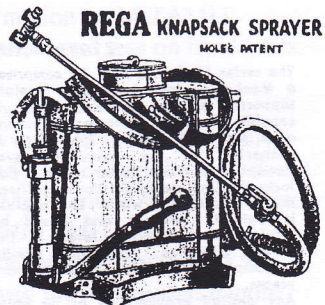
Suitable for spraying, whitewashing, etc., in every garden, small orchards, poultry farms, garages.

Made in four models.

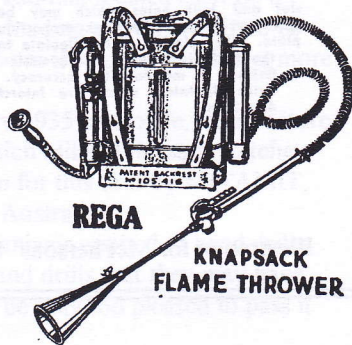
Model "D" illustrated.

Model	A1	A	B	D
Air Chamber	2½"	2½"	2⅞"	2⅞"
Pump Cylinder	1½"	1"	1"	1"
½ Hose	5'	4'	3½'	3'
Nozzle No.	12	12	4	5

Prices on application.



D420. Flame Thrower



A884— "REGA" BILGE PUMP

Discharges six gallons per minute. Brass throughout.

A very useful article in the boat shed. Strong and serviceable. Supplied, as illustrated, complete with union for one inch hose.

Solid drawn brass cylinder, 1½ in. x 16 in. Highly polished and lacquered. Foot valve detachable with strainer.

A better and quicker method than baling out water.

Prices on application.

A886— "REGA" CONTINUOUS ATOMIZER



This sprayer is specially designed for Spraying Disinfectants and Insecticides for Garden and Household Use. The atomiser and container, and all points of contact with the liquid, are of solid brass.

Practical Tips.

A Useful Lime Wash.

The following mixture may be used on rough timber, brickwork or corrugated iron, and will reduce the temperature of houses when applied to the roof equally as well as the best refrigerating paint sold:-

10 lb of fresh unslaked stone lime; 1 lb glue*; 1 lb powered alum.

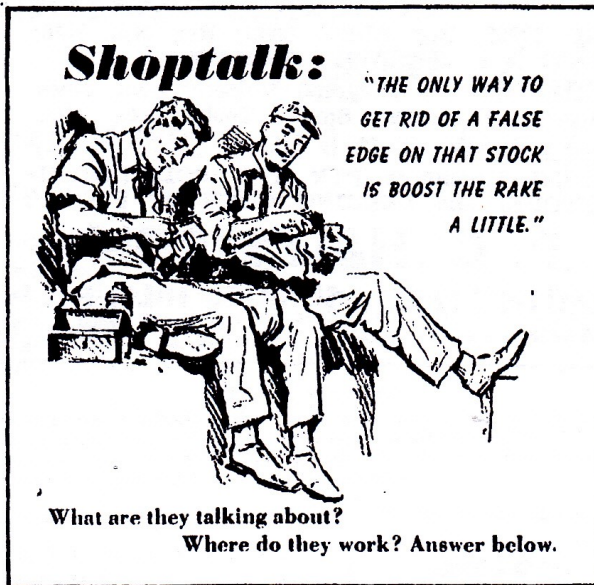
Slake the lime with hot water, keeping it well covered over during slaking. Dissolve the glue, also the alum, in boiling water, and add to the already slaked lime, taking care not to make too thin. Strain the whole as for paint, and cover over for two days or more, when it is ready for use. Apply with an ordinary two-knot whitewash brush, giving the work two coats, the first to be thoroughly set before the next is applied; and if on roofs or tanks, apply in cool weather. Colouring matter (ochres) may be added added if necessary. A little blue improves at all times.

*Hide Glue.

from,

The Farmers' Handbook. Fourth Edition. 1922. Department of Agriculture. N.S.W. p. 887.

Shoptalk.



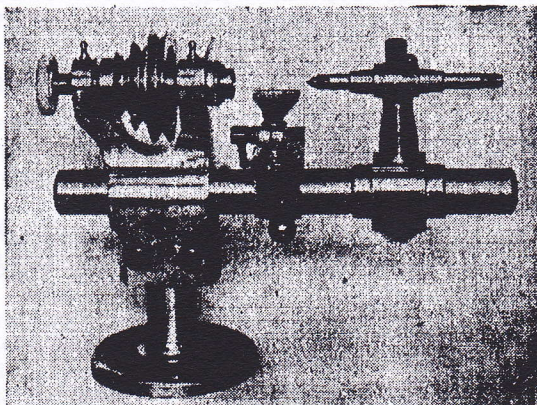
They're machinists. The alloy being machined builds up a false cutting edge on the top of the cutter bit, this can be prevented by grinding a somewhat greater angle at the upper surface of the cutter.

Any Examples ?

LANCO Lathes.

Readers who have tools made by, or any information about, this manufacturer are encouraged to correspond with the editor.

LANCO



WATCHMAKERS' AND INSTRUMENT LATHES

LORCHE TYPE 6 OR 8 m.m. MODELS

FULLY HARDENED CHUCKS

● NORMAL EQUIPMENT CONSISTS OF . . .

Headstock with draw-bar • Headstock base • Indexed pulley and index arm • Tailstock with m. and f. centres • Bed • Hand-turning rest, adjustable height • 10 collets, range .3 m.m. to 2.0 m.m. • 3-step chucks • 1 carrier chuck, m. and f. centres.

● EXTRAS AVAILABLE:

2-inch grinding wheels with 6 or 8 m.m. arbors • Collet Tailstock drilling attachment • Counter-shaft or transmission pulleys • 2-inch Lanco self-centering 3-jaw chucks with arbor for 6 or 8 m.m. lathes • Compound saddles • Milling attachments.

ALSO AVAILABLE

Call or write for further particulars.

WATCHMAKERS' STAKING SETS

Australian made, these sets consist of:
1 Staking Block with eccentric head, 10
Anvils, 44 Hardened Steel Punches.

LANE COVE ENGINEERING CO.

405 Pacific Highway
Lane Cove, N.S.W. JB 1339

LC2-49

Advertisement from Engineers' Handbook.

Official Journal Of the Australasian Society of Engineers. 1949 ? page 31.

“QPC” Cast Aluminium Products.

When ever the editor is searching for information on possible Australian made tools his first move is to write to Rod Thomas. Often Rod's data base will provide a wealth of detail, as was the case with “QPC” Cast Aluminium Products.

Rod's reply was so readable that I have reproduced it verbatim below. Rod prefaced his reply with the comment “I like it when you come up with a name that I have a bit more than average amount of information.”

“QPC” Quality Patterns & Castings.

Rod Thomas

A person who was associated with the firm suggested that they operated from Hope Street Brunswick (Melb. Vic.) for approximately 45 years, then a further 10 years, approximately, from Bakers Road North Coburg and closed up shop around 1980 - suggesting a start-up in the mid 1920s.

This later address must have been somewhere near Woodstock's factory - foundry at which he worked. Woodstocks made planes, routers, spokeshaves.

Woodstock Patternmakers 130 Gaffney Coburg <1951 - 1956>

Woodstock Products 94 Bakers Nth Coburg <1956 - 1972>

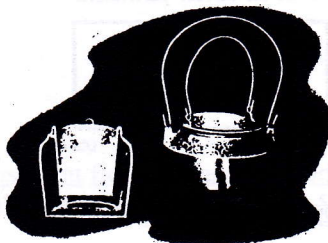
Products manufactured by “QPC” sighted to date are:-

(All are aluminium, or a very high percentage aluminium alloy.)

- Two replacement plane handles, an A without and a B with additional screw fixing.
- A replacement front knob for bench plane.
- File handles, sizes 2 and 3 noted to date.
- Glue pots (Pat No 127045) and noted QPC Product, 2pt, 1 ½ pt, 3/4pt and small unmarked size noted to date.
- Small hack saw frame - takes junior hack saw blade And for something completely different -
- A flour scoop - marked 7
- A Meat Press - marked RH9-3

“QPC”

CAST ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS



GLUE POTS

¾, 1½, 2½ pt. Sizes

PLANE KNOBS

PLANE HANDLES

to Suit all Sizes IRON PLANES

SAW HANDLES

LETTERS and FIGURES

MILLERCHIP.

J Millerchip & Son Pty Ltd used the trade marks:-

MILLERCHIP, JAYSON, JAY-EM, J.M.

J Millerchip manufactured Plumbers' stocks & dies, pipe cutters and vices.

J Millerchip's factory address was 10-16 Epsom Road Waterloo NSW and they were in business between approximately 1950 and 1969.

The review below from Telegraph Hardware Supplement 25/1/1956 probably refers to J Millerchip. The advertisement is from the Hardware Year Book 1956.

Information on J Millerchip was provided by Rod Thomas.

ACCURATE JIGS, DIES

Before 1922 nearly all plumbing tools, pipe cutters, and vices were imported into Australia.

But since then several Australian firms have gone into production in these lines.

Today local factories are producing precision-built tools that in many cases are of a finer standard than those arriving from overseas.

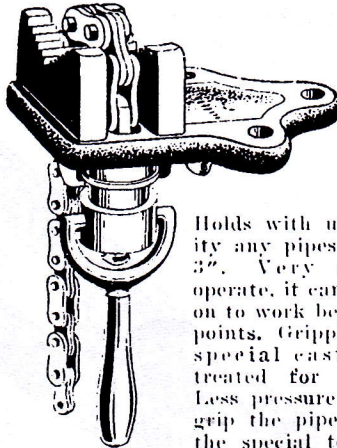
In the field of plumbing tools especially, one Sydney firm has developed into an important and successful industry through skilled technical ability in designing.

Fully equipped with high-class precision-tooling lathes, the firm now produces jigs and dies that are guaranteed to within two and a half thousandths of an inch.

Greater efficiency has been maintained in following the modern trend in engineering workshops.

This is achieved by arranging the tooling machines in such positions that they give easy access to the operation, by providing good lighting throughout, and by having the machines painted a pale green, which psychologically is a restful color for the operators.

MILLERCHIP 1" - 3" PIPE VICE



Holds with utmost rigidity any pipes from 1" to 3". Very simple to operate, it can be screwed on to work bench at three points. Gripping jaw is a special casting, heat-treated for longer life. Less pressure required to grip the pipe because of the special tooth design.

PAREX.

Litchfield Engineering Co. Ltd. used the following trade marks;

Parex Drop Forged Steel, Parex Made in Australia and Litchfield.

Litchfield Engineering operated from 39 Shillabeer Ave Croydon Park S.A.

(1955-57) and from 334 South Road Croydon Park S.A. (1957-1988).

Litchfield Engineering manufactured "G" cramps, tinsnips (12" straight, 6" curved), secateurs, scissors, shears and a range of motor mechanical tools.

The advertisement reproduced below and the information on Litchfield Engineering was made available by Rod Thomas.

Litchfield
ENGINEERING CO. LTD.



TITAN Wood Chisels.

TITAN manufactured woodworking chisels. The advertisement below (McPherson's Catalogue) illustrates the range of Titan chisels in 1951. The next issue of the newsletter will have an article on Titan Tools.

TITAN WOOD CHISELS



A2490



A2491



A2493



A2494



A2495



A2496



A2497

A2490—LIGHT SOCKET FIRMER CHISELS

Bevelled Edge.

½"	¾"	¾"	1½"	¾"	¾"
—	7/3	7/7	7/9	8/3	8/5
¾"	1"	1¼"	1½"	1¾"	2"
8/8	9/1	10/11	12/3	—	—

A2491—LIGHT SOCKET FIRMER CHISELS

Plain Edge.

½"	¾"	¾"	1½"	¾"	¾"
—	6/5	6/9	6/10	7/5	7/7
¾"	1"	1¼"	1½"	1¾"	2"
7/10	8/1	9/10	11/1	—	—

A2493—HEAVY SOCKET FIRMER CHISELS

Plain Edge.

½"	¾"	¾"	1½"	¾"	¾"
—	6/5	6/9	6/10	7/5	7/7
¾"	1"	1¼"	1½"	1¾"	2"
7/10	8/1	9/10	11/1	—	—

A2494—FIRMER TANG CHISELS

Bevelled Edge.

½"	¾"	¾"	1½"	¾"	¾"
6/3	6/3	6/3	6/6	6/10	7/1
¾"	1"	1¼"	1½"	1¾"	2"
7/7	7/9	8/10	10/8	12/3	13/3

A2495—FIRMER TANG CHISELS

Plain Edge.

½"	¾"	¾"	1½"	¾"	¾"
4/9	4/9	4/9	5/-	5/4	5/7
¾"	1"	1¼"	1½"	1¾"	2"
5/11	6/-	7/-	8/8	10/3	11/3

A2496—REGISTERED TANG CHISELS

Plain Edge.

½"	¾"	¾"	1½"	¾"	¾"
4/9	4/9	4/9	5/-	5/4	5/7
¾"	1"	1¼"	1½"	1¾"	2"
5/11	6/-	7/-	8/8	10/3	11/3

A2497—FIRMER GOUGES

½"	¾"	¾"	¾"	1"
6/9	7/-	7/4	7/7	7/9

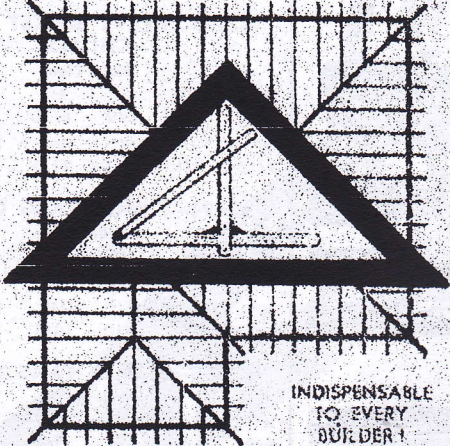
Peacock's "Pyramid Rufa".

"Peacock's Pyramid Products" made a range of tools in Ballarat between 1949 and 1956. Known products include a wood mitre box, a mortise gauge with aluminium slide and screw, a marking gauge and a roofing square. William J Peacock was a builder and 'Late Supervisor in Building Construction for the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme Ballarat." In 1949 Peacock applied for a patent for a of Roofing Square, P.A.No. 26697/49. This was marked as the "Pyramid Rufa". The title page from the "Pyramid Rufa" Instruction Book is reproduced below.

PEACOCK'S

"PYRAMID RUFa"

PATENTED



INDISPENSABLE TO EVERY BUILDER

SIMPLEST METHOD OF ROOFING.

GIVES LENGTHS AND CUTS OF RAFTERS IN A MATTER OF MINUTES

COMBINES . . .

- SPEED
- ACCURACY
- SIMPLICITY

SAVES TIME — SAVES MONEY — SAVES WORRY

— INSTRUCTION BOOK —

Peacock's "Pyramid Rufa".

**"Pyramid Rufa" Instruction Book.
FOREWORD**

In the building trade it has been a recognised fact, that building a roof is one of the most difficult tasks for the learner to grasp, and is mostly a carpenter's ambition to be a good roof-hand, and it is readily admitted that such a tradesman is always looked up to by his employer and his fellow workmen.

There are many methods of setting out roofs, such as laying timbers on the ground and by drawings, calculations etc. These methods take a considerable amount of time, and one is apt to make mistakes in his measurements. Some carpenters even obtain their rafter lengths by the use of lines and measuring rods.

During my experience as a builder, and later as an instructor of building, I found roofing a very interesting subject, and after further study I found many short cuts in roof development.

It was during these studies that I developed the idea of the "Pyramid Rufa". The "Pyramid Rufa", in my opinion, makes the steel square and all other methods obsolete.

In the majority of cases it takes many years to master roofing, but with the aid of the "Pyramid Rufa" it only takes a few minutes to learn, and it is just straight-out measurements with no drawings or calculations. It is based on the principle of the right-angled triangle, and consists of three bars- the Base, the Perpendicular, and the Hypotenuse. These are graduated to represent feet and inches, and is worked in conjunction with a plan, and will give the lengths and cuts with great accuracy. Drawings showing the names and positions of the various roof members, with directions how to obtain their correct lengths and cuts are shown in the text.

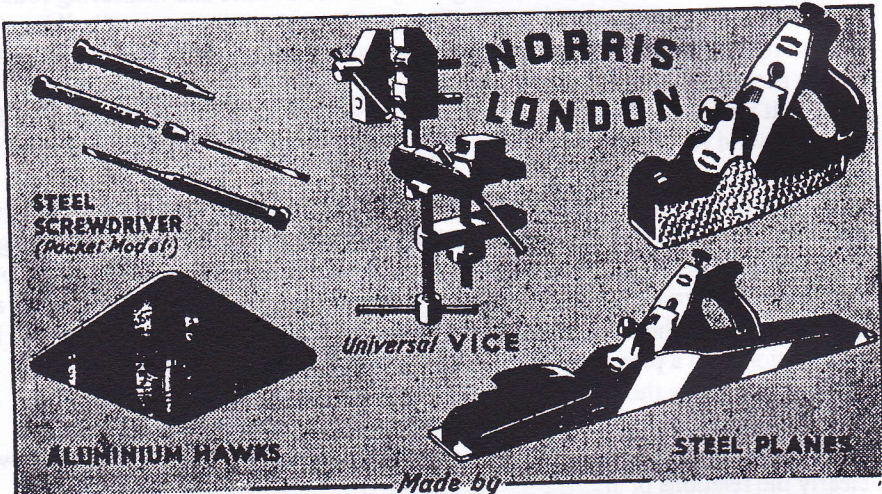
A plan showing a hip and valley roof is at the end of this book. This shows clearly the relations of all the roof members to each other.

W.J.Peacock

The title page and foreword from the "Pyramid Rufa" Instruction Book is reproduced courtesy of Rod Thomas.

Norris Tools: Not just planes !

When Fred showed me a pocket screwdriver he had recently acquired I should have known there would be something unusual about it. I was off guard and did not look closely enough, even so I did have the presence of mind to ask Fred what was special about this screwdriver. "Look at the maker". When I did look closely Norris London stood out like the proverbial canines' anatomy. Several years ago there was mention in this newsletter of Paul Witzig being the Sydney agent for Norris London. This information came from the advertisement reproduced below.



The advertisement features a central illustration of four tools: a pocket screwdriver, an aluminium hawk, a universal vice, and a steel plane. The text 'NORRIS LONDON' is prominently displayed in the upper right of the illustration. Below the tools, the text 'Made by' is written in a stylized font. The company name 'NORRIS PLANES & TOOLS LTD., PURLEY WAY, CROYDON' is printed in a bold, sans-serif font, followed by the parenthetical '(A Subsidiary of Aeronautical & General Instruments Ltd)'. Below this, the text 'Australian Representatives:' is followed by 'PAUL WITZIG & CO. PTY. LTD., 55 YORK ST., SYDNEY. BX 3147'.

STEEL SCREWDRIVER
(Pocket Model)

ALUMINIUM HAWKS

Universal VICE

STEEL PLANES

Made by

NORRIS PLANES & TOOLS LTD., PURLEY WAY, CROYDON
(A Subsidiary of Aeronautical & General Instruments Ltd)

Australian Representatives:
PAUL WITZIG & CO. PTY. LTD., 55 YORK ST., SYDNEY. BX 3147

Advertisement from The Hardware Journal February 15, 1950.

Fred has an example of the screw driver but are any of the other Norris tools known to TTTG members ?

No collector of Norris will be able to relax until he or she has acquired these tools;

- The Norris Pocket Screwdriver
- The Norris Aluminium Hawk
- The Norris Universal Vice.

Book Review.

Bob Crosbie

One Good Turn. A Natural History of the Screwdriver and the Screw.

Witold Rybczynski. Scribner. New York. 2000.

“What is the best tool of the millennium?” was the publishers’ challenge to Witold Rybczynski when this book was commissioned.

The author set out to do two things; to analyse the question and then to investigate the history of the most significant hand tool to emerge in the last one thousand years.

To appreciate why the screwdriver was selected you will need to read the book. You may or may not agree with the author’s choice but his case is well argued. The author talks the reader through his investigation and in the process provides a lively over-view of the technical history of the previous millennium.

Having selected the screwdriver the author then explores its history. I do not intend to spoil the story for the reader. Anyone reading this book will be quickly drawn into the saga this of this basic hand tool.

The author does not confine himself to tools for driving screws but examines screw types through the ages. The mystery of how the modern screw types, the Phillips head and the Pozidrive, have displaced superior traditional, and innovative modern (eg Robinson square socket), screw forms is investigated.

TTTG members may have a greater knowledge of this subject than the author. I can’t help thinking that if the author had been interested in old tools before researching this subject his task would have been much easier.

This does not distract from the author’s achievement in making an apparently pedantic quest into a lively and compelling narrative. Well written books like this can only increase the general readers’ interest in technology.

Library News.

Rick Mitchell

Periodicals Received.

- Hand Tool Preservation Society of Western Australia. (HTPSWA). Newsletter.
- Tools and Trades History Society. (TATHS). Newsletter 71. Winter 2000.

Donations.

G D Stamper has donated the following;

- Roof Carpentry. G Collins. The Technical Press Ltd. London. 1938
- Oxy-Acetylene Welding. T Newton & A Eyles. Cassell & Company. London. 1940.
- Woodworker. October 1948.

The TTTG Library is seeking any technical books, trade catalogues and old magazines. All donations will be acknowledged. TTTG can also arrange to sell items for members.

On The Web.

Mark Rees Tools.

<http://www.reestools.co.uk/>

Mark and Jane Rees should be familiar to readers through their books and involvement with TATHS, the Rees also deal in old tools and books. This well constructed web site is worth looking at on a regular basis.

Museum of Woodworking Tools.

<http://www.antiquetools.com/lobbywel.html>

This is a virtual museum and has been reviewed in a previous issue of this newsletter. The site now has a merchandising section.

The Museum of Woodworking Tools Store offers books and other products. Of particular interest to readers may be the replacement parts for Stanley, Sargent and other American planes. The parts available include;

-replacement handles for Stanley and other planes.

-replacement knobs for Stanley and other planes.

The Stanley handles and knobs are rosewood and are matched to the type and date of the plane. Instructions are given on how to specify the correct part.

-rods and nuts for handles and knobs.

-Hock replacement plane irons.

-A range of parts for the rarer Stanley planes,

for example Side Plate for Stanley 140, Blade for Stanley 444.

Regular viewing of this site is time well spent.

Hans Brunner Tools.

<http://www.hansbrunnertools.gil.com.au/>

Hans Brunner has moved.

His new address is 70 Chermerside Road, Newtown. Queensland 4305.

This is a site every reader should visit at least once every week.

E.C.Emmerich.

<http://www.ecemmerich.com/>

E.C.Emmerich manufacture traditional German wood planes. Such planes are An alternative to the highly priced American or Japanese planes. E.C.E. also

make squares, gauges and work benches. A well constructed web site.

For the full range of products click on the German site.

Directory.

The Traditional Tools Group Inc. (TTTG)
The Secretary Mike Williams.
P. O. Box 240 Grosvenor Place. Sydney N.S.W.1220.

Tools and Trades History Society. (TATHS)
Membership Secretary: Jane Rees.
Barrow Mead Cottage. Rush Hill, Bath. United Kingdom.
BA2 2QP 01225 837031 (Office hours only).

Hand Tool Preservation Association Australia. Inc.(HTPAA).
P.O.Box 1163 Carlton. Victoria. 3053.

Hand Tool Preservation Society of Western Australia. (HTPSWA).
8 Belham Street, Bayswater. Western Australia 605

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WANTED.

-Cast Iron Frogs for Stanley No. 5 Planes for use by High School.
Any donations of frogs or parts for No. 5 planes will be appreciated.
Bob Crosbie Phone 02 9869 7487, r.crosbie@bigpond.com

-“GRIPMASTER” Spanners, adjustable/shifter spanner made by
CYCLONE Australia.
George Radion, Phone 0395571178. radion @iprimus.com.au.

-Titan Bevel Edge Socket Chisels, Titan Plane Irons. Good G+ condition.
Sean Delaterre 4 Noel St. Lismore. N.S.W 2480. Phone 02 6622 5499.

-Spiers or Mathieson Thumb, Chariot, and any Gunmetal Planes
Any planes made by Jas. McLaren Melbourne, even a photo.
Phone Jim Black. Phone 0351 825561.

-Anything relating to Alex. Mathieson and Sons.
Phone John McDonald. Phone 02 6288 6142. PO Box 13 Duffy A.C.T. 2611.

-Shaper/Planer tools and tooling, any condition.
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John Bates. Phone Business Hours 02 9931 1467, After Hours 02 9859 5094 ,
urban systems @ big pond. com.

-Blacksmiths Post and Bench Drills, hand or power, any condition, up to 1940.
Buffalo, Champion, Silver, Globe, Dawn, Goodall Pratt, Union.
Rick Mitchell. Phone 4751 4762 or 4751 9797.

-Woodworker Annuals. Numbers 47,48,49,50,52,53,54,56,57,60.
Any Woodworker Annuals or loose Woodworkers 1912-1939.
Bob Crosbie. Phone 02 9869 7487, r.crosbie@bigpond.com

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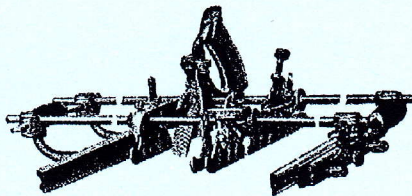
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