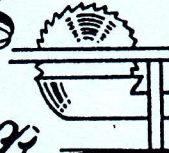
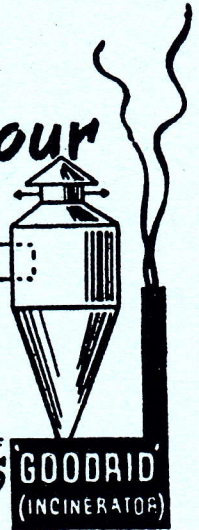


T
TGT

Another day over - your
profits set



CENTRIFLO SYSTEMS



GOODRID
(INCINERATOR)

Newsletter 59

June 2001

The Traditional Tools Group Inc

TTTG Inc.

THE TRADITIONAL TOOLS GROUP (Inc.)

TTTG Newsletter No. 59. June 2001.

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Cover: Detail from undated leaflet by Centrefold Pty. Ltd.
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Postal Address.
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P.O. Box 240 Grosvenor Place
Sydney N.S.W.1220.

Enquires: Mike Williams
02 9144 6356
Bob Crosbie
r.crosbie@bigpond.com

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Next Meeting

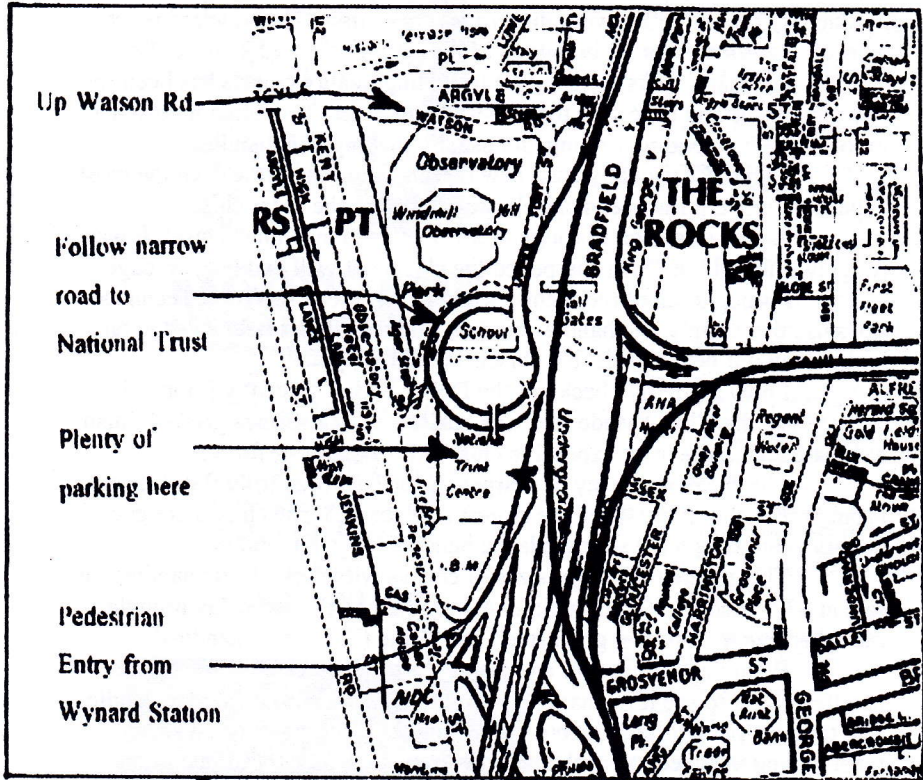
Tuesday 12th June

2001

National Trust Centre, Annie Wyatt Room

Observatory Hill

Commencing at 7:00pm



PROGRAMME

- 1. JIM BLACK COLLECTOR AND TOOLS ENTHUSIAST FROM VICTORIA HAS KINDLY AGREED TO ADDRESS US. JIM'S PARTICULAR INTEREST IS SCOTTISH TOOLS AND PLANEMAKERS. HE WILL ILLUSTRATE HIS TALK WITH SLIDES AND EXAMPLES SO MAKE SURE THAT YOU DON'T MISS THIS ONE.**
- 2. WOTSITS AND INTERESTING SCOTTISH TOOLS. SEE IF YOU CAN STUMP JIM!**
- 3. REGULAR CLUB FUN AUCTION**
- 4. SUPPER BY MARIO DATO**

Editors' Notes.

"Blue Chip" Bevel Edge Chisels, "Made by United Kingdom" China.

At least the advertisement reproduced on the opposite page shows how effective Marples' promotion of the "Blue Chip" Bevel Edged Chisel was in the 1980s. The copy-cat publicity is from the packaging of a chisel recently brought for \$2.95 at a Dollar Shop.

I did not buy this chisel solely to get a good illustration for this newsletter. The editor is a very discerning chisel user. The standard is set by such pre World War 11 brands as Mathieson, Sorby and Ward & Payne.

For many years my solution to finding quality chisels has been to buy old chisels and to restore them to working order. This often involves a lot of refinishing and regrinding and usually making new handles.

I have occasionally tried new chisels but in my view even the most expensive modern European chisels are inferior to the older chisels.

A year or so ago I brought a \$ 1.50 "made in China" chisel. It was roughly finished but when sharpened the chisel cut well and held an edge.

I brought ten of these chisels and let my Year 10 Wood Technics class use them. Only one handle came off and the chisels held an edge far longer than our new chisels. No chisels bent or snapped!

I now regularly check out the Dollar Shops. Recently I noticed some plastic handled "Made in China" chisels with a surface ground finish at least equal to the most expensive chisels. I brought one for \$2.

The chisel was a joy to sharpen as the back was truly flat. I then brought the other three sizes, the largest size cost \$3. The chisels are good quality even though the yellow plastic handles feel a bit strange.

There were two larger sizes of chisels with dark plastic handles for sale at \$3.50 and \$4.50. I brought one, tested it and the same day brought the other size. Flat backs, good steel, and "Blue Chip" style handles!

What next? I brought another of the smallest size yellow plastic handled chisel to see if the handle could be replaced with a wooden handle. The tang proved a little short but a few minutes filing produced a sharp tapered tang. A piece of beech and brass tube were quickly turned into a handle and this two dollar chisel is the equal of any expensive new chisel.

Finally I found the "Made by United Kingdom" chisel. Like the other chisels the quality is excellent. This packaged chisel is identical to the black plastic handled chisels I had already acquired. The package makes it more expensive, \$2.95 compared to \$2! Both have plastic edge sheaths.

The moral of this? Marples' advertising has been very successful. The "Blue Chip" bevel edge chisel is a modern icon. As well as copies the "Made in China" chisels are a very good product.

What does it say for quality modern chisels not made in China?

"Blue Chip" Bevel Edge Chisels, "Made by United Kingdom" China.



MORES SAFE

"BLUE CHIP"

BEVEL EDGE CHISEL

**LONG LASTING
CARBON STEEL
RAZOR SHARP
AND
READY TO USE**



**MADE BY
UNITED KINGDOM**

- Top quality single piece forging made from high Carbon Steel.
- Specially heat treated to give an even carbide dispersion, for a keener cutting edge that lasts longer and is easier to resharpen.
- More usable blade for your money, because each one is hardened and tempered to within 1° of shoulder.
- Neck and bolster are generously proportioned for extra strength, shock absorption and safety.
- The blade is ground to an angle of 25, and honed to 30, Maintain these angles for best results.

Moresafe manufacture a wide range of chisels to suit all requirements.

MS-111 For the keen D.I.Y. enthusiast wanting a quality polypropylene handled chisel at an economic price.

MS-222 Blue Chip, Europe's most popular chisel. The polypropylene handle is ergonomically shaped for comfort in long use. Can be repeatedly struck by a mallet and occasionally by a hammer.

MS-333 Splitproof Cellulose Acetate Butyrate handle is guaranteed not to split under any circumstances. Ideal for heavy duty work. Can be used with a hammer.

All the above have bevel edge blades but are also available with firmer blades

MS-444 Splitproof firmer

MS-555 Blue Chip firmer

Replacement handles and protective edge guards are available.

HNT Gordon Planes, 15% Discount to TTTG Members.

A 15% discount is available to TTTG members.

Why not contact HNT Gordon Planes for a information sheet/price list?

HNT Gordon & Co.

Classic Plane Makers.

1/1 Robb Street, Russelton Industrial Park, Alstonville N.S.W. 2477.

Phone 02 66228722. Fax. 02 66287522. E-mail: hntgord@one.net.au

Previous Meeting. Tuesday 10th April 2001.

National Trust Centre, Annie Wyatt Room. Observatory Hill. The Rocks.
Commencing at 7:00 pm.

Topic: **Shaves:** Draw Shaves to Spoke Shaves.

Speakers: Henry Black and Bob Crosbie.

Bob Crosbie started the talk by showing the audience the types of shaves available. Wooden and metal spokeshaves and drawknives were discussed. The many rare Preston and Stanley spokeshaves present made the exposition enjoyable for both speaker and audience. Why did Bob appear distracted and who was Fred phoning on the mobile? As if on cue Henry Black arrived with a Work Mate and Bob demonstrated the use of the various types of shaves. Henry then took over and gave a well illustrated talk on Stanley spokeshaves and the use of spokeshaves and draw knives.

Freds' Wots It? kept every one on their toes.

The Auction was another TTTG success, every item sold and revenue raised. Do not miss the bargains next time. The One Dollar Box has been abandoned. Wallets seem locked until the Auction!

Next Meeting. Tuesday June 12 2001.

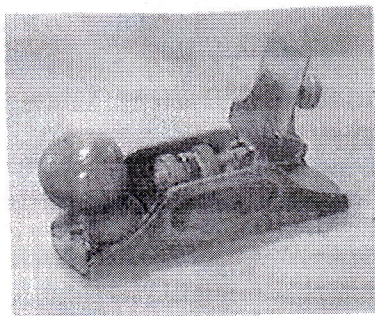
National Trust Centre, Annie Wyatt Room. Observatory Hill. The Rocks.
Commencing at 7:00 pm.

Scottish Planes

One of our interstate members, **Jim Black**, is visiting Sydney and will show slides of tools from his collection of **Scottish Planes** and he will also share some of his experiences as a tradesman and a collector.

Members are encouraged to bring wood lined metal planes for Jim to identify. Jim has travelled a long way to be at this meeting so let's bring those special tools to the meeting for Jim's enjoyment

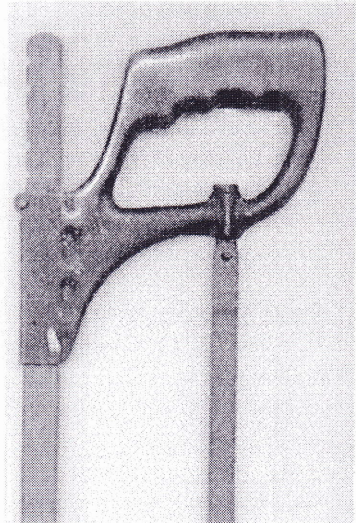
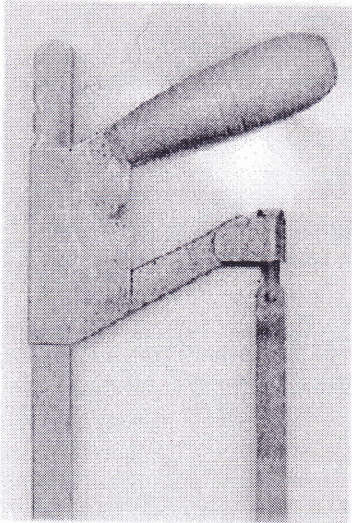
Jim has had an article published in the latest edition of The Australian Woodworker and members might be interested in buying a copy.



Letters to the Editor.

Rod Thomas emailed the following information,
R.J.W. Sydney hacksaw frame.

For a firm that there are several sightings of different styles of hacksaw frames, you would think there would be some information out there. All that is on file is common knowledge, that RJW were a Sydney firm. You may find the known (to date) manufacture from these people interesting, mainly adjustable, plus a 8" fixed frame and a 10" fixed frame (no screwed tensioner) hacksaws, also a conventional coping saw frame.



EMAIL THE EDITOR ON r.crosbie@bigpond.com

Newsletter 60.

Atom Power Tools, featuring Esycut and Gilbro.

Tiger Saws.

Green Line.

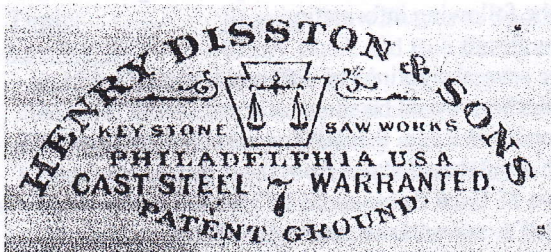
Thornley Model BenchTools.

Saxon Cramps.

And much more!

Information Wanted.

Henry Disston & Sons, Sydney.



Henry Disston & Sons Inc. (Austr) Ltd.

Two addresses are known. These are;

-Henry Disston & Sons Inc. (Austr) Ltd.

P.O. Box 26. Camperdown. N.S.W.

This address is stamped on a Henry Disston & Sons booklet, probably 1920s.

-Henry Disston & Sons Pty Ltd.

Vine Street, Redfern. N.S.W. Phone MX 1548. Telegraphic "Disston". Sydney.

Any information on Henry Disston & Sons Inc. (Austr) Ltd. is sought.

Address on an undated leaflet "Cutting Costs with Disston".

Stewart Australia, Rockdale.

At the last TTTG Meeting a Ratchet Spiral Action Screwdriver was auctioned.

The case was marked Stewart Australia, Rockdale and CES. NSW. No.100.

Any information on Stewart Australia, Rockdale is sought.

R.V.B. Made in Australia.

Three pressure gauges were also auctioned.

The pressure gauges were marked R.V.B. Made in Australia.

Any information on R.V.B. Made in Australia is sought.

W Campbell, Sydney.

Henry Black has a drawknife marked W Campbell, Sydney.

Any information on W Campbell, Sydney is sought.

Any Old Tool Catalogues, Leaflets or Advertisements?

If you have any of these items you should consider making them available to other members through the TTTG Library. The Editor will photocopy them and you can keep your original plus a photocopy.

Donations to the Library will be acknowledged in this newsletter.

Information Received.

C.C.Engineering Industries Pty. Ltd., 213 Bridge Road, Glebe, Sydney.
Mike Williams has a Shop Smith with the trade label of C.C.Engineering.

Hercules.

Peter Evans emailed the following information,

I have an old vise grip type tool marked:

Hercules [in script]

W.R.WYLIE & CO SOUTH AUST

I also have the 1937 McPherson cattledog with the said sockets, but with lower prices, and a different item code, that is,

R335 No 6 4/6d

R336 No 8 8/6d

R337 Utility 3/9d

The cover is somewhat battered and I cannot find a catalogue number.

Rod Thomas suggests a date for Hercules

<1932 - 1949>, how long before and after ?

B.K. Sydney Aust.

Rod Thomas has provided a name and address.

Bradford Kendall Ltd. 340 Botany Rd. Sydney

Mit-A-Mit 26R ratchet hand drill.

Rod Thomas emailed the following information,

Getting away from John Daniels' original request, but a bit more information on Mit-A-Mit and Silex and the drills and braces bearing their names. There is no documentation to hand to confirm, but it is believed that Mit-A-Mit was a firm or a Trade Mark of a firm making predominantly if not entirely hand and breast drills and carpenter's braces. They also made these products for Howard F. Hudson Pty Ltd which were sold through one of H.F.H's Trade Marks namely Silex. It is believed that Hudson's numerous Silex lines were made in Australia by various makers. There is an 1956 advert on record that states Metalcraft Engineering of 26 - 28 Kent Rd Mascot made for "Silex" ratchet braces, hand drills, breast drills, push drills and plaster's trowels. Was this the firm behind the Mit-A-Mit mark ? or possibly another maker that supplied for the Silex mark.

A more recently made hand drill has Silex cast into the gear wheel and a Breast drill Silex stamped into the metalwork. Apart from these instances all Mita-A-Mit marks are stamped in and Silex Logos by way of transfer.

Does any one have a Mit-A-Mit Catalogue.?

Information Received.

Austlpully & Tyton.

"TYTON"

A "TYTON" Price List dated 1/7/55 has been acquired by the TTTG Library.

"AUSTPULLY"

Austlpully was one of the trade marks used by Australian Split Pulleys.

An Austlpully Leaflet and Price List has been acquired by the TTTG Library.

Both probably date to 1950.

Australian Split Pulleys also manufactured "Benson" Automobile Wheels.

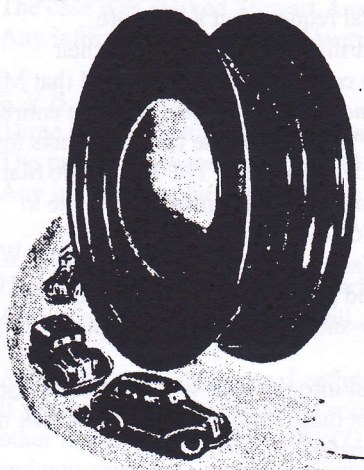


Australian Steel Split Pulleys

PTY. LTD.

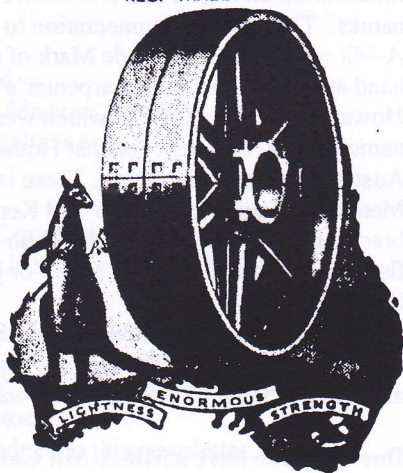
ARTHUR STREET
HOMEBUSH
N.S.W.

Manufacturers of
"BENSON"
AUTOMOBILE WHEELS



Nearest Railway Station
— FLEMINGTON

"AUSTLPULLY"
REG. TRADE MARK



Telegraphic Address:
AUSTLPULLY, HOMEBUSH, N.S.W.

Phone: UM 6716

Johns' Page.

John Daniel.

Marples "Shamrock Brand" X4 Iron Smoothing Plane. (Reg. Design No.87396).

It's always satisfying to bring something home from an Antiques Fair, on this occasion it was a smoothing plane made by Marples. The attraction was its variation from the general run of late "Stanley" type planes.

There seemed to be little local knowledge of the history of this plane so, following a suggestion from a friend, I wrote to Record Tools Ltd. where Steve Bray, Q.A. Manager was most helpful. He said that "by the time Marples became part of the Record group many of the documents relating to the production of Marples planes were either lost or destroyed, and are no longer available." Not to be put off, Steve consulted a Mr Ken Hawley who is associated with the Hawley Collection, housed in the Hawley Building at the University of Sheffield, England. In Steve's words "Ken is a world renowned expert on tools (especially planes)". Ken kindly supplied the following information:-

- A copy of a single page advertisement from the 1959 Marples Catalogue.
- A copy of the information booklet supplied with the plane when new.
- A comprehensive "Case History" on the plane reprinted from the August 1954 Edition of the magazine "Design".

The X4 Smoothing plane was designed by David Pye for the old established firm of William Marples & Son Ltd." Marples had for many years been making normal "American" pattern planes and although these were remarkably efficient, Marples, together with the designer of the new plane, felt that some improvements could be made in performance as well as appearance". (August 1954 "Design".)

The 1959 Advertisement in the Marples Catalogue lists the X4's new features.

- The wooden frog is fixed so that the heel of the cutter rests on an accurately machined surface on the cast iron body of the plane, so that the cutter is always firmly supported at its lowest possible point, and the plane will not chatter.
- The width of the mouth is altered by an adjustable mouth plate at the front which can be moved by loosening the two screws holding it. By this means shavings of any required thickness can be planed, without tearing up the grain of the timber.
- The base casting is more substantial than usual, and has stiffening ribs throughout its length.
- The cap lever is shaped to give a good grip when the plane is used on its side on a shooting board.
- A larger knob is fitted, which has been found to give a much improved grip in use, and the frog and handle are made in one piece, to give great strength and rigidity.
- All metal fittings are nickel or chrome plated, or finished in black stoving enamel. The cutter is made of our renowned crucible tool steel and will give years of service. The whole plane has a modern and unified appearance which will appeal to the progressive craftsman and amateur who take a pride in owning and using well designed tools.

Marples "Shamrock Brand" X4 Iron Smoothing Plane. (Reg. Design No.87396).

For the X4 plane to be selected by the English Council of Industrial Design for inclusion in their design review, and in turn displayed by them at the Brussels World Fair, it must have been impressive. Why then was it discontinued?

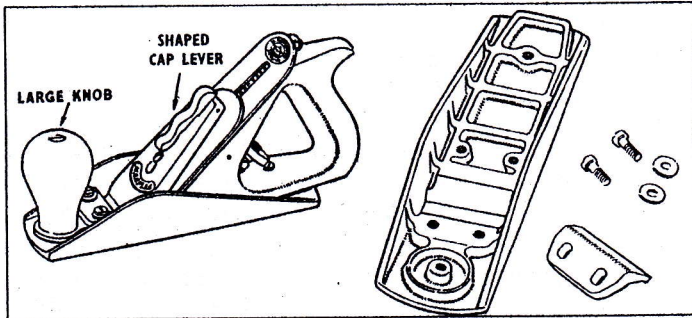
Well, I feel Ken Hawley in his correspondence brings this into focus.

"Herewith information on the Marples X4 Plane which was produced to fill a perceived gap in the market, when Norris of London stopped making their planes which were quite expensive in the early 1950s. 77/6d. for a Norris smooth plane, against Stanley No. 4 which in 1953 sold at 33/2d. and in 1957 at 41/-. Record's 04 in 1951 cost 32/6d. and in 1957 was 37/6d.

Most joiners etc. could not afford the X4, it being about double the price of the Record or Stanley planes, which could be "tuned" to do the same class of work. So not many Norris-or its successor-sold, which is why it had a production run of no more than ten years.

It was designed about 1954 and an undated leaflet gives the price as 63/-, by 1962 the price had risen to 90/-. The 1964 price list was the last where it is shown. The 1965 catalogue has no mention of it, so I think it had been deleted by then."

It is interesting how collecting always opens up new doors, especially to new contacts, new friends and most importantly increased knowledge through sharing of information.

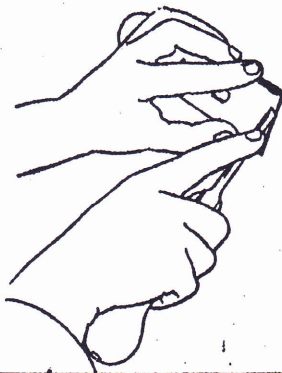


3 hints

WHICH WILL ENABLE YOU TO GET THE BEST RESULTS FROM THIS NEW PLANE

1 Assembling Top Iron and Cutter

The top iron must fit perfectly to the face of the cutter or else choking will occur, as it will with any wood or metal plane. When the plane iron and top iron have been reassembled after sharpening, the fit of the top iron should be checked by holding the pair up to the light and looking between them, when no light whatever



should be visible between the two. Any suspicion of a gap may cause the Plane to choke by catching the edge of a shaving. (Any gap may be closed by setting the top iron $\frac{1}{16}$ " back from the cutting edge, then lay the pair on the bench with the top iron uppermost and draw the corner of a small screw-driver firmly along the edge of the top iron so that it turns the edge down against the face of the cutter. Re-check for light and reset the top iron the required distance from the cutting edge.)

2 To prevent the grain from tearing up

Some kinds of wood have an interlocking grain which tears up, notably certain West African or Malayan timbers used today; and most woods will tear up at times. To prevent this, set the top iron close to the edge of the cutter (about $\frac{1}{32}$ " is best for most woods), and set the mouth as wide

as it will go. To get a good surface the cutter must be very sharp, very thin shavings must be taken, the sole of the Plane should be lubricated with oil or candlegrease, and the Plane must be well pressed down as it cuts.

3 To remove wood rapidly in thick shavings without risk of seriously tearing up the grain

To do this the top iron should be set a full $\frac{1}{8}$ " back from the cutter, and the mouth of the Plane should be made very narrow. The best way to set the mouth narrow is to set the cutter to remove a thick shaving, then push a 2" wide strip of newspaper folded into four thicknesses into the mouth of the Plane and slide the mouth plate towards the cutter until it pinches the paper. Tighten the mouth plate screws, withdraw the cutter, and remove the paper.

This 'X' Plane is described by "Design" as:— "An efficient Smoothing Plane. . . .

A new version which looks and is better than the earlier type."

Events and Offers.

Visit to Wollongong TAFE Foundry.

Henry Black is working on this, so far the response has been positive. More information will appear in Newsletter 60.

3801 Train Trip.

The Committee has been encouraged by the interest shown. A decision will be made in due course. Expressions of interest are requested.

2001 Sydney Timber and Working With Wood Show.

6-8 July 2001.

Fox More park (Old Sydney Showgrounds).

TTTG Stall 170.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED URGENTLY.

Directory.

-The Traditional Tools Group Inc. (TTTG)

Mike Williams. The Secretary TTTG

P.O. Box 240 Grosvenor Place. Sydney N.S.W. 1220.

Enquires: Mike Williams phone 02 9144 6356

Bob Crosbie e-mail : r.crosbie@bigpond.com

-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

TTTG Committee Members.

John Bates	Events Sub Committee
Henry Black	Events Sub Committee
Bob Crosbie	President
	Newsletter Sub Committee
Mario Dato	Catering.
Ray Gurney	Newsletter Sub Committee
Rick Mitchell	Librarian
Fred Murrell	Public Officer
Clynt Sheehy	Treasurer
Mike Williams	Secretary
	Newsletter Sub Committee.

Is It An Aussie ?

The "Hordura" Senior Combination Wood Working Machine.

If you can remember the 1950s you will also recall that every home had at least one manufactured item from Anthony Horderns.

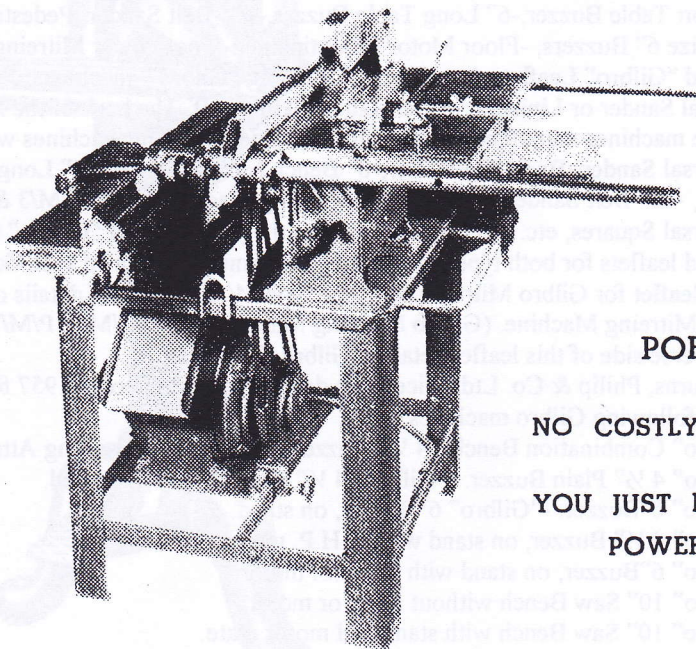
"Truth in Advertising", like the Hordern's building, has long since disappeared.

Perhaps a TTTG member has seen this machine.

Who made the "Hordura" Senior Combination Wood Working Machine?

The "Hordura" Senior Combination Wood Working Machine booklet and a

Hordura Woodworking Machines Price List, Sept. 1956 is in the TTTG Library.



PORTABLE

NO COSTLY INSTALLATION

**YOU JUST PLUG INTO THE
POWER POINT . . .**

This USEFUL machine combines:

**SAWING, PLANING AND JOINTING, MORTISING,
TENONING, MOULDING, GROOVING, SANDING,
BORING AND DOWELLING, GRINDING, TRENCHING,
BUFFING AND POLISHING.**

TRUTH IN ADVERTISING
Anthony Horderns'

B0951

Australian Made.

"Gilbro" Woodworking Machines.

Gilbro Engineering, 79-83 Plenty Road, East Preston, Victoria, manufactured an extensive range of woodworking machines from the 1940s to the 1960s. H.R. Goff, Manufacturers Agents with offices in Melbourne, Sydney and Perth represented Gilbro Engineering in the 1940s.

A January 1948 Price List of "Gilbro" machines was distributed by H.R. Goff. In 1948 these "Gilbro" machines were available;

-6" Short Table Buzzer, -6" Long Table Buzzer, -10" Belt Sander, Pedestals for either size 6" Buzzers, -Floor Motor Mounting and- Foot Power Mitreing Machine
Undated "Gilbro" Leaflets describe the following "Gilbro" machines;

-Vertical Sander or Linisher, leaflet stamped H.R. Goff. The back of the leaflet lists the machines manufactured by Gilbro Engineering. The machines were;

-Universal Sander, -Back Stand Idler, -6" Bench Model Buzzer, -6" Long Table Buzzer, -10" Belt Sander, -Foot Power Mitreing Machine (type M/M/3 & P/M/3),

-Universal Squares, etc. This last entry raises the possibility of "Gilbro" tools. Undated leaflets for both types of Mitreing Machine are stamped H.R. Goff.

A torn leaflet for Gilbro Mitreing Machine type M/A/3 provides details of a third Gilbro Mitreing Machine. (Gilbro Mitreing Machine types M/M/3, P/M/3, M/A/3) The reverse side of this leaflet details a Gilbro Scroll Saw.

Two Burns, Philip & Co. Ltd. Price Lists dated May and October 1957 for Gilbro list the following Gilbro machines;

- "Gilbro" Combination Bench. (4 1/2" Buzzer, 10" Saw & Dowelling Attachment.)

- "Gilbro" 4 1/2" Plain Buzzer. - "Gilbro" 4 1/2" Plain Buzzer, on stand.

- "Gilbro" 6" Buzzer. - "Gilbro" 6" Buzzer, on stand.

- "Gilbro" 4 1/2" Buzzer, on stand with 1/2 H.P. motor.

- "Gilbro" 6" Buzzer, on stand with 3/4 H.P. motor.

- "Gilbro" 10" Saw Bench without stand or motor.

- "Gilbro" 10" Saw Bench with stand and motor plate.

- "Gilbro" 10" Saw Bench complete with 3/4 H.P. motor.

- "Gilbro" Mitre Machine, P/M/3.

The October 1957 Price List included the - "Gilbro" Mitre Machine, M/A/3.

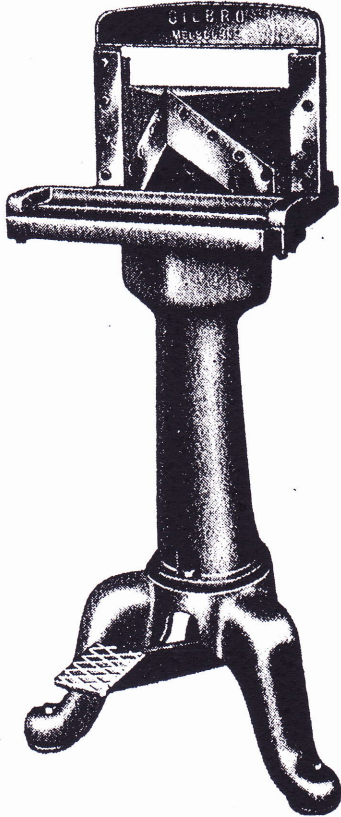
An undated Leaflet for the "Gilbro" Super Saw Bench Combination describes this "Gilbro" as "The Woodworking Machine of Distinction" and claims, "This last "Gilbro" incorporates all the best improvements in overseas saw bench design.

In 1956 Atom Distributing Co. Pty. Ltd., offices in Melbourne and Sydney, issued a Price List of Ezycut and Gilbro machines. Two "Gilbro" Buzzers (Jointers) and a Mitre Machine were included. The "Gilbro" Combination Machine was now called the Atom Combination. Two sizes were offered:

- Atom 6x10 De Luke Combination and Atom 4 1/2x10 Utility Combination.

Australian Made.

“Gilbro” Mitreing Machine.



See Newsletter 60 for Atom Power Tools, featuring Eyscut and Gilbro.

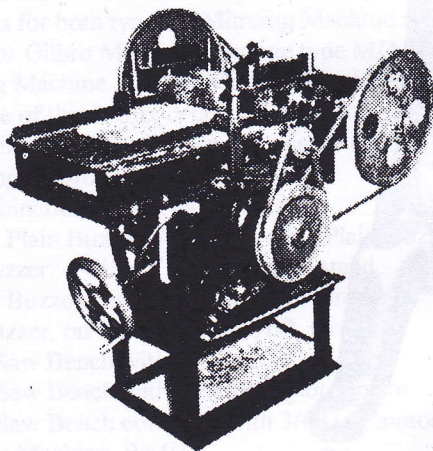
Copies of all the “Gilbro” documents used in preparing this article are available from the TTTG Library.

Australian Made.

CALLING ALL ORCHARDISTS.

Hobart Tasmania 1953. inspired by the apple market, a Dad and Dave Film or a War-Time experience the FOSTER Case Planer at least proves the old farmers' claim that with a bit of old scrap and effort it can be made on the farm.

CALLING ALL ORCHARDISTS
At last
You can secure a Satisfactory
CASE PLANER



THE FOSTER CASE PLANER
Can pay for itself the first Season.
Your Good fruit in a Good clean
Case will bring a better price.

Titan Tools and B.H.P. Steel.



**COMSTEEL
TOOLSTEEL**

Genuine Forged Tools possessing **STRENGTH TO SPARE**

There's a reason for the Titan chisel's superiority. In their manufacture are combined practical design, quality B.H.P. steel (expertly processed into fine-grained tool steel by Commonwealth Steel Co. Ltd.), and fully-seasoned timber for handles. They are the proud product of a team of skilled toolmakers who have the advantage of working in a specially built factory at Hobart, Tasmania, equipped with the most modern plant. Every stage of manufacture — forging, grinding, heat treatment (hardening and tempering), and final polishing — is closely controlled and subjected to rigorous inspection to ensure a quality tool whose blade is capable of taking a keen long-life cutting edge.

Special steel for the blades of Titan chisels is received in the form of small billets. In the first operation they undergo at the Hobart chisel factory, they are forged into blade shapes as are required for tang or socket types. Next, heat-treatment is carried out in temperature-controlled furnaces. The blade is heated by immersion in a pot of molten lead, then it is quenched in a brine spray, after which it is reheated in a continuous conveyor type tempering furnace. The expert heat-treatment of the steel in Titan chisel blades gives it a Rockwell ("C" scale) hardness rating of 59-61. This enables a keen edge to be retained in service while maintaining the edge's resistance against fracture.

Forged from
Quality
B.H.P. Steel

Handles of Titan chisels are of two types. Those for heavy work (Registered type chisels which may be struck by a mallet in service) are made from specially-selected Tasmanian hardwood. The handles of Titan Firmer type chisels (designed for hand-work only) are made from Tasmanian myrtle-beech. All handles carry a three-coat lacquer finish. The strengthening and protective ferrules on Titan Registered Chisels (as illustrated), are of heavy gauge bright drawn seamless steel tube.

*The Only GUARANTEED Chisel
on the Australian Market!*

Because of the high quality materials and skilled workmanship which go into Titan chisels every chisel carries an unconditional guarantee against defects. In the unlikely event of your Titan chisel being found faulty, it will be replaced free of charge.

TITAN
WOOD *Chisels*

Manufactured at Hobart, Tasmania, by THE TITAN NAIL & WIRE PTY. LTD.

Surforms and Shapers.

The Surform is one of the "modern handyman's" tools people recognise.

What are the origins of the Surform?

Salaman's Dictionary of Tools states,

"A trade name for a series of tools developed by Firth Brown Tools Ltd. (Sheffield) c. 1954 consisting of a perforated plate with a rasp like abrading surface, which can be flat, half round, or circular."

In "The Cutting Edge" Ken Hawley gives further details. Under the entry for Firth Brown Tools he observes, "In the early 1950s the works manager, Lt. Commander Booth, developed a new form of cutting tool called Surform which has won world wide acclaim."

The Surform was manufactured and marketed by Simmonds Aerocessories Great Britain, a subsidiary of Firth Brown Tools Ltd. between 1954 -58.

Surform was subsequently manufactured and market by Stanley G.B.

The Surform was not the first tool made using a perforated blade design.

The first Surform type tool.

A description of an abrading tool appears in English Mechanics on the 5th December 1941.

"A new design of file introduced in the United States has multiple blades with spaces between to allow the filings to pass through them.....

A detachable turnbuckle and rod arrangement between the handle and the end fitting of the file enables the shape of the filing surface to be changed from flat to slightly convex or concave."

This is similar to the Surform and Shaper Tools produced in the 1950s.

Was there really over a decade's hiatus between this proto Surform and the market place acceptance of the familiar Surform and Shaper tools?

Simmonds Aerocessories' Surform.

The March 1954 Woodworker reviewed the Surform under the title "Useful new Tool for Woodwork" The reviewer noted the advantages of the Surform over files and rasps and called the Surform "an entirely new tool." Two types of Surform were available. The first advertisements for Surform appeared in the August 1955 issue of Woodworker.



SURFORM TOOLS

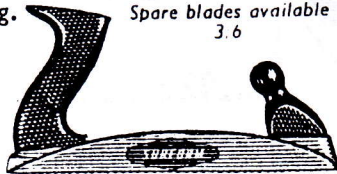
A new type of Hand Surfacing Tool with 101 uses. It FILES, FORMS, PLANES and SPOKE-SHAVES. Can be used on WOOD, RUBBER, LEATHER, FIBRE, PLASTICS and NON FERROUS METALS. Cannot clog.

Spare blades available
3.6

FILE TYPE

12/6

P. & P. 1/-



PLANE TYPE 17/6 P. & P. 1/-

In the December 1957 Woodworker S Tyzack & Son Ltd. offered "Genuine" Surform planes and files. The April 1958 Woodworker reviewed Surform describing it as "a tool that has been on the market for about four years" The Surform range was now as follows; flat file, flat plane, half-round file, convex plane, block plane and a fine file for metal. Did Surform have a competitor by December 1957?

The "Bettatool"

In 1958 Archibald Kendrick & Sons Ltd. Staffs. U.K. advertised a "Twin Purpose-Plane or File." This had a reversible handle, for use as file or plane, and a perforated disposable blade. Note the "NEW 2 way handle and blade, suggesting "Bettatool" had been in production for some time. "Bettatool" was reviewed in the Woodworker in December 1958.

Stanley Great Britain Shapers.

The November 1958 Woodworker reviewed a "shaper tool recently put on the market by the makers of Stanley planes". Two types of shapers were available, file type and plane type. The advertisements for Stanley Shapers and "Bettatool" are reproduced below.

KENDRICK
Bettatool
A TWIN PURPOSE PLANE OR FILE

It's just what he wants for his make-and-need jobs. The handle adjusts to either plane or file position and the "Bettatool" shaves, forms, or smooths without need of any other tools. The slotted, non-clog blade shaves heavy and cuts so easily as it shaves a door-edge or levels a formica table-top. And when at long last he's taken the keen edge off both sides of the blade he can fit a new one in a few seconds.

17/6

NEW! 2-WAY HANDLE REVERSIBLE. REPLACIBLE.

Use it as a file . . . use it as a plane!

The "BETTATOOL" is a boon to the do-it-yourself motorist. It is equally efficient on all materials from rubber to steel. It will sharpen edge tools, yet will not clog when used on soft metal, such as lead or copper, nor on soft or fibrous materials, such as rubber, fibre brake linings, etc.

The "BETTATOOL" is obtainable at all good ironmongers & Tool Dealers. Manufacturers: ARCHIBALD KENDRICK & SONS LTD., WEST BRIDGFORD, STAFFS.

DECEMBER, 1958

Here... the amazing

STANLEY

shapers

the completely new tools that shape, file, form, trim, smooth - everything from wood to steel!

Never have there been such versatile tools as Stanley Shapers. They'll do far more jobs quicker and better than ever before. Specially hardened and tempered steel blades, with new patented cutting teeth remove all kinds of materials swiftly, cleanly - no clogging, no shattering.

Use Stanley Shapers in the house, workshop and garage, for all those "Do-it-Yourself" jobs - the harder you work them, the better they like it! There's no end to the jobs they'll do.

Use Wood, plastic, rubber, leather, hardboard, asbestos, cement, cast and hard metals - even steel.

15/6
plane

12/6
file

New scientific designed handles for easy grip. Teeth go round the edges - blades cut full width - and into corners.

Use on all woods - cupping Hardboard. Use abroad on all other common materials.

Use flat tool faces - smooth, table tops, set screw flange, re-surfacing panels, utility or making wood mouldings, car parts, for ironing and beading edges.

STANLEY

The best tools you can lay hands on!

STANLEY WORKS (G.B.) LTD. - ROTLAND ROAD - SHEFFIELD 5

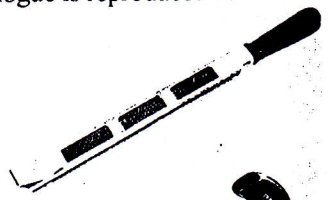
Surforms and Shapers.

The "Bettatool" and the Stanley Shapers were virtually identical products and both were clearly derived from the Surform. January 1959 Woodworker included large advertisements for "Bettatool" and Stanley Shapers. It seems probable that Stanley Great Britain acquired the production rights to Surform and Bettatool in 1959 or 1960.

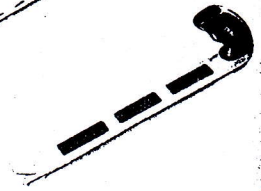
Stanley Shapers.

The August 1960 Stanley G.B. Catalogue has a full range of "Shapers". The "Shaper" page from the 1960 catalogue is reproduced below.

SHAPER-FILE No. 490. 17 in. long.
Price (Complete with one Flat Blade).
For shaping, filing, forming, trimming and smoothing of materials, from wood to steel, with the minimum of effort. Hardened and tempered steel blade, of patented design, has wide staggered teeth which extend round the edges of the blade, thus cutting full width and able to cut into corners. Moulded rubber handle and "easy-hold" pressure guide give high degree of comfort and control. Can be fitted with interchangeable flat and half-round blades. Attractive and serviceable hammered-grey finish.
INTERCHANGEABLE SPARE BLADES. FLAT AND HALF-ROUND— each.



SHAPER-PLANE No. 491. 13 in. long.
Price (Complete with one Flat Blade).
As the Shaper-File, but it is not restricted to the conventional "filing" applications. Scientifically designed "cushion-grip" handle of moulded rubber gives comfortable grip and the "easy-hold" pressure guide allows a high degree of control and a choice of "holds." Hammered-grey finish.
INTERCHANGEABLE SPARE BLADES. FLAT AND HALF-ROUND— each.



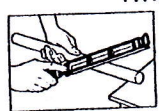



SHAPER JUNIOR No. 492. 5 1/2 in. long.
Price (Complete with one Flat Blade).
A blade, 5 1/2 in. long, fitted to a strong, shaped, red plastic handle allows this tool to be held in one hand leaving the other hand free to hold the work. It has many uses on wood, metal, plastics, rubber, leather, glass-fibre, etc., and makes an extremely useful addition to any kit of tools.
SPARE BLADES (FLAT ONLY)— each.



STANLEY SHAPERS HAVE THESE EXCLUSIVE FEATURES

<p>Shatter-proof hardened and tempered steel blade. Wide, staggered teeth, that do not break off or chip, extend round the edges of the blade.</p> 	<p>Scientifically designed "cushion-grip" handle of moulded rubber.</p> 	<p>"Easy-hold" pressure guide gives high degree of control and choice of "holds."</p> 
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TYPICAL APPLICATIONS OF STANLEY SHAPERS

 <p>For outside curved surfaces</p>	 <p>For trimming edges</p>	 <p>For inside curved surfaces</p>	 <p>For smoothing surfaces</p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

STANLEY SHAPERS SHAPE, FILE, FORM, TRIM, SMOOTH—EVERYTHING FROM WOOD TO STEEL

Stanley New "Surform" Tools.

The April 1963 Stanley Export Price List includes the range of New "Surform" Tools. The New "Surform" File is identical to the 1961 Shaper and the New Surform Plane is virtually identical to the Simmonds Aerocessories Surform.

Surforms and Shapers.

The April 1963 Stanley New "Surform" Tools are illustrated below.

■ New! "Surform" Tools

For surface forming wood, plastics, leather and soft metals



File type with regular cut blade

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
◆★295	16 $\frac{3}{8}$	6	24	\$2.90

■ "Surform" Tools

For surface forming wood, plastics, leather and soft metals



Round file $\frac{5}{8}$ " diameter

NO.	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
★297	14	6	12	\$2.50

Replacement round blade for No. 297

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
★297B	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	6	—	1.34



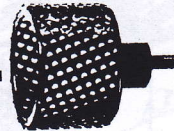
Plane type with regular cut blade

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
◆★296	10	1	12	\$3.90

Individually carded

■ "Surform" Drum

For use in electric drill chuck and drill press



NO.	DIAM.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
★H386	2 in.	1	24	\$2.30

Replacement Parts—See Parts Catalog 35P



Convex with fine cut blade

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
★397	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	1	6	\$4.00

Replacement blades for No. 397

Regular cut

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
◆★294B	10	6	24	\$1.20

Fine cut

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
◆★394B	10	6	—	1.20

One on a card



Pocket "Surform" with fine cut blade

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
◆★399	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	24	\$1.70

Replacement blades



Replacement blades—fit Nos. 295, 296 and 397 "Surform" tools

Regular cut

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
◆★294B	10	6	24	1.20

Half round, regular cut

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
◆★298B	10	6	24	1.34

Fine cut

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
◆★394B	10	6	—	\$1.20

Half-round, fine cut

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
◆★398B	10	6	—	1.34

Replacement blades for pocket "Surform" tools

Fine cut—half round

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
★396B	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	—	\$1.00


Fine cut

	IN.	BOX	CTN.	EACH
◆★399B	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	—	.80

The November 1964 Woodworker has an advertisement for Surform. Under Surform are the words "Blade an invention of Firth Brown Tools."

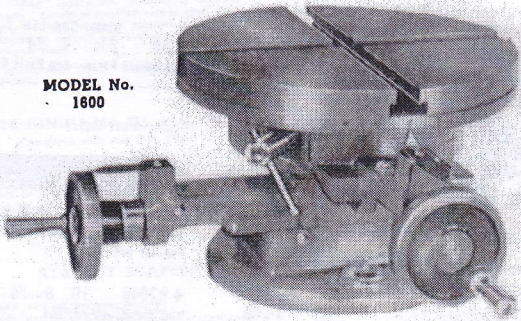
Thornley Machine Tools.

Thornley Engineering Products were manufactured in the 1950 & 60s by W. Thornley & Sons Pty. Ltd. 23 Unwins Bridge Road, St Peters. N.S.W. "Thornley" products were distributed by Thornley Machinery Sales Pty. Ltd. "Thornley" manufactured Railway Equipment, Steel Fabrications, Heavy Steel Pressings, Woodworking Machinery, Metal Spinning Machinery and Machine Tools. "Thornley" also brought and sold old and new machinery. A division of "Thornley", Model Bench Tools (MBT) manufactured Small Woodworking Machinery, Woodworking Tools and Machine Knives "Moldit". A Model Bench Tool product is illustrated.



A DIVISION OF W. THORLEY & SONS PTY. LTD., BOLTON ST. ST. PETERS SYDNEY

COMPOUND SLIDE ROTARY TABLE



MODEL No.
1600

**For Drill Presses, Milling Machines, Shaping
Machines, Surface Grinders, Etc.**

8" diameter Turntable graduated a full 360° gives clear accurate reading and can be rotated in either direction. Heavy Section Tee Slots are provided. $\frac{7}{8}$ " x $\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Cross Slides have accurately Machined Dovetail Ways, adjustable Gib Strips provided to take up wear.

Slides have a maximum travel of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Thread Milled Feed Screws and replaceable Bronze Nuts fitted.

Large Handwheels calibrated and numbered in thousandths, an accurate, robust and nicely finished tool.

The TTTG Library has acquired an extensive collection of "Thornley" leaflets. For more on "Thornley" see newsletter 60.

Woodmachino.

The Woodmachino Wonder Bench.

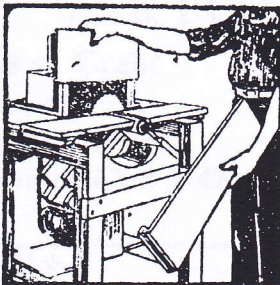
The Woodmachino Wonder Bench could be inspected at Recreation Street, Tread Heads or at Grey Street, South Brisbane in the 1950s.

Where can we find one now?

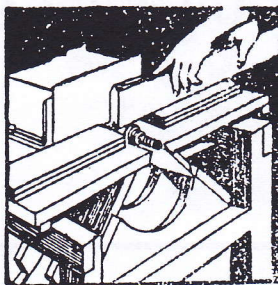
The Woodmachino Wonder Bench was an attempt to market an affordable universal wood working machine. The use of timber components reduced component and freight costs. Sales promotion was equally innovative.

The Woodmachino Wonder Bench Leaflet has a comic strip format.

There are twenty two frames in all. A sample is reproduced below.



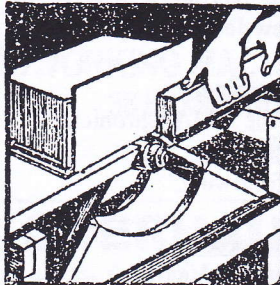
No. 2 shows the quick and simple change from sawing to planing. Both saw and planer protected. Change from sawing to planing in 10 secs. Both planer tables rise and fall.



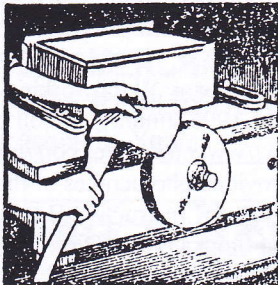
No. 3.—T. & G. Flooring easily made. All mouldings (see page) simply made this easy way. We will make any design joinery moulding cutter to order. Send sample.



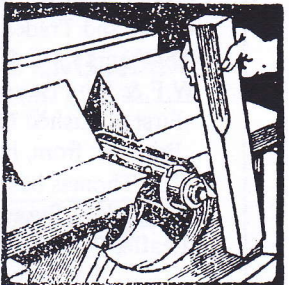
No. 4.—Any size ply, or any length timber can be handled. No limit to length or area. Don't break your back with a hand-saw. Live longer. Let the "Wonder Bench" work for you.



No. 5.—Rebates for hinges, sash fittings, etc., quickly, accurately cut this way. No effort, no delay. Use saw box for any depth cut.



No. 6.—using the Z arbour and emery wheel for sharpening done. All hand tools, etc., speedily sharpened. Make your own moulding cutters on these emery wheels.



No. 7.—All bevel cutting simply done. Bevel box easily made. Once jig box is made all bevels finished accurately. Cannot alter, must be identical to last bevel-cut.

Additional information is sought.

For more on "Woodmachino" see newsletter 60.

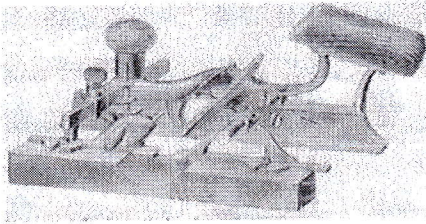
Book Review.

Bob Crosbie

<http://www.supertools.com>

The Super Works: Patrick's Blood and Gore.

Down loading and printing Patrick's Blood and Gore took over half a day but it was time well spent. Every thing anyone needs to know about Stanley planes is included. There are links to information on related topics. Patrick knows what he is talking about and is critical of Stanley. His humour is distinctive and may offend some worshippers of Stanley however his insights into the history and use of planes are worth serious consideration. A sample will convey more than my words, his observations on the 45; "I hate them. There, I said it right off. Why? I find them to be tempermental beasts.



Library News.

Rick Mitchell

Periodicals Received.

- Hand Tool Preservation Society of Western Australia. (HTPSWA). Newsletter.
- Tool Chest/Sharp Edge HTPAAA. Issue 59 February 2001.
- Tools and Trades History Society. TATHS. Newsletter 72. Spring 2001.

Donations

W.F & John Barnes Company Woodworking Machinery.

First published in the 1996 summer edition of the EAIA Chronicle.

Print out from, <http://www.tooltimer.com/index.html>

- Rod Thomas has provided photocopies of the following;

Peacock's "Pyramid Rufa" Instruction Book.

Leaflet **P.&N. Brand Stocks, Taps, Dies, Reamers, & C.**

Patience & Nicholson Pty. Ltd. Elsternwick, Victoria.

- Henry Black has donated a cardboard box of papers acquired from Chas. Skinner. Eventually the contents will be catalogued and copies made available for loan.

Photocopies of the following are now available,

"Gilbro" Machinery Leaflets.

The **"Hordura" Senior Combination Wood Working Machine** booklet

"Hordura" Woodworking Machines Price List, Sept. 1956.

"TYTON" Price List dated 1/7/55.

Austpully Leaflet and an Austpully Price List dated 1950.

The Woodmachino Wonder Bench Leaflet.

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38 HAMMOND ROAD, TOUKLEY NSW 2263

Established 85 Years

OVERHAULING & REPAIRS

- ★ To Light Woodworking Machinery
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**BUY
SELL
VALUE**

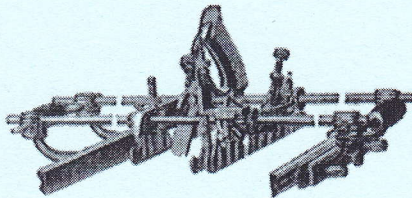
We buy and sell more antique and used woodworking tools than anybody else in Australia.

Once a year we run an international tool auction with a fully illustrated auction catalogue and easy absentee bidding facility for interstate and overseas bidders. If you want to participate just write to us and we'll include you in the mailing list.

We are always buying good quality tools, single items or whole collections from woodworking and other trades like coopers, pattern makers, shipwrights, coach-makers, cabinet makers, carpenters etc. Don't just give them away.

Ask for our price first

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Email: hbrunner@gil.com.au

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HANS BRUNNER TOOLS