

TTTG Inc.
THE TRADITIONAL TOOLS GROUP (Inc.)

TTTG Newsletter No. 66. August 2002.

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2001-2002 Subscriptions are due.

Subscription Rates :

Sydney \$30. Overseas \$30.

Out of Sydney & Other States \$22.50. Australian Pensioners \$22.50.

Postal Address.

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02 9144 6356

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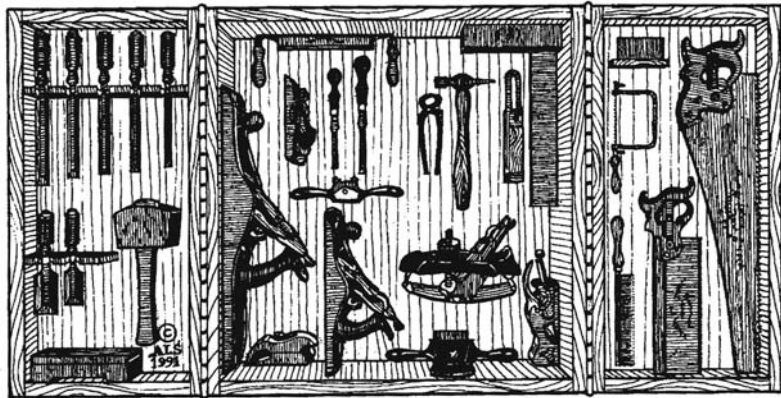
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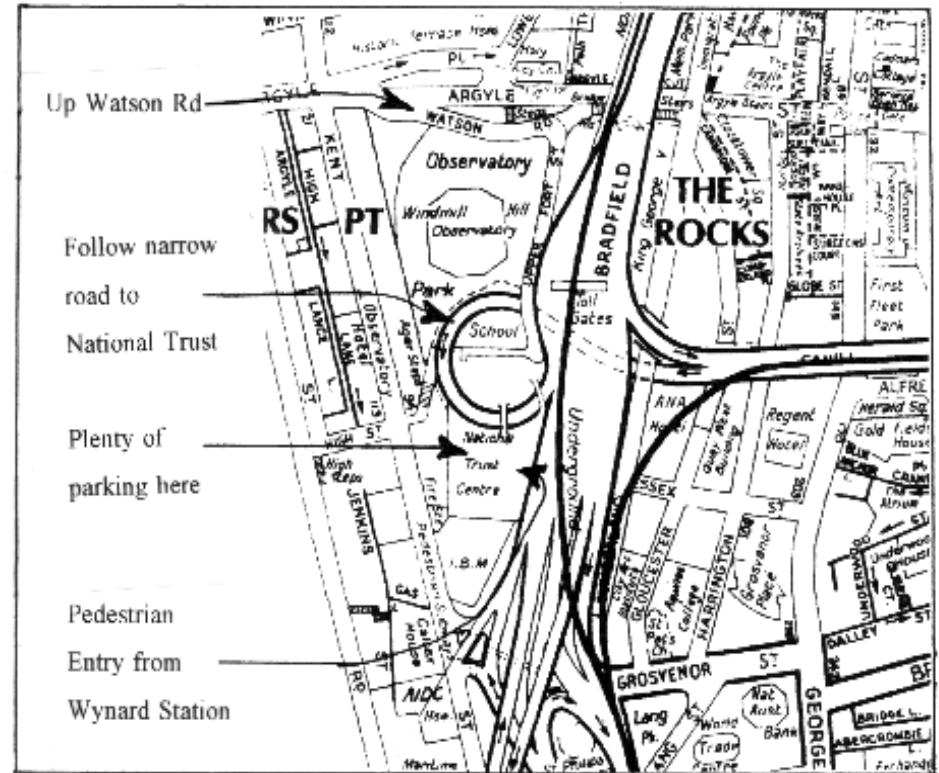
Also at
1st Floor, Gowings Building
cnr George & Market Streets Sydney 2000
Tel: (02) 9287 6303 Fax: (02) 9267 4786
Email: sales@thewoodworks.com.au
Website: www.thewoodworks.com.au

Next Meeting

Tuesday 13th August 2002

**National Trust Centre,
 Observatory Hill.**

**Annie Wyatt Room
 Commencing at 7:00pm**



PROGRAMME

1. ANNUAL GENERAL MTG AND COMMITTEE ELECTION
2. KEVIN LITTLE WILL DEMONSTRATE HOW TO SHARPEN GLASS CUTTERS.
3. JOHN BATES WILL DISCUSS METALWORK MARKING OUT TOOLS WITH EXAMPLES FROM HIS EXTENSIVE COLLECTION.
4. FRED'S WOTSIT FOLLOWED BY OUR FUN AUCTION.
5. SUPPER BY MARIO DATO.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL NOTICE

2002 – 03 SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

(TTTG Memberships are based on the financial
year
1st July to 30th June)

**PLEASE FORWARD A CHEQUE FOR * \$30 (MADE OUT
TO TTTG Inc) TO :**

The Treasurer
TTTG Inc
PO Box N240
GROSVENOR PLACE
SYDNEY NSW 1220

*If you live more than 50km from Sydney or you are a pensioner, then
you MAY CHOOSE TO PAY only \$22.50

**Please advise if you have CHANGED your address from
that shown on your newsletter address label.**

**It would be helpful if you would write your name and
membership number on the back of your cheque. (See
Newsletter envelope address label for your membership
number.)**

**Should you require a receipt, please enclose a stamped
self-addressed envelope with your payment OR see the
Hon. Treasurer, Clynt Sheehy, at a TTTG meeting.**

Please Note: The Treasurer has already received advance
payment of 2002-03 subscriptions from the following
members prior to 1/7/'02. They should ignore this notice.

10	129	210	240	251	257
31	152	213	242	252	258
43	159	214	245	253	259
45	166	222	248	254	260
53	195	234	249	255	261
113	198	238	250	256	

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. Tuesday 13 August 2002

The Treasurer will present the Annual Report.

All Committee positions will be declared vacant.

Nominations will be called for all Committee positions.

The General Election will be conducted.

Sharpening Glass Cutters

Kevin Little will give a brief talk on sharpening glass cutters.

Most of us didn't think that glass cutters could be sharpened. Bring along your more
unusual glass cutters and Kevin will tell you if it can be sharpened and how to do it.

Metalworking Marking Out Tools.

Speaker : John Bates and others.

The layout tools used by metalworkers combine form and function.

Many of the older layout tools also display precision with elegance.

An extensive range of these tools will be on display.

Attention will be drawn to Australian made tools.

Fred's Wots It and the Auction will follow the presentation.

Previous Meeting. Tuesday 11 June 2002

Topic: The TTTG Tool Boxes.

TTTG has three tool boxes and an assortment of tools.

The boxes and tools have been donated to the group over the years.

With the donation of a Cabinet Makers' Chest and a Carriage Maker's Box the
previously rag tag collection has assumed some stature.

This meeting was opportunity for members to examine the Tool Boxes.

A selection of the tool collection was also on display.

The discussion addressed the future plans for the TTTG collection.

The response to the boxes and tools was positive and the Committee

will continue to develop and to promote the TTTG collection.

Members comments are always welcome.

The TTTG Tool Boxes and Tool Collection.

Members' loans and donations of tools are requested

PLEASE REMEMBER :

2001/2002 SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE.

Advertisements.

RATES.

All **WANTED** and **FOR SALE** advertisements are free.

Quarter Page \$10 per issue. \$50 per annum.

Half Page \$15 per issue. \$80 per annum.

Full Page \$20 per issue. \$100 per annum.

First placement is free.

WANTED

-Wrenches and spanners marked "Connolly", "Connolly Sydney", "Connolly - Southern Cross", "Dingo", "Gyrex", "Zircalloy"

Uncommon Australian made Spanners & Wrenches, Shifters etc .

Trade Catalogues from Australian Stores, prefer to swap for others.

George Radion. 03 9557 1178 email: radion@iprimus.com.au

-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. 02 6288 6142. PO Box 13 Duffy A.C.T. 2611.

- Large RUSSELL-JENNINGS fine thread auger bits #17, 25, 27, 32
921 Stanley brace 14"

720 Stanley chisel (marked so) in 1 1/4 width (VG condition)

usable Stanley 750 chisels (marked so) in 3/8 : 5/8 : 7/8 : 2

I & H Sorby pigstickers in 1/4 : 3/8 : any sizes over 1/2

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Mathieson 3h : 5 pair : 7 pair : 9h : 13r : 14 r

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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 48, 49, 52, 53, 54, 56.

Any Woodworker Annuals or loose Woodworkers 1912-1939.

Bob Crosbie. Phone 02 9869 7487, r.crosbie@bigpond.com

Editors' Notes.

The Annual General Meeting is again upon us. Hopefully we will get through the election in a peaceful manner. TTTG is extremely fortunate in not being plagued by factions and recriminations in the membership.

The comment is often heard that TTTG meetings are friendly affairs and that the Committee are fairly down to earth. Some have even described the TTTG Committee members as laid back!

This informality is one of TTTG's strengths and it has not prevented significant growth by the group. Perhaps the Committee is getting some things right. The positive response to the TTTG Web Site also suggests we are moving in the right direction.

The Sydney Timber and Working With Wood Show generated some revenue and some new members. Perhaps we should publish the names of new members? What do you think? The Committee has always taken the line that we are preserving members' privacy by not publishing membership lists. Maybe we are doing what members want, maybe not.

TTTG is offering a Workshop on Sharpening at Woodworks' shop (Meadowbank). An application form is enclosed in this newsletter. The previous Workshop was well attended and several of the participants even joined TTTG. If you know someone who may be interested then you may consider giving them the application form.

The numbers attending the Meetings seem to be increasing. It may get a little crowded but the current venue has a lot going for it so we will stay put. Perhaps the topics are attracting more people or perhaps it is the thrill of the auction! One thing is certain we are seeing new, and younger, faces at the meetings.

At the last Committee meeting we decided to publish a Christmas Special Issue. This will probably be a reprint. We are looking for an old catalogue or something similar that is suitable for reprinting. Perhaps you have something suitable? Any assistance is welcome.

As TTTG President I would like to congratulate Darcy on the Web Page.

We all knew he would do a good job but he has exceeded all expectations. What makes it so good is the fact that the Web Page is only in its infancy and will mature into something far better.

I hope to be sitting in the Editor's chair after the Election but if you think you can do a better job please put your name forward. I may even second your nomination. Being part of the TTTG Committee is a very rewarding experience and I encourage everyone to give it a go.

Enjoy this issue of News and try to make the next Meeting.

Correspondence.

Sydney Timber and Working With Wood Show.

During the Timber and Working With Wood Show the editor received the following email,

“Sir, yesterday I visited the stand of the TTTG at the Working With Wood Show and purchased a Stanley No4 plane. It is reasonably old, having the three patent dates in the bed. Imagine my disappointment and anger when, upon arriving home in [location has been suppressed by the editor] late last night to find that the plane is incomplete! Yes, that’s right. The disk is missing from the bottom of the lateral control lever. I am therefore bringing this to your attention because in my view someone, or some people, in your group have at best been extremely careless, or at worst someone has pulled a scam. I would be very interested to hear firstly, your comments on the matter, and secondly what can be done to rectify the situation. Thank you.”

Naturally I replied immediately and asked for a few details and also suggested a few possible remedies. I eventually received this email,

“Sir, thank you for your prompt reply to my communication. In answer to your questions I have to say I have no idea who I purchased the plane from and I was not offered a receipt (fool for not asking for one). I can only add that the purchase was made from the front left hand corner of what I recall was a "U" shaped stall and that the plane had attached a white square of cardboard about 50mm square (which I have before me) on which the details of the plane are hand written in marking pen. I am more than happy to retain the plane and fit the control lever if it can be supplied to me. Once again, thank you for your assistance.”

I questioned every one on the TTTG stall but no one could recall this sale. To preserve TTTG’s good name I sent the correspondent the missing part. I did not receive any further communication.

All I will say is that the complainant is not a TTTG member!

The TTTG Web Site.

Two reactions to the TTTG Web Site are reproduced below.

mc2 Forum Message for Oztoolclub Posted by George Radion

“Greetings list. Traditional Tools Group (NSW) now have a web page – most impressive. Check it out via the attached link www.tttg.org.au”

Email from Rod Thomas

“Have just been alerted to your new Web page. Congratulations to TTTG and all those involved in its preparation, particularly to Darcy Hourd - Webmaster. Thank you for linking HTPAA to your site. I'm sure George will reciprocate at his next session of updating the HTPAA Page.”

Ted McGill’s Water Skis, Patterns and Jigs make The National Maritime Museum!

Ted McGill was a carpenter and joiner living in Carlingford and in the 1950s and 60s, he supplemented his income by manufacturing water skis for what was then becoming a popular sport. Imported skis were very expensive and Ted was able to make excellent wooden skis for the local market at a realistic price under the trade name “Marlin”.

Ted, his wife and children were all enthusiastic water skiers themselves, and weekends would often find the family down at Narrabeen Lakes or Wiseman’s Ferry, skiing and selling Ted’s skis from the back of the family station wagon.

As Ted got on in years and his health deteriorated, he contacted TTTG to sell many of his tools and we were able to oblige at successive Timber and Working with Wood Shows and at a couple of Henry’s Tool Sales where Ted was actually well enough to come along and look at all the tools for sale.

When Ted and his wife decided to move from their family home to a more easily maintained unit, a TTTG working bee helped to clean out the rest of the garage. Your committee thought that the sets of partly finished skis and the jigs and fixtures that were used to make them deserved to be on display somewhere as examples of local post-war innovation and initiative so we started the somewhat daunting task of convincing a museum of this fact. The National Maritime Museum showed a good deal of interest and although Ted has now unfortunately passed away, the skis have now been donated to and accepted by the museum. It will probably be several more months before the material is on display but it is good to think that this slice of Australian history will now be preserved and that TTTG were able to make it happen.

Other Donations

Nancy Rutherford of Chatswood has donated several tools to TTTG and the gluepot, spokeshave and several other small tools have been added to the collection of tools in the Carriage Maker’s Box as being typical of the type and age of tools that would originally have graced its interior. A wooden smoothing plane from the same collection is currently being restored also for possible inclusion in the Cabinet Maker’s Chest. It is unusual in that it is very long compared with most other coffin smoothers of the same blade width which probably indicates that it is of very early manufacture although unfortunately, sometime in the past, the maker’s name has been finished off.

Library News.

Rick Mitchell

Periodicals Received.

- Hand Tool Preservation Society of Western Australia. (HTPSWA). Newsletter.
- Hand Tool Preservation Association of Australia Inc. (HTPAA). Tool Chest/Sharp Edge Vol.14 No. 22. Issue 64, May 2002.
- TATHS. Tools and Trades History Society. Newsletter 77 Summer 2002.

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

Web: www.tttg.org.au

- 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

TTTG Committee 2001/2002

John Bates	Events Sub Committee
Henry Black	Events Sub Committee
Bob Crosbie	President
	Newsletter Sub Committee
Mario Dato	Catering.
Peter Evans.	Public Relations.
Ray Gurney	Newsletter Sub Committee
Darcy Hourd	Web Master
Rick Mitchell	Librarian
Fred Murrell	
Clynt Sheehy	Treasurer
Mike Williams	Secretary
	Newsletter Sub Committee

Correspondence.

Peter Evans found this account of the TTTG W.W.W. Show Stall on the Web. (The Web addresses at the end may be of interest to members.)

Subject: Oldtools Sydney Timber and working with Wood Show Report.

"Greetings all,

Attended the Timber and Working With Wood expo in Sydney (Australia, that is) and had a fine time indeed! My father (who fosters Normite tendencies) attended with me and I think that he came away with a new found appreciation for what can be achieved with hand tools.

Lots of wonderful timber - most a by product of Urban Forestry, I might add in BIG slabs at what I thought were reasonable prices. Shame that I was there on a budget and that was saved for tools.

I have been looking for a Stanley 66 (beading tool) for a while and found several - the one that followed me home brought with it both fences and 5 original blades - lots of fun for all the family. Also came away with a locally made 71-alike, cast not more than 20 kms from where I sit. Again, something I have been 'needing' for a while. Throw in a few chisels and misc tools and I got away for less than \$200 - Australian (divide by 2 for US or 3 for Sterling).

Met the gents from the Traditional Tools Group and joined their ranks. I had been considering this for a while, but being lazy had not done anything about it. We had a nice time chatting, about tools (yep, mortise chisel... hmmm panel gauge... that would be a quirk router... etc), techniques and just shooting the breeze. Thanks to you chaps (and ladies!) I managed to not be overly ignorant, though they seemed a bit confused by the fact that I am not a collector (but we wont go into that any further!)

I'm looking forward to the saw sharpening day they have planned for September - I may even get to meet some of the Sydney Galoots!

Highlight of the day - watching a Japanese craftsman cutting joints and demonstrating planing and chiseling techniques. Very educational - and a level of craftsmanship I dream of! After watching this gent, my father purchased both a handsaw and an HNT Gordon plane - a first as he normally (no pun intended) hits the electron burners hard and these were his only tool purchases. All in all, a fine way to spend a day!

Didn't see any galoots there, but I am sure they were.

Thanks for reading this far!

Gavin Palmer (and the beader works really well!)"

Archive: <http://www.frontier.iarc.uaf.edu/~cswingle/archive>

To unsubscribe or change options, use the web interface:

<http://galoots.law.cornell.edu/cgi-bin/lyris.pl?enter=oldtools>

EMAIL THE EDITOR ON r.crosbie@bigpond.com

Viewpoint.

Reply to John Daniels (Johns' Page News 65).

John, I am a brace and drill, and bit collector. I know exactly what you are talking about. There are so many ways of securing bits in braces, so many different ratchet mechanisms, so many different types of bit, many of them patented. It certainly makes collecting interesting, and almost never ending (does anyone have a complete collection, I wonder).

Why? I think there are quite a few reasons.

Firstly, the period in which many of these inventions (patents) arrived. The nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were a time of unprecedented change, development, and innovation, for example the steam locomotive, the telegraph and later the phone, the internal combustion engine, the typewriter etc. I think the social climate in western countries was very nurturing and open to new ideas. It was "the age of invention".

Secondly, technology was in its infancy, and much of it was easily understood by the masses. I exclude the telegraph etc. of course. Likewise, large manufacturing enterprises, were few, and small compared with today's. This was reflected in the absence of research and development departments, and many of the new products were the work of backyard inventors.

Thirdly, manufacturers loved to be able to advertise their products as "improved", or "patented". As to whether the newly patented product was any better than the old one didn't seem to matter, it was the novelty, the "one upmanship" of being able to offer a unique product that mattered. This of course appealed to the vanity of the customer, who could boast to his mates that he had a new, patented tool, not one of those old ones!

All this created a climate in which a backyard inventor could conceivably come up with an idea, which, if patented and subsequently sold or licensed to a manufacturer, could make him rich. In turn, companies became large and prosperous, by buying the best of these inventions and marketing them. Stanley is perhaps the best example of this.

In the case of braces and bits, there are books available on each, listing and picturing the U.S. patents. The U.S. in the era in question, was a vibrant, growing nation, and invention and innovation were almost second nature to the proud, practical minded individuals, witness the many inventions that emerged from there in that period. Australia went through a similar period post-war, e.g. the Hills hoist, rotary mower etc.

In the case of braces some of the patents were for items of doubtful practicality, and as a result many were not manufactured, or only a few sold. As a result the surviving examples are sometimes worth a lot of money.

It's an interesting topic, and I'm sure engineers, historians and sociologists could add a lot to what I've said. The subject is one I've often thought about, thanks for giving me the opportunity to talk about it.

Keith McCarthy.

Book Review.

The Art of Fine Tools. Sandor Nagyszalanczy.
The Taunton Press. U.S.A. 2000.

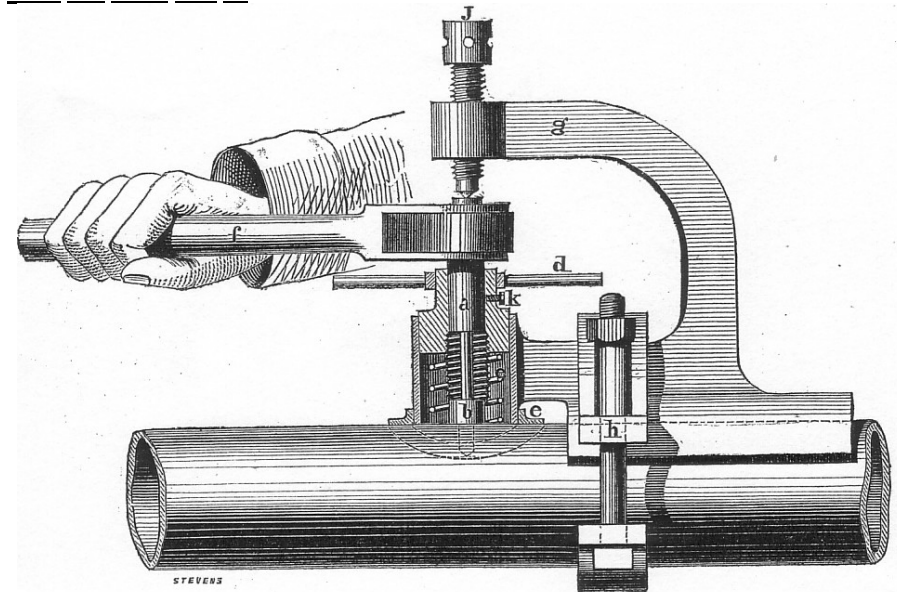
Published as a hardcover edition in 1998 and a softcover edition in 2000 this book has been around for a while. I resisted buying a copy until I saw it on special. Do I regret waiting so long? The answer has to be yes. The book is a bit "coffee table" and there are errors but the photos make it hard to put down. The layout and printing quality is excellent, as is to be expected from this publisher. To be fair the "errors" may be nothing more than the use of American terminology. Do I expect too much from the author or should he know the difference between an infill mitre plane and a smoothing plane?

Well worth having if only for the pictures.

Bob Crosbie

News 67.

Find out what this is.



Tool Review.

Wood Thread Cutting Kit. (Screw Box and Taps.)

I rarely buy new tools. However there are many good tools being manufactured. Readers may be interested in these tools. Any one who has tried out a new tool is encouraged to write a "review" for TTTG News.

Wood threads have a number of applications such as in home made cramps. The only thing preventing more general use of wood threads has been the problem of acquiring the tools to make them. Complete old screw boxes and taps are scarce and until recently the new screw boxes and taps on the market have been either prohibitively expensive or inefficient. Old boxes minus taps and old taps minus boxes are frequently to be found second hand. With a tap it is not a difficult job to make a box and likewise taps to match a box are not too hard to make. Even so this falls into the category of a "nuisance job" or "when I get round to it".

Recently I was on the verge of making a box and tap when I heard a few favourable comments about the Wood Thread Cutting Kits currently for sale. The price seemed right when I considered the cost of materials and the time involved in making a box and tap. So I decided to put up the money and try out a Wood Thread Cutting Kit.

A new box and tap is unlikely to match older screw threads as wooden threads have never been standardised. So if you want to match that Mathieson screw you will have to find an old spare or make a box and tap. But this hardly matters if you only want to make wood threads that work.

When I received my new Wood Thread Cutting Kit I was impressed by the presentation. The kit consists of a box and two taps. Each part is individually wrapped inside a neat cardboard box and instructions are included. The instructions are very good. The manufacturing quality of the box and taps is high. I brought a ¾" set but other sizes are available.

Every thing looked good but the real test was to cut a thread. I turned up a cylinder and tried out the Box. The result was a perfect thread. The taps also worked well. The cutter can be resharpened but the maker can supply replacement cutters, a sure sign of a product made to last.

The Wood Thread Cutting Kit is made in Taiwan and a quality tool.

I brought mine from Timbecon and it is also available from Carba-Tec.

Timbecon Pty. Ltd.

P.O. Box 166

Bentley W.A. 6982.

1800 000 601

www.timbecon.com.au

Carba-Tec.

32 Percy Street.

Auburn. N.S.W. 2144

1800 683 583

www.carbatec.com.au

Information Wanted.

Australian made Anvil.

The editor has been shown an anvil in mint condition. The anvil was issued from New South Wales Government Stores in the last ten years, however it is obviously older.

The embossed lettering on the side of the anvil is;

G & F LOFT
MELBOURNE
54

When asked about G & F Loft Rod Thomas gave the following response;
"Not a lot.

Hardware Yearbook 1948

lists G.F.Loft & Sons, Newport, Victoria as a maker of tongs.

Hardware Journal 15/2/1950

lists R.H.Loft, Newport, Victoria as a Tool Manufacturer.

And now there is a G. & F. Loft. Melbourne."

Does anyone have more information?

SR1 Hand Riveting Tool.

The editor has a leaflet for a Pop Rivet Gun. It is undated but probably 1980's. The leaflet recommends CHERRY blind rivets, also made by Spurway. This is an Australian product as on the leaflet is the statement "Manufactured in Australia by Spurway Industries Pty. Ltd. 48 Euston Road, Alexandria, N.S.W. Australia. 516 1688."

Coming Events.

Hans Brunner Tool Auction

Tool Auction 9 planned for November 2, 2002.

TTTG Sharpening Workshop

Planned for 9th November 2002 from 8am to 1pm.

Woodworks Meadowbank Shop.

Henry's Tool Sale

Sunday 18th August

Concord Masonic Hall, Concord Road, Concord.

John's Page.

John Daniel

"Looks like a pile of junk to me."

"Looks like a pile of junk to me." Ever heard these words? No doubt we all have at one time or another, well, in this instance it was my wife's spontaneous Observation. She has had the privilege of appraising many "piles of junk" over the years. "Just look a little closer my dear" is my usual reply. It's great to see the light in her eyes as she recognises some disguised treasure hidden under many layers of neglect. In this case she spotted the No. 113 compass plane and the little Disston tenon saw, and as one's eyes get adjusted to the light in a dimly lit shed, the other bits and pieces came into focus as the layers of dust gave way to shape. The next question was "how much did you pay for it?" and my answer was "nothing at all my dear, our next door neighbour just handed it to me."

It always pays to somehow or other introduce tools into one's conversation, without being too obvious of course. One may get a lot of raised eyebrows, but when it occasionally pays off, it makes the effort worth while. Perhaps more importantly, help out your friends and neighbours whenever you can, for what goes round, comes round.



On the Web.

Workingtools

Members looking for old tools should be aware of the web site of a dealer in Tasmania. Workingtools offers a good range of old tools and books.

The editor emailed Workingtools to let them know about the TTTG site, and to request some background information and received the following reply.

Hi Bob,

Glad to hear you found our web site, thanks for the encouraging words.

Like all things on the electronic frontier it's a time consuming work in progress. A wonderful tool but always in need of sharpening !

It's good news that you have your web site up & running, we had a look this morning & will check back frequently. Pages are loading fast & easy to navigate. Our thanks in advance for the mention in the TTTG news.

As a very brief history Workingtools is a registered business trading in Antique, Collectable & usable tools plus a wide variety of technical books.

We started out in Hobart at Salamanca Market approx. 9 years ago. Salamanca Market is a Saturday affair and we are there all year round short of tempest.

What started out as a hobby has now turned into a full time endeavour.

Two years ago we launched our web site & from humble beginnings it has become an all time consuming monster. What we are able to photograph & list on our web site represents a snap shot of our stock at any one time, hence we encourage people to use our wish list, we either may have it or come across it in the future.

We also have a link on our links page, taking people to the more exotic items we list. On ebay, some items are ours but we also act as a listing/hosting service for online tool auctions for the local tool hunting community.

By the way Bob my name is Malcolm Palmer, my background is in wooden boats, but any chance of grappling with one at present is far over the horizon.

The technical books are in the capable hands of my partner Karen Keith who in between bouts of work related stress & running the family home still manages to come up with a vast array of technical books on a vast range of subjects, unfortunately most being sold long before we have a chance to list them on our website.

Hope this offers some insight into the organized chaos that lurks just beneath the apparent calm of our website.

P.S. Kind regards to Jim Black if you see him first, haven't managed to catch up with him in a while.

Kind regards,

Karen & Malcolm.

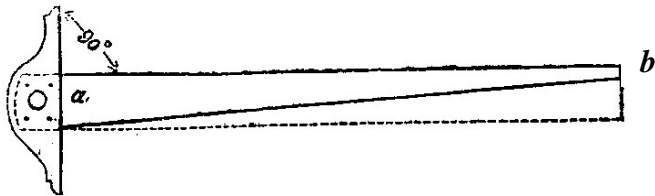
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Home Made Tools

T-SQUARES.

AT a recent meeting. of the Franklin Institute, U. S., Mr. Nystrom showed several specimens of improved T-squares. He said, simple as this instrument seems to be, it is difficult to procure one that will, satisfactorily answer the purpose for which it is intended. The rule of the square is generally made of hard wood, which is apt to warp, and it is heavy and clumsy to handle on the drawing board. The most suitable wood for a T-square is *spruce-fir*. This wood is not affected by a change of weather, and therefore will not warp; it is among the lightest of woods, its specific gravity when well dried ranging between 0.4 and 0.5, but it is too soft to be used against the drawing pen, in consequence of which, it is necessary to line the edges of the rule with a harder wood. It is of great importance with what kind of hard wood the spruce-fir rule is lined. Most of the hardest woods are not suitable for the purpose, as they warp and twist the rule, and in some cases will separate from it. Maple is found to be the best for the purpose. It is a fine grained, hard wood, and its specific gravity when well dried is only 0.6; its behaviour in changes of weather coincides very much with that of spruce-fir, and it is therefore best adapted for this purpose

The squares shown to the members were made in Sweden; the one four feet long was made at the Technological Institute, Stockholm, in the year 1845, and it is as perfect now as when first made. The others were made about two years ago.



Another improvement in these T-squares is that the rule, a b, is tapered from the cross-piece to the other end; it is also much thicker at a than at b; this makes the square lighter and more agreeable to handle on the board. The one edge is at right angles, while the other can be set at any required angle by the moveable part of the cross-piece. There is also another improvement in the manner of fastening the rule to the cross-piece. The space cut out in the cross-piece for receiving the rule is made fully 1/32 of an inch smaller than the width of the rule, which latter is sprung in and fastened with four screws. Experience has shown that this mode of fastening the rule is far superior to that of gluing; besides, the rule can easily be taken out when it is required to adjust the cross-piece, which latter is generally made of rosewood.

I have had T-squares of this description for ships' drawings, 10 feet long. The rule was 3 inches wide by 1/8 thick at the cross-piece, and only 1 inch by 1/16 at the other end. In order to handle such a long square at the smallest end, a string was fastened at the screw in the cross-piece, extending to the other end, by means of

which the square could be moved and set as delicately as if handled by the cross piece. The edges are beveled down to a uniform thickness of about 1/20 of an inch.

The Mechanics Magazine December 20, 1861

Ozitool Mail.

Any TTTG member can join this Web group.
Some recent examples are reproduced below.

Push Drills.

Hey group

I have heard and seen drawings of push drills. But I have never actually seen one.

One of my friends mentioned that if I see one in my travels, I should buy it for him.

What are the pros and cons of push drills over hand crank drills or even braces?

What am I looking for if it is to be 'complete' or at least a fundamentally usable item?

What additional pieces are there that I should/could look for?

Any info on the web that anyone knows about?

Reply

They are similar to the Yankee spiral ratchet screwdrivers. As you push down on the handle, the bit turns and bores into the wood. They only drill fairly small holes, maybe up to 1/4". See:

<http://www.e-sci.com/jensen/1/26/255/3329.html>

and

<http://www.antique-used-tools.com/yankeetools.htm>

Tool Museum.

Posted by John McDonald.

Tony Derrett, Tool Museum in Guildford, has just opened a new website at

<http://www.toolmuseum.com>

worth a look!

See you all at the tool sale.

Regards,

John

How To Join.

Please follow this link and login to mc2:

http://mc2.vicnet.net.au/forum_login.cgi?gid=412&mid=7772&fid=401&reply2forum=1

“BENTLEY” Builders’ Tools.

Rod Thomas has acquired two “Bentley” Builders’ Tools leaflets.

The range of builders’ tools offered were;

-Kwik-Rip Fibro Cement Cutter.

-“BENTLEY” Trestle- For Indoor Scaffolding.

-QUADSTAY Scaffold Bracket.

-CLAMPTON Bracket- For Weatherboard.

-The BENTLEY Ladder Bracket.

-The NEW Patent SPEEDSCREW- Floor Cramp.

-3 Other BENTLEY Cramps:

LIGHTSCREW Floor Cramp.

Improved LITTLE BOOSTER Floor Cramp.

The DRAG IRON Floor Cramp.

-The KEDGE IRON Accessory for LIGHTSCREW.

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for portable drills 3/4" or up.
The only thing of its kind —
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Practical Hints.

Making a Fielded Panel with Shaped Corners.

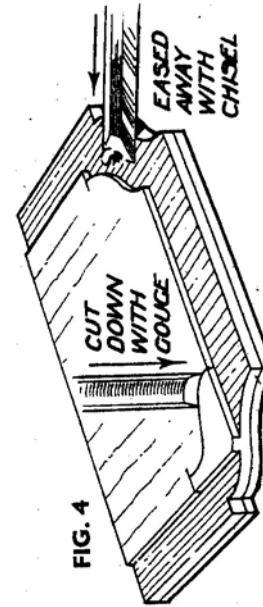


FIG. 4

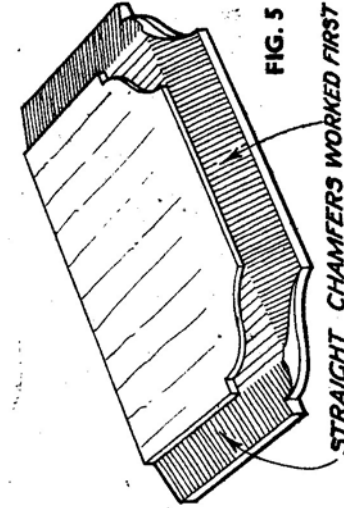


FIG. 5

STRAIGHT CHAMFERS WORKED FIRST

STAGES IN WORKING THE SHAPED CORNERS.

FIG. 2 shows the preliminary marking out.

FIG. 3. How straight rebates are worked.

FIG. 4. Cutting rebates at the curved corners.

FIG. 5. The straight rebates chamfered.

FIG. 6. Finishing off the curved corner chamfers.

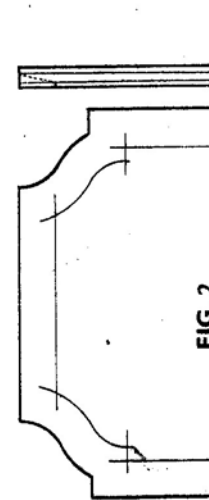


FIG. 2



FIG. 3

STRAIGHT REBATES WORKED FIRST

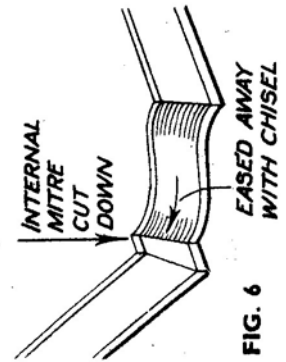


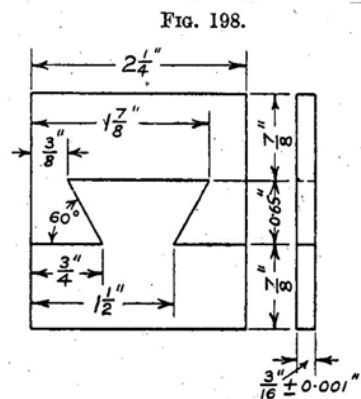
FIG. 6

Job Sheet.

Dovetailing Metal Plates.

Metal plates have been dovetailed together for a variety of purposes. The dovetailing of planes is one application of this technique. However there appear to be few descriptions of this joint in old text-books.

The method of dovetailing steel plates reproduced below is from Engineering Workshop Manual by E.Pull. The Technical Press London 1943. This is the tenth edition of this book.

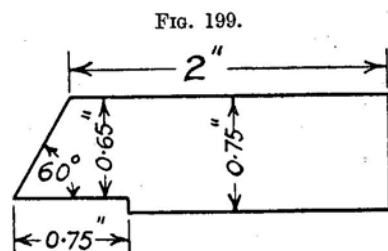


Dovetail Fitting In the tool-room and repair shop it is often necessary to out dovetails similar to that shown in Fig. 198. This is not a particularly difficult job when the work is in sheet metal, but when the job has depth and when two or more dovetails have to be cut on one piece of metal, it calls for careful marking-out and considerable skill. Assuming that two pieces of metal are supplied and the work is to be done entirely by hand, proceed as follows :-

(1) Check size of metal and file two adjacent edges on each piece. Test carefully on the surface plate and with the try square. Continue filing until both edges are at right angles with one another and also square with the face.

(2) File one face of each piece of metal. Test same on surface plate and then coat with copper sulphate solution. With the long finished edge resting on the surface plate mark out the width of the metal and the depth of the dovetail. Turn on to the adjacent finished edge and mark the width of the dovetail and the width of the metal. Then with the aid of the bevel protractor mark out the 60 degree angles. Carefully dot each line with the centre punch. -The dots should be about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. apart.

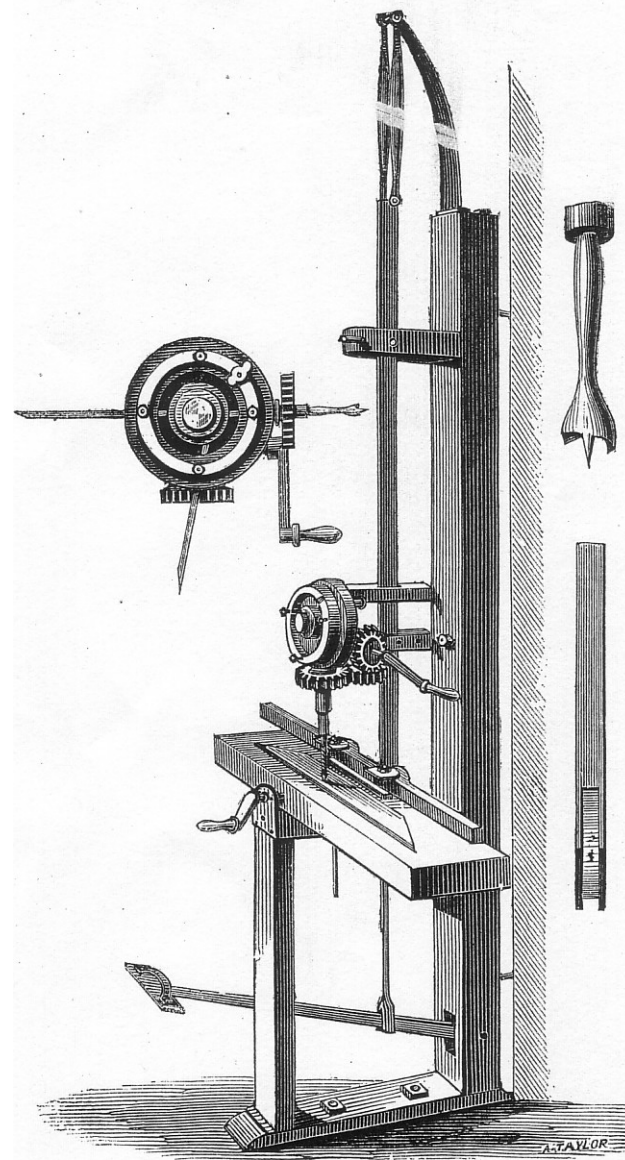
(3) Saw away surplus metal leaving about $\frac{1}{16}$ in. for filing. Make a small 60 degree gauge out of sheet metal as in Fig. 199 and use this to obtain the correct angle. File down to split all dots in half and test with try square and micrometer.



(4) File external dovetail nearly to the marks and use the internal dovetail as a gauge. When a good sliding fit, finish the completed job to required thickness.

Steam Powered Drilling/Mortising Machine.

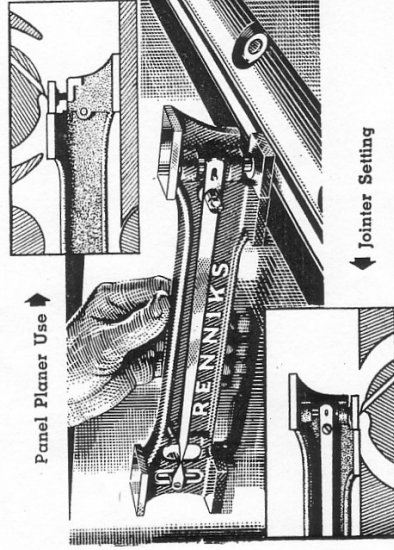
GERISH'S MORTISING AND DRILLING MACHINE.



The Mechanics Magazine, November 13, 1863.

Tell us about your operation — of cutter setting

ARE YOUR CUTTERS PARALLEL TO THE TABLE AND TO ONE ANOTHER?



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The Renniks Line of Modern Woodworking Machinery.

Chas. E. Skinner Pty. Ltd. traded as Woodworking Machinery Merchants, Importers and Engineers in Sydney from the early 1940's to the 1980's.

Chas. E. Skinner Pty. Ltd. sold new and second hand machinery and made and sold The Renniks Line of Modern Woodworking Machinery.

Chas. E. Skinner Pty. Ltd. was originally located in Day Street Sydney and later relocated to College Street Gladsville.

The business is now located on the Central Coast and is conducted by TTTG member and advertiser Chas. Skinner.

The TTTG Library has a collection of leaflets promoting The Renniks Line.

The Renniks Line of Modern Woodworking Machinery Leaflets are:-

Renniks Machines, made by Chas. E. Skinner Pty. Ltd.

Bandsaw. 26" and 32" sizes.

24" Bandsaw.

12" Bandsaw, bench type.

24" Swing Saw.

24" Saw Bench.

6" Jointer.

Post Borer.

Router, Bench Type.

High Speed Router.

Belt Sander, Bench Type (Linisher).

Belt Sander, Standard Type.

Belt Sanding and Linishing Machine.

Edge Belt Sander.

Double Bobbin Sander.

Single Borer.

Cutter Grinder.

Saw Gulletter.

Chucking Machine.

Semi Automatic Woodturning Lathe.

6" Manual Woodturning Lathe.

Veneer Press.

Frame Cramp.

Shaper Fence, Plate Type & Shaper Fence, Ring Type.

Shaper Guard, Arm Type & Shaper Guard, Circular Type.

Saw Guards, Pin Fence, Automatic Stops, Bandsaw Guide.

Renniks Arm Guard, for Spindle Moulding Machines.

Sander Pad. Trenching Head, Sanding Belt Splicing Die, Drunk Saw.

Cutter Balancer, Cutter Bolts, Shaper Collars, Cutter Blocks.

Router Bits, Dovetail Bits.

".....and special tools and cutters of all descriptions manufactured to order."

Future issues of News will continue the Chas. E. Skinner Pty. Ltd. story.

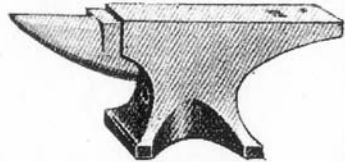
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