

TTG



**TTG Inc. Newsletter Number 83. June 2005.
The Traditional Tools Group (Inc.)**

www.ttg.org.au

TTTG Inc.
THE TRADITIONAL TOOLS GROUP (Inc.)
TTTG Newsletter Number 83. June 2005.

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2004/2005 Subscriptions are due.

Subscription Rates:

Sydney \$30. Overseas \$30.
Out of Sydney, Other States and Australian Pensioners \$22.50.

Postal Address.

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Enquires:

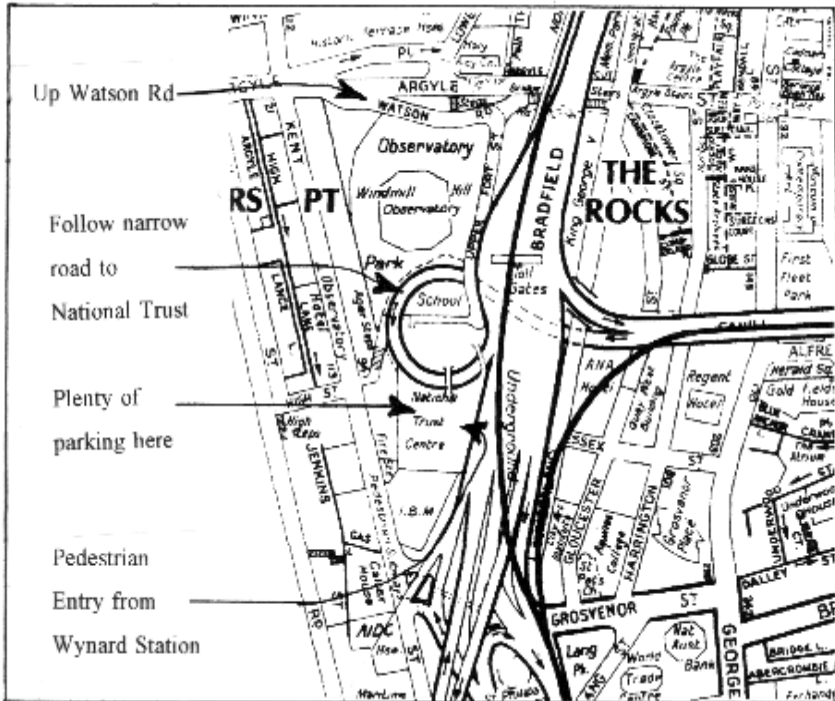
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tttg.org.au

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Next Meeting
National Trust Centre,
Observatory Hill.

Tuesday June 14 2005
Annie Wyatt Room
Commencing at 7:00pm



PROGRAMME

- 1. THE TRADING HOUR. MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO SELL QUALITY TOOLS AMONGST THEMSELVES. MIN. PRICE \$20**
- 2. TIMBER FRAMED BUILDING. MATT FENN**
- 3. THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY FRED'S WOTSIT.**
- 3. THEN OUR FUN AUCTION.**
- 4. SUPPER BY MARIO DATO.**

Next Meeting.

National Trust Centre. Annie Wyatt Room. Observatory Hill. The Rocks.
Tuesday June 14. Commencing at 7pm.

Traditional Building: Timber Framing. Matt Fenn

Matt builds timber-framed houses using traditional framing techniques. Real carpentry, framing by mortise and tenon joints to create a structure with inherent strength reliant on timber rather than metal fixings. Matt practises the technology superseded by American balloon framing. Timber Framing, Like Straw Bale, is a revival of an older building method. It is viable and environmentally friendly alternative to conventional building methods. Matt will explain the technology of mortice and tenon framing. Using slides he will show the construction principles and the tools used. Audience participation will be encouraged.

Please Note: At this meeting the entry fee will be \$5.

Previous Meeting.

Traditional Building: Straw Bale. Rick Mitchell.

Rick is an architect with a particular interest in Straw bale houses. For the previous ten years he has specialised in this type of construction. Rick's talk was illustrated with slides of several Straw Bale houses he has designed and erected. All aspects of this building method were discussed with emphasis being placed on the environmental aspects and the practicality of Straw Bale construction. The audience were spell bound and the questions were numerous.

The Trading Hour.

Members are invited to sell quality tools.
Minimum price \$20. Vendor fee is 10%.

The Auction.

The Auction continues to be a popular component of the TTTG Meeting. TTTG will continue to auction items for members in return for a small commission. Donations are also accepted. The Auctioneer's decision is final. Cash taken at the conclusion of the Auction is a "bottleneck". Please try and have your money ready and consider "rounding up". \$4 rounded to a \$5 note for example can save valuable time. Everything is so cheap at this auction that you can afford to be generous.

Please refer to Auction Rules. Vendor fee is 20%.

News 83.

The Cover.

The illustration on the cover page is from a “Bettatool” advertisement in the English magazine The Practical Householder May 1959.

Finding illustrations, especially colour drawings, for the cover page is difficult.

Some, such as this “Bettatool” advertisement, are perfect, classic 1950s yet timeless.

Others can be a bit “incorrect” to modern eyes such as this “Flexello” advertisement. It appeared on the same page as the “Bettatool” advertisement.



What is different?

A black and white cover page this time and a slightly bigger News.

As always the TTTG Newsletter is improving.

Next News Insert.

The August issue of News will include a free copy of the 1932 Record Catalogue.

This reprint will be available to members at \$10 per copy.

TTTG Catalogue Reprints.

Copies of the Nock&Kirby Catalogue are still available.

Copies of the Carter Tools Leaflet are still available.

Selling Old Tools.

TTTG can arrange the sale of second hand tools.

Old tools are sold by TTTG:

- a) By private treaty. We offer to get a good price for quality tools.
- b) By Auction at TTTG Meetings.
- c) At Henry's Annual Tool Sale on the TTTG Stand.
- d) At The Timber and Working With Wood Show on the TTTG Stand.
- e) By advertising in TTTG News.

The advertisements are free but the other services are subject to a fee.

Contact a TTTG Committee member for details.

Buy and Sell. The “members only” page.

Adverts in Buy and Sell are free to TTTG members.

To place an advert you can email or send a letter to the editor.

WANTED

-Anvil 70 kg to 200 kg with any available tools. David Hire
email dhire@zip.com.au mobile 0412 96 95 96 ah 9552 3636

- Heavy Firmer Chisels. Square edge chisels all sizes 1" and above.
Mick Dowling. Phone 03 93863481 or 0407 544338.
itshimselfthen@bigpond.com

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

-Wanted to buy (or swap): Farm / Implement Spanners and Wrenches, also Railway and other large Engineering concerns. Especially looking for: Sunshine, McKay, Massey Harris, IHC with AP prefix numbers, Shearer, Lightning, Furphy, Barger, SRANSW, NSWTD, VR, Clyde, Litchfield, Coxhead, others, and any wrenches with cutout / skeleton letters. George Radion – ph 03 95571178, email radion@iprimus.com.au

-Accessories wanted for 8mm Lorch flat bed Watchmakers Lathe
Such as Compound slide rest, tailstocks, index plate etc,
George Gardner (02) 9527 4176.

-Pullmax metalworking tooling and manuals for use of same.
Original Black and Decker Workmate, the cast aluminium version.
Also wanted an Emmert pattern makers vice or lend of one to copy.
Contact Guido (02)93196190 info@wroughtartworks.

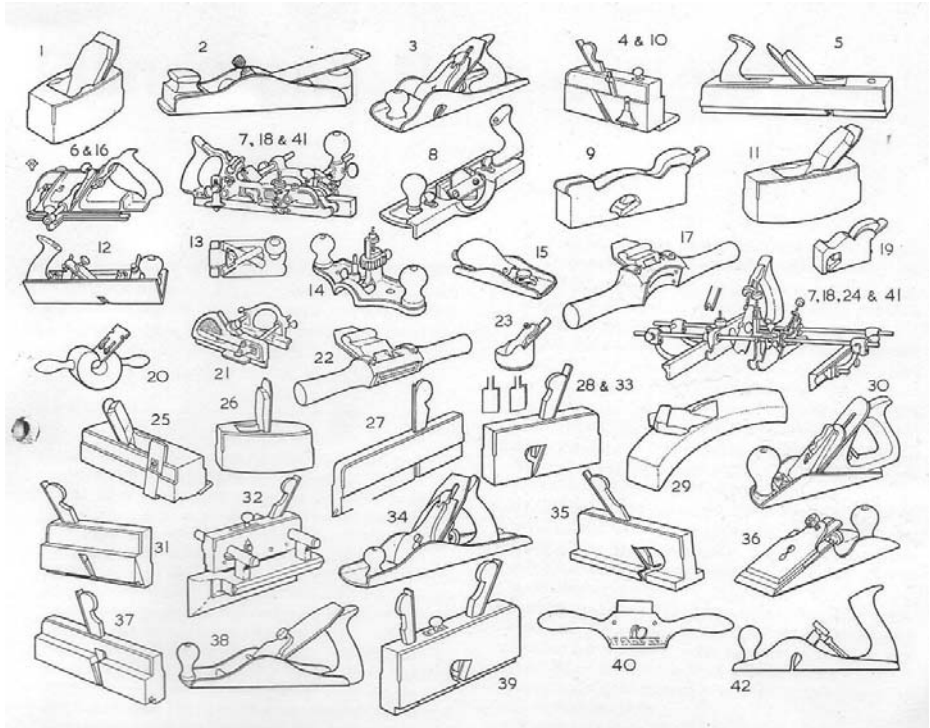
- Carter Planes, Models C5, C10, 78, C54 Nickel Plated
Stanley Electric Router to plane attachment type model
GA-H285A Nev Handebo (02) 6771-3776

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

WHAT IS IT?

News 82.

These are the planes belonging to the blades illustrated in News 82.



Can you identify the planes? Answers will be given in News 84.
The illustrations in News 82 are from Woodworker November 1965.
The illustrations in News 83 are from Woodworker February 1966
This month's Mystery Tool.

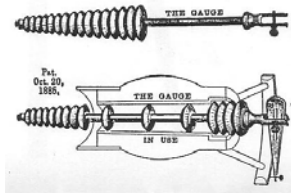


Illustration of the issues Mystery Tool supplied by Ken Turner.

2005 Workshops.

Plane Tuning & Sharpening

Sunday, 26 June 2005

\$20 workshop **or**

\$40 includes TTTG

Spokeshaves, Scrapers

Sunday 24 July 2005

\$20 workshop **or**

\$40 includes TTTG

Wooden Planes

Sunday, 28 August 2005

\$20 workshop **or**

\$40 includes TTTG

Metalworking for Woodworkers

Sunday, 3 September 2005

\$20 workshop **or**

\$40 includes TTTG

Demystifying Dovetails

Sunday, 30 October 2005

\$20 workshop **or**

\$40 includes TTTG

Shooting Boards, Winding Sticks,

Hide Glue, Shellac

Sunday, 27 November 2005

\$20 workshop **or**

\$40 includes TTTG

Please register for the Workshops you wish to attend.

You can pay in advance or you can “pay on the day” if you reserve a place.

For full details of the TTTG Workshops ask for the TTTG Workshop Leaflet.

Why TTTG Workshops?

TTTG workshops are arguably the best available.

Our workshops offer the lowest cost, quality teaching and excellent facilities.

These courses are not available elsewhere.

Timber and Working with Wood Shows 2005.

The Sydney Show

3-5 June 2005

The Canberra Show

2-4 September 2005.

TTTG has booked a stall for the Sydney and Canberra Shows.

We need volunteers for both events.

Think of the benefits including, but not only, free entry and good company.

The theme for the 2005 Sydney Show is **Australian Made Tools.**

The TTTG Committee requests loans of such tools for display.

Suitable tools include planes by Carter, saws by Marsden, chisels by Titan.

TTTG Publications.

Future Publications.

-Record Tools Catalogue 1932.

A TTTG Reprint of this rare catalogue. Available August 2005.
Only available from TTTG.

-Stanley Screw Threads.

Written for TTTG by John Bates.

Facts replace myth as John explains the origins of the screw threads used by Stanley.
Packed with facts, figures and practical information.

Illustrations of rare Stanley planes from the Fred Murrell collection.

Order a second copy, as this will become a standard reference on the topic.

Included as an insert in News 84.

Only available from TTTG.

-John's Pages: the sequel!

Yes "son of John's Pages" is in the planning stage.

Improved format, better graphics and larger print run.

Existing Publications.

-Dank's 1942 Catalogue.

A TTTG Reprint of this rare catalogue.

See Horacio or John at the meeting to place your orders.

Mail orders taken. Please contact the Editor.

-Carter Tools Leaflets.

A limited number of Carter Tools Leaflets are available.

Cost is \$5 per leaflet, including postage.

Mail orders taken. Please contact the Editor.

-Knock & Kirby Tradesmen's Tools Catalogue.

A TTTG Reprint of this rare catalogue.

See Horacio or John at the meeting to place your orders.

Mail orders taken. Please contact the Editor.

-John's Pages.

Now a collector's item. "Sold out".

Be In It.

The Sydney Timber and Working with Wood Shows 2005.

The TTTG display for this year's Timber and Working With Wood Show is **Australian Made Tools.**

For this years show to be "the best so far" TTTG asks for **Volunteers.**

We need members to man the TTTG Display.

One hour or three days whatever time you can give it all helps.

Tools to Display.

Any Australian made tools.

Falcon/Pope. Turner. Titan.

Especially tools made in Sydney.

Carter Precision Tools.

Trade Catalogues.

Especially catalogues and advertisements by Australian makers.

Your old Tech. College Notes.

Old notebooks and text-books.

Demonstrators.

Saw Filing, Planing, Chiselling, Drawknife or Adze.

If you want to do it we will make room for you.

The usual crew will be there but new faces could make a big difference.

Transport.

We always need vehicles to clear up after the show.

What to expect at the Show.

The best display of old tools to be seen anywhere.

Great demonstrations.

Old tools for sale. Tool related products for sale.

Jim Davey fettling and selling planes.

Informed advice on old tools.

Remember the perks for TTTG members.

Free admission for volunteers.

"Serve yourself" tea or coffee.

ANOTHER "NOT TO BE MISSED" TTTG EVENT!

Correspondence.

TTTG well represented down South.

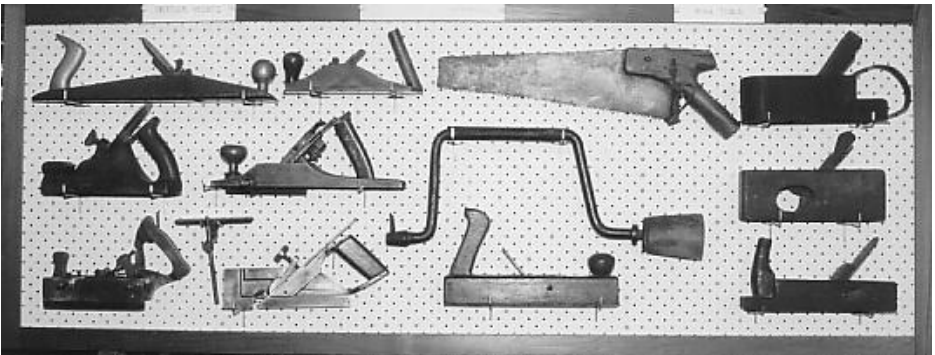
John Daniel.

The Kiama Woodcraft Group holds an annual Woodcraft Expo, which over the years has become a well-patronised event, partly due to the high standard of work displayed and partly due to the welcoming atmosphere created by the dedicated and friendly Woodcraft members, (not forgetting that Kiama seaside air).

Last year we (TTTG) were invited to participate. A few of us “down south” must have made an impression, for we were invited back again this year. The Expo was held on the weekend of March 12 and 13 and was once again a resounding success.

On the Saturday morning our display was manned by Jim Davey from Nowra, John McQuillan, Sydney, Roger Gale, Camden, and myself from Kiama. Saturday afternoon Jim and I were supported by Steve Flint from Fairy Meadow. On Sunday Jim, Michael Purcell from Albion Park and I had a full day. Bob and Pat Peak called in to add a bit of moral support, proudly showing us a nice little handful of goodies that they found in a garage sale on their trip (we just can’t help ourselves). Darcy Hourd, our IT man, dropped in to say “hello” and give us the “once over” and, as rumour has it, scored a few treasures.

It was a great weekend, much appreciated by the locals and visitors alike and with many questions and positive comments on our display and the quality of tools that we had on show. Of course, we managed to get the occasional “we took one of those out to the tip last week”, but what would a tool weekend be without a bit of “light and shade”? The local Woodcraft Group gave our effort their stamp of approval and they have invited us back again next year. Many thanks to all involved.



TTTG well represented down South.

The tools in the photograph on the previous page are from “John’s Pages”. These tools were displayed at Kiama under the title “Bush Tools and Foreign Orders”. Like the other displays John’s collection created much interest.

Well known TTTG identities Jim, Michael and Darcy are being shown a garage find by Bob and Pat in this photograph.



The relaxed atmosphere of the day is shown in this snap shot of Jim, John and Roger.



Correspondence.

Congratulations to the publication committee on the recent issues of the newsletter.

The article on Towel planes was both very interesting and informative.

May I make two comments on your last issue. The first concerns “Restoring a Stanley 4½ plane. The method of derusting by electrolysis is far superior to the Citric acid method. Rusty frog screws usually yield to the screw driver after 24 hours of the electrolysis treatment. Heating the casting as suggested in the article can distort the body and will make a difficult job in lapping the sole flat.

The other comment is in respect of Jim Davey’s ad on the inside cover and his use of the word “fettle”.

After casting, plane bodies are fettled to remove flash which occurs when the parting line of a sand mould allows a small amount of metal to penetrate this area and to cut away the runners that are part of all moulded products in metal. This is the process of fettling and can only be done once to a casting.

When it gets knocked about and gets a bit rusty, then it can be restored, a process I like to call PALINGENISIS. It’s in the dictionary- look it up! Please note that the above is only a comment and not a criticism.

Terry Butcher

Tasmanian Correspondent.

Sub-editor’s note: Both Fettle and Palingenesis are in the OED. Fettle does have the meaning to remove flash from castings but it also has the wider meaning to make ready or put in order, a meaning which the OED suggests exists mainly in dialect. The term “railway fettler” is commonly used in Australia as a derivative of this wider meaning to denote someone who repairs and makes good railway trackwork. As Jim is Australian he obviously chooses to use the term fettle in its Australian dialectic guise. Etymologically the word owes its roots to Old English. Palingenesis is much more academic, being derived from the Greek and literally means “re-birth”. It is normally only associated with things medical, biological and entomological however I guess it could be used to describe the restoration of inanimate objects such as planes. Fettling a plane in Jim’s sense is not restoration as the plane probably already worked (after a fashion); his process ensures that it is working optimally.

A Strange Choice

Terry Butcher

As some of you know, I like to collect books as well as tools.

Among the many technical books issued to schools on woodworking, I came across this "First Form Craft" by T.A.Gray and T. McCormick, published by William Brooks & Co P/L. No date but a schoolboy by the name of Jason Woods (appropriate) put 1980 after his name. The book starts off with a bit of history of tools and an illustrated page of tools through the centuries appears on page 9, (see extract of page 9 reproduced here).

On the bottom RHS is a drawing of a plane that intrigued me, titled "Metal plane of the middle 19th century".

No plane that I could think of matched the drawing- where is the blade- or clamp- what is the screw in the front for? Well I put it down to the imagination of the artist and let it go at that.

Wrong! I shouldn't assume anything. I found an explanation of the plane on page 337 of Salaman's "Dictionary of Woodworking Tools" under the heading "Plane Metal Cutting" and the extract is reproduced here.

Plane, Metal Cutting Fig. 492
Planes designed for smoothing and trimming metal include the following:

(a) 'Smith's Plane'

A Plane made by Charles Holtzapffel and described in his book (London, 1846). The stock is of cast iron fitted with a 1 in cutting iron, toothed or flat, set vertically, and secured by a screw acting on a wooden block. It was designed for cutting (or rather scraping) brass, iron, or steel.

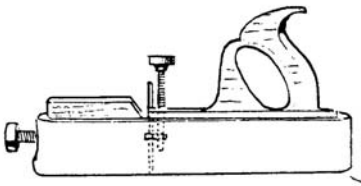
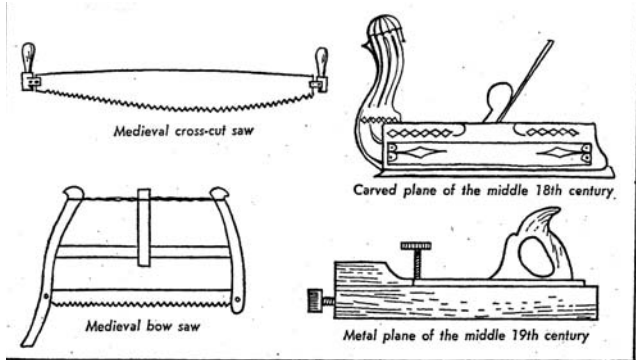


Fig. 492

& 19th centuries where plagiarised diagrams and incorrect information were reproduced slavishly without thought. It seems that times haven't changed.



First Form Craft . 9

I do think that the writers made a bad choice of an illustration of a rarely used plane in a book for a general approach to woodworking and craft and subtly changing the description from Plane, metal cutting to Metal Plane.

Did they really mean to illustrate a metal cutting plane? Or was it meant to be a 19th century plane for cutting wood but made of metal, reproduced either through a careless mistake or lack of knowledge?

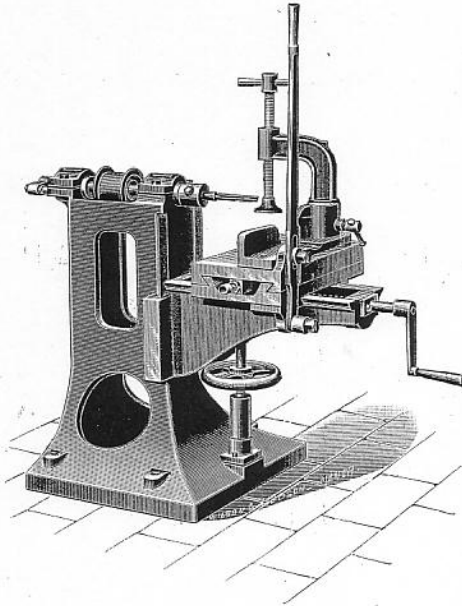
If the former, they might be forgiven but if the latter, it calls into question their right to be putting out an educational book for students.

Sub-editors note: Technical blunders of this kind have a long history throughout the 18th

Correspondence.

Clynt Sheehy, TTTG Treasurer, has made available a copy of a machinery catalogue. The Alexander Young Machinery Catalogue 1901 contains numerous illustrations. Clynt requests more illustrations from the catalogue be reprinted in News.

Improved Boring and Slot Mortising Machine.



THE above engraving represents our Improved Boring and Slot Mortising Machine. The standard is of box casting, making it very rigid while running. The spindle is of steel, revolving in long adjustable brass bearings, of such a form that it is continually running in oil.

The slide and table are raised and lowered on the standard by means of a hand wheel and screw, and are provided with adjustable stops so that any depth of hole or mortise can be made that the Machine is capable of doing.

TTTG actively seeks any information on old machinery or tools.

Information.

George Radion has forwarded this picture of the handle an adjustable wrench he believes was made by the State Rail Authority New South Wales.



He also sent a picture of a wrench marked “SRANSW” and of another marked “NSWGR”.

George is interested in the origins of these spanners and asks these questions:

- Where were they made? – Eveliegh or one or more of the other workshops?
- What was the period of operation of the SRANSW?
- Would these perhaps have been apprentice made in house?

"NSWGR" is the abbreviation of New South Wales Government Railways.

"NSWTD" is the abbreviation of New South Wales Transport Department.

"SRANSW" is the abbreviation of State Rail Authority New South Wales.

George adds,

“there are other spanners with NSWTD which also have "Gb999" type numbers - which I am guessing might mean Goulburn, as I believe there were workshops in Goulburn”.

George is seeking any information relating to tools made by, or for, the Government operated Railways in New South Wales. Also “I also have a chap in America very interested in similar info, with a view to writing an article for an American tool club. He is keen to obtain any spanners marked NSWGR.

SPANNERS WANTED

-Wanted to buy (or swap):

Farm / Implement Spanners and Wrenches, also Railway and other large Engineering concerns. Especially looking for: Sunshine, McKay, Massey Harris, IHC with AP prefix numbers, Shearer, Lightning, Furphy, Barger, SRANSW, NSWTD, VR, Clyde, Litchfield, Coxhead, others, and any wrenches with cut-out / skeleton letters.

George Radion – ph 03 95571178, email radion@iprimus.com.au

Information.



William Baker.

Kevin Chamberlain, from Victoria, is seeking information on William Baker, a Sydney manufacturer. Kevin has Burgon & Ball sheep shears stamped with Baker's name and both of the Sydney addresses (on different shears) and a Shearer's leather pouch with pockets for oil bottle, sharpening stone and shears with Baker's trade mark embossed on the leather (dark & a bit hard to see). He also has several moulding planes stamped with the Baker name & address. "It will be interesting to see if his name or trade mark turns up on other sorts of tools" Kevin speculates.

The particular information sought is on how early Baker was trading; did he go back into the 19th century?

Kevin is well known for his research into Chinese plane makers in Victoria and is a strong supporter of HTPAA and TTTG. The following request is addressed to TTTG; "In Victoria we have the Sands & McDougall's directories which list information on all companies year by year back to about the 1860s. Do you have equivalent directories for Sydney? The Victorian directories enabled me to find out when and where the Chinese cabinetmakers were trading for example. Perhaps Sands & McDougall also produced directories for NSW? Thanks, in advance, for offering to assist me in this search."

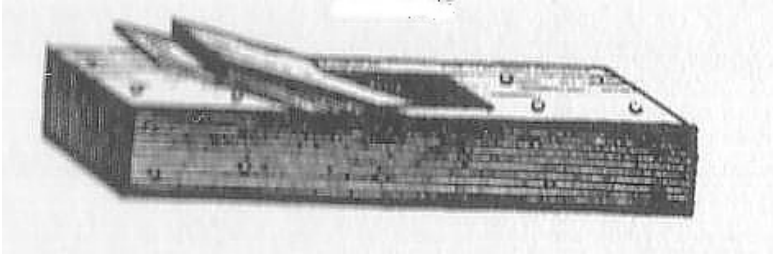
What is known about William Baker?

Rod Thomas has provided the following information.

- W. Jno. Baker, W. Jno. Baker Ltd, W. Jno. Baker Pty Ltd.
- Trade Mark application date July 19 1906.3 Hunter St Sydney.
- The business appears to became a Pty Ltd about 1948.
- There appears to have been some activity during 1962.
- Rod's guess is W. Jno. Baker moved to 38 Pitt St Sydney about this time.
- The latest date recorded is 1967, at this address.
- Tools sighted: Lawyers Bodkin, Vetinaries Surgical Kit, Dagging Outfit
- Various pliers /punches - ear marking, Shears also marked Burgen & Ball.

French Mitre Plane.

The majority of the illustrations in Diderot are taken from older publications. A few of the drawings appear to be of contemporary Eighteenth Century French tools. The illustration reproduced below is one example. Is this a French mitre plane?



The original is small and the line work is not sharp. The resolution in the scanned image is a bit blurred but the essential features of the plane can be identified.

- Short plane stock.
- Low pitch plane blade.
- Single plane blade.
- Sole appears to be metallic.
- Side may also be metal.
- Sole appears to be riveted to the stock. Six rivets can be seen.
- Side may also be rivetted.

The illustration appears in the section on Marquetry. The other bench planes in this section are far cruder. The same observation can be made about the other tools shown. This is a curious contrast to the technical sophistication of the work illustrated.

"USER" BEDROCKS

Fully Fettled – ready to go.



**STANLEYS and other planes FETTLED
PLANE REPAIRS and SERVICE.**

Also available: **Academy HSS Plane Blades & G15 Rust Preservative.**

Trade Prices on: **DMT Diamond Plates & King Waterstones.**

Jim Davey 4447 8822(w) 4447 8790(ah) JDAVEY@bigpond.com

A Little "HERO"

It is not uncommon to come across tools that were designed for one job; however, a design after-thought results in the tools becoming multi-purpose. The hammer, being an essential tool in most trades, features prominently in this practice.



Photo 1



Photo 2.

John's Page.

Ron Baird and Dan Comerford in their book "The Hammer, The King of Tools" printed in the U.S.A., illustrates many intriguing variations and patents for multi-purpose hammers. In some of these examples the hammer is the dominant tool fitted with an after-thought, somewhere the hammer face is the after-thought and somewhere the multi-purpose tool has a good balance of all functions. A hammer that I have recently acquired falls into this latter category (See Photo 1 above).

The tool has been manufactured to a high degree of workmanship with each attachment fitted securely in place when in use (See Photo 2) and stored safely away in the handle when not in use. A threaded plug in the end of the handle allows the removal of the attachments and a knurled screw on the side of the tool holds the blade when needed.

There are no patent dates on the hammer; however, it has the trademark "HERO" surrounded by a diamond. One can imagine some hero "coming to the rescue" with his little multi-purpose tool held high in the air.

Note: Also included with the attachments (not shown in photographs) is a narrow 60mm metric rule. At first I thought that it was a later addition, however, I now feel that it originally came with the set. The rule, being in metric, raises the possibility that the hammer was manufactured overseas. The hammer itself is 165mm long and is nickel-plated.

Out of the Woodwork, Rouse Hill House Estate.

The TTTG stand was about half way across the Rouse paddock and attracted quite a deal of interest. The weather was kind although cool to us this year, and according to the Historic Houses Trust figures, 2000 visitors attended over the two days. The main TTTG exhibit on Saturday was saw sharpening and this seemed to generate much interest with the public who are accustomed these days to generally un-sharpenable hard point saws (see article this issue). Maybe they were also attracted by the teeth-gritting shrieks of files on saw steel!

The TTTG saw sharpeners disappeared on Sunday but groove ploughing and sash moulding demonstrations created sufficient shavings and interest to continue to attract people to the TTTG stand.

Many of the visitors were locals and considered that our Sydney meetings were too far away to consider joining the group but we had a number of enquiries from both tool collectors and young apprentices who were keen to join; so look for new members at the next meeting and make them welcome.

It's a Carter Plane.

The Practical Householder was an Australian DIY magazine published in the 1950s. Post war thirst for knowledge offset the poor print quality and low-grade paper.

The June 1958 issue included this feature on the Shooting Board.

The editor has reproduced the complete article. A lot of assumed knowledge is required. No doubt most readers came away with an idea of how to use a shooting board. They may also have gained some idea of how to make one!

Read the article three or four times.

Keen eyed readers will have noticed that the plane is a Carter.

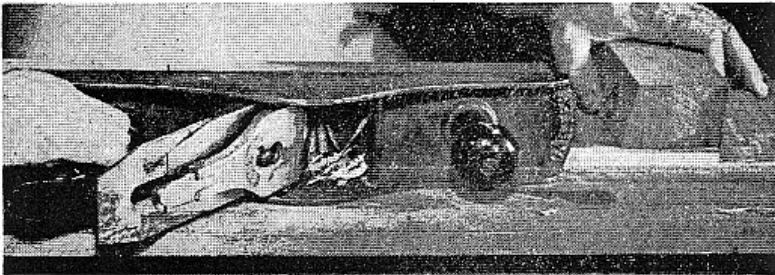
A Carter plane is actually ideal for use on a Shooting Board.

The sides are invariably square and the sole flat.

The original blades take an excellent edge.

Everything else may be a touch "agricultural" but let's not be snobs.

● *If you work with wood, you need a* **SHOOTING BOARD** *... here's how to make one*



A SHOOTING board is an extremely useful piece of workshop equipment. Used in conjunction with a steel plane, it enables you to "shoot" the ends of timber square and smooth.

CONSTRUCTION

To a base piece, say, 30in. long, 12in. wide and 1in. thick, screw an

upper piece 8in. wide, thus forming a rebate 4in. wide.

A stop is recessed into one end of the upper piece and the work to be planed rests against this. The stop should be tapered slightly, so that as its end wears in use it can be tapped forward.

Shown also in the photograph is a block cut to a 45 deg. angle, which

may be used for shooting mitres for picture frames and similar work.

USING THE BOARD

The photo shows the board in use. The work to be planed is placed against the stop with a fraction overhanging the rebate. When the steel plane is pushed forward, it will trim the overhang perfectly square.

June, 1958

THE PRACTICAL HOUSEHOLDER

11

Two British Plane Patents.

The Mechanics Magazine, London. Friday January 2, 1863.
Page 18 .Abridged Specifications of Patents.

1682. R Roe. Improvements in planes for tonguing, working sash fillisters, or other special purposes.

Dated June 4, 1862.

The object of this invention is to supersede the necessity for the numerous planes required by a carpenter or joiner for preparing the tongues used in the various operations and carpentry, and for the purpose of carrying out these improvements, the inventor makes the plane with an adjustable fence, similar to those fitted in a “plough” or “side fillister plane”, having two planes similar to those known as rabbet planes, working on a bar, so as to keep them perfectly parallel and true with one another. These planes are also provided with a “stop” which regulates the depth to which the tongue shall be cut, and they are provided with suitable adjusting set screws, so as to enable the workman to make the tongue to any desired width, depth, or position, on the plank or other piece of wood operated upon.
Patent abandoned.

The Mechanics Magazine, London. Friday January 23, 1863.
Page 62. Abridged Specifications of Patents.

1818. J Bedford. A new or improved plane iron, cut iron, or double iron, and especially for the method of manufacturing plane irons and other tools by punching, flying, or stamping by dies.
(A communication.) Dated June 20, 1862.

The first part of this invention related to a method of applying the cutting-iron so that it may be entirely used up. For this purpose, instead of fixing the steel cutter to the iron, the patentee secures it to the latter by a screw, and so renders it completely independent of the iron. This screw runs in a slot to allow the cutter of the cutter being shifted as it wears away, and to fix it in any desired position. The cutter, when fitted to the iron as above named, is furnished with a guard-plate above the cutter, and fitted so as to slide backwards and forwards with it when adjusting the latter. Thus it will be seen that the steel cutter fitted to the iron, so described, may be completely worn out, and another one substituted, without the plane being injured. The second part consists in the manufacture of the parts above described by cutting, punching, and shaping them in a lever or other press, either in a heated or cold state, so as to produce them readily in a polished state. The holes and slots in the plane irons and cutters are also made at the same time in one single operation.

Patent completed

Hard Point Saws.

Everyone uses hard point saws now, they don't cost much, they cut well and the client can pay for them. This sums up most tradesmen's attitudes to saws. In the last few years' hard points have superseded traditional saws. Of course for fine work hard points are pretty well useless but the vast majority of commercial work is now done to "industry standards", that is "cut it and bog it up". And most is done with power saws. Hard point saws were developed in the 1960s but have only recently become the most commonly available saw. I think this is due to a combination of factors. At first induction hardened teeth were expensive to manufacture and hard point saws were not inexpensive. The initial advantage of hard points was the ability to do "any job" or to retain an edge longer than a conventional saw. For most work traditional saws were far better performers. Two things gradually changed this equation. Production costs meant that saw manufacturers reduced the quality of conventional saws. Handles were simplified, sizes rationalised, taper grinding abandoned and so on. At the same time the trades were gradually deskilled. So as traditional saws became more expensive the demand for them diminished. Hard points now were seen as a good choice.

If you want a quality traditional saw there are a couple of makers producing excellent saws. They are expensive as were the best saws in the past. There must be millions of old Disstons, Atkins and Spear & Jacksons out there. At garage sales or markets they are lucky to fetch \$10. For example I recently got a S&J small tenon saw, 1960s, in excellent condition for \$1. The only problem now is in finding files to sharpen saws!

Three advertisements "introducing" hard point saws appeared in the English magazine Practical Woodworking November 1967.

The advertisements are reproduced on the following pages.

Safety First.

John Bates.

STEEL SPLINTER KILLS AUTO MECHANIC

"A flying piece of metal struck Alfred Santos, 34, automobile mechanic, as he was removing a wheel from a broken axle yesterday. It cut his aorta - main artery leading from the heart - and Santos bled to death.

He was working in a garage at 1243 West Pico, with his helper, Harry Para, when a steel splinter from the head of a hammer wielded by Para struck Santos in the chest."

I'll think about those 'ALWAYS WEAR EYE PROTECTION' warnings stuck on hammers a little differently from now on.

I found this article clipped from a US newspaper in a 1924 Starrett catalogue.

THIS IS A SUPER SAW



It's the SANDVIK 251 "Hard-Point". Keeps its cutting edge 3-4 times longer than a conventionally hardened saw. Length 22", 8 points to the inch. Superbly balanced and finished. Price — 36/-. Other SANDVIK "Hard-Point" saws are the 318 Tenon Saw — most suitable for cutting fibreboards and plastic laminates, at 22/6 and 24/-, and the 324 — a universally useful veneer saw for the home handy-man, priced at 19/9. And for completely new standards in cutting performance and endurance there are SANDVIK "Hard-Point" Blades for Bowsaws and Hacksaws.

The entire SANDVIK Saw range includes over 60 carpentry, forestry and garden saws at prices from 16/- to 75/-. All are made from finest Swedish steel. All have a world-wide reputation for superior cutting, long-life and advanced design. Ask your tool dealer for further details.

SANDVIK "HARD-POINT" SAWS

SANDVIK

SANDVIK U.K. LIMITED
HALESOWEN, BIRMINGHAM.

**WORLD'S MOST VERSATILE HANDSAW!
THE SANDVIK 324**



High quality Swedish steel. 12½" long, 14 points/inch. Hardpoint teeth perfect for plastic laminates. Teeth on curved point ideal for grooving, slotting, flooring, etc., etc. Cuts to any depth. Impact-resistant Tenaxit handle. **Only 19/9 plus 1/9 p&p.**

**James Grubb, Ironmonger,
365-367 High Street, Kirkcaldy, Fife.**



THIS NEW HANDSAW

**BITES HARDER
CUTS FASTER**

LASTS LONGER!

**Chosen as the out-
standing saw of 1966!**

THE *SPEED SUPER HARD* no.195

- Extra hard blade ● 20% lighter than normal
- Unbreakable cellulose acetate handle or, for those who prefer traditional wooden handle, also available in hardwood
- Stainless steel sideplates
- Superlative finish ● Individual presentation pack. This is a craftsman's tool that does the job twice as well in half the time with half the effort.
- Made in sizes 22" (57/6), 24" (60/-) and 26" (62/6) long.

Obtainable from your usual stockist.
For details, complete and post this coupon.

**To: SLACK, SELLARS & CO. LTD.
Mowbray Street, Sheffield, 3.**

Mr. _____
NAME Miss _____
Mrs. _____ BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Full Postal
ADDRESS _____

P.W.11 _____ County

THE LEDGER

New Members

On behalf of the TTTG Executive and Members, a welcome is extended to new Members :-

Andrew O'Connor (M375)	Robert Fulton (M379)
Chris Redondo (M376)	Joe Daniele (M380)
Richard Austin (M377)	John McCrae (M381)
Marion Koziol (M378)	

Many of these new Members joined as a result of their attendance at TTTG's plane and saw workshops.

Our next Workshops are the all-day Plane Tuning and Sharpening Workshop on Sunday 26th June, 2005 and the Spokeshaves and Scrapers Workshop on Sunday 24th July, 2005 both start at 9:30 am at Asquith Boys' High School, (Members \$20, Non-members \$40).

Letter to the Editor

Hello Bob,

Having read our Treasurer's Report in our April ,2005 Newsletter, I cannot believe that certain members, sixty off, have not yet paid their 2004-05 dues.

Surely 5 minutes of their time to write out a cheque is not asking too much, as the return we all are given for our yearly dues is so great.

Your Treasurer, Clynt Sheehy, has been extremely fair and patient. It's now your turn to return it.

*Kind Regards,
Gordon Brown (member 43)
Port Macquarie*

Thank you Gordon for your kind words and reproach to recalcitrant members. However, it's no more "Mr. Nice Guy"; Members 75, 114, 180, 221, 222, 231, 244, 257, 270, 271, 273, 277, 280, 282 and 287 have had their subscriptions cancelled. If the members listed at the foot of the adjacent Subscription Renewal Notice do not IMMEDIATELY pay \$60 to cover both 2004-05 and 2005-06 membership, then this June Newsletter is their last. Because, for financial reasons, only a limited number of Newsletters are printed, repentant suspended members cannot be assured of missed issues.

Clynt Sheehy
Hon. Treasurer

TTTG SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL NOTICE

**2005 – 06 SUBSCRIPTIONS
FALL DUE ON 1st JULY, 2005**
(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 50 km from Sydney or you are a pensioner, then you MAY CHOOSE TO PAY only \$25

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 top left of your 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.

The Treasurer has NOT YET RECEIVED 2004-05 subscription payments from the following recalcitrant members (as at 18th May, 2005).

101	203	237	265	284	290	297	304	317	324
116	211	258	267	286	293	298	308	318	325
165	217	259	274	288	295	299	310	322	326
198	223	263	279	289	296	301	316	323	

These listed members should immediately send \$60 to cover 2004/05 & 2005/06 or this is their last Newsletter.

eBay Watch #5 by eBay Tragic.

We continue to be amazed at what people will pay. A reasonable copy of *Details of Cabinet Construction* went for £30 (minus dustjacket, however very few survive from these 1919 to 1940 printings, and when they do there is usually a significant jump in price – the *only* dustjacketed title I have from that period, luckily, was missed by others and acquired cheaply). A good copy is available on Abebooks for £6, and a VG copy with a G dustjacket can be had for £14.

With the increasing popularity of eBay, the bargains are diminishing, but there are still reasonable buys, for example a Record 043 complete in the box sold in Australia for under AU\$35. It went to a good home; now you probably picked one up for a dollar at a garage sale, however when you factor in the hours of time spent travelling around fruitlessly, \$35 is not too bad, especially as an identical listing in the UK went for AU\$77. Later a 043 went for \$37 with no box, one cutter and a very poor photo so you could not really see the condition, and no description. If very flush, you can pick up a groovy Record 043 in the box for US\$185 from Martin J Donnelly, tool dealer in Bath NY.

eBay Tip # 6:

You see an item with an attractive starting figure, and a *Buy-it-Now* that is higher than you want to go. Just your luck – someone with more money than sense buys it for the B-I-N price. Damn! You can foil this by bidding the minimum amount as soon as the item appears; when you do this the B-I-N option disappears and you are back to normal bidding.

Another case of enthusiasm. A copy of *Carpentry & Joinery* by Paul Hasluck went for \$310, available on Abebooks for \$70. There were 5 bidders, who between them bid 41 times. At the end two bidders pushed each other from \$180 to \$310, finally one of them saw sense, or maybe was belted by the significant other.

A little more reasonable was a 19th century book *Fretwork & Marquetry* by Denning that went for £40.60; available on Abebooks for £20. Just as puzzling, someone paid \$76.60 for a poor copy (falling apart) of *Furniture Making* by Bowers and Bovington, when a good copy was available on Abebooks for \$35.

One hopeful Melbourne seller had an “OLD WOODEN PLAIN IN GOOD CONDITION” with a starting price of \$35; unfortunately the photo showed a battered jack plane, with – charitably – a replacement wedgy thingo. A Tasmanian seller was selling a plane, “it has a wooden handle and a wooden ball bit”, isn’t that sweet (a female seller).

eBay Watch #5 by eBay Tragic.

eBay Tip # 7:

People routinely overbid at auctions. Why? People are typically risk averse, and for such people the risk of losing the item is higher than the risk of spending too much.

So if you are a cautious spender you may be seduced into spending too much.

Strategy: work out the value of the item, either to you if you wish to keep it or what you think you can sell it for. Divide that figure in half and you have the optimal bid. Make this figure your upper limit and you will be *under control*. Of course the value figure will be different for everybody; for example if you have 7 items out of a set of 8 and that missing item comes up, the value may be very high *to you*, and perhaps of little value to others because they do not have a partial set.

eBay Tip # 8:

If selling on eBay make sure you describe the item well and completely, and with good photos. This includes using in the title the keywords you think people may use in searching for this type of item.

On the other hand, poor descriptions provide you with a buying opportunity because fewer interested people will find the item. For example, I purchased for \$2.50 (my optimal bid was \$16) a rare title published in 1908. The item was inaccurately described, and this, combined with a blurry photo meant only a couple of people looked at it. Hence a good buy. Sellers sometimes misspell, if you stumble across one of these they can be a good opportunity.

eBay Tip # 9:

When selling, if an item does not sell, generally re-list at the same figure unless you really got it wrong the first time around; amazing how often the item sells well the second time.

eBay Tip # 10:

If you are buying books to read rather than collect, generally titles in ordinary condition go cheaply. For example, in the same week, a title in rough but sound condition did not get a bid at a starting figure of £0.99; the same title in good condition with clean dustjacket went for £22.00.

Ex-library copies should be cheap because they are usually in (very) worn condition. But always check, or ask for, the postage; some sellers make up for poor returns on the item by jacking up the postage.

eBay Watch #5 by eBay Tragic.

This is an “interesting” plane that actually received bids!



The seller listed it as *Record Plane Unusual*. Presumably a broken #04 that had the front chopped off. Almost anything will sell on eBay.

If you collect Stanley copies you can find versions by *Beedee* (where is this from?), Acorn, Marples, Record (of course), Shelton, Darex (France), Milbro (UK), Defiance, Whitmore (UK), Preston, the Australian copies, and many others – all on eBay, and probably in the one week.

The price of small Starrett adjustable squares has moved steadily upwards, at the same time volumes have also increased – increased demand and supply. Most are in US, but an Oz sourced Diemakers square sold for \$56, so local prices are right up there.

An interesting web document - <http://nautarch.tamu.edu/pdf-files/Charlton-MA1996.pdf> is a thesis on ropemaking and knots from a tool perspective in the ancient world. Worth a look.

In this part we will explore the spin-off books. Again, this was not only a feature of *The Woodworker*, but also of other magazines, an example - *Model Steamer Fittings, an Introductory Handbook on the Planning, Construction, and Installation of Model Steamer Fittings-Model Engineer Series #54*. How many were there all told? Because these were infuriatingly often undated, difficult to know when titles were published, #54 was 1920's, so by 1960 – how many?

The Woodworker publications fall into a number of categories, reflecting the periods. The First series of publications ran from 1903 to 1910 and comprised 15 titles, with the number sequence indicating the order of publication. Some of the titles today seem a little exotic, but those were times of supreme confidence; why not make a violin on your dining room table? The titles are:

The Woodworker Series Handbooks

- (1) Woodwork Joints (1903)
- (2) The Beginner's Guide to Fretwork (1904)
- (3) Veneering, Marquetry and Inlay, by Wells, Percy A.
- (4) Soft Woods and Colonial Timber, by Wells, Percy A.
- (5) Hard Woods, English and Foreign, by Wells, Percy A
- (6) How to use the Stanley Universal Plane (1908)
- (7) Elementary Woodcarving
- (8) Doormaking for Carpenters and Joiners
- (9) Practical Polishing, Staining etc
- (10) Simple Lessons in Wood-turning (1909)
- (11) Window-making for Carpenters and Joiners
- (12) Practical Upholstery: Methods of Stuffing and Covering various styles of Furniture Clearly Explained, with Hints on Repairing and Renovating.
- (13) Violin Making (1910)
- (14) Elementary Staircasing
- (15) Design for Woodcarvers

These are perfect bound 4¾" x 7⅞" paperbacks of around 58 to 90 pages each. The authors are mostly anonymous. Because I have only five of the above titles, and none are in libraries here, I cannot be sure that there are not more acknowledged authors. An example of attribution, in relation to Doormaking “.. written by a man of large practical experience...”.

In addition to these titles, there was - *Educational Woodwork: A Textbook for the Use of Instructors and Students* by A.C. Horth; a more substantial cloth bound volume covering a three year course and costing 2/-, whereas the other titles cost 6d.

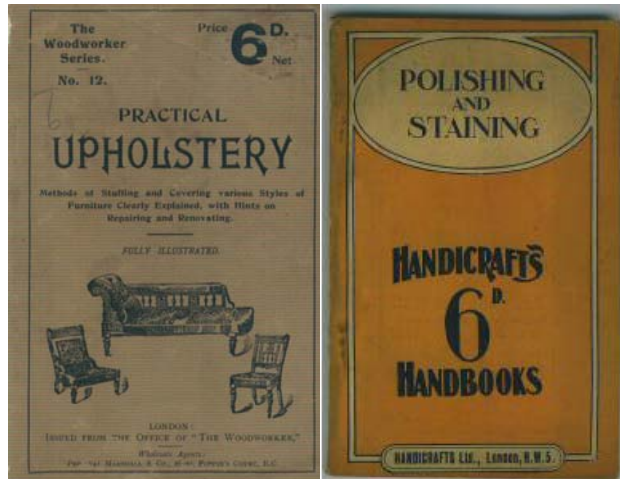
The Woodworker Legacy – Part 3.

During this period the magazine cost 1d. when a weekly, 2d. when a monthly or fortnightly. The three student instruction books that accompanied *Educational Woodwork* cost 4d. each. A. C. Horth started writing educational articles from the first year of *THE WOODWORKER*, and these added up over the years into this book, published in 1909. The titles are probably mainly recycled magazine articles.

Staining and Polishing, published in 1910 was longer, at 120 pages and cost 1/-. It was not part of the numbered series.

During the period when Handicrafts Ltd ran *The Woodworker*, they published various titles as *Handicrafts Handbooks* (see illustrations).

In 1911 the title numbering was dropped, a number of new titles appeared, and some of the above were dropped (although a few were to reappear after World War 1). You will notice that some of these titles have continued through the years (although perhaps not the content).



The titles from 1911 to 1918 (I have no copies of these and they are rare, even in the two main UK libraries, their existence is principally from advertisements) are:

Wood Turning, just a name change?

Wood Carving (Elementary), just a name change?

Staircasing (Elementary), just a name change?

Fretwork, just a name change?

Marquetry Made Easy, just a name change?

Jewellery Enamelling (this is a publication of The Art Craftsman a short lived sister publication that was merged into *The Woodworker* in 1910).

After World War 1 there was a flurry of book publishing. These were hardbacks of 152 to 233 pages.

The Woodworker Legacy – Part 3.

Most of these were published *without* dates, however the dates can be pretty well determined from other sources, eg advertisements in the books themselves and *The Woodworker*. The list, described as *The Woodworker Series*, and costing 3/6:

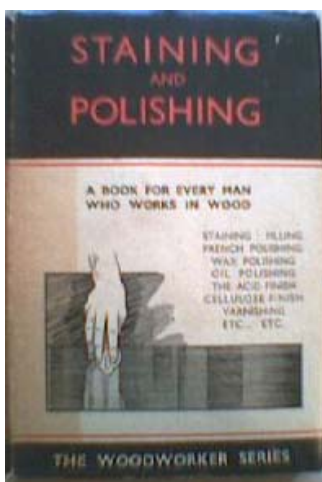
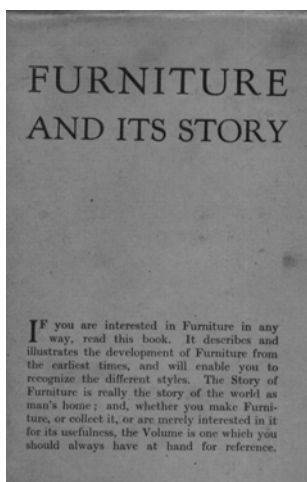
Woodwork Joints (mostly by W Fairham)	1918
Staining and Polishing, including varnishing & other methods of finishing wood, by Fairham, W	1918
This title incorporates two titles - <i>Staining and Polishing</i> and <i>Practical Polishing</i> . Note in the 1st ed, William Fairham does not get a mention; he may have written a later revision.	
Details of Cabinet Construction (this is the earlier version of the two similar titles, same basic content, but in this case without the Design section; Wells, Percy A. and Hooper, John may have been the major contributors)	1918
Carpentry for Beginners (mostly by W Fairham)	1919
Fretwork: fretcutting, inlaying, and overlaying (in the Foreword, JCS Brough acknowledges himself as the author. As he was a fretwork designer rather than a woodworker, this makes sense. He wrote the Foreword to all titles and is often quoted as the “author” in book lists)	1919
Furniture Repairing & Re-upholstery (mainly by C Taylor)	1919
Period Furniture, earlier title of "Furniture and its Story", no indication of why name changed, there is no Foreword. <i>Not</i> the same as English Period Furniture (see below), although traverses the same territory.	
Household Repairs & Renovations, by JOHNSON. C. S	1920
Wood Carving	1920
Woodturning (mostly by W Fairham)	
Timbers for Woodwork, by William Bullock	1921
Woodwork Tools and How to Use Them, by W Fairham	1922
Practical Upholstery, by Ernest Boreham	1923

These titles were (in some cases) often revised, and later there were some new titles.

Most titles appear regularly on eBay and on-line booksellers lists, so sold in some volume. They were sold with dust wrappers (two styles, see the illustrations, the one on the left came first) that are usually MIA.

The Woodworker Legacy – Part 3.

Cabinet Construction (an extended revision of “Details of ...” above)	1928
Furniture and its Story, later edition of “Period Furniture” with an additional section - Glossary)	1921
English Period Furniture by Charles H Hayward	1936
Practical Veneering by Charles H Hayward	1937



The titles above were published in the USA by J. B. Lippincott Co.: Philadelphia and London. There is one *Woodworker Series* title that may have only been published by them in 1937 - *Amateur Power Working Tools*, etc., by Collins, Archie Frederick.

In 1918 the following titles were available at 9d. each. They are probably revised versions of the pre-WW1 titles.

- Wood-turning
- Staircase Making
- Practical Upholstery
- Design for Wood Carving
- Window-Making
- Violin Making
- Veneering and Inlaying
- Jewellery Enamelling

In the early 1920's, the design books appeared, Quarto size - 9¾" x 7⅛" and 48 pages stapled paperback, cost nearly as much at 2/6 as the books above. As they are recycled articles from the magazine, and without any large plan sheets, they seem poor value. How well did they sell? They are fairly rare, so presumably did not sell well.

Furniture Designs

Bedroom Furniture Designs with Scale Drawings, Cutting lists and Directions

Light Carpentry Designs, etc.

Living Room Furniture Designs

Outdoor Woodwork Designs, etc.

Toy and Model Making Designs

Dining-Room Furniture Designs with Scale Drawings and Working Details

Kitchen Furniture Designs

Table Designs

Hall and Library Furniture Designs

Bureau and Bookcase Designs. With scale drawings, etc

Cabinet Designs

There are two odd volumes in this - *Home Woodwork Indoor and Outdoor Practical Designs*, size as above, but hardback and 154 pages; and, around 1925 *Doormaking* with 48 pages and costing 2/6 appeared. This appears to be a new title from a blurb in the magazine at the time, but may be a recycled version of the earlier title from 1908 (who would remember?).

That completes the spin-off picture up to World War 2. In the next part we will look at the period from 1941 to the present.

ROSIE'S OLD WARES



SUPPLIERS OF FINE
TRADITIONAL HAND TOOLS
SPECIALISING IN RARE AND COLLECTABLE EXAMPLES



...VARIETY OF NEW STOCK AVAILABLE NOW



*Shop 20, Mittagong Antique Centre
Hume Hwy, Mittagong, NSW*



☎ 4872 3198

Rob Claussen

☎ 0428 330 007

For Sale, Foundry Equipment Forging Hammer and Wood Working Machinery

Wrought Artworks is selling a surplus small scale sand casting foundry, Forging hammer and Pattern making equipment on **Saturday June 11th from 10am to 2pm on site, Bay 2 Eveleigh Locomotive Workshop cnr Garden Street and Henderson Rd Alexandria.** Equipment is offered as is, prices include GST. Open to any offers.

Vertical paddle mixer and royer

Mixer for mixing batches of sodium silicate bonded sand 150kg in 3min \$500 Royer for conditioning greensand on the floor, good for loam \$300

Moulding machine and Muller

Gibson and Battle moulding machine takes a 15" box, jolt squeeze \$1200. Muller about 1m dia. \$900.

26" coupolet

26" internal diameter drop bottom Pneumatic lid lifter with blower and charging platform melts 400 kg of hot iron in 40 minutes \$3500

Gas furnace and molding boxes

Furnace offers taken boxes 15" square inside some 200mm deep others 300mm @\$200

Oil fired tilting Furnace

Holds approximately 250 kg gunmetal runs on used hydraulic oil just had new crucible installed \$1500.

Large fabricated steel moulding boxes, sizes on request \$200 a box.

Small sand hopper and boxes and bars

Many reinforcing frames for flask less moulds \$15 a frame. Hopper holds 1.5 ton of sand, some bunderburg sand remaining with stand and boxes \$350

Common boxes well made wooden with steel wear strips many sizes at @\$50.

Foundry stores refractory materials, paints, coatings, and phos copper, excellent opportunity for new moulding shop to acquire wide range of materials at rock bottom prices.

20-ton sand hopper with fittings to connect to bulk tanker on stand... offers

Ladles, skimmers, lifting tongs, foundry weights, cast iron pigs, mould clamps at ridiculously cheap prices.

Foundry blacking bins, bentonite ,core gum and terra flake, sodium silicate

Patterns for lamppost and signage brackets ex Strand arcade offers.

Avery platform scales 1 to 2000kg
Ingot moulds

Hanging vibratory sieve

Pattern making equipment:

18" band saw single phase w some blades \$550

Combination wood working machine

150mm planner thicknesser saw and mortising machine many accessories and spare planner blades 3 phase good for a small pattern shop \$600

Metal working Equipment

2cwt Hammer

Alldays and Onions 2cwt self contained pneumatic forging hammer complete with foundation drawings forges up to 100dia steel \$6500

Pipe screwing machine with some dies just used to install our own air line \$200.

Assorted hand tools

Ph 9319 6190 for further details.