

# **NEWS 107**



***TTTG Inc***

***June 2009***

**Please pay your \$30 TTTG 2009/10 Subscription before 30<sup>th</sup> June**

## ***Next Meeting***

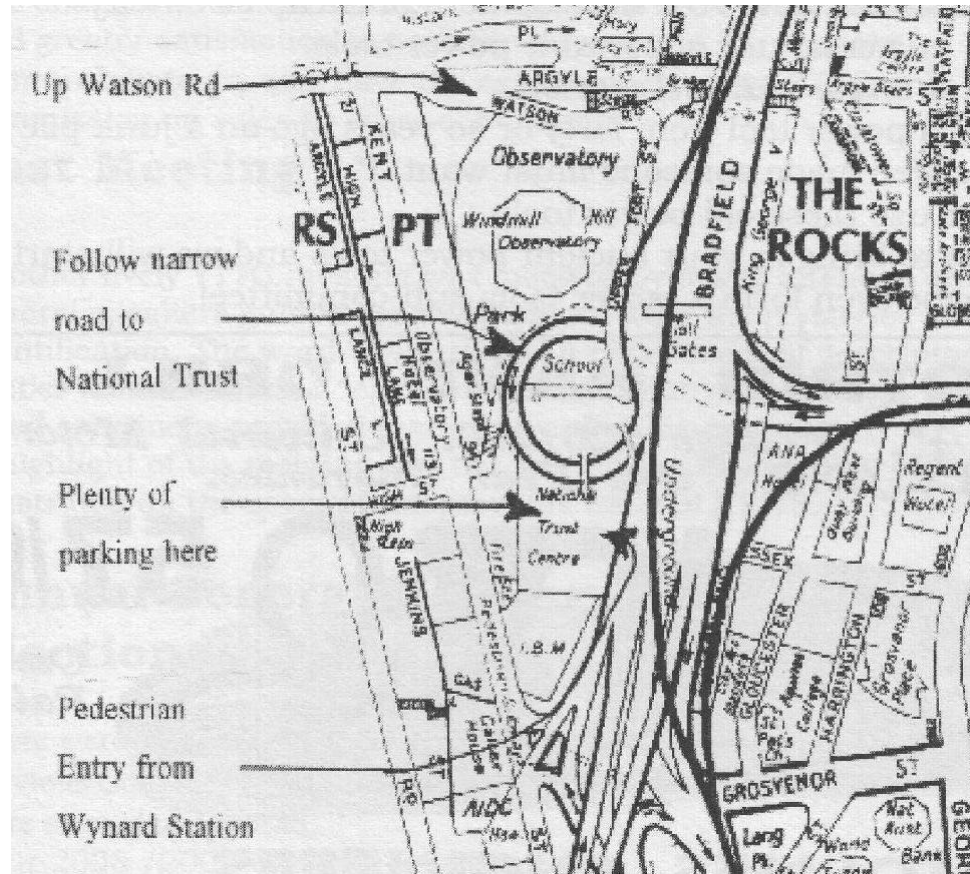
***Tuesday June 9***

National Trust Centre, The Rocks

Annie Wyatt Room

***Rare Bailey Patented Tools***

***"Doors Open" at 7pm Entry \$5***



### **Enquires**

Mike Williams 02 9144 6356

Bob Crosbie [r.crosbie@bigpond.com](mailto:r.crosbie@bigpond.com)

***Subscription \$30***

### **Postal Address**

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**[www.tttg.org.au](http://www.tttg.org.au)**

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Opinions expressed are those of the contributor

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## News 107

After over one hundred TTTG Newsletters it was time for some changes. The A4 size and the new format of the last two issues have been well received. One criticism has been that A4 is difficult to store and it is not the same size as other publications. The choice of A4 was a pragmatic decision in that it is the least expensive large size to print. If TTTG continues to grow the format of the newsletter will be reviewed. At the moment the committee is of the option that a healthy bank balance is a high priority. With more revenue a glossy all colour newsletter may be a future possibility. Another minor criticism has been made of the double columns and the amount of white space. In this issue the layout has again been changed. Your comments are eagerly awaited!

Finding good quality publishable material is the perpetual headache faced by every editor. Contributions from TTTG members, and others, are always welcome and readers are encouraged to submit articles for publication. Everyone interested in traditional tools can learn a great deal from old publications. Vintage textbooks and magazines are rich sources of information. Illustrations are particularly useful and often have great visual appeal. Early 'posed' photographs often reveal work methods assumed to be common knowledge in the accompanying text.

For the first hundred plus issues of TTTG News the editor has been lucky in finding old published material. This has been especially so with the covers of News. There have been several times when that 'right' image almost didn't turn up. Sometimes the editor remembered an old book or brought an old magazine just in time for the next issue. So it will be no surprise to learn that the editor has been exploring non print sources for several years.

A few words on the Internet might be helpful. This editor believes in the truism that around eighty percent of the material on the 'world wide web' is at best flawed. This is especially so with most of the discussions on the chat rooms and in the blogs. The remaining twenty percent is gold dust. A large number of old publications can now be down loaded from the net and more will be available.

This issue of News is the first theme issue, the theme being "The Internet". There isn't much on the blogs but News 107 should show you how to surf the net for information on traditional tools and technology. Really the electronic technology isn't that hard and competence grows quickly. A lot of people claim to be experts but you don't need to become a nerd to profit from your computer and internet connection. The editor gets by with some help as can any TTTG member with a computer.

The two reviews reinforce this theme. The review of Christopher Schwarz's annotated reprint of Joseph Moxon's *The Art of Joinery* discusses the value of such core technical publications to the understanding of traditional trade practices. The review of David Lynch's Record Tools website will encourage readers to visit his site and to share information they may have on Record tools.

Schwarz includes a plain text version of Moxon with an excellent commentary. The internet will not give you the commentary but it may give a plain text version of some core publications. The editor has down loaded a plain text version of an entry from Ree's Encyclopaedia. The technology of these plain text versions is currently a little primitive but with competent editing such historical material is at last accessible. I'm sure the editor is not the only reader who has always wanted to see copies of Brunel's drawings and to read Ree's description of the Portsmouth Block Making Machinery.

With so many of the illustrations in this issue coming from electronic sources a significant U S of A content is inevitable. Few old English magazines have been digitalised but I am sure the material from out of copyright Popular Mechanics Magazines with appeal to many TTTG readers.

***The editor is always looking for old publications and hoping to receive your submissions.***

## **Last Meeting**

Tuesday April 14

### ***Shaves, Scratches and Knives***

This was another well attended meeting. In fact the room could barely contain the meeting. The talk was illuminated by a display of rare *spoke-shaves, both metal and wood, drawknives and scratch stocks*. Rare and superb quality tools were in abundance!

All types of shaves based on the *spoke-shaves* concept, such as sash-shaves and routers were discussed, admired and examined.

Tools by Buck, Brades, Howorth, Marples, Preston, Mathieson, Stanley and numerous other makers, including user made tools of exceptional quality, were represented.

## **Next Meeting**

Tuesday June 9

### ***Rare Bailey Patented Tools***

Leonard Bailey was a prolific inventor of numerous mechanical devices. The planes and other woodworking tools he patented made Bailey a household word for quality tools. Many of Bailey's patents were incorporated in the Stanley range of tools. The full story is complex and the early Bailey tools are spectacular. The Committee has invited a number of TTTG collectors of Bailey and Stanley tools to exhibit the 'best of the best' at the next TTTG meeting. If you attend this meeting you will see tools rarely on public display.

## **The Auction**

This auction will offer a large assortment of tools and associated ironmongery.

Mostly lots being sold on consignment.

*All lots will be in **as found condition**.*

Vendors are requested to present sale items in secure boxes such as milk grates!

### **PLEASE OBSERVE**

Due to confusion caused by members examining items before sale the auction items will be in a secure area before the commencement of the auction.

To compensate for any inconvenience this may cause a new service is being tried.

**BARGAIN TABLE, open before Auction** All items \$1, \$2 or \$5. Price set by the TREASURER!

## **The Next Workshop**

The next workshop is;

**Blacksmithing**

Sunday, 5 July

Asquith BHS

***Wear good solid boots and bring gloves and a suitable apron.***

## Workshops

### 2009 TTTG Workshops

**Blacksmithing**                      Sunday, 5 July                      Asquith BHS

This popular workshop is offered in a colder month and is keenly anticipated by all concerned. It takes a lot of preparation but it is well worth while. For members who have never worked with metal this class provides rare insights into the basics of tool making.

***Wear good solid boots and bring gloves and a suitable apron.***

**Sharpening & Plane Tuning**                      Sunday, 26 July                      Asquith BHS

This has to be TTTG's most popular workshop. Everyone learns something new at this workshop. Jim Davey will have a range of quality sharpening, and other, products for sale at trade prices.

***Bring in your plane that is 'sharp but won't cut' and fettle it into a Rolls Royce performer.***

**Spindle Turning & Pattern Routing**                      Sunday, 30 August                      Asquith BHS

Last year TTTG offered a workshop on Turning Chisel Handles. This was well attended. From this class it emerged that there was a wider interest in making all types of wooden components for tools. So why limit it to chisel handles? This question was the basis of a workshop on turning and using the router to make batches of saw and plane handles. It may come as a surprise to some to see the electric router included in a workshop. Well this machine first appeared around 1910 so if it isn't traditional what tool is? **Spindle Turning & Pattern Routing** is a workshop well worth attending. Good spindle turning needs correct tool sharpening and use. The router is a versatile machine tool but is often used in an unsafe manner. This workshop will expand your approach to the lathe and the router.

**Saw Sharpening**                      Sunday, 27 September                      Asquith BHS

This is the only workshop available in Sydney teaching handsaw sharpening. The workshop covers all types of traditional saws. All equipment is provided, however if you have saw files bring them with you and bring a couple of saws. With the current interest in saw making there will be a brief lesson on making a first quality backsaw from a hard-point saw!

**Using Woodworking Tools 1**                      Sunday, 25 October                      Asquith BHS

**Using Woodworking Tools 2**                      Sunday, 29 November                      Asquith BHS

The two workshops **Using Woodworking Tools 1** and **Using Woodworking Tools 2** should appeal to people wanting to learn basic traditional techniques. All tools will be included, rules, planes, saws, chisels, hammers, gauges, and drawknives etc.

As with all the workshops the structure will be flexible to make it possible to cater for individual need. Tools will be provided but those attending are encouraged to bring some of their own tools.

**TTTG 2009 Workshop Program is at [www.tttg.org.au](http://www.tttg.org.au)**

## Correspondence

### **'When did Record make braces?'**

This chance question drew a blank from the TTTG Editor so he put the question to David Lynch.

*The first time that The Record Carpenters Braces were listed was in a small publicity leaflet dated 1939. They all appear in the 1940 price list but in 1943 only the No 420-10". No 441-10" and the No 443- 10" were listed. All the others were shown as "Temporarily out of production. All of them were out of production in September 1944 and were never re-introduced, so they had a short production life. They were never shown in the main catalogue. But there was a small catalogue with all the braces date about 1939/40. Record (C & J. Hampton) had two applications granted to their Braces November 30th 1938 both relating to the ratchet mechanism of the brace. So that places the production period as starting in 1939.*

*The full Brace line up was as follows.*

*No 420 at 6" 8" 10" 12" and 14" sweep*

*No 425 at 6" 8" 10" 12" and 14" sweep*

*No 427 at 6" 8" 10" 12" and 14" sweep*

*No 440 at 6" 8" 10" 12" and 14" sweep*

*No 441 at 6" 8" 10" and 12" sweep*

*No 442 at 8" 10" and 12" sweep*

*No 443 at 8" 10" and 12" sweep*

*No 445 at 6". 8" 10" and 12" sweep*

*No 446 at 6" 8" 10" and 12" sweep*

*No 451 at 6" 8" and 10" sweep*

*No 452 at 6" 8" and 10" sweep*

*Hope this is of some help as there are a few gaps in my price lists so I can only check the ones I have but the above is reasonably accurate*

*Regards*

*David [www.recordhandplanes.com](http://www.recordhandplanes.com)*

**For a review of David's Web Site see Record Tools page 35**

## Record Publications

TTTG has reprinted Record No. 11 September 1932. This is now out of print.

TTTG has a collection of Record instruction leaflets. If there is an indication of sufficient interest these publications will be reprinted either in facsimile form or on a CD.

JD's

## DON'T OVERLOOK THE GARDEN SHEDS

*John Daniel*

How often are we approached by someone with 'a box of tools that belonged to my grandfather'? We patiently listen as we assess the story. To get to the point, a genuine opportunity came my way.

It was down the South Coast, we walked down the far back yard to a garden shed. 'The old box has been here for the past ten years or so, that would have been the last time I opened it' was the reflective comment that quickened my pace. I was now in that surreal world associated with a good book or a great movie, '*pleased I followed this up*' flashed through my mind.

Well, the box was buried under bags of fertiliser, a bed-head and other things that seem to migrate into those 'out of site' places. Impatience is a little hard to control in these circumstances. A sneak glance through a partly opened lid revealed the beckoning glimpse of a small infill, a couple of knobs of some 'mystery items' half buried in dead grass and old shredded newspaper, all covered in dust. Then it hit me-a waft of air heading for freedom-the pungency of ten years of rat piddle with a blend of borer dust and that unique odour that lingers in many old pieces of furniture that no end of waxing can remove. However, I was fired up, with shallow breathing and the determination of a treasure hunter, I'd survive.

Back in the sunlight, it was the moment of truth. We lifted the lid revealing the abandoned home of a most industrious rat. The rodent wasn't content with a comfortable nest; it had been an explorer, leaving no compartment unentered, no tray unchewed. Its urge to gnaw was demonstrated not only on the box, but also sadly on the moulding planes. Perhaps it had a taste for borers or maybe linseed, whatever the compulsion; it had been in 'rat heaven'.

We carried the box up the yard followed by an excited fox terrier, all three, myself, the owner and the fox terrier anxious to take a closer look at the contents.



Firstly, as you can see from the photograph, the box had deteriorated badly, both from storage, borer attack and of course the rodent. The lid needed major repairs; the trays had well established 'rat holes' and the bottom riddled with borer. Was the box worth restoring? It was originally well constructed with much thought given to layout with both trays and compartments. Well, maybe a project for the future.



***Now the tools***



-7" x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" dovetailed handled 'block' smoothing plane by Mathieson Glasgow. Very early with Rosewood infill, screw sided and brass cast bridge. The blade was missing. It is now fitted with a later Mathieson & Son parallel iron.



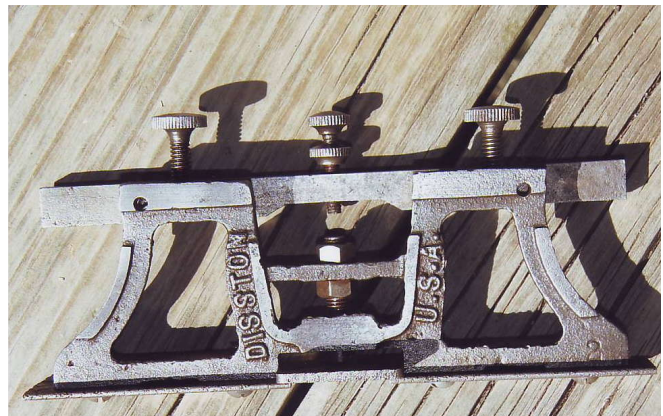
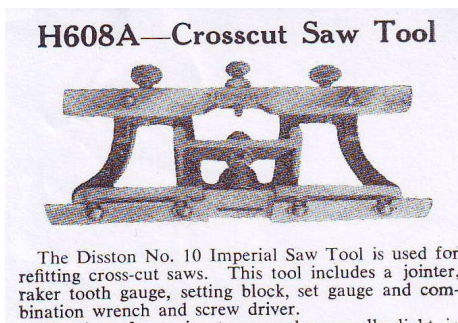
-Wedged stemmed sash fillister by John Moseley of 54-55 Broad Street, Bloomsbury London

-A pair of Stanley #98 & #99 side rebate planes.

-Wedged stemmed sash fillister by John Moseley of 54-55 Broad Street, Bloomsbury London

-A little over twenty moulding planes by makers such as Thomas Turner, James Howarth, Davis, Chanceson & Co. Near all with borer damage. Curiously all the blades and wedges had been removed and stored separately.

-Wedged stemmed sash fillister by John Moseley of 54-55 Broad Street, Bloomsbury London



-Unnamed wood smoother.

-Wood compassed smoother-user made.

-Crosscut saw tool.

See page 126 Goodall Catalogue No. 5.

-Copy of Preston's Bullnose block plane. See Preston Catalogue No. 18 May 1909.

-Mahogany mitre template and a pair of Winding Sticks-user made.

-12" Preston Rosewood Level-missing plumb vial.

-Rabone 3 feet rule and a Zig-Zag rule with imperial and metric measurements-marked London.

-8" Stanley Sliding Bevel.

-Stanley No. 190 Rabbet Plane-Pat. Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 1884.

-Early Stanley Rule and Level Co. No. 9<sup>1/2</sup> block plane.

The box was devoid of saws, chisels and squares, no doubt removed and used, the surviving tools perhaps perceived as belonging to a past era. The tools surviving in the box may have been of no use to a twentieth century tradesman.

To wrap this up, sometimes, when we lift a lid we discover years of neglect, however, once the dust settles, we can see the potential in what we find. There is a lot of satisfaction in rescuing the remains of what was once a box of trade tools, and restoring them to be appreciated for what they are. The lead was well worth following up.

## Samuel Smiles on Iron

### Huntsman Steel

*In the exercise of his mechanical calling, he introduced several improved tools, but was much hindered by the inferior quality of the metal supplied to him, which was common German steel. He also experienced considerable difficulty in finding a material suitable for the springs and pendulums of his clocks. These circumstances induced him to turn his attention to the making of a better kind of steel than was then procurable, for the purposes of his trade. His first experiments were conducted at Doncaster but as fuel was difficult to be had at that place, he determined, for greater convenience, to remove to the neighbourhood of Sheffield, which he did in 1740. He first settled at Handsworth, a few miles to the south of that town, and there pursued his investigations in secret. Unfortunately, no records have been preserved of the methods which he adopted in overcoming the difficulties he had necessarily to encounter. That they must have been great is certain, for the process of manufacturing cast-steel of a first-rate quality even at this day is of a most elaborate and delicate character, requiring to be carefully watched in its various stages. He had not only to discover the fuel and flux suitable for his purpose, but to build such a furnace and make such a crucible as should sustain a heat more intense than any then known in metallurgy. Ingot-moulds had not yet been cast, nor were there hoops and wedges made that would hold them together, nor, in short, were any of those materials at his disposal which are now so familiar at every melting-furnace.*

The above passage from Samuel Smiles *Iron Workers and Tool Makers* (Boston 1864 edition) is the origin of the orthodox interpretation of the invention of cast steel. Samuel Smiles was a prolific author writing many books about the principal personalities of the industrial revolution. His works should be read critically.

Most of the publications of Samuel Smiles are available as Google Digital Books and some can be downloaded as plain text versions.

## News 107 Covers

### Front

This futuristic image is appropriated from a Presdwood advertisement appearing in issues of *Popular Mechanics* in 1932. The images in the shadow of the Presdwood logo are industrial woodworkers using modern machinery, to process Presdwood?

Masonite was the maker of Presdwood in America and Masonite in Australia.

The Tasmanian version of Masonite was Burnieboard. Masonite is still in production.

### Back

An advertisement from *Popular Mechanics* 1954, illustrating the mind-set of the 50s.

## News 108

In News 106 ***Saw Handle Making Costs*** discussed Saw Handle Making in Sheffield.

In News 108 ***Ken Hawley*** will answer some of the questions raised in the article.

***Ken Hawley is the authority on the history of Tool manufacturing in Sheffield.***

## THE LEDGER

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

<b>Greg Pryor</b>	<b>M517</b>	<b>Jason Huxley</b>	<b>M523</b>
<b>George Back</b>	<b>M518</b>	<b>Hugh McKid</b>	<b>M524</b>
<b>Malcolm Blomfield</b>	<b>M519</b>	<b>Robert Church</b>	<b>M525</b>
<b>Ralph Hawkins</b>	<b>M520</b>	<b>Matthew Tidswell</b>	<b>M526</b>
<b>Phil Brown</b>	<b>M521</b>	<b>Andrew Fairbank</b>	<b>M527</b>
<b>Steve Thomas</b>	<b>M522</b>	<b>Gavin McConnell</b>	<b>M528</b>

### ***Mario Dato***

TTTG's Cordon Bleu Chef

Those members who regularly attend TTTG meetings are always delighted by the repast of great food and fine wines provided by Mario Dato, our cordon bleu chef. True to his Italian heritage, Mario by day creates high fashion ladies shoes, but on TTTG evenings his culinary skills always come to the fore.

Mario is the gentleman at the door who greets you and collects your \$5 entry fee; you place your \$5 in a beautiful wooden bowl hand-turned by Mario. Your \$5 helps to offset the room rental (which the National Trust has recently raised to \$75 per evening) and the cuisine provided by Mario. *If you're a gourmet, do have a chat with Mario, he loves to discuss epicurean matters.*

### **2009-10 TTTG Subscriptions**

Please pay your 2009-10 TTTG subscription before 30th June, 2009. You will find the Subscription Renewal Notice in this issue of TTTG NEWS.

### **Payment Options**

Payments may be made by cheque, by cash at TTTG meetings and workshops. OR

*You may choose to pay by PayPal.* For those members who do not have a PayPal account and wish to sign up, please go to the PayPal website at [www.paypal.com.au](http://www.paypal.com.au) and follow the instructions.

For those members who do have a PayPal account: On the Membership page of TTTG's website click on Membership near the bottom of the page, then on Subscription Renewal near the bottom of the page.

When you get to the Subscription Renewal page you will find a number of entry fields that need to be filled in. All entry fields are required and will be matched against the member database to ensure they are valid.

To correctly fill out the form you will need your mailing label to obtain your membership number and first and last name as registered by TTTG. From the mailing label enter your membership number WITHOUT the leading 'M', i.e. 'M999' should be entered as '999'. The first and last name need to be separated and should be entered as shown on the mailing label including those members that include a partner on the label, i.e. Jane & Joe Bloggs should be entered as 'JANE & JOE' in the first name entry field, and the 'BLOGGS' in the last name entry field. The E-mail address is required to give you notification of payment being made.

### ***Checking your Membership details***

By pressing the 'Check Details' button you will confirm your details and notify yourself of any errors that need correction.

#### ***If you do encounter an error, they will most likely be:***

'The Membership Number must be numeric', to correct this error; enter your membership number without the leading 'M'.

'The E-mail address must be in a name@domain format', requires that a valid E-mail address be entered.

'First Name, Last Name or Membership Number do not match any existing member', please re-check you details against the mailing label, if you still have a problem contact the webmaster at [webmaster@tttg.org.au](mailto:webmaster@tttg.org.au).

Once the details have been verified, the page will be updated to show the additional information provided from that which is currently stored in the database, so please verify that the information is correct before proceeding to PayPal.

Please note that if the 'Currently Paid Until dd-mmm-yyyy' information is not showing, it indicates that you are not a current member and after payment is made this information will be updated to reflect your membership status.

### ***Friends interested in tools?***

Do you have friends interested in tools, their use or their history? If so, why not urge them to join The Traditional Tools Group? If they join now they will receive for their very nominal \$30 annual subscription, membership up until 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2010.

### ***Woodstock Planes Sought***

TTTG member, Ray Schroeder would like to buy the following Woodstock Squirrel Tail planes: Models: 100, 101, 102.

Contact Ray on (02) 6341 4407 or E-mail ray at [rayschroeder@westnet.com.au](mailto:rayschroeder@westnet.com.au)

### ***Australian Woodworker Magazine***

To complete a set of Australian Woodworkers, I'm looking for (and willing to pay a reasonable price for) the following issues: 1985 any; 1988 Jan/Feb, Mar/Apl, May/Jun; 1989 Jan/Feb, Mar/Apl; 1990 Jan/Feb, May/Jun, Jly/Aug

Clynt Sheehy

Treasurer



PLANES  
FULLY FETTLED  
TUNED AND SHARP

STANLEY BAILEY  
STANLEY BLOCK PLANES  
FETTLING SERVICE



THE LEADER IN  
DIAMOND SHARPENING

REPAIRS  
TRADE PRICES ON:

DMT DIAMOND PLATES

DIA-SHARP PLATES



ICE BEAR WATERSTONES  
M2 HSS ACADEMY BLADES  
LEATHER CHISEL ROLLS

**Jim Davey**

Ph 02 4447 8822 PO Box 967 Nowra NSW 2541

[JDAVEY@bigpond.com](mailto:JDAVEY@bigpond.com)

**Ukuleles.** Ray Gurney still wants pre-loved wooden ukuleles. He restores them to musical working condition again so look in your cupboards and give that forgotten instrument a new lease of life! Ring Ray on (02) 9569 1241

**Ryobi Wood Turning Lathe for Sale**

Email Bob Crosbie [r.crosbie@bigpond.com](mailto:r.crosbie@bigpond.com)

## LINNWOOD

### Sunday 17 May Open Day **TTTG was there!**

American Day at Linnwood with Elvis clones, Rock 'n' Roll dancing, Studebakers and Packards. Clynt kept sharpening saws and recruiting members to the sound of the Holroyd City Brass Band.

All attempts to get the TTTG Committee dressed up as Elvis came to nothing but the modest TTTG presentation attracted interest from the crowd.



### Next Linnwood event

#### Sunday 12 July Open Day **TTTG will be there!**

The main attraction will be an exhibition of rare Teddy Bears.

TTTG will offer a working tour of the house to all members of the public.

This is an opportunity to see a superb historical building up close. The walk will concentrate on the methods used in the construction of Linnwood. Old tools will be used to elucidate the talk.

Particular attention will be drawn to the superb joinery.

***No charge. Let's try and get enough TTTG members at Linnwood to kick start this event!***

### About Linnwood

The Friends of Linnwood is a community group trying to save this property from the developers.

You can contact The Friends of Linnwood by emailing [linnwood@optusnet.com.au](mailto:linnwood@optusnet.com.au)

If you get the chance go and have a look at Linnwood, 25 Byron Road Guildford NSW

***Linnwood is a house equal to any on the leafy North Shore.***

**2009 SYDNEY**  
**TIMBER & WORKING WITH WOOD SHOW**

**19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE, 2009**

**The Traditional Tools Group Inc will again have a stand at the  
Timber & Working with Wood Show**

**Hordern Pavilion Moore Park**

***TTTG Stand 221A***

**TTTG has a limited number of one day tickets.**

**Day tickets \$8 each at the TTTG Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> June**

**This is a limited offer to offset the costs of our being at the show**

**Entry at the show is normally \$15 or \$13 concession.**

**The TTTG tickets may be used on any one day of the Show.**

**TTTG needs volunteers to act as attendants for the various  
competitions to be held in conjunction with the show.**

**Each volunteer will be required to be present for a period of one  
hour at the relevant stand. Volunteers required for:**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup>            12 noon to 1 pm, 3 pm to 4 pm**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>        12 noon to 1 pm, 2 pm to 3 pm, 4 pm to 5 pm**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>           10 am to 11 am, 1 pm to 2 pm**

***Prospective volunteers please contact Treasurer Clynt at the  
June 9 TTTG Meeting or by 'phone on 9416 7134***

**THE TRADITIONAL TOOLS GROUP INC.**

# **SYDNEY TOOL SALE**

**SUNDAY, 16<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2009**

**Henry will be holding his Sydney Tool Sale in conjunction with  
The Traditional Tools Group Inc.**

**The Sale will be held at the Strathfield Men's Shed**

**28 POMEROY STREET, HOMEBUSH (NORTH STRATHFIELD)**

(Opposite Energy Australia)

**Gregory's / UBD Map Reference: C-6 on Map 341**

**DOORS OPEN AT 9 am**

**\$8 Entry**

**\$5 Entry TTTG Members**

**DO NOT MISS IT !!**

**Persons wishing to sell their tools at the sale should contact Henry direct:**

**'Phone: 9744 7875    Mobile: 0410 341 195    E-mail: [lil\\_blackie@hotmail.com](mailto:lil_blackie@hotmail.com)**

# **SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL NOTICE**

TTTG Memberships are based on the financial year 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> June

**PLEASE PAY YOUR 2009-10 SUBSCRIPTION BEFORE 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2009**

**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 in Australia more than 50 km from the GPO Sydney or you are an Australian CentreLink pensioner, then you MAY CHOOSE TO PAY only \$25

Please advise if you have CHANGED your address from that shown on the address label on the envelope which conveys your TTTG NEWS or if you have changed your E-mail address. ( See next paragraph.)

It would be helpful if you would write your name and TTTG Membership number on the back of your cheque particularly if the name on your cheque differs from yours. ( See top left of TTTG NEWS address label for your Membership Number.)

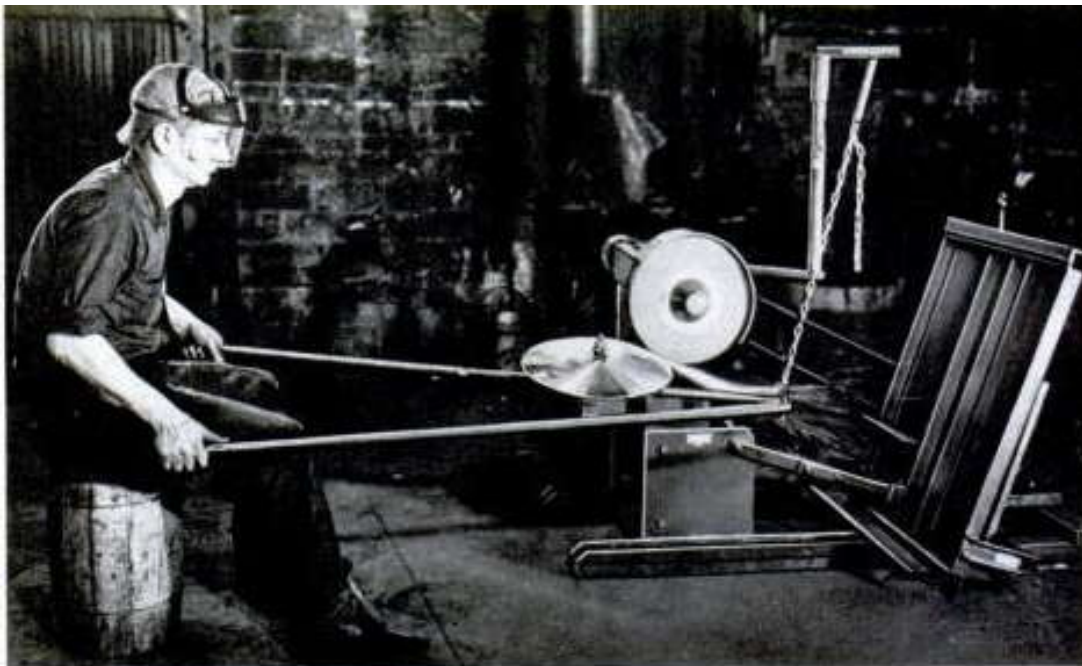
**Should you require a receipt, please enclose a stamped self addressed envelope with your cheque or see the Hon. Treasurer, Clynt Sheehy, at a TTTG meeting.**

**The Treasurer has already received 2009-10 subscription payments from the following prompt-paying, proactive members (as at 24th May, 2009 ) :**

**12, 15, 36, 43, 49, 60, 68, 77, 87, 132, 139, 164, 165, 184, 186, 196, 203, 206, 215, 224, 225, 226, 240, 241, 245, 253, 292, 302, 332, 337, 347, 348, 354, 374, 375, 378, 410, 411, 416, 427, 457, 466, 474, 479, 494, 500, 502, 505, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528**

*These Members should ignore this notice*

## Power on the Farm 1949



### Versatile Tool for Farm Use Sharpens Plow or Saws Wood

Several attachments can be fitted to a versatile power tool to make it an entire farm workshop. The primary part of the tool is an arbor powered by a two-horsepower electric motor, a five-horsepower gasoline engine or a tractor pulley. With a grinding attachment, sickles, scythes, plow points and hay-chopper blades can be sharpened at any bevel. Another attachment enables the farmer to grind and polish disk blades with uniform sharpeners around the circumference. Still another includes a saw table, which swings backward when not in use, and a circular saw. A 30-inch saw and table handles 12-inch material for cordwood sawing.

Top, grinding a disk blade on versatile farm tool. The blade revolves as it is ground. Right, ripping lumber. Saw table swings out of way when not in use



Three years after World War 2, there must have been lots of farm boys brave, or disturbed, enough to use this machine. The man in the bottom photograph seems to be wearing gloves and by his stance probably knows what he is doing. The saw blade and driving belt are fully exposed and the machine is pretty basic. Apart from the gloves the operator has no personal protective equipment. The set up for grinding plow discs is very basic. In this case the operator is wearing a face shield! The noise must have been excessive and lifting the machine on its side must have been hard work.

*January 1949 Popular Mechanics*

## OH&S Fifties Style

The apron would stop a bullet but there is an absence of any other personal safety equipment.

This advert is from *March 1953 Popular Mechanics*

There isn't much safety equipment in any issues of popular mechanics in the fifties. Aprons and gloves seem to be the only necessary personal safety equipment on offer. Maybe there are also some adverts for boots!

I'm not sure what machine he is using but I assume it was dangerous or it wouldn't feature in the advert. The operator has some tats so it's a safe bet that he at least put out the smoke for the snap shot.

Gloves would have made his life easier but what of the other risks posed by this workplace.

If he lived to a good age he may have avoided any lung or breathing diseases if he gave up the smokes early enough

And if a bit of grit or metal didn't land in an eye he may have avoided eye diseases or blindness. Safety glasses would have eliminated such risks.

No doubt he worked in a noisy environment. By forty or so he would have started to get bad tempered as his hearing started to fail. Maybe he even developed ringing in the ears at an earlier age.

We can't see the rest of the workplace but there would have been many other risks.

## Power Tool Repairs

A TTTG member who has secured a large quantity of old components following the closure of a well established hardware store that had a high reputation for power tool electrical repairs.

### CONTACT

GRAHAM KEMMIS (02) 9869 2415

***There is a commercial repairer willing to overhaul old power tools.***

### CONTACT

BOB SEDLAR

BLS ELECTRICAL

538 Parramatta Road Petersham

Phone 95600820

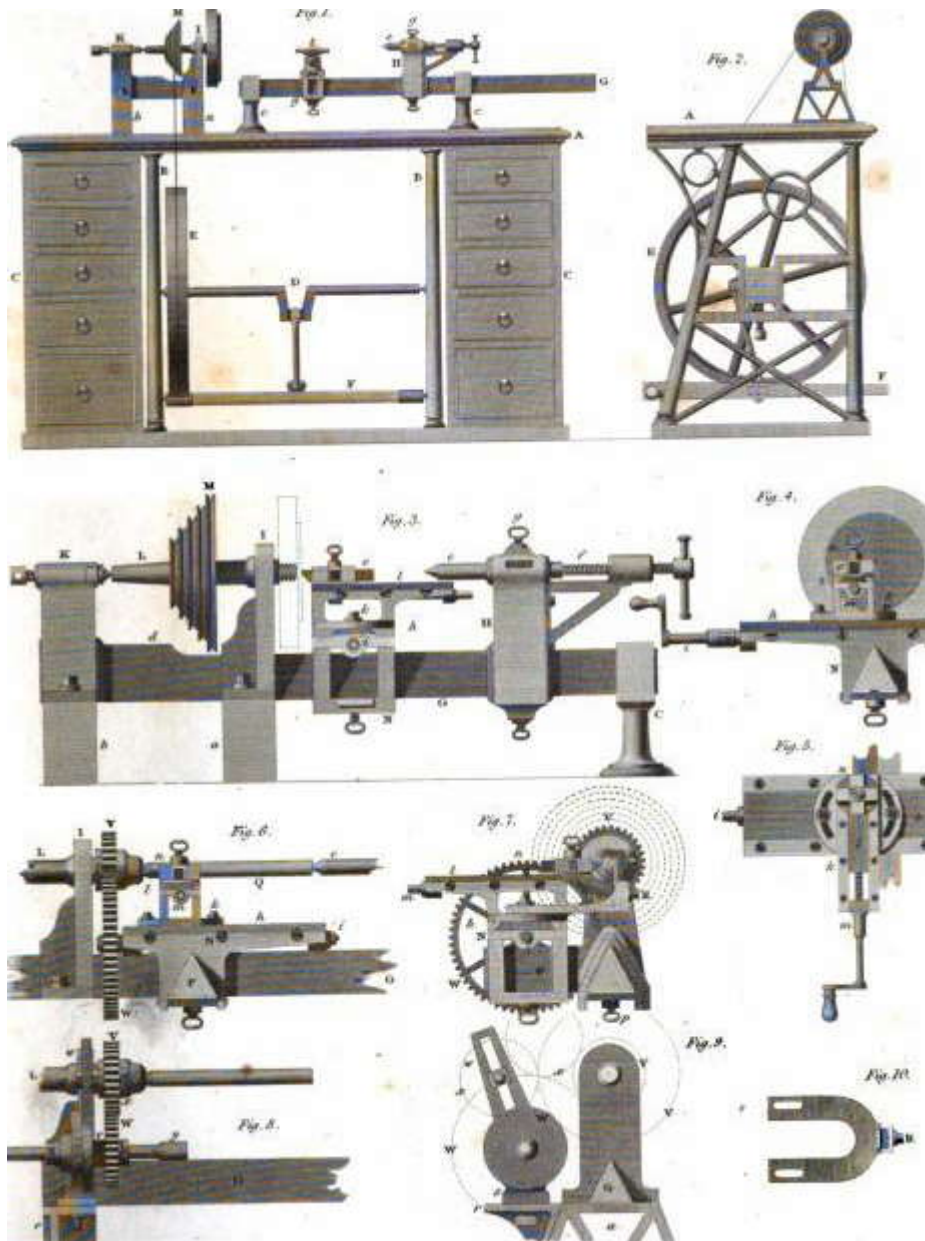


Lockheed Aircraft Co. photo

### Work Apron Can Stop Bullets

Made of glass-coated cloth, a new light-weight apron protects workers against metal particles that may be thrown from high-speed milling and cutting machines. It can stop a .38-caliber bullet fired from eight feet away. Laminated with a special resin, the aprons vary in thickness from  $\frac{3}{16}$  to  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch and weigh less than three pounds. The 25-percent resin content of the laminate cushions the shock.

## Henry Maudslay's Lathe (Ree's Encyclopaedia)



For a discussion and photograph of Henry Maudslay's lathe and other early mechanisms, including the Portsmouth Block Making Machinery, refer to the magnificently illustrated and well written **MILESTONES OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MAKING OF THE MODERN WORLD** Published by John Murray in association with the Science Museum. London Paperback edition 1997

## **Block Making by hand labour**

The entry in Ree's Encyclopaedia, writing in the 1790s, under *Block Making* describes the traditional method of making ship's blocks before illustrating the block making machinery in the Portsmouth Dock Yard. The extract describes the processes involved in making blocks, additional material on the various types of blocks has not been reproduced.

*The different kinds of blocks are very numerous, depending on their size, use, form, number of pullies, &c. the bare enumeration of which would take considerable room. They may, however, be generally reduced to the following kind; single, double, triple, and fourfold blocks, according to the number of sheaves they contain, which, for some particular purposes, extend to eight.*

*We shall now endeavour to give some idea of the manner of manufacturing blocks, as it is commonly practised, describing each part under its particular head, and beginning with the shell.*

*Having sawn out the wood to its proper width, length, and thickness, the corners are taken away; after which, if it is for a single block, the workman gauges the mortise hole, which is to receive the sleave in the middle of the block, allowing it one- sixteenth wider than the thickness of the sheave, and once the thickness longer than the diameter of the sheave. But, where more than one sleave is placed in the same shell, partitions between each sleave are necessary, otherwise the rope would be able to slip out of the groove in the edge of the sleeve, and the pin, from the width between the two cheeks, would be very apt to bend; these partitions are allowed one-sixth less than the sheave hole. The block thus gauged, is fixed firmly to the bench or cleave, in which situation it is held by wedges, and a hole being bored sit each end of the sheave hole, half the way through its thickness, it is reversed, and being fixed again, the holes are met by boring from this side; the remainder of the wood is then removed by a mortise chisel with a bar, similar to those made use of by wheelwrights for mortising the knaves of wheels.*

*If the block is intended to have an iron strap, H should be applied before the mortise or sheave hole is cut out of the middle of the block; but this is not the case where rope is made use of, that being applied by the rigger after the blocks are on board the ship. Straps of this kind are usually fitted with an, iron eve or thimble, and sometimes with a hook, according to the purposes for which they are designed, There remains now only to make the hole for the reception of the pin; it must be about one-tenth smaller than the diameter of the pin for which it is intended, in order to make it drive tight; this hole is made square on one side, and the pin is left square at one end for the purpose of preventing it from turning round in the hole.*

*The edges and corners of the shell are next rounded, first with the stock shave, which removes the larger part, and then with the spoke shave, to finish and smooth them.*

*Blocks that are intended for the merchant service, differ from those used in the royal navy; the former being rounded off leaving a small square on the edge, and the latter are left thicker upon the edges of the cheeks.*

*The next operation is the boring, or grooving, for the reception of the strap; for which purpose the blocks are ganged, and being fixed as before, the groove is cut so deep at the ends as half the thickness of the strap, and gradually tapering to nothing at the pin. The same rule holds good for double strap blocks, first gauging it on both sides of the pin for that purpose.*

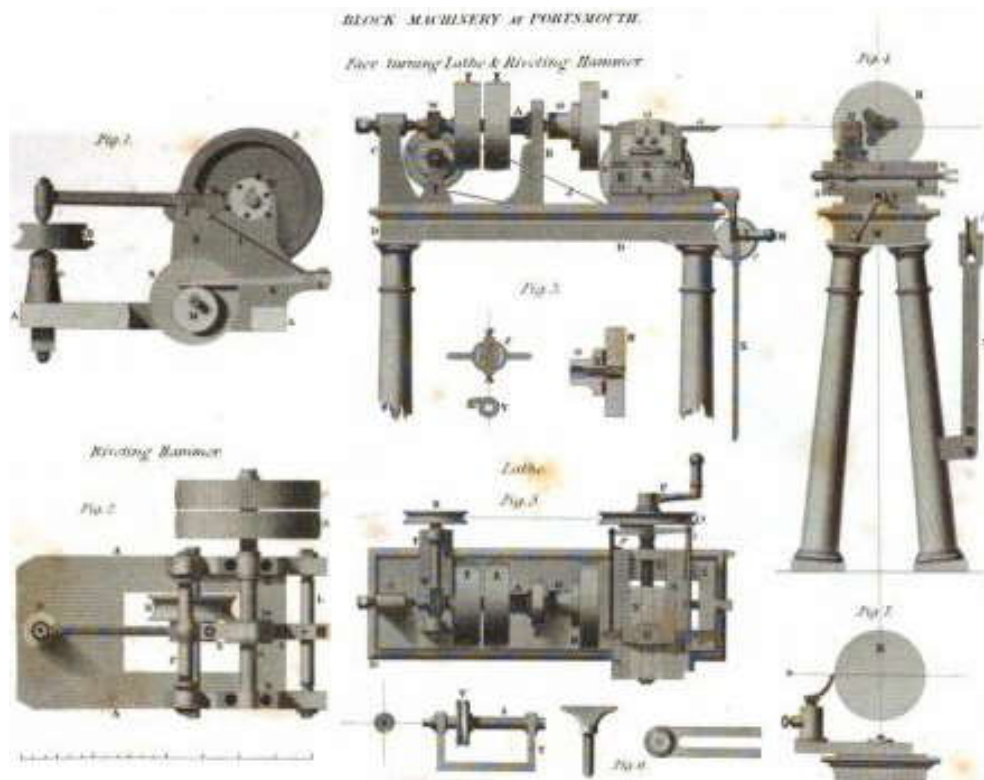
*After the score is cut, the sheaves are fitted; they are one-tenth thicker than the diameter of the rope intended to run on them, and five times that thickness in diameter. The hole for the pin is made through the centre of the sheave by a bit, fitted to the turning lathe, or with a stock and bit, and opened out with an auger, one-sixteenth larger than the pin, to enable the sheave to turn freely.*

## **Brunel's Block Making Machinery** (Ree's Encyclopaedia)

The art of Block-making was, formerly, executed entirely by hand with no other mechanical aid, than could be obtained by the use of a common turning lathe; but within these few years, the navy has been supplied with blocks made in the Dock-Yard at Portsmouth, by a set of machines erected there by the ingenious Mr. Brunel, which is conceived to be the most complete piece of mechanism in England, or perhaps in the world.

By means of this machine, the whole process, from the tree to the finished block, is performed with no other assistance than can be given by the most untaught labourer, as the only aid required is to convey the work, in its various stages, from one part of the machinery to another.

It would be useless to give a particular description of the various parts of this complicated machine under this head, as the exclusive right of using it is secured by letters patent to the inventor. Another reason is the great expense attending the erection of it, which would scarcely answer for any private concern. We shall, however, give a description of it under the article Machines, in the second part of this work, as various parts of the contrivance are applicable to many other purposes. The block used on shipboard consists of the shell, usually made of elm or ash; the pulley or sheave, made either of lignum vitae or cast metal; the pin or axis of the pulley; and the strap, which is sometimes made of rope and sometimes of iron.



***This plate is part of a series of plates illustrating block making machinery.***

***If there is sufficient interest TTTG will reproduce all the plates.***

## **Veneering** (Ree's Encyclopaedia)

Rees describes the process of veneering as practiced in London cabinet shops. Such techniques were used in the eighteenth century, through the nineteenth century and into the twentieth century. There is some confusion in his account but hammer and caul veneering are discussed.

*The wood intended for veneering is first sawed out into slices or leaves, about a line thick; and in order to saw them, the blocks or planks are placed upright in a kind of vice or sawing press. These slices are afterwards cut into slips, and fashioned divers ways, according to the design proposed; after the joints have been carefully adjusted and the pieces brought down to their proper thickness, with several planes adapted for the purpose, they are glued down on a block or ground of dry wood, with good strong English glue. After the pieces have been thus joined and glued, the work, if small, is put into a press; if large is laid on a bench covered with a board, and pressed down with poles or pieces of wood, the upper end whereof, reaches to the ceiling of the room, and the lower rests on the boards. When the glue is quite dry the veneered work is taken out of the press and finished; first with little planes, and then with divers scrapers, or rasps, winch take off dents, roughness &c. Left by the planes. When sufficiently scraped, the work is polished with the skin of a sea-dog, wax, and a brush and polisher of shave-grass, which is the last operation.*

*Grounds for veneering on should be very dry, and formed of such wood as is least liable to rive (split) or warp. Tho veneer should also/ be dry and well toothed with the tooth-plane. The utmost attention should also be paid to the bringing the veneer to an equal thickness, (which is done with the tooth-plane) before it is laid, otherwise there will be considerably more labour and difficulty in bringing the thick and more stubborn parts, sufficiently into contact with the ground on which the veneer is to be laid.*

*The wood on which the veneer is to be laid, after being<sup>1</sup> toothed, is to have a coat of glue laid on thin with a brush, this must be suffered to dry before the veneer is applied, and kept warm before the fire. The veneer should be wetted with a sponge on the outside, and the glue laid with a brush on the other, while-the whole is kept hot with a quick fire raised by a few shavings. In this state it is put on the piece to be veneered, over the surfaces of which the veneering hammer must be drawn in all directions so as to drive out the superfluous glue at the edges, and let it be observed as a general rule, in this as in all matters where cements are used for uniting substances together, that the more closely the surface can be brought together (and consequently the less cement used) the firmer will be the work.*

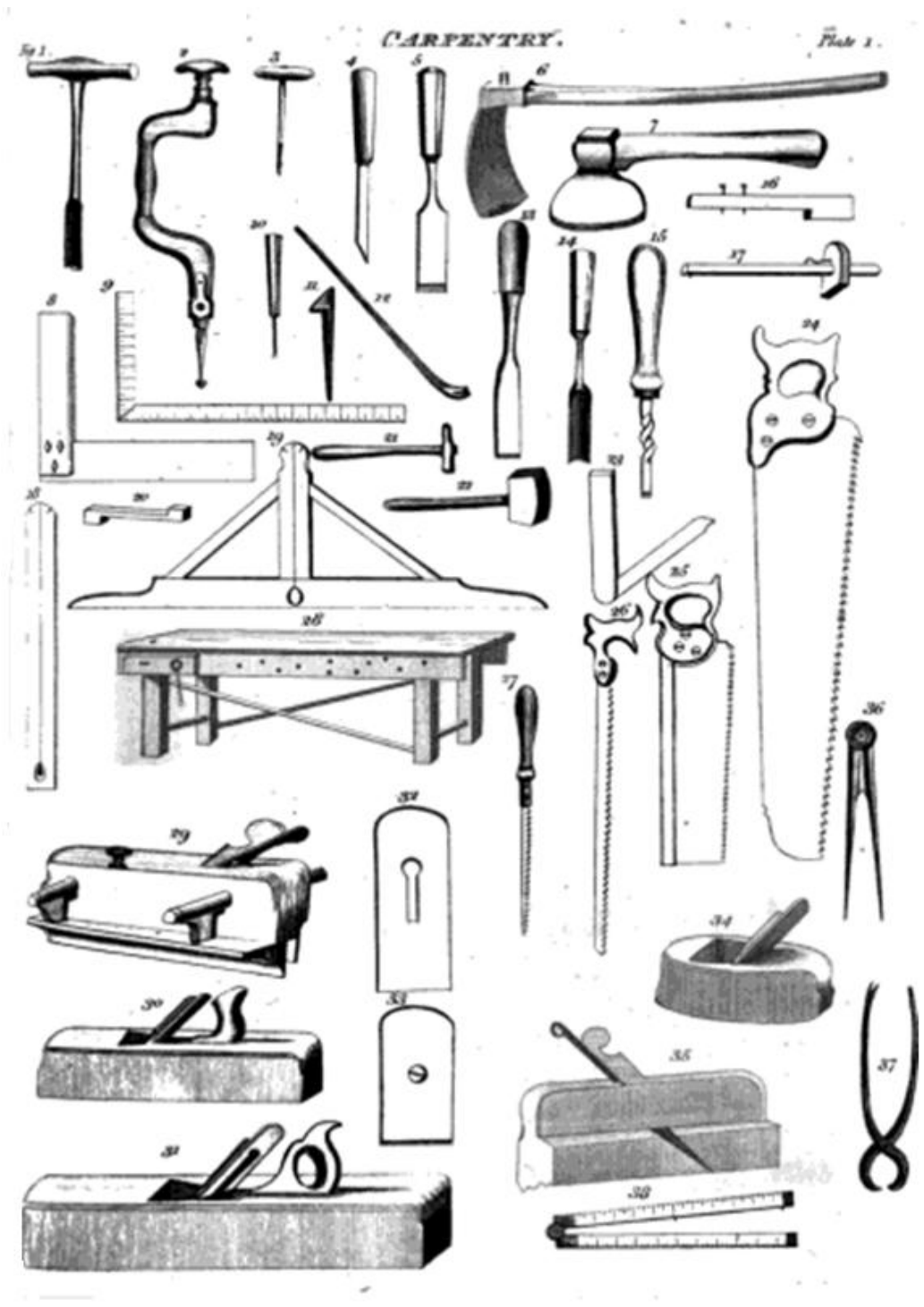
*In large circular work the same mode is pursued, except that hand screws, and pieces of boated wood are employed to keen down one end whilst the other is laying. Smaller work is frequently done with a hot caul.*

*Marquetry, differs from the former in many particulars, and may properly be called painting in' wood; as various imitations of nature are produced in this way.*

*Sometimes coloured glass, marble, tortoise-shell and metals are made use of, either singly or united with wood; but such pieces as are composed of stone or glass, are more commonly called mosaic work.*

*The art of inlaying is very ancient, and is supposed to have passed from east to the west, among other branches of knowledge, brought to the Romans from Asia. At this early period the process was simple, nor did it arrive at any tolerable degree of perfection, till the 15th. Century among the Italians: it seems however to have attained its greatest perfection in the 17th. Century among the French.*

# 1810 Carpenters Tools



Thomas Martin Circle of the Mechanical Arts. London 1810

## Heat Treatment

**To Temper Tools.**—The quality of the steel should be uniform throughout; indeed, it is always better to have them tempered rather too hard than soft, for use will reduce the temper. If at any time it is necessary to perform the operation yourself, the best method is to melt a sufficient quantity of lead to immerse the cutting part of the tool in. Having previously brightened its surface, plunge it into the melted lead for a few minutes, till it gets sufficiently hot to melt a candle, with which rub its surface; then plunge it in again, and keep it there till the steel assumes a straw color; but be careful not to let it turn blue. When that is the case, take it out, rub it again with the tallow, and let it cool. If it should be too soft, wipe the grease off, repeat the process without the tallow; and, when it is sufficiently hot, plunge it into cold spring-water, or water and vinegar mixed. By a proper attention to these directions, and a little practice, every workman will have it in his power to give a proper temper to the tools he may use. If a saw is too hard, it may be tempered by the same means; but as it would be not only expensive, but in many cases impossible to do it at home, a plumber's shop is mostly at hand, where the process may be repeated when they are melting a pot of lead. But here observe that the temper necessary is different to other cutting tools; you must wait till the steel just begins to turn blue, which is a temper that will give it more elasticity, and, at the same time, sufficient hardness.

**Hardening Tools.**—A communication to the *English Mechanic* says: "Mercury is the best liquid for hardening steel cutting tools. The best steel, when forged into shape and hardened in mercury, will cut almost anything. I have seen articles made from ordinary steel which have been hardened and tempered to a deep straw color, turned with comparative ease with cutting tools from good tool steel, hardened in mercury."

*Hints and Practical Information for Cabinet-makers, Upholsterers and Furniture Men Generally*  
The Industrial Publication Company New York 1907 The Preface is dated New York 1884  
The contents are probably identical to the text in the 1884 edition.

### **WARNING**

**These methods will give excellent results with unalloyed steel, that is cast steel.**

**BE AWARE THAT both molten lead and mercury are hazardous substances.**

**Do not replicate these methods!**

## Modern Living



With the electric clothes dryer not even a futurist's fantasy, this centrifugal clothes dryer might have appealed to the over worked American housewife.

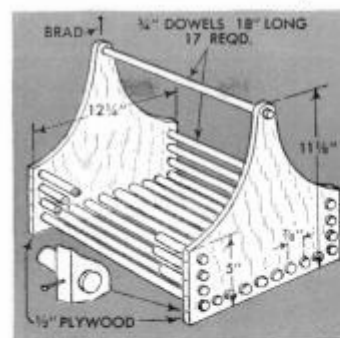
Cobbled together from an old barrel, a few lengths of two by four and a grinder mechanism any poor, but handy, Yankee could have the latest in modern living.

*Was it copied from a commercial version?*

### **January 1933 Popular Mechanics**

This carrier was designed for use in the garden. However the design and the construction have real merit. Such a handled box would have many uses. The overall size can be changed to suit the intended use. It will have as many uses as it did in 1933!

CD Ply is suitable for the sides, making this an easily and cheaply made construction very suitable for making by machine methods.



### **June 1953 Popular Mechanics**

## The Paint Roller



July 1953 Popular Mechanics

**IF I WERE YOUR WIFE  
...I'd ask you to buy  
me a THOMAS paint  
roller, so I could paint  
easier, faster, with  
professional results!**

THOMAS Paint Rollers  
apply *all* paints beautifully...on walls, ceilings,  
floors, fences, boats, farm  
buildings... on *any* sur-  
face, inside or out.

SEE your Paint, Hardware,  
Lumber dealer.  
**BE SURE YOU ASK FOR  
A THOMAS!**

**THOMAS** PRODUCTS COMPANY

September 1953 Popular Mechanics

**How To  
Paint Easily,  
Quickly,  
Professionally**

THOMAS PAINT ROLLERS  
apply *all* paints perfectly  
on *any* surface... and  
save you time, money,  
effort, fatigue. No ex-  
perience necessary—just  
roll it on!

BE SURE YOU BUY  
THOMAS at your  
Paint, Hardware,  
Lumber dealer.

**THOMAS** PRODUCTS COMPANY

March 1954 Popular Mechanics

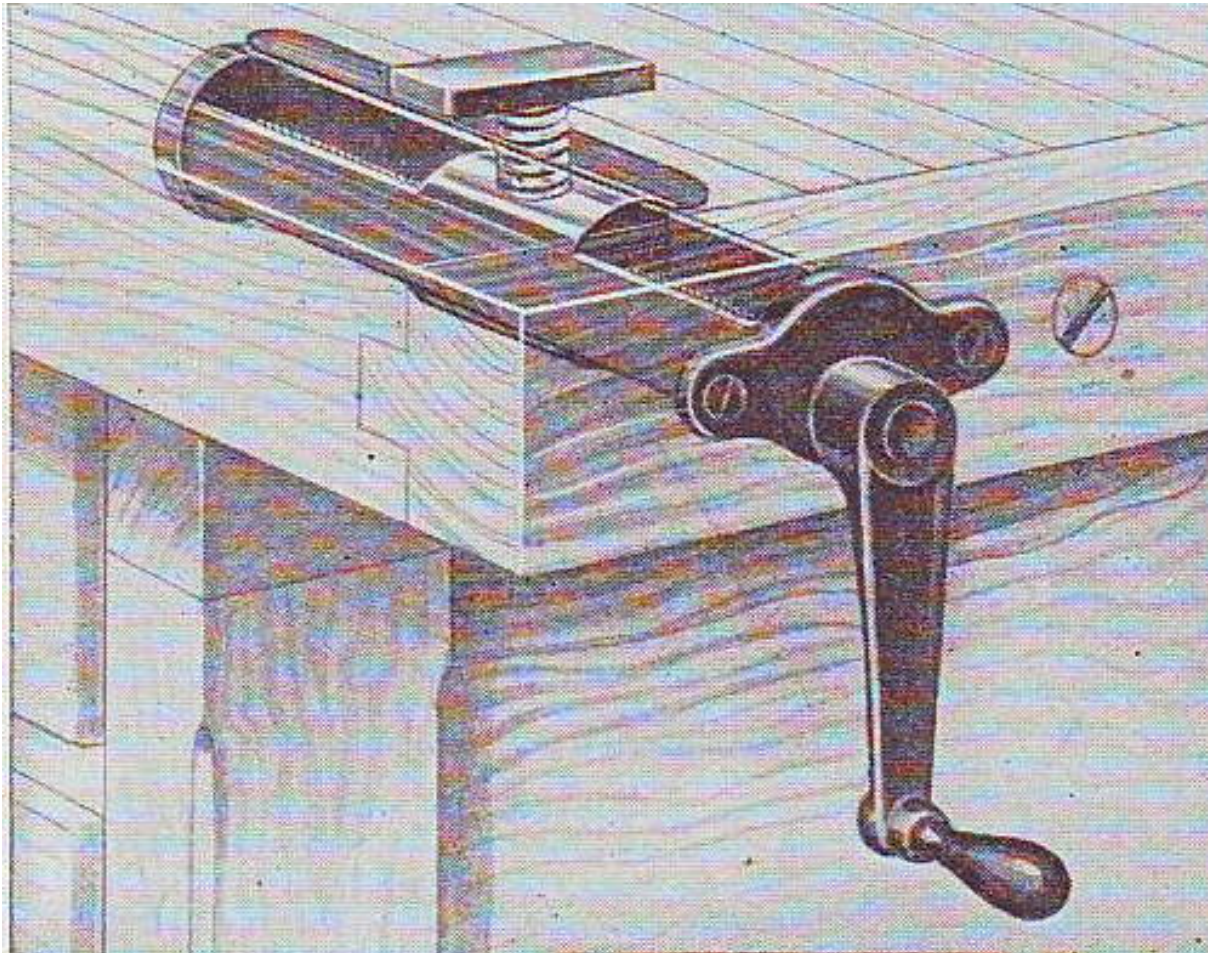


March 1954 Popular Mechanics

*The one above does special effects!*

The paint roller was a genuinely innovative tool. For centuries paint had been applied with paint brushes. Traditional brushes are expensive and require correct use, cleaning and storage. Painting with a brush is skilled work. A tool that promised to reduce both skill and cost would have had its own appeal. The paint roller offered one more irresistible appeal; it could spread more in less time than a paint brush. Skilled painters were probably not convinced. The 1950s was the golden age of selling and the targeted market for the paint roller was the American housewife.

## Enclosed tail vice



A row of bench dogs is a great time saver on a woodworkers' bench. There are some people who like the continental style tail vice while there are others who find these vices too cumbersome. I am firmly in the second category.

I've enlarged the original to clearly show the construction. Anyone with a large enough centre lathe could make this device at reasonable cost. A few improvements could be suggested. The handle to the enclosed vice is quite large and could get in the way and a removable handle would be preferable. The illustration is reproduced from *Cabinet and Drapery Hardware Catalog* K Lussky, white & Coolidge, Inc., Chicago. USA. September 1938. When I fitted a row of dogs to my bench I used rectangular steel dogs and a steel bench screw and nut inside a fabricated wooden enclosed tail vice. The slot in the bench top is 130mm long by 20mm wide. My vice works well and it can apply real pressure. That said it took a lot of time to make and to get working smoothly.

A square section on the end of the lead screw would allow the use of a removable handle with the end of the lead screw being recessed into the end of the bench. The dog shown is not height adjustable. The dog possibly tightens down onto the lead screw thus preventing the vice from working loose. The dog can be removed to free up the top of bench. The bench dog design could be improved. Fitting this concealed vice to a bench does require accurate marking out and drilling.

## Universal Bevel

### A Handy Home-made Instrument.

—The drawing I enclose is of an original home-made instrument which I feel sure would be handy for the amateur or even the craftsman's bench. I find that a dovetail templet, for instance, is most helpful for a speedy setting out and for a correct pitch of one-in-six. The following are the general particulars: A=wood or metal, 6 ins. by 1¼ ins.; B=wood 4 ins. by 1¼ ins. by ¾ in.; A<sub>1</sub>=dovetail templet either one-in-six or one-in-eight according to fancy; A<sub>2</sub>=mitre templet. B<sub>1</sub>=for use as bevel, marked 30 degrees to 90 degrees; C=small brass washer and screw for adjustment. Note that the screw C is set out of centre to obtain more surface for bevel. To operate the gadget, release screw C and slide along the groove D to the required position. The whole affair can be made at a cost of threepence, and an old piece of steel-bed-lath can be cut and filed up to make the piece A. The stock B if made of wood should be either beech, birch or walnut. —H. HARTLEY (Colne). (378)

This simple homemade tool can be easily made and will be found to be a useful device for general work.

Some modifications and improvements would result in a handsome instrument.

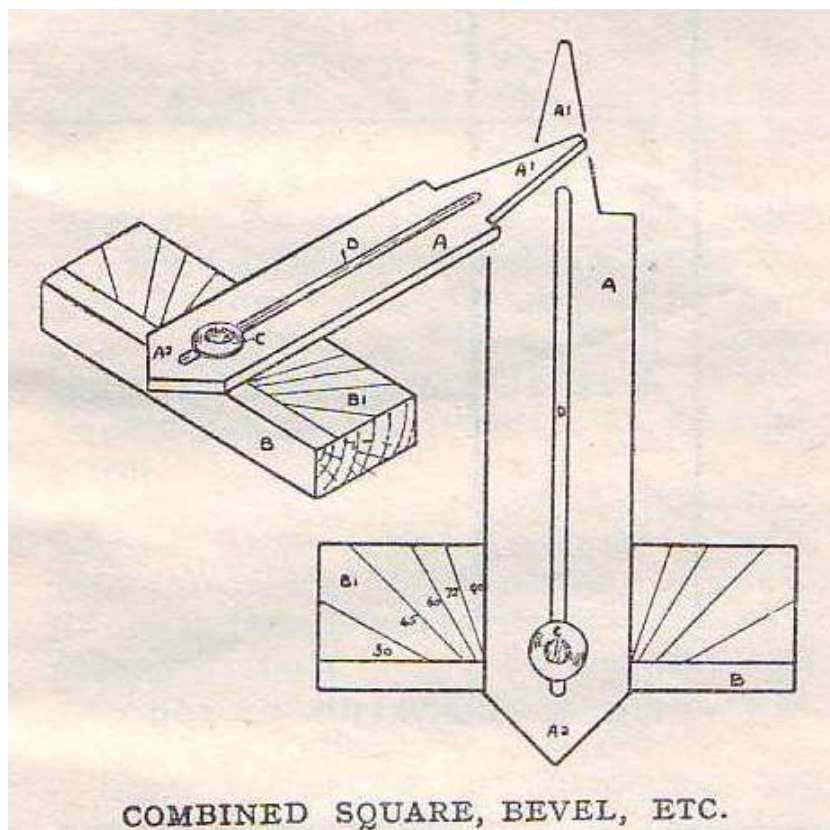
The obvious improvement is to make the stock and the blade the same length so that the tool folds flat.

The stock could be made of a dense wood such as forest oak with the 'lines' sawn in with a fine saw. Alternatively the stock could be faced with brass with the lines etched in for clarity.

The blade could be made of brass or if desired of a harder metal like stainless steel. The locking screw might have a knurled head and be sprung loaded.

For a utility tool use an engineering nylon for every part!

Woodworker June 1935



## American Glue Pots, 1938

The traditional English and American glue pot is a cast iron double water jacketed pot. The standard sizes are given below

Gelatinous glue has to be melted and maintained at a constant temperature. The glue is in the inner pot and is heated by hot water in the outer pot. The inner pot is tinned and it must be kept clean!

Direct heat from a stove top or brazier or from a gas jet was used to heat the pot. Kerosene was widely used in lamps and stoves. The Kerosene glue heater opposite would have appealed to men working in workshops without gas or electricity. This glue heater was also easier to clean and simplified keeping the water, and glue, at the correct temperature. Electricity offered the ideal solution to modern workshops!

The illustrations are reproduced from *Cabinet and Drapery Hardware Catalog* K Lussky, white & Coolidge, Inc., Chicago. USA. September 1938.



**“STA-WARM” ELECTRIC GLUE POTS**

THESE ARE FURNISHED FOR 110 VOLTS UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

Made for use on either direct or alternating currents of standard 110-120 voltage

220 Volts Furnished from Factory Only

The letters A, B, C and D on the cut are respectively described

A. Brush Wiper. Removable when cleaning pot. Saves glue—surplus scraped off brush, falls in pot

B. Heating Element. Wound tightly around aluminum inner wall so heat reaches glue instantly

C. Asbestos Insulation. Holds heat in, as a fireless cooker does

D. Automatic Heat Control or thermostat keeps two-thirds of the electric current turned off, except for a few minutes when starting the cold glue pot.

Makes over-heating impossible. protects heating element from burning out

Old electric glue pots can be found. Some can be easily repaired but some can be lethal. Have the wiring checked by someone qualified! Australian made older electric glue pots do turn up. Hecla are excellent but replacing the element is a major problem. There is an all aluminium glue pot from the 1950s with excellent electrics. However the inner pot will spoil the glue. Have a look in the supermarket or bargain shop for a stainless steel bowl that fits.

**TTTG Workshops Using Woodworking Tools 1& 2 will include a session on using glue pots and pearl glue.**

## Saws without Set

At the peak of quality saw production the American market leader, Henry Disston & Sons, manufactured premium saws to *run without set in dry seasoned lumber*

These saws had a higher temper and were more difficult to sharpen. Any attempt to set the teeth resulted in broken teeth!

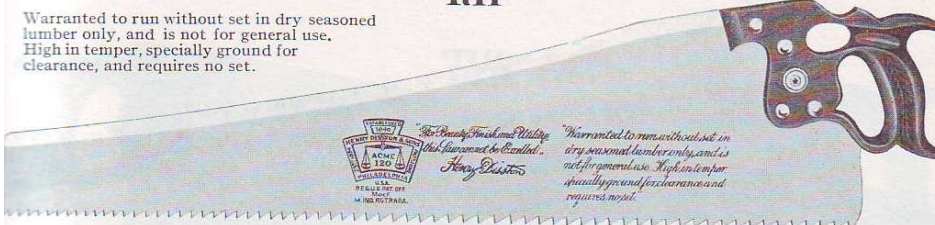
**DISSTON**

**WARRANTED EXTRA LONDON SPRING STEEL, PATENT GROUND AND TEMPERED, HAND, PANEL, AND RIP SAWS**


**No. 120** Acme Skewback, Extra London Spring Steel, Selected and Highly Polished Blade, Warranted, Apple Handle, Carved and Polished, Brass Screws.

**RIP**


Warranted to run without set in dry seasoned lumber only, and is not for general use. High in temper, specially ground for clearance, and requires no set.



**HAND**



**PANEL**



30-inch RIP,		\$40.00	per dozen.
28 " " "		36.00	"

26-inch HAND,		\$32.00	per dozen.
---------------	--	---------	------------

PANEL,	16	18	20	22	24	inches.
	\$22.00	24.00	26.00	29.00	31.00	per dozen.

**Made with Hand or Rip Saw Teeth at same price.**

**NOTE:** A fast, smooth-cutting saw; particularly adapted for fine cabinet work, sawing mitres, and in all instances where rapid, smooth cutting is required. It will cut a joint sufficiently smooth to glue without planing. In sharpening, care must be used to file the teeth at the same angle as they leave the factory. These saws are warranted to run without set in dry, seasoned lumber only, and are not for general use. They are high in temper, specially ground for clearance and require no set.

In order to properly file this saw a DISSTON SIX-INCH SAFE BACK CANT FILE, made expressly for this purpose, should be used.

**For number of screws in Disston Saws, see page 163.**

Packed one-third dozen in box.

# HACKSAWS

**After  
a bout  
with the  
hacksaw**

**DO YOU  
FEEL  
LIKE  
THIS**



Popular Mechanics April 1932

## **A BETTER HACKSAW**

● In addition to its structural superiority, this fine Crescent Hacksaw has a neoprene handle... comfortable and resilient to grip... practically indestructible... impervious to oil, acids, extreme heat or cold. Sold by Hardware Dealers everywhere.



**CRESCENT TOOLS**

*Give Wings to Work*

*Sign of the Artisan  
Symbol of Excellence*

Crescent is our trade-mark, registered in the United States and abroad, for wrenches and other tools. Sold by leading distributors and retailers everywhere and made only  
**CRESCENT TOOL COMPANY, JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK**

Popular Mechanics July 1953

## **SURFING THE NET**

There is a large amount of information available on the internet. At first it can be intimidating but remember that the average high school boy, with a low literacy level, can use this technology. The school boy will use a catch and run approach typically believing everything he hasn't fully read.

***The first rule is to be selective. The second rule is to be critical.***

There is a theory amongst some flat earth adherents that the devil manipulates the internet. Anyone can pretty well put anything on the internet, which largely explains the proliferation of *the blogs* and the *chat rooms*. Much misleading information can be found on these ephemeral sites.

In a future issue of News the editor will examine the blogs and the chat rooms.

### **Old Tools for Sale**

For anyone interested in old tools the easy entry point to the internet is via the sites of dealers in old tools. Start by logging into *GOOGLE*. In the Google search box type in *Hans Brunner Tools*. When Han's site is open go to his menu. Click on *Latest Listings* so you can relax by looking at his recent tools for sale and next click on *Links*. The links will take you to other dealers and to associations dedicated to old tools. On some of these sites you will find tool related publications and old tool catalogues.

### **The Written Stuff**

If you are looking for old tool catalogues try *Rose Antiques* first. This site has a large number of old tool catalogues. You can open these catalogues on screen and read them. After *Rose Antiques* work through every link on every site you find, in time you will develop a feel and become proficient.

*How do you find those rare old textbooks and magazines?* There are several schemes to digitalise all the words in print. This is in its infancy but there is enough presently online to make it worthwhile searching for digital books. The easiest to access is *Google Digital Books*.

You could make a three course meal out of searching for digitalised books or you can do it the easy way. The easy way is to go to *Google Books*. I'm currently using Word 2007, this makes navigating Google fairly easy. A bit of time with your computer and maybe some help from a school boy should get you there! Don't let the computer experts mystify the process and make you feel inadequate.

*When you access the digitalised books you will find that most are copied from American libraries.*

You will find some older English textbooks such as Thomas Martin's *Circle of the Mechanical Arts* published in London in 1810 or American editions of Nicholson's *Practical Builder* and most of the later American text books. Some of these can be read in plain text version. With the right software you can download and copy some of these digitalised books. Don't panic when you try this!

You will also find classic American magazines such as *Popular Mechanics*. But as yet there are not a great number of English magazines available. There are some issues of *English Mechanic* and *Glasgow Mechanic* but as yet no digitalised copies of *Work* or *Building World*.

### **Be Patient**

The scanning quality of this digitalised material is variable. Some is excellent while some is poor. With magazines expect to find the occasional missing, torn or defaced pages. Google has tried to copyright the publications it has digitalised. If you try to copy the material don't expect a smooth passage until you learn some of the tricks. The plain text versions often require editing.

## REVIEW

**The Art Of Joinery Joseph Moxon** with commentary by Christopher Schwarz  
Lost Art Press LLC 2008 Lost Art Press.com

Christopher Schwarz is the editor of Popular Woodworking Magazine and a strong advocate for traditional tools and techniques. This American magazine is arguably the best of the current woodworking magazines. Schwarz is the driving force behind Popular Woodworking and Lost Art Press, in short he is a credible author.

Joseph Moxon's Mechanical Exercises or the Doctrine of Handy-Works, published in serial form beginning in 1678 in England, is the first text book of the mechanical arts. Schwarz has reprinted the section on Joinery. The reprint is in facsimile format with an accompanying commentary.

There are a few minor points that could be argued but the commentary is excellent. Schwarz has succeeded in making Moxon's words accessible to the modern woodworker. He has done so not only by means of his excellent commentary but also by including photographs of modern tools and of the processes described, sometimes vaguely, by Moxon in the original book.

Every woodworker who aspires to traditional quality should study Schwarz's Moxon.

The editor purchased his copy from Lie-Nielsen Australia. [info@lie-nielsen.com.au](mailto:info@lie-nielsen.com.au)

Lie-Nielsen Australia has hand tool related books as well as the full range of Lie-Nielsen tools. The service is excellent. Current price of this book is \$29

**Record Hand Tools** [www.recordhandplanes.com](http://www.recordhandplanes.com)

David Lynch has a web site dedicated to Record Tools.

As soon as this site was installed the TTTG editor started getting enthusiastic comments such as, 'seen the new Record site?', 'the new Record site has get everything', "great stuff, great pictures'.

This is a site that contains a vast amount of material relating to Record Tools UK. It is also a site that is brilliantly formatted and easy to use. The only comment I can make is 'visit the site now'. An additional benefit of this site is David's willingness to share his knowledge with others. If you questions are sensible he will answer them. David is always on the look-out for more information on Record. If you are not sure about that Record tool or old Leaflet or Catalogue contact David.

## RESTORATION

### Restoration of a Record No. 400½

This No. 400½ I got from the UK, and when it arrived from the UK something pierced the box and broke off the top section of the right side. Over some time I tried to find someone that could fix it. After going to The Hand Tool Preservation Association of Australia they said I should speak to Mr Hans Brunner. He said if anyone could fix the 400½ it would be Jim from Nowra in N.S.W. I mailed the 400½ to Jim and when it came back to me I could not believe that it was the same plane. Jim described the process as "Cast Iron Fusion Welding". I then had to clean, lap and re-paint.





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