

NEWS 114



August 2010

TTTG Inc

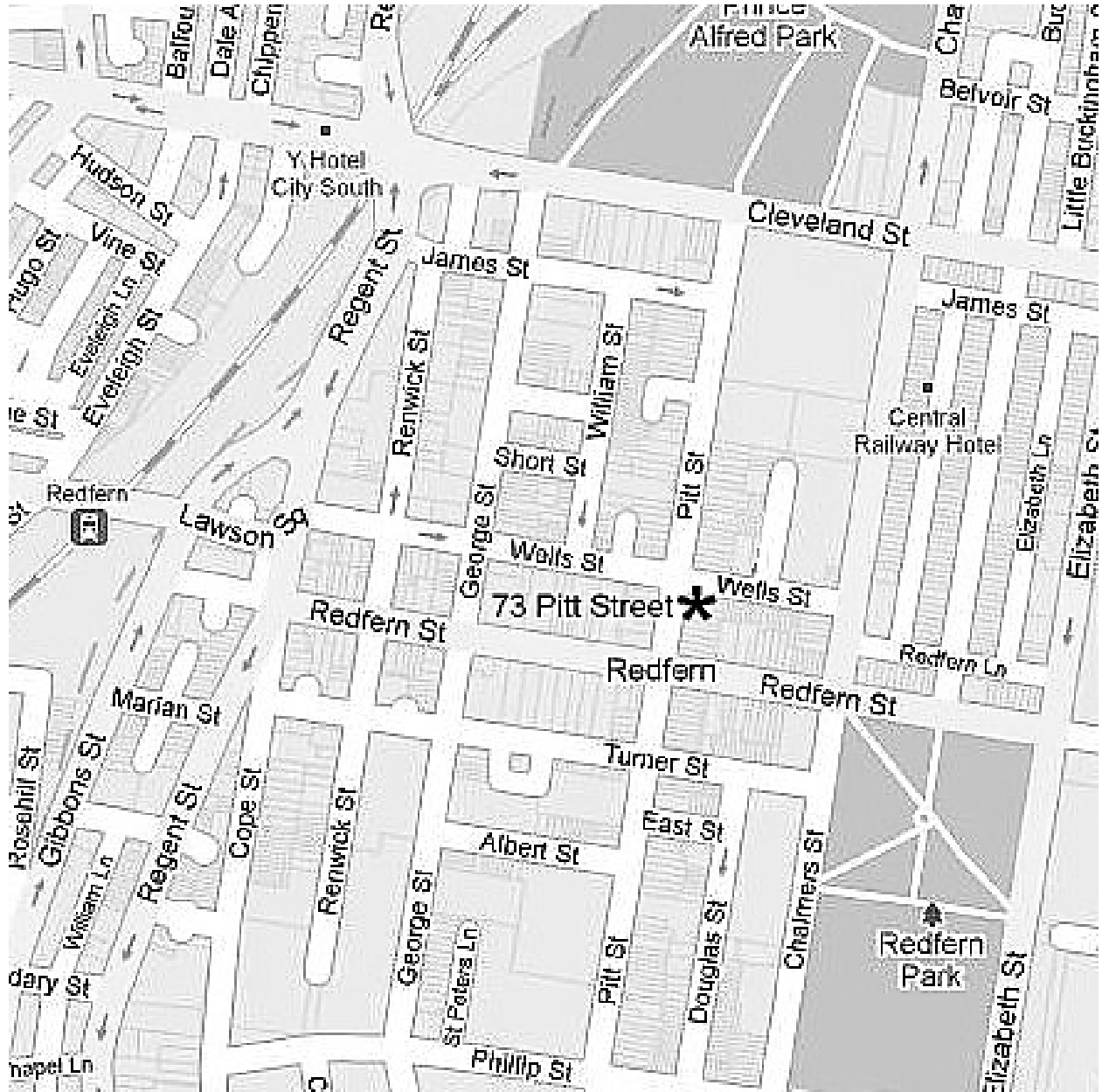
www.tttg.org.au

Next Meeting

Redfern Town Hall

Tuesday August 10th

**Annual General Meeting -then
"Early metal machining."**



Postal Address

P.O. Box N240 Grosvenor Place

Sydney NSW 1220

Membership \$35

Entry \$5

Doors open at 7pm'

Enquires

Mike Williams 02 9144 6356

Bob Crosbie crosbie.bob@gmail.com

www.tttg.org.au

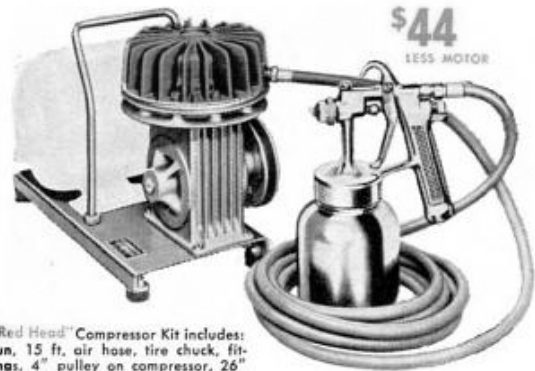
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Cover

This is from Popular Science July 1957.
The red head is holding a spray gun.



"Red Head" Compressor Kit includes: gun, 15 ft. air hose, tire chuck, fittings, 4" pulley on compressor, 26" V-belt, 3½" pulley for mounting on ¼ to 1/3 h.p. motor . . . weight less than 30 lbs. — easily portable.

The 'Red Head' compressor kit was made by Johnson Service Co. Wisconsin USA

Yes the advert was sexist and cheeky even in 1957. Now it is totally inappropriate!

That said it is also brilliant advertising.

If the editor receives a significant number of complaints about this inappropriate cover page he will not stand for re-election.

TTTG (Inc) "HANDS ON" Day

The TTTG Tool Collection is stored in the Strathfield Men's Shed

The hand tools are in tool boxes

There are also two machines:

A Treadle Centre Lathe

A Hand Operated Mortising Machine

The tools need sorting and cleaning

The machines need assembling

"HANDS ON" Date in NEWS 115

Next Meeting

Tuesday August 10

Annual General Meeting

The TTTG Treasurer will table the *annual financial statement*.

This will be followed by a brief report from the TTTG President.

All committee positions will then be declared vacant.

Nominations for committee will be called and accepted.

The 2010/11 TTTG Committee will then be elected by the members.

The 2010/11 TTTG Committee will be published in News 115.

The Presentation

Early metal machining

The machines and the tooling

The last meeting demonstrated strong general interest in metal machining.

Large early machines will not fit into this venue but there will be a large assortment of early machine tooling on display as well as numerous rare machinist's measuring tools.

The Auction

The previous auction was compact but the range of quality items under the hammer pleased the bidders.

Now the lengths of string and old electrical cords have been banned the auction is back on track.

This venue is Alcohol Free

Previous Meeting

Tuesday June 8

Bench Top Metal Machining

The audience came away from this meeting convinced that a small centre lathe is capable of turning surprisingly large work.

They also learnt that at least one *Hercus 260 Lathe* is set up in a TTTG member's kitchen! Why? The kitchen has a concrete floor in his house.

The principal speaker discussed *Bench Top Metal Machining* using a *Emco miniature lathe* to show the possibilities of small machines.

The theoretical principles of metal machining were explained and good practice reinforced by showing a short extract taken from U Tube. This video, with a new voice over, could be sold as a spoof titled 'How not to do it'.

Examples of tooling, old and new, for small metal cutting machines as well as some impressive old 'bench top' machines were on display.

TTTG Inc. Tool Collection

The bulk of the TTTG Tool Collection is in the Strathfield Men's Shed.

The TTTG Library is being gradually moved to this location.

Eventually members will be able to access the Tool Collection and Library at this location by prior arrangement with the committee. TTTG will continue to accept gifts of tools and printed material and will continue to acquire items of significance.

Committee Report

With the next general meeting being the AGM and with the Committee elections being part of the next general meeting it is appropriate to publish a report on the activities of TTTG Inc during 2009/2010.

The Treasurer's Report and the Annual Financial Statement reveal the healthy state of TTTG Inc.'s bank balance. We now have more money even though in the previous year TTTG invested in the first annual TTTG Tool Sale. TTTG Inc. made a modest profit on the Tool Sale but the 2011 Tool Sale will see a far better return as TTTG Inc. has recouped the cost of the trading tables purchased for the first sale.

Having pointed out the healthy state of the group's finances I will let the TTTG Inc.'s Treasurer present the full details in the appropriate place, namely The Ledger.

As TTTG President I will briefly discuss TTTG's achievements in 2009/10.

The top of the list must be the first TTTG Annual Tool Sale. The Committee resolved to have a one hundred percent TTTG Tool Sale and within six months of making the decision had planned and conducted a successful sale. Our projected attendance figures were achieved which meant that the sale returned a modest profit despite the heavy one off cost of the first tool sale.

The Committee made several decisions that restricted the revenue potential of the first tool sale. These were;

- a) \$5 entry fee
- b) Provide vendor tables
- c) Purchase 40 tables

After the first Annual TTTG Tool Sale the Committee analysed the strengths and the weaknesses of the planning for the tool sale and resolved to have a bigger and better TTTG Tool Sale in 2011.

Next on the list must be the workshops

In 2009/10 TTTG introduced a number of new workshops and again offered the old favourites. It is worth briefly mentioning these 'old favourites' as the continuous success of these workshops suggests the committee is getting something right.

The core TTTG workshops are on tool care and sharpening. Two workshops centre on edge tools. The introductory workshop covers all edge tools while concentrating on chisels and plane blades. The following workshop is devoted to fettling planes. Both workshops are always well attended.

The third core workshop is on Hand Saw Sharpening. This workshop is also always well attended and holds the record for the largest number of participants.

The other workshops centre on skills. Blacksmithing is perhaps TTTG's most popular workshop; the other workshops simply can't compete with harbour views.

In 2009/10 workshops on machine use were introduced. The Wood Turning and Routing workshop was successful and has encouraged the TTTG Committee to introduce workshops on electric Routers.

The workshops attempt to cater for the needs of TTTG members and the TTTG Committee is not restricted by any narrow definition of tools as 'traditional' or 'hand'.

Next on the list must be the Meetings

At short notice the Committee had to find an alternative venue while the National Trust Centre was undergoing renovations. *Finding suitable venues in the centre of Sydney at reasonable cost is not easy.* We were fortunate in securing the old Redfern Town Hall. After the next meeting we hope to return to The National Trust.

Lastly NEWS

As editor I try to improve NEWS.

TTTG Workshops

Tool Repairs

September 19

Repairs to Wooden planes
Chisel and plane handles
replacement parts

All basic tools are provided

Tool Repairs will focus on repairs to wooden planes and other wooden tools such as gauges and spoke-shaves. You will learn how to re-mouth planes, make plane wedges and repair moulding planes.

Tool Repairs will also focus on making replacement handles.

Bob Crosbie will demonstrate using a hand held electric router and a pattern board to make saw and plane handles.

Jim Davey will demonstrate how he makes replacement handles for Stanley planes using a router table pattern jigs.

Routers

November 21

Using the electric router safely
Jigs and devices
Pattern routing

Routers will open your eyes to the many uses and possibilities of this machine.

Numerous jigs and devices will be shown.

Please Note:

Hearing protection and suitable foot wear must be worn during TTTG workshops.

Especially when using electric routers you should always wear hearing protection.

Suitable footwear and appropriate clothing are also required at all TTTG Workshops. Light refreshments are provided. Bring your lunch.

Workshop Venue:

**Tool Repairs, *Routers*

Asquith Boys High School

Jersey Street (North) Asquith

These new workshops have been offered in response to members' suggestions.

TTTG wants input from members.

Tell us what you want, we will do our best.

TTTG membership	\$35
Meetings \$5 entry	

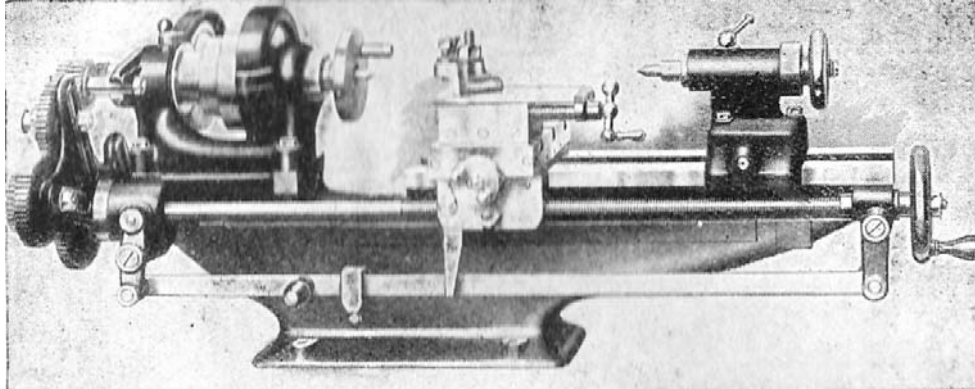
Workshops	
TTTG Members	\$20
Non-members	\$40

Enquires:
The Traditional Tools Group
Inc. P.O. Box 240 Grosvenor
Place Sydney NSW 1220

0419 245 699 98697487



TTTG Inc. MACHINERY



VOLUNTEERS WANTED

TTTG has a collection of old machines.

The machines include:-

2 Mathieson Mortisers

&

1 Drummond Treadle Lathe

The machines require minor repairs and assembly.

The aim is to have the machines in working order.

To achieve this TTTG needs volunteers.

The machines will be available for use by members.

Work on the machines will start at "HANDS ON" Day.

Contact Bob 02 989 7487

Mike 02 9144 6356

MAKING TOOL HANDLES

Plane and Saw Handles

If the old handle is available (even if broken) copy it. If the tool's handle is missing find an identical tool with a complete handle and copy it.

Once you have a handle to copy these are the steps to follow;

- a) Make a template of the handle
- b) Prepare the wood for the handle
- c) Using the template set out the handle
- d) Saw out the shape
- e) Finish the edges to the set out lines
- f) Round the edges
- g) Finish sand the edges

How you make the handle depends on the tools available and the number of handles needed. The first replacement handles I made were true one-offs made with hand tools. I soon realised that virtually all old tool handles were made to standard patterns with only minor variations from one manufacturer to another.

At first I made templates out of cardboard but as the shapes started to reappear I made more lasting templates from thin ply or masonite. The next move was to develop methods of speeding up the production of handles.

Eventually I worked out a fairly fast method of making templates and jigs and an electric router, really a number of routers, to make handles in batches.

I am going to explain how I make tool handles by hand and machine methods. These methods will be demonstrated at the **TOOL REPAIRS WORKSHOP**
Sunday 19th September 2010

Making Templates

Drawing the shape of the handles is both difficult and crucial. Get it wrong and every step that follows is wasted time. I must admit that I usually trace the shape on to the ply or masonite using a pencil. A better method is to use a flexible template but even though I have one I rarely use it! With practice you learn to eye-ball the shape and to trust your own judgement. Both are essential skills for doing any type of shaped work.

I use tempered hardboard or 12mm CD Ply for templates with a scrap of laminex glued to one or to both sides. This makes for a long lasting template that is hard to lose. Cut out the shape and finish the edges before gluing on the laminex. I use AV 180 or Tite Bond to glue laminex.

The ply edges are shaped with sanding bobbins and disc sander followed by a light hand sanding to fair in any bumps. The finished template edges are eye-balled against the original handle. The laminex is glued on to one side of the template and when it is dry it is flush trimmed with a router. Making the template saves time!

I always make two templates. The first template has extra material for securing the handle blank and this template becomes the pattern to be glued on the pattern board. The pattern board is made from 17mm CD plywood (or similar).

If the handle is to be made with a router extra material on the handle blank allows it to be fixed to a "pattern" board.

Before gluing the pattern to the pattern board I drill the holes for securing the blanks and then trace the shape from the pattern onto 12mm CD ply and transfer punch the pin-hole positions. The shape is sawn and the holes drilled. The ply is secured to the pattern and flush trimmed and becomes the 'final shape' template.

Securing Pins

The sawn out handle blanks are secured to the pattern board by counter head machine screws or by pressing onto projecting pins. ¼" BSW T-Nuts on the back of the pattern board hold the screws or pins.

Once the pattern is glued to the pattern board I fix the 12mm CD plywood template blank to the pattern and rout the edges. Then I mark out the final shape of the handle on this blank and saw and finish the edges. After facing with laminex and flush trimming this template becomes the 'finished shape' template.

The first template (the pattern) can be used to mass produce any number of templates and handles so it is worth getting it right. The initial care and time expended saves considerable time in the long run.

Preparing the wood for the handle

First measure the thickness of the original handle. Plane the timber to a fraction over thickness. *This 'fraction' is in old measure two or three fag papers or three hairs.*

If the handle is to be shaped with a router allow extra width for mounting the blank to the pattern board. Also drill holes in the extra material for the locating pins. When making a new tool handle from expensive timber you can save money by edge gluing a strip of scrap wood to the blank to make up the width.

Setting out the handle

Remember to get the most handles from the wood. Especially when making more than say six handles careful making out of 'shapes within shapes' can save quite a bit of timber. Also take care to get the grain direction correct.

With the handle blanks prepared, set out the shapes by running a sharp pencil around the 'final shape' template.

Sawing out the handles

A bandsaw is the ideal tool but a coping saw or bowsaw will do the job.

Shaping the handle edges

For a one off handle, hand tools are fine. Spoke shave, single cut wood file, even a Stanley Knife, followed by hand sanding are the appropriate tools to use. A disc sander and a bobbin sander are useful machines but not really essential.

When making more than one handle I use a hand held router with a flush trim bit with a bottom mounted bearing. By gluing a pattern (made from 12mm CD ply and faced with laminex), to a base board the handle blank can be mounted on top of the pattern. The flush trim bit will finish the blank to the shape of the template fixed to the pattern board. Extra timber has to be left on the blank to allow it to be fixed to the template.

After flush trimming the edges I remove the handle blank from the pattern board. The rounding over of the edges is done with a rounding over bit with a bearing guide. The blank is mounted on a base board (17mm CD ply) with projecting pins matching the pin holes drilled in the handle blank.

After rounding the edges I saw away the extra wood and finish to the set out lines using a disc sander for the convex shape and a plane for the flats.

If I'm making a handle for a Bailey type plane I will then bore out the handle. A saw handle will be slitted and bored.

Hand sanding removes the machine marks and the handle is ready for fitting!

I will bring my templates and pattern boards and routers to the

TOOL REPAIRS WORKSHOP

19th September 2010

Jim Davey will demonstrate another method using a router table.

Tool Repairs

September 19

*Repairs to Wooden planes
Chisel and plane handles
Making replacement parts*

Why is TTTG offering a workshop on tool repairs?

This isn't the first TTTG workshop on repairing tools.

The *Plane Fettleing* workshop includes repairs to metal and wood planes.

The *Saw Sharpening* workshop covers repairs to saw blades and handles.

The *Spindle Turning & Pattern Routing* workshop covered making handles for planes, saws and chisels.

TTTG has decided to consolidate the topic of Tool Repairs in one workshop.

Why you should attend the Tool Repairs workshop.

This workshop builds on the core TTTG workshops.

Many TTTG members have requested the content of this new workshop.

There are no other workshops on the topics covered in this new workshop.

Only TTTG offers a 'hands on' way to learn how to repair hand tools.

Where else can you take an old tool and ask

***'how do I fix it'
and not get***

'buy a new one'?

Only TTTG teaches how!

Tool Repairs workshop content

* *Repairs to Wooden planes*

Cleaning

Broken handles

Re-mouthing

* *Chisel and plane handles*

Repairing Handles

Turning knobs and handles

Making plane and saw handles

* *Making replacement parts*

Producing a template

Selecting material

How to do it:

Hand Methods

Machine Methods

BRING THE TOOLS YOU WANT TO REPAIR AND FIND OUT HOW TO REPAIR THEM

Some materials and old tools will be on sale at this workshop.

TTTG membership	\$35
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Meetings \$5 entry	
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Workshops	
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TTTG Members	\$20
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Non-members	\$40
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Enquires

The Traditional Tools Group Inc.

P.O. Box 240 Grosvenor Place

Sydney NSW 1220

0419 245 699 98697487

TTTG CITRIC ACID

THE BEST & CHEAPEST

Available at all TTTG Inc. Meetings & workshops

Support TTTG and save money!



For tough rust

USE

TTTG Citric Acid

ONE SIZE

ONE TTTG PRICE

500 grams for \$5

(Supermarket price 75grams \$2.20)

Look! Router At Work



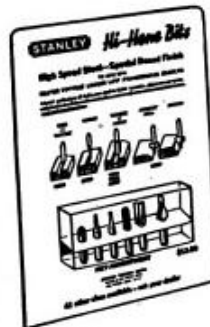
Those of you who have never used a router need only see one at work to be fascinated . . . need only try one to want it for your own shop.

The router shown here, cutting a decorative edge, is Stanley's No. H15. Its $\frac{1}{4}$ hp Stanley-built motor powers a wide variety of bits at a smooth cutting 27,000 rpm. For heavier duty we recommend the $\frac{1}{2}$ hp Stanley H45 Router.

Look Again! It's A Shaper



Now it's a shaper! The Stanley Router converts to a useful shaper when mounted on your work bench as above, using the special shaper adapter kit. Same router motor powers shaper. With H15 Router use Kit H127 . . . Kit H26 if you have H45.



You'll want a variety of bits for your router. This H27 Assortment of "Hi-Hone" bits gives you 6 of the most popular. Your dealer has a full selection of Stanley bits and cutters for router and shaper. Start with the H27 pack and add as you need.

Stanley Routers are on display at your favorite hardware store or building supply dealer's. Ask for a demonstration. For further details send for Catalog 400. Write Stanley Electric Tools, 2503 Myrtle St., New Britain, Connecticut.



STANLEY

Routers

Workshop November 21

Popular Science March 1956

*Using the router safely
Jigs and devices
Pattern routing*

Why is TTTG offering a workshop on electric routers?

TTTG is not a fundamentalist group only recognising hand tools.

As the advertisement opposite shows electric routers have been around for a long time. In a sense they are hand held tools driven by a motor rather than driven by human muscle.

Whether the cutter is powered by muscle or wiring the human brain really controls how it shapes stuff.

The advert also shows how routers have always been seen as a power tool that can be adapted to many uses.

The advertising copy writers have given up on 'a router can also be a shaper' to promoting after sale extras like the latest router table. Wait a minute, isn't this the same concept from 1956 but now repackaged for a market with deeper pockets?

Why attend the Routing workshop?

The short answer is 'you will learn lots of stuff about these machines.'

For members interested only in old tools there will be some 1950s and 60s routers to 'play' with (and even use).

Do not buy the latest router table but learn how to make a router table from scrap and an old router.

What the Routers workshop covers

If you attended the previous workshop **Tool Repairs** September 19 you will

already have some idea of how routers can be used to make replacement handles and other wooden tool parts.

Pattern Routing techniques will be included in the Routers workshop. The examples will go beyond making tool parts and will include many types of shaped work such as built up work like table rims and drawer fronts.

Both pattern routing with the router hand held and pattern routing on a router table will be included.

Jigs and devices will be explained in detail. Jigs for machining tenons and trenches will be introduced. For those only interested in making tools there will be examples of jigs for making tool parts like saw and plane handles.

You will learn how to make accurate jigs without spending up on expensive materials and accessories.

Using the router safely underpins everything so bring some hearing protection and wear suitable shoes.

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The Traditional Tools Group Inc. P.O. Box 240 Grosvenor Place Sydney NSW 1220	
0419 245 699 98697487	

THE LEDGER

New Members

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

Andrew Kent	M 590
Steve Cichocki	M 591
Newton Miller	M 592
Kevin Winter	M 593
John Marinov	M 594
Andrzej Sitkowski	M 595
Janet Merewether	M 596
Dhiresk Prakash	M 597
Geoff Farris	M 598

IMPORTANT !!

TTTG Meeting of 10 August, 2010 still at Redfern Town Hall

TTTG's August 10 meeting will be held at Redfern Town Hall
Second Floor Meeting Room
73 Pitt Street (Cnr. Wells St.)
Redfern

The hall is booked from 6:30 to 10:30 pm. Meeting starts at 7 pm. Parking is fairly easy to find after 6pm.

We are still at Redfern Town Hall because the renovations at our usual venue, the National Trust Building on Observatory Hill, are behind schedule.

Please check the next issue of TTTG NEWS (No. 115 October, 2010) or see our website www.tttg.org.au for information about the venue for the October meeting..

Why we need your E-mail address

After each mailout of TTTG NEWS, we usually receive a few back stamped "Return to Sender, Not Known at this Address". When moving house a member has so many organizations to notify that it would be easy to forget TTTG. If we have your E-mail address, it's easy to contact you and find out where you now live. Also if a time or venue for a TTTG event has to be changed at short notice then having your E-mail address would expedite letting you know. If you don't remember having previously sent us your E-mail address or if you've changed your E-mail address, please let me know at treasurer@tttg.org.au

2010-11 TTTG SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE OVERDUE

Subscriptions are based on the financial year 1st July to 30th June; therefore

TTTG SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW OVERDUE !!

Those unfinancial members who do not send their \$35 subscription immediately will not receive their October TTTG NEWS.

For financial reasons, the print runs on TTTG NEWS are limited so if you haven't paid your subscription and you don't pay it now, you may not receive your October TTTG NEWS.

Similarly, for financial reasons, a separate subscription renewal notice

is not posted separately to members. The Subscription renewal Notice is always included in or with TTTG NEWS towards the end of the financial year.

Am I being unreasonable to expect all TTTG members to at least turn over the pages of each issue of TTTG NEWS (and as a consequence find a Subscription Renewal Notice)?

Recalcitrants (whose membership numbers appear in the Subscription Renewal Notice in this issue of TTTG NEWS

PLEASE SEND YOUR SUBSCRIPTION PAYMENT NOW !

Payments may be made by cheque, by cash at TTTG meetings and workshops or online by PayPal.

For details of how to pay by PayPal, please see the June 2010 issue of TTTG News (NEWS 113) or see TTTG's website: www.tttg.org.au

TTTG Workshop

On Sunday 19th September, 2010 at Asquith Boys' High School, starting at 9:15 am, TTTG will be holding an all-day **Tool Repairs Workshop**. This workshop has been requested by several TTTG members and will be the first time it has been held.

TTTG workshops teach not just skills but provide a day of fun and camaraderie. Many of the new members listed at the start of "The Ledger" joined as a result of their attendance at TTTG workshops.

Workshops \$20 members; \$40 non-members, (non-members may join on the day to enjoy the numerous delights of TTTG membership). No need to book, just turn up. Tea/Coffee and bickies provided; bring your lunch if required.

Replacing a Socket Chisel Handle

There have been many suggestions on how to get the taper right when making a replacement handle for a socket chisel. I've greased the inside of the socket, inserted a flathead nail (head first) and filled the socket with silicon sealant; but it takes many days for the silicon sealant to set. Our southern correspondent, honorary foundation member Terry Butcher, suggested using candle grease. Others have suggested filling the socket with molten lead. I've successfully used bent clothes hanger wire to duplicate the internal taper.

BUT a great method has been suggested by Bruce Vansloun on the OldTools website (June 16, 1997) and raised again recently by Ed in Ottawa (Vol. 57, Issue 42, Message 25). Place a flathead nail, head first, into the socket with its point protruding out of the socket. Crumple up aluminium foil and tightly pack it into the socket around the nail (use a suitable flat head pin punch to pack it in whilst holding the chisel blade in a vice or similar). Grab the protruding nail with a pair of vice grip pliers and pull it out together with the tightly packed aluminium foil and, voila, you have a

perfect reproduction of the socket's internal taper.

The Carter Challenge

Carter planes are rough and ready tools manufactured in Australia at the end of, and for several years after the war to fill a need for planes during a time of shortage of British, American and European tools.

They are sometimes maligned for their "agricultural" appearance BUT when fettled in accordance with Jim Davey's TTTG Plane Tuning Workshop, Carter planes can be easily adjusted to take a wispy shaving. I've brought a 2" Carter No. 5 jackplane up to speed so that the shaving drifted off into the air.

My next challenge will be to tune-up a \$15 Chinese #4 to prove that by following Jim Davey's instructions, virtually any plane can be made to work satisfactorily.

Jim will again be holding his Plane Tuning and Edge Tool Sharpening Workshops in 2011. If you missed his workshops this year, make sure you don't miss them in 2011. I guarantee that no matter how good you are now at sharpening, you'll be amazed how good you are after attending the Workshops.

I Pontificate on Spokeshaves

The best spokeshave ever made (wood or iron) is the adjustable mouth Stanley #52/53 (and some of its clones).

They are no longer made by Stanley but may occasionally be found at Tool Sales for about \$20. The Kunz #53 is a "modern" clone but look out for the original Stanley.

If you've struggled adjusting iron spokeshaves in the past, you'll find the #52/53 a pleasure to use.

Timber and Working With Wood Expo

In my capacity as TTTG's liaison officer with the T&WWW Show management, I would like to thank, on behalf of TTTG, all those TTTG members who helped on the TTTG stand and on the competition supervision roster.

What a Great Day !

What a fun day was had by all on Sunday 4th July, 2010 at TTTG's Blacksmithing Workshop made possible by the "Heritage Shipyard" and by the expert instructors who gave of their time and expertise. See report in this issue of TTTG News and some colour photographs of the event on the back cover.

TTTG Now in its 20th Year !

TTTG now enters its 20th year; founded in August, 1991. (I've been a member since 1993 and wish I'd joined earlier.)

Clynt Sheehy
Treasurer

ATTENTION RECALCITRANTS ! TTTG SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW OVERDUE

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

Find your Membership Number; it appears, preceded by the letter "M", on the top left of the address label on the envelope which enclosed this issue of TTTG NEWS.

If your Membership Number is among the following numbers, then TTTG has not received your 2010-11 subscription as at 20th July, 2010:

9, 12, 68, 165, 184, 232, 233, 245, 251, 252, 266, 284, 300, 306, 307, 311, 312, 338, 339, 344, 384, 389, 406, 437, 440, 481, 485, 486, 493, 495, 496, 497, 498, 513, 514, 515, 520, 521, 522, 523, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 542, 543, 546, 548, 533, 554, 559, 560, 563, 565, 566, 571, 572, 574 .

If your number is here (and your cheque is not already in the mail), then unless you send your \$35 immediately, then this will be your last TTTG NEWS.

For economic reasons, TTTG NEWS print runs are limited and late payers may not be assured of a missed copy of NEWS.

**PLEASE FORWARD A CHEQUE FOR *\$35
(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 \$30

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.

CARTER PRECISION TOOLS

Alan Jacobs

Call me 'Don Quixote' but I think that it is high time that someone declare their admiration for the Carter Bros because of their admittedly imperfect planes. The fact that our revered Chairman Bob can make quips like the following, for me at least hints at a number of reasons why we should re-evaluate and be more positive about what the Carter Bros achieved in the early 1950's.

'Each Carter Plane is unique i.e. it presents the user with its own unique set of problems.' Bob Crosbie at a plane sharpening workshop, probably not a strictly accurate quote but the reader will get the idea.

This type of humour was taken to a new level with the cover image and 'explanation' found on page 3 of TTTG News 113 June 2010. For those who don't have the magazine handy – what we see and read is that Jim Davey was tricked into holding a Carter plane i.e. a tool that 'in normal circumstances Jim refuses to pick up [as] ... Carter planes are among the few planes that he will refuse to fettle.' While Jim is beyond reproach for his skill, dedication and knowledge, I wish to argue that we all should be a little more forgiving of the Carters.

What follows are a few reasons why I believe that we should hold the Carters and their products in high regard and grant them an honoured place in the increasingly sad history of Australian manufacturing.

Why do I say 'sad'?

In modern marketing parlance – Australia is failing to 'add value' and instead is increasingly becoming the 'quarry' of the world. This translates to a diminishing manufacturing sector and an over-reliance on global marketers like China for manufactured goods.

Firstly, I think we all agree that oligarchic hardware chains like Bunnings etc have resulted in a marketplace that today is characterised by poor quality mass produced tools [nowadays predominantly Chinese or Indian]. In some ways this is simply the latest manifestation of the process started by our forebears and the Industrial Revolution.

Starting out in England and then in Europe, the Industrial Revolution [among other things] resulted in the development of woodworking tools that were more 'standardised' than in the past. In other words, industrialisation of the British and European economies meant that each tool was no longer close to a 'one off'. Instead the Industrial Revolution resulted in the existence of 'categories' of tools whereby each tool was virtually indistinguishable from other tools in the same category.

Also, the Industrial Revolution heralded the widespread emergence of 'branded' range(s) of tools. Some academics refer to the pre-industrial world as archetypically a workplace where 'the workmanship of risk' was higher than in the era that followed. Here 'risk' is used in the sense that every tool was unique, the creation of an artisan and consequently liable to imperfection.

The Industrial Revolution created a workplace where 'risk' in terms of product uniqueness and eccentricity was anathema and where lack of variation (homogenisation) was the goal.¹

The trend towards homogenisation that was instituted by the Industrial Revolution was most relentlessly pursued in North America where they fought to find a way to perform tasks with relatively unskilled labour. The key means by which the North Americans pursued their modernising project was via innovation and standardisation of tools and processes.

The challenge facing the North Americans was that they lacked both the traditions and class based skills set of Europe but, instead they had motivated manpower and found a way to 'incentivise' this labour force. In essence, they were hell bent on transforming their world by whatever means was available. Thus, we saw the rise of Taylorism, production lines and standardised tools that 'made up' for the lack of training and skill of the user.

Now I am not for a minute claiming that the Carter Bros were anything but the inheritors of the Industrial Revolution. However, I think that we should acknowledge that the circumstances under which they worked were 'difficult' and in some small way they were closer to the 'risk taking' artisanal tool maker than the homogenised perfection of Stanley and Record. In this way, I think, that the fact that 'every Carter is different' is a reason for us to be more than a little interested in their story and retrospectively honour what they (and others like Robert McConnell in Brisbane) tried to achieve in post World War 2 Australia.

What do we know about the Carter Bros and their factory in western Sydney?

To my knowledge – we know very little about the Carters. Trevor Semmens in his *Australian Woodworking Planemakers* is one of the few sources that I can find re Carter. Frustratingly, the Carter segment in Semmens' book takes up only a few pages but thankfully he at least gives us some tantalising glimpses of the Carter Bros. and their 'works' like the following:

"Realising that at the end of the second World War there would be a need for tools suitable for the post war effort, brothers Frank and Jack Carter started their tool manufacturing business in late 1945 ...at a small shop next door to a general engineering business called Lee Bros. in Church Street, Parramatta.

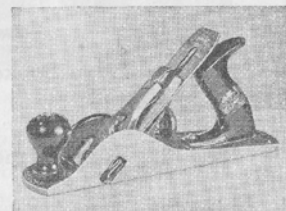
They started out by hiring time on Lee Bros. machines." ²

Reading between the lines, we might conclude that the Carter Bros were doing it tough in a post war Australian economy where 'going without' and 'making do' was the norm. Yet, the Carters had sufficient entrepreneurial spirit to launch a business venture on a proverbial shoestring. Moreover, in some small way, the Carters represent a 'nationalist' endeavour in the face of increasing globalisation after WW2. The story gets even more intriguing as Semmens details the origins of their enterprise and the challenges that they faced.

"Their plane making started as a result of Frank Carter visiting a wholesaler and returning with two Record planes from which Jack Carter made a pattern and had castings made by the Lidcombe Iron Foundry. They used and adapted "with a lot of work and ingenuity" machinery and equipment from the redundant Lithgow Small Arms Factory to make their planes production line."

If we were uncharitable, we could be forgiven for concluding that the Carter Bros. 'knocked off' the design for their planes from Record and cobbled together machinery from what was left over from the war effort. However, they also brought to bear a spirit of experimentation and innovation.

H640—Carter No. C1 Bench Rabbet Plane



Length 11½in., cutter, 2½in.

Fitted with double cutting iron. Used for cross-grain rabbeting (or rebating), general rabbeting and for finishing off and smoothing rabbets previously made with other single-cutter rabbet planes. It is wider than all other Bench Rabbet Planes on the market, and with that advantage can also be used as an ordinary smoothing plane.

The next part of the story related by Semmens is even more tantalising as we are given more insights into what is starting to look like an Australian 'larrikin' way of doing business that is small business 'renegades' fighting for survival in an environment dominated by 'big' business growing fat via monopolistic power.

"... they built a lean-to at the back of Lee Bros business which evidently did not meet Dept. of Labour and Industry requirements resulting in them being closed down. Somewhere between 1949 and 1952 through the help of the Development Bank they were able to borrow sufficient money to buy land and build their own factory... It was at these new premises that they made their own castings for planes and also a range of woodworking vices, engineering vices and G clamps. They manufactured every part of the range of planes from the original wooden patterns to the raw castings, the chrome plating, the wooden handles, the plane blades and plane adjusting screws etc. The blades were cut from sheets of tool steel imported from Sweden, and all the processes were done by themselves i.e. stamping, punching, bevelling, heat treating, surface grinding and sharpening."

This suggests than the Carters should be positioned towards the 'workmanship of risk taking' end of the spectrum rather than the end that represents ruthless regimentation and production line efficiency. My point is essentially that you can consider the high level of variability associated with Carter tools as a 'problem' or you can re-frame this as indicative of an enterprise that still valued 'having a go' with its attendant lack of perfection. In any case, I am intrigued and want to find out more about the experience and worldview of the Carters and those like them. They represent a rapidly dimming world that existed before the values of rigid homogenisation became all pervading.

While I have to acknowledge that homogenisation is not a 'bad thing'- unfortunately in the modern world of manufactured tools there is a tendency towards planned obsolescence/low price. This context is made all the more woeful by the 'de-skilling' of woodworkers who are really 'assemblers' today and their tools that typically lack elegance. To my way of thinking this is an infinitely poorer world than that populated by the true tradesmen of an earlier time.

Semmens notes that Carter Bros closed their doors in 1960 after moving from Parramatta to Seven Hills. One can only surmise that this was at least in part due to the re-introduction into Australia of global tool brands with their stricter tolerances and levels of quality control. Obviously, this was a 'good thing' in many ways but I cannot help feeling a little sad at the demise of Carter Bros. and yearn to find out more about them.

So call me Don Quixote but I would be very pleased for any leads or information that will allow me to continue to learn more about the Carters.

Notes

- 1) The Nature and Art of Workmanship. David Pye. 2007.
- 2) Australian Woodworking Planemakers. Trevor Semmens. 1998.

Illustration is from an undated, 1955? Goodall & Co. Pty. Ltd, catalogue. Is this plane a Carter innovative design?

*Alan Jacobs is neither Spanish nor a masochist and, believe it or not, does have a sense of humour. He intends no disrespect to Bob Crosbie and Jim Davey. In fact, he is incredibly grateful for the knowledge and good humour that Bob Crosbie and Jim Davey freely dispense at TTTG workshops.

Alan can be contacted by email- alanjacobsresearch@bigpond.com

Spark Tests

Steel identification

At the TTTG workshops on sharpening and tool maintenance the presenter will often be asked the question

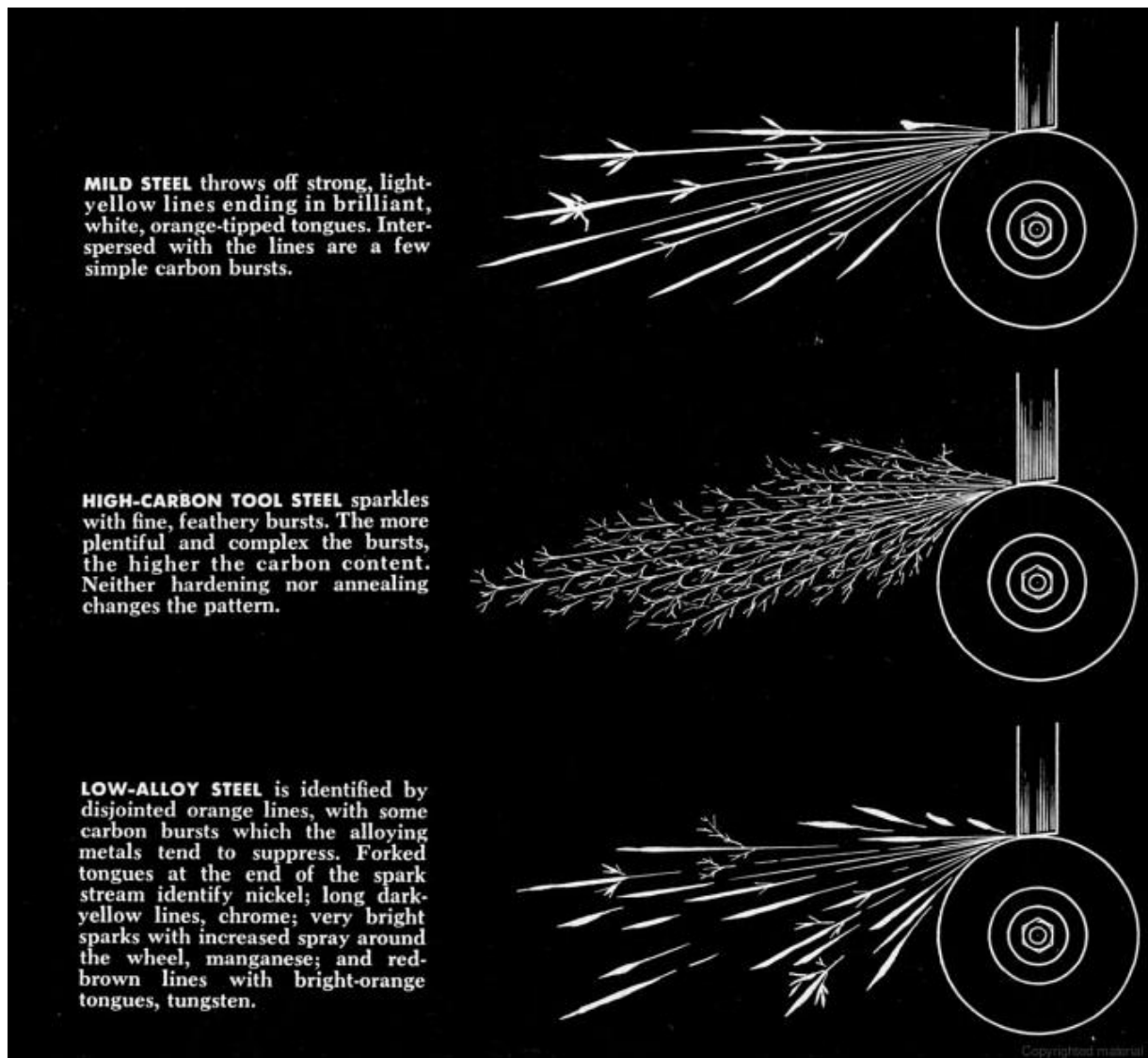
“CAN I TELL THE TYPE OF STEEL?”

The easiest guide to the type of steel is the line of sparks from the grinding wheel.

The drawing below provides an excellent reference. It is worth copying, enlarging and mounting above your grinder.

The spark pattern reveals the composition of the steel.

The spark pattern does not indicate the hardness of the steel.



Popular Science November 1955

To learn more about grinding tools attend a TTTG workshop.

JD'S

John Daniel

An ECSCO Saw Set

While demonstrating woodturning recently at a local event I was approached by a young bystander in his early sixties enquiring if I would like a couple of old saws and a saw set plus some other bits and pieces. After deliberating for a couple of seconds I instinctively said 'yes'.

I called to see the man later that afternoon and gratefully accepted the tools, which include several saws, one a *D8 Disston cross cut*, a nice little *ECSCO saw set* and a *24 Ounce Cheney hammer* needing a new handle.



I'll focus on the saw set.



This was in its original box, complete with the instructions. The *ECSCO No. 759B*, as can be seen from the photo, is a pistol grip saw set similar to the *Stanley No. 42 saw set* in frame only, utilizing a rotating anvil similar to the *Silex saw set*, rather than the vertical adjusted 'anvil' of the *Stanley No. 42 saw set*.



The *ECSCO saw set* is a comfortable tool to use giving a clear view of the teeth being set, and is especially suited for use on tenon saws as the 'striker' is much finer than the average saw set.

The instruction leaflet gives precise advice of use to amateur 'saw doctors' and a good reminder for seasoned veterans that may have slipped into slack practice.

The kind offer from a generous onlooker was well appreciated and this saw set will be well used, particularly at future TTTG Saw Sharpening workshops.



The next Saw Sharpening Workshop

This workshop will be offered in early 2011

Old saws are sold at all TTTG Workshops.

How to Use this Saw Set

The following instructions for the use of this saw set are not intended for those who are familiar with the manner in which saws should be set. They are intended as suggestions for those who may not know how to set saws to obtain the best results.

TO SET SAW FOR AVERAGE CONDITIONS

- Determine the number of teeth per inch of your saw. Place saw in vice with the teeth up.
- Adjust anvil pointer of saw set to dial number corresponding with number of teeth per inch of saw.
- Adjust gauge screw under plunger, so saw blade passes easily between end of screw and anvil.
- Starting at one end, set each alternate tooth by pressing lever. The direction of set is correct when thin, cutting edges of teeth are bent outward.
- Reverse direction of saw in vice and set remaining alternate teeth in opposite direction.
- File teeth after setting. A keen cutting edge and correct bevel on each tooth is necessary. Cross cut saw teeth require more bevel than rip saws.

HARD WOOD. For unusually hard, dry woods, reduce the amount of set. Adjust the anvil pointer to higher number.

SOFT WOOD. For soft, wet woods the amount of set must be increased. Adjust anvil pointer to lower number on dial.

NOTE. The depth of set or distance tooth is bent over should not be more than one half the depth of entire tooth. A greater amount will weaken teeth and cause them to break.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

The copy of the ECSCO No.759B saw set instructions wasn't in the best condition so it has been retyped to make it more legible..

Domestic Affairs

The editor often speculates on how NEWS is received by TTTG members and by their families.

When the editor found this cartoon in *Popular Science* November 1957 he just couldn't wait to republish it!



ARTICLES WANTED

The editor encourages all TTTG members to put pen to paper and send something to News.

If it interests you it will probably interest other TTTG members.

Don't be afraid of giving it a go.
The content is the important part.
Polishing the words is my job.

ONLINE ADVERTISEMENTS

If I had enough advertisements I would include them in NEWS.

Perhaps print adverts are now old technology and we need to go online.

What do you think?

Anyone with suggestions should contact the TTTG NEWS editor, preferably by email.

Estwing Selling Hammers

the NEW
Estwing



**A REAL MAN'S GIFT
FOR HOME AND HOBBIES**

The advertisers in the 1950s could sell anything. Even hammers were glamorised with that extra something.
Popular Science June 1956
Popular Science November 1955



Henry's
SYDNEY TOOL SALE & SWAP

Sunday AUGUST 15th 2010
Strathfield Mens Shed
28 Pomeroy Street Homebush
Doors open 9am to 1pm
Entry \$6



Tools *ancient* and **modern** of all types
For working in both wood and metal

Sellers enquiries ring 9744 7875 ah

Home-made Tools

It is tempting to make some of the home made power tools illustrated in News but adhere to current safe work practices.



It's new! It's homemade! This

Electric Hacksaw Cuts Metal Fast

By Willard Slay

WIRED ELBOW GREASE. This hacksaw packs its own muscle. It will cut electric conduit, saw notches in angle iron for bending, and do a dozen other cutting chores. It's safely designed, too—all but a 4½" section of the blade is fully enclosed.



Weighing only 9½ pounds, the tool is so well balanced that it feels even lighter. Its endless blade is almost four times as long as that of an ordinary hacksaw, and

Popular Science January 1956

The golden age of Yankee ingenuity was probably the 1950s and 1960s. Some would argue these were also the peak years of American self delusion.

Whatever your viewpoint mid 20th century US of A is well documented in popular publications such as Popular Mechanics and Popular Science.

2010 SYDNEY WORKING WITH WOOD AND TIMBER SHOW

TTTG Inc was at the first Sydney Timber and Working With Wood Show and at all subsequent Working With Wood Shows. The author of this contribution has put in his three days at all these events.

He has chosen to not disclose his identity.

There are TTTG Inc members who could verify the accuracy of these observations.

Day one of the Show witnessed the birth of the species '**old tool instant expert**'. The species has gone forth and multiplied and now visits wood shows in greater numbers. The stance and gait of these individuals is distinctive. So distinctive that to provide a description could well invite accusations of defamation.

The '**old tool instant experts**' are either

Boastful or Bashful

As **boastful** suggests this category of '**old tool instant expert**' simply has to show how much he knows. This bravado may be an attempt at intimidating others.

As **bashful** suggests this category of 'old tool instant expert' is reluctant to share his knowledge. This reticence may be genuine or it may be an empowering strategy or even a cry for help!

'Old tool instant experts' are always male!

As in the past at this year's show **boastful** and **bashful** members of the general public were out in force. As in 2009 they were a little better behaved than in the previous years. No doubt the reduced size of the show contributed to a saner event.

I remember the all time champion **boaster** who started by asking '**do you know what wooden planes are made from?**' quickly boasting '**I do, coconut trees**'.

No doubt everyone who has assisted on the TTTG can tell a similar story ripe with the stuff of true comedy or is it tragedy?

Jim Davey had the fortune or misfortune to be approached by the outstanding 2009 **bashful** expert. I witnessed the event. The individual paced first right then left along Jim's display of old fettle Stanley planes. After a few minutes he spoke to Jim with this question '**When did Stanley buy out Bedrock?**'

Now Jim Davey is a patient man but he doesn't have much tolerance for what he calls the '**wood wally factor**'.

To his credit Jim tried to have a rational discussion but he was cut short by a detailed account of how Stanley Tools acquired Bedrock complete with dates.

The outstanding 2010 boastful expert managed to match or perhaps surpass the 2009 boastful expert.

See:

WOOD SHOW WONDERS RARE STANLEY PLANE

One can extend a degree of empathy for such self delusional individuals. If only they would stop trying to impress others with their spurious knowledge they would perhaps embrace wider horizons, perhaps form friendships, relax and enjoy living.

When it comes to the **Boastful** old tool instant expert it is hard to extend the hand of human kindness. Perhaps this is a deficiency in the writer's personality.

'Why does it cost so much?' was often heard when Bed Rock planes were being examined. Jim patiently explained how the Bed Rocks were the premium Stanley planes and how the plane had been tuned to give top performance.

Often the potential buyers' eyes glazed over as he asked '**What do you mean?**'

Will 2011 bring forward such gems?

WOOD SHOW WONDERS

RARE STANLEY PLANE

He walked out of nowhere to tell Jim Davey that he had seen the rarest Stanley plane ever made.

Not the comparatively common Stanley #1 but the infinitely rarer **Stanley #3 ½**.

He had seen it, it was real, no one else had seen one, he could have brought it but he didn't.

Then he faded back into the crowd.

Will he return in 2011?



PLANES

FULLY FETTLED (TUNED) AND SHARP
STANLEY BAILEY, BEDROCK & BLOCK PLANES
FETTLING SERVICE, REPAIRS, WELDING

TRADE PRICES ON:



DMT DIAMOND PLATES - DIA-SHARP PLATES



ICE BEAR & KING WATERSTONES

M2 HSS ACADEMY BLADES, LEATHER CHISEL ROLLS AND COVERS



AGENT FOR CARBA-TEC

CREDIT CARD FACILITIES:



VISA



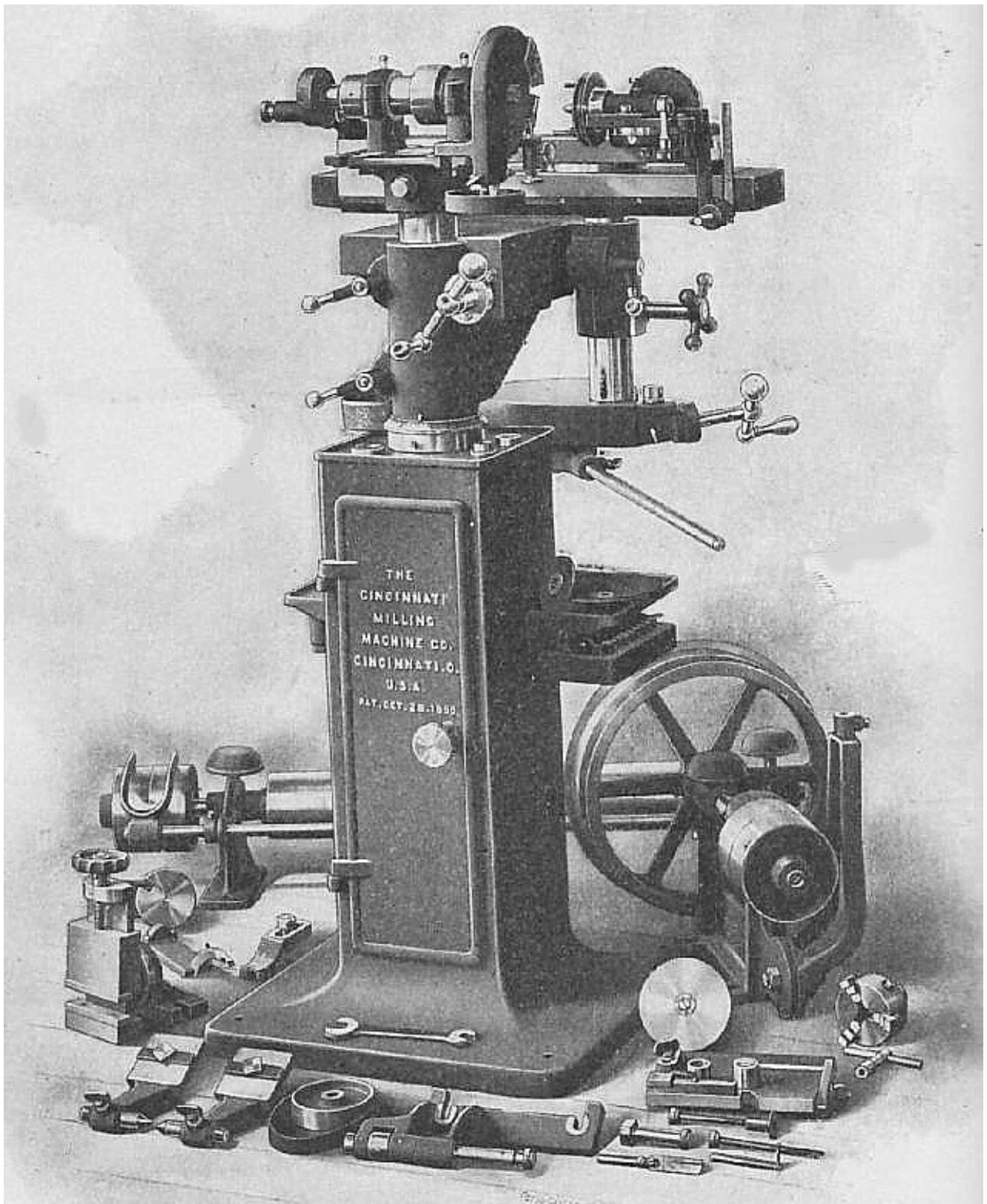
Jim Davey

Ph 02 4447 8822(W) 4447 8790(AH) PO Box 967 Nowra NSW 2541

JDAVEY@bigpond.com www.jimdavey-planes-sharpening.com

Tool & Cutter Grinder

Cincinnati Milling Machine Co.



I recognized the machine and read *Cincinnati Milling Machine Co.* on the maker's plate, but it was in a poorly lighted workshop so I didn't examine the machine in any detail.

The machine was obviously a fairly old Tool and Cutter Grinder. Perhaps I didn't notice the patent date on the maker's plate because I was thinking about what was missing. My initial impression was that the machine had been modified and was missing a lot of the original attachments.

When I returned with a prospective buyer we had a closer look.

The patent date was 1890!

The closer look reinforced my notion that the machine had been altered and some parts were missing.

So we needed more information.

Finding information on these old machines is easier said than achieved. Checking the original patent is easy but the patent drawings are not always a good indication of the real machine that ended up in production.

Sometimes you can find old machine manuals posted on the internet, but in this case there was nothing.

My only recourse was to old books.

Luckily I have a copy of William H. Van Dervoort Modern Machine Shop Tools published in New York in 1903.

The illustration on the facing page is figure 569 on page 426 of this book.

With the illustration I had some idea of what a complete machine originally may have had as accessories.

I use the words 'may have had' as without a manual I can't tell what came as basic equipment with the machine when it was first sold. A lot of the gear on the floor may have been optional extras!

That said it was obvious that a great deal of the machine was missing.

How much is it worth?

This question now had to be faced. With such machines it comes down to another question 'can anyone use it?'

By this I mean can anyone rationalise paying money giving space to an old incomplete and obsolete machine?

To try and answer my second question I read what Van Dervoort had to say. These early Tool and Cutter Grinders were not easy to use!

So I was looking at a machine that had been altered, was incomplete and probably a bit temperamental.

This Cincinnati Milling Machine Co. Tool and Cutter Grinder was probably made before the Great War and there must be someone out there who is keen to rescue it from being scrapped.

My problem is simple, I can't put a price on the machine and I have no idea what would be a reasonable offer or how much the owner will accept.

TTTG is selling this machine

on consignment (at 20%).

If you are interested contact

Mike 02 9144 6356

Bob crosbie.bob@gmail.com

Ray Gurney has found a New Workshop!

Unfortunately it is quite a bit smaller than his previous (overstocked) workshop, hence he needs to say goodbye to some of his materials and equipment.

As a founding member and ardent supporter of TTTG, he would like to give members the opportunity to make offers for his surplus goods before he goes to the open market.

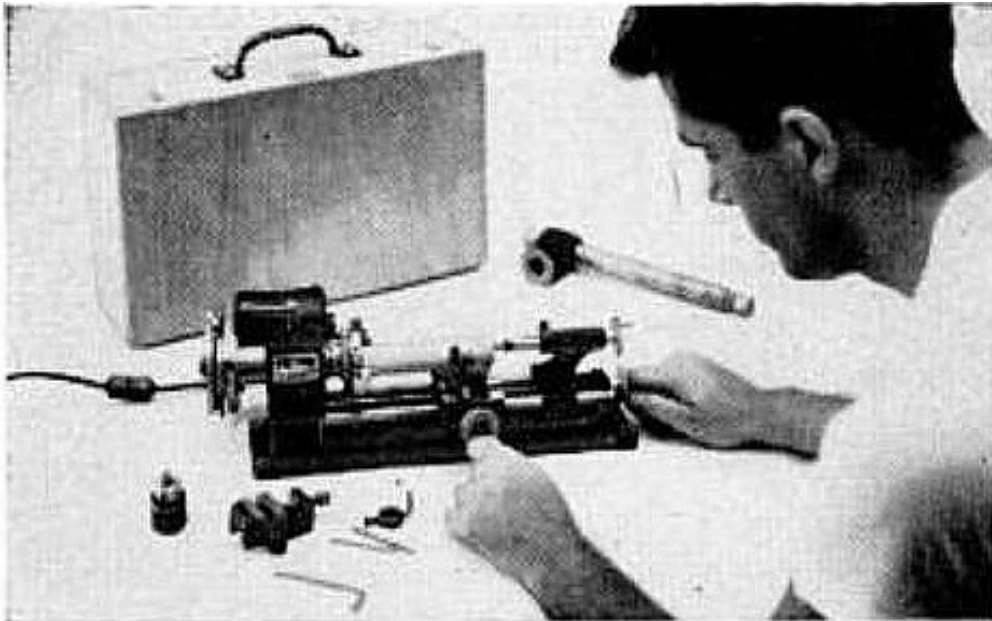
Some of the goodies on offer are:

- **Wood- various hard-to-get species in small quantities**
- **Materials for restoration work**
- **Metal Shelving**
- **Some Tools and Machinery including:**
 - **De Walt Radial Arm Saw**
 - **Hyco Jig Saw**
 - **Vicmarc TL1000 Wood Lathe**
 - **Freestanding Dovetailing Machine (2HP motor)**
 - **Barnes Metalworking Lathe (1878)**
 - **Overhead Router (110V)**
 - **Picture frame guillotine with vertical blade**
 - **350 x 450mm Press**
 - **Assorted single phase motors (1.5 - 2HP)**

Contact Ray on 9569 1241 or 0408 101 166

UNIMAT

The Unimat Lathe displayed at the last meeting won a few fans so these adverts may be of interest to *NEWS* readers.



UNIMAT 10 IN | COMPLETE WORKSHOP

CRAFTSMEN, MODEL BUILDERS, HOBBYISTS AND INVENTORS all over the world are choosing this unique and extremely versatile electric tool for machining small parts from steel, brass, wood, aluminum and plastics. Highly acclaimed because of its precision results, UNIMAT offers these serious craftsmen many other worthwhile advantages.

UNIMAT BASIC UNIT (shown) INCLUDES: 1—a Precision Lathe and all accessories necessary to convert it quickly and easily into a 2—Drill Press; 3—Hand Drill; 4—Polishing Grinding Machine; 5—Tool Grinding Machine; 6—Milling Machine. With the Basic Unit you also get these 13 accessories Free: AC/DC Power Motor, with reduction pulleys (11 speeds—375 R.P.M. to 9200 R.P.M.), self-centering universal three-jaw “Cushman” lathe chuck with reversible jaws (abt 2½” Dia.), ¼” Drill Chuck, Pivoting Tool Holder, Grindstone Holder, Lathe Dog, Face Plate, 2 centers, Allen Wrench, Easy-to-follow instruction manual, all packed in sturdy wood veneer carrying case! **ADDITIONAL ATTACHMENTS** are available for further versatility of your Basic Unit: 7—The Jig Saw; 8—Threading Attachment; 9—Circular Saw; 10—Indexing and Dividing Attachment. All attachments can be ordered individually with the Basic Unit, or at any time. (Attachments not shown.)

PORTABLE AND COMPACT—two more reasons for its great popularity. All operations require little working space and are performed on just one base. There is also high quality built into this unique machine tool. The ball-bearing headstock spindle has a ½” Ø center. It also features a built-in rack, so that the headstock spindle can be adjusted 1” in either direction. This feature gives the drill press its stroke when in the upright position. The tailstock is threaded and will take either lathe or drill chuck. Constructed of high quality hardened and ground steel and a cast iron ribbed lathe bed, UNIMAT adds up to a top-notch machine tool that will enable you to create a limitless variety of objects—from just about any kind of stock material.

UNIMAT BASIC UNIT COSTS ONLY \$99.50 and can be obtained on a budget plan for as little as \$49.50 down, and \$10 a month for 5 months. There's no charge for this service. It is shipped prepaid East of the Mississippi. West thereof, a slight charge is necessary. Additional literature is also available for only 10c to cover mailing costs. Look into this amazing precision tool today. It will prove worth your while.

Mail your order today to Dept. P5-17, Dealer Inquiries Invited!

AMERICAN EDELSTAAL (AMSTERDAM) INC.
350 Broadway, New York 13, N. Y.

UNIMAT



MINIATURE MACHINE SHOP

"No bigger than a typewriter, outperforms machines many times its size." That's what *Mechanix Illustrated* says about UNIMAT in a 3 page feature story. UNIMAT is the precision tool that craftsmen, inventors and hobbyists dream about. You just can't beat it for machining small parts from steel, brass, aluminum, wood and plastic. You'll want a free reprint of this story plus complete information about this amazing 10 in 1 workshop. Write today to:

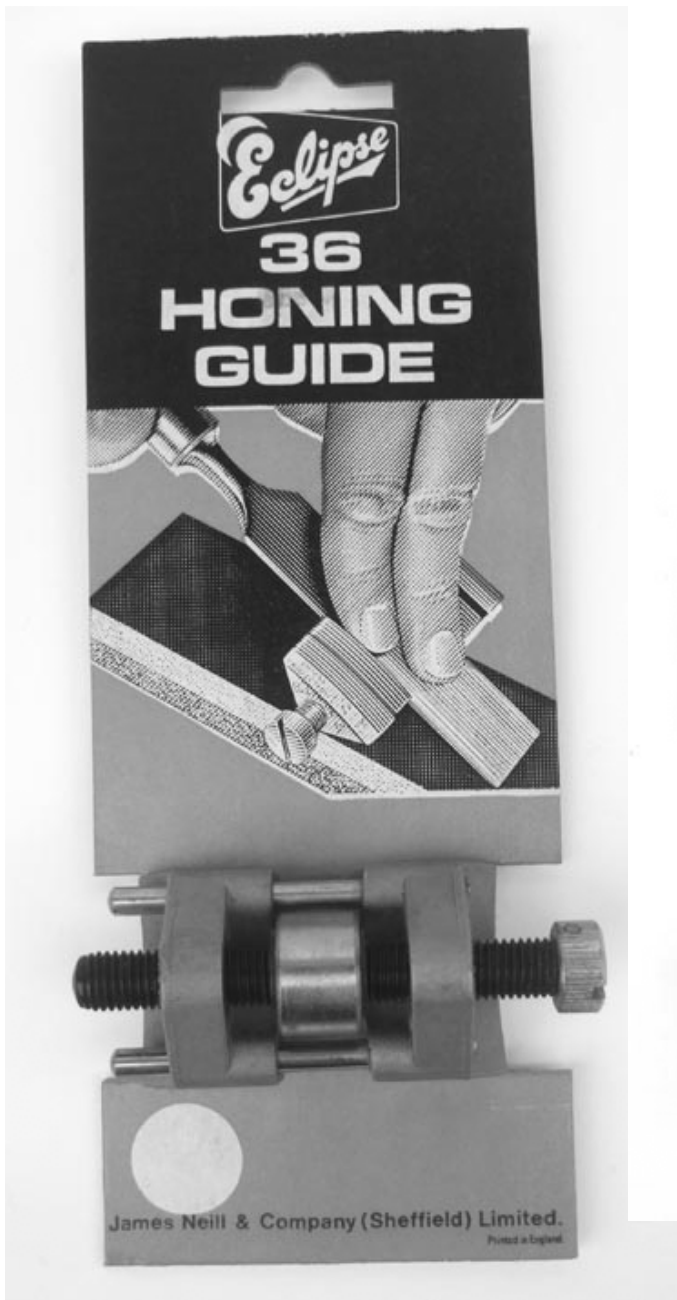
AMERICAN EDELSTAAL, INC. • UNIMAT DIVISION
Dept. 111 • 350 Broadway • New York 13, N. Y.

The ads are from **Popular Science January 1957** and **Popular Science November 1957**

Eclipse Honing Guide

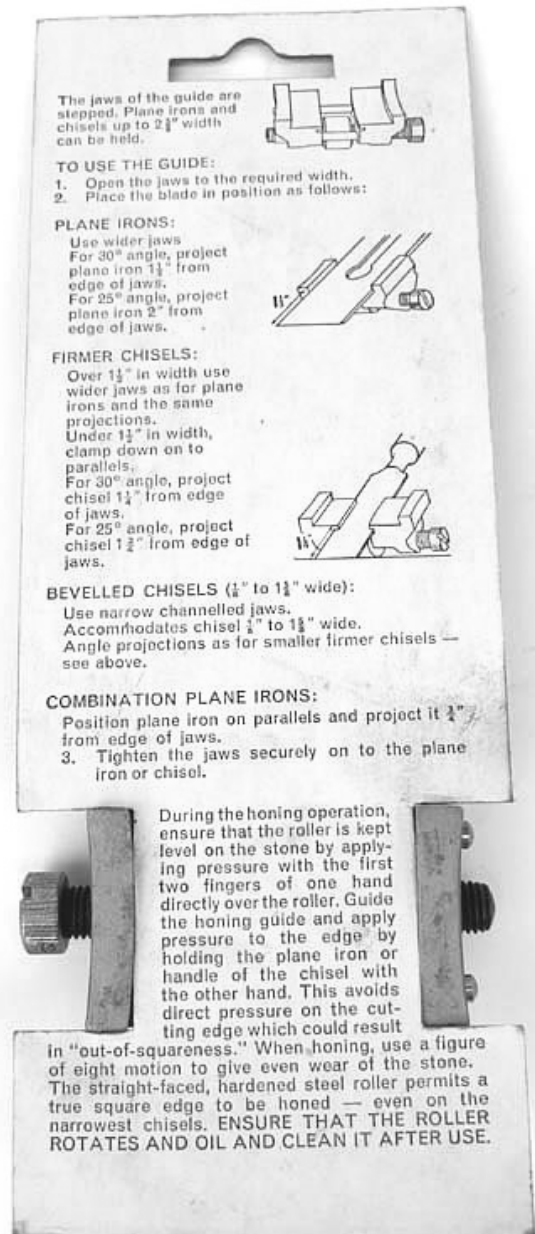
At every TTTG workshop the question is asked

'What is the best honing jig?'



The instructions will be useful as second hand jigs often turn up.

There is no definitive answer but there is general consensus that the Eclipse 36 Honing Guide is the easiest to use and the most reliable jig.



Eclipse made excellent tools and also understood a bit about marketing.

BLACKSMITHING WORKSHOP

A fun-filled day was had by all members who attended the Blacksmithing Workshop on Sunday 4th July, 2010 at the Sydney Heritage Fleet's "Heritage Shipyard" at Rozelle.



The Wharf with the John Oxley

Rick Mitchell and his team of expert instructors ensured that the seventeen tyro blacksmiths learned the basic essentials of blacksmithing.

Everyone went home with a useful steel object that they had made themselves, including blacksmithing tools and fire utensils.

Refreshments were provided and at the end of the day, the stayers were given a conducted tour of the iron clad vessel the "John Oxley" currently undergoing refurbishment at the shipyard.

This was the fourth year that TTTG has held it's very popular Blacksmithing Workshop. 2010 was the first year at the Sydney Heritage Fleet's "Heritage Shipyard" at Rozelle.

If you missed the workshop this year, it'll be on again in 2011.

The venue will be the Sydney Heritage Fleet's "Heritage Shipyard" at Rozelle.

TTTG wishes to thank the Heritage Shipyard for providing such a fitting venue and to thank the instructors for their expertise.



Breath taking water views from the wharf

The Sydney Heritage Fleet is restoring the John Oxley.

The museum depends on volunteers.

Anyone prepared to 'give it a go' will be considered as a volunteer.

If you have trade skills applicable to ship yard maintenance and can spare some time down on a wharf with city views why not consider becoming a volunteer?

See overleaf for more pictures of our Blacksmith workshop day.



Inside the well-equipped workshop



Sparks flying during the workshop



At the anvil on the wharf-side