NEWS 120

TTTG Inc

www.tttg.org.au

August 2011

Next Meeting

Tuesday August 9

Annie Wyatt Room
National Trust Centre
Observatory Hill

Entry $5
'Doors open at 7pm'

File Cutting shown by Ken Hawley

CONTACTING TTTG

Postal Address
P.O. Box N240 Grosvenor Place
Sydney NSW 1220

Enquires

Mike Williams 02 9144 6356

Bob Crosbie crosbie.bob@gmail.com

www.tttg.org.au

Hand Cut Files and Rasps

**** Display of files and rasps***

**** Film on File Cutting***

**** A brief talk on Files and Rasps***

Refreshments

**** The TTTG Auction***

For TTTG members this evening is better than going to the movies.

The film is on the production of hand cut files in Sheffield before the invention and introduction of file cutting machinery.

The commentary is supported by images of the processes involved in hand cutting files. These include preparing the file blank, cutting the teeth and heat treating the file.

There will be a selection of hand cut files and rasps on display.

The speaker will explain the steps involved in making files by hand and the old practice of stripping and recutting blunt files.

The speaker will briefly discuss Australian made files from the 1790s to the 1990s.

TTTG *Membership $35*

For only $35 a year TTTG members receive a quality newsletter and a discount on workshop fees.

The Committee has resolved to keep the fees at the current rate for at least another year.

NEWS 120 CONTENTS

Front and Back

Hand Tools
General Motors Corporation
Detroit, Michigan 1943

"This booklet was prepared and issued to members of the ARMED FORCES through the courtesy of the TRAINING SERVICE SECTION GENERAL MOTORS WAR PRODUCTS"

The text and illustrations are equally brilliant. Uncle Sam sure knew how to take boys from the disadvantaged sections of US society and give them an education and a future (if they made it through the service years).

On the back is Henry's advertisement for his next Henry's Sydney Tool Sale.

TTTG is not involved with Henry's Sale but TTTG unconditionally suggests

DO NOT MISS HENRY'S TOOL SALE

The next TTTG Annual Tool Sale will be held on March 11 2012.
Asquith Boys High School

The TTTG Library

www.tttg.org.au
Log on for the TTTG Library list.

The TTTG Tool Collection

TTTG will continue to accept donations of tools and books

TTTG has the basis of a comprehensive library of publications on traditional machinery and hand tools.

ALL WE NEED IS A HOME BASE

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The *TTTG* Auction

There will be many bargains on offer.

Prospective buyers must not rearrange items or make offers on auction items.

The Annual General Meeting will be held during the August 9 General Meeting.

The AGM will be conducted before the General Meeting.

-Treasurers Report

-Old Committee Stands down

-Nominations for Committee

-New Committee Elected

-General Meeting commences

Last Meeting

Tuesday June 14

Annie Wyatt Room
National Trust Centre
Observatory Hill

Record Tools

A display of a TTTG member's collection of Record Tools and Record publications was well received by the audience.

This was another TTTG meeting when the Annie Wyatt Room was filled to its holding capacity.

The talk on Record Tools generated lively audience participation.

The Committee extends TTTG's appreciation to Dave and Fred for providing the tools displayed.

TTTG Library Donations

The holdings of the TTTG are being augmented by generous donations by TTTG members.
#TTTG supports Lifeline by renting the TTTG Sales Tables to Lifeline, at a nominal fee, for the regular Lifeline North Shore Book Sales. Lifeline generously allows TTTG to appraise technical books and to purchase selected books at a fair price for the TTTG Library.

#Barry Perdriau (M12) has generously donated a number of Rabone and other catalogues to the Library. These catalogues contain copies of local merchant's correspondence.

Tool Skills Workshops

*TOOL TECHNIQUES

Squares and Gauges
Metal and Wood Planes
All types of Chisels
Handsaws and Backsaws

Sunday August 21

*SAW SHARPENING & USE

Saw Repairs and Care
Filing and Setting
Selection and Sawing Technique

Get one new file for $5

Sunday September 25

How Much?

Members $20
Others $40

Join at a workshop for $55*
***Workshop plus membership*

Enquiries

www.tttg.org.au

Mike Williams 02 9144 6356 Bob Crosbie crosbie.bob@gmail.com

WORKSHOP VENUE

Asquith Boys High School

Jersey Street North. Asquith

Tea, Coffee and biscuits provided

Bring your lunch

Wear safe shoes

The Next TTTG Workshops

*Sunday August 21
TOOL TECHNIQUES

*Sunday September 25
SAW SHARPENING & USE

* Sunday October 23
MAKING JOINTS & USING GLUE

The presenters will show you how to use tools and how to make joints. The emphasis will be on hand tools but machine use will also be covered.

The best preparation for the workshop is to attend the previous workshops.

Participants will learn how to cut accurate joints with hand tools by using traditional techniques. These techniques are not as slow as is often assumed and make possible the achievement of excellent work.

The workshop starts with edge joints moves on to rebates and grooves and settles down to mortise and tenons and dovetail joints.

Glues, both modern and traditional will be introduced and explained.

Once you have used hot hide glue there is no turning back and the selection of appropriate modern glues will show the possibilities of low tech timber engineering.

All TTTG Workshops start a bit after 9.15am. If you get there by 9am you will have enough time to sign in, pay the money and then make a cup of tea or coffee.

THE LEDGER

New Members

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

Allan Perry	**M612**
Brad Astill	**M613**
Geoff Hudson	**M614**
Alan Bryden	**M615**
Bill Longhurst	**M616**
Jim Powell	**M617**
Wesley Morrison	**M618**
Steve Jackett	**M619**
James Wade	**M620**
John Ryan	**M621**
James Wain	**M622**
Blair Creighton	**M623**
Paul Solotwa	**M624**
Andre Turnbull	**M627**

Coming Workshops

On Sunday 21st August, 2011, TTTG will be holding a **Tool Techniques Workshop** and on Sunday 25th September, 2011 we will be holding our ever popular **Saw Sharpening Workshop**. Both these all-day Workshops will be held at **Asquith Boys' High School** starting at 9:30 am. (Enter from Jersey Street Nth and drive around past the playing field to the manual arts building.)

At the Tool Techniques Workshop you will learn the finer points of the preparation of timber and edge joints, rebates, grooves, trenches and mouldings, the use of paring and mortising chisels, tenon, dovetail ripsaws and handsaws.

Everyone who attends a TTTG workshop will leave with that little bit of extra skill and knowledge.

For the Saw Sharpening Workshop on the 25th September, bring along a blunt, fairly coarse handsaw and you'll go home with a saw that's a pleasure to use.

Workshops are $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. If you get there at about 9am, have a cuppa before the Workshop starts (and available all day).

AND HAVE WE GOT A DEAL FOR YOU ! !

Those who attend our Saw Sharpening Workshop will receive, **free of charge**, one triangular file with a handle hand-turned by master wood turner and saw sharpener, John Daniel. Additional files (with handles) may be bought at the Workshop for $10 each with a limit of one per workshop attendee.

TTTG Subscriptions Now Overdue

If you have not yet paid your 2011-12 subscription, please send it in now or pay me at the August 9 TTTG meeting. See the Subscription Renewal Notice in this issue of TTTG NEWS). You may pay by cash at a TTTG meeting, by cheque or on-line. If you don't know how to pay on-line, send me an E-mail at treasurer@tttg.org.au and I'll advise accordingly.

Clynt Sheehy
TTTG Treasurer

THE TRADITIONAL TOOLS GROUP INC.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL NOTICE

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

2011-2012 TTTG SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW OVERDUE

PLEASE FORWARD A CHEQUE FOR *$35 (MADE OUT TO TTTG INC.) TO:

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

Or you may pay your subscription on-line via PayPal (see www.tttg.org.au)

* 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.

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. If you've thrown out the envelope, don't worry; we go by your name.)

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 2011-12 subscription payments from the following members (as at 18th July, 2011) :
2, 9, 12, 21, 31, 32, 49, 53, 60, 77, 87, 92, 112, 136, 159, 160, 164, 166, 184, 186, 188, 190, 206, 213, 220, 236, 238, 239, 241, 250, 253, 260, 268, 272, 276, 278, 285, 302, 313, 331, 337, 341, 343, 346, 348, 350, 354, 355, 357, 359, 371, 375, 378, 383, 387, 388, 408, 410, 411, 414, 415, 416, 418, 420, 424, 426, 427, 437, 440, 443, 448, 453, 457, 459, 460, 461, 463, 470, 473, 474, 479, 483, 484, 488, 489, 492, 500, 502, 505, 506, 508, 510, 512, 511, 517, 518, 519, 524, 525, 537, 539, 540, 544, 557, 558, 560, 564, 567, 570, 575, 576, 580, 581, 582, 585, 586, 588, 592, 593, 597, 598, 600, 602, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 621 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627

These Members and those who have posted cheques should ignore this notice.

JD's

John Daniel

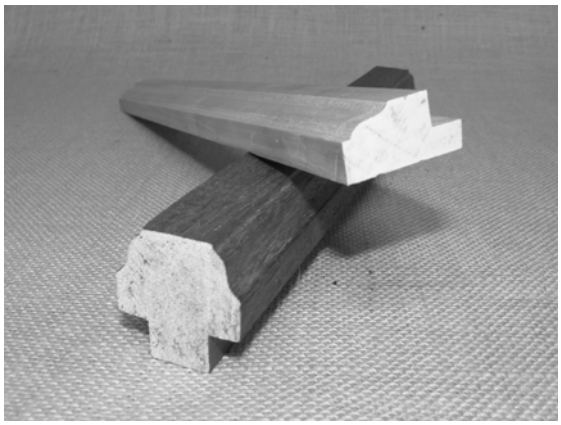
Stick and rebate sash plane

We see these things in reference books and on rare occasions in collections, however we seldom expect to find them just around the corner.

I was attending a moving sale of a local resident. As the roller-door came up my eye caught the sight of a two bladed handled Beech moulding plane; it was in the company of a lot of overpriced relics from yesteryear, however it stood out as something to be picked up.

I have always been drawn to the wooden moulding planes and, in particular, multi bladed planes, perhaps resulting from allowing a four bladed Mathieson moulder to slip through my fingers many years ago due to lack of knowledge .(we all learn from experience)

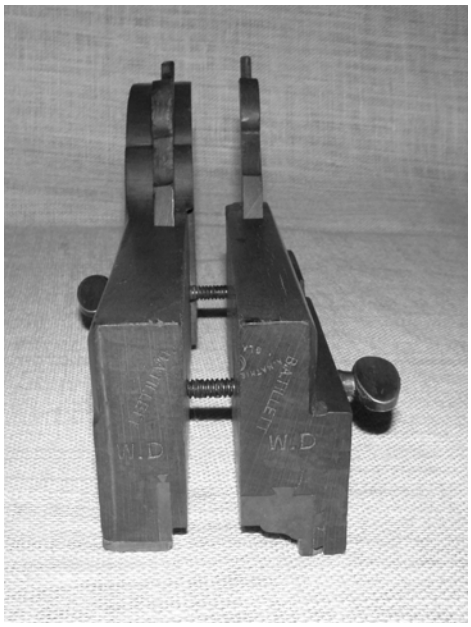
My heart raced as I recognized what I had in my hand; it was a No 184 Mathieson & Son *Stick and Rebate Sash moulding plane*, a tool sharing a place at the top of the heap when it comes to scarce, quite a find indeed.



Sash ogee and rebate

The adjustable sash moulder is an improvement on the need to use several planes. Instead using a sash fillister to run the rebate and then the sash moulding with a sash plane this plane does it all in one operation.

Actually, it is both of the planes just mentioned, side by side that inspired the adjustable sash moulder.



Examples are found with these planes screwed together in a fixed position, or in the case of my find, secured together with two thumb-screws which allow for adjustment for different size sash bars and sash moulding; when extended, a packing piece is used to secure a set spacing.

Examples are also found either unhandled or handled, my plane by chance is handled which is a little less common than the unhandled planes.

One piece moulders with a single blade are more difficult to sharpen which probably lead to the production of multi bladed moulding planes.

Interestingly enough, Stanley and other makers in a later period, used a single blade to run a sash mould, and I may add, with only a skate to act as a sole, it required a skilled craftsman working with compliant timber to meet with reasonable success.(having said that, I've spoken to retired joiners who swore by their old Stanley No 45s for sash work).

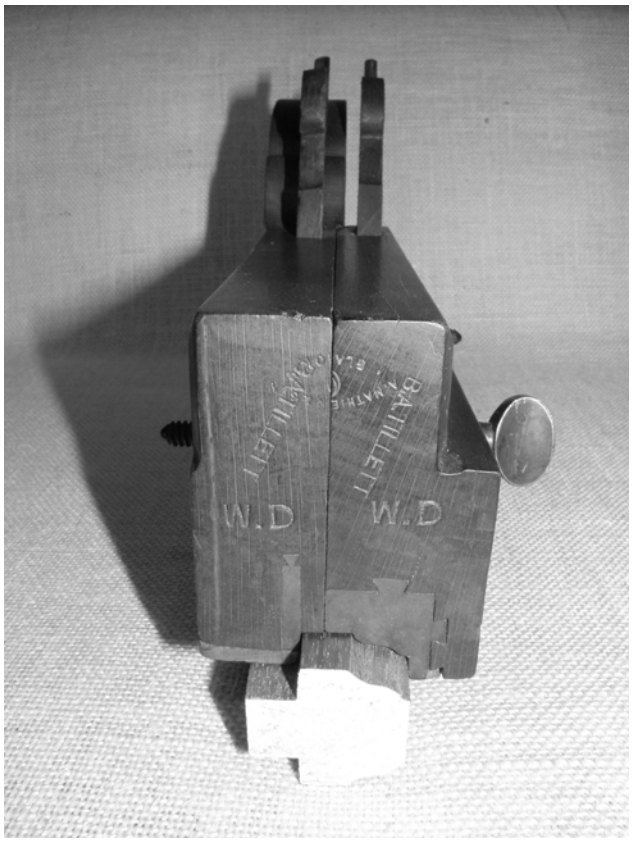
Back to my plane:

I carefully assessed the latest addition to my keeper cupboard. It had been carted around for many years in an old tool box by the grandson, now retired in a downsized home; his kids had no interest in the relics and consequently the plane needed a little TLC. There was no damage other than grime build-up and some rust on the blades.

The mating faces of the plane bodies had been modified to allow for narrower sash work; however this hasn't compromised the efficiency of the tool. After a good clean, sharpen and adjustment, the sash moulder performed beautifully and is now a testament to the plane makers of yesteryear.

I resisted the temptation of giving advice on the cleaning of this plane as I have perhaps mentioned it once or twice previously, however, Bob our President and Editor has most capably covered it on Page 21 in NEWS 119.

Reference:
The Wooden Plane,
Its History, Form, and Function
John M Whelan
Astragal Press
Mendham, New Jersey



Sash Terminology
The moulding, regardless of profile is called a *sash mould;* it is inside the dwelling or in a shop front outside the shop front. The rebate holds the glass. The distance between the sash mould and the rebate is *the fillet;* it is the same thickness as the sashes' tenons.

Stick and Rebate planes

Planing a moulding is described as *sticking a mould.*

Mouldings run in the solid are known as *stuck mouldings.* Mouldings fixed on to a piece of joinery are *applied mouldings*.

To *stick* is to plane a moulding

Stick and Rebate planes are assumed by American writers to be an example of American innovation. In fact they originate from the North of England. Numerous examples by Scots makers are known but they were also made south of the border.

Using Sash Planes

Once the thickness of sash has been determined the *rod* is set out. The sash profile is selected according to the architect's specification, the builder's order or the existing sashes in the house. The mould, fillet and rebate should each be one third of the thickness of the sash.

The *sash stuff* is then planed to size. The joints are set out from the *rod*. All tenons and mortises are gauged with a mortise gauge; the gauge is run along all the edges to be *stuck*.

The tenon shoulders are set in with the marking knife. The tenon cheeks are ripped with the half rip saw. The mortises are then chopped with the sash mortise chisel.

The sash fillister is set up and the rebates *stuck*. The *sash planes* are then used to *stick* the sash mould.

To *stick* the glazing bars a *sticking board* is used to hold the bars while using the sash fillister and then the sash planes.

The alternative method is to use a ***stick and rebate plane*** to plane the rebate and moulding simultaneously.

The tenon shoulders are next sawn with the tenon saw. The tenon widths are gauged and the gauge lines sawn. The *frankings* are chiselled and the *scribings* marked with the templates and cut with the scribing gauge.

The sash is then ready for assembly; this process is known as *wedging up*.

Sash profiles are specified by two dimensions. These are the;
a) Sticking on
and
b) Sticking down
of the sash mould.

All sash planes and sash shaves and the corresponding sash templates were made to standardised sizes. All sashes were specified by architects and master builders according to these standardised sizes.

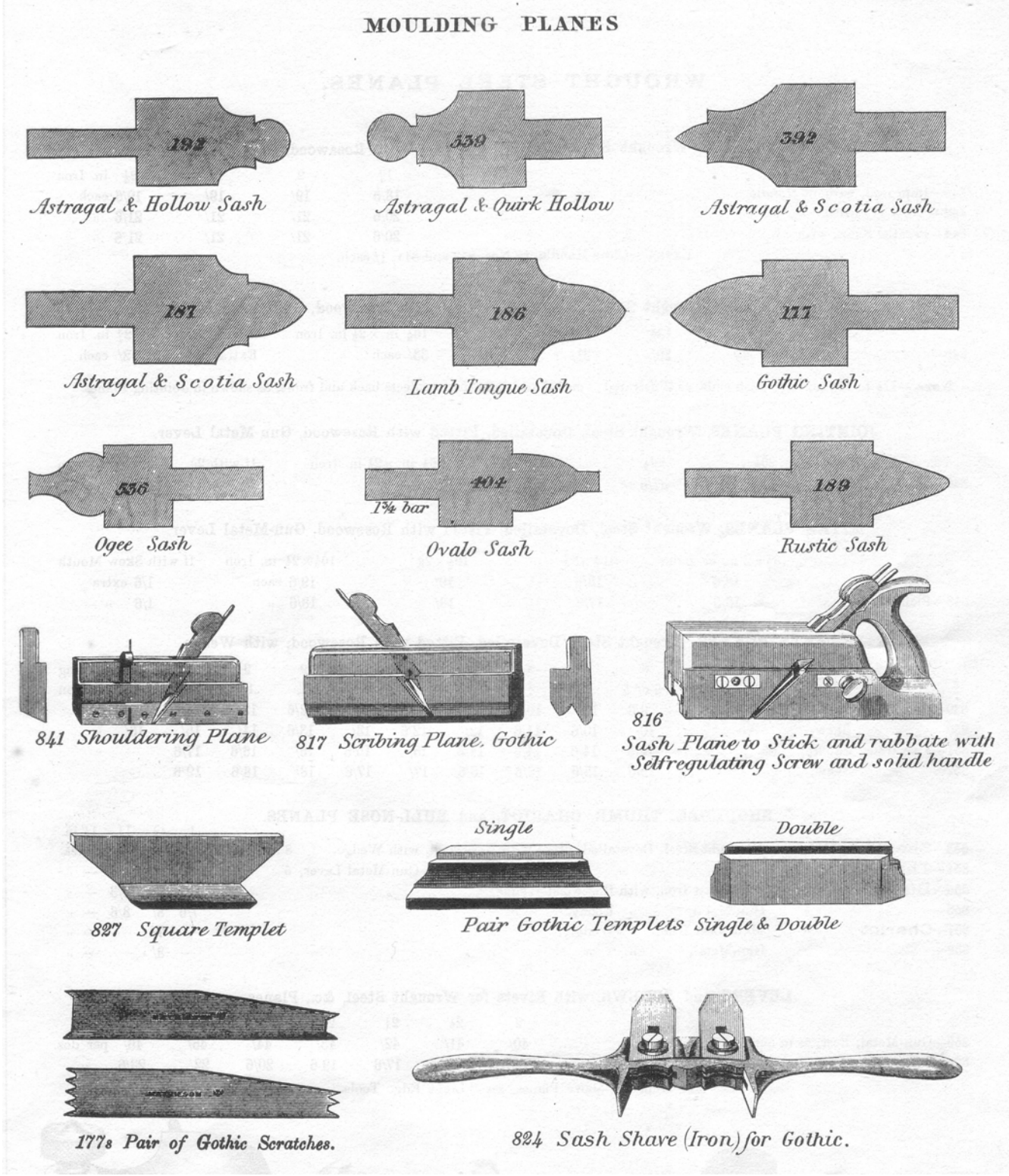
The standardisation of sash moulding profiles and sizes dates to at least the beginning of the ninetieth century.

In different historical periods different sash mouldings were in fashion.

The lamb's tongue sash mould John's plane cuts was fashionable from around the time of the Great War. This form of ogee and the Grecian ovolo are the most common sash moulding profiles in NSW during the twentieth century.

For anyone who wants to learn more about traditional joinery there is only one essential text book. This is

Modern Practical Joinery
by George Ellis



The standard sash moulding profiles and joiner's sash planes, shaves and templates were offered by all plane merchants before World War 2.

Each size of plane came with a pair of matching templates. These were used to mark or to cut the scribe in the tenon shoulder. The single template was for the top and bottom rails, the double template for the glazing bars.

Individual sash planes were sold in pairs, one plane to take heavy shavings and one plane to take the light finishing shavings. Sash moulds were never sanded as the abrasive would instantly blunt the scribing gouge used to cut the scribe.
Alex Mathieson & Sons, Ltd. Glasgow.
Illustrated Price List of Wood Working Tools.1899.
Reprinted by Ken Turner

Making a Thread Chaser

Terry Butcher
TTTG's Tasmanian Correspondent
reviews *NEWS 119 reprint of*

Cutting Threads in Wood
Sam Brown
Popular Mechanics July 1944

Sam Browns' *Cutting Threads in Wood* is a most comprehensive article on cutting wood threads. Articles on this topic are very thin on the ground.

I found that the descriptions of making both taps and thread boxes were substantial and if followed good results would be the order of the day.

However I would think twice about making a chaser by the method described by Sam Brown.

I would like to point out, although correct in the description of the method of thread chasing, it must be remembered that the chaser must be moved left to right exactly the distance of the pitch of the thread for each revolution of the stock.

It is not an easy task free hand to make a chaser and especially if one was going to cut a three eights inch diameter by 16TPI thread. An extremely finely shaped grinding wheel would be required.

Making a Chaser

An alternative method

Here is another way to make a chaser. A suitable worn out flat file is used, the size of file depending on the thread required, between 10mm and 25mm in width as a rough guide.

Heat the file to a bright cheery red and lay in a box of warm sand to cool down for a couple of hours.

Grind or file the teeth off the softened file. Alternatively reheat the file and hammer out the teeth on the anvil. If you hammer out the file teeth you will need to file the face and top of the end where the chaser teeth are to be cut.

File a bevel of about 35 degrees on the cutting end and file the top flat. On this shiny surface mark out the divisions of the teeth (TPI). File the teeth using Swiss files or similar.

When you are satisfied all the teeth are accurately cut re heat the end of the chaser to about 50mm from the cutting edge. When the colour is a yellowy red plunge the stock into a quenching oil, old motor oil or even cooking oil will do the job.

After ten minutes remove the chaser from the quench, wipe clean and then polish the cutting end on fine wet and dry abrasive cloth. Apply heat to the cutting end of the chaser. Candles are no good, use a gas touch, oxy or blow lamp. Hold the flame about 50mm from the cutting edge and watch the colours change, when the colour is dark straw plunge in cold water.

The chaser is now ready for chasing!

Maybe a little polishing on the top face but the chaser should be fine.

> Old Files: the best files for tool making are marked *CAST STEEL*. Modern files made from alloyed steel will sometimes crack when quenched. If you quench in motor oil or cooking oil be careful not to start a fire.

Screw Threads

Terry Butcher continues his review of *NEWS 119 reprint of*

Cutting Threads in Wood
Sam Brown
Popular Mechanics July 1944

Having suggested a method of making a thread chaser I continue my review of Sam Brown's 1944 article.

Turn your attention to the chart on page 30 in *NEWS 119*. This is the first time I've seen a wood thread chart but that is no merit, *I've never seen the dance of the seven veils either; ah me a sheltered life.* But getting back to this thread chart.

Well for starters it is American which is not hard to believe seeing it is from Popular Mechanics but USA general threads are usually 60 degrees whereas the British favour 55 degrees.

Secondly I noticed the ½ inch 13 TPI as well as the 12 TPI.

British Standard Whitworth used 12 TPI for ½ inch diameter whereas the American standard screw thread for ½ inch is 13 TPI. Most thread cutting lathes do not cater for 13 TPI.

If you look closely at the TPI listing you will notice an asterisk * on one or sometimes two of the screw threads. These are the threads for the American standard metal threads.

As for the other TPI's I think someone thought these would be suitable for wooden threads.

I'm not sure where you would use the first 3/8 inch by 16 TPI.

The depth of thread as shown in the chart is ·047 inch even though the official thread depth of 3/8 inch is ·040 inch, which is pretty small to cut and would not be terribly strong.
Also for the 3/8 inch size the depth of thread for 12 TPI is shown as ·263 inch. This is not possible, perhaps it should read ·063 inch? This is somewhere nearer the mark.
Use this thread chart by all means but check the suitability of what you are using the thread for and compare the thread size. The lower the number of TPI the stronger the thread.

I'll finish with a couple of comments on illustration #24 on page 31.

This demonstrates the use of a chaser, perhaps a homemade chaser. The chaser would be difficult to use coming down at the angle shown. Better sighting and control of the chaser is achieved using an angle closer to 90 degrees to the user as you have to guess the amount of lateral movement in respect to the number of TPI you are chasing.
Chasing an internal thread by this method is even more difficult.

Lastly the illustration on the top of page 32. Frankly I would secure the work piece closer to the user than the distance shown. Set up as suggested, if the job didn't wobble about in this instance, I'd be a monkeys' uncle.

My reference book was
Machinery Handbook
13th Edition 1945

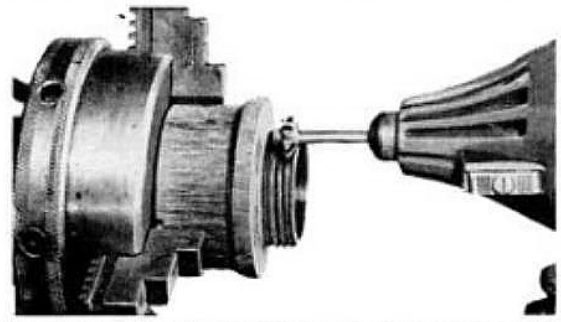
(Sub Ed note: My Mathieson 1in screw box is 4TPI. The 3/4 and 7/8 in ones are 5TPI).

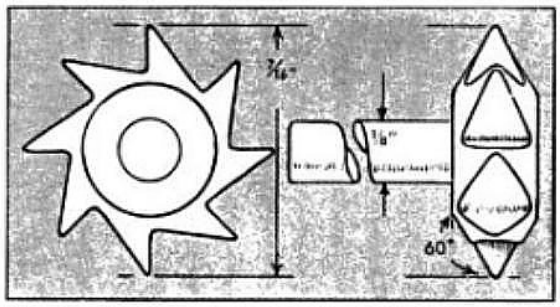
Machining Wood Threads

Hand-Grinder Setup on Lathe Cuts Threads in Plastic or Wood

Clean, sharp threads can be cut in plastics or hardwoods by utilizing the high speed of a hand grinder mounted on the lathe tool post and driving a special rotary-type threading tool improvised from drill rod. A 2-in. length of ½-in. drill rod is shoulder-cut to ⅛ in. to form a shank and the stock remaining at the end is beveled to 60 deg. After beveling, eight cutting teeth are ground or filed, each tooth having a zero rake. The tips of the teeth are slightly rounded, bringing the cutter diameter to 7/16 in. Heat the cutter cherry red and plunge in cold water to harden. Hone the teeth to a sharp cutting edge. After assembling the hand grinder in a holder locked in the tool post, chuck the work as in the photo, set the cutter for depth and engage the lathe back gears to reduce the spindle speed. Set the leadscrew gears to cut eight threads per inch. Although finer threads can be cut, there is some tendency to chip at the crests. Start the lathe, run the rotating cutter up to the end of the work and drop the split nuts onto the leadscrew. The external thread can be cut with one pass, but the internal thread requires two.

T. K. Hastings, Los Angeles, Calif.





Popular Mechanics March 1954

Telegraph Glass & Porcelain Insulator Threads

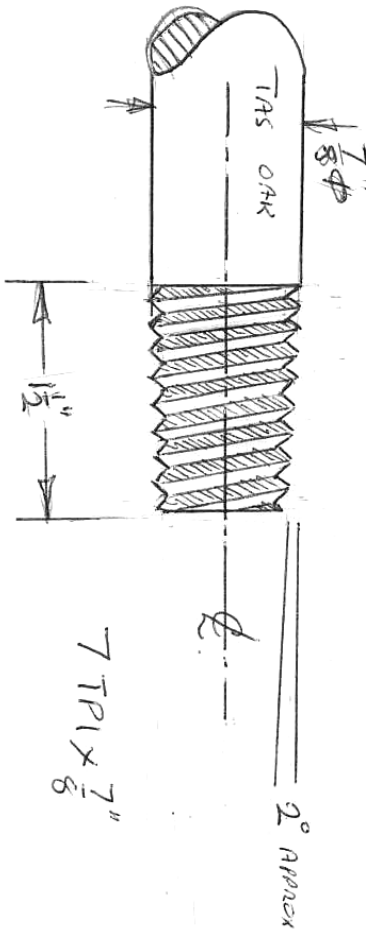
Terry Butcher

My friends and myself down here in Tasmania have been studying the glass and porcelain insulators on power and telegraph poles.

The pin to which the insulators are fixed to the poles are today made of steel and galvanised. In the past wood was used for the pins. The wooden pin was attached to the insulator by means of a tapered wooden thread.

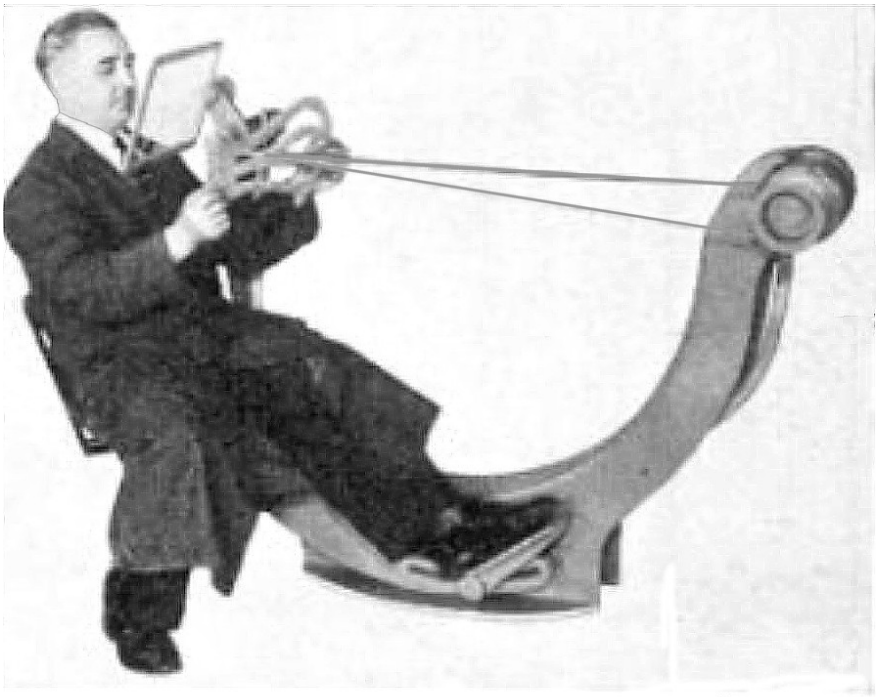
So we cannot cut the thread with a thread box. The only solution is to try cutting this thread in a screw cutting centre lathe with a taper attachment.

(Sub Ed note: My Mathieson screw stem plough uses 7/8 in x7TPI threads on the stems).



Odd Stuff

Popular Mechanics April 1942



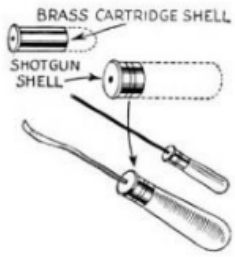
Seat gives steadiness and comfort while sanding

having a built-in easy-chair in which the operator sits at his work. A transparent, nonbreakable shield, adjustable to any angle from horizontal to vertical, protects him from dust and possible belt breakage, and a steady flow of air blows dust away from the work to the far end of the machine where it is gathered into a suction chamber. The machine uses belts of any width up to 1½ inches, a ¾-inch belt being considered best for general work. For inner-contour sanding, the belt may be threaded through openings.

The Belt sander

After the initial hilarity it is worthwhile to study this picture carefully. What at first seems absurd may have some merit. If we consider the type of sanding this is really a very practical solution to a production problem. As well the machine has style!

Ferrules for Small Tool Handles Made From Gun Shells



Anyone who occasionally makes a small hand tool for a special purpose and fits it with a wood handle, will find that the brass end of an empty shotgun shell provides a good ferrule for the handle. Just remove the paper part of the shell and then ream out the cap hole to take the tang of the tool. For very small tools, empty brass cartridges provide good ferrules. Empty shells can be picked up at a local gun club, or you can have a friend who hunts save them for you.

The Ferrules

I suppose it has always been easy to get used gun shells in the US of A, in 1942 there must have been an almost endless supply. The editor isn't suggesting you join a gun club or go hunting but if you do have a supply of used brass cartridges we could use them at a tool making class.

Seen One?

Saw Replacement Handle

Replacement handles that fit any conventional saw can be installed by drilling only one hole in the blade. A key fastens to the hole and slips into the handle. A single screw is threaded into this key to hold the blade rigid. The wedging action of the rear edge of the saw blade against the handle prevents any play. Some saws must be cut at the proper angle to fit into the slot.

Popular Mechanics April 1948

Wood shrinks and expands with changes in humidity which means that wooden saw handles always come loose. Before modern materials the only significant improvement in saw handles was in the design of saw screws.

In 1948 everyone who used saws was resigned to constantly tightening up the screws in the saw handles they used regularly. At this time hand saws were in constant use on building sites, factories, home workshops and on the farm.

The working world was ready for better saw handles. Saw manufacturers had introduced synthetic saw handles but at this time they were only fitted to new top line expensive saws.

Wooden handles were the norm in 1948. This invention should have had a wide market but it doesn't seem to have been taken up by the frustrated saw users of the USA or of any other country.

Has a reader ever seen this device?

The advert for *PROTECTASAW* is from Popular Mechanics February 1942.

This saw edge protector cost only 25 cents and should have sold well.

No doubt most site carpenters we content with a piece of soft wood with a groove in the edge and a bit of string. Perhaps the fact that the revolutionary *PROTECTASAW* was made from metal, albeit copper plated, may have possibly discouraged prospective buyers.

Maybe the *PROTECTASAW* did sell well and they simply haven't survived.

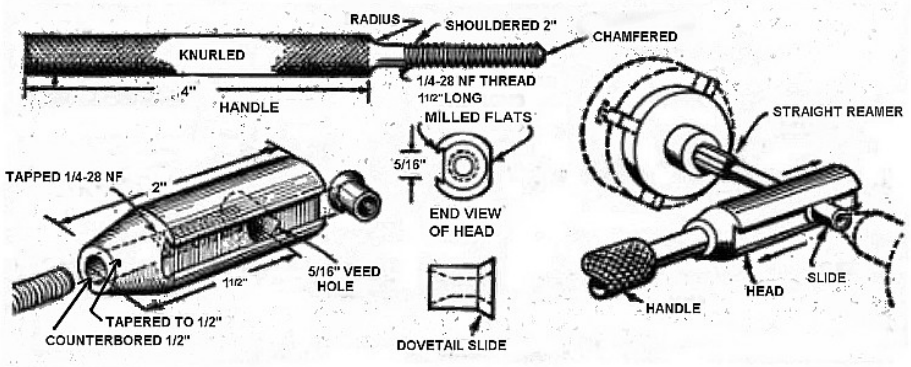
Has a reader seen a *Protectasaw ?*

Machinists' Page

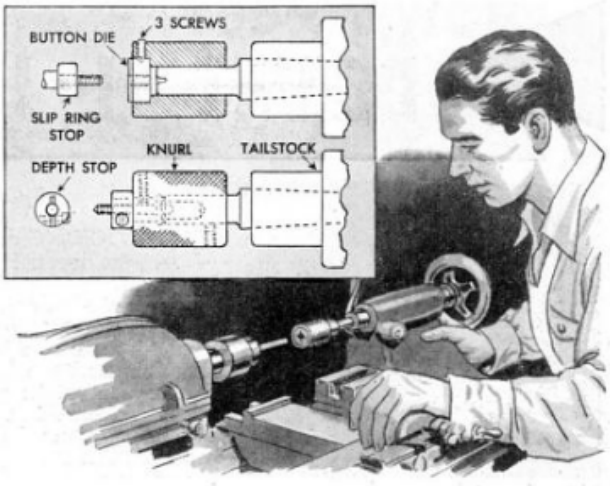
Popular Mechanics October 1954

"Floating" Lathe Holder for Drilling or Reaming

This holder "floats" the reamer or drill into precise alignment when drilling or reaming from the tailstock. It consists of a head which is a 2-in. length of ¾-in.-dia. steel round one end being drilled 1⅝ in. deep and tapped ¼-28 to receive the threaded end of the handle. The hole is counterbored ½ in. deep with a ¼-in. drill, and the end of the head is tapered to ½ in. Flats ⅜ in. wide are milled on opposite sides of the head and 5/16-in. dovetail slot is milled along one flat, as in the end view. A 5/16-in. hole is drilled through from the opposite flat and the hole is filed to a V-shape, as indicated. The dovetail slide fits snugly into the milled dovetail and is center-drilled to take the 60 deg. lathe center. In use, a drill or reamer is fitted into the V-shape hole and the handle is screwed in to lock it in place. The setup is made as in the lower right-hand detail.



Taps and Button Dies Held in Knurled Sleeve on Hollow Arbor

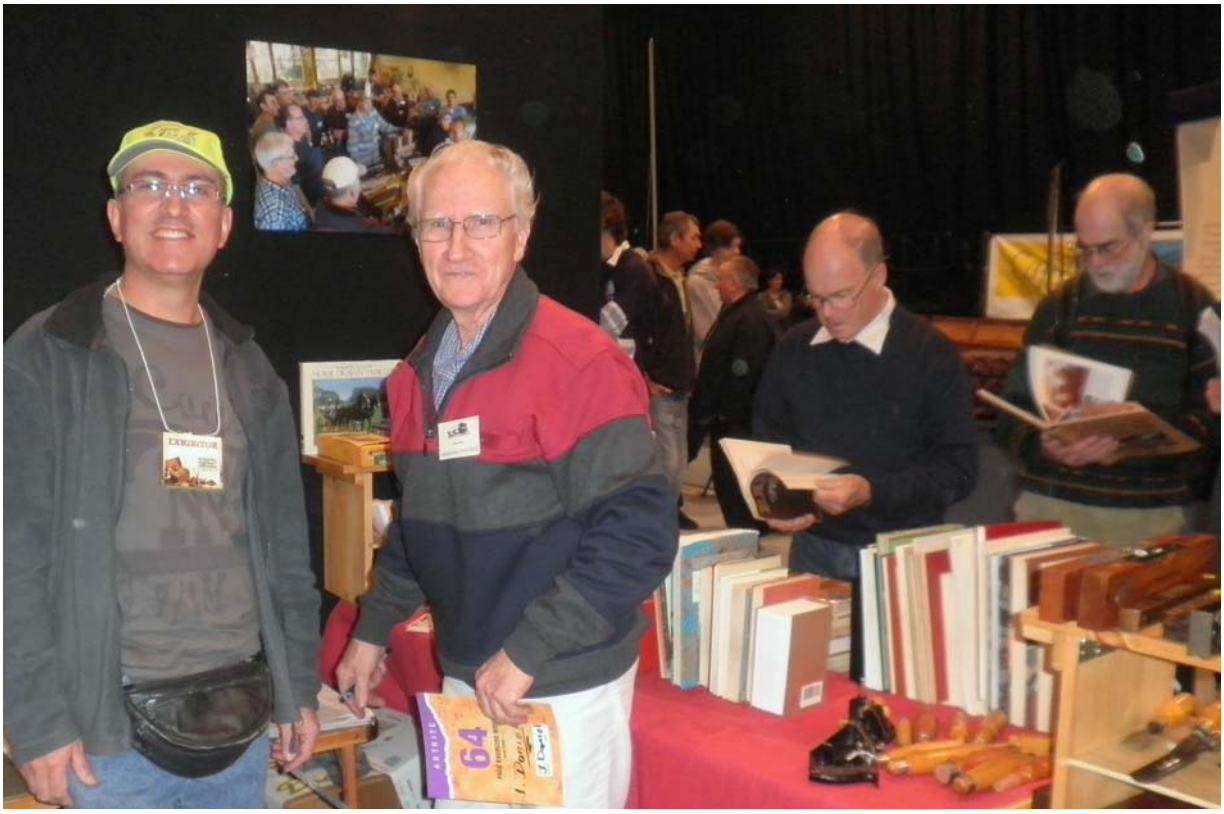


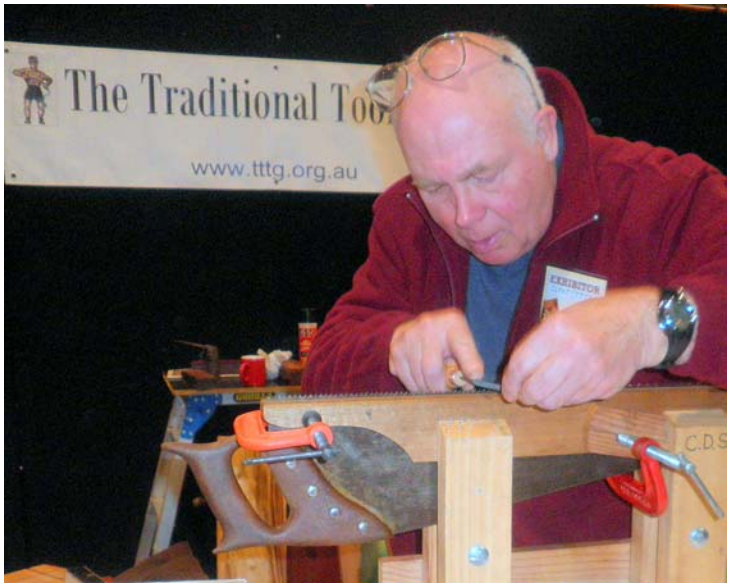
Sliding on a hollow arbor held in the tailstock, a knurled sleeve will permit controlled threading and tapping in a lathe with regular taps and button dies. The end of the sleeve is machined to receive bushings with various inside diameters to accommodate several sizes of dies and taps. A setscrew in the sleeve locks the tap or die in place. In use, the work to be threaded is turned by the headstock, and the tailstock wheel is used to bring the tap or die against the work. Holding the knurled sleeve allows the work to be threaded, and releasing the sleeve allows it to turn freely on the hollow arbor. The lathe then is stopped, reversed and the sleeve is held to permit the tap or die to be withdrawn. A depth or slip-ring stop may also be used.

W. C. Betz, New Britain, Conn.

Popular Mechanics November 1954

Working with Wood Show
The TTTG Stand




The Traditional Too
www.tttg.org.au

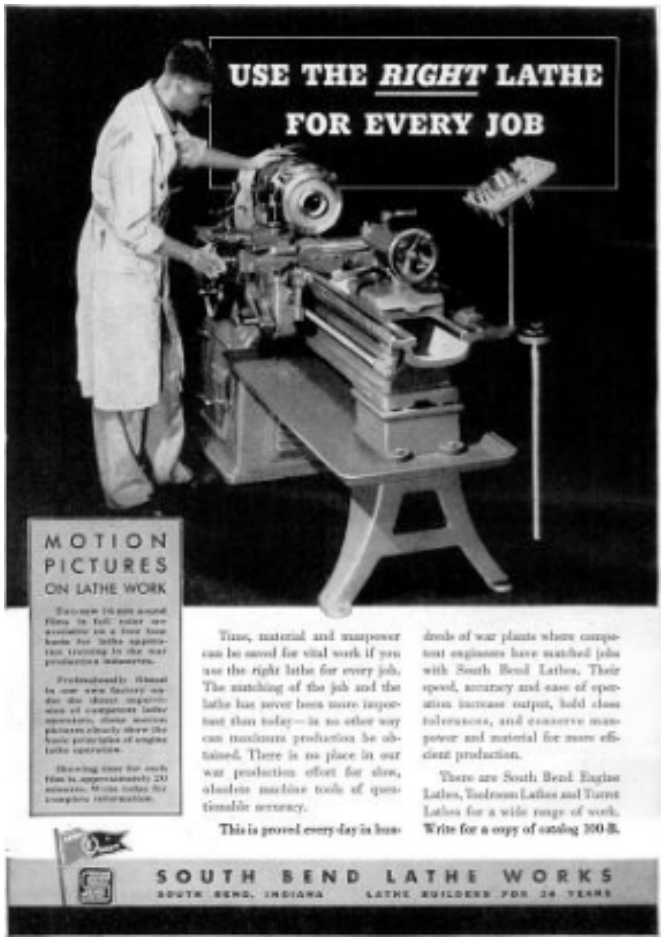

TAFE

Name the Lathe

The cover of News 118 featured a photo of an engineers' lathe. The challenge was given to identify the lathe.

Technical Editor Mike Williams removed the cigarettes in the original photo which left a void where the tailstock should have been. With a bit of creative reconstruction he replaced the tailstock.

Perhaps these images of 1940s' lathes will allow a reader to hazard a guess.



Popular Mechanics December 1943.
The top two lathes are *South Bend*.
The bottom two lathes are *Atlas*.

Sharp Tools

The secret to cutting any resistant material well is to use sharp tools.

TTTG teaches how to sharpen!

Saws

Anyone who aspires to be able to do good woodworking needs to learn how to sharpen quality handsaws.

Sharpening handsaws well is a skill that can be acquired with lots of practice after attending a TTTG workshop.

The next TTTG Saw Sharpening Workshop

**September 25*

Special Tools

Sometimes you just cannot get the tool you need. The solution may well be to make the tool yourself.

Making Tools

**November 27*

What you need to know about making custom tools. The workshop covers basic metal working skills and metal selection, metal turning and heat treatment. Practical projects

Workshop Fees

Members $20
Others $40
Join TTTG at a workshop for $55*
***Workshop plus membership*

Workshop Venue

Asquith Boys High School
Jersey Road North, Asquith

Enquiries www.tttg.org.au

Mike Williams 02 9144 6356
Bob Crosbie crosbie.bob@gmail.com

Popular Mechanics December 1944

Disston, Atkins, Simonds, Sanvik, Spearior, Tyzack,

The legendary saw makers.
Old saws are usually available at TTTG Workshops and Meetings.

HUFF Reamer

During the last TTTG Committee Meeting John Bates produced a metal box with a sliding lid, placed the box on the table and exclaimed *anyone know what this is?*

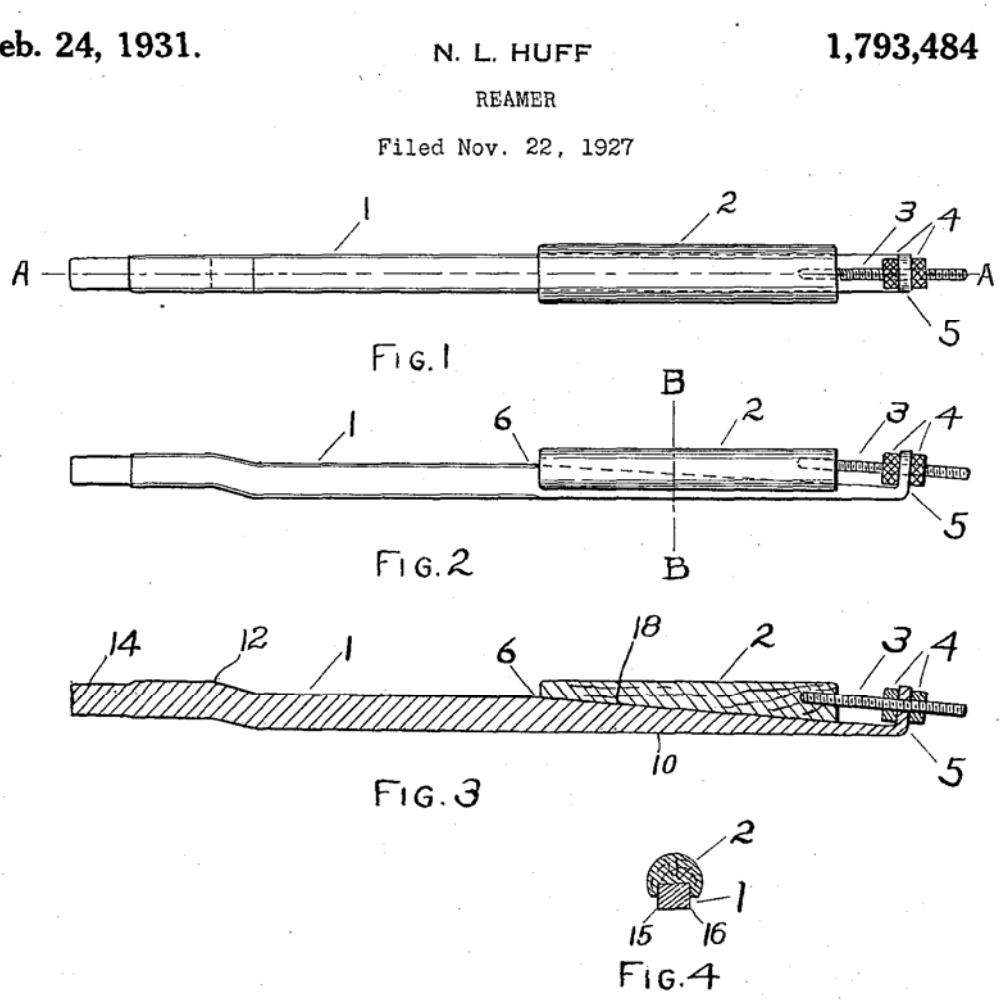
The lid was slid off the box, the contents removed and we started thinking. The contents consisted of a number of square metal bars and an equal number of wooden slotted cylinders. The bars are offset, one end is turned up at ninety degrees with two knurled nuts operating an adjustment screw which moves the wooden cylinder along a tapered slide.

We soon agreed that the moving cylinder engaged in something and also provided a means of increasing or decreasing the projection of the steel bar. If the bar was a cutting device this would mean that the cut could be regulated. The census *was some sort of reamer* with the observation the reamer must *be for something soft.*

We noticed the Pat. Pending and next day Peter Evans had found the patent. The HUFF Reamer was designed for reaming brass or bronze bearings.

The editor emailed the Committee

I'm amazed, our guesses were close!



Portable Power Tools

Drill Stands

Portable power tools have been in constant production from the 1920s to the present day. The first and most common successful portable power tool is probably the electric drill, sometimes originally known as the drill gun because of its resemblance to a hand gun or pistol.

As long as power tools have been on the market there has also been a range of accompanying accessories.

Arguably the power tool accessory that has the greatest utility is the drill stand. As the advert below from 1937 shows drill stands have a long history.

Popular Mechanics April 1937

Australian Power Tools

Locally made power tools go back to at least the immediate post World War 2 period. The quality of these tools is very high. As an example I have a 1960's Black & Decker Router. It came out of a deceased builder's shed and had been used but may have not been used for about twenty years. I switched it on and used it for a year. One day it wouldn't switch on. So I let Mike have a look, *probably a build up of saw dust or carbon around the toggle switch.* This proved to be the case and the router is back in use!

TTTG recently received this email

My name is Berto and I am a lecturer of Industrial Design at UTS. I am also undertaking a PhD and my topic is about Power tool manufacture in Australia, circa 1940-1990.
I'm writing to you as I would like to be able to connect with people who might have an interest in early Australian power tools. The main reason for me doing this study is that I'm interested in manufacturing. Also, when I discovered the depth and variety of power tool manufacture that once existed in Australia and that no-one had recorded any of this I decided to do something about it.
You can visit my blog - http://powertoolstudy.blogspot.com it has a number of the power tools I have managed to collect over the last year or so. I notice you have a meeting on Tuesday August 9, I was wondering if I would be able to attend and maybe say a few words about my study?

Berto has been invited to the next meeting and we look forward to learning more about his research.

Combination Squares for Woodworkers

At regular intervals the American woodworking magazines publish an article on combination squares and recommend the use of Engineer's Combination Squares. Personally I avoid using woodworker's try squares, they can be very attractive tools with combination of exotic tropical wood and polished steel but such squares are inherently inaccurate. Likewise I prefer using Engineer's Combination Squares for metal working but my Starrett is too good to use on wood.

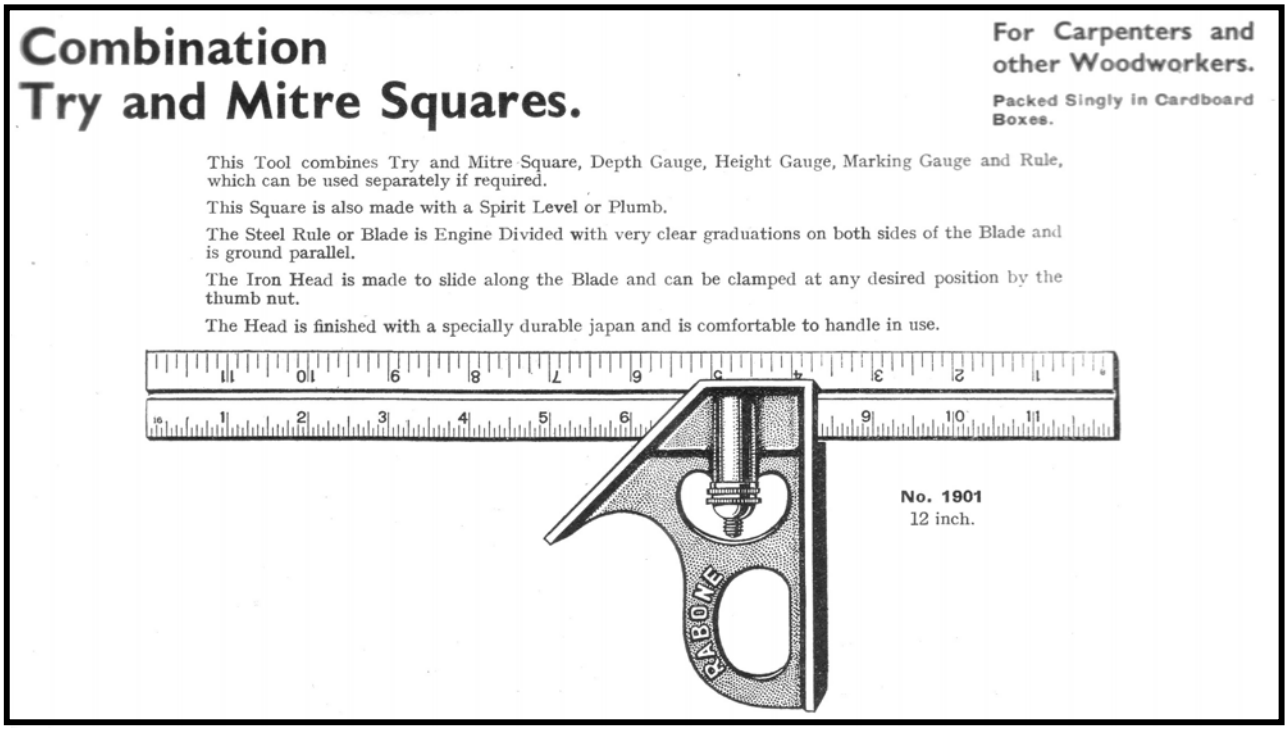
My preferred woodworking squares are Combination Squares made for use by woodworkers. The great thing is these squares are not appreciated being seen as cheap versions of the Engineer's Combination Squares and as a result can be brought cheaply. In fact I have over half a dozen in use!

From the 1920s to the 1970s the UK manufacturers *Chesterman*, *Rabone* and *Rabone/ Chesterman* made high quality Combination Squares designed to be used by Woodworkers. These squares are heavier than engineer's squares but they are accurate squares. *Flag brand* Germany also made very good combination squares and these are fairly common.

The earlier squares have rules with imperial calibrations but the squares made from the 1960s have metric or dual metric/imperial calibrations. The calibrations are accurate.

For setting out Combination Squares are more ergonomic than try squares. They are also more versatile.

Popular Woodworking June 2011 has a comprehensive article on the use of Combination Squares. Once you use a combination square you will never use a try square again.



John Rabone $ Sons Ltd. Catalogue 29

RABONE'S

STEEL MEASURING AND

SETTING OUT TAPE

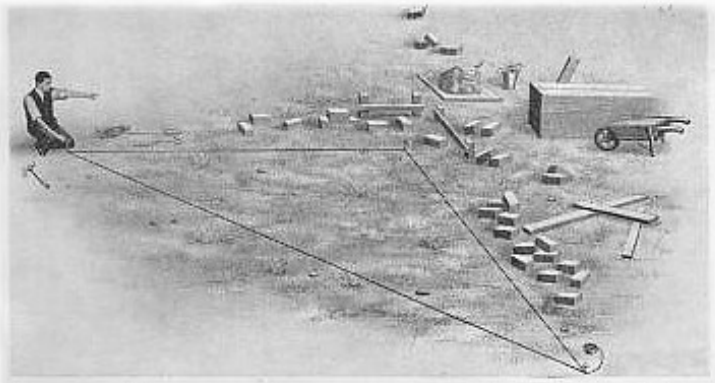
(PATENT No. 404661)

FOR A

RIGHT ANGLE OR SQUARE.

BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, SURVEYORS.

With the Rabone Steel Measuring and Setting Out Tape, Right Angles can be accurately "set out" single-handed, using only the Tape Measure and 3 Nails in 3 Pegs or other suitable device. In addition the Steel Tape is a permanently accurate measure.



He knows definitely his corner is square. He is using a "Rabone" Setting Out Tape

HOW THE TAPE IS USED.

The Tape is extended to its full length and the holes at both ends joined by means of a nail in a peg (or other convenient method). The two Swivel eyelet links are then drawn out to the fullest extent of their respective travels and fixed to the ground in a similar way, thus forming a Right Angled triangle and so "setting out" a Right Angle of absolute accuracy.

THE SETTING OUT TAPE IS A LARGE "FLEXIBLE" SQUARE THAT CAN BE CARRIED IN THE POCKET AND IT IS AT THE SAME TIME A MEASURING TAPE.

PRICES OF

STEEL SETTING OUT AND MEASURING TAPES

Marked on one side of the Tape only with FEET (into Inches in 8ths).							Marked FEET and LINKS (the feet into Inches in 8ths).						
No.	Width of Tape	33	50	66	100	feet	No.	Width of Tape	33	50	66	100	feet
		IN LEATHER CASES							IN LEATHER CASES				
SO4151	¼ in.	18/6	24/-	27/-	37/-	each	SO415	¼ in.	20/6	26/-	30/-	40/-	each
SO4181	½ in.	20/6	26/6	32/-	43/-	,,	SO418	½ in.	23/-	29/6	36/6	48/-	,,
		IN BAKELITE CASES							IN BAKELITE CASES				
SO5151	⅜ in.	16/6	20/-	23/6	30/6	each	SO515	⅜ in.	19/-	22/6	26/-	34/-	each
SO5181	½ in.	20/-	26/-	31/-	42/-	,,	SO518	½ in.	22·6	28/6	35/6	47/-	,,
		IN STEEL CASES							IN STEEL CASES				
SO4351	⅜ in.	14/6	18/-	21/6	28/-	each	SO435	⅜ in.	17/-	20/6	24/-	31/6	each
SO4381	½ in.	19/-	25/-	29/6	41/-	,,	SO438	½ in.	22/-	27/6	34/-	45/-	,,

It will be noted that the above prices are 5/- extra to ordinary steel measuring tapes (6/- extra for feet and Links) of similar lengths in the different types of cases specified.

33 feet SETTING OUT TAPE showing Holes and Eyelet Swivels.

JOHN RABONE & SONS, LTD., HOCKLEY ABBEY WORKS — BIRMINGHAM, 18

John Rabone $ Sons Ltd. Catalogue 27

Rabone made a vast range of rules and tap measures. *Chesterman* was *Rabone's* principle competitor.

Rabone absorbed the measurement related products of *E P Preston.* Later *Rabone* acquired *Chesterman.*

Terry Butcher's Hammer
True Temper Rocket

Popular Science October1954

Terry Butcher's Story

I arrived in Canada in 1957 with my pregnant wife. We rented a basement apartment and we urgently required a nursery with suitable furniture.

So I purchased a hammer, saw and a few other items long forgotten. But not the hammer! The hammer is a True Temper and you can study the claims the manufacturers made about this hammer on the facing page.

Over the next fifty odd years that hammer not only built a nursery cot and other nursery furniture it also renovated four houses and helped build a fifth house.

My True Temper hammer has worked on fences, a pig sty (actually two pig sties), knocked together the bookcases we have holding some 20,000 books, all the cupboards and shelves in our kitchen pantry.

My True Temper hammer has also knocked one of my front teeth when I foolishly left it sitting on the top step of a step ladder and when I moved the ladder, looking up as one does.

Smack a roo, followed by a hurried visit to the dentist.

But I cherish my old True Temper hammer. The ferrule under the head is gone, the rubber handle resembles a crocodile's skin but it is all there, intact and I hope to do a lot more work with it in the future.

I purchased my True Temper hammer in Toronto Canada in 1967. Fifty four years later and I'm still going strong after a life of work, but no retirement in sight for this TTTG member.

Bob's Hammers

By a strange coincidence the editor recently acquired a True Temper hammer in unused condition. Even the hammer is Yankie advertising at the pinnacle of salesmanship.

True Temper, Cyclone, Rocket,

Imagine looking at this hammer in the 1950s and taking in this hype.

The words promises not only a well made hammer, ***True Temper***, but also the speed and power, ***Cyclone***, of the space age, ***Rocket***.

I will never use this hammer but it is perfectly balanced and would be a good general purpose tool.

Mention of balance reminds me of another hammer that came with the ***True Temper*** hammer. This hammer is also "condition almost as new". *Cheney, Made in USA, claw hammer!*

I have used a Cheney Australia claw hammer for a number of years and it is an excellent hammer. However the Cheney Made in USA is even better.

About Terry

Terry Butcher was TTG's inaugural President. The first TTTG meetings were held in Terry's house in Redfern.

One of the incentives for the first TTTG Committee members was the Committee Meetings at Terry's house. We would talk tools, admire Terry's vast collection of books and tools and somehow manage to organise a viable interest group. In those days the newsletter was a few A5 pages.

Keep working Terry.

Publications

TATHS

Brian Read sent the TTTG editor news of new TATHS publications.

I have been spending some time scanning my copy of the 1919 Cutlers' Company official listing of all Sheffield trademarks. It has been cleared with the Cutlers' Company so there will be no copyright problems. It occupies over 300 pages, mainly as individual page images, and details 1875 marks so I have put it onto a DVD as several Pdf files, each with its own index. These will be:-

A) Illustrations of Trademarks as in the original book. They are arranged under the name of the firm to whom the mark was registered.

B) Descriptions of the Trademarks. This is useful when there is no firm's name visible but the mark can be made out.

C) Proprietors of Trademark Register, giving the classes of goods for which the mark is registered.

D) Copies of the many advertisements scattered throughout the original book. Again this has its own index.

It is currently at the proof reading stage and TATHS will be offering it in the September Newsletter at a cost of £6.00, including UK postage.

Rather than me having to deal personally with individual sales to Australia would TTTG be interested in handling it locally?

I have talked to the TATHS committee and we are suggesting that I send a disk to you to look at.

If you feel it is worth it TTTG can buy the Australian publication rights for £24, the cost of 4 UK copies. You can then sell copies to your members at whatever price you feel is reasonable.

TTTG's reply

TTTG has accepted the TATHS offer. The TTTG Secretary is finalising the details. The price will be announced in NEWS 121. Orders will then be taken.

The Tool Chest of Benjamin Seaton

This book became a "must have" and a standard reference on publication. Since the publication of this book additional information has come out of more research into the tools in Benjamin Seaton's Tool Chest.

TATHS is currently preparing a second edition of *The Tool Chest of Benjamin Seaton.*

Details will be published in NEWS.

Given the steady growth in TTTG membership and the consolidation of TTTG's bank balance the Committee has decided to spend some money on a few more reprints.

One publication we are considering is
Hand Tools
General Motors Corporation
Detroit, Michigan 1943

The title page of ***Hand Tools*** is the cover page of News 120.

We are open to suggestions, especially if you have the original.

TTTG's Future

With the AGM at the next meeting TTTG members will be interested in the Committee's plans for the future direction and growth of the group.

The numbers

TTTG membership is strong. Paypal has probably made it easier to join and renew membership. Meetings and workshops continue to attract strong attendance. *NEWS* is attracting out of Sydney members.

The General Meeting

The National Trust Centre is an excellent venue for the meetings. The combination of central location and onsite parking is a real asset.

The Annie Wyatt Room can hold about forty five people. Attendance at the meetings stretches the capacity of the venue; however we will continue to meet in the Annie Wyatt Room.

The Workshops

The TTTG workshops aim to cater for the needs of our members.

Skills based workshops consistently recruit new TTTG members.

The workshops have been held in several venues. For current workshop programme the venue is Asquith BHS.

Early next year there will be a repeat of the Blacksmithing workshop at the site of the Sydney Heritage Fleet.

The Committee is actively aware of the need to hold TTTG Workshops in safe workspaces. OH&S issues are part of TTTG's workshop strategy.

Public Events

TTTG will continue to attend public events such as the Sydney Timber and Working With Wood Show.

TTTG Publications

TTTG has a policy of actively seeking old publications suitable of reprinting. Cost is balanced against interest and so far we haven't lost money though reprinting publications.

TTTG Promotions

TTTG is well known but we can do more to promote the group.

- The TTTG Website is user friendly and often visited.

A few facts puzzle the committee.

-Why doesn't TTTG get more coverage in woodworking magazines?

-Why don't the various heritage and historical associations make more use of the expertise available in TTTG?

The first question might be answered by the simple observation that TTTG doesn't often pay for adverts.

The second question is more difficult. TTTG has a track record of publicly demonstrating traditional skills and we are often approached by museums hoping to borrow tools for exhibitions.

Perhaps we need to promote TTTG in a more aggressive manner?

Conclusion

TTTG is a healthy organisation.
Yes we can do better!

Buying old tools

Every member is asked two things,

Where can I buy it?

What's it worth?

The second question is really hard. Even if you know the person asking the question it is only possible to give an approximate answer.

TTTG is often asked

What's it worth?

Every Committee member when asked this question assumes the parrot pose and replies *we cannot give valuations.*

There is only one way to find rough answers to ***Where can I buy it?*** and ***What's it worth?***

The only viable approach is to try and work out what people will pay. To do this you have to study the market. Of course common sense can often be applied. If you really want the tool and can afford the price then why not buy it? As long as the vendor doesn't look like a rip off merchant why not?

Collectors

This is where I have to be careful. TTTG has quite a few collectors in the group. I like to think most members are tool users but we have never done a head count. Collectors often inflate the price of tools because they can be very competitive and acquisitive.

If I'm selling an old tool and I can get two or more collectors interested then it isn't that hard to get the offers escalating. The moral is to always ask the vendor's price and if there is no firm price walk away from the deal.

The Market

How do you establish market value? Well maybe there is no such thing as the market just different people selling in different ways. Consider the reality of some of these markets.

Garage Sales

You might get a $100 tool for 10 cents but more than likely you get nothing unless you spend most of your spare time going to garage sales. Always remember those hoards of collectors who do visit <u>all</u> garage sales.

Ebay

If you like to play with the computer maybe, but in my opinion all it does is inflate the price of junk. Yes the tool collectors do find rare stuff that has been poorly described but haven't you got better ways to spend your time?

The Tool Dealers

Old Tool Dealers want to sell tools to collectors because they pay the highest prices. *How do you judge tool dealers?* The ones you meet at sales are the easiest. The dodgy dealers stand out. The dealers online are a bit different. They all have impressive sites and ever changing stock. First step compare prices. Second step look at the descriptions. If a dealer doesn't know what the tool is how can you trust the price?

The Tool Sales

The best sales are live! In Sydney you must go to ***TTTG'S Annual Tool Sale*** and ***Henry's Sydney Tool Sale***.

Donations to TTTG

TTTG has a logo and thanks to a donation from John Daniel TTTG now has a mascot, if a tool can be one.

TOUGH MINOR has a *TOUGH* Brace

At the 2011 Working With Wood Show John presented a TOUGH Brace to the assembled TTTG Committee.

Catalogues

Barry Perdriau has very generously donated a number of Rabone and Chesterman catalogues to the TTTG Library.

The catalogues date from the 1930s to the early 1960s.

There are also some loose leaflets and price lists including a Brades list.

The catalogues seem to be from the offices of Sydney Tool Merchants and copies of correspondence to the tool manufacturers are contained in some of the catalogues.

2011 Sydney WWW Show

TTTG has been present at the Sydney Timber and Working With Wood Show since the first show was held.

For this year's show the Committee decided to redesign the TTTG Stand. The only feature that remained unchanged was Jim Davey's corner. Jim has it down to a fine art so we couldn't suggest any improvements.

The committee was keen to provide a better space for the traders so we gave them the other corner and four TTTG trading tables.

The President made a bench for the show so we could do crowd catching demonstrations. The shavings drew the public to the bench and then they often asked about the bench. The new TTTG bench is rock-solid but portable. The President wanted to show the public how a good bench could be made using modern materials and without spending lots of money.
As it happened there were benches for $2000+on some other stands and the observant members of the public made the obvious comparison between these benches and the TTTG bench.
For good measure we also gave Clynt a good bench to demonstrate the skill of saw filing. As usual his patient saw filing constantly attracted a crowd.

Everyone on the TTTG Stand enjoyed being involved. For those of us who did the full three days it wasn't so much hard work as continual socialising.

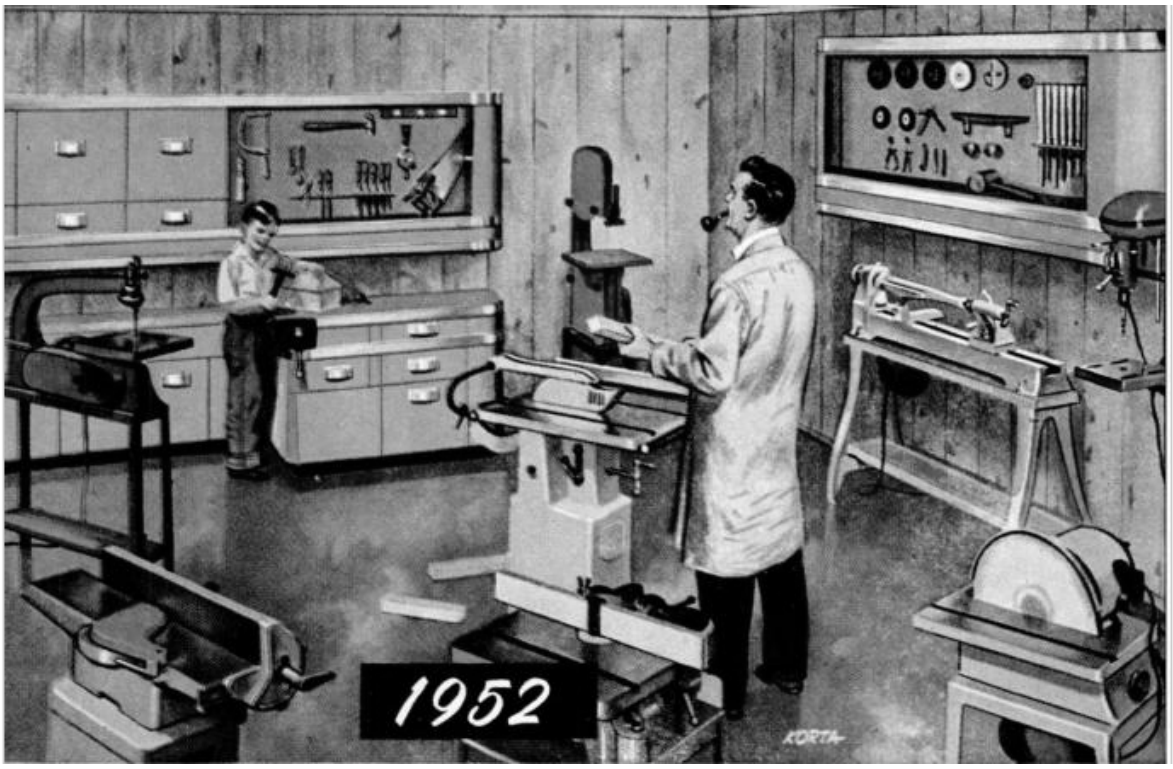
The show shows there are people of all ages interested in traditional tools.


RABONE
"SAFE SET"
LEVELS
DROPPED BUT
NOT BROKEN
"Safe Set" Tubes
Take the Bump
JOHN RABONE & SONS LTD · BIRMINGHAM

FOR SALE

Patented Transitional & Metallic Planes in America – Volume II
First edition, 1992 Roger K. Smith
New condition with dust cover Cost (in Australia) is $200
Price includes postage.

Trevor Semmens
19 Loinah Road Montagu Bay Tasmania 7018
Phone 03 62442586 Email trevnraie@hotmail.com



Popular Mechanics January 1952

THE TRADITIONAL TOOLS GROUP INC

2012 TOOL SALE

Over 40 tables of Quality Old Tools
All types of user and collectable hand tools
Hand tools to suit Tradesmen, Amateurs and Collectors Hand Tools for all Traditional Trades

SUNDAY 11 MARCH 2012

DOORS **OPEN 9am** DOORS **CLOSE 1pm**

ASQUITH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

Pacific Highway, Asquith NSW

$5.00 Entry

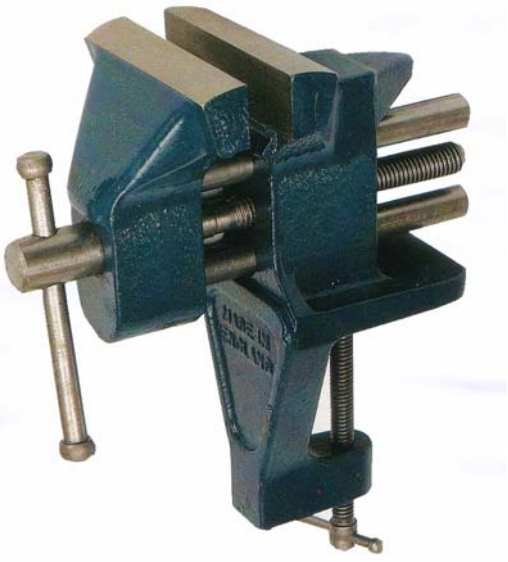
Plenty of **PARKING**

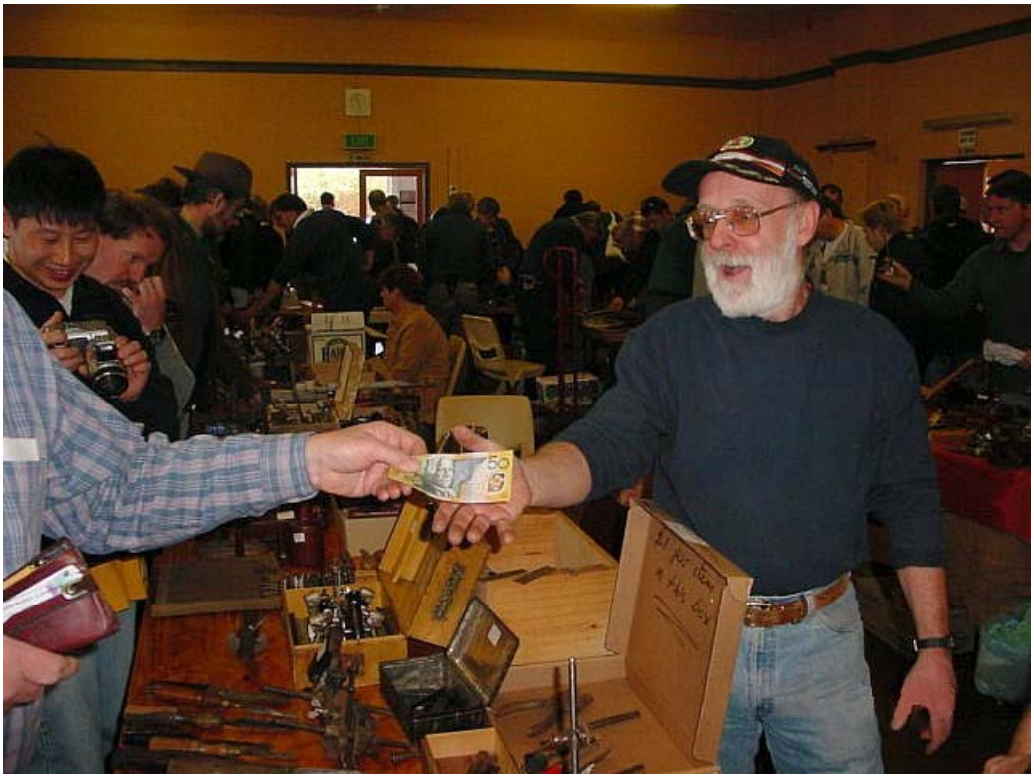
Close to Asquith & Hornsby Railway Stations

Reasonably priced refreshments

Enquiries: **clyntsheehy@tttg.org.au**

☎ **(02) 9416 7134**





It's not just about the dollars.

You meet some nice people on the trip.

Photographs by Ray Gurney

This year's **Sydney Tool Sale & Swap**
will again be held at
The Strathfield Men's Shed on the 18th of September.
28 Pomeroy St, Homebush from 9am to 1pm
Entry is $6.

Sellers please ring Henry on 9744 7875 ah.