

NEWS

124



April 2012

TTTG Inc.

www.tttg.org.au

Next Workshop

Sunday 29 April
Sharpening Edge Tools

Strathfield Men's Shed
26 Pomeroy Street Strathfield

Jim Davey

Sharpening woodworking edge tools

Chisels, planes, drawknives

Grinding and honing technique

TTTG Inc.

GENERAL MEETINGS

The general meetings are held at the National Trust Centre on Observatory Hill, Sydney.

This location is easy to reach by public transport. There is ample close to the meeting room.

Parking is free, safe and secure.

The general meetings are in the Annie Wyatt Room.

Refreshments are provided.

The entry fee is \$5.

Contacting TTTG

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Enquires

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www.tttg.org.au

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Next General Meeting

Tuesday April 12

Annie Wyatt Room

***Chinese Woodworking Tools
in New South Wales***

National Trust Centre
Observatory Hill Sydney

Entry \$5

'Doors open at 7pm'

NEWS 124 Contents

Meetings	2, 3, 4
Workshops	2, 5, 6
Membership/Contacts	2, 3, 6
The Ledger	13
Webmaster	8, 9
JD's	14, 15
Joe's Garage	7
Sher	10
Berto's Research	11
Brades Catalogues	26
TTTG & Lifeline	12
TTTG Trailer	12
Tomahawks	16
French Reamer	17
FactoryLife 1844	18
Wave Machines	19
Tools in Nicholson	20, 21
Tool Sales Pictures	22,23
Blowing Machines	24
File cutting machines	25
Hardening Files	27, 28
Penetrol Rust Removal	29
Carisbrook	29
Tool Use 1962	30
Theme Tapes	31
Museums	32
On the Web	33
Reviews	34

Cover. Home Workshop 1939
Popular Science January 1939

Next Meeting

Chinese Woodworking Tools in New South Wales

1800 to today

Tuesday April 12

Annie Wyatt Room

National Trust Centre

Observatory Hill Sydney

Entry \$5 'Doors open at 7pm'

Chinese artisans arrived in Sydney long before the Gold Rushes in the 1860s. Initially they were esteemed as good tradesmen but latter they were vilified as a threat to *white* labour and British values.

Largely unseen by respectable white men Chinese artisans were hard working and prospered in the face of bigotry and racism.

These artisans transferred Chinese technology to New South Wales.

This presentation will concentrate on Chinese woodworking tools.

This is a unique opportunity to see a large display of old Chinese tools. Chinese saws, chisels, planes and other tools both made in China and made in New South Wales will be represented.

TTTG Membership \$35

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

TTTG fees will remain at the current rate for at least another year.

Last Meeting

Bits and Braces

Tuesday February 14

At the last meeting the audience was overwhelmed by the vast array of braces and other drilling devices displayed on several tables.

The presentation reinforced the statement that the number of brace designs and brace and drilling device patients are legion.

In Australia braces were imported in quantity and also manufactured locally. Both categories were well represented at this meeting.

The best brace needs a suitable bit for the job in hand and bits were made in multiple sizes and many designs. The number of brace bits on display was mind numbing.

One interesting bit of evidence emerged during the meeting. There has been speculation about *Silex* tools. *Silex* was an Australian tool maker with an extensive range but did *Silex* make all *Silex* tools?

The display included a number of braces by *Silex* and *Mit A Mit*. In all aspects they were identical. At the 2012 TTTG Tool Sale a hand drill stamped *Mit A Mit* and with a *Silex* paper label surfaced.

The meeting was well attended and the auction was very lively. *TTTG members are reminded to observe normal restraint and not to move tools before the auction.*

Jim Davey TTTG Workshops

The next Jim Davey Workshop is

Sharpening Edge Tools

Sunday 29 April

Strathfield Men's Shed

26 Pomeroy Street Strathfield

Jim Davey is a hand tool legend known as Australia's plane doctor.

Jim Davey's TTTG Workshops are popular and always well attended.

Jim Davey has a large range of sharpening equipment, new and old tools and fettled planes for sale at each TTTG workshop.

Jim's prices are very competitive and Jim advice is priceless.

More Jim Davey Workshops

Plane Tuning

Sunday 23 September

Strathfield Men's Shed

Hand Plane Skills

Sunday 25 November

Strathfield Men's Shed

Jim Davey will be attending some other TTTG Workshops.

Jim sells an extensive range of new tools and fettled planes at all the workshops he conducts or attends.

Jim's merchandise includes hard to find items such as very small saw sharpening files and blades and parts to fit old planes.

SEE JIM'S ADVERT page 35

Tool Skills Workshops

One day affordable skills based workshops are unique to TTTG. The workshops are conducted in safe work areas conveniently located. Food and hot drinks are provided. The TTTG presenters know what they are doing!

Participants at workshops are required to wear sensible clothing and footwear.

May to November 2012

Saw Sharpening

Sunday 27 May

This workshop has developed a reputation as the best class on sharpening saws.

Sharpening equipment and old and new saws will be available to buy.

The entry fee includes one saw file.

Venue: *Strathfield Men's Shed.*

Blacksmithing

Sunday 24 June

The TTTG blacksmithing workshop is held beside a bay in the shadow of an iron clad ship.

Large workshops combined with friendly teachers have made this a popular TTTG workshop.

Venue: *Sydney Heritage Fleet.*

Dovetails and Other Joints

Sunday 12 August

Learn how to cut precise joints with hand tools. The essential skills of timber preparation and joint setting out will be covered. Saw and chisel techniques will be practised. Finally a dovetail will be marked and cut. If you get the first joint right you can try other joints!

Venue: *Strathfield Men's Shed.*

Workshop Venues

Strathfield Men's Shed
Pomeroy Road. Strathfield

Sydney Heritage
Fleet
Heritage Shipyard
Gate number 4
James Craig Road
Rozelle



Tea, Coffee and biscuits provided

Bring your lunch Wear safe shoes

How Much?

Members \$20

Others \$40

***Join at a workshop
for only \$55****

**Workshop plus membership*

Workshop Enquiries

www.tttg.org.au

Mike Williams

02 9144 6356

Bob Crosbie

crosbie.bob@gmail.com

Plane Tuning

Sunday 23 September

Achieving ultimate performance from your plane is every plane user's ambition. Jim Davey will show you how to get the best from your metal plane. Jim begins by flattening the sole and then sharpening the blade and tuning the plane. If you have a special purpose plane or a wooden bodied plane Bob Crosbie will show you how to achieve the best results from the plane.

Venue: *Strathfield Men's Shed.*

Woodturning

Pattern Routing

Sunday 28 October

Learn how make tool handles on the wood turning Lathe.

John Daniel will show you how to turn chisel and other handles.

Bob Crosbie will demonstrate the safe use of the electric router and explain how to pattern rout plane and other tool handles.

Venue: *Strathfield Men's Shed.*

Advanced Hand Plane Skills

Sunday 25 November

Learn how to tune hand planes to achieve precision and quality finish

Bench and special purpose planes plus planing jigs and devices

Jim Davey and Bob Crosbie will introduce you to the arsenal of special purpose planes and user made planning jigs.

The Bailey type Planes

Infill planes

Wooden Planes

Combination planes

Scraper planes

Ploughs and Fillisters

The Trenching plane

Moulding planes

Spokeshaves and more!

Planing Boards

Shooting Boards

BRING YOUR PROBLEM PLANE

Planes and parts to buy!

We have the space to also run a refresher sharpening workshop for anyone who wants the basics.

Venue: *Strathfield Men's Shed.*

Joe's Garage

“Driving down the Pacific Highway on the weekend,” reports Joe Valence, of Cherrybrook, “I noticed a sign outside Asquith Boys High School spruiking a ‘Traditional Tools Group’ sale and swap meet. I parked the car to drop in for a look, thinking ‘this is going to be a big mistake. It’s probably full of old codgers doddering over a heap of old rusty tools’. I was right – they were all my age, and most of the tools looked like they’d come directly from my own garage.”

The above appeared in *Column 8* after the March 2012 Tool Sale.

What a garage?

After paying the \$5 entry fee the first thing Joe must have noticed will have been the quality food and beverages on sale at low prices. Joe's garage must have a built-in commercial kitchen.

Entering the sale area Joe must have noticed the very large anvils, pedestal drill and accessories for metal working machinery. Joe's comment may have been similar to *“only one large anvil and three cast iron anvil stands? I've got more.”*

Once in the door Joe would have dismissed the first tables as light weight as they only contained an assortment of extremely hard to find metal working hand tools, machine vices and assorted heavy equipment. Joe's garage must have a fully equipped engineering shop.

What Joe saw next would have been determined by whether he walked to the left and then straight ahead or kept going left. The tables straight ahead only contained rare tools so I will assume Joe went left. After all there must be crates of all types of rare tools in Joe's garage.

The first tables to left only had top quality old tools being snapped up by the public. The next tables were Jim Davey's and Joe must have all the new tools Jim was selling. Joe must import his new planes, plane blades, chisels, saws, sharpening equipment and fettle a vast array of veteran planes himself if nothing on Jim's table grabbed his interest.

I could continue speculating on why Joe wasn't impressed by the vast array of old and new tools. ***I want to see Joe's garage, it really must be something!***

2013 TTTG Tool Sale

The next TTTG Tool Sale will be in March 2013

The date and venue will be announced in a few months!

Webmasters Report

For those that aren't aware TTTG has had a running website since 2002 at www.tttg.org.au.

The website offers members a point of contact to obtain current events TTTG is attending, specific information for workshops, and general information about *The Traditional Tools Group*.

The website offers a number of the contributions made by members. Of these, John Daniel's **John's Pages**, is the most popular as it is an electronic copy of the News regular feature **JD's**. The pictures you see on the website are shown in full colour and most times can be viewed in far more detail.

One item that is used a lot on the website is the "Library Search". Lately I've added some instructions on how to search TTTG's list of library books, so it may be worth a look if you are looking for a particular subject, author or title.

One secret on the website is the 'Site Map' in the top left hand corner of each web page. Pressing the TTTG logo will take you to the directory of the entire web content.

In addition to the regular information, you will find all of **John's Pages**, a number of picture albums of tool sales and events, and contributions by John Bates (*Stanley Planes and Screw Threads*) and other TTTG members.

During that time TTTG has added facilities to enable our membership to pay the annual membership fee, pay for workshops and, just recently, for new members to sign up and to join *The Traditional Tools Group*.

If you need to renew your annual membership, click on the *Membership* link on the left hand side of the web page, and when you get to the *Membership* page, look for the link that reads *Subscription Renewal* and click this link.

Follow the link to the *Subscription Renewal* page and then read the instructions carefully before you proceed further.

For workshops, click on the *Coming Events* link on the left hand side of the web page, and when you get to the *Coming Events* page, look for the link *Pre-Paid Workshop Reservation* and click this link.

Follow the link to the *Pre-Paid Workshop Reservation* page and read the instructions carefully.

The website is always evolving and I am always looking for suggestions or content that you, as members, would like to see on the web.

If you have any problems finding content on the TTTG web site, send me an e-mail and I will address the problem as soon as I can.

Every once in a while I get queries on how often the TTTG website is used.

Looking at some statistics on the website I found some interesting things. For one, there are about fifty people (real people, not bots) that actually view the website every day.

The most viewed content pages (this excludes regular web site pages, such as *Home*) for February are listed on the opposite page.

The most viewed content pages for February 2012

Count	Page Name
593	Stanley Planes and Screw Threads - Part 2.pdf
541	Stanley Planes and Screw Threads - Part 1.pdf
48	HercusHobbyLathe.jpg
465	Citric Acid Rust Removal. Brochure.doc
83	TTTG Tool Sale 2012.pdf
11	JohnsPage79-2.jpg
6	JohnsPage120-004.jpg

The TTTG website is accessed globally

Rank	Hits		Country
1	7800	35.73%	Australia
2	4605	21.09%	Unresolved/Unknown
3	3854	17.65%	Network
4	3059	14.01%	US Commercial
5	289	1.32%	Canada
6	130	0.60%	Germany
7	129	0.59%	Mexico
8	129	0.59%	Russian Federation
9	128	0.59%	Non-Profit Organization
10	105	0.48%	Italy
11	90	0.41%	Thailand
12	90	0.41%	South Africa
13	88	0.40%	Brazil
14	84	0.38%	Turkey
15	78	0.36%	United Kingdom
16	64	0.29%	Romania
17	62	0.28%	Belarus
18	62	0.28%	Poland
19	56	0.26%	France
20	53	0.24%	India
21	52	0.24%	Spain
22	52	0.24%	Indonesia
23	51	0.23%	Switzerland
24	47	0.22%	Hungary
25	45	0.21%	Finland
26	40	0.18%	Sweden
27	39	0.18%	Israel
28	37	0.17%	Yemen
29	35	0.16%	Libya
30	35	0.16%	Netherlands

Darcy Hourd is the TTTG Web Master.

Darcy installed the TTTG Web Site in 2002.

The Web Master is ready to take on board your comments!

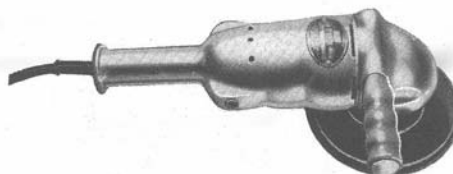


PORTABLE ELECTRIC TOOLS

F367—Heavy Duty Sander and Polishers

For continuous heavy duty use, Sher Sanders and Polishers out-perform more expensive units. Balanced design and light-weight construction reduce operator fatigue. Rubber pads screw on to 5/8" Whit. spindle. Side handle may be used on either side to suit right or left-hand operation.

Model	No load R.P.M.	Full Load Watts	Net Weight lbs.	Length ins.
7" H.D. Sander	4,200	650	12½	14¾
7" H.D. Polisher	1,250	350	9	13¾
7" Super Polisher	1,250	650	13	14¾
7" Super Polisher	2,000	650	13	14¾



F367—
7" Heavy Duty Sander

DOUBLE INSULATED SANDERS AND ANGLE GRINDERS

F368—Double Insulated Angle Grinders (not illustrated)

These units have been designed as truly heavy duty units, and are much more powerful than any previous grinders of this type. In addition, the modern concept of double insulation is incorporated to ensure complete safety. Details are as follows:—

Model	Max. Wheel Size	No. Load R.P.M.	Full Load Watts	Net Weight lbs.
7" Angle Grinder	7"	8,500	1,800	16
9" Angle Grinder	9"	6,500	1,800	17½

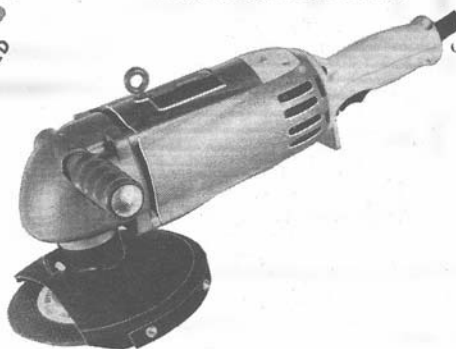


F369—
Double Insulated Super Sander.

F369—Double Insulated Super Sander

Intended for the heaviest duty where maximum production rate is required. 1.4 H.P. motor makes this sander at least 50% more powerful than any comparable unit.

No-load speed (R.P.M.)	5,200
Full-load watts	1,500
Weight (lbs.)	15¼



F370—Double Insulated Sander/Grinder

F370—Double Insulated Sander/Grinder

A versatile tool for those whose work entails both sanding and grinding. Its speed has been selected to give efficient operation with both coated abrasive discs and depressed-centre grinding wheels. 1.6 H.P. provides ample power for the heaviest service.

No-load speed (R.P.M.)	5,200
Full-load watts	1,800
Weight (lbs.)	16½

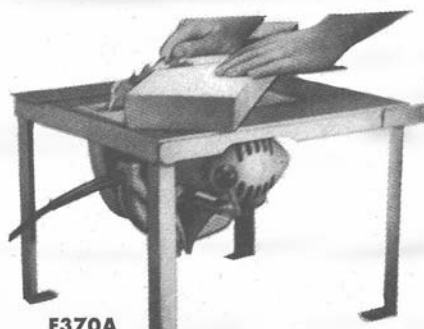
ACCESSORIES

A full range of accessories for Sher Grinders, Polishers and Sanders is available from stock.

F370A—SHER SAW BENCH

This useful accessory converts your Sher '750' Timbermaster Saw into a Tilting Arbor Saw Bench, for mitring, bevelling, cross-cutting, ripping, etc. Depth of cut adjustable to 2½" max.

Rugged welded, all steel construction. equipped with graduated mitre



F370A

This illustration is from an undated McPherson's Ltd Catalogue, probably mid 1960s. The readers' attention is drawn to F370A Sher Saw Bench.

The editor has cropped the bottom of the page and the final sentence, *Blade is completely shielded by the telescopic guard.* The cut shown is extremely dangerous!

Berto's Research

Berto couldn't get to the last TTTG meeting. He sent his apologies and was obviously disappointed.

Berto asked the convener to ask the audience to assist him with his research into Australian made portable power tools.

I was hoping you might be able to ask the group something for me.

As part of my research project I had planned to interview people connected in some way with Australian made power tools and I have received my ethical clearance to conduct these interviews. I would be very interested in interviewing anyone who;

- 1. Worked for any of the power tool companies in any capacity (Black and Decker, Sher, Jamec, Lightburn, KBC)*
- 2. Owns an Australian made power tool, such as Leonard Traynor's interesting story in the recent TTTG newsletter.*
- 3. Collects power tools.*

The interview will be recorded.

Berto's contact details are:-

BertoPandolfo
Faculty of Design, Architecture
and Building
University of Technology Sydney
PO Box 123 Broadway NSW 2007
Tel: [+61 2 9514 8986](tel:+61295148986)
Fax: [+61 2 9514 8787](tel:+61295148787)
Berto.Pandolfo@uts.edu.au

Terry Butcher has sent a long letter to Berto containing a great amount of information relating to Australian made power tools.

John Daniel has had an interesting find relating to these tools.

I have found a jig-saw attachment for a portable drill. In the light of the focus on Australian made portable drills, I thought that these photos may be of some interest. Perhaps it's not an Australian made attachment however it could have been included in a package deal.



When Berto attends another TTTG meeting he will be given some power tools donated by members.

TTTG helps Lifeline with Book Sales

Those members who have recently attended the TTTG meetings at the National Trust Centre will have seen the interesting selections of used books being sold, but may not know how it came about.

Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury is a local part of the national charity organisation Lifeline which provides a 24/7 telephone counselling service and other related face to face services for those in need.

Fundraising activities include running about six used book fairs each year, with between 40,000 and 150,000 books at each. The books for these fairs are all donated. Teams of volunteers sort and clean the books. Tired, dirty or damaged books are not sold but sent for recycling.

Lifeline first approached TTTG early in 2011 to borrow TTTG's trestles which are only used for the annual Tool Sale. Lifeline also recognised that although older books written for tradesmen were hardly selling at their popular book fairs, they would appeal to TTTG members.

My dictionary tells me the word symbiosis means –two groups who are attached to each other to the mutual advantage of both.

Lifeline appreciates TTTG's willingness to lend TTTG tables a few times each year, and to provide an opportunity to sell some hard to sell books.

Some of the books found by Lifeline are selected by TTTG as being worthwhile additions to TTTG's library, and these are donated by Lifeline. The others are sold at the National Trust meetings.

Every meeting has completely new stock so do come and look, you do not know what will be there!

To find out more about Lifeline

<http://www.lifeline-h2h.org.au/index.html>

TTTG Trestle Tables

TTTG has invested in the purchase of nearly sixty trestle tables.

The cost has been recouped from the profits of the Tool Sales held before the 2011 Tool Sale.

Storing TTTG's Tables

TTTG aims to minimise expenditure. Some times this is best done by spending money. Paying to store the TTTG Tables long term would be a constant drain on TTTG's finances. The TTTG Committee has decided to buy a trailer to store the tables.

A trailer will simplify setting up the Tool Sale and means TTTG can also continue lend tables to Lifeline for the Lifeline book sales.

The TTTG Trailer

Who is willing to look after the trailer?

THE LEDGER

New Member

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

George Sadler M638

George, we hope you find your membership rewarding and look forward to your participation in our activities.

THANK YOU, TOOL SALE HELPERS

I'd like to thank all the helpers who contributed their time to make TTTG's tool sale on the 11th March such a great success.

And I'd also like to thank all the customers and stallholders.

I'm sure everyone who came to the sale had an enjoyable and rewarding time.

SYDNEY TIMBER & WORKING WITH WOOD SHOW

The Traditional Tools Group will again have a stand at the Sydney Timber & Working With Wood Show.

This year the T & WWW Show will be held at the Sydney Showground, Olympic Park, Homebush from 27th to 29th July, 2012.

As in previous years, there will be competitions arranged by the show organizers. The competitions will be for the following categories:

- Furniture and Box Making
- Woodturning
- Marquetry
- Scroll Sawing
- Carving and Sculpture
- Musical Instrument Making
- Marine Woodwork
- Toy Making
- Pyrography
- General Woodworking
- Open Novice
- Young Achiever (HSC & pre-HSC)
- Woodworking Tools & Jigs and Tool Restoration

In each category, the prizes are: First Place \$500, Second Place \$100 and Third Place \$50.

Members wishing to enter in any of the above categories may E-mail me at treasurer@tttg.org.au for an entry form or contact the show direct at admin@iexh.com.au (phone 9486 3571).

WORKSHOPS

See notices elsewhere in this issue for details of forthcoming TTTG Workshops.

OLD FARTS

Those more senior among you may be interested in a club I've recently joined. It's called **Touring Old Farts** (or TOFS). Older blokes go on one-day trips to interesting places.

Have a look at touringoldfartsinc/home
Or search on [touring old farts inc.](http://touringoldfartsinc)

Clynt Sheehy
TTTG Treasurer

JD's

John Daniel

You never know what's in a neighbourhood shed.

Imagine a shed annex that had been closed up for many years, with no light source, a repository for all sorts of stuff, mostly unrelated clutter smothered in dust-attracting grease. The owner had passed away some time back and his son had the task of cleaning the place up. Apparently the father was a hoarder and wouldn't part with anything and in later years became suspicious of anyone that ventured near the place.

It was a bit of a task to gain access to the side door with garbage bins and bags of who-knows-what defending the cache. We had a small lead-light to scan the place; *watch your step* proved a wise warning as we stumbled through. I soon realized that it wasn't just the one area, there was another extension, then of course, the main car garage. I must admit, my heart had a workout.

To get to the point, it was a little hard to see the extent of what was there, wherever I focused I was quickly coming to the conclusion that the shed was mostly filled with junk as nothing was jumping out at me.

Facing reality, I systematically started a little pile of odds and ends so that my excursion wasn't a total waste of time; a few early squares, a marking mortise gauge, a *Lightburn* Jigsaw attachment for a portable drill and other insignificant rust encrusted things that would later make me wonder why I didn't leave them there.

Being an optimist I still had the feeling that there had to be something good amongst all this disorder, so decided to climb on a box and see if there was anything other than old newspapers on an otherwise uninspiring shelf.



Miller's Patent No 43 Plough as found



There it was the unmistakable profile of a Miller's Patent No 43 Plough plane. It was gently added to my little pile of odds and ends. The dirt and grease on my hands and clothing was no longer an issue.

The plane, at first glance was in a very poor state however it appeared complete with no obvious damage to the wood or metal, a lucky find indeed. Fortunately I had a couple of little jobs on the home front to get out of the way which gave me a couple of days to assess my approach to the restoration of my find.

An electrolysis tank was used to de-rust the metal. Before placing the plane in the tank the brass components needed to be removed and a liberal smear of petroleum jelly over the wood was necessary to keep it dry. Once removed from the tank a stiff nail brush was used to remove all the loosened rust, dirt and grime.



Once dry, and after further detailing, it was evident that the plane was made by The Stanley Rule And Co, there was no actual damage to the plane, no cracks in the Rosewood and it had its original ¼ inch blade, the only apology was a small area on the toe of the skate that had some minor rust pitting and to my surprise, around 75% of the Japanning was intact; the old fellow's layer of grease had paid off.

You just never know what's in a neighbourhood shed, I couldn't believe my luck in finding a Millers patent No 43 (Type 4. 1876 Ref. STANLEY TOOLS John Walter); I suppose I was due to find something worthwhile.

The three photos below show the plane *from dirty parts to born again!*

JD's, the longest running regular feature in *NEWS* was originally titled **John's Page**.

JD's has a double life on the TTTG Web Site as **John's Pages**.

John Daniel, the author of **JD's** has become something of a TTTG celebrity not only for **JD's** but also for his Saw Sharpening workshop.

John's is one of the best and fastest saw filers in captivity.

John's Wood Turning workshops are equally popular and his speed on the lathe inspires admiration.

You can read all **John's Pages** and enrol in his workshops online.
www.tttg.org.au.

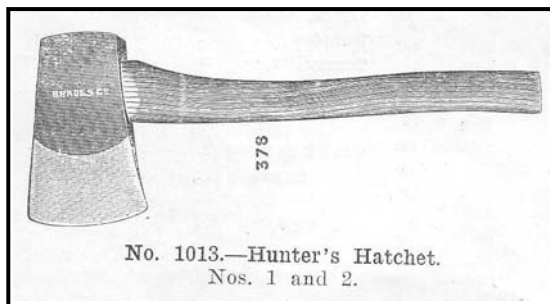
Tomahawks

The term *Tomahawk* has been in common usage in Australia since, at the least, the second decade of the nineteenth century.

The name *Tomahawk* appears in advertisements, newspaper items and court depositions but the term doesn't seem to have been used in illustrated tool catalogues; at least I haven't found an illustration! The terms *half axe* and *hunting hatchet* are captions for tools that in common usage were called *tomahawks*. 1013 below would be called a *tomahawk* by most people. This is probably close to the appearance of the tool sold in NSW in the nineteenth century described as an *American Tomahawk*.

W S Friend & Co. Established 1840. Catalogue of Tools

This undated catalogue was probably printed in the 1930s.



English side axes and small axes are illustrated in Smith's Key to the Manufactures of Sheffield 1816.

The axe head (273) opposite may have been distributed locally under the name "tomahawk". A similar axe head has been found in an early first contact archaeological site.

See Ochre and Rust. Phillip Jones. Wakefield Press 2008. Page 121.

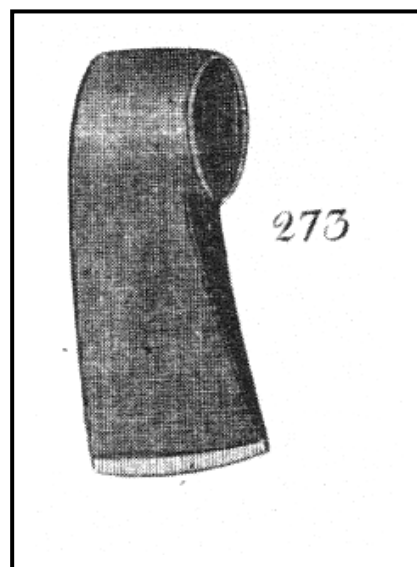
The *tomahawk* rapidly displaced the aboriginal stone hand axe in the settled (invaded) regions of Australia.

When Governor Macquarie visited Bathurst in 1819 he presented a *tomahawk* to a traditional owner who then presented Macquarie with a possum skin cloak. By 1840 settlers in the Hunter were complaining that the authorities were giving aboriginals *tomahawks* to commit outrages!

In *Don't Take Your Love To Town* Ruby Langford remembers her Uncle Ernie taking bush tucker in Northern NSW in 1940. Ernie wore a *Tom Axe* in his belt. He killed a Goanna by skilfully throwing the *Tom Axe*.

The term *Tomahawk* is American in origin and no doubt came to NSW with the early regiments who had seen active service in America and Canada. *Tomahawk* in Australia isn't an American Indian trade item but a small hand axe.

The editor is looking for examples of the use of the word *Tomahawk* and variants such as *Tom Axe*.



French Improved Reamer



ENGINEER^{THE} AND MACHINIST.

A Journal of Mechanical and Manipulative Art.

No. IV.

JUNE, 1850.

PRICE 1s.

THE ENGINEER AND MACHINIST.

101

ing again, raises and depresses the headle as before, forming a fresh shed in the warp, through which the shuttle is again thrown, and the operation continued in the same manner as may be required.

It is but just to add that the mechanism we have described was invented and constructed by a member of the ingenious family of the Smith's, of Heywood, at which place, or the immediate neighbourhood, it was set to work.

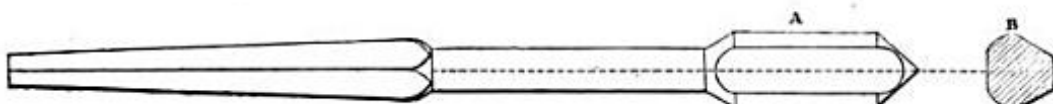
AN IMPROVED BORING TOOL.

THE accompanying engraving represents a tool, to be used in the lathe, for the purpose of finishing holes bored in metal. It is therefore intended as a substitute for the ordinary rimer and rosebit, over which it possesses peculiar advantages. It was invented in France, and we understand that in the French workshops it is coming daily more and more into use. In our peregrinations in the Lancashire workshops, we do not remember to have seen it in use in

a single instance. We, therefore, conclude that a description of it may not be unacceptable to many of our readers.

The part A is to be turned cylindrical, and of the exact size the hole is to be finished. Three flat sides are then to be filed upon it, but not so as to meet each other, that is, leaving a portion of the cylindrical surface as it came from the lathe, as will be seen by the section shown at figure B. The keenness of the cutting edge will depend upon the extent of the flat surface,—the more there is filed off the sharper being the edge. A sufficient quantity of the cylindrical surface must, however, be left, to ensure the efficiency of the tool. The point of the tool may be conical or otherwise, as may be convenient; and likewise the part A, instead of being cylindrical may be barrel-shaped, or conical, as may best suit the purpose in hand.

The advantages of this tool are, first,—the great facility with which it may be made; secondly, the perfect accuracy with which it finishes the holes; and thirdly, its great durability, on which account an immense number of holes may be made without the slightest perceptible variation.



Factory Life Britain 1844

In 1844 the Penny Magazine ran an illustrated series with the title *Days at the Factory*.

The articles were written by George Dodd.

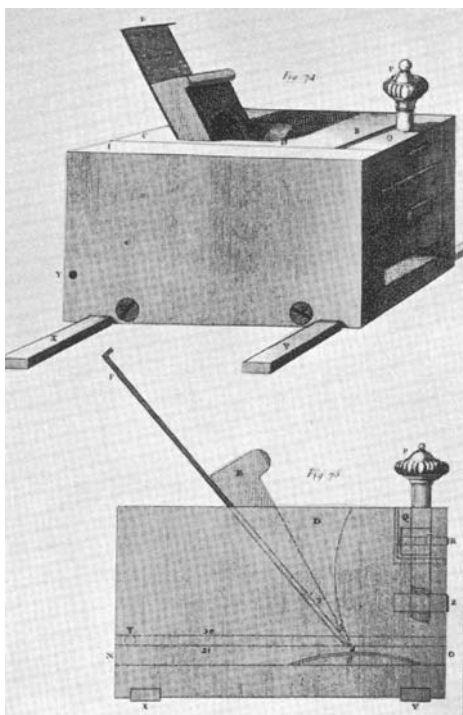
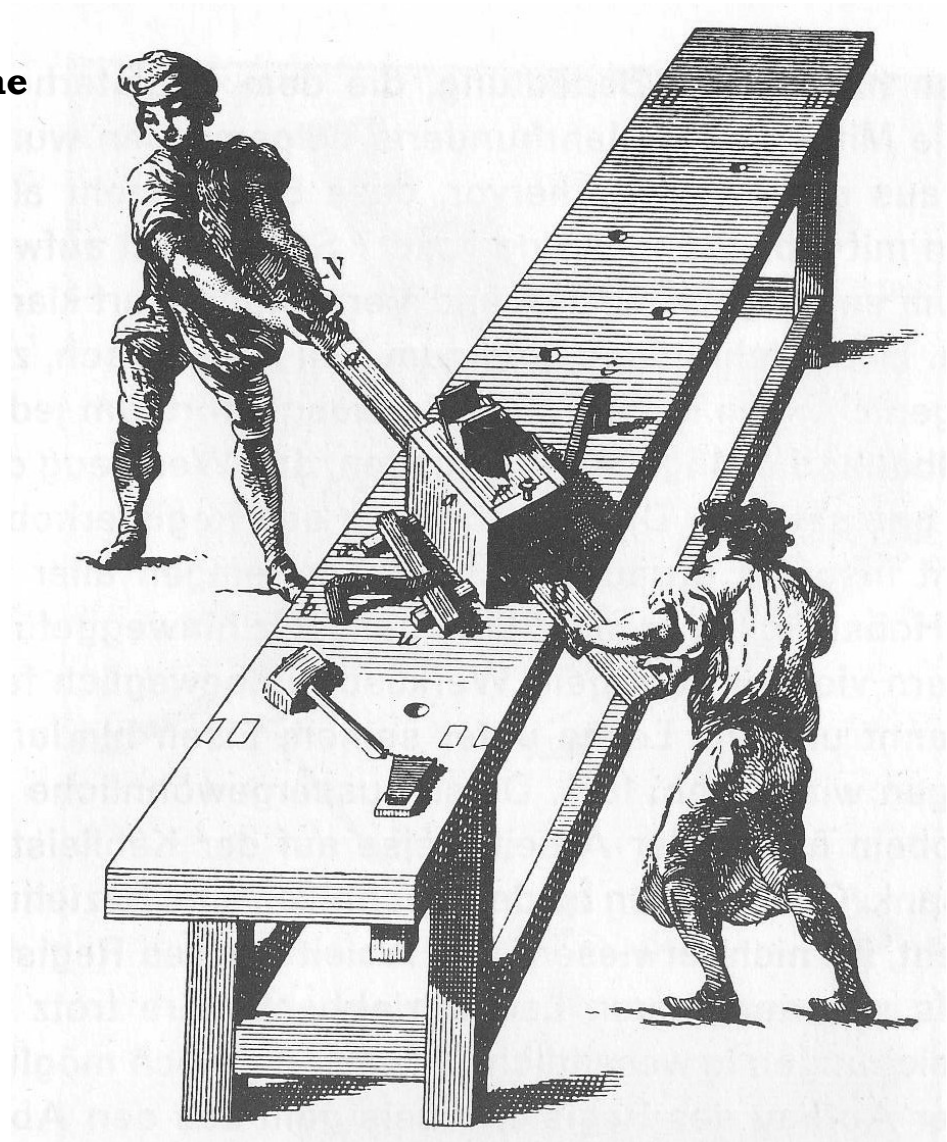
In 1845 George Dodd published these articles, with additional illustrations, under the title *British Manufactures*.

TTTG is preparing a selection of illustrations from these articles for publication later in 2012.



Preparing Clay for Steel-melting Pots.

Wave Machine



Drawing mouldings

These machines were based on jeweller's drawing machines.

A development of this machine was a machine to make *flame* or *wave* mouldings.

Drawing machines were made in the sixteenth century, unknown by the twentieth century.

Josef M Greber. *The History of the Woodworking Plane*. EAIA1991. First published in 1956.

Joiner's Tools in Nicholson

Mechanic's Companion

1832 Philadelphia edition

Plate of Joiner's Tools in *NEWS121*

The Moving Fillister

Continued from NEWS 123

Returning to the moving fillister, the guide is the bottom surface of a piece of metal which is regulated by a screw, so as to move it to the required distance from the sole. Though the bottom of this piece of metal is properly the stop, yet it is altogether called a stop by plane makers and carpenters; but to avoid a confusion of words, we shall call the bottom of the stop the vertical guide.

The stop moves in a vertical groove in the side of the fillister, and has a projection with a vertical perforation, which goes farther into the groove, or into the solid of the stock. The stop is placed on the right hand side of the fillister, between the iron and the fore end of the plane, and is moved up and down by a screw, which is inserted in a vertical perforation from the top of the plane to the groove, and passes through the perforation in the projecting part of the stop, which has a female, or concave screw adapted to that cut on the convex screw.

The convex screw is always kept stationary by a plate of metal, let in flush with the upper side of the plane; below this plate, and on the same solid with the screw, is a collar, and above, another which projects still farther upwards by way of a lever, for the ease of turning the screw.

This part which turns round is called the thumb screw. It is evident, as the axis of the thumb screw can neither move up or down as it turns round its axis, the inclination of the threads will rise or fall according to the direction of the thumb screw, and cause the stop to move up and down in the groove on the side of the plane, and thus the stop may be fixed at pleasure. In this plane, the opening for discharging the shaving is upon the right side of the fillister, and in this case the shaving is said by workmen to be thrown on the bench, that is, upon the right side of the plane; but when the orifice of discharge is upon the left, and consequently the shaving thrown upon the left, the plane is said to throw the shaving off the bench; and these expressions are applied to all planes which throw the shavings to one side.

In the moving fillister, as well as in several other planes, the upper part on the sides of the stock is thinner than the lower part; this part is called the hand-hold, and the thick part the body. In the moving fillister, the reduction made for the hand-hold is equally upon both sides of the plane, that is, the rebates are of equal depth. The edges of these rebates, which is the upper surface of the body, are called shoulders; this plane is therefore double shouldered.

The same appellation is given to the iron, when a part is taken from one or both sides, so as to make the upper part equally broad, but the sides parallel to the sides of the bottom part. The part of the iron so diminished is called the tang of the iron, and the broad part at the

bottom, which has the cutting edge, is called the web, and the upper narrow surfaces of the web are called the shoulders of the iron, in analogy to those of the plane. The iron of the moving fillister is only single shouldered.

Besides the above-mentioned parts, the moving fillister has another, which is a small one-shouldered iron, inserted in a vertical mortise, through the body, between the fore end of the stock and the iron. The web of this little iron is ground with a round basil, from the left side, so as to bring the bottom of the narrow side of the iron to a very convex edge. This little iron is fastened by a wedge, upon the right side of the hand-hold, passing down the mortise in the body. The use of this little iron is principally for cutting the wood transversely when wrought across the fibres, and by this means it not only cuts the vertical side of the rebate quite smooth, but prevents the iron from ragging or tearing the stuff. The whole of this little iron is called a tooth, and the bottom part may be distinguished by the name of the cutter.

The cutter must, therefore, stand out a little farther on the right hand side of the plane than the iron, but must never be placed nearer to the fence than the narrow right hand side of the iron. In this plane, the steel side of the iron, and consequently the bedding side of it, is not perpendicular to the vertical sides of the plane, but makes oblique angles therewith, the right hand point of the cutting edge of the iron being nearer to the fore end of the plane than the left hand point of the cutting edge. By this obliquity, the bottom of the rebate is cut smoother,

particularly in a transverse direction to the fibres, or where the stuff is cross grained, than could otherwise be done when the steel face of the iron is perpendicular to the vertical sides of the plane. The principal use is, however, to contribute, with the form of the cavity, to throw the shaving into a cylindrical form, and thereby making it issue from one side of the plane.

Reading old textbooks

Reading old texts like Nicholson's *Mechanic's Companion* can be hard work but with perseverance there is a great amount of knowledge to be gained. These texts were written to convey information to readers with a high comprehension level. Only the authors who could communicate technical information with clarity stayed in print. Spin and hype were in the distant future! Contemporary readers without formal education could educate themselves from these textbooks. Before photography only clear drawings and precise words could record technical knowledge.

The wooden Side Fillister is a very useful tool capable of cutting clean and precise rebates rapidly.

The wooden Side Fillister works better than a Stanley 78 and produces cleaner rebates than an electric Router.

To get the best from the plane study this text closely.

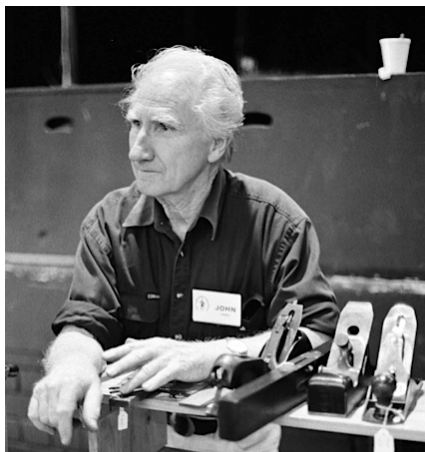
NEWS 125

The Sash Fillister in general

TTTG Annual Tool Sale



Photo Horacio Rodrigues



Photos: Edwina Richards

* www.sacredscraps.com

*Sacred Scraps is an online platform and interactive documentary series to help people share knowledge, skills and resources. The motto is *Waste Nothing*. The project focus is on skills transfer and providing online tools to connect people to pass on materials and objects that would otherwise end up wasted or in landfill. Mel Flanagan is the producer and has been researching stories from within The Traditional Tools Group. Currently in development and seeking funding, if you would like to join the mailing list, support the project or be notified of the launch date, send an email to Mel via findme@sacredscraps.com



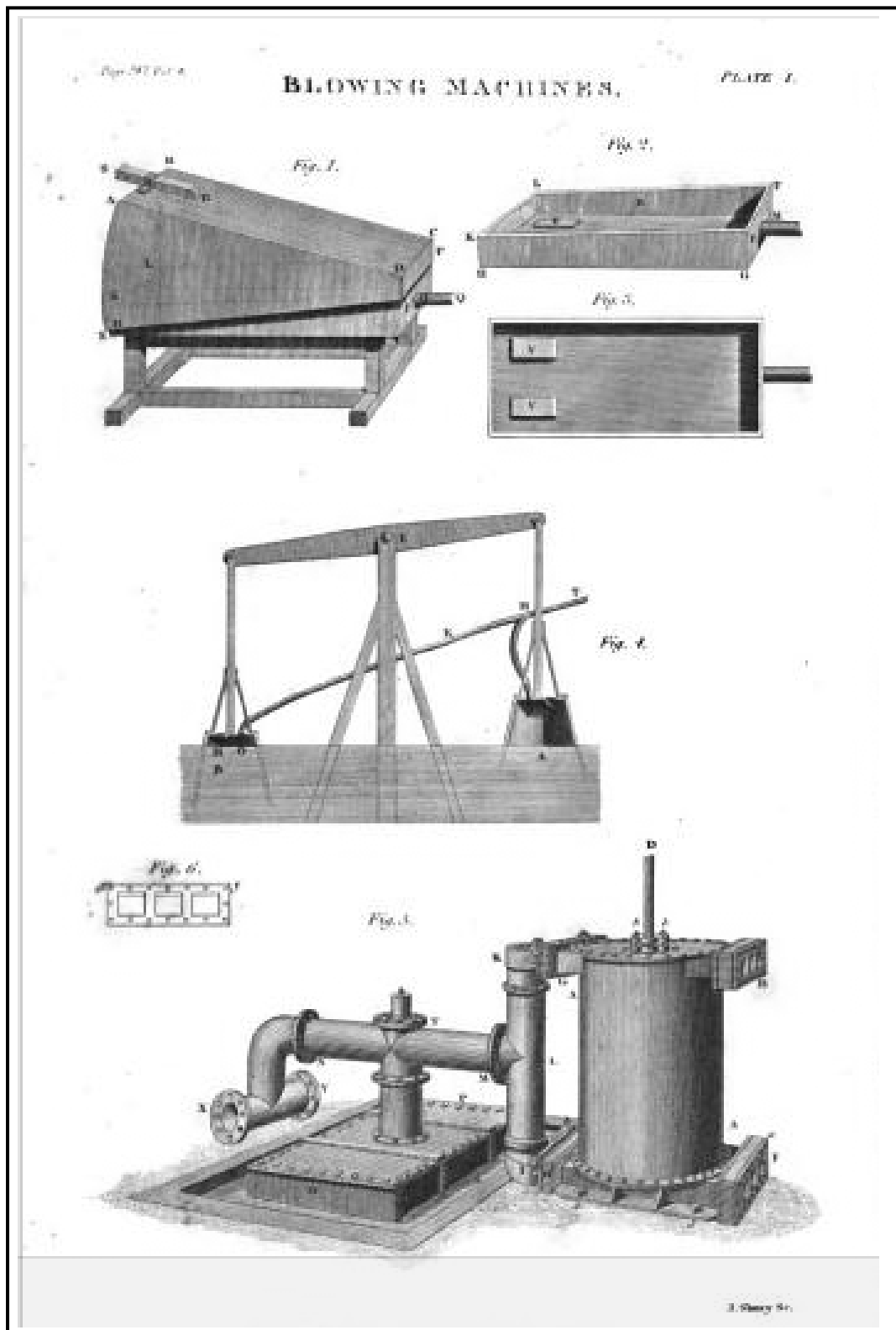
Photos: Horacio Rodrigues



Photos:
Edwina Richards
www.sacredscraps.com



Blowing Machines



London Encyclopedia 1829
Volume 9

File cutting machines 1829

London Encyclopaedia 1829 Volume 9

With respect to machinery, it is said, that a Frenchman named Mathurin Jousse, in a work entitled La fidelle Ouverture de l'Art de Serrurier, published at La Fleche, in Anjou, so long ago as the year 1627, gives a drawing and description of one, in which the file is drawn along by shafts by means of wheel-work, and the blow is given by a hammer.

There are several machines of this kind, or at least to effect the same purpose, in the Machines Approuvees par l'Academie Royale de Paris: there is also one published in the second volume of the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, of which we shall give some account, as we shall of another for which Mr William Nicholson obtained a patent in the year 1802; premising that the principal requisites, in a machine for file-cutting, are that the metal from which it is manufactured should be steadily supported, and the chisel adapted to the face without any unequal bearing.

The American machine consists of a bench of well-seasoned oak, and the face of it planed very smooth; and a carriage on which the files are laid, which moves along the face of the bench parallel to its sides, and carries the files gradually under the edge of the cutter or chisel while the teeth are cut. The carriage is made to move by a contrivance somewhat similar to that which carries the log against the saw of a saw-mill. The lever or arm, which carries the cutter, works on the centres of two screws which are fixed into two pillars in a direction right across the bench. By tightening or loosening these screws, the arm which carries the chisel may be made to work more or less steadily.

There is likewise a regulating-screw, by means of which the files may be made coarser or finer: also a bed of lead, which is let into a cavity formed in the body of the carriage, somewhat broader and longer than the largest-sized files: the upper face of this bed of lead is formed variously, so as to fit the different kinds of files which may be required.

When the file or files are laid in their place, the machine must be regulated by the screw to cut them of a due degree of fineness. This machine is described as being so simple, that when properly adjusted a blind person may cut a file with more exactness than can be done in the usual method with the keenest sight; for by striking with a hammer on the head of the cutter or chisel all the movements are set at work; and by repeating the stroke with the hammer, the files on one side will at length be cut; then they must be turned, and the operation repeated for cutting the other side. This machine may be made to work by water as readily as by hand, to cut coarse or fine, large or small files or any number at a time: but it may be more particularly useful for cutting the very fine small files for watchmakers.

We shall now give an account of the machine for which Mr Nicholson obtained his majesty's letters patent.

The detailed description is long and complex and no doubt there were several attempts to build the machine from this description.

Filing cutting machines did not displace hand file cutting until well into the twentieth century.

The early machines cut perfectly regular teeth but such files were considered inferior to hand cut files. By 1900 American file makers had perfected machinery to cut teeth similar to the best hand cut files.

BRADES CATALOGUES

Two rare 1930's *BRADES* Catalogues and a *BRADES* Price List have been donated to TTTG. The illustrations in the catalogues are in colour and arguably the best quality and most comprehensive twentieth century representations of tools manufactured in the United Kingdom in the 1930s.

TTTG will be reprinting the 1934 *BRADES* Export Catalogue in full colour. This reprint will be sold at a very reasonable price.

Details of this forthcoming TTTG reprint will be in *NEWS* 125.

TTTG will be reprinting other rare tool catalogues in 2012.



Hardening files

London Encyclopaedia 1829 Volume 9

Three things are strictly to be observed in hardening files.

First, to prepare the file on the surface, so as to prevent it from being oxidated by the atmosphere, when the file is red hot, which effect would not only take off the sharpness of the tooth, but render the whole surface so rough, that the file would, in a little time, become clogged with the substance it had to work.

Secondly, the heat ought to be very uniformly red throughout, and the water in which it is quenched fresh and cold, for the purpose of giving it the proper degree of hardness.

Lastly, the manner of immersion is of great importance, to prevent the files from warping, which in long thin files is very difficult.

The first object is accomplished by laying a substance upon the surface, which, when it fuses, forms as it were a varnish upon it, defending the metal from the action of the oxygen of the air. Formerly the process consisted in first coating the surface of the file with ale-grounds, and then covering it over with pulverised common salt. After this coating becomes dry the files are heated red-hot, and hardened; then the surface is lightly brushed over with the dust of cokes; when it appears white and metallic, as if it had not been heated.

This process has lately been improved, at least so far as relates to the economy of the salt, which, from the quantity used, and the increase of duty, had become a serious object.

Those who use the improved method do not consume above one-fourth the quantity of salt used in the old way.

The process consists in dissolving the salt in water to saturation, which is about three pounds to the gallon, and stiffening it with ale grounds, or with the cheapest kind of flour, such as that of beans, to about the consistence of thick cream.

The files only require to be dipped into this substance, and immediately heated and hardened. The grounds or the flour are of no other use than to give the mass consistence, and by that means, allowing a larger quantity of salt to be laid upon the surface.

In this method, the salt forms immediately a firm coating. As soon as the water is evaporated, the whole of it becomes fused upon the file.

In the old method, the dry salt was loosely attached to the file that the greatest part of it was rubbed off into the fire, and was sublimed up the chimney, without producing any effect.

Some file-makers are in the habit of using the coal of burnt leather, which doubtless produces some effect; but the carbon is generally so ill prepared for the purpose, and the time of its operation so short, as to render the effect very little.

Animal carbon, when properly prepared and mixed with the above hardening composition, is capable of giving hardness to the surface even of an iron file. The carbonaceous matter may be readily obtained from any of the soft parts of animals, or from blood. For this purpose, however, the refuse of shoe-makers and curriers is the most convenient.

After the volatile parts have been distilled over, from an iron still, a bright shining coal is left behind, which, when reduced to powder, is fit to mix with the salt.

Let about equal parts, by bulk, of this powder, and muriate of soda, be mixed together, and brought to the consistence of cream, by the addition of water. Or mix the powdered carbon with a saturated solution of the salt, till it becomes of the above consistence.

Files which are intended to be very hard should be covered with this composition, previously to hardening.

By this method, files made of iron, which in itself is insusceptible of hardening, acquire a superficial hardness sufficient to answer the purposes of any file whatever. Files of this kind may be bent into any form, and in consequence are rendered useful for sculptors and die-sinkers.

The mode of heating the file for hardening is by means of a fire similar to that employed by common smiths. The file is to be held in a pair of tongs by the tang, or tail, and introduced into the fire, consisting of very small cokes, pushing it more or less into the fire, for the sake of heating regularly.

When it is uniformly heated of a cherry colour, it is fit to quench in the water. An oven is commonly used for the larger kind of files, into which the blast of the bellows is directed, being open at one end for the purpose of introducing the files and the fuel.

After the file is properly heated, for the purpose of hardening, it should be cooled as quickly as possible; this is usually done by quenching it in the coldest water. Clear spring water, free from animal and vegetable matter, is best calculated for the hardening of files.

When files are properly hardened, they are brushed over with water and powdered coke, when the surface becomes clean and metallic.

They may likewise be dipped into lime-water, and dried before the fire as rapidly as possible, after which they should be rubbed over with olive oil, in which is mixed a little oil of turpentine, while warm, and then they are finished.

Using Files

In the operations of filing, the coarser cut files are always to be succeeded by the finer; and the general rule is, to lean heavily on the file in thrusting it forward, because the teeth of the file are made to cut forwards. But in drawing the file back again, for a second stroke, it is to be lifted just above the work, to prevent its cutting as it comes back. The rough or coarse-toothed file, called a rubber, serves to take off the unevenness of the work, left by the hammer in forging.

NEWS 125

FILE MAKING

London Encyclopaedia 1829
Volume 9

Similar to the description of file making in Thomas Martin *The Circle of the Mechanical Arts*. London 1819 but a close reading and comparison of the two descriptions of filing making provides additional information and insights.

EXTRACTS FROM

BRADES 1934 EXPORT CATALOGUE

IN COLOUR

*All the regular features plus
a few unexpected highlights*

Rust Removal & Prevention using Penetrol

Matthew Pryor

You will need:

- Penetrol
- Steel wool (00-0 or 0000)
- Clean Rags
- Metal paint scraper
- Abrasive paper
- Degreaser

Step 1

Dismantle tool or object to be treated.

Step 2

Remove as much rust, dirt, grease and grime as you can with scraper or abrasive paper. Spray with degreaser and wipe clean and allow to dry.

Step 3

Apply a small amount of penetrol to a clean rag and wipe over all metal surfaces paying particular attention to joints in the metal and any pitted areas, it is better to use more product in these areas to ensure good protection. When the penetrol starts to haze it is time to wipe off the excess.

Step 4

Leave to dry in a clean and dry environment. Once dry your tool is ready for reassembly and put back into service

****Caution** – DO NOT leave rags with Penetrol on them scrunched up when no longer in use. There is risk of spontaneous combustion. Penetrol is available in 30ml sample pots from most good paint suppliers (should be free of charge). This will be plenty for your first attempt of this procedure.

Carisbrook Display

As part of the National Trust Heritage Festival, TTTG, in conjunction with the Lane Cove Historical Society's Carisbrook House is mounting a display of traditional woodworking tools. The theme of the display is **Imagination, Perspiration, Innovation** and this aligns perfectly with this year's Heritage Festival theme of **Innovation+Invention**

Carisbrook House Museum is Sydney's only Victorian House Museum and is situated at 334 Burns Bay Road , Lane Cove

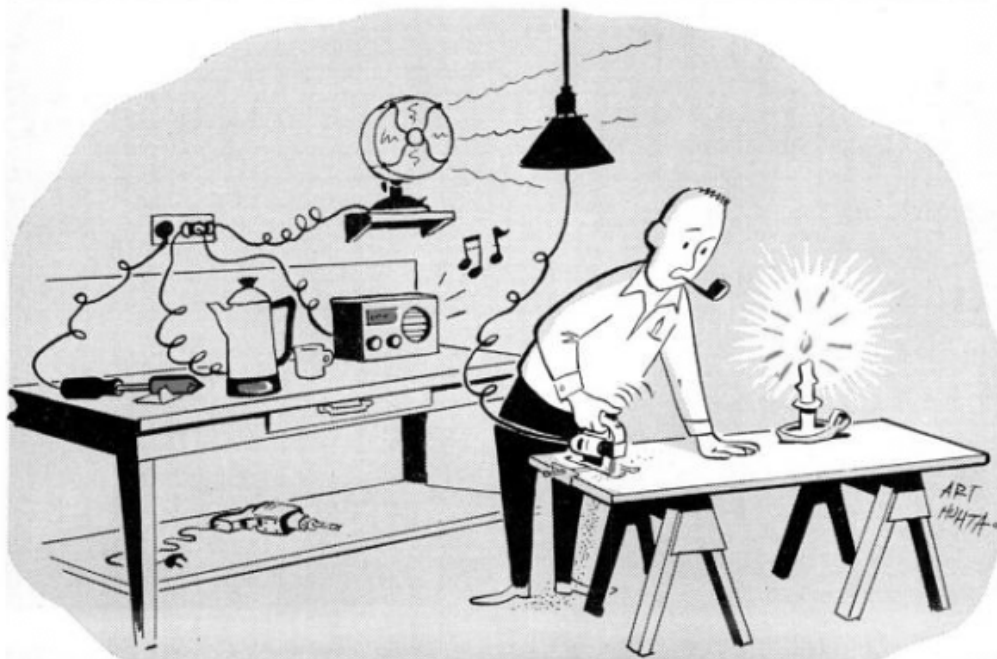
No doubt you have driven past it on many occasions (it is well sign posted) and have never stopped; well now is your chance. The house itself is furnished in High Victorian Period style and the grounds sweep right down to the Lane Cove River. Carisbrook is open weekends and our TTTG display will be on view April 14th to May 27th. In addition, there will be displays of the use of traditional tools at specific times. You should ring Carisbrook Enquiries on 9428 1364 for details



Tool Use



Popular Mechanics April 1962



Popular Mechanics December 1962

Theme Tapes



It's the new AMERICAN SPORTSMAN 6-ft. tape rule. Handiest measuring tool you ever saw. Smaller than most cigarette lighters. Brilliantly colored face plate identifies your favorite sport. 1/4" steel blade has easy-to-read markings, exclusive White Clad® finish. Blade rolls out and in — butter-smooth. See it soon wherever you buy hardware. Great gift! **Only 98¢.**

Measure for measure, the finest made.

LUFKIN
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

Popular Mechanics
January 1962
(above)

Digital copies of
LUFKIN catalogues
are available at

roseantiquetools.com

Popular Science
November 1962
(right)



**measure up
with Measure Mates
...two new tape rules
by LUFKIN**



"MISS STATISTIC"
Just the thing for weight and waist watchers—this handy 6-foot tape rule has a calorie-counting table on the back. Ideal for 101 measuring jobs around the house. Why not get 2 or 3. Only 79¢



"MR. MEASURE"
Makes the man of the house a real craftsman. 10 feet long, but easy to carry as a cigarette lighter. Get one for tool box, tackle box, golf bag. Perfect gift for the man who measures up! Only \$1.29

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Introduction

OUR product is Measuring Devices. In their manufacture this Company has specialized for fifty years. By steady growth it has become the world's largest maker of such goods. This position is merited by the high quality of the product, the progressive policies of the house, and its uniformly fair and considerate treatment of the consumer and the trade.

In the development of many of its products this Company has been the pioneer. Today, as through its whole history, it is the leader in the noteworthy improvements in its field. Its goods have world-wide distribution and are the recognized standard of accuracy wherever measurements are taken.

THE LUFKIN RULE CO.

Museum Visits

Trevor Semmens

Trevor sent the following by email;

I have just received News 123 and read that you are interested in information on museums to visit.

I know of two terrific ones.

One museum is in New Zealand and one in The Netherlands.

New Zealand The Lynn Museum

The Plains Village

Maronan Road, Ashburton.

I first visited it some 15 years ago and it has now grown to be probably ten times the size.

I recently re-visited it and it is well worth a visit by woodworkers. This museum houses one of the world's greatest collections of Ornamental Turning Lathes.

The ornamental lathes include

**8 Holtzapffels lathes*

**2 Gill lathes*

**1Evans lathe*

** 1Davies lathe*

**A rare Holtzapffel Lapping Machine*

** A Holtzapffel Treadle Grinder*

Also in the museum are ...

** A beautiful Bower Rose Engine Lathe dating from 1824, one of only 5 known to exist*

** 4500 old woodworking tools*

** 3000 specialist books on woodworking subjects*

** 3000 named species of wood from around the world*

** 1000 examples of the art of ornamental turning & woodcarving*

The Netherlands

The Stichting Gereedschap

Museum Mensert, Drie Akerstraat 9, 2611 Delft.

This lovely museum contains tools and machinery from a whole range of trades. They include woodworking, plumbing, painters, brick and tile laying, electrical and more.

If any members are travelling in these countries they should certainly make a point of visiting them.

Further I can add the following, even though I have not seen it but I do have the book about it & it sounds fantastic. The book is about this new museum and is entitled '**The Ken Hawley Experience**'.

'Ken Hawley Collection Trust' at the Kelham Island Museum, Alma Street, Sheffield, England.

Australian Woodworking Planemakers

Second Edition and Update

Available from the author Trevor Semmens

- Second Edition - \$15 + postage \$2.50

- Update - \$5 + postage \$2

- Both - \$20 + postage \$2.50

Trevor Semmens

19 Loinah Road, Montagu Bay Tas 7018

On the web



David Lynch's site has everything on Record Planes. Check it out now.

Interesting Trivia

Record No.050C combination plane

John Bates reproturn@bigpond.com

Sent the following to David Lynch;

Hello David

Trust you are well. I just supplied a replacement screw for a Record No.050C combination plane belonging to a TTTG member - the ones which lock the fence guides into the main body. Turns out the screws are 3/16" - 28 TPI screws (60 degree thread form) as used in sewing machines. Who'd have thought they would be this type.

Anyway another bit of data for your truly wonderful website!

Brad van Luyt recommends visiting this site

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BnN1_FI4A4&feature=player_embedded

In Brad's words,

Just found and it chimed with me as one of the things that TTTG is about.

Old Tool Catalogues Online

A number of old tool catalogues are available online.



Rose Tools has a large number of catalogues. The quality is very good.



Yesterdays Tools has a large collection of axe catalogues.

A good starting point is the links on Hans Brunner's web site.

Review

Furniture and Cabinetmaking

Issue 187 Christmas 2011

This English magazine usually has something of interest to readers with an interest in traditional methods and hand tools. 187 is a bonus issue for such readers as it contains several attention catchers.

News and Events reviews the 2011 David Stanley Auctions sale of the David R Russell Tool Collection.

Despite the global financial crisis the prices realised were very high. Quality tools continue to be in demand and achieve high prices. Such collector's tools may never again be used but high quality new user tools also sell well despite high price tags.

Handplane Essentials reviews the latest Christopher Schwartz book titled *Handplane Essentials*. The reviewer is sceptical of the author's claim that few craftsmen can use hand plane to the tools full potential. Perhaps the English reviewer is a bit jealous of Chris's track record in promoting hand tools in the US of A, largely through his editorship of the magazine Popular Woodworking.

This reviewer hasn't read Schwartz's book but is familiar with the author's previous publications and has no hesitation in strongly recommending *Handplane Essentials*.

Any book publisher or book seller can have a book reviewed in NEWS. All it takes is complimentary copy sent to the editor. NEWS Reviews are impartial and are written by reviewers with genuine knowledge.

Plane Variation is a well written article on making a scraper plane. More for the modernists than the old school plane makers but well worth reading.

The advertisement for *Hotley Classic Handplanes* is superlative graphics. The plane in the photograph is the equivalent of a Stanley #4 Smoother. Dare I suggest the Hotley plane is as classic a tool as the original Bailey plane? Both plane makers have used the best contemporary materials and manufacturing techniques to make a superbly functional hand tool.

French Polish is it still relevant? Is a very convincing defence of padding on shellac by Michael Huntley. The clear text and photos demystify the best way of polishing cabinet timbers.

The review of the latest Lee Valley tool did disappoint this reviewer. Laying veneer with the hammer can be done with a simple homemade veneer hammer or with a commercial tool. Old commercial veneer hammers aren't common but they are invariably functional. The expensive *Lee Valley Veneer Hammer* reviewed poses the question "has the maker laid veneer?"

There is a great more worth reading in this issue but I bought the magazine for the article featured on the cover, *Ripple Mouldings for the 21st century* The author of the article describes how he researched and had made a working Wave Machine to make ripple mouldings. (Wave Machine page 21.)

Furniture and Cabinet making is one of the magazines worth checking out each month. If the next few issues are as good it may become a regular read.

Jim Davey



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FULLY FETTLED (TUNED) AND SHARP
STANLEY BAILEY, BEDROCK & BLOCK PLANES
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This year's
Sydney Tool Sale & Swap

will again be held at

The Strathfield Men's Shed on

Sunday 9th September 2012

28 Pomeroy St. Homebush from 9am to 1pm

Entry is \$6

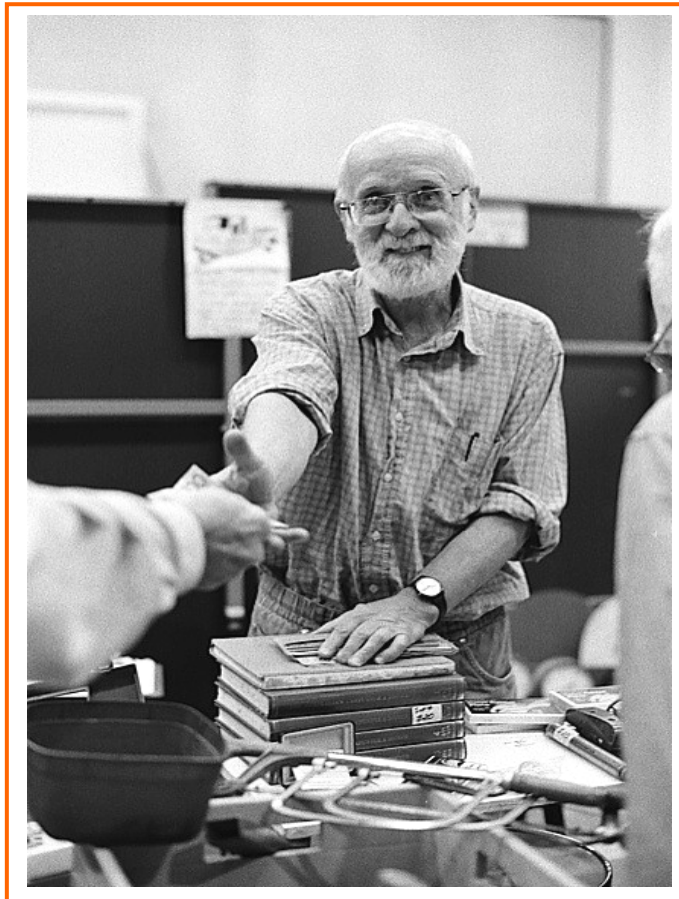


Photo: Edwina Richards www.sacredscraps.com

For more information call (02) 9746 3372

Wednesday or Saturday between 10am and 4pm

www.StrathfieldMensShed.org.au