

# **NEWS128**



**December  
2012**

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

## **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 parking 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**

#### **Postal Address**

**The Traditional Tools Group Inc.  
PO Box 314 Lindfield NSW 2070**

#### **Enquiries**

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

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### **Next Meeting**

Tuesday December 11 **Braces: *Ebony to Tough***

Annie Wyatt Room

**National Trust Centre** Observatory Hill Sydney

**Entry \$5**

*'Doors open at 7pm'*

### **SELLING YOUR TOOLS WITH TTTG**

*TTTG sells tools for **members**. This is a TTTG **'members only'** service. The selling fee is 20% commission on sales.*

#### **DONATIONS**

*TTTG accepts donations of old tools.*

#### **BUYING TOOLS**

*TTTG will buy some old tools. Bulk lots are given preference.*

#### **VALUATIONS**

*TTTG will not offer tool valuations under any circumstances.*

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## Cover

Safety Poster  
National Safety Council of  
Australia Undated

## Next Meeting

### Braces: *Ebony to Tough*

Tuesday December 11  
Annie Wyatt Room  
**National Trust Centre**  
Observatory Hill Sydney

Entry \$5  
'Doors open 7pm'



## Auction

The last auction was predicted to be a bumper auction due to the large accumulation of users' tools from recent donations. *This in indeed what happened.* All tools were sold and as also predicted there were **many bargains!**

With Christmas just weeks off the December auction may again be a memorable event for TTTG!

TTTG is overstocked with old user tools requiring some TLC. Storage space is at a premium. With the biggest Sydney Tool Sale coming up surplus tools have to go.

### **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**

Tuesday October 9

### ***Cooperage Tools***

The motivation behind this topic was the donation of a box of old Coopers' tools to TTTG. The tools belonged to a dry Cooper who gave up the trade in his forties and then became a Saw Doctor.

Some of the tools from the tool box and other cooper's tools were used to illustrate the presentation.

Most of the tools for the evening were provided by Fred Murrell who delivered an excellent presentation.

#### ***The TTTG Room***

26 Pomeroy Street  
Strathfield

The TTTG Room is full!

Several large tool donations have been received since *NEWS 127*.

The annual TTTG 2113 Tool Sale is a few months away.

TTTG will be sell surplus tools at the TTTG 2113 TTTG Tool Sale.

#### ***Volunteers needed on***

#### ***Sunday December 16***

A TTTG working party will meet at the TTTG Room at 9am and spend a few hours reorganising the room. Surplus tools will be identified and then price tagged for sale at the 2013 TTTG Tool Sale.

## **Meeting Meeting**

Tuesday December 11

Annie Wyatt Room

**National Trust Centre**

Observatory Hill Sydney

*Entry \$5*

*'Doors open 7pm'*

### ***Braces: Ebony to Tough***



Reg Eaton has donated a rare brass framed brace to TTTG. The TTTG logo is the Tough minor brace. The two braces are close to two 200 years apart in age!

The evening will feature a display of braces, both rare and common, from the last two hundred years.

*The tools in the display will be discussed by a TTTG panel.*

#### ***NEXT TTTG WORKSHOP***

#### ***February 10***

#### ***Woodworking Planes***

Discover the potential of planes Sharpening, Setting and Using all types of Wood and Metal planes. This will be a "hands on" workshop offering common sense suggestions for the serious user of planes

#### ***Venue:***

26 Pomeroy Street  
Strathfield

**2013 TTTG TOOL SALE****24February**

*Are the big Wood Shows and Tool Sales yesterday's events?*

TTTG has held annual Sydney Tool Sales for several years.

Attendance has been good despite the limits of the venues.

For the *2013 TTTG TOOL SALE* TTTG has a spacious venue.

The venue is huge, centrally located with lots of parking.

TTTG is conducting an extensive advertising campaign.

Promoting the *2013 TTTG TOOL SALE* is expensive.

After the *2013 TTTG TOOL SALE* we will have the answer!

**2013 TTTG WORKSHOPS****February – June**

*Jim Davey is heavily booked up in the first half of 2013*

*Jim will be present at the 2013 TTTG Workshop in July 2013*

*Jim has been very generous with his time and always enjoys teaching TTTG Workshops. But Jim does live in Nowra!*

*We are all be looking forward to Jim's return in July 2013*

**2013 TTTG WORKSHOPS****February – June****February 10****Woodworking Planes****March 17****Saw Sharpening****April 21****Setting out Tools****May 26****Blacksmithing****June 23****Wood Joints**

## 2013 TTTG Workshops

The TTTG Editor also does the programme for the workshops.

The 2012 workshops so far were well attended. There is obvious interest in the workshops TTTG has conducted for several years.

The most popular workshops are the sharpening workshops and the blacksmithing workshop.

The wood joint cutting workshop continues to be well attended.

*If you want different workshops contact the editor. We can only give members what they want if members put forward ideas.*

### Benjamin Seaton Book

This TATHS publication has at last arrived in Sydney. The delay has been due to a combination of UK based complications beyond the control of TTTG.

Price: \$45 per copy plus postage.

#### Editor's Review

When the package containing the **Tool Chest of Benjamin Seaton 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition** was collected from the TTTG Post Box a copy was rushed to the TTTG editor.

I have a copy of the first edition and have always wanted more information on the tools. The **2<sup>nd</sup> Edition** meets that need. This is a must have book. Order now, TTTG has twenty copies left.

## 2013 Workshops

### **Woodworking Planes**

February Sunday 10

The workshop will present the traditional way of sharpening and using all types of planes. This is a workshop for users who want to achieve quality woodwork.

*The scope and efficiency of planes will be a revelation to many.*

### **Saw Sharpening**

March Sunday 17

Many woodworkers now turn to Japanese saws to achieve fine cuts. The finest woodwork was made by men who had never seen these saws.

This workshop teaches how to sharpen UK style saws to achieve superb saw cuts. There will be many saws on sale! A free file is included.

#### **Venue:**

26 Pomeroy Street  
Strathfield

All workshops start at 9am.  
Refreshments are provided.  
Wear suitable footwear.

Go to [www.tttg.org.au](http://www.tttg.org.au) for the full workshop details.

### **Blacksmithing**

April Sunday 26

### **Setting out Tools**

May Sunday 19

### **Wood Joints**

June Sunday 23

## **TTTG 2013 Workshops**

One day skills centred, “hands on” and affordable workshops have been offered for over a decade by The Traditional Tools Group.

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

### **Workshop Venues**

26 Pomeroy Road  
Strathfield

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

Bring your lunch Wear safe shoes  
Workshops start at 9.15am

### **How Much?**

Members \$20  
Others \$40

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

## **TTTG Workshop Presenters**

### **Woodworking Planes**

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

### **Saw Sharpening**

John Daniel and Bob Crosbie. This workshop has developed a reputation as the most enjoyable way to learn to sharpen handsaws. *John must be the fastest saw filer!*

## **TTTG Workshops**

### ***What you get***

#### Value for money

TTTG workshops are great value for money. *There is no need to argue this point, just find the cost of other workshops.*

#### Great selection

*Some of the TTTG workshops are unique. Try and find another one day workshop on Blacksmithing or Saw Sharpening.*

#### Great teaching

Cost aside the teaching at TTTG Workshops is second to none.

#### The side benefits

Apart from good tea, coffee and a selection of biscuits attending a TTTG Workshop has side benefits.

### ***Tools for Sale***

At every TTTG Workshop there are tools on sale. Both old and new tools are offered at excellent prices.

*Currently TTTG is overstocked!*

The TTTG Workshops are “hands on” and apart from securing some bargains you also get to socialise.

#### A good day's entertainment

The TTTG Workshops are never boring. The teachers know what they are doing and the participants are motivated, so everyone can relax and share a few experiences.

## **TTTG Head Quarters**

The TTTG Committee is trying to secure premises for TTTG where the TTTG Tool Collection and the TTTG Library will be available to TTTG members. The building also needs to be suitable for the TTTG Workshops and special events.

### ***The search has commenced***

Suitable locations are being found and local Councils approached. The choice really comes down to finding a redundant building in public ownership on a site that cannot be developed. Lawn Bowling, Sports Clubs and Scout/ Guide Halls were often built on parks and reserves in the 1950s and 60s. Local Councils often control such sites and have limited options for the use or development of the site.

### ***What does TTTG have to offer?***

When the TTTG Committee hears of a suitable site the local Council is approached. TTTG can offer;

A twenty year record of community involvement which includes public meetings, regular publications and skills based workshops.

TTTG generates sufficient income to pay a reasonable rental and the capacity to organise skilled labour on a volunteer basis to carry out any necessary minor maintenance.

***How you can help*** If you notice potentially suitable buildings contact the Committee.

## ***Fitting out the Head Quarters***

When a building is secured the interior will be fitted out with;

-A Library accessible to members

TTTG has an impressive library but at present the books are in temporary insecure storage.

-An Old Tool Room

TTTG has an impressive collection of old tools. At present these tools cannot be displayed

-Workshops

The TTTG Workshops are always well attended. The current venue places limitations of the scope of the TTTG Workshops.

The new TTTG Head Quarters will be equipped with sufficient work benches and hand tools suitable for classes of twenty participants.

### ***TTTG Committee Commitments***

-Safety

The TTTG Head Quarters and TTTG Workshop will be compliant with all safety requirements.

-Hand Tools

The TTTG Workshop will have well cared for quality hand tools.

-Machinery

Machinery will be limited to the bare minimum necessary

***The Head Quarters and TTTG Workshop will be a safe place!***

## Correspondence

The editor received the following email;

*I am trying to find some info about the Preston plane shown below. I would like to know when they were made in the 1920s. I am a TATHS member and volunteer at Amberley museum where we have our tool Museum. We have just finished a new workshop to restore tools and store them.* Colin Sullivan

The editor forwarded the email to Fred Murrell.

Colin,

*Dating Preston tools is quite difficult, C & J Hampton Ltd included in their 1931 catalogue iron bench planes that were precise copies of Stanley bench planes, the patents having expired by that time. There is a website with a couple of photographs of Preston smoothing planes, including one the same as yours. It suggests (with a query) that it was made in 1933. But with Record by that time making Stanley type planes it is difficult to accept that your plane was made after 1931. I believe that more likely your No. 9 was made around 1928. The plane making activities of the company were acquired by Record (C & J Hampton Ltd) in 1934 and while there are Stanley type Preston planes in existence I think they were made by Record as the two I have had were identical to those*

*Record was producing in that they did not have the fine handles of those previously made by Preston. I have a No. 9, but mine is perhaps a year or two earlier than yours as it does not have the name Preston on the cast iron lever cap. In all other respects, the tool is identical.*

*As to serviceability, I have used my No. 9 and I found one serious problem with it. I found that the blade will move laterally with little resistance no matter how tight the top knurled screw is applied. The problem in tightening the top knurled screw is that it lifts the blade away from the frog where it should sit flat on the machined surface as it does on a Stanley plane.*



Preston #9 Plane

## Correspondence (cont.)

*Further to the most interesting story on the Railway Carriage Works by Bob Horsfall, in October NEWS 127, concerning the building of railway carriages at Clyde Wagon Works.*

*Back in 1970, my younger brother had a few months to kill before being accepted into the NSW Police Force so he took a temporary job as a labourer at the Clyde Marshalling Yards, dismantling the wooden passenger carriages that had been withdrawn from service when the steam locomotives were replaced by diesel locomotives.*

*All the beautiful timber, such as cedar, silky oak etc., used in the construction of these rail vehicles, was ripped out, and burnt.*

*My brother said it was heart breaking to see this destruction, not only of the magnificent, but the high quality workmanship involved in the building of the rolling stock.*

*Some person had made the decision that this timber was not to be sold, or saved. My brother said they were not allowed to buy, or take any, to do so would mean instant dismissal. To his knowledge none of the timber was kept or recycled, vandalism of the worst kind.*

*Sadly the same fate awaited the trams when they were phased out in Sydney back in 1961. Most of them were burnt at the old Tram Depot near Centennial Park, and well I remember the pall of black*

*smoke rising as the destruction was carried out.*

*How all the timber could be reused today in a thousand different ways, what we wouldn't give to have it available for the jobs and hobbies in which we involve ourselves?*

Leonard Traynor

*Dear Bob,*

*Just a line to say G'day to my many Australian friends and to express my appreciation for the excellent TTTG News.*

*I thought I would pop in this old brace whilst writing, to see if it will fit in any of your chests, if not dispose of as you feel fit.*

*Best regards to all*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Reg Eaton', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

*Reg Eaton*

*Hunstanton, UK*

The "Old Brace" to which Reg alludes is a magnificent plated wood-framed brace by C&T Pilkington and will certainly find pride of place in our collection alongside the #2 Stanley plane which Reg donated to us a little while ago. TTTG thanks him for his continuing generosity. **The brace will be on show at our December meeting.**

## **THE LEDGER**

### **Our New Postal Address is**

**The Traditional Tools Group Inc.  
PO Box 314  
LINDFIELD NSW 2070**

Our old PO Box was chosen at Grosvenor Place twenty years ago as one of our now retired members worked nearby. I was taking two or three trips into town per month, principally to clear our PO Box. The TTTG Committee decided that it would be more appropriate to have a PO Box nearer my residence.

### **TTTG TOOL SALE SUNDAY 24th FEBRUARY, 2013**

I recently had a look at **The Brickpit Sports Stadium, 1A Dartford Road, Thornleigh**, the new venue for **TTTG's 2013 Tool Sale**. It's fantastic, our sale will be held in a huge basketball court. There is plenty of room and free under-cover parking (the whole stadium is built on concrete columns above the car park).

Because the sale will be held on a basketball court, you are requested to wear shoes with non-marking soles. Only TTTG supplied tables with rubber-tipped legs are allowed and tools may not be placed on the floor below table. As we are renting tables for only \$40 each, if you need more space, hire extra tables.

Prospective sellers please contact me ASAP on (02) 9416 7134 or [treasurer@tttg.org.au](mailto:treasurer@tttg.org.au) to book tables. Tables measure 700 x 1800 mm.

### **WANTED: Member with access to a photocopier.**

The TTTG member who previously did our photocopying, has now retired and no longer has access to a photocopier. Commercial photocopying has since proved to be quite expensive. If there is a member who can photocopy our blank membership application forms and workshop flyers, please give me a call on (02) 9416 7134 or e-mail [treasurer@tttg.org.au](mailto:treasurer@tttg.org.au). Our TTTG News and catalogue reproductions will, of course, continue to be professionally printed.

### **Those Pesky Stanley Screws.**

If you're fixing or restoring a Stanley Plane or other old Stanley tool, you'll probably find that no screw in your jar of screws will fit. TTTG member, John Bates, has written extensively on this issue (see our website).

I recently came across one solution to the problem of oddball Stanley screwthreads on the OldTools website:

[http://web.archive.org/web/20090114024938/http://www.geocities.com/plybench/tour.html#stanley\\_threads](http://web.archive.org/web/20090114024938/http://www.geocities.com/plybench/tour.html#stanley_threads)

Quite a few Stanley screws are of the same pitch as commonly available screws but are of smaller diameter. For example that short round-head screw at the front of Stanley #4½ and up plane handles (and which is often found missing) is 20 threads per inch but is slightly smaller in diameter than a ¼ inch BSW or #12-20 UNC screw.

If you have one of those old adjustable plate-type die stocks that take two-part rectangular dies, you can often tighten them right up to cut a deeper thread on a standard screw so that it will fit the Stanley.

Don't worry about American threads being 60 degree and British threads 55 degree; for these short screws, they'll fit.

I recently got hold of a fairly rough user Stanley #78 (made in Canada) Duplex plane missing the depth stop screw. In Australia, these #10-28 screws are very hard to find. On-line reproduction screws cost more than I paid for the whole plane and I was thinking of drilling and tapping the screw hole for 1/4" NF-28 (it would require filing the depth stop slot fractionally wider).

Instead I found a #12-28 (or was it a 7/32" BSF-28) screw and 12-28 UNF die (a round die with split, not the two part die recommended in the web archive). I clamped the 12-28 die in an engineer's vice and squeezed the split a bit shut and screwed the screw into it. On trying the screw in the #78 plane, it didn't quite fit, so I tightened the vice a bit more and the die broke opposite the split. (My response: damn ! [or similar].) But nothing ventured, nothing gained; I then ground the die where it had broken allowing it to close-up a little further and put it back in the vise. After screwing the screw through, it fitted perfectly in the #78. Voila! A home-made 10-28 screw !!

So now I'm looking for a replacement #12-28 die.

### ***Still looking for July-August 1985 Australian Woodworker Magazine.***

To complete a full set, I'm looking for this issue (and willing to pay a reasonable price for it).

### ***Saw Sharpening Workshop.***

The last TTTG Workshop for 2012 is our ever-popular Saw Sharpening Workshop to be held at 26 Pomeroy Street, Strathfield on Sunday 9th December, 2012.

This is an additional workshop to those previously advised and has been put on due to popular demand.

There's plenty of parking out the back. \$20 for TTTG members; \$40 for non-members (tea/coffee and biscuits included in admission cost). No need to book; just come along.

Bring your blunt handsaw (say 6 to 9 teeth per 25 mm) and you'll take home a saw that'll cut like it's going through balsa. You know you'll never have time to sharpen it at home.

And have we got a deal for you! every paying workshop candidate will receive free a triangular file with handle turned by master woodturner, John Daniel. Additional files (with handles) may be bought for \$10 each.

**Note: The Workshop NOT on Wednesday 9th January as incorrectly reported in the Australian Woodworker magazine.**

*Clynt Sheehy*  
TTTG Treasurer

## Web sites

### Axes and Edge Tools

#### ***The correct traditional names***

Yester Year Tools has an online glossary of terms relating to axes and edge tools.

This glossary is excellent. The site will take you to many treasures!

[www.yesteryearstools.com](http://www.yesteryearstools.com)

***Glossary of Terms*** associated with axes, edge tools and their associated uses and manufacture, including logging and lumbering (with related terms along with older usage and spelling alternatives).

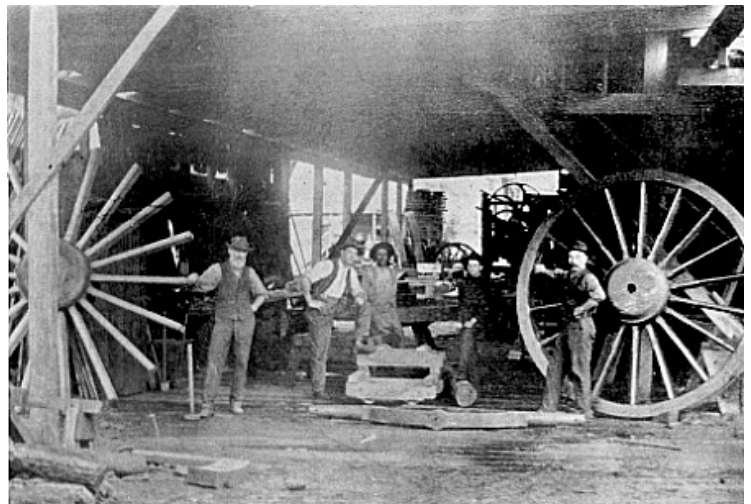
### Steam Saw Milling

#### ***Western Australia***

<http://pickeringbrookheritagegroup.com/sawmills7.html>

This site is worth a visit. The old photos are very clear and close study is rewarding. The text is full of information. Anyone interested in steam or the history of logging should click on this site. Everyone in the pictures is dwarfed by the machinery and timber products.

Matt Pryor



#### **Hans Brunner Tools**

***<http://www.hansbrunnertools.gil.com.au/>***

Hans Brunner is well known to TTTG members. Hans sells online.

#### ***Hans Brunner Auctions***

The last online auction was Dec.1. The next auction is early 2013

#### ***Hans Brunner Ebay Store***

Hans has a good selection of old tools on his Ebay Store.

Prospective buyers can email Hans and buy the listed tools directly and receive a 10% discount.

Hans always describes his tools well and his prices are reasonable.

## **T F Wiesener – Sydney**

Fred Murrell

I recently bought a small sighting level on Ebay. It interested me because of its unusual compact design. It was made of brass with a barrel a little over ½” in diameter, is 4 ¼” long with a ¼” round spirit level mounted on top. When the target object is viewed through the very small viewing hole, a silvered mirror allows the viewer to see the spirit level bubble.



The instrument bears the name T F Wiesener Sydney clearly on the side of the barrel. I remembered having seen the name before, but without the word ‘Sydney’. Then I recalled that I had two identical plumb bobs, one with the name E Esdaile and the other T F Wiesener patent. The patent relates to a spring loaded reel contained in the body of the plumb bob. The reel is mortised into the side of the body and when new, would have been difficult to see.



Reference to the HTPAA Australian Makers data base shows Wiesener as making a parallel rule. However he was researched carefully by the Ashfield and District Historical Society in 1999 who reported that we was born in Germany in about 1845 and died in Summer Hill in June 1897. A page of F Wiesener’s catalogue located by the Historical Society evidences that he provided at least 183 items, however many of them were imported.

F Wiesener commenced at 1 Hunter Street in Sydney shortly after arriving in Australia in 1871 as a watchmaker and by 1875 had moved to 348 George St. When the Sydney International Exhibition was held in 1879 in the Garden Palace, now the Conservatorium of Music Wiesener installed clocks throughout the building which, through an electrical link, responded to a signal from the master timepiece to keep them all showing the correct time.

While Wiesener died in 1897 his sons continued the business for some years but eventually sold it to Sidney Watson in (1918). Watson, in 1920, commenced the Precision Instrument co.

It is clear that Wiesener’s focus was in instrument making, very much in the same areas as E Esdaile who commenced business in Sydney (according to The Australian Museum of Democracy) in 1894 and traded until 1962.

## Joseph Tyzack and Son Catalogue

TTTG has a copy of an undated Joseph Tyzack and Son Limited Catalogue. The catalogue was probably printed in the late 1930s. There is a handwritten note inside the front cover, *Price List applying dated October 1948.*

Two pages of the catalogue have black and white photographs of tools being made in Tyzack's Meersbrook Works Sheffield.

*Three Legs* was a Tyzack mark.



Making the  
celebrated  
"3-LEG"  
PLASTERING  
TROWELS



One of our  
Grinding Mills,  
showing in the  
foreground a  
grinder aged 74,  
after 61 years  
in the Mill

Wood-Turning  
Department



Assembling  
Garden Tools

**WANTED TO BUY**

**Millers Falls** or other brand **BORING MACHINE**

Nev Handebo

404 Castledoyle Road,

Armidale NSW 2350 Phone 02 67713776

**Turning a knob for a bench plane**

The front knob on a bench plane suffers a lot of battering and bruising during its working life, at times this can be replaced by one from a broken plane; however one isn't always that fortunate. If the front knob isn't too badly damaged it can be set up between centres on a lathe and sanded followed by buffing and refinishing, or in many cases, replaced with a newly turned one.

Whether the plane knob is to be refurbished or replaced the method of setting up between centres on the lathe is the same.

***A suggested sequence of steps***

There are many ways of holding a blank in the lathe that will give satisfactory results varying from expensive scroll chucks, simple screw chucks, cup chucks etc., then there is a simply made spigot with a Morse taper that fits into the headstock's hollow mandrel, this is my preferred method.

To make the spigot drive, firstly rough down a blank then turn the Morse taper on one end and the spigot to match the counter-bored hole in the knob. It's wise to turn both the taper and the spigot slightly oversize, and then carefully reduce to size using the trial and error method; I slightly taper the spigot so that the knob blank gets a firm grip.

***Preparing the Blank***

1. Centre punch both ends of the blank then drill the centre hole for the plane stud between centres on the lathe. Drill part way through from one end then reverse the blank then drill from the other end until the holes meet; this is drilling in line assuring that the holes are in alignment.

2. Counter bore both ends of the blank, one end to the diameter of the stud screw and the other end to fit over the boss on the plane body; a modified spade bit will do the job.

3. Countersink the bottom hole.

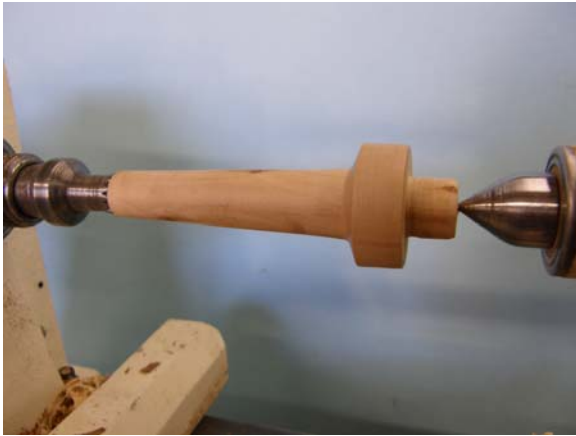
***Turning the Blank***

4. Place the blank in the lathe, check the fit of the spigot then tighten the tailstock, set up lathe, check sharpness of tools and commence turning.

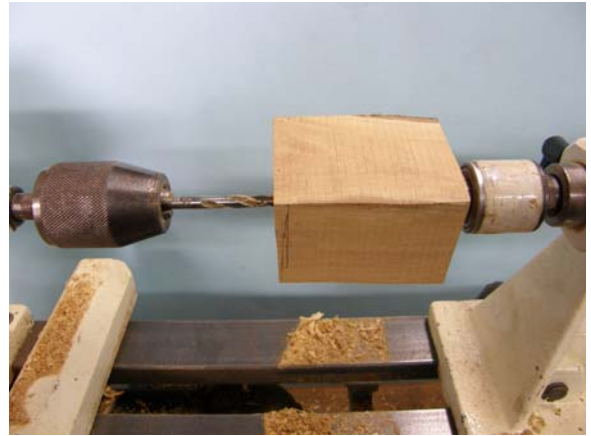
5. Turn the blank down to the effective diameters, round over the top then complete the shape.

6. Sand while between centres; if the spigot is a firm fit the tailstock may be moved back out of the way for the final sand and buff. If the knob starts to wobble, simply slide the tailstock back.

7. Colour and finish to match the rear handle (tote) then fix it to the bench plane. Job done!



**1. Spigot with Morse taper**



**2a Drilling in line prior to counterboring**



**2b. Counterboring using modified spade bit**



**2c Countersinking bottom counterbored hole**



**3a. Spigot fitted into mandrel.**



**3b. Stock counterbored to fit spigot**



**4a Turned down to effective diameters**



**4b Top rounded over**



**4c Turned to shape ready for sanding**



**5 Held by spigot for fine sanding and buffing**



**6 Job Done!**

## Power Planes

### Towa and Makita

The portable power plane does have some uses! For dressing old timber before machine or hand planing the portable power plane is a real workhorse when the old timber is painted or may contain nails. A pair of gashed *one use* blades is a lot cheaper to replace than the cost of regrinding a set of Jointer or Thicknesser knives.

Towa power tools were exported to Australia from Japan in the 1950s. By the 1960s Makita power tools were available in Australia.

*As a teenager I promised my father I would never buy Japanese tools.*

I didn't keep this promise and use a number of Japanese power tools. In my opinion the best are made by Towa and Makita. I now have two Towa routers, a Makita router, a Makita circular saw and two Makita power planes. When my first Makita power plane couldn't be repaired I replaced it with a new Makita power plane as the old one had seen some very serious work.

The two Towa routers both came to me as second hand machines. One of the routers was incomplete and was used to make a router table. The other Towa router is complete in the original box. The two routers I use most are a Makita and 1960s Black % Decker *made in Australia*.

I do have spare blades for both the early Towa and the Makita power plane. The Towa blades are wider than the Makita blades but the cutter block mounting is similar.

I can make this statement because one of my Makita power planes is the early model. The cutter block in the early Makita is slotted for an adjustable index plate screwed to the cutter. Precise knife setting is a simple task with this machine.

*A TTTG donation has allowed me to put my early model Makita power plane back into use.*

The plane was in a consignment lot I sold for TTTG several years back. When I purchased the plane one blade was gashed and the blades were in back to front. The plane was virtually and after my offer was accepted the plane lay idle.

A recent TTTG donation included a recent Makita power plane, this is now for sale. Along with this *as new* Makita power plane was a plastic box of knives for older Towa and Makita power planes. The blades were sharp so I fitted them to my older Makita.

*I haven't seen a Towa power plane.*

#### **Towa & Makita Power Tools**

Information on these power tools will be appreciated by the editor. When these machines were first sold in Australia and who were the importers and retail agents?

## Another Router

*The editor's weakness for old electric routers must be obvious.*

At a TTTG Meeting the editor was given a 1960s Millers Falls router.

The editor's *new router* is shown in this full page advertisement from Popular Mechanics March 1964.

As soon as I opened the box that the router was in some of the almost modern features were apparent.

*In 1964 this router only needed one spanner to change the router cutter.*

The advertisement is from a 1964 American magazine.

The other instantly obvious thing about the router was the very high quality of the components. Every part is made to a high standard.

American woodworkers appear to be born with a belief in the concept that "power tools are essential". Every issue of an of the numerous American woodworking magazines for at least the last three decades probably has a minimum of one page on using electric routers.

*The editor uses electric routers selectively. Sometimes they are great for repetitive tasks.*

**Wood-hungry power...now cheaper by the year!**



No. 7800— $\frac{3}{4}$  H.P.

No. 7900—1 $\frac{1}{4}$  H.P.

**NEW MILLERS FALLS HEAVY DUTY ROUTERS**

## “Mascon” All-Steel Vices

This illustration is from page 160 in M<sup>c</sup> Pherson’s 1937 Catalogue.

“Mascon” was M<sup>c</sup> Pherson’s brand for tools and machines made by, or for, M<sup>c</sup> Pherson’s.

The other Australian made vices in the 1937 M<sup>c</sup> Pherson’s Catalogue were *DAWN* and *JOPLIN*.

A large variety of vices was made by both *DAWN* and *JOPLIN*.

*DAWN* also made *Sash Cramps*.

**R971—“MACSON” ALL-STEEL VICES**

**GUARANTEED UNBREAKABLE!**



“Mascon” Vices are Steel Castings, fitted with Hardened Steel Detachable Jaws, Mild Steel Screw, Bolts and Handle. The weight is properly distributed to give the greatest strength and rigidity.

These Vices are designed to give satisfaction under all conditions. They are accurately machined and fitted, and in every respect thoroughly well made, the finish and enamelling being of the very best.

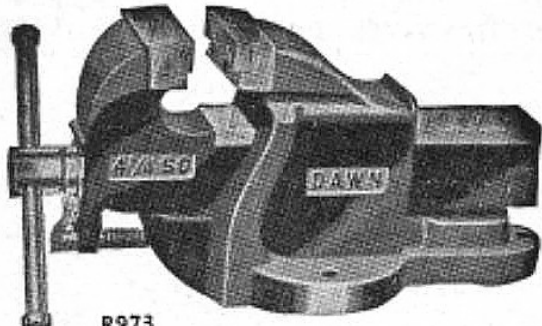
We confidently recommend the “Mascon” to be a distinctly superior Vice, and one that will withstand the heaviest service. Made in three sizes, in plain and quick-action types.

**R971**

	4 1/4 in.	5 1/4 in.	6 in.
Plain Type ...	£4/7/6	£5/5/-	£7/5/-
Quick Action ..	£4/10/-	£5/7/6	£7/10/-

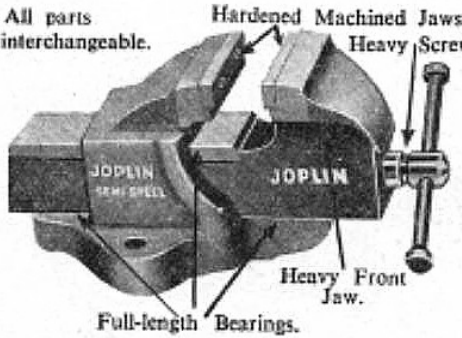
**R973—QUICK ACTION VICES, (SEMI-STEEL)**

Made in ten sizes. The simple, quick-action mechanism enables the jaws to be instantaneously set to take any required width of job. The undercut buttress threaded screw and phosphor bronze nut are a snugly machined fit to ensure positive gripping action. High-grade Semi-Steel Castings.



Size .....	3 1/4	3 3/4	4M	4 1/4	5 in.L
Max. Openings ..	4 3/8	5 1/8	4 3/8	6 3/8	5 3/8 in
Weight Lbs. ....	34	50	36	63	54
Price .....	36/6	44/6	37/6	52/-	49/-
Size .....	5 1/4	6L	6S	6H	7H
Max. Openings ..	7 1/2	7 1/4	8	8 5/8	9 3/8 in
Weight Lbs. ....	77	80	92	126	130
Price .....	60/-	68/-	74/6	93/6	104/-

**R974—“JOPLIN” SEMI-STEEL VICES**



All parts interchangeable. Hardened Machined Jaws. Heavy Screw. Full-length Bearings. Heavy Front Jaw.

	2 1/2 in.	3 in.	3 1/2 in.	4 in.	5 in.
Weight .....	10 1/2 lbs.	15 lbs.	21 1/2 lbs.	37 lbs.	57 lbs.
Width of Slide ...	1 5/8 in.	1 3/4 in.	2 in.	2 1/2 in.	2 3/4 in.
Diam. of Screw ..	1/2 in.	3/8 in.	3/4 in.	3/8 in.	1 in.
Length of Bearing Surface Under Slide	5 1/4 in.	5 1/2 in.	6 in.	8 in.	8 1/2 in.
Depth of Gripping Faces (Jaws) ....	5/8 in.	5/8 in.	3/4 in.	3/8 in.	1 in.
Thickness of Base	3/8 in.	3/8 in.	1 in.	1 1/2 in.	1 1/2 in.
Depth of Jaw Opening .....	1 3/4 in.	2 in.	2 1/4 in.	2 3/8 in.	3 1/4 in.
Width of Base ....	4 3/4 in.	6 in.	7 in.	8 1/4 in.	8 1/4 in.
Thickness of Front Jaw, Where Strain is most .....	1 3/4 in.	2 in.	2 1/4 in.	2 1/2 in.	3 3/8 in.
Opening of Jaw ..	3 in.	3 1/2 in.	5 in.	6 in.	7 in.
	14/-	17/6	26/6	35/-	57/6

## Unusual Tools

Fred Murrell

A couple of weeks ago I saw the tools in the photo at an auction in a box of junky tools. I didn't want to be burdened with the rubbish so I didn't leave a bid. The tools greeted me at North Rocks market the following day and I was able to buy them. Only one tool was complete in that the other two did not have either iron or lever cap. The complete one had a lever cap stamped Record and I assumed, rightly or wrongly, Record to be the maker although they do not appear in any of my references.

A bit of further research led to the website of "Ashem Crafts" and it would seem that this company, based in England, is in fact, the maker. While they make the aluminium body of the tool, they source the fittings from Record, hence the name on the lever cap.

The tools are tapered rounders. The smallest being from  $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1" over the  $2\frac{1}{8}$ " width of the blade. The next is  $1\frac{3}{8}$ " tapering to  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " The third is  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " tapering to  $2\frac{1}{8}$ ".

I have been able to complete them using Stanley cutters and caps. The handles are made of ash.

An interesting thing about the tools is that they are designed specifically for chairmakers, especially Windsor chairs makers.



In Windsor chairs a tapered spindle is fitted into a cylindrical hole. If used correctly the tool will taper the timber and produce a cylindrical dowel end fitting neatly into the predrilled hole. The body is aluminium with a brass ferule in each end. The ferule in the large end is tapered while the ferule at the small end is cylindrical. When used while the timber is being rotated in a lathe, the rounder produces very accurate dowels.

The company makes a number of tools associated with tapered timbers such as walking sticks and in that regard Ashem promote the stail engine to produce a slow taper. Ashem Crafts have other tools for rounding the ends of timber. The current list price for one of the rounders is 72 pounds.

<http://www.ashemcrafts.com/>

## **The Tothing Plane**

*Fine, medium, coarse teeth*

The tothing plane is one of the traditional tools currently being rediscovered by the Americans. Naturally there is some debate on the web about the use of this tool.

*What follows should add a bit of clarity to the speculation.*

The tothing plane has more than one function which explains why these planes were originally sold with two or three blades. The back of each blade was serrated with a different number of teeth. The tothing blade is set almost upright in the plane stock.

The tothing plane cuts like a scraper plane with the added feature of the teeth separating the cut into multiple cuts. This means the tothing plane cannot tear out the fibres and can cut in every direction. The surface of the wood after tothing has a series of Vee shaped inter crossing grooves. The different teeth number of each blade means different depths of grooves can be toothed.

The practical consequence is the tothing plane can prepare a flat surface rapidly on any piece of wood. Hardness, knots, interlocked grain are not a problem to a sharp tothing plane provided the correct number of teeth are being used.

*This plane does more than roughen the wood for the glue.*

## **Tothing Plane Myths**

*-The blades cannot be sharpened*

Tothing plane blades are ground and honed like any plane blade but the face of the blade isn't honed. If the face is honed the serrations are ruined. What about the wire edge? The honed blade can be pressed into a piece of softwood to remove the burr but in reality the plane cuts perfectly if this step is missed.

*-Tothing planes can chatter*

Yes they can if used incorrectly. The most likely cause is a blade being too coarsely set.

On some woods it is necessary to use the tothing plane with the blade inclined to the edge of the wood. As the tothing plane is usually pushed in all directions chattering is rarely an issue. If the chattering persists the cause is invariably down to sharpening the blade at too high an angle.

*-Tothing planes are obsolete because tothing is unnecessary*

The argument goes like this, science has proved tothing doesn't improve adhesion.

The real function of a tothing plane is to produce a flat surface on any type of wood without any grain tear out.

## **Buying a tothing plane**

Tothing planes are fairly common. Finding blades in good condition can be more of a problem.

## **The Wood Rasp**

Rasps are useful tools once made in a large selection of shapes and sizes. A limited range of rasps are now being manufactured. Recently some excellent hand cut rasps have appeared. These rasps are very expensive. The best rasps are really quite cheap and plentiful.

### ***The best rasps are old rasps***

Old rusted rasps are easily made as good as new by a simple method of sharpening. Immersion in acid will revitalise most old rasps.

Before discussing how to sharpen old rasps I need to explain why the old rasps are superior to most new rasps, even to the “hand snatched” ones being promoted as the best.

Up to the 1950s wood rasps were made in a huge variety of shapes and sizes. Rasps were either hand cut or machine cut. The machine cut rasps were also available in a superior “sand blasted” grade.

Wood rasps were made to three patterns, common, cabinet and patternmaker’s. Shapes and sizes were extensive. The wood rasp most esteemed was Nicholson’s Patternmaker’s Rasp.

### ***How much to pay for a rasp***

The TTTG Auctioneer dreads selling old files and rasps! With luck a handful of files and rasps will be knocked down for two or occasionally five dollars. TTTG has large stocks of old files and rasps.

## ***What to look for in an old rasp***

My tip is to always buy in bulk. A lone rasp has to be outstanding to warrant purchase. Like old files old rasps usually come in batches and are invariably dirty, splattered with paint spots and rusty. *Work on the averages theory, in any lot of old rasps some are good.*

How old? Look for a brand name and the words “cast steel”. With old rasps and files you soon learn the average quality is very high.

What brands? Old Nicholson rasps are fairly common and this brand was highly esteemed. That said at the price you pay for old rasps why not try the other brands?

### ***Sharpening old rasps***

How you move from *rusty junk* to sharp rasp really depends on how many rasps you are sharpening. I suggest you throw in some files and work with batches of ten or more. The rejects can be set aside for recycling. Old cast steel makes excellent cutting tools.

The first step is to clean the old rasp. Start with a good brushing with a file card and then soaking in *Cleaning Vinegar* is a good way to clean off the surface dirt and rust. Scrap off paint first. After I have cleaned the rasps and files in *Cleaning Vinegar* I soak them in a hot solution of *TTTG Citric Acid*. A wash in water and drying follows.

*Pick the best rasps, fit handles, and be amazed by how well they cut!*

## New steel for Veritas

Veritas has introducing new steel, claimed to be better than A2 and O1 steel as well as being easier to sharpen than cast steel.

*Fine Woodworking* explains,

*To form a PM alloy, constituent metals are melted and mixed together, then atomized, creating very small particles that cool and harden forming a powder. This powder is screened to ensure consistent particle size, and then heated under pressure to form a billet. The billet is then rolled to the required thickness, ready to process as conventionally smelted steel would be. The PM process yields steel with a very fine grain structure that is uniform.*

*Veritas has done an impressive amount on PM-V11 and many other tool steels and all of the tests suggest that PM-V11 might be the biggest thing to happen to hand tools since Tom Lie-Nielsen decided to give tool making a go (looking back, that seems to be the first step in the current resurgence of hand tools).*

*Fine Woodworking* will review the new *Veritas* plane blades in a future issue of the magazine.

Christopher Schwarz, former editor of *Popular Woodworking*, is ahead of *Fine Woodworking*. Chris has been testing the new *Veritas* plane blades for several months and has posted a review on his blog.

Chris clearly planned to be the first to review the new *Veritas* plane blades in a magazine.

*Since March 2012 I've been testing a plane blade made from PM-V11 in my shop in side-by-side tests with A2 and O1. I'm writing a short article on my results for a fall issue of Popular Woodworking Magazine,*

*Popular Woodworking* October 2012, has a review of this steel.

### **Why the need for this new steel?**

Many users prefer older edge tools made from cast steel. These tools sharpen easily and retain a fine edge longer than modern steels.

The next best choice has been A2 or O1 steel. My experience with these steels is identical to Chris, with oilstones the wire edge is hard to remove. Chris uses water stones to sharpen these steels. No doubt the current fad for water stones is related to the use of A2 and O1 steels for new high quality blades.

Chris comments on his blog on the ease of sharpening the new *Veritas* plane blades with oilstones.

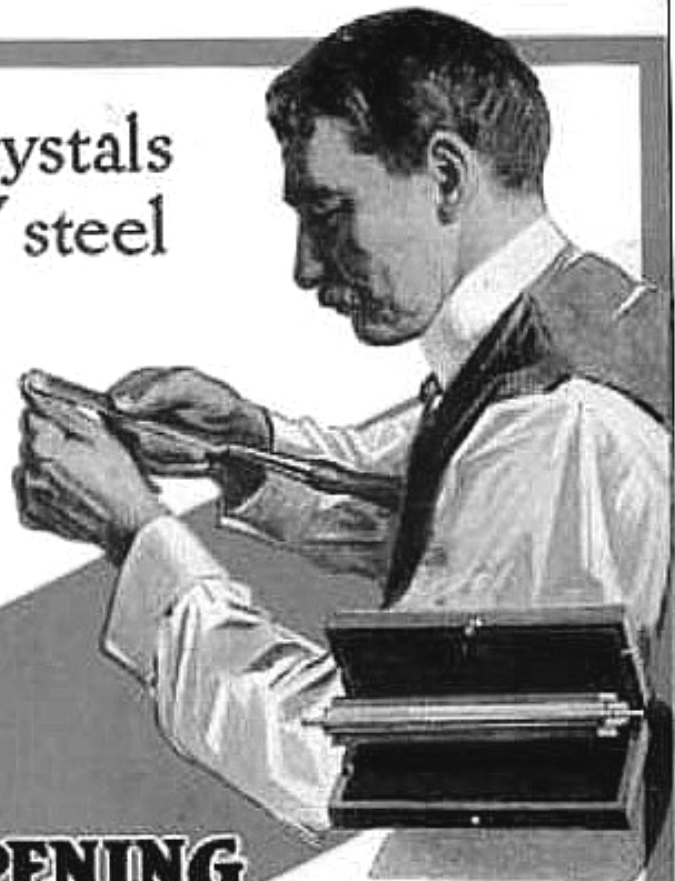
Chris's review of the new *Veritas* plane blades in *PW* October 2012 gives a detailed analysis of the advantage of this steel to users.

Chris observes that these blades sharpen quickly on oilstones and sees the slightly higher cost as not a problem to serious woodworkers.

# Tough, sharp crystals that just EAT steel

It's fun to see the way a Pike India Stone puts a dandy, keen edge on a tool. No other stone that cuts so fast wears down so slowly. It holds its shape almost indefinitely. Besides, if properly oiled, Pike India Stones never glaze.

They are made of Alundum and so tough that even dropping won't break them! Pike India is the most widely useful of all the



## PIKE SHARPENING STONES

The only line that includes every sharpening substance—natural or artificial—each the best for some sharpening need.

No one abrasive substance is best for all kinds of edges. It is because the Pike line includes every substance that you are certain to get the best stone for your purpose if you insist on the famous Pike trade mark.

**Guarantee**—Pike Stones are sold by hardware and cutlery dealers the world over—and every one of these dealers is authorized to replace any Pike Stone that proves defective.

### "How to Sharpen" Sent Free

A little book that gives expert advice on how to select and use sharpening stones to get the very best results. It not only tells you how to sharpen, but also how to care for your stones. It's free—send for your copy today.

### FREE—Pike India Vest Pocket Stone

To introduce Pike Sharpening Stones, we will send a Pike India Vest Pocket Stone free to every one who will send us his dealer's name and 4 cents in stamps to pay postage. This stone is just the thing for penknives and most small tools.

PIKE MANUFACTURING CO., 1 Main St., Pike, N. H.

#### Pike India Revolving Oil Stone

This stone is used on the side of the knife, the other side, mounted in handles, pencil blades, etc. that require constant use of either side. One sharpening stone. . . . \$2.00  
Pike India (Carborundum) Bench Stone, 4 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 1/2" . . . \$1.00  
Medium is increased to \$1.25

#### Pike India Karibonak Knife Sharpener

Best device ever shown for quickly sharpening cutting knives and many other hand held tools. Better than any other sharpener. . . . \$1.00  
Heavy duty model, 4 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 1/2" . . . \$1.25

#### Pike India Spartan's Pocket Stone

No sportsman's kit is complete without it. One side coarse for sharpening knives, axes, cut-throats, etc. Other side fine for finishing. Inexpensive leather case included. . . . \$1.00

#### Pike Power Junior Grinder

Every house, shop, hotel, law should have one. Acts very fast, is dust proof, noiseless and thoroughly practical. Power tool that holds the tool and makes it easy to get just the right angle for any edge. Fitted with a fast, cool cutting wheel. . . . \$1.00  
Other sizes from \$2.00 to \$7.00

In addition to Pike India, the Pike line includes the famous Pike Arkansas, Pike Marble, Pike Crystal, etc. stones and others.

Sold by dealers everywhere, or sent direct.

## Sharpening Oils

### White Spirit

At the last TTTG Workshop on sharpening edge tools Jim Davey mentioned that he has been using White Spirit on diamond plates.

A few days later I purchased a litre of White Spirit and gave it a try. The next move was to try using it on my oilstones. I'm now won over to White Spirit as a lubricant for sharpening stones.

### ***Breaking an addiction to WD40***

For many years I have used WD40 on oilstones. I have also used lamp oil. Both are excellent but both use up a lot of liquid during honing.

White Spirit goes a lot further than light oils or WD40. *Less mess and efficient sharpening has to be the winning combination.*

### **Other oils**

Any thin mineral oil makes a good lubricant for sharpening.

Kerosene mixed with machine oil works well. Lamp Oil (Citronella) is excellent. All of these oils are very messy to use.

Despite what the older books say Neat's-foot Oil is not the ideal oil for sharpening as it dries hard and rapidly clogs any oilstone.

Vegetable oils are not suitable.

***I find White Spirit by far the cleanest sharpening lubricant.***

## Sharpening Stones

The current sharpening stones with the consensus "*best practice*" are diamond plates, water stones and ceramic stones. Progressive sharpening with a number of grits is considered necessary to obtain really sharp cutting edges. Frankly I have tried them all and have now reverted to traditional oilstones for sharpening edge tools.

### **Oilstones**

*One oilstone used correctly will do 99% of all edge sharpening.*

The best general purpose oilstone is a fine/medium aluminium oxide stone measuring 8x2x1 inches in old UK/current USA measurement. Look for an old red oilstone marked Norton India or Australian Abrasives. Soak it in thinners and when clean of all old oil flatten the stone. The easiest way is to use a coarse diamond plate. Use WD40, Kerosene Lamp oil or White Spirit as a lubricant.

Another reliable natural oilstone is a Pike Washita oilstone. When the India oilstone was introduced all other oilstones were quickly seen as too slow cutting!

### **Stropping**

Stropping after honing an edge on an oilstone will refine the edge. The best strop is the palm of the hand. Carvers use a leather strop with a dressing of very fine abrasive.

## South Australian Historic Tool Association

Steve Sullivan emailed details of the SAHTA meeting on 24th October

*A reminder that the next SAHTA meeting will be held on Wednesday 24th October at 7:15 pm at the Colonel Light Gardens RSL.*

*The meeting format will be similar to September with display tables, trading tables and general discussion. We have had some excellent displays in the last couple of months and there is room for your tools, so bring some along. Having decided upon our name, we require artistic input for a logo to identify SAHTA. If you have some concepts, share them with the group at the meeting.*

For more information on SAHTA ring Paul Withers 08 8566 2788 or 04231 47684



### PLANES

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

TRADE PRICES ON:



DMT DIAMOND PLATES - DIA-SHARP PLATES



ICE BEAR & KING WATERSTONES

M2 HSS ACADEMY BLADES, LEATHER CHISEL ROLLS AND COVERS



AGENT FOR CARBA-TEC

CREDIT CARD FACILITIES:



VISA



**Jim Davey**

Ph 02 4447 8822(W) 4447 8790(AH) PO Box 967 Nowra NSW 2541  
JDAVEY@bigpond.com www.jimdavey-planes-sharpening.com

## Plane Making Tools and Jigs

From the seventeenth century to the years before World War Two wooden planes were made in vast quantities in a competitive market. The quality of the planes had to be high and the prices affordable.

Planes were made in batches and specialised tools and production jigs were used to ensure quality and reduce production time. The day to day structure of the plane making industry wasn't recorded in text books and few intact tool kits or workshops have survived.

*The Tool Box of one American plane-maker is one exception.*

Solon Rust worked for the Union Factory and he was an inventor as well as a plane-maker. For more details go to

[http://www.carpentryarchive.org/images/rust/solon\\_rust.html](http://www.carpentryarchive.org/images/rust/solon_rust.html)

The photo is a selection from many more at this site. Every tool warrants inspection and reflection.



Clynt Sheehy TTTG Treasurer

## Wood Planes

At the next Workshop Bob Crosbie will be showing how to use wooden bodied planes.

*Anyone who can only work wood with machines is always amazed when they see what wooden planes can do and how rapidly and well the planes work.*

Bob will show how to select, repair, sharpen and set old wooden planes and equally important how to use wooden planes efficiently.

Workshop participants will learn by "hands on" experience how to dress timber to size with the Jack and Trying Plane and then produce a "glass smooth" surface with the wooden smoothing plane. Along the way they will be shown how the Tooothing plane makes short work of finishing torn grain.

Having gained confidence they will be introduced to the special planes used to produce rebates, grooves and mouldings. The potential of side snipes, bills, side rebates and shoulder planes will be revealed.

There may even be time for the wooden trenching planes and the wooden compass plane to reveal the metal versions of these planes as poor imitations.

### **Woodworking Planes**

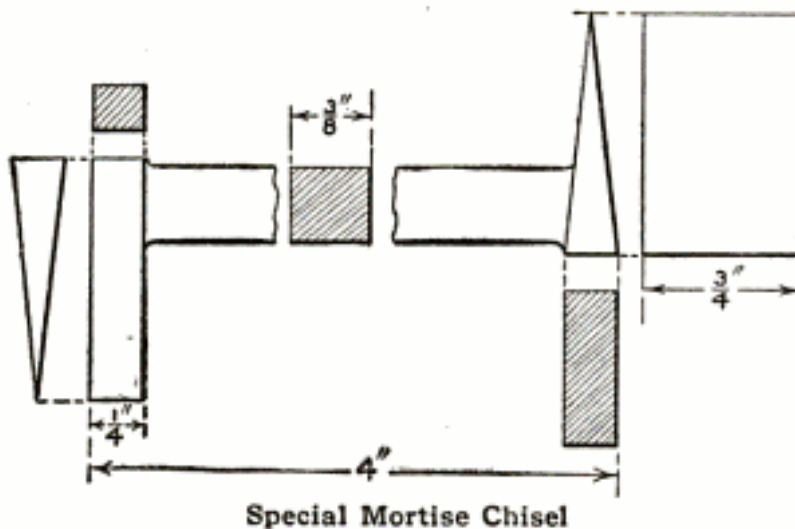
*Sunday February 10*

26 Pomeroy Street  
Strathfield

## Drawer Lock Chisel

### Chisel for Cutting Mortises in Cabinet Drawers

When fitting locks in drawers on cabinet work, it is necessary to cut a mortise in the rail above the drawer



end to receive the bolt of the lock. If the drawer is not a very deep one, the work becomes difficult, as the space between the rails is too small to work an ordinary wood chisel. The sketch shows the dimensions and shape of a tool that will do the work. It is made of tool steel and sharpened like a chisel.—Contributed by F. O. Andersen, San Francisco, Cal.

Popular Mechanics  
October 1911

Drawer lock chisels are hard to find but making one isn't too difficult.

Suitable steel might come from an old cast steel file.

The old file will need to be softened by heating until red and cooling slowly.

There are too ways to make the chisel.

An old file can be forged to shape or the chisel can be sawn out of a soft old file.

Either way after shaping the chisel is filed to final shape and then hardened and tempered.

### **TTTG Blacksmithing Workshop**

*Learn how to make tools like this Drawer Lock Chisel*

**May 26 2013**

**Blacksmithing**

Sydney Heritage Fleet Heritage Shipyard  
James Craig Road Rozelle

Gate number 4

## File Care and Use

Some complicated tasks are a lot easier when you know how to use a file correctly. Saw sharpening is probably the obvious example.

The Nicholson File Co. published a booklet titled **File Philosophy** and every user of files needs a copy.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Files and Rasps have three distinguishing features:

- 1st. **THEIR LENGTH.**—Which is always measured exclusive of their tang.
- 2d. **THEIR KIND OR NAME.**—Which has reference to the shape or style.
- 3d. **THEIR CUT.**—Which has reference not only to the character, but also to the relative degrees of coarseness of the teeth.

Interestingly **File Philosophy** is silent on resharpening files.

In 1928 it was common practice to resharpen files by two means. Files could be sharpened “in house” by immersion in acid or “sent out” to be sharpened by sand blasting.

Nicholson File Co. and several rival companies made innumerable files over a long time span. All the file makers competed on quality.

## FILE PHILOSOPHY

BEING SOME HINTS  
REGARDING THE  
PROPER METHODS  
OF USING FILES AND  
THE VARIOUS APPLI-  
CATIONS OF THE MOST  
COMMON FILES

FIFTEENTH  
EDITION

1 9 2 8

Sixth Printing

PUBLISHED & PREPARED BY THE  
**NICHOLSON FILE CO.**  
PROVIDENCE, R.I., U.S.A.  
CABLE ADDRESS, "NICHOLSON, PROVIDENCE"

The range of files made up to the 1970's was greater than the variety of files currently in production. Most of these discontinued shapes and sizes are useful when needed.

Old files in good condition can be resharpened. Strong acid is one way but a safer alternative is to use citric acid or cleaning vinegar.

**TTTG Citric Acid is cheapest!**

## Saw Sharpening

*Sunday 17 March*

26 Pomeroy Street  
Strathfield

90% of Saw Sharpening is using files correctly!  
The workshop covers Rip Saws, Handsaws and Backsaws.

Sharpen your own saws and save money.

## Review

### ***Popular Woodworking*** **October 2012**

#### New Top “Secret Steel” From Veritas

Chris Schwarz Page 14

Chris is a writer in a position to evaluate the quality of edge tools. As a user of hand tools following traditional methods he has been able to compare A2 and O1 alloys to Cast Steel and Veritas’s new PM-V11 Steel.

The comparison is worth reading in full. The conclusion is that the new PM-V11 Steel is as good as Cast Steel. Chris has found PM-V11 Steel takes as sharp an edge as Cast Steel and sharpens as quickly as Cast Steel. He has also rediscovered oilstones! PM-V11 Steel sharpens as quickly as Cast Steel edge tools on oilstones.

Users of A2 and O1 alloys will know how long it takes to remove the wire edge. This probably explains the popularity of water stones for sharpening.

The editor cannot wait to try one of these new plane blades. They may even perform as well as veteran Mathieson plane irons.

#### Spokeshaves James Mursell Pages 50-53

This is a must read article for anyone who wants to learn how to use a Spokeshave.

### ***British Woodworking*** **June/July 2012**

#### Ploughing On

Richard Arnold Pages 50-52

Richard describes how to use wooden plough planes. This is well written and full of sound practical advice. There are some nice photos for the collector. The article should alert readers to the potential of the plough plane “*the most expensive and most useful Joiner’s tool.*”

#### Keener Edges

David Savage Pages 20-22

#### Can British chisels still compete?

Peter Sefton Page 23

Both these articles discuss modern steel and chisels.

### **HTPAA and TATHS Publications**

*The editor encourages TTTG members to submit reviews of articles in these publications.*

Rather than write such reviews the editor concentrates on reviewing traditional tool related articles in magazines catering for tool users.

Readers’ opinions are welcomed;  
***Is this what you want?***

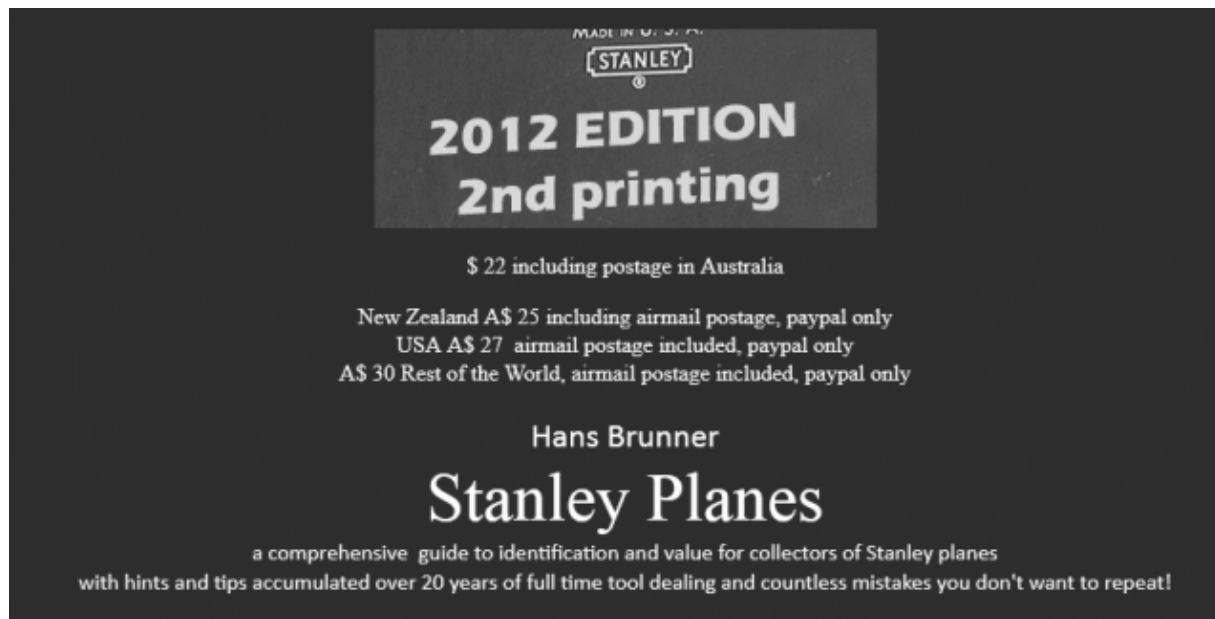
### **Woodworking Planes**

February

Sunday 10

26 Pomeroy Street  
Strathfield

***Ploughs and Spokeshaves are included***



## **Hans Brunner's words**

### ***About this catalogue***

This is not an Australian type study and not your definitive oeuvre on everything Stanley.

*There are more detailed publications available.*

If you keep collecting Stanley tools you will inevitably find them. The questions budding collectors keep asking me are a lot more basic: *what is it and how much is it worth?*

This catalogue is my best possible answer to questions one and two .....

You cannot afford to buy a Stanley plane without knowing the answers to questions one and two!

## **H Brunner**

**PO Box 5238**

**Brassall Qld 4305 Australia**

For most of us, the internet is now the sole and convenient provider of vintage tools. Beware convenience is also the name for a latrine when it becomes public! There certainly are some stinkers out there and they seem to grow bigger and louder all the time. Stay well clear of them! You can still buy any Stanley tool at a bargain price if you are prepared to invest time instead of money..... The fog will lift from those ethereal white-box-pictures; the loud sales pitch will become less annoying..... *this catalogue will help you on the right track and save you time and money.*

**HANS BRUNNER AUCTIONS**

**[www.hansbrunnertools.gil.com.au](http://www.hansbrunnertools.gil.com.au)**

Hans is running regular online auctions. The editor recommends these auctions without reservation. The descriptions are always accurate.

## Interesting stuff

Jim Bradman

### **Eveleigh, the cat in a bag**

As someone who has a long interest in industrial folklore I have heard variations on this story for many years. Unfortunately it is a “*did you know that?*” story.

Looking at the story from a critical analysis point of view,

1 Takes a lot of effort to catch a feral cat

2 Must have been a lot of feral cats at the yard

3 What sort of bastard brings a feral cat home to his child it will scratch the poor bugger to bits

4 Your relying on the cat running back into the yard not out of the gates

5 Security guards are not going to fall for that story more than once and you are assuming the guard is not scratched to bits when opening the bag, in which case the next bag will be bashed to bits by the guard.

*Eveleigh* in its peak period leaked like a sieve I doubt that you would require that much effort to remove stuff from the yard. I've spoken to a few who worked in the yard at the time and they agree.

**Google** these and enjoy reading;

*Alloy artefacts (20th cent tools)*

*A load of old Billhooks*

### ***Did you know that?***

For TTTG members who don't do public demonstrations/displays (slackers) that story is something that we are routinely subjected to. For some reason people who think they know something will usually start off with “*did you know that?*” often with a knowledgeable wink, nod of head and other gestures. Arguing with them is pointless.

### **The best, or perhaps the worse, “*did you know that?*”**

This may be the one I was told at a Highland gathering. The person insisted that his great, great uncle won a VC at Waterloo (1815).

Despite my pointing out that the VC is a Victoria Cross made out of cannon captured at the Crimea in 1853 I was told I did not know my history and was calling him a liar.

I want your “***did you know that?***”

Anyone who has any good ones please forward them to me I've got a little collection of them!

### **Coopering,**

One of the reasons the breweries developed metal kegs is that the coopers were particularly militant and the breweries wanted to break the union. Back in the days when Sydney's Powerhouse Museum was about technology not *Star Wars* the museum had a very good display of coopering and its history.

*Sad to think so much is in storage.*



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**Hand tools to suit Tradesmen, Amateurs and Collectors**

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**The Brickpit Sports Stadium**

**1A Dartford Road Thornleigh**

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