

# ***NEWS 130***



**April 2013**

**TTTG Inc.**

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

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## **NEWS 130 Contents**

Contacts	2
<b>2013 TTTG Tool Sale</b>	3, 35, 36
<b>Committee Crisis</b>	8
Meetings	4, 5
Workshops	6, 7, 34
<b>The Ledger</b>	10, 11
<b>JD's</b>	18, 19
Carter Planes	12, 13
Turner Planes	14, 15
Record 050	16, 17
1907 Tool Sale	20
Flat Stock	21
Bristol Plane Makers	22
Eclipse Honing Jig	23
Websites	24, 25
Toilet Cleaner & Tools	26
Saw Filing Devices	27
<b>Ranting &amp; Raving</b>	28
Stanley 196 Plane	29
Oilstones	30
Mystery Tools	30
Planing Mouldings	31
Shooting Board Plane	31
<b>Review</b>	32, 33
Jim Davey Advert	9

## **Cover page**

*Some of the crowd at our Annual Tool Sale*

## **Next Meeting**

### **Hand Saws, 1660-1960**

Tuesday April 9      Annie Wyatt  
Room

**National Trust Centre**  
Observatory Hill Sydney

*Entry \$5*  
*'Doors open 7pm'*

The meeting will be a discussion of the saw making technology in Britain and the various types of English saws.



The discussion will be illustrated with a collection of "world class" handsaws selected from the collection of Fred Murrell.

## **Auction**

The April 9 meeting will conclude with the usual TTTG auction. For this auction we have secured some quality user tools, there are certain to be **many bargains!**

*The tools to be sold include many quality user tools.*

### **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.

**2013**

**TTTG TOOL SALE**

**24February**

***In NEWS 129 the question was***

***Are Tool Sales still viable?***

***In NEWS 130 the answer is YES!***

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 had a spacious venue.

***The 2013 TTTG TOOL SALE filled the venue***

Over 50 tables of tools for sale

350 people attended the 2013 TTTG TOOL SALE

***The sellers and buyers were happy***

The success of the 2013 TTTG TOOL SALE is down to:-

TTTG conducting an extensive advertising campaign

TTTG offering the best venue at the best price

TTTG's reputation with the sellers and the buyers

Promoting the *2013 TTTG TOOL SALE* was expensive.

The money spent paid off ! The profit to TTTG was only modest but everyone had a good time!

***Public confidence in big Old Tool Sales has been restored***

***What Next?***

The TTTG General Meetings

The TTTG Workshops

**2014 TTTG Annual Tool Sale**

## **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.***

### ***How to contact TTTG Inc.***

#### **Postal Address**

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

#### **Enquires**

Mike Williams

02 9144 6356

Bob Crosbie

[bobcrosbie@tttg.org.au](mailto:bobcrosbie@tttg.org.au)

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

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### **Next Meeting**

Tuesday April 9      **HANSAWS**

Annie Wyatt Room

**National Trust Centre** Observatory Hill Sydney

***Entry \$5***

*'Doors open at 7pm'*

### **SELLING TOOLS**

*In some circumstances TTTG sells tools for **members only**.  
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 given preference.*

### **VALUATIONS**

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

## **Last Meeting**

### **Planes, *dado to plough***

Tuesday February 12

*This was a chance to examine and to hold planes both very common and planes that are extremely rare.*

Fred Murrell provided the planes for this meeting.

Bob Crosbie discussed the planes.

Bob was humbled by the number of rare and extremely rare planes.

*TTTG Inc.* thanks Fred for bringing in his world class planes.

This is a presentation certain to be repeated later in the year.

## **TTTG Tool Collection**

### ***Tool Chest***

TTTG has purchased a superb nineteenth century Tool Chest.

This is a fully fitted Tool Chest. The inside lid, tills and drawers are veneered with mahogany.

The Tool Chest is British Isles, middle nineteenth century.



## **Next Meeting**

### **Hand Saws, 1660-1960**

Tuesday April 9

The English handsaw evolved from the Dutch handsaw carried to the British Isles in the seventeenth century by settlers from Holland. Dutch technology transformed the economy of Southern Britain.

The distinctive English handsaw had emerged by the middle of the eighteenth century.

By the 1820s the factory system, combined with new steel making processes, produced saws of a quality superior to any other saws.

The presenter will discuss the technology of saw making and the various types of English saws.

The discussion will be illustrated with a collection of “world class” handsaws.

The saws on display are from the collection of Fred Murrell.

## **Publication**

### ***The TTTG Tool Chest***

The recently acquired TTTG Tool Chest is “world class”. The Committee plans to publish drawings, photographs and commentary of the TTTG Tool Chest.

When TTTG secures a “home base” the tool chest will be conserved and displayed.

The TTTG Tool Chest will be on display at the 2013 Sydney WWW Show.

## **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**

28 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**

### **Setting out Tools**

Bob Crosbie will introduce you to the tools used to set out joints. You will find out the best tools to use and how to use them.

### **Blacksmithing**

Hugh and Andrew, and other experienced blacksmiths, will introduce you to the world of shaping hot metal.

## **TTTG Workshops**

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

#### Value for money

TTTG workshops are great value for money. *There is no need to argue this point, just compare 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.

**2013 TTTG WORKSHOPS**

**April– June**

**April 21**

**Setting out Tools**

Good woodwork starts with accurate setting out

Marking knives, gauges, trammels and templates

From sharpening a pencil to understanding geometry

***Venue:***

28 Pomeroy Street  
Strathfield

**May 26**

**Blacksmithing**

Blacksmithing skills with water views

Forge, the anvil and heat treatment

***Venue:***

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

**June 23**

**Wood Joints**

Edge joints, framing joints, box joints

Dovetails and Mortise and Tenon joints

***Venue:***

28 Pomeroy Street  
Strathfield

## **TTTG COMMITTEE CRISIS**

### ***The TTTG Committee has a problem***

Some committee members have served for many years.  
Some committee members have too many responsibilities.

More TTTG members need to step forward and become actively involved in the management of TTTG.

### ***The crisis areas are:***

#### **The editorial committee**

Bob writes, collects material and pre-formats *NEWS*.  
Mike proof reads, does final formatting and arranges printing and distribution. *A third team member would make the process easier.* Bob and Mike have other time consuming roles in TTTG.

#### **The Treasurer**

Clynt has been TTTG Treasurer for sixteen years.  
Recently he has taken on more roles.  
*Clynt needs an assistant Treasurer to reduce his stress.*

#### **Events Coordinator**

Bob has run the workshops and events for several years.  
TTTG needs someone to assist in organising TTTG events.

#### **The Webmaster**

Darcy has set up an excellent website.  
With some help the web site could be even better.

#### **Promoting TTTG**

TTTG has a track record of success!  
The 2013 TTTG Tool has restored public confidence.  
The workshops are popular and highly respected.  
*NEWS* is a quality publication.

**BUT** TTTG is ignored by magazines and museums

TTTG needs a **Liaison Officer** to promote TTTG.

# Jim Davey



## PLANES

FULLY FETTLER (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



WoodRiver  
Awl

Chisels  
&  
Planes

Rob Cosman  
Saws  
&  
Videos



Woodcraft Distributor



Agent for CARBA-TEC



VISA



CREDIT CARD FACILITIES:

**Jim Davey**

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

## **THE LEDGER**

### **New Members**

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

**Michael Kinsey M670**  
**Ken Robinson M671**  
**John McKeering M672**  
**Eric Mendizza M673**  
**Tony Culican M674**

We hope you find your membership rewarding and look forward to your participation in our activities.

### **TTTG Tool Sale a Great Success !**

Despite the inclement weather in the week leading up to our tool sale on 24th February, the sale was a great success. Fortunately it remained dry for the duration of the sale. The Brickpit Sports Stadium at Thornleigh is a fantastic indoor venue and we received many positive compliments from customers and traders alike. TTTG has applied to hold our sale at the same venue on Sunday 23rd February, 2014.

I would like to thank all the TTTG volunteers and everyone who worked hard to make the 2013 Tool Sale such a success.

### **TTTG Aprons**

I'll be bringing our TTTG aprons to future meetings and workshops. The aprons are very well made of strong material and sell for only \$25 each. It's best to get them from me in person as the cost (including packaging) by registered mail is \$36.20 each. These dark green aprons are tastefully embroidered:

*THE*

*TRADITIONAL*

*TOOLS*

*GROUP*

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

Do you have friends interested in tools, their use, their history, their preservation, their maintenance?

If so, why not urge them to join The Traditional Tools Group. If they join in April, May or June 2013, for \$35 we'll give them membership up to 30th June, 2014. No one ever regretted joining TTTG !

### **TTTG Workshops**

The next two TTTG Workshops are the **Setting-out Tools Workshop** on Sunday 21st April, 2013, at the Strathfield Men's shed, 28 Pomeroy Street, Homebush and the **Blacksmithing Workshop** on Sunday 26th May, 2013 at the Sydney Heritage Fleet Shipyard, James Craig Road, Rozelle. Both workshops commence at 9:30am, but get there at 9am and have a cuppa and bickies which are available free all day. Bring your lunch if required.

At the Setting-out Tools Workshop, you'll discover all the secrets and tricks of setting out and how to properly use the setting out devices.

At the Blacksmithing Workshop (it's my favourite workshop) you'll get to take home a semi-useful object that you've made yourself. Wear sensible clothing and footwear; bring a pair of leather gloves and protective eyewear.

*Clynt Sheehy*

TTTG Treasurer



**THE TRADITIONAL TOOLS GROUP INC.**

## **SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL NOTICE**

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

**PLEASE PAY YOUR 2013-14 SUBSCRIPTION BEFORE 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2013**

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

**( MADE OUT TO TTTG INC.) TO:**

**TTTG Inc.**

**PO Box 314**

**LINDFIELD NSW 2070**

**Or you may pay your subscription on-line via PayPal (see [www.tttg.org.au](http://www.tttg.org.au))**

\* If you live in Australia more than 50 km from the GPO Sydney or you are an Australian CentreLink pensioner, then you MAY CHOOSE TO PAY only \$30

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

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

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

**The Treasurer has already received 2013-14 subscription payments from the following prompt-paying, proactive members ( as at 18th March, 2013 ) :32, 43, 49, 186, 240, 241, 302, 374, 378, 396, 414, 461, 484, 489, 502, 505, 519, 557, 568, 601, 634, 674**

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

## Carter Australia Planes

A Review            Thomas Sheppard

Since I wrote about Falcon Pops on my blog I have wanted to write some comments on Carter planes.

Another vital part of Australia's tool making history belongs to Carter Tools Pty Ltd Australia.

The building boom following World War 2, and the worldwide shortage of tools, led to the establishment of a number of Australian hand tool manufacturing companies.

Carter Tools Pty Ltd was a Sydney company that provided bench planes, G clamps, sash cramps, vices, hatchets, brass plum bobs, pipe cutters, bench screws, hand routers, vernier centre finders, and other urgently needed tooling to a hungry market.

*Only in business for a little over 20 years, Carter's products came and went quickly.*

Several Carter hand planes have come my way over the years, and it seems appropriate to give them a short review, as they still surface at markets and garage sales.

One interesting aspect of Carter Hand Plane manufacturing was the way that the company sub-contracted out the casting work to different foundries around the Sydney area. Because of this, there are often differences in both shape and quality among Carter planes, even the same model.

The frog castings show differences in design, perhaps reflecting the variations from different foundries.

All Carter frogs have the looped lateral adjustment lever, a simple and effective design.

None of them have the frog fore and aft adjuster screw that was found on Stanley type planes, and copied by both the Falcon/Pope and Turner hand planes that were also made in Australia. Just like Sargent hand planes in the United States, Carter decided that their planes didn't need them.

*This design decision simplified the castings for both frog and base.*

All the Carter handles I have seen are made from Australian hardwood, possibly a eucalypt species, and all are painted with black japan enamel.

Carter planes were fitted with Carter made blades. Carter blades are all much thicker than a standard Stanley blade, and all are very close to 3mm thick.

The reason for this is probably to be found in the design of the frog. All Carter frog castings have support for the blade only at the very top, and the very bottom.

Compare this to the bedding for the blade provided by Falcon/Pope and older Stanley frogs. There is blade support, all the way from the top to the bottom of the frog.

The thought occurs to me that the Carter design allows for less exactitude in casting, since only the top and bottom faces need machining to the one plane in order to bed the blade. This would save time, and allow the frog castings from different foundries to be finished off with minimum grinding. A simple solution to the obvious quality control issues attached to multiple castings from multiple foundries.

An ordinary thinner Stanley blade would likely experience induced chatter with the Carter frog design. The Carter blades, being so much thicker, resist this chatter and cut quite well - even with such a frog. Of course, their extra thickness also makes them popular with woodworkers - as replacement blades in other makes of bench plane. Carter blades are excellent.

The bodies of the Carter planes are robust, and thicker and heavier castings than Stanley planes.

Comparing the cheek thickness of Carter number 5's and number 4½'s with those of a Stanley, the variations of Carter's foundry castings are apparent. The Carter 4½ is particularly odd, with one cheek significantly thinner than the other cheek.

### **Conclusion**

Carter hand planes were made to fill a niche in the building industry at a time when anything was better than nothing.

Carter planes are a mixed bunch, with some examples being very well made, and others a little rough and ready. Time has moved on, and consistently better made examples of hand planes have become commonplace.

For all that, Carters are somewhat rarer than others, simply because they were manufactured for such a short time. A good one is well worth having as a working tool in any workshop - others may only be added to collections as footnotes.

### **Carter blades**

Carter plane blades are something else again. I have never come across a bad one, and the extra thickness is appreciated by hand plane enthusiasts, and those who want good performance from their plane - no matter the brand. If you get a chance to own a Carter blade jump at it.

### **Are Carter planes worth buying?**

*Definitely!*

It may end up being a good one, or it may just be your little part of Australian toolmaking history. Either way, the plane blade alone will be worth the purchase.

*For more on Carter Tools*

[htpaa.org.au](http://htpaa.org.au)

*For more from Thomas Sheppard*

Email ThisBlogThis!Share to  
TwitterShare to Facebook

## **Turner Planes**

### ***Review and rebuttal!***

Graeme Plaw  
Vice President HTPAA

*A Turner engineer  
1956–1970  
Stanley 1970–2000*

It was of great interest to me reading the review of Turner Hand Planes by Thomas Sheppard in *News 129*. The article brought back memories of a time when attention to detail meant something. Thomas Sheppard made this observation during his fine article however there are some inaccuracies which require correction.

### ***Made in Australia around 1970***

Turner planes were manufactured from 1960 until Turner Industries were acquired by Stanley-Titan on 20 November 1970 at which time a phase out occurred of Turner Stanley (Bailey) planes and other products were manufactured in Australia until 1997.

### ***Turner is best remembered for their range of hand planes.***

Turner is also remembered for their screwdrivers where they had a much wider market requirement (more trades). It was Carpenters and Builders that found hand planes important.

### ***Turner handles aged... became more brittle***

Although this is correct to a degree, cellulose acetate was particularly durable and I do not recall Turner or Stanley Australia ever having product recalls of this nature. In fact, Stanley thought so much of the Acetate handles that my first job working with Stanley-Titan was to convert all Australian plane handles to Cellulose Acetate and replace the wood handles that were giving Stanley manufacturing and recall concerns.

The die for the handles had a small change, introducing the Stanley logo down the side and the colour was changed to Black as this was a lower cost moulding powder.

This handle was considered by Stanley worldwide as the way to go and now all Stanley Planes have Plastic Handles in all markets. The wood handles only being used on low cost versions now. (Recent changes may vary this comment.)

### ***Turner never offered corrugated plane bases***

This is incorrect as the range of bench planes were manufactured with corrugated bases, they were not shown in local catalogues as the major markets were overseas and most of production went to South America.

<p>Thomas Sheppard's article in <i>NEWS 129</i> was an interesting read. I hope the above takes nothing from his worthy review.</p>
---

The Stanley- Titan range did however include corrugated planes in its offering as the castings were imported, whereas the Turner castings were Australian made.

***Turner frogs are made from aluminium***

This is incorrect, Turner frogs were pressure cast zinc alloy and made in house. Turner had some very innovative engineering practices and had been first to introduce pressure zinc diecast machines in 1951, it was not until 1960 that the USA manufacturers were using pressure zinc die-casting in mass production of tool components.

The deformation of the frog noted in the article is correct as slight movement in the surface was possible during over tightening. The Stanley frog remained gravity cast iron as it was more stable.

***Possibility of being an exported hand tool....***

Yes - Turner Industries had a large export market and had a separate export division. Bench Planes were only a part of Turner's exports. Direct representation occurred in New Zealand and South Africa with representation in other countries.

By 1969 Turner Export markets were South America 28%, Asia 22%, Africa 18%, Europe 8%, North America 1%, Oceania 23%, 10% of total sales with products manufactured by 732 employees.

***Stanley Titan, Close them down***

Not strictly correct, there was an acquisition, the brand name was phased out over time but Stanley – Titan moved their Head Office to Melbourne from Hobart and continued using the buildings, equipment and employing Turner people including myself.

*I remained with Stanley till old age caught up with me.*

***Other observations:***

No critiques here!

***220 ruby cellulose front knob***

I recall designing this Red Translucent Cellulose Acetate knob for the No 220, it used the same material that was included in the Electricians range of Screwdrivers. I was handling one recently and are no longer proud of this as its shape is uncomfortable to use.

***My first spear gun carried a ruby red handle...***

There was one customer who purchased a large quantity of handles for just this purpose, a special production run was made as I recall.

***All Turner plane blades are quality products...***

True – try finding a blade made with the HSS segment brazed to the back stock. It would last two lifetimes.

**Record 050**

Cash Sale 15/11/54  
Anthony Hordern & Sons

15/11/54

**ANTHONY HORDERN & SONS, LIMITED**  
**UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS.**

**SYDNEY**

TELEPHONE: M 2401 (40 LINES) DAY OR NIGHT      BOX 2712 C G.P.O.

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
House \_\_\_\_\_  
No. and Street \_\_\_\_\_  
District \_\_\_\_\_

DATE <i>15/11/54</i>	BOOK No. <i>6004</i>	DOCKET No. <i>1</i>	No. <b>G 36377 - 1</b>
DEPT.	ORDERED BY	ORDER No.	EXAMINED BY

---

L.P.L. *208* of Record No 050  
*have*

---

AMOUNT TEND'D *cash 7/0/-*

Forwarding Instructions	OFFICE INSTRUCTIONS
-------------------------	---------------------

ANTHONY HORDERN & SONS

TTTG is selling *on consignment* a number of *above average* tools. *The current TTTG policy is to only sell tools on consignment for TTTG members, or for vendors referred to TTTG by a TTTG member.*

***TTTG reserves the discretionary power to decline to sell tools.***

A current consignment was from a family in Nowra and organised by Jim Davey. Jim sold some of the tools at the 2013 TTTG Tool Sale. The remaining tools will be sold at TTTG Workshops and Meetings.

One of the consignment tools is a Record 050 Combination Plane. The plane is in a rough box but includes the original instruction booklet and the purchase docket.

Anthony Hordern & Sons Limited billed themselves as *Universal Providers and sold everything including tools.*

A Hordern's catalogue suitable for reprinting may eventually be made available to TTTG. The only one accessible is in too poor condition for copying. Of course TTTG would only reprint the Tools Section. The purchase docket was found folded up in the cardboard box for the *Cutter Clamping Bracket.*

The two small cutters and the *shaving deflector* are in the box, but the *Clamping Bracket* is missing.

The Record 050 plane is in very good condition, despite a few missing parts. A TTTG member is sure to purchase this Record 050.

## **TTTG Tool Sales**

TTTG provides several ways for TTTG members and the public to buy quality old tools.

### **Annual TTTG Tool Sale**

TTTG has an annual Tool Sale.

### **TTTG General Meeting**

At the end of each General Meeting there is an auction of *bargains.*

### **TTTG Workshops**

Tools for sale at the workshop, both *bargain* and *quality* tools.

## **2014 TTTG Tool Sale**

The next annual TTTG Tool Sale will be in 2014.

### **When**

The date is to be decided but the TTTG Tool Sale will be early in 2014, probably in March or April.

### **Where**

The 2013 TTTG Tool Sale was held in an ideal venue.

This venue may not be available for the next TTTG Tool Sale.

*The search is on for another suitable venue.*

The 2014 TTTG Tool Sale details will be published in *NEWS*, *as soon as possible.*

## Charlie's Challenge

### *A saw Sharpening Experience*

Charlie (his name is changed for embarrassment avoidance), a first timer at a TTTG Saw Sharpening workshop arrived with a trophy bought for a bargain price at a garage sale. The early workshop arrivals gathered around (a bit like bees on a beer glass) speechless, maybe waiting for our response.

*"Great screws, a nice Apple wood handle under the paint, good buy, \$2 well spent"* I remarked.

Charlie thought this saw would be a good one to start on, one thing he couldn't make it any worse.

I felt that Charlie had plans which didn't include discarding the blade.

With paper and pencil in hand, every word uttered during the introduction spiel noted, the occasional question, then off to find some bench space. *Our first timer was on a mission.*

Our doubts were quickly put to rest. The screws were carefully removed. The rust was removed using a 120 grit cloth-backed abrasive sheet, lamp oil was used as a lubricant to aid cutting.

All evidence of the poorly formed teeth was removed by filing a true edge ready for cutting a new line of teeth. The new teeth were set out using a 12 TPI (teeth per inch) saw.

The new teeth to be cut were simply traced from the saw blade, then shaped, set and sharpened.

The paint was carefully removed from the handle before the blade was reattached. Traces of the paint were left in the scratches in the Apple wood handle. All the other participants agreed these scratch marks added a bit of character. Charlie vowed to do a better job on the next one.

I could go on; however I think you get the picture. A keen participant, under constant supervision and guidance, followed all the steps necessary to turn a relic into a useable Tenon Saw.

Some of the facts in this tale may be a little distorted; however we have many similar success stories taking place in our workshops, no doubt the reason why Bob and I keep fronting up to be part of the drama.



*The old teeth, enlarged*



*There must be story behind the way these teeth were cut!*

## Charlie's Saw

*Before surgery*



Rusty, half painted handle, poorly formed teeth. A \$2 bargain!

## Charlie's Saw

*After surgery*



The saw now appears old but well cared for. The teeth are sharp and with the comfortable handle the saw is a pleasure to use.

*A classic saw restored saved!*

### **TTTG Workshops**

Saw Sharpening is one of the TTTG tool maintenance classes.

TTTG also offers classes on wood and metal planes.

## Tool Sale 1907



Second-Hand Tool Stores, Chicago

*Popular Mechanics January 1907*

The TTTG Tool Sales are better laid out but I doubt they have as many and as varied tools as this Chicago street market. The photo is a bit grainy but some readers may well identify some of the tools. In one way the apparent chaos is familiar.

At the TTTG Workshops there are often surplus tools being sold. Usually the tools are piled on the nearest flat surface in no apparent order. “Any offer considered” is the salesman’s pitch. I’m sure these Street vendors would feel at home.

## **Precision Ground Flat Stock**

### **(Gauge Plate)**

*Looking for a replacement plane blade or a special purpose tool?*

*Why not consider making it?*

Cutting tools such as small chisels and blades for combination planes can be made from Gauge Plate.

### **What is Gauge Plate?**

Precision Ground Flat Stock is tool steel surface ground to accurate dimensions and sold annealed. After shaping Gauge Plate can be hardened and tempered.

Oil hardening is the easiest type to harden and temper.

Precision Ground Flat Stock is usually "oil hardening".

### **Where do you buy it?**

Try your local Engineer's Supplier.

### **How do I set out Gauge Plate?**

Wipe off any oil from the steel and *blue* the surface. A felt pen does a good job of *bluing*.

Try square, sharp scribe, Jenny Calipers and centre punch marks will show as white on the *bluing*.

### **How do I cut Gauge Plate?**

Use a fine sharp hacksaw blade (32TPI) and cut at a low angle with long slow strokes. Finish to the line with second cut files followed by draw filing with smooth files.

### **How do I harden Gauge Plate?**

Heat in a gas flame to blood red and quench in oil. Cooking oil is ideal. The steel will be glass hard after quenching.

### **How do I temper Gauge Plate?**

Two methods of tempering are;

a) One heat method

Quench at blood red and pull the steel out of the quench medium. While hot rub the quenched end with abrasive cloth. Watch the bright metal and when the colour is *straw* quench and leave in the oil until cold. With practice you can remove the quenched metal, count to twelve and drop into the oil until cold. With practice you find *what count pace works for you*.

b) Two heat method

Quench at blood red and leave the metal in the oil until cold. Polish the surface and gently reheat until the colour runs to *straw*.

If you have an electric furnace with temperature gauge and quench oil you can follow the instructions on the Gauge Plate's paper wrapper.

It is important not to over-heat the steel. Water can be used to quench oil hardening steel but if the steel is too hot stress fractures may ruin the steel and waste your time.

***If in doubt pay a specialist!***

## **Bristol Plane Makers**

### ***From Cornish Workshop***

Pete R is in the research stages of a book on Bristol plane makers, and thus zeroed in on the remembrances of Greenslade's of that city. Alas, I have no further information, but this seemed like as good a place as any to flag up that he's currently researching journeyman plane makers, but would presumably be interested in any information on the plane makers of Bristol, if anyone out there has any. A long shot, I know, but it's funny how folks wander along with all sorts of knowledge and we might as well tap it as not.

If you have anything, drop me an email or a message in the comments box, and I'll put you in touch with Pete.

### ***About Cornish Workshop***

Alice's Blog is compulsive reading. The *Cornish Workshop* website contains a wealth of information on all aspects of traditional tools.

### **Planing Complex Mouldings**

From the last well attended *Planes* workshop it is apparent there is demand for a mouldings workshop.

*This will be offered in the second half of 2013 subject to sufficient demand.*

Includes sharpening moulding planes

## **Stanley 55 & 45 Plane**

At the Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> Planes workshop Peter Smith demonstrated how to use a Stanley 45 and a Stanley 55. Peter recounted his motivation to master these planes and the many challenges he eventually overcame.

The participants were spell bound by Peter's use of these planes, and also by his clear explanations.

Peter's demonstration was followed by Bob Crosbie demonstrating the versatility of the wooden plough plane and the "easy to use" metal versions of the wood plough plane.

After showing the Record 043 and 044 planes in action Bob spoke about the realities of buying old combination planes.

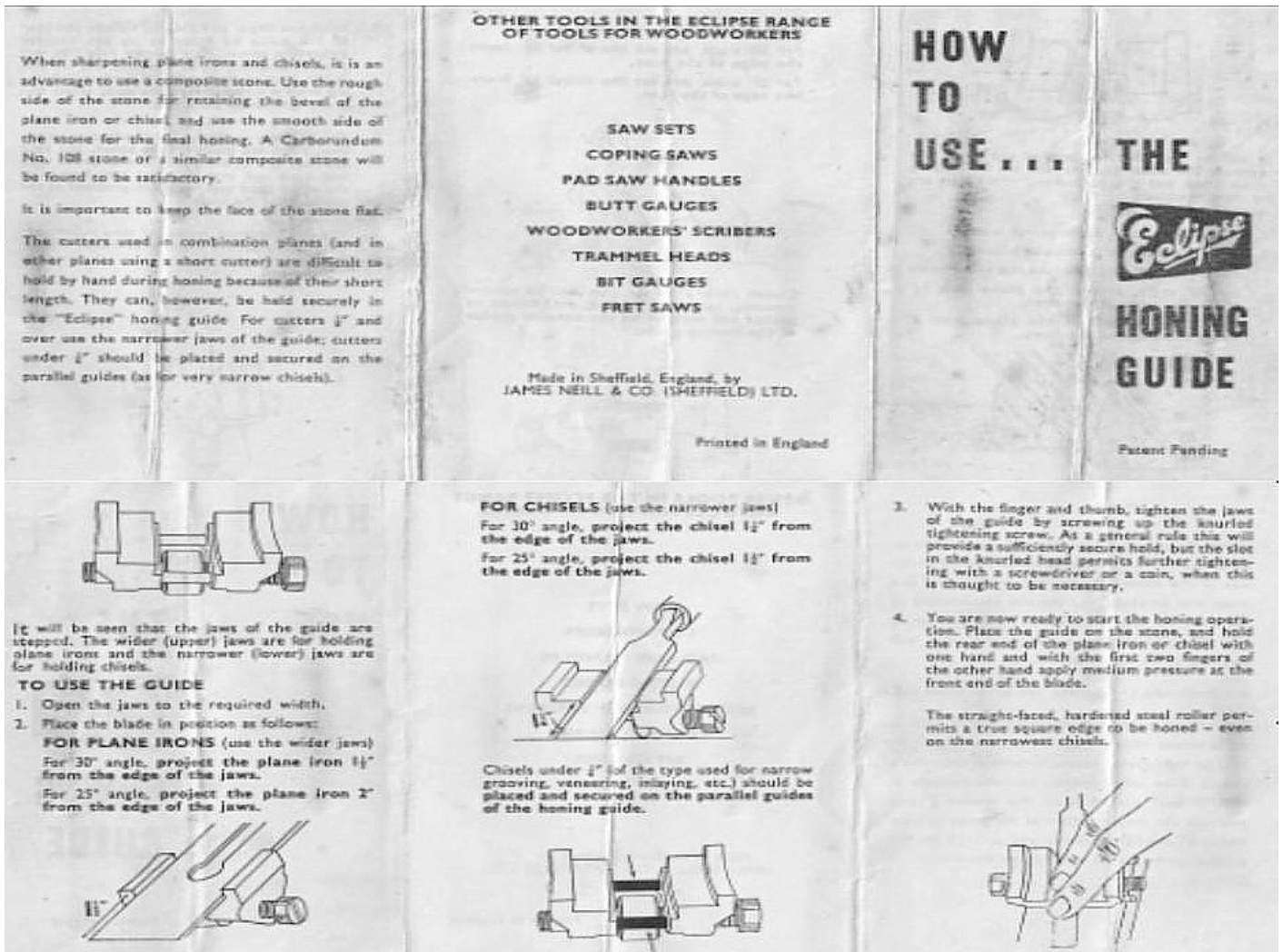
Peter showed how to cut complex mouldings with a 55. This led to a few cries of "what about hollows and rounds?" After demonstrating the use of the plough plane and the metal combination planes, Bob talked about shoulder planes and the various types of rebate planes.

A Record 043 was used to clean up a rebate cut with an early Stanley 78. This led to a discussion of the merits of buying old or new planes.

Bob suggested prospective buyers should talk to Jim Davey about some excellent quality affordable new planes made by Wood River.

The workshop ended with a large hollow planed with a #18 Round.

## Eclipse Honing Guide 36



The *NEWS* editor is of this opinion *the Eclipse Honing Guide is the most effective and easy to use of the numerous honing guides.* The qualification being "make sure to get a genuine old Eclipse guide".

A real bonus is the large number of old Eclipse Honing Guide available and the low price of an old Eclipse.

At TTTG Sharpening Workshops the Eclipse Honing Guide is always demonstrated and the simplicity and effectiveness of the guide is apparent to the participants.

I recently found an Eclipse Honing Guide in the original box with the instruction leaflet. Enjoy reading.

### Old Instruction Leaflets

The editor is always interested in old tool instruction leaflets, to reprint in *NEWS* and to include on the TTTG Web Site as an "Old Instructions Archive".

## Websites

### TTTG Member review

*This page is an opportunity for TTTG members to review any interesting websites they have found for the benefit of readers.*

<http://pegsandtails.wordpress.com/2009/11/10/sharpening-a-moulding-plane/>

If you like obscure/arcane/bloody-big words, heaped together with quite practical observations/opinions/research on the art/history/development of the cabinetmakers labours/techniques/results over the last 300 or so years, you might do worse than give this site a visit."

I've got to slow down on the grog

Ray Gurney

### Traditional Joiner

[https://open.abc.net.au/posts/frank-s-story-28rw2ce?WT.mc\\_id=Radio\\_Radio-Open-OpenPost](https://open.abc.net.au/posts/frank-s-story-28rw2ce?WT.mc_id=Radio_Radio-Open-OpenPost)

Brad van Luyt recommends this feature to *NEWS* readers.

### Old Widder Women

<http://cornishworkshop.blogspot.com.au/>

Visiting Alice's site and clicking on to her blog is a rewarding experience.

### SecondHandTools.co.uk

<http://www.secondhandtools.co.uk/links-east-devon.htm>

This is a site to visit regularly. Great range of old tools, accurate descriptions, good photographs. The prices are an indication of the market value of quality tools.



Hans Brunner has added this site to his links. Well worth a look.

#### **NEWS Editor's Favourite Web Sites**

This is a tough call but these are my favourites;

Hans Brunner Tools                      Cornish Workshop

SecondHandTools.co.uk              Carter Planes

Patrick Leach's monthly tools for sale list

#### **Web Surfers**

Found a great web site?

Addicted to a web site?

Not happy with a web site?

#### **Share your web adventure**

Other TTTG members are keen to find the best tool and technology web sites.

#### **Email the NEWS editor**

A few words about the site and the address is all the editor needs!

## Around the Websites

Tom Marinov

The WWW is a wonderful thing and provides a venue for all sorts of “experts” to express their views on how things were done or should be done, some of it is dubious or wrong.

Whilst TTTG often frowns on such modernity there may be some small gems of wisdom in amongst the clutter. In the absence of a good trade training system we are reduced to learning from wherever we can get the information. The following websites provide some value and are of some credit to the authors

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

This website is written by Phil Thien (USA) The website is along the lines of a workshop blog and has some useful resources in it.

Of note is a useful dust/chip separator for use with vacuum systems that is fairly simple.

The physics of the dust separation is fascinating and is not intuitive. The argument about earthing plastic pipes is ongoing. Not that any TTTG Inc. member would dare to be generating enough dust to need a dust extractor.

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

This website is written by two chaps in Michigan USA to promote their store and skills based courses.

Shaker Oval boxes are simple hand-made bent wood round boxes that are undergoing the inevitable American revival. They are however a nice project and qualify as TTTG ready.

The website has a good piece on making Shaker Oval boxes.

There are some good resources in the website pdf gallery link including articles about making your own tools, projects and a promotional extract of a book on making planes. The extract section has some excellent detail on the geometry involved.

***Around the Websites*** will bring more sites of interest in the forthcoming issues of *NEWS* readers are encouraged to let us know of useful sites.

As the Roman’s used to say,

“Vox populi ..”

### **From Virtual to Real**

You can learn a lot from the WWW as well as from books and magazines but when it comes to learning practical skills nothing equals “hands on”.

TTTG offers regular “skills based” “hands on” workshops.

When TTTG secures a home base the extent of the workshops will expand.

If you have an idea for a TTTG Workshop, contact the TTTG Committee.

## Toilet Cleaner and Tools

Chris Schwarz

Popular Woodworking Blog

*On Saturday, I ran into Charles while visiting the Woodworkers of Central Ohio. During our chat he mentioned he had been using “The Works” toilet bowl cleaner to strip rust from tools and hardware. And, he said, it’s about \$1.50 for a 32 oz. bottle.*

*Intrigued, I picked some up at Home Depot and gave it a try today. I was shocked how quickly it removed some crusty rust from some T-hinges that have been sitting around the shop. Then I dunked some zinc-plated steel plates in the stuff. In 30 minutes it had stripped them bare – it took citric acid about six hours to do the same task.*

*Then I tried it on black oxide. I dumped some Acorn hinges into the solution and within 30 minutes I could wipe away the oxide and see bare metal.*

*What’s the catch? The Works is 20% hydrogen chloride. It is nasty stuff. You don’t want to touch it, breathe its fumes or get it inside you in any way. But when you are done with it you can put it in your toilet and it cleans it of lime scale, rust and hard water stains.*

*I do not like nasty chemicals. When I use them, I use them in small amounts, with great care and only when I think it is the best solution.*

*If you decide you want to use “The Works,” download its MSDS. Read up on hydrogen chloride. And check up on the product at its web site. Use it with great care and adequate protection.*

*Christopher Schwarz*

Chris is a contributing editor to Popular Woodworking Magazine and the publisher at Lost Art Press. He's a hand-tool enthusiast (though he uses power tools, too).

### TTTG Editor’s comment

I like to occasionally search the blogs of people I respect so this research isn’t too time consuming. Read Chris’s words carefully and if you are so inclined try out a local toilet cleaner for removing rust. Frankly I’m looking forward to the first comments!

Here are two intelligent online replies to Chris worth reprinting;

*-It did not work as well as Evapo Rust and is more dangerous*

*-I imagine some would post warnings if you suggested the use of butter, and a toothbrush.*

The editor offers two comments;

**-TTTG Citric Acid is safer**

**-TTTG Citric Acid is cheaper**

Before using any form of chemicals consider fine abrasive and oil or if you’re flush with cash *Evapo Rust*.

## Saw Filing Devices

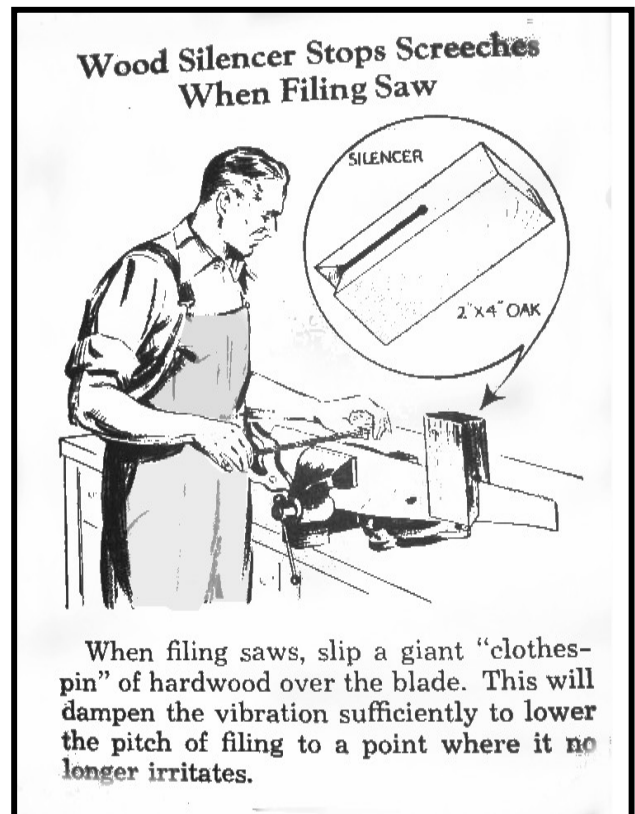
Matt Pryor sent these tips from Popular Mechanics Shop Notes , October 1939

Both these ideas have merit. The *Silencer* is a simple and inexpensive way to reduce the noise generated when filing.

Including a spring over each bolt in a saw holding frame would make setting up the saw a lot easier and more rapid.

Making a saw filing frame gets over the inconvenience of sharpening saws in short vices. The design in the bottom extract is good.

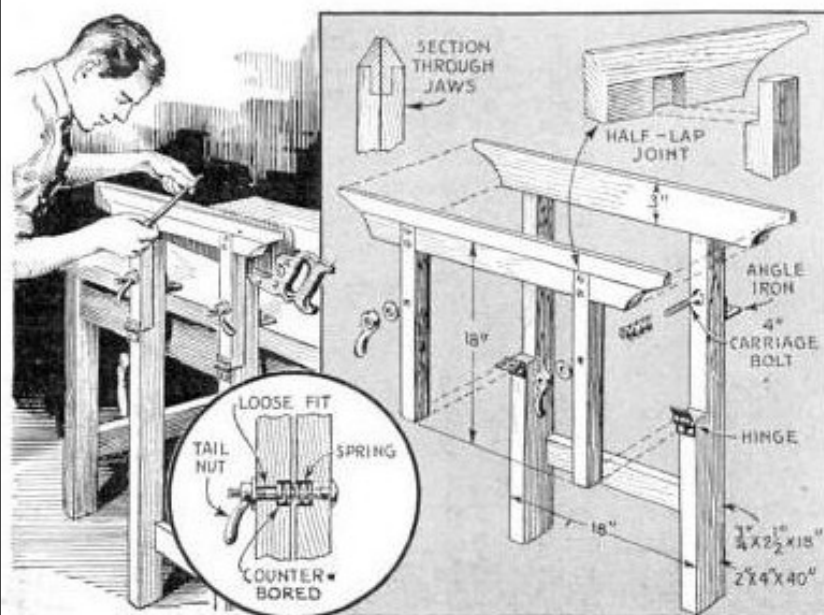
*There will be another Saw Filing Workshop offered by TTTG in the second half of the year.*



## Saw Vise Has Long Jaws Opened by Pressure Springs

Once you have clamped a hand saw between the long jaws of this sturdy vise, you can complete a job of filing the teeth

without stopping to shift the blade. The vertical members of the vise are 2 by 4-in. stock ripped in half 20 in. down the center and joined together at the bottom with a stretcher notched flush in the edges. The jaws, shaped and beveled as shown, are notched on the face side to take the half-lap upper ends of the vertical members. After boring and counterboring each cut-out piece to take a short coil spring and bolt, they are hinged in place as indicated. When the tail nuts, fitted to the 3/8-in. carriage bolts, are loosened the springs force the jaws apart, making it convenient to insert or remove the work.



## **Ranting & Raving**

The *NEWS* editor hopes this will become a regular page in *NEWS*.

**Ranting & Raving** is a chance for reader's to express an opinion that may verge on the irrational.

*Of course the NEWS editor will not publish any offensive material.*

To kick start **Ranting & Raving** the editor offers his observations on a subject of personal angst.

## **Oil Cans that do not leak**

I can remember using oil cans that did not leak. But this is a distant memory almost lost in time's mist.

Years ago I gave up on buying new oil cans as they invariably leaked. Yes there were a few that did not leak but they had mechanisms to pump the oil that quickly failed.

Old oil cans proved to be as big a disappointment. The first hurdle was cleaning the old oilcan. What do some people put in oil cans? Bad memories of soaking old oil cans in solvents only to discover pinhole rust spots or open seams.

I have one old late nineteenth to early twentieth century American oil can that would not leak but I need to find the right size leather washers that fit this oil can!

A few years ago I decided to put all my oil cans in storage and find another way to store and squirt oil.

*The search is ongoing!*

The following are the alternatives I work tested in chronological order.

### a) Glass Cornwall Vinegar Bottle

This is the ideal truncated shape with an open/close nozzle.

However they are glass and a fall is messy and potentially bloody.

### b) Rabbit Gage Water Bottle

These are made of plastic and very strong, they have to be to survive use by a rabbit. The nozzle is metal and a floating ball bearing gravity feeds the liquid. I used one of these for a number of years but some of the oil does run down the bottle and the bottle has to be squeezed to start the oil flowing.

*The Rabbit Gage Water Bottle is far better than a leaking oil can and safer than a glass jar but there must be better oil can substitutes.*

I tried a number of other types of plastic bottles but none of these food dispersers proved satisfactory. Then chance intervened!

### c) Plastic Honey Bottle


There they were in a supermarket "half price" bin, truncated plastic honey bottles with a screw nozzle. Nothing wrong with good cheap local honey so I purchased one. When the honey had been eaten I cleaned the container and tried out my new "oil can". *Perfect oil can.*

For oil on oilstones and diamond stones I use White Spirit

100 Years Ago

## The Latest New Tool

# Stanley Tools



**Stanley Curve Rabbet Plane**

**Another New Stanley Plane  
That Will Undoubtedly  
Be of Great Interest to  
All Workers in Wood**

**I**T WILL cut rabbets on circular or other curved and irregular edges. It works equally well whether the rabbet is to be cut on the outside edges of the work or on the edges of openings cut out of the surface of the work. It is provided with two cutters fastened together by a screw in such relation one to the other as the work in hand requires. The upper cutter acts as a spur for the lower and also cuts the side of the rabbet. The lower cutter is a skew cutter which follows the spur and cleanly cuts the bottom of the rabbet. The stock and handle are cast in one piece. The plane is fitted with an adjustable depth gauge. The fence is also adjustable and has a curved face.

**The Entire Tool is Handsomely  
Nickel Plated**

If you cannot procure one of these planes at your regular hardware dealers write us direct.

ADDRESS

**Stanley Rule & Level Co.**  
NEW BRITAIN, CONN. U.S.A.

## Stanley 196 Curved Rebate Plane

One hundred years after this advert in Popular Mechanics January 1913, the 196 plane is one of the rarer Stanley planes valued by Hans Brunner from \$600-\$1200. The 196 was in production from 1912 to 1934.

The editor was privileged to handle a very fine Stanley 196 plane, from Fred Murrell's collection, when he gave the last TTTG presentation.

The 196 is an impressive but also a fragile plane. There are parts to "lose" and the plane is unlikely to survive rough usage or a fall.

The short production period and the high probability of lost parts and breakage were the ingredients for the 196 plane becoming rare.

Despite Stanley's claims the 196 probably had little appeal to the average woodworker in the twenty years the plane was in production.

The unusual appearance and the scarcity of the 196 plane are the features making the 196 desirable to Tool Collectors.

***Hans' warns to be on the alert for fake Stanley 196 planes.***

The best current guide to Stanley planes is without question  
Hans Brunner

**Stanley Planes**

**An Australian Guide to  
Identification and Value**

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

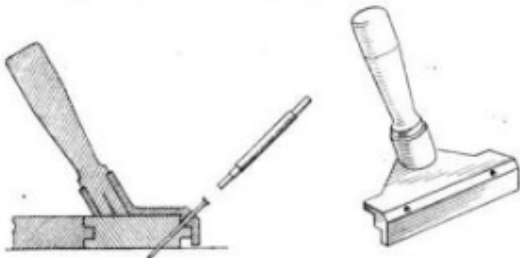
## Mystery Tool

Popular Mechanics July 1912

Both the Secret Nailing Tool and the Double Claw Hammer have all the symptoms of a “good idea” but were they ever used?

### COMBINED FLOOR SET, NAIL SET AND SHIELD

An ingenious device, designed to facilitate the laying of hardwood floors, was recently patented by an



A Device Which Materially Aids in the Laying of Floors

inventor of Lawrence, Kansas. It makes possible an accurate set of the boards, an accurate driving of the nails at the correct angle, and also protects the floor from being bruised during the operation of driving the nails through the holes.

STRIKE LIFT DRIVE  
No Strain When High Nailing  
**DOUBLE CLAW HAMMER**  
“for the mechanic with an ambition to succeed”  
16 oz. or 21 oz. Head — WHICH?  
\$1.50 at your dealer's  
or from us, delivery prepaid.  
Worth ten times more than the common  
hammer — costs three times more to make.  
**DOUBLE CLAW HAMMER CO.**  
START 453 Broadway OUT  
Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Pulls The  
Nail Out  
Straight  
Without  
A Block

Popular Mechanics September 1912

*The double claw hammer is a very rare tool. Collectors are always being warned about forgeries of these hammers. Perhaps it would be interesting to try one but I doubt many carpenters bought one.*

## Cleaning Oilstones

Quality *new* oilstones and slip stones are both hard to find and expensive.

Quality *old* oilstones and slip stones are both plentiful and inexpensive.

But quality old oilstones and slip stones are usually filthy with dried oil.

An artificial stone, such as an *India*, may be saturated with old dry oil.

A natural stone, such as a *Washita*, may have a glass hard skin of dry oil.

Both types of stone will smell like rotten meat or dead fish.

This “*terminal oils stone condition*” was caused by using Neatsfoot Oil.

Old oilstones can be easily cleaned by soaking in White Spirit.

Old oilstones can be flattened using a Diamond Plate and White Spirit.

## Planing Mouldings

Recently a few of the “experts” have been demonstrating using hollows and rounds to plane mouldings. This would be fine if they were demonstrating correct technique. The method shown is to start sinking the moulding by first using *snipes* and *bills*.

This method does work but it is slow compared to the traditional method. For the record this is how non-standard mouldings are made efficiently using hand planes.

- 1) Draw the profile on the end
- 2) Gauge all the *sinking* lines
- 3) Rebate or Plough *sinking* lines
- 4) Sink with snipes and bills
- 5) Shape with hollows and rounds

Any moulding *quirks* are started with the plough.

### **Demonstration**

TTTG will be demonstrating how to plane moulding at the 2013 Timber and Working With Wood Show.

### **Workshop**

In the second half of 2013 TTTG will offer a workshop on planing simple and complex mouldings.

### **The TTTG Tool Collection**

The Tool Collection has a large number of moulding planes. *TTTG always welcomes donations.*

## Shooting Board Plane

Andrew contacted the editor for advice on shooting board planes.

*I have been using my Record #5 with a well-tuned & sharp blade on the shooting board but I am having below par success trimming up some aged Ironbark so I thought the #53 with the 45 degree blade would solve my problem.*

The editor replied,

Aged ironbark! Wood this hard will put an enormous shock load on the frog of the old Stanley shooting board plane, most of the frogs in these planes fail with normal usage. The Lie Nielsen version has a far better frog.

This plane is expensive but if you can afford one probably worth buying. [www.lie-nielsen.com](http://www.lie-nielsen.com)

I would beef up the plane. Go for a number 6 or 7. The cheapest and best option for a shooting board would be a Pope or Pope/Falcon 6 or 7 with a cast iron frog.

These planes are cheap for some reason. I usually pay \$30-\$40 for a Pope 6. This gives you the "saving" to then fit one of the IBC blades which Jim Davey sells.

[www.jimdavey-planes-sharpening.com](http://www.jimdavey-planes-sharpening.com)

Ironbark will need a sharp finely set blade and it will still be hard work. An IBC blade is worth fitting.

## Review

### **The Pinnacle of Plane Tuning Part 1 of a 3 part series**

David Charlesworth

Furniture and Cabinetmaking  
Issue 200-Winter 2012

This is an excellent treatise on how to tune a metal bodied plane. Anyone unable to attend a TTTG Jim Davey Plane Tuning workshop should buy a copy of the magazine.

David explains the mechanics of the Stanley type bench plane in a very clear manner. Technique is the key to success when trying to tune any type of plane.

Readers are introduced to the engineer's scraper with a good description of how to make one from an old file. The use of files and lapping abrasives in achieving a flat surface is very well covered.

David centres the article on fitting an IBC replacement blade to an old #5 plane. He strongly recommends fitting a new IBC blade and cap iron assembly. These blades are made by Rob Crosman. Locally they are available from Jim Davey.

Tuning a metal plane involves a big investment in time and often in buying replacement parts. David is tuning a Stanley USA vintage pre-WW2 plane and recommends only spending time and money on a plane that warrants the outlay. The explanation of frog adjustment is outstanding.

### **Setting Up Shop**

The Taunton Press Inc. 2013

*The first 2013 Fine Woodworking magazine format publication is Setting Up Shop. (\$19.95)*

The editor purchased a copy to see if it contained any good ideas for setting up a safe workshop without taking out a second mortgage.

There is good information in this publication but when it comes to not "*throwing money at it*" there is little offered. Even when setting out to maximise space Americans seem to pack as much as possible.

Buy *Setting Up Shop* and you will enjoy looking at the pictures and reading the articles. Keep things in focus, a good workshop doesn't need \$2000 benches, brand new machines and rare hand tools.

*Setting Up Shop* has these chapters

- 1) Shop Layout
- 2) Benches and Work Areas
- 3) Storing Tools, Lumber, Supplies
- 4) Dust Collection, Compressed Air
- 5) Shop Safety

Chapter 2 Benches & Work Areas contains some good ideas and the photographs will be a revelation to many readers, so much space!

Chapter 3 Storing Tools, Lumber, Supplies, contains a few good wall tool cabinet designs. Tool collectors will enjoy identifying the tools.

*Setting up Shop* will give hours of reading and dreaming about tools.

## Review

*I was then apprenticed to a chap on the station who specialised in fencing and yard making. He taught me to be a good axeman, that what makes a good axeman is being able to 'do up' an axe properly, as we did on the sandstone grinder wheel. You can't be any good if you haven't a sharp axe. I was only fourteen, but I was fully grown and as strong as two men. I used to have races with him to see who could finish cutting a hundred fence posts first. If he wasn't there, I'd race against myself: I'd cut a hundred posts one day, bore a hundred post holes the next, and stand up a hundred posts on the third day.*

Jackson's Track  
Memoir of a Dreamtime Place  
Daryl Tonkin & Carolyn Landon  
Viking 1999

Any TTTG member will learn a great deal about timber getting and timber processing from reading this book. The technical content includes;

- Using and sharpening axes
- Using and sharpening cross cut and circular break down saws
- Felling trees with axe and saw
- Splitting posts and palings
- Building post and rail fences
- Building horse and cattle yards
- Building bark huts
- Building slab huts
- Building an iron chimney
- Making boomerangs.

In 1937 Daryl and Harry Tonkin purchased a regrowth forest block in rural Victoria. The brothers intended to clear the trees and run a farm. By the early 1960s Daryl was still in the forest cutting timber, first for Harry's timber yard in town and later selling split and sawn timber to timber yards.

The brothers' sister Mavis developed the business side of the operation. Mavis also drove a wedge between the Tonkin brothers.

Both Daryl and Harry were old time bushmen and soon lost any interest in farming. Harry was the one with an eye for business; Daryl loved work and the community he worked with.

By the time of Mavis's appearance at the Tonkin's bush mill Harry had set up a timber yard in town and Daryl had set up camp with a local woman. By the 1960's Daryl selectively logged the regrowth forest assisted by a hard working work force who settled with their families along Jackson's Track.

From his wife and workers Daryl came to appreciate the country he chanced on as a young man. Mavis turned on him after Harry's early death and a series of events forced Daryl and his extended family out of the forest.

Daryl sold some of his land to farm developers in the early sixties and the Shire Council improved a major road.

The bush community was now visible and the move was on to tidy up the area. The families Daryl had lived and worked with for over twenty years now were forced to move into the town.

Members are encouraged to read this book with an open mind. If they do they will learn more than hand skills.

## **TTTG's Workshop**

When TTTG secures a home base, setting up a safe workshop in the most economical manner will be a number one priority. TTTG will need to make workbenches and wall mounted tool cabinets.

Machines will be kept to "what is really needed" so they will be a minor cost item.

The Committee is confident the search for a *home* will succeed.

The process of designing the TTTG workshop is well in hand. Already two prototype workbenches have been made by the TTTG President. One prototype bench has been tested at the TTTG workshops.

The TTTG President is amazed at the cost of commercial benches, the cheaper ones being very poorly made and the expensive ones being over designed. A good work bench should be a working tool and not a piece of elite dining room furniture.

In the past solid wood was the only suitable material for work benches. Building grade wood was always selected, such as *Merchant Grade Oregon* or reclaimed timber.

Today we have access to a range of manufactured boards and cheap but reliable adhesives. Why not go the timber engineering route when manufacturing work benches?

*The challenge is to design suitable workshop equipment and to make it at the lowest cost.*

## **Timber Engineering**

For the bench framing the decision was to laminate 12mm CD Ply. The glue selected was Tite-Bond Type 3

For the bench top the decision was to use 12mm or 17mm CD Ply or 32mm thick wet area particle board. The edges of the top have to be lipped with solid timber.

Laminating ply layers and pattern routing, produces end and side frames fairly quickly. These frames can be as thin as 48mm (four layers of 12mm CD ply) but they are immensely strong as the frames are bolted together at the corners. Such construction resists lateral stock loads very well. Even the bolts are reasonably priced!

Prototype Bench 1 has solid soft wood core frames sheathed with CD ply. Prototype Bench 2 has the frames made from laminated 12mm and 17mm CD ply layers.

The top of Prototype Bench1 is braced 17mm CD ply. The top of Prototype Bench2 is 32mm thick wet area particle board. Both tops are lipped with solid wood.

*Prototype Bench 3 is in production.*

## **Traditional Joinery**

To see if the first three prototype benches are the most economical solution Prototype Bench 4 will be made from solid timber. This may be kiln dried treated pine. *Someone may donate reclaimed timber to TTTG to make this bench*



## **TTTG Annual Tool Sale**



**TTTG Annual  
Tool Sale**

