

# NEWS 139



**October 2014**

**TTTG Inc.**

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

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## **Cover**

Great Britain Safety Poster 1941

### **Next Meeting**

Tuesday 14 October 2014  
Annie Wyatt Room  
National Trust Centre  
Observatory Hill Sydney

### **Planes:**

A DVD entitled "Forging a Custom Hinge" will be shown. This DVD covers a wide variety of blacksmithing techniques from custom jigs to cold forming, fire welding, punch piercing and precision filing. Don't miss it!

*Also a display of*

### **Chinese Woodworking Tools**

*From Fred Murrell's Collection*

### **Auction**

The Annual General Meeting will conclude with a member's auction.  
*Many bargains at low prices!*

### **Auction Rules**

*The tools to be auctioned will be under cover before the auction.*

### **TTTG Membership \$40**

*For a modest annual subscription members receive a quality newsletter*

### **Workshops \$40**

**Note that TTTG members can earn a 25% discount for a TTTG Workshop by attending more than one Workshop.**

## **TTTG Inc.**

### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

The general meetings are at the National Trust Centre 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.***

### ***TTTG Inc. Contacts***

#### **Postal Address**

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

### ***NEXT MEETING***

Tuesday 14 October 2014

**National Trust Centre**  
Observatory Hill Sydney

**Forging a Custom Hinge**  
*Also a display of*  
**Chinese Woodworking Tools**

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

### **Donations to TTTG**

The Traditional Tools Group accepts donations of old tools and machinery.

TTTG does not offer a "*clear out everything in the garage*" service.  
TTTG cannot guarantee to pick up donated tools immediately.

### **Bequests to TTTG**

What will happen to your tools? Consider leaving your collection to TTTG.

***UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL TTTG OFFER VALUATIONS OF TOOLS***

## **Next Meeting**

Tuesday 14 October 2014  
Annie Wyatt Room  
National Trust Centre  
Observatory Hill Sydney

## **Blacksmithing DVD**

A one hour DVD entitled "Forging a Custom Hinge" will be shown. This DVD covers a wide variety of blacksmithing techniques from custom jigs to cold forming, fire welding, punch piercing and precision filing. This is a particularly informative DVD from the publishers of Fine Woodworking and should be of great interest to our members based on the popularity of our blacksmithing workshops.

*Also a display of*

## **Chinese Woodworking Tools**

from the Fred Murrell Collection

## ***The Auction***

More donations rolling in!  
More bargain price tools snapped up by the tool hungry audience.  
*Good and also-ran user tools will be under the auctioneers' hammer.*

## **Last Meeting**

## **Annual General Meeting and Slide night**

2014/5 Committee was elected.  
The TTTG Executive is:

*Bob Crosbie*

President & NEWS Editor

*Mike Williams*

Secretary & Public Officer

*Clynt Sheehy*

Treasurer

*Peter Tierney*

Asst. Treasurer

*Matt Pryor*

Events Coordinator

*John Bates*

Promotion

*Rick Mitchell*

Librarian

*George Saddler*

Web Coordinator

*Fred Murrell*

Committee

## **Blacksmithing DVD**

## ***Forging a Striking Knife***

The audience enjoyed this DVD and there was a lively discussion of the contents after the showing. Again the meeting was full to the capacity of the Annie Wyatt Room. The Auction was disappointing due mainly to the paucity of donations and the unwillingness of the audience to make serious bids.

## ***The Traditional Tools Group Inc. Tool Collection & Library***

The TTTG Tool Collection is being gradually moved to Brush Farm House. The Library collection also is being gradually moved to Brush Farm House.

Eventually the Tools and Library will be open to TTTG members.

## **Volunteers Wanted**

TTTG needs volunteers to catalogue the Tool Collection and the Library.

***Contact the TTTG Librarian if you can help***

**The Next TTTG Workshops**

**at Brush Farm House**

**# Saw Sharpening**

19 October

*Learn how to sharpen hand saws*

**# Planes: Advanced**

16 November

*Discover the potential of hand planes*

These are “hands on” workshops and participants are encouraged to bring a few tools to sharpen and to practise the skills demonstrated.

**Work Health and Safety**

The Traditional Tools Group Inc. supports Work Health and Safety laws.

Participants at TTTG workshops must wear safe clothing and footwear.

*At the start of all TTTG workshops the participants are given a site induction where they are made aware of TTTG’s expectations and also warned about any possible potential hazards on the site.*

The *Brush Farm House* workshops are held in **Forster Hall**.

*Forster Hall* is a large WHS compliant community hall

**FOOTWEAR AT TTTG WORKSHOPS**

Shoes with enclosed leather uppers must be worn at all Workshops.

**# Tool Swap and Social Day**

**at Brush Farm House**

*“Members only Day”*

14 December

*An opportunity for members to explore Brush Farm House and to swap tools*

*See traditional trades in action*

*Green Wood Turning*

*Blacksmithing and Joinery*

**The Tool Swap will be in Forster Hall**

**Members and partners \$5  
Join TTTG on the day for \$40**

**The Ledger**      *Clynt Sheehy*

**New Members**

Narhan Keefe	M731
Ian Davidson	M732
Ian Johnson	M733
Michael Jedniuk	M734
Jamie Snodgrass	M735
Hannah Snowden	M736
Mark Kozanic	M737

**TTTG Workshops**

The next workshops are:

**Saw Sharpening**      19th October

**Advanced Planes**    16th November

**Workshop Venue**

Brush Farm House  
19 Lawson Street Eastwood.

*Come along and pay on the day.*

**Strong shoes with leather uppers  
and sensible clothing required.**

**About the workshops**

For the **Saw Sharpening** bring a blunt handsaw. Start with a saw having fairly coarse teeth rather than with a fine-toothed saw.

Beginners should not be deterred by title of **Advanced Planes**.

The workshop covers plane using skills and the various planes used for specialised processes.

Bring your problem or mystery plane and learn how to use it.

Jim Davey always has a very large selection of planes, plane parts and sharpening equipment for sale at very competitive prices.

TTTG will be selling old user tools and spare parts at good prices.

These workshops also provide an opportunity to have a look inside historic Brush Farm House.

**TTTG at Brush Farm House**

Brush Farm House is an historic property in the Sydney suburb of Eastwood.

The Brush Farm Estate was established in 1807 and the house built in 1820.

*Brush Farm House is one of Australia's oldest houses and one of the most substantial residential buildings surviving from the Macquarie period.*

The TTTG Library will eventually be open to the public one day each week.

The TTTG Tool Collection will also be open to the public one day each week.

TTTG has regular skills based workshops in Forster Hall Brush Farm House.

At various periods trade skills were taught to juveniles at Brush Farm House.



## 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

## **2015 TTTG Workshops**

Brush Farm House

***During 2015 TTTG will offer more workshops in Forster Hall.***

Planes      Saws      Chisels      Dovetailing      and more!

***Also in 2015 a series of Trade Heritage Workshops***

Carpentry      Joinery      Bricklaying      Stone Masonry      Glazing

***New TTTG Events in 2015***

Traditional Trades Fair

Australian Tool Makers' Fair

## Correspondence

**Heritage** from Odd Kristensen

In the August issue of the TTTG newsletter there is much space dedicated to heritage and Men's Sheds, implying that the sheds may be less than respectful when it comes to work on heritage items. Surely, most of the responsibility for ensuring that heritage items are treated with the respect they deserve rests with the owners of the items. Who would commission work on a valuable item in their possession without ensuring that the people commissioned to do the work have the necessary skills and equipment to do the work properly? I have not had anything to do with Men's Sheds and don't know what their capabilities are – maybe they need to communicate better what they can and can't do, but it seems a bit rash to make such sweeping statements about Men's Sheds organisation's general lack of understanding of heritage.

### **Editor's reply**

If nothing else I have started a debate! The issue of heritage items is complex and often the owners of heritage items are not aware of the significance of the items.

The Men's Sheds organisations seem to have no awareness of the historical value of old tools and machines donated to Men's Sheds. On the other side it amazes me how historical groups allow Men's

Sheds to "repair" heritage items. I'm not prepared to apologise for raising this issue. Similarly the issue of Men's Sheds and Work Health and Safety needs to be discussed. I support the Men's Sheds movement as it addresses significant issues relating to men's health and welfare. However Men's Sheds should not be dangerous work places.

### **A reply from Odd Kristensen**

As you can tell, I am of the view that if the owner does not care, does not know or even does not have the means to pay for the right level of expertise; it is difficult for someone else to take on the role of custodian of a heritage item.

It will be interesting to see what reaction you will get from the organisation itself.

From my limited exposure to their promotional material, I thought they saw themselves more as social institutions rather than as centres of craftsmanship. As such, I agree with you that they are important.

As for the safety issue, I don't know enough about Men's Sheds operations to comment, but it is obviously a topic of importance and warrants discussion.

*TTTG supports Men's Sheds but issues need to be discussed.*

*TTTG is willing to arrange an assessment of any tools donated to a Men's Shed.*

## Correspondence

*from Stephen*

I just came across a few tools from about 1900 or earlier marked with Sydney tool merchant names - so I'm just wondering if any TTTG members now much about **Lassiters** and **T.Aitken** Sydney.

I have one G&T Gray back saw marked *made for - Lassiters Sydney*; (back markings pictured) and quite a few Berg chisels with the early fish logo (not the later shark) marked *T Aitken Sydney*.

Stephen thinks Aitken must have been earlier by how old this Berg mark is; based on a couple of internet articles, it is very close to c1900.

## Editor's reply

Additional information can be found at:

\*F Lassetter and Co  
by Michael Lech, 2011

[www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/f\\_lassetter\\_and\\_co](http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/f_lassetter_and_co)

\*

<http://sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/stories/sydneys-home-furnishing-stores-1890-1960>

Image of Lassetter's George Street frontage as illustrated in:

F Lassetter & Co, Furniture catalogue, Sydney, c1900.  
Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection. Photo © Sydney Living Museums TCQ 747.20491 LAS



### Donations to TTTG

TTTG accepts donations of old tools and machinery. Acceptance of donations is subject to the Committee's assessment. TTTG does not offer a "clear out everything in the garage" service. TTTG cannot guarantee to pick up donated tools immediately.

### Bequests to TTTG

What will happen to your tools? Consider leaving your collection to TTTG.

**TTTG DOES NOT OFFER VERBAL OR WRITTEN VALUATIONS OF TOOLS**

## **Stanley Knives,**

### ***In a Can***

From Brian Read TATHS

Just got News 138 and am amused by the article on Stanley Knives. I only have three usable ones, all 199's plus a couple of cheap imitation retractable ones but I also have a "can" of Stanley knives which I bought at a TATHS conference auction a few years ago and which has never been opened . It is the size of a beer can complete with a ring-pull on the top.

I suspect it was some form of commemorative issue, possibly 50 or 60th anniversary. In general I don't like having tools which I don't intend to use "one day", even if that day is a long way off.

My question is

#### ***should I open it?***

Will the knife in a can be more valuable in "mint" condition?

I have attached photographs of the can, just to make you jealous. (see page 12)

Incidentally the Stanley knife can was purchased at a TATHS conference and I think it was donated by an Australian visitor/member, there were certainly several Aussies there.

From Graeme Plaw HTPAA

I have never seen a Stanley knife in a can, however there were many short term promotions similar to this, both in USA and Australia.

I have had a go at dating Brian's Stanley Knife in a can!

It is my estimate that the items are quite new and would not have appeared prior to 2000/2.

I retired in 1999 and the knife designs displayed were not catalogued at that time. That is why I have not seen it before!

### ***Chocolate Stud Finder***

I recall when we released the Stanley Stud Finder, I had a friend who was GM at Cadbury and he made for me a quantity of Stud Finders made of Chocolate, which I packaged in carded shrink wrap and we presented one of them to each storekeeper who stocked the new product.

*Tools were fun in the old days!*

### ***Editor's Comment***

The chocolate Stanley Stud Finder has to be a top contender for the rarest tool! Have any survived?

The definitive article on the Stanley Knife was written by Graeme Plaw "The STANLEY Trimming Knife". November 2006 issue of The Tool Chest.  
*The HTPAA website has a Data Base of Australian Tool Manufacturers.*

## **Stanley Knives**

From Graeme Plaw HTPAA

I enjoyed reading "The Stanley Knife" in News 138. I had not seen this Octane article before. It reads quite accurately.

I was reminded by your article to re-read my article "The STANLEY Trimming Knife" in the Nov 2006 issue of The Tool Chest.

My article still remains accurate, however I now know that our HTPAA tool collection has a cast iron bodied 199 solid knife MADE IN ENGLAND (a very rustic design). This is very early and must have been made prior to aluminium bodies in England.

I have no evidence that a SOLID bodied 199 knife in cast iron was made in the USA. Only the 1299A Stanley knife in 1950.

Other than the 1299(17 hole) and the 1299A (solid) all other USA made knives were cast aluminium.

Glad you like collecting the 199, an Icon item in the Stanley Family.

I remember sending many legal documents out to companies in my working life, reminding them that the term "Stanley Knife" was a term owned by The Stanley Works and must not be used as a generic term for all trimming type knives. They were to cease and apologize to the company unless legal action be taken against them.

We were successful for many years, however the term has really now become a generic term for knives of this type. (were all my efforts a waste of time?)

### ***The Turner Knife***

You may care to know that the Turner copy knife was the first made with a Pressure Zinc Diecast body, the first design was heavier than the Stanley USA Aluminium body. This was later changed by a "World First" thin wall diecasting technique developed by Turner Manufacturing and became recognised and used throughout the world from then on for all zinc based items. This allowed the Zinc Diecast Body to be almost the same weight in the hand as the USA design.

You mention in your article that Turner made a 199 knife with retractable blade. Turner actually made two designs of knife.

A fixed blade model of the Stanley 299 knife called 299E and a Retractable blade model of the Stanley 99 knife called the 99E made from 1965 – 1970.

### ***Turner "no name" knife***

Turner never made a 199 design knife, and USA never made a 199 Retractable design knife. Turner did however make a no name copy of the 299E for chain stores in various colours.

### ***Stanley takes over Turner***

After the Stanley Works acquisition, these two knives in Zinc diecast were branded Stanley and remained in the line till 1992 when manufacturing ceased and imported items replaced the line.

### ***Stanley knife numbers***

To my knowledge Stanley have produced worldwide over 200 varieties of knives since 1936 and almost everyone of these has been copied by others.

### ***Wanted: 199 USA original***

I like you, do not have a 199 USA original, but I do have a 199 Made in England original Aluminium bodied model in my collection.

### ***Editor's comment***

Thanks Graeme for contributing to TTTG's knowledge of Turner, Titan and Stanley Australia.



*Brian Reads' Stanley Knife in a can*

## **TTTG Website**

The TTTG website was built several years ago and was an excellent adjunct to communication to both members and general browsers. However, software technology has moved apace and the website now looks decidedly old fashioned and awkward to use by today's standards.

Your committee has determined a new structure and engaged a software engineer to "massage" the existing website software into a more interesting and vibrant site which will be both easier to use and more appealing to members and visitors alike. Your favourite sections will all still be there and we anticipate that the new site will be up and running in a few weeks time.

## Stanley/Titan Knife

THE NATIONAL HARDWARE MAGAZINE

**MERCHANDISING: New 'Unirack'**  
New Products;  
Promotions;  
Sales Aids



A NEW "UNIRACK" (pictured above) has been introduced by Stanley-Titan Pty. Ltd. to accommodate the company's complete range of trimming knife blades.

The metal dispenser unit can be used as a free-stander or suspended from hooks on perforated hardboard wall panels. It is 15" high and 16" wide and, when used as a free-standing unit, 7" deep.

Stanley-Titan emphasises the following advantages: It encourages impulse sales of knives and replacement blades, allows quick stock checking and replenishment and provides mass display in a space-saving form.

The "unirack" is supplied free with stock and is cartoned as a ready-to-use unit. It mounts 2 packs (50 blades

**Holds Full Range**

per pack) of Standard blades, 1 50-pack each of Heavy Duty, Hooked, Angled, Concave, Convex and Scoring and 1 10-pack each of Saw Blades—Metal and Saw Blades—Wood.

Further details are available from the Australian selling agents, Slade, Allan & Co. Pty. Ltd., Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Perth.

*The National Hardware Magazine  
And Houseware Retailer  
Inc. "The Hammer"  
No. 125 November 1965*

Graeme Plaw Has provided a copy of the original artwork for the release of the Stanley Titan Knife. Graeme has this artwork in his tool collection. The artwork was by David Hopkins a Commercial Artist in Hobart and Graeme thinks Mercury Press printed it. He also has print soft plates for the advert; these were given as artwork for local storekeepers etc.

The advertisement top right corner of the next column was released 1965/6 at the same time as the Stanley Powerlock tape rule.

First Release from.....  
**STANLEY-TITAN**

**STANLEY**  
TRIMMING  
KNIVES



**No. 99 TRIMMING KNIFE  
RETRACTABLE BLADE**

Safety button projects and retracts blade from handle to three cutting positions—full out—intermediate and partially extended (ideal for opening cartons). Lightweight aluminium handle is die cast in two sections and provides storage space for extra blades. Contoured for easy grip and has handy hang hole. Furnished with 3 No. 1992 and 1 No. 1996 heavy duty blades. Finish in gun-metal hammered tone.

**No. 299 TRIMMING KNIFE  
2 WAY BLADE**



Handy two-way trimming knife cuts wood, plaster board, rubber, veneer, gaskets, patterns; handy for opening windows, pantries, tins. Aluminium handle is contoured to give a firm, comfortable full-grip. Die cast in two sections, held together with a screw that affords easy access to the extra blade storage space. Has handy hang hole. Furnished with 3 No. 1991 and 1 No. 1996 blades and blade guard. Finished in gun-metal hammered tone.

**No. 2299 S  
SAW—KNIFE SET**



Handy all-purpose saw knife cuts wood, metal, plaster board, plastics, veneer, fibre board, gaskets, patterns. Exclusive design permits use as a keyhole saw or knife. Aluminium die-cast handle holds three major sharp knife blades and protective blade guard. Has handy hang hole. Handle finished in gun-metal hammered tone. Furnished on individual card complete with wood cutting blade, metal cutting blade and three knife blades and blade guard in handle.

**STANLEY** "THE TOOL BOX OF THE WORLD"

STANLEY-TITAN PTY. LTD. HOBART TASMANIA AUSTRALIA  
LICENSEE OF THE STANLEY WORKS U.S.A.

The knives were imported from USA and assembled in the Moonah Hobart Plant of Stanley Titan. They were Aluminium Castings and only carried a Stanley Brand.

The knife bodies came later from Sheffield as did the blades. They were all replaced by the Turner locally produced range in 1970 and these were pressure zinc diecast.

The Stanley Utility knife appears in the 1960 McPhersons Catalogue.

Are any *NEWS* readers aware of other entries of the Stanley, Turner or Titan utility knives in any Australian Tool Catalogues printed before 1970?

## **Stanley Knives 1936 – 1990**

Graeme Plaw

Stanley Tools USA added knives to their line in 1936 as a companion line to their Fibre Board Tool line. Fibre Board was an inexpensive wall and ceiling covering that was very popular at that time, before sheet rock became into use.

The first knife was a 199 with a fixed blade, the handle material being in cast aluminium. The body accommodated a pointed blade and the fibreboard square end blade. In the 1937 catalogue a cast iron version No. 1299 appeared.

In 1941 only the 199 appeared in the Stanley catalogue. In 1942 the 1299 reappeared with a redesigned cast iron body.

In 1947 the 299 knife appeared as an cast aluminium bodied copy of the 1942 iron version.

In the August 23 1948 the “Stanley Tool and Defiance Tools Catalogue” the 199 and 299 were both Stanley brand items and the 1299 was a Defiance brand tool.

The 1950 Stanley catalogue shows 199 and 299 as aluminium bodies, however the May 1 1950 combined catalogue still shows Stanley 199 and 299 and Defiance 1299.

The first appearance of the No 99 Retractable blade knife and a redesign of the 299 and 1299 bodies is in the January 1961 Stanley catalogue.

*This the more familiar design we know today. The well known 199 remained unchanged.*

In May 1965 a Quick point break off blade design was introduced called the No 09.

In 1967 a Linoleum knife was introduced No 1999, it had the body of a 299 knife with a large hooked blade attached.

In September 1969 a No 499 (28-499) knife was introduced. This was a front loading knife and had blades stored in the rear.

In September 1984 the Swivel Lock knife was released; No 399 10-399. This fixed blade knife, this allowed the body to swivel open for blade replacement.

In 1986 the 999 (10-999) Retractable blade Swivel Lock knife was released.

In 1987 the Swivel Lock Carpet knife was released; No 520 10-520.

*Many Stanley Knife designs follow after this time, the Stanley knife range is considered as a very important part of their tool line.*

### **Stanley knife blades**

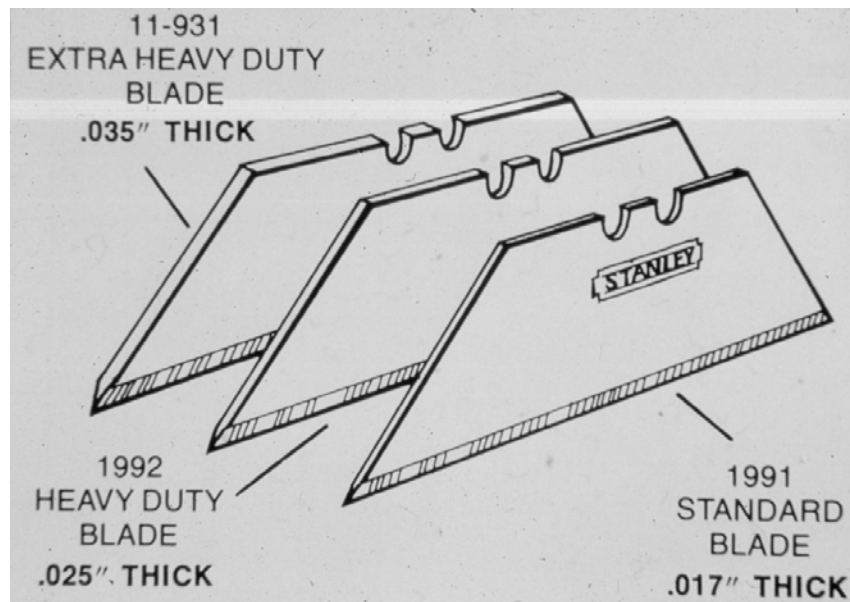
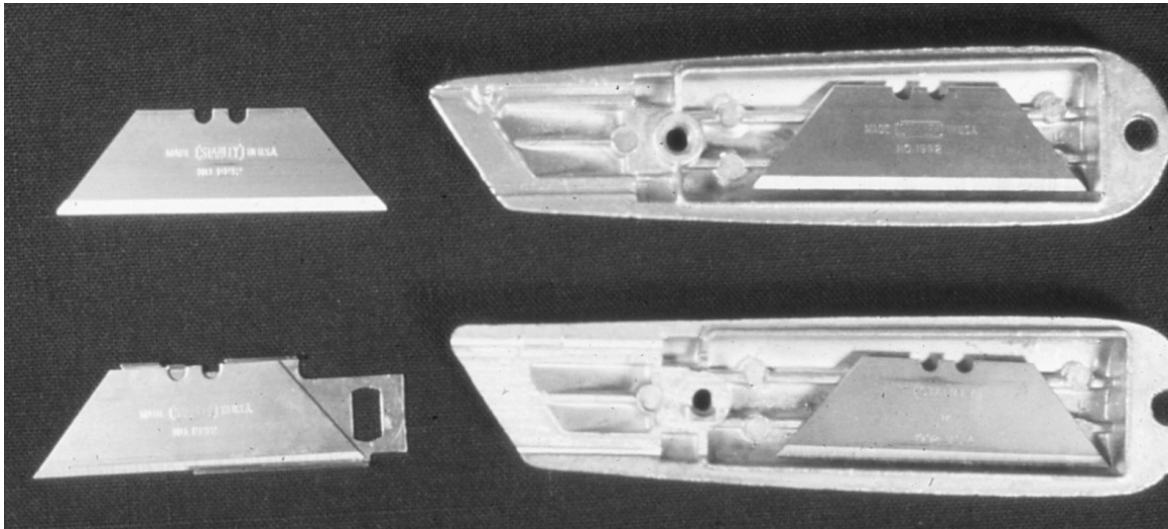
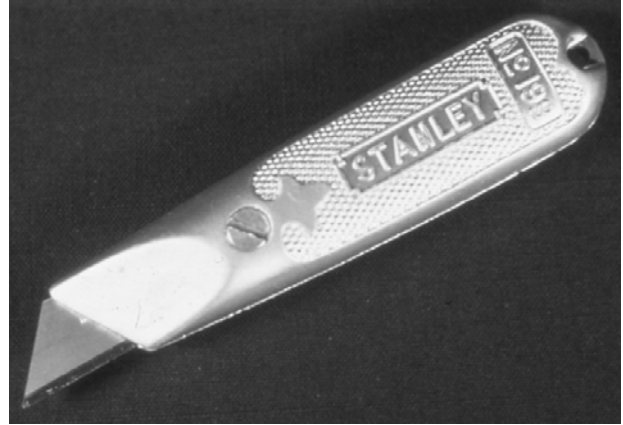
Blades to fit most forms of *Stanley* knife are still widely available and relatively inexpensive. For a tool first made in 1936 this is remarkable.

## USA 199 Stanley knife

Graeme Plaw

Here are some photos relating to the USA 199 Stanley knife.

The parts photo is of the redesign in 1981 when a blade carrier was added. This improved the blade holding and eliminated the aluminium casting pip.



## Brush Farm House

### TTTG Workshops

#### ***How to Sharpen Edge Tools***

*27 August Brush Farm House*

#### ***Planes: The Basics***

*28 September Brush Farm House*

#### ***Is everyone paying attention?***

With the sharpening equipment before him Jim Davey uses a simple teaching aid to explain sharpening angles.

Jim has added *DANS* oilstones to his range of sharpening stones and plates. These were well received at the latest workshops. As always at TTTG workshops, many happy buyers went home with new tools and tool sharpening equipment.



### ***Theory time***

Jim Davey starts the first of the edge tools and planes series of TTTG workshops with a detailed explanation of the theory behind sharpening edge tools.

Everyone is relaxed and listening to Jim's clear explanation.

The TTTG workshops are held in a comfortable and spacious building.



TTTG has now delivered three TTTG “hands on” and “real skills based” workshops at Brush Farm House.

The TTTG workshops are held in Forster Hall. This is a spacious and well-lighted venue with a well set-up hygienic kitchen and toilet facilities.

The first three workshops in this venue were well attended and the reputation TTTG has established as a provider of quality workshops for a decade has been consolidated.

*In 2015 TTTG will continue to offer TTTG Workshops in Forster Hall.*

The TTTG Committee is currently evaluating the TTTG workshop fees.



### ***Where to start?***

Jim gives out a set of notes at the start of each of his workshops. Clear explanations followed by “hands on” experiences are the secrets behind the success of all the TTTG “skills based” workshops.

The TTTG workshops start at 9am and usually finish by 3.30pm. Refreshments are provided.

There are always old and new tools on sale at the TTTG workshops.

The TTTG workshops are a chance “to learn, to try and to buy”.

### ***CITRIC ACID***

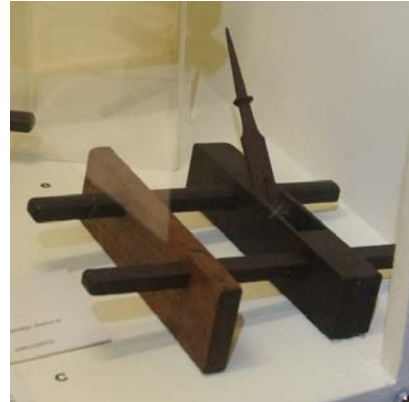
*Available at TTTG Workshops Buy before it sells out!*

At only **\$5 for 450grams** TTTG Citric Acid is the best and cheapest. New stocks are ready for sale following the “sell out” at the Wood Show. The Committee analysed the reasons for the record sales of Citric Acid. Price was high on the list but also many buyers were finding a *new* use. Tools aren’t the only things needing non-abrasive rust or oxide removal.

**Warning:** *TTTG does not recommend using citric acid on saws or springs.*

## Bendigo Chinese Museum

Ron Errat Member M719 recently visited this museum in Bendigo and has sent these photographs.



### **CARPENTERS TOOLS**

Australia, pre 1930s.

Hand made of wood and metal.

Used by Harry Louey Jack and Samuel Lou Goon.

- a) Wood Gauge
- b) Wood Plane- Stamped on end 'Louey Woon'
- c) Moulding Plane
- d) Small moulding Plane
- e) Short wood plane- Stamped on end 'Louey Woon'
- f) Draw Knife

Louey Woon is assumed to have been a toolmaker in the Bendigo district in the early 20th Century.

Donated by the Jack Family and the Lougoon Family.

Collection Bendigo Chinese Association.

[(a)BCA1092 (b)BCA (c)BCA (d)BCA1076 (e)BCA (f)BCA0523]

### CARPENTERS

In the 1880s and 1890s anti-Chinese legislation made it difficult for Chinese manufacturers to compete with the Europeans. After 1896, especially, all furniture made by Chinese workers was required by law to be stamped with the words 'Chinese Labour'.

The legislation stated that one employed Chinese worker constituted a factory. A European organisation was not regarded as a factory until it employed four workers. The effect of this legislation meant that Chinese labour was unable to compete economically.

### ***Chinese Woodworking Tools***

***General Meeting Tuesday 9 October***

There will be a brief commentary by Bob Crosbie and Fred Murrell

All the tools on display are from Fred Murrell's Collection

The tools are rare examples made by tradesmen in Sydney in the 1800's.

Close examination reveals traditional Chinese designs have been combined with local and imported materials to make efficient wood working tools.

**Original Boxes....a few thoughts*****What's in the box?***

Does the packaging influence the purchaser, using graphics for retail or to protect the contents and allow easier retail storage? Perhaps a balance of both. I sadly recall the days when new stocks of tool came into the High School Woodwork Department, the Rabone rules, planes, squares, chisels and others, all relegated to racks and their boxes seen as excess clutter. An attempt was made to keep combination tools with many accessories in their original boxes so parts wouldn't be lost but many of the boxes weren't designed for longevity and were not practical, hence many user-made boxes replaced the original boxes.



To find early original boxes still with their contents is always a surprise. Looking at a few tools that I've fortunately collected over the years still in their original boxes, I thought it may be an idea to share a few observations in regard to presentation, boxes, labels and box care. I'll look at a few that I've put to one side.

***The little PRESTON No 1362***

(similar to No.75 STANLEY) in a most impressive box; one can see how this package sitting on a shelf sitting next to a STANLEY box, the red label on top certainly would have captured the attention.

***JD's 2004 to 2014***

Editing starts soon on this long awaited publication.

*Available in print and online*

Publication date is February 2015



***The two STANLEY No.75's***

The top one USA, the other one ENGLAND, are lesser adorned however their label with the notched out corners speaks for the STANLEY brand and would be recognised by the converted; it's interesting to note although not obvious in the photo, the two STANLEY boxes are quite different in construction, the USA box has been constructed by folding the pasteboard/cardboard with the covering paper added later whereas the English box has been made by folding pre-covered pasteboard, an economical construction method.

***Stanley 45 in Chestnut Box***

In the original box will be one of the tools from the TTTG Tool Collection presented on display at the TTTG

***End of Year Tool Sale and Swap***



STANLEY went all out with its ***No.91/2 Christmas presentation***, the colour, and then on opening the box, the plane is sitting upright on a tray, very impressive and certain to influence a customer to buy that special gift for the season.



***The No.220 box*** is basic with the standard label, however, notice that the corners of the box have been broken and tape has been used to keep the box intact.



The **STANLEY No. 60 1/2** shows that the manufacturer has taken note of the weakness in the corners of boxes and has added thin steel strengthening brackets, this is also evident on the yellow boxed **No 91/2**; why the change of colour?, not only on the box but also on the plane which is now a dark blue, no doubt for market appeal, but then again, why the yellow box?



I may have mentioned it before, it's not hard to overlook tools that are in neglected boxes (see *NEWS* No. 138), to add to that, not all old tins on shelves are filled with nails, screws or split pins, occasionally we find more interesting things.

**A PLAYER'S NAVY CUT** Cigarette tin was an ideal place to house a pair of STANLEY side rebates; now wouldn't they have been easily overlooked! (but perhaps not by an old tin collector).



***A few hints in regard to the care and maintenance of boxes***

Its common sense not to force a fully assembled tool into a box designed for disassembly; so often one comes across planes forced into boxes with bulging sides and torn corners.

Reference:

**STANLEY TOOLS**

Guide to Identity & Value. John Walter (Revised edition 1996)

Hans Brunners' **Stanley planes by numbers** is a comprehensive guide.

**To repair cardboard tool boxes**

Firstly assess the damage before rushing in with masking tape and the like, as this is the path to irreparable extra damage.

Any repairs need to be neatly carried out and not obvious. Also avoid discarding boxes beyond repair; they are a good source of original paper when matching. Lastly, glue down that lifting corner of a label or for that matter, any paper that is curling up; again common sense, maintenance is better than “*wish I hadda!*”

**Note: - STANLEY No. 45.**

Regarding packaging, Stanley sold the earlier types in a pasteboard box. In the 1890’s Stanley used a finger joined Chestnut box and around the 1910’s used a tin box with a sliding lid. During the 1920’s, the pasteboard box was used again. In the 1930’s, Stanley used a hinged tin box and in the 40’s it was back to pasteboard for the third time. A softwood hinged box painted yellow is known during the 40’s and after that, it was back to the pasteboard, 4th time, until 1960 when the No 45 was discontinued.

<b>The Next TTTG Workshops</b>	<b>at Brush Farm House</b>
<b># Saw Sharpening</b> <i>Learn how to sharpen hand saws</i>	19 October
<b># Planes: Advanced</b> <i>Discover the potential of hand planes</i>	16 November
<b># End of Year Tool Swap</b> <i>“Members only Day”</i>	14 December \$5 Entry
<b>The 2015 TTTG Workshops</b>	<b>at Brush Farm House</b>
<b># Sharpening Edge Tools</b>	
<b># Planes: The Basics</b>	<b>and # Planes: Advanced</b>
<b># Saw Sharpening</b>	<b># Tool Handles</b>
<b># Dovetailing</b>	<b># Blacksmithing</b>
<b>More workshops are currently being developed</b>	
Discussions are currently underway with Ryde Council to develop a series of TTTG events at Brush Farm House. These TTTG events will promote traditional skills and greater awareness of heritage values.	

## **A Plane Tale**

Graeme Plaw HTPAA  
(Turner / Stanley R&D 1956-2000)

I was completing my apprenticeship at Turner Manufacturing Company in 1960 when Pope Products in South Australia decided to stop production of the Falcon Pope range of Planes and Spokeshaves.

Turner was always active in new ventures and they acquired the wood patterns of the plane range from Pope Products. Turner set out to manufacture Bench Planes to add to their tool range.

I was asked to take a modified wood pattern to Northern Amalgamated Foundries and collect a few iron casting that had been produced from the No 4 pattern.

*This began my involvement with this iconic hand tool.*

Turner Manufacturing had been injection moulding a screwdriver handle from years prior and it was just a great cost saving idea to make the Turner Plane handle and front knob in Injection moulded Cellulose Acetate as it would be stronger than the timber handle of past designs and would not need to be purchased outside the company. The colour translucent red was chosen, the same colour already used on the Electricians range of Screwdriver handles.

The moulding also allowed for an extension to the base which fitted into a walled segment on the casting, giving a stronger fix to the two components.

After the successful release of the range, particularly in Australian schools and Latin America where groove base models were very popular due to difficulty with their sap filled timbers, the plane range became noticed by representatives from Stanley who continued to mock the plastic handles as inferior to the timber handles that had been on metal planes since Leonard Bailey introduced cast iron planes in 1858.

In 1970, the Turner Industries group was acquired by Stanley/Titan. I was now the Technical Assistant to the General Manager. My very first task (as a matter of urgency) was to convert the Stanley planes made in Hobart Tasmania from Timber handles to Plastic handles. The high cost and low production rate of timber handle had shown the Turner idea to far superior.

The moulding die was returned to the tool room for modification, a Stanley logo was inserted into the side of the handle. The cost was lowered by changing the colour to black. This allowed the reuse of moulding powder of all colours used in plant mixed with some carbon black to make a handle and knob that remained in the line until production at Hobart ceased.

I had taken a Hobart produced Black handle plane to a meeting in USA in the 1980's during a review of worldwide planes. Stanley were manufacturing in five countries. A decision was made to manufacture all Stanley Plane production in England AND guess what?

*A plastic handle in various materials was added from that time on to all Stanley Planes worldwide.*

The Turner plane story also had another chapter. The Plane Frog was made from 1960 – 1970 in Pressure Cast Zinc Diecast Alloy. After the Stanley Titan acquisition it reverted back to a cast iron design as it was considered a more stable material.

Turner again had used in-house techniques to advantage. Turner had a series of Zinc Die-casting Machines that were used for their Hardware and Tool products and it was natural for them to save costs by introducing a Zinc casting rather than an out-sourced cast iron one.

This frog design gave little concern, however there was some comment that the zinc casting gave some unacceptable movement. Turner went on to develop a worldwide accepted method of thin wall zinc die-casting. This was considered for the frog, but this frog wasn't introduced with the amalgamation of both Turner and Stanley.

The innovations mentioned above are the only real changes in Bench Plane design in one hundred years since Leonard Bailey introduced the cast iron plane. It was finally replaced in the late 1980's by the Powered plane, but it still gets good use by craftsmen today.

### **Plane Handles**

Plane handles are traditionally made from suitable hardwood. Beech was the common wood but rosewood and walnut were also used on wood infill planes. "Turner red" plane handles are the best made plastic handles. Rapier UK also made a quality plastic plane handle in the '60s Ed.

## **NEWS 140**

### **Traditional Woodworking in the United States**

Jim Littlefield's visits the home of his birth.

### **The Two Handed Blacksmith's Hammer**

### **Selling Tools 1960's Style**

*The last NEWS of 2014 will have all the regular features and new articles.*

## Fraser Saw Setter

Among a recent donation was a **Fraser Saw Sharpener** in the original box with instructions.

Manufactured by  
**Tonks** (Australia) Pty. Ltd.

Manufactured In Great Britain by  
FRASER TOOL CO.

### *The Newly Designed* **SAW SETTER**

Added to the "Fraser" Saw Sharpener, this simple but very effective setter, makes the whole tool a most useful unit.

#### **Instructions for Use:**

The setter has at each end fine slots to suit most saw gauges. Select the best fit for your saw.

Slip the slot over the tooth and "heel" the tool, so that the tapered ward lies against the side of the saw. At this stage the tooth will have been bent to normal "set."

"Set" alternative teeth the opposite way, following the previous "setting." If you prefer a shallower setting, a light metal sheet bent around the tapered section will limit the "set."

As the "setter" is hardened steel, you cannot file it, but the "set" may be increased by grinding. The tool is of mild steel, cadmium plated for corrosion protection.

The cardboard box had been stored in a damp workshop and is in very poor condition.

There are several **Fraser Saw Sharpeners** and instruction leaflets in the TTTG Collection.

The recently acquired instructions are different from the instructions in the Tool Collection. The makers of Fraser Saw Sharpening tools are listed at the end of the leaflet.

*The New Zealand wholesaler*  
SHROFF & SONS (Wholesale) LTD.

The new **Fraser Saw Sharpener** includes a **Fraser Saw Setter**.

This tool is very simple indeed!

Homer Fraser was a prolific local innovator and inventor. The **Fraser Saw Sharpener** met a real demand from amateurs. The device sold well worldwide. Variants continue to surface.



## **TTTG Work Benches**

TTTG currently has three full size benches being used at the TTTG “hands on” workshop classes.

*At the workshops and other events these work benches always attract attention and questions.*

### **Designing the TTTG Benches**

The need was for a strong bench with a joiner’s vice which is easily dismantled and stored. The bench had to be made efficiently from quality materials with minimum outlay of materials and labour.

### **Preferred Materials**

After constructing the first TTTG bench the decision was made to construct subsequent benches using predominately engineered timber products. If LVL beams were used for the legs and rails some form of locating joints would be necessary.

To avoid time consuming joint production it was decided to build up the end and side frames from layers of plywood. This method produces frames with no inherent weak points. These frames act as trusses and resist all racking forces from planing.

### **Materials used**

End and Side Frames:  
CD Plywood 240 x 1200 x 12mm.  
Top:

32mm Particle Board or  
2 layers 17mm CD Ply.

Adhesive and Hardware:  
Titebond Type 11 or Type 111.  
M12 Cup Head Galvanised Bolts  
with Hex Nuts and heavy washers.  
Gal. Pozidrive CSK screws or  
Gal. Square Drive CSK screws.

### **Construction of Frames**

The face layer of each frame is cut from one piece of CD Ply. Each face layer is accurately edge trimmed with a router using a straight cutter with a bottom bearing against a straight edge. Over width strips are glued to the face layer and trimmed with a router using a straight cutter with a top bearing.

*Each layer must be glued with an adequate number of cramps and time for the glue to set.*

Cramping at centres of 150mm is recommended and thick backing boards are essential to ensure equal distribution of pressure and to keep the assembly flat.

The drawing opposite is the latest version of the TTTG work bench.

***Is this the final design?*** The next TTTG work bench will be even better!

The work bench in the drawing is designed to allow for a left or right vice. The next TTTG bench will be made to be used by two right handed users.

Perhaps the fifth TTTG bench will be a double bench for two left handers.

## Norton Cast Iron Oilstone Boxes



*These cast iron oilstone boxes have a peculiar allure for me. The castings are fantastic and aren't machined as near as I can tell. Their lids fit smartly together and cradle the stones. The bottom of the cases are fitted with cork.*

*They are perfect and forgotten objects of the past. It took great skill just to make the box. These boxes remind me that progress is not always an improvement.*

Christopher Schwarz  
Popular Woodworking Feb 8, 2013

The *NEWS* editor shares Chris's fascination with these cast iron oilstone boxes but he only has half a cast iron Norton oilstone box!

Fred Murrell has a complete cast iron Norton oilstone box and this started the editor's interest in cast iron Norton oilstone boxes.

The top half of a cast iron Norton oilstone box was a recent purchase from Hans Brunner. The half box came with an unused "fine" grade Norton India oilstone. There must be a complete box waiting for me!

### **India Oilstones**

In the early years of the twentieth century Pikes India stones had gained the reputation of being the best oilstone. A fine India oilstone rapidly produces the finest edge on chisels and plane blades for quality general bench work.

## India Oilstones

**Bob Crosbie**

One of the first oilstones I brought is now over forty years old. I know this because I stamped the date inside the Tasmanian Oak box I made for the stone. The oilstone is an Australian Abrasives two grit, fine and medium, combination 8" by 2" aluminium oxide stone. This oil stone is no longer my everyday oil stone but I still use it and it produces a very good edge.

I have tried the other methods of sharpening including Waterstones and Diamond Plates but I have returned to using oilstones. Early in my wood working adventures I read about the legendary *India* Oil Stone made by *Pike*. I also found out that the worst oil to use with oils stones is Neats Foot Oil.

My everyday oilstone is now an old Norton *Pike* India oilstone. On one end the stone is marked *India Fine*. This stone is in a box screwed to my sharpening bench. This bench was a lucky Council Clean Up find. The angle iron framed stand that became my sharpening bench was originally fitted with a device for filling gun cartridges.

There is a medium grade Diamond Plate also fixed to my sharpening bench. This is for quickly flattening the backs of any chisels and plane blades I am rehabilitating. The fine India oilstone is the only oilstone I use to sharpen planes and chisels. This oilstone gives a perfect edge. I also have some India slip stones.

The only natural stones that were serious rivals to India oilstones were the Washita and Arkansas oil stones, also marketed by Norton. I have a few of these stones. On the rare occasions I need to sharpen to a surgical edge I will dust off a Lily White Arkansas oilstone.

For sharpening planes and chisels at public events I have a Washita oilstone I have mounted in a coffin shaped box. The Washita oil stone cuts almost as rapidly as an India oil stone and produces a fine edge. The coffin shaped box gets people talking and asking questions!

Oilstones need to be kept flat and clean. The first thing I do to an old oilstone is to clean it by soaking it in thinners or white spirits. When all the old oil is removed I flatten the oilstone using an old coarse Diamond plate lubricated freely with white spirits.

I recently purchased a genuine Norton *fine* India oilstone. This has been mounted in a New Guinea Rose Wood box. I fit oilstones tight in the box to avoid being splashed in the face with sharpening oil. My preferred lubricant is white spirits.

*Aluminium Oxide oilstones are no longer manufactured to the high standard of Norton India oilstones.*

Fortunately Washita and Arkansas oilstones are still being quarried. *Dans'* oilstones are as good as older stones, reasonably priced, and available from Jim Davey. *See Jim's advertisement in News.*

## KNIFEMAKING SUPPLIES & BLACKSMITH'S TOOLS



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1075, 1084, 1095, 15N20, 5160, 52100, O1, W2, D2, L6, 80CRV2, 416, 440C, 154CM(AT534), CPM155VN, CPM154CM. In a huge range of sizes!

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**International Cutlers  
Exhibition**

24 and 24 August 2014  
Australian Technology Park  
*Andrew and Hugh*



TTTG was represented at the first International Cutlers Exhibition in Sydney.

***Report on the Cutlers Exhibition, via Corin Urquhart on Facebook;***

*The comments just keep on coming. The response to the show has been overwhelming. The event, by any measure was a massive success.*

*The Knife Art Association comprises a small group of people, all very passionate about knives. The show was our concept but credit for the organization and running of the event does not belong to us.*

*Right in the initial stages we contacted SSS Events (among others). SSS Events saw our passion and worked tirelessly to achieve our goal. Without their efforts there would have been no show. This is a big shout out to Liz Marshall and the team at SSS Events for their patience, perseverance, and tireless hard work to make our dream a reality.*

TTTG will be at the 2015 International Cutlers Exhibition in Sydney.

## Obituaries

### **Kenneth Wybert Hawley MBE**

The TATHS President, Ken Hawley died on Friday, 15th August 2014. An obituary by Simon Barley is in the Guardian at <http://www.theguardian.com/culture/2014/aug/19/ken-hawley>

Ken Hawley, the driving force behind the Hawley Collection Trust in Sheffield, has died at the age of 87 (20th August). Ken Hawley was originally a retailer of tools, and began tool collecting to preserve hand tools in 1950. Ken Hawley's contribution to the area can only be described as phenomenal. The Trust benefits from over 70,000 locally made tools, and many from other parts of Britain which he built up over the last 65 years or so. Ken was President of TATHS.

### **James Gaynor**

James (Jay) Gaynor, Director of Historic Trades at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Virginia, died suddenly on July 31 aged 63.

James Gaynor held a number of board and committee positions in the Early American Industries Association.

### **Charles Alexander (Chay) Reid**

Chay Reid Member M443 passed away at his home in New Zealand on 3<sup>rd</sup> September aged 93.

Chay has been a member of TTTG for many years and has been an enthusiastic collector and user of traditional tools as well as an occasional correspondent to News.

The committee and members of TTTG send their heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

### ***British Saws & Saw Makers since 1660***

Simon Barley

This long awaited book has finally made it into print, and is now available for purchase. Simon is a regular contributor to the Australian website on saw history run by Ray Gardner - <http://www.backsaw.net>

The site is well worth a visit, and on the forum you can get an indication of Simon's contribution to the history of saws and makers.

Simon worked with Ken Hawley at Kelham Island Museum.  
*Ken Hawley made a major contribution to the book and it is a shame Ken died just before the release of the book.*

The most cost effective purchase method is to buy direct from the author. Details are at <http://www.taths.org.uk/barley-saws.htm>.

PayPal is the easiest way to pay.

*Simon Barley on why he wrote*

### **British Saws & Saw Makers since 1660**

*My affair with English saws began a long time ago. Sometime around 1998 I met Ken Hawley at his delectable tool shop in central Sheffield, renowned as the place that announced in the window "We sell nouwt [in local dialect "nothing"] but tools".*

*Most of what I got there was new tools, but I also acquired from him the first set of hollows and rounds that helped me to get started on using moulding planes. I was by then several years into a major project of converting a 19th century stone barn into a house, and was more and more fascinated by the wonderful tools I could use – machinery frightened me, it made a terrible noise and dust, and it did not enable me to learn the feeling of the timber as I worked it.*

*Released from a 9-5 job, I was looking for voluntary work, and nothing could be more attractive in that line than a day or two a week in Ken's Collection, housed then by the University of Sheffield in a small old steel warehouse. I asked what I could do there, and he at once suggested I catalogue the saws, and the saw-making tools and materials.*

*It soon became evident that there was little known about how saws were made in the days before automatic machinery and to come across this area of the unknown stimulated an old impulse lurking at the back of my mind to write up some research, as my job had always been too busy to give me the time.*

*Before long I'd signed up to write a PhD on the early saw making industry of Sheffield, and it only took me nine years...*

*But while I was doing it, friends in the tool history world suggested that a reference book on saws could usefully fill a gap in the literature: this bit has taken me another six years...*

*Central to the history was also the opportunity to collect on my own behalf, and again the situation two decades ago was very different in those pre-ebay days, as British saws were not the desirable objects they have become, and a box full of rusty has-beens could easily be had for a few pounds.*

*I was therefore able to take advantage of what cannot be done now, and I have been able to amalgamate on one site at the Ken Hawley Collection Trust's new home in Kelham Island Museum both my own and Ken's saws, which amount to about 2000 examples.*

*I learned a huge amount from Ken, and his recent death is an almost frightening blow, as inside his head was a store of knowledge that doesn't exist anywhere else, and in spite of what I gained much from my years of conversations with him, I always knew that I hadn't heard by any means all of it.*

*But those who write history books can only do their best with what they know, at the same time acknowledging that what they put down on paper is incomplete and immediately out of date. I hope that there will be a core of permanence in this British Saws and Saw Makers from 1660.*



## WORKING BY HAND

A site that looks at the human use of tools and things.

This Canadian Website contains good photographs and interesting discussions of veteran hand tools.

### ***What does #9½ mean?***

As an example of the value of the information on the site have a look at the discussion of the 9½ plane. This includes useful lists of block plane sizes and blade widths.

### ***Les Rabots – a brief review of a French book on planes.***

The site has a very good review of this recent French book on planes.

### ***A list of plane makers***

This list of contemporary makers of hand planes is a convenient way for readers with excess disposable income to find out what is on offer in the worldwide market place.

### ***The Gage self-setting plane***

This is an excellent guide to the planes patented and made by the Gage Plane Company, and for a brief period by Stanley.

### ***When should a tool be restored?***

This is a good synopsis of the debate on repairs; Google the website and spend time looking and I guarantee you will regularly return to this one.

### **Backsaw.Net**

This website is a resource for saw collectors, tool historians, and saw makers. If you have picked up an old British saw, or a saw you think might be British made, this is the website of choice internationally. There is a Saw Identification forum where you can post information and pictures on a saw, or nest of saws for that matter, and access the collected wisdom of the forum.

Ray Gardner set up the site a number of years ago to further his interest in identifying saws, especially backsaws, researching the makers and their industrial context, and building a database of makers, handle designs over time, and medallions. There is probably more posting on handsaws these days than on backsaws.

For quick research there is a Checklist of makers and a rough timeline with dating features.

If you are interested in making back saws there is a gallery of saws and handles to provide thought for your designs, as well as a saw makers discussion forum, and a saw measurement and pictures forum. I am sure you will find a browse worthwhile.

**Reviews      Bob Crosbie**

***The shapes of things to come....  
Part 3***

Furniture and Cabinetmaking  
Issue 219 June 2014

The final instalment of this series covers plough and bead planes. There is a photo of a very nice sash fillister but these planes are not discussed. The insert on drawer slips shows a curious form of slip. Minor criticisms aside this series is a useful introduction to special purpose planes. The author of the series concludes by encouraging readers to use old planes!

***Router Planes***

Furniture and Cabinetmaking  
Issue 219 July 2014

Derek Jones has written a concise review of metal router planes, both old and currently in production. He favours the latest versions of these planes due to their superior adjustment mechanisms. All this editor will comment on is the fact that the older versions are fine for most processes and affordable. That said this article is a good introduction to router planes.

***Improve a Coping Saw***

Popular Woodworking Magazine  
August 2012

Chris Schwarz brings his usual no nonsense analysis in an article full of facts and practical suggestions. *This is essential reading.*

***Mouldings in Practice***

Matthew Sheldon Bickford  
Editor Chris Schwarz

Lost Art Press  
ISBN: 978-0-9850777-1-6

Matthew Bickford makes moulding planes and has written this book on using moulding planes.

As is to be expected from Lost Art Press this is an excellent treatment of a complex and obscure subject.

The emphasis is on using Hollows and Rounds to make mouldings. The use of Snipes and Side Rounds is clearly explained and illustrated.

Rebate planes and Fillisters and the Plough are adequately covered. Sharpening and moulding layout are comprehensively discussed. The drawings and photographs add significant clarity to the text.

Moulding planes with fences and depth stops are not covered; these are the planes to make standard profiles such as Sash mouldings, side beads and ogees. Perhaps there will be a companion volume.

The book contains drawings of mouldings from dated example of old furniture. The colour coding used for the drawings is a real aid to the interpretation of the profile.

The author offers excellent advice on repairing and using old planes. Matthew Bickford's book is highly recommended by this editor. The book cost \$60 at the Sydney Wood Show (Henry Eckert Fine Tools).



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