NEWS 157

August 2018

www.tttg.org.au
ISSN 2206-1606

WHICH EDITION OF NEWS MAGAZINE

Email or Mail?

NEWS is sent to all financial members during;

MAY AUGUST NOVEMBER FEBRUARY

Financial Members can have a print copy of *NEWS* Magazine sent by mail.

NEWS Magazine will be sent by email if Members do not choose the post option.

NEWS MAGAZINE online

Receiving *NEWS* by email has the benefit of being kinder to the environment, saving scarce funds for other projects and you get your Magazine much earlier.

secretary@tttg.org.au

TTTG Membership Rules

The MEMBERSHIP YEAR starts on 1 July and ends on the following 30 June.

The annual MEMBERSHIP FEE determined by the Committee is $60.

The MEMBERSHIP FEE is due to be paid on July 1 each year and must be paid on or before August 15.

A Member may choose to pay the Membership Fee one (1) year in advance, but only from 1 January in the current Membership Year and only for one (1) year.

A Member who has NOT paid their Membership Fee by August 15 becomes an UNFINANCIAL MEMBER from that date and will cease to receive the *NEWS* Magazine.

Access to the Members area of the TTTG website www.tttg.org.au will also cease once a Member is UNFINANCIAL.

A NEW MEMBER joining between July 1 and March 31 the following year is a full Member for the remainder of that Membership Year only.

A New Member joining between April1and June 30 does not become a full Member until the following Membership Year and must pay the Membership Fee applicable to that Membership Year.

John Bates, Bob Crosbie April 2016

Contents

***NEWS* 157**

The format of NEWS has changed.... there are now no reviews.

Members keen to see reviews should consider submitting reviews. Members should consider contributing and helping.

The TTTG 2018 AGM will be held in on 9 October 2018.

Office Bearer & Committee nominations are open - ask the Secretary for a Nomination Form!

Next Members Meeting:

Tuesday 14 August 2018
Rear of Old Eastwood Town Hall
74 Agincourt Road
Marsfield

This will be the first Meeting at the new TTTG Premises

Doors open 6.45 pm — **"Pick-&-Pay" starts 8 pm**

Entry Fee $5 — **Plenty of Parking 'on street'**

7 pm Members Meeting: — **Sydney Wood Show review**
Details of New TTTG Workshops

8 pm "Pick-&-Pay" Sale: — **Set-Price Tools Tables**
Citric Acid - $5 for 500gm
Free Tools Table

Selling area is locked until 8 pm. ***No early entry.***

TTTG Contacts

Editorial/Advertising Enquiries:
Bob Crosbie bobcrosbie@tttg.org.au

Membership Enquiries:
John Bates - johnbates@tttg.org.au
mobile 0418 488 210

NEWS Magazine is published by:
The Traditional Tools Group Inc
PO Box 75
Eastwood NSW 2122
ABN 50 611 029 392
www.tttg.org.au

***NEWS* Magazine is printed by Fine Impressions, Pymble NSW**

TTTG Fees

Membership	***$60***
Workshops	***$60***
Tool Sales	**$10**
Meetings	**$5**

Volunteers Wanted

Could you represent TTTG?

TTTG needs members who can talk to a diverse audience and can demonstrate "real skills".

Why not get more involved?

Report on June Meeting

Brush Farm House

FAREWELL TO BRUSH FARM

A 'sell-out' crowd attended this successful meeting.
And a large quantity of tools and ironmongery was sold.
More 'unwanted' tools will be sold at the next meeting.
Furthermore the storage space at the new headquarters is limited.
So there will be many bargains at the first Old Town Hall Meeting!

The Brush Farm House move out

This move was a challenge, but the new premises are almost fully ready.
Hard decisions have had to be made, but TTTG is set for a new chapter.

Volunteers:

TTTG can continue to offer skills-based classes.

TTTG can continue to hold meetings.

TTTG can continue to attend events.

But only with the continued support and help by volunteers!

End of Year TTTG Tool Sale

Planning has started for an October 2018 Tool Sale.

Where? Marsfield
When? Sunday 20th October 2018

Entry $10 9am to 1pm

Contact secretary@tttg.org.au
to book a table.

The TTTG Teaching Workshop

The Committee has secured permanent workshop space. The workshops will begin in September. Most of the workshops will be limited to six participants.

The TTTG Library

The library is being "rationalised".

'NEWS' COVER IMAGE

Gilbert 'Big Boy' Tools

1920s Advertisement

Power tools started when wires were connected to homes.

The portable drill was the basic power unit for many machines.

By the 1960s the power drill accessories were superseded by one function power tools.

JUST A SEC

John Bates, TTTG Secretary

Home Base

It has taken quite a while and a lot of effort but TTTG is no longer homeless. On 1 July 2018 with the help of members and volunteers the workshop tools and equipment was moved to our new premises at the old Eastwood Town Hall, 74 Agincourt Road, Marsfield. We have a five year licence agreement with the City of Ryde to lease the premises. This gives us an air conditioned, workshop space of around 60 square metres plus separate toilet facilities.

President, Bob Crosbie and I want to acknowledge the hard work of all our volunteers on the day. Special thanks and appreciation to TTTG members

Brian Stephenson	**Gordon Willock**	**Jason Lewis**
Kevin Wallace	**Michael Jedniuk**	**Peter Tierney**

Even two non-members, David Kass and Anton Marinov, pitched in and provided transport as well. A convoy of utes and trailers took all morning to complete the task.

We simply could not have done it without you!

But (there is always a "but") now we need to put the workshop to use. Negotiations are underway with Macquarie Community College to establish an ongoing workshop program which will go some way to cover the rent and give TTTG community exposure. Of course we may go it alone. The decision will be determined by the demand for the classes.

Library

The TTTG Library needs a new home. TTTG has lots of books but just not enough space to fit them all. Various options are being canvassed by the Management Committee, but time is running out. If anyone has any thoughts or ideas for our book 'problem' please feel free to share them. Contact secretary@tttg.org.au

Back Issues of News for $5 each

All back issues of *NEWS* magazine will now be stored at Marsfield.

Looking for a back issue? Email your request to secretary@tttg.org.au

AGM and Committee Election

The Annual General Meeting will be held during the 9 October Members Meeting.

Any Financial Member may nominate a Financial Member for the Committee and should ask that member "are you willing to accept nomination?"

A Financial Member accepting nomination will be asked to provide a brief written statement outlining their suitability to fill the Office / Committee position for which they are standing.

Details of the AGM, the Financial Statement, Meeting Agenda and Office Bearer/Committee Nomination Form will be mailed / emailed to all Financial Members with your copy of NEWS 157.

Completed Nomination Forms must be received by the Secretary no later than 1 week prior to the AGM – that is by 2 October 2018.

TTTG Membership - $60 per annum

Another financial year has come and gone. TTTG Membership Fees of $60 were due on 1 July 2018. Renewal notices went out with the last NEWS magazine (No.156, May 2018). If you are reading this then you have voted with your feet and are a financial member.

Tools For Sale

One thing the move demonstrated is that we still have a lot of tools to shift. Somehow and by some means they just keep multiplying. Perhaps, like coat hangers, they are breeding.

We also have a few tool chests at Marsfield that need of a new home and a little tender loving care. If you are interested in acquiring an old tool chest in need of some restoration, please email president@tttg.org.au for further information or to arrange an inspection.

Next Members Meeting

Our next Members Meeting will be held at the new headquarters in Marsfield on Tuesday 14th August 2018 commencing at 7.00 pm. The 'Pick-&-Pay' tool sale will start at 8 pm.

The 'Pick-&-Pay' sales room is locked until 8.00 pm

Strictly no early entry ***Parking is 'on street'***

Editor' Report

The TTTG Editor has been asking for volunteers to assist with the production of *NEWS* for years. Despite a few near misses most of my comments about the need to improve the editing process have been ignored as "harping on" or "making trouble". Recently the drafts have been proof read before going to the printer and there has been some improvement in quality control. I have a couple of reliable contributors to *NEWS* but mostly I have to "do it myself".

As editor I apologise for the print quality of *NEWS* 156. Thanks to a bit of good luck and a good printer *NEW*S 156 went out on time. A few days before the draft was ready to go to the printer I printed out a draft copy. I closed the word file intending to read the draft before printing a PDF. When I opened the word document "disaster" struck. About eighty percent of the word document was blank. With no technical back up and a tight deadline there was no chance of recovering or retyping the document in time.

"It won't be perfect but I'll do my best" was the printer's verdict. He did a great job given the raw materials he was given. John Daniel was devastated when he saw how his photos had been compromised. As editor I was very pleased with how good *JD's* looked in the edited word document.

New Editor Wanted?

The reality is TTTG needs to recruit an editorial sub-committee to produce and publish *NEWS.* The job is too big for one person.

NEWS Magazine in print

Another reality is;

"The cost of printing a copy of NEWS for every member exceeds the revenue from membership fees."

The other not for profit organisations producing journals comparable to *NEWS* have sponsors paying the publication and distribution costs.

Without a sponsor TTTG cannot continue to publish and post *NEWS.*

TTTG also reduced the number of annual issues of *NEWS* from six to four. Four journals annually is probably the right number.

NEWS: the costs

Printing costs are a major factor. But the cost of postage is also a killer. One "cost saving" would be to go to an email only 'digital' journal. This may happen. What do the Members think?

2018 Sydney Wood Show

Bob Crosbie

It looked grim when the date and venue of the 2018 Sydney Wood Show was changed less than a month before the show was supposed to open.

When the 2018 Sydney Wood Show closed on the last day at the new venue the atmosphere was electric with greater public attendance than last year and a new confidence among the exhibitors in the future of the show.

Students absent from the *2018 Sydney Wood Show*

Due to the sudden change of date and venue the High School student's HSC projects display and student's competition was withdrawn from the show. This generated some "conspiracy theories" among a few teachers. To counter this negative perception I posted the following on a teacher's professional website forum immediately after the 2018 Sydney Wood Show.

I spent the last three days at the Sydney Wood Show representing the Traditional Tools Group and interacting with the Show organisers and other exhibitors. You may be interested in my "hands on" observations. Attendance this year was higher than last year. The public were positive about the venue. Free parking was a big draw. Next year the Wood Show will be in the larger exhibition hall on the Rosehill Gardens site. Parking will be even better and public transport will include a shuttle bus from Parramatta. The walk from Parramatta Station is under fifteen minutes. The public, the exhibitors and the organisers want the school students back as a feature of the show. Our group and several other exhibitors will offer sponsorship to a student competition. All it takes is teachers willing to organise the 2019 Sydney Wood Show student presence.

TTTG and the new Sydney Wood Show Organiser

During the three days of the 2018 Sydney Wood Show I established effective communication with Candy, the new organiser. TTTG will be at next year's show in a larger space and involved in new innovative programmes.

2019 Sydney Wood Show

Candy has a strong vision for next year's show and I'm confident the event will again be the most important woodworking event of the year.

TTTG and this year's Sydney Wood Show

As usual there was strong interest and good sales on the TTTG Stand. However the small number of TTTG volunteers meant that I could not do the usual demonstrations involving concentration and skill. I was simply too busy talking to the public and networking.

TTTG Classes

The first thing you see when entering the workshop is an 1850s Hamann lathe.

The "Real Skills" Workshops at Marsfield

What will be offered?

What is offered will be determined by demand. Small classes will allow the teachers to offer more attention to each participant. The classes will be six hours in duration. Some larger sessions will be offered on Tool Buying and Tool Care. These will be co-hosted by Jim Davey.

Week-end Workshops

The established "Real Skills" Workshops will be on Sundays.
Topics will include;

Edge Tool Sharpening
Hand Saw Sharpening, Planes
Chisel Use and Care
Setting Out Skills
Cutting Dovetail Joints
Traditional Joinery
What is that Old Tool?

Class size for the skill-based workshops will be limited to six (6).

Cost for the skill-based workshops will be $60.

Jim Davey Workshop

Jim will offer ***tools and sharpening classes***
$60 entry (includes free refreshments)

Details of the workshops will be on the website www.tttg.org.au in August.

About TTTG

TTTG promotes and preserves traditional technology and skills.

TTTG is interested in all types of old hand and machine tools.

To achieve these aims TTTG offers:

Regular meetings
Skills-based hands-on classes
A quarterly magazine, *NEWS*
"Pick-&-Pay" Tool Sales
Annual Tool Sales

TTTG has:

- *Tool Collection & small reference Library.*
- A dedicated teaching workshop
- A Meeting Hall
- Tool Sale venues

Selling Tools?	***TTTG can sell your tools***
- By "Selling on Consignment"	*TTTG sells tools for a 20% commission*
- 2 TTTG Tool Sales each year	*Only TTTG Members can sell*
- Online TTTG Tool Adverts	*Offer your tools on the TTTG website*

WHAT TTTG IS NOT

TTTG is NOT people who only use hand tools

TTTG is NOT people who only use old tools

TTTG

-is interested in all types of tools and all skills.

-promotes the use of all tools, both old and new.

-is interested in machinery and emerging technology.

TTTG teaches real skills

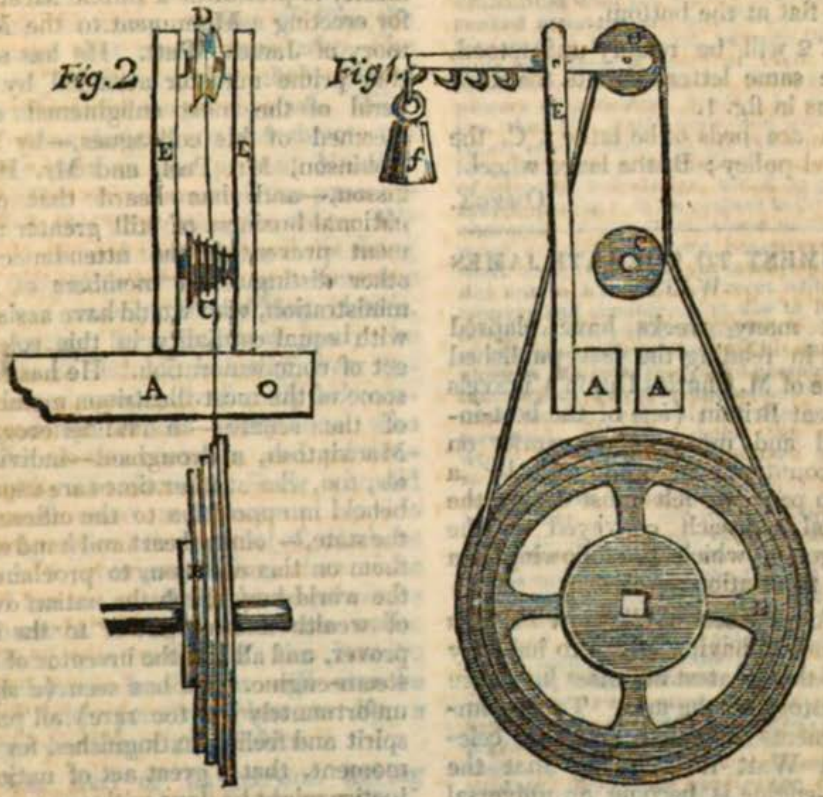
&

Sells second-hand tools

Mechanic's Magazine,
Museum, Register, Journal, & Gazette.

There is no time or place, no transactions, occurrences, or engagements in life, which exclude us from improving our minds by observation.—*Watts.*

No. 44.] SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1824. [Price 3d.



IMPROVEMENT ON THE LATHE.

London, April 18, 1824.

GENTLEMEN;—I was much pleased on observing in your valuable publication C. Williamson's plan of an addition to the common lathe, not only because I consider it calculated to diminish the labour, but that it is from such suggestions as these that much good may be expected to result to practical mechanics, through the medium of your Magazine. When those who have been hitherto in the habit of using their hands only, begin to use their heads also, who can tell the benefits that may arise, not only to themselves, but to mankind generally? C. W.'s improvement, though extremely valuable, seems to me, however, susceptible of considerable simplification. I have, therefore, taken the liberty of sending you a rough drawing of a plan which, it appears to me, will effectually prevent the line from chafing, and likewise obviate the necessity of changing the line for heavy work, as in the plan of your correspondent, in No. 32.

Figure 1 is the appearance of the lathe endwise; C represents one of two pieces, which are fixed to the back-bed of the lathe; F is a lever, moveable on the center *o*, which has a piece cut out of the end,

Joiner's Tools in Nicholson

Drawings of joiner's tools are in both American editions of Nicholson's ***Mechanic's Companion***.

The 1832 edition was published in Philadelphia, the 1831 edition New York.

The plate of Joiner's Tools from the 1832 edition was reprinted in the last issue of *NEWS* (*NEWS121*).

The 1831 New York edition of the Mechanics Companion has a similar plate, possibly not as well printed.

The 1831 edition has a section on New York building law but the technical terms included are the words used by the tradesmen working in the building trades in London.

The drawings of the tradesmen's tools may have been a little out of date even if they had been included in earlier text books by Peter Nicholson.

By 1810 these round top plane irons and round top plane wedges were on the way out.

The Planes in Nicholson

The 1832 Philadelphia edition of the *Mechanic's Companion* contains a comprehensive description of the tools used by joiners in the first half of the nineteenth century.

NEWS 121 reprinted the text on saws.

NEWS 122 reprinted part of the text on planes.

NEWS 123 reprinted the text relating to planes.

The full text from Nicholson's *Mechanic's Companion has been reprinted.*

The Jack Plane

Is used in taking off the rough and prominent parts from the surface of the wood, and reducing it nearly to the intended form, in coarse slices, called shavings; this plane consists of a block of wood called the stock, of about seventeen inches in length, three inches high, and three inches and a half broad. All the sides of the stock are straight surfaces at right angles to each other.'

Through the solid of the stock, and through two of its opposite surfaces is cut an aperture, in which is inserted a thin metal plate called the iron, one

side of the plate consisting of iron, and the other of steel. The side of the opening which joins the iron part is called the bed, which is a plane surface, making an angle of forty-five degrees with the hind part of the underside of the plane.

The end of the iron next to the bottom is ground to an acute angle off the iron side, so as to bring the steel side to a sharp edge, having a small convexity. The sloping part thus formed, is called the basil of the iron. The iron is fixed by means of a wedge, which is let into two grooves of the same form, on the sides of the opening; two sides of the wedge are parallel to each other, and to the vertical side of the plane, and consequently to two of the sides of the groove; the two sides of the grooves, parallel to the vertical sides of the plane are called cheeks, and the two other sides inclined to the bed of the iron are called the abutments or abutment sides: the wedge and the iron being fixed, the opening must be uninterrupted from the sole to the top, and must be no more on the sole side of the plane, than what is sufficient for the thickest shaving to pass with ease; and as the shaving is discharged at the upper side of the plane, the opening through must expand or increase from the sole to the top, so as to prevent the shavings from sticking. In conformity to analogy, the part of the opening at the sole, which first receives the shaving, is called the mouth. In order for the shaving to pass with still greater ease, the wedge is forked to cut away in the middle, leaving the prongs to fill the lower parts of the aforesaid grooves. On the upper part of the plane, behind the iron, rises a protuberance, called the tote, so formed to the shape of the hand, and direction of the motion, as to produce the most power in pushing the plane forward.

The bringing of the iron to a sharp cutting edge is called sharpening. The cutting edge of the iron must be formed with a convexity, and regulated by the stuff to be wrought, whether it is hard or soft, cross grained or curling, so that a man may be able to perform the most work, or to reduce the substance most, in a given time. To prevent the iron from tearing the wood to cross grained stuff, a cover is used with reversed basil and fastened by means of a screw, the thin part of which slides in a longitudinal slit in the iron, and the head is taken out by a large hole near the upper end of it. The lower edge of the cover is so formed, as to be concentric or parallel to the cutting edge of the iron, and fixed at a small distance above it, and to coincide entirely with the steel face. The basil of the cover must be rounded, and not flat, as that of the iron is. The distance between the cutting edge of the iron, and the edge of the cover, depends altogether on the nature of the stuff. If the stuff is free, the edge of the cover may be set at a considerable distance, because the difficulty of pushing the plane forward becomes greater, as the edge of the cover is nearer the edge of the iron, and the contrary when more remote.

The convexity of the edge of the iron depends on the texture of the stuff, whether it is free, cross grained, hard or knotty. If the stuff is free, it is evident that a considerable projection may be allowed, as a thicker shaving may be taken: the extreme edges of the iron must never enter the wood, as this not only retards the progress of working, but chokes and prevents the regular discharge of the shavings at the orifice of the plane.

To Grind and Sharpen the Iron

Nicholson's describes the sharpening process in common use in the nineteenth century.

The text is hard to follow so the editor has reduced it to the essential steps:

Grind the bevel on a grind stone. The Grind stone is fed with water to prevent the edge over heating. The blade is held in two hands in a free hand manner. There is no mention of any form of tool rest.
Hone on a Turkey Stone
When the edge is getting thick rub on a Rub Stone and finish the edge by honing on a Turkey Stone
When the edge is too thick for the Rub Stone then grind a new bevel.
Nicholson instructs the reader to use Sweet Oil on the Turkey Stone.

To Fix and Unfix the Iron

In fixing the iron in the plane, the projection of the cutting edge must be just so much beyond the sole of the plane, as the workman may be able to work it freely in the act of planing. This projection is called iron, and the plane is said to have more or less iron as the projection varies: when there is too much iron, knock with the hammer on the fore end of the stock; and the blows will loosen the wedge, and raise the iron in a certain degree, and the head of the wedge must be knocked down to make all tight again: if the iron is not sufficiently raised, proceed again in the same manner, but if too much, the iron must be knocked down gently by hitting the head with a hammer: and thus, by trials, you will give the plane the degree of iron required. When you have occasion to take out the iron to sharpen it, strike the fore end smartly, which will loosen the wedge, and consequently the iron.

Using the Jack Plane

In using the jack plane, lay the stuff before you parallel to the sides of the bench, the farther end against the bench hook: then beginning at the hind end of the stuff, by laying the forepart of the plane upon it, lay hold of the tote with the right hand, and pressing with the left upon the fore end, thrust the plane forward in the direction of the fibres of the wood and length of the plane, until you have extended the stroke the whole stretch of your arms; the shaving will be discharged at the orifice: draw back the plane, and repeat the operation in the next adjacent rough part: proceed in this manner

until you have taken off the rough parts throughout the whole breadth, then step forward so much as you have planed, and plane off the rough of another length in the same manner: proceed in this way by steps, until the whole length is gone over and rough planed; you may then return and take all the protuberant parts or sudden risings, by similar operations.

The Trying Plane

Is constructed similar to the jack plane, except the tote of the jack plane is single, and that of the trying plane double, to give greater strength; the length of this plane is about twenty-two inches, the breadth three and a quarter, and the height three and an eighth. Its use is to reduce the ridges made by the jack plane, and to straighten the stuff: for this purpose it is both longer and broader, the edge of the iron is less convex, and set with less projection: but as it takes a broader though finer shaving, it still requires as much force to push it forward.

The Use of the Trying Plane

The sharpening of the iron, and the operation of planing is much the same as that of the jack plane; when the side of a piece of stuff has been planed first by the jack plane, and afterwards by the trying plane, that side of the stuff is said to be 'tried up', and the operation is called trying.

When the stuff is required to be very straight, particularly if the broad and narrow side of another piece is to join it, instead of stopping the plane at every arm's length, as with the jack plane, the shaving is taken the whole length, by stepping forwards, then returning, and repeating the operation throughout the breadth, as often as may be found necessary.

The Long Plane

Is used when a piece of stuff is required to be tried up very straight; for this purpose it is both longer and broader than the trying plane, and set with still less iron; the manner of using it is the same. Its length is twenty six inches, its breadth three inches and five eighths, and depth three inches and one eighth.

The Jointer

Is still longer than the long plane, and is used principally for planing straight edges, and the edges of boards, so as to make them join together; this operation is called shooting, and the edge itself is said to be shot. The length of this plane is about two feet six inches, the depth three inches and a half, and the breadth three inches and three fourths. The shaving is taken the whole length in finishing the joint, or narrow surface.

The Smoothing Plane

Is the last plane used in giving the utmost degree of smoothness to the surface of the wood: it is chiefly used in cleaning off finished work. The construction of same with regard to the iron wedge and opening for discharging the shaving, but is much smaller in size, being in length seven inches and a half, in breadth three, and in depth two and three quarters, and differs in form, on account of its having convex sides, and no tote. There is also this difference in giving the iron a finer set, that you may strike the hind end instead of the fore part.

Bench Planes

The jack plane, the trying plane, the long plane, the jointer and the smoothing plane, are denominated bench planes.

In Summary

The bench planes are:

The Jack Plane, The Trying Plane

The Jointer Plane, The Long Plane

The Smoothing Plane

Nicholson describes the bench planes in the sequence in which they are used to prepare timber. The use of each plane is clear and well defined.

Sharpening is discussed at length. The nineteenth century sharpening operations were:

Grinding on a Grind Stone

Preliminary sharpening on a flat stone

Sharpening on a Turkey Stone

The lubricant for the Turkey or Rub Stone was Sweet Oil.

Finishing Saw Cut Veneer

In cleaning off veneers, after the glue has been removed from the surface, let it be toothed in a diagonal direction, and in proportion as the surface is rendered even, give the plane less hold; and, finally, use a plane with very fine teeth; then remove the tooth-marks with the scraper, and finish the surface with glass-paper, or pumice-stone and glasspaper. Veneers are scarcely ever of so soft and porous a nature as to require raising the grain.

TTTG can teach you how to use a toothing plane.

Is Sweet Oil Neat's-foot Oil?

Writers copying old text book still recommend Neat's-foot Oil for use on oilstones.

Neat's-foot Oil will rapidly clog an artificial oilstone.

The editor welcomes informed reader comment but for the moment warns readers not to use Neat's-foot Oil on their oilstones.

Kerosene is good, lamp oil is better. White spirit mixed with Lamp Oil is arguably best.

The "best" oil stone is a Pike India.

One Fine Stone will produce edges suitable for woodworking.

TTTG can teach you how to sharpen tools.

The TTTG Tool Chest

TTTG has an English Joiner/Cabinet Maker's Tool Chest. The chest was found near Windsor NSW by a second hand dealer in the 1960s. About ten years ago his brother sold the chest to TTTG. Regrettably he sold the tools in the chest before he sold the chest to TTTG.

The interior of the Tool Chest has sliding tills with drawers. The inside of the lid and the tills are veneered. The veneer is mahogany, cross banding with boxwood string lines. The secondary wood is Baltic pine (Scot's pine). The corners of the chest are dovetailed and the exterior is painted, "grained oak".

The Tool Chest is circa 1840. The Chest will be filled with "Nicholson" tools.

Traditional Joinery

Hand methods of making joinery

United Kingdom (and colonies)
Nineteenth Century to mid Twentieth Century

George Ellis *Modern Practical Joinery* is the best-known Twentieth Century textbook on traditional joinery.

Peter Nicholson *Mechanic's Companion* is the best-known Nineteenth Century textbook on traditional joinery

From 1890 to the1920s there was another publication recording contemporary trade practice, including joinery methods. This publication was the weekly magazine '*Building World'* published by Paul N Hasluck.

There does not appear to be more than a few copies of '*Building World'* in Australia. There must be many copies in the UK. It amazes me that no one appears to have studied '*Building World'* in a systematic manner. From the few copies of '*Building World'* I have seen it is an obvious rich repository of traditional trade knowledge.

P N Hasluck published a series of books compiled from material in '*Building World'*. One of these books is *Carpentry and Joinery* (1912).

The companion volume is *Joinery and Cabinetwork*.

Carpentry and Joinery contains detailed information on hand methods of making joinery. The author reminds readers of the differences in practical methods in different localities.

Close study of three chapters in *Carpentry and Joinery* provides a thorough grounding in traditional trade practice.

These chapters are: *Rods, Doors and Windows.*

Traditional Joinery techniques rely on fast accurate tool use.

At the 2018 Sydney Wood Show I had a look at some demonstrations.

There were some really good demonstrations but some were farcical.

Historically furniture, both expensive and cheap, was dovetailed.

Dovetailing carried out with old trade methods is fast.

At the 2019 Sydney Wood Show TTTG will be demonstrating these skills.

Brass faced Sash Templates with profiled ends

George Ellis in *Modern Practical Joinery* comments on the use of sash templates to scribe sash rails and bars.

Sash Templates with profiled ends often show wear from contact with, or being "nicked" with the scribing gouge. Facing the scribing profile with brass increases the Sash Template life and allows a handled scribing gouge to be used without damaging the sash template.

When were Brass faced Sash Templates first made?

The author has a pair of 5/8" Sash Ovolo Planes with Sash Templates. Both the matching Single and Double Templates are brass faced. The Planes and Sash Templates are stamped R Nelson

The Brass faced Single Sash Template is stamped R Nelson's Improved

The planes and Sash Templates were made in the 1820s.

Did Richard Nelson invent of the Brass faced Sash Template?

Proposed October and November "Real Skills" Workshops

- ***Dovetailing:***

  Cutting accurate dovetails with confidence
  Old trade methods
  The saws, the chisels, the cutting gauge

  How to set out and how to cut

- ***Freehand Sharpening:***

  One oilstone and a grinder does it all!
  You don't need sets of sharpening stones
  You don't need digital read out jigs

  Planes, chisels and scrapers

- ***Preparing Wood:***

  Measuring, sawing, planing
  Face Marks explained
  The two essential planes

Low angle planes aren't essential for a good finish

TTTG Tools Wanted List

TTTG has stopped auctioning tools at the meetings.

The members seem unwilling to make realistic bids. This is curious as quality tools always sell at the Sydney Wood Show and TTTG Tool Sales.

Instead we are offering a "find a tool" service.

Contact the editor and tell him what tool you are looking for.
The editor will indicate how much the tool is likely to cost.

If you agree your name will be added to the "Tools Wanted List"

Remember TTTG is a not for profit organisation. The core role is preserving old tools and skills. TTTG wants the next generations to buy and use tools.

The Members Meetings at Marsfield

The new premises allow for a more organised way to sell surplus tools.
The TTTG Management Committee has decided to tighten up how we sell!

The committee has had complaints about members getting in early.

Frankly this situation could not continue. The last sale at BFH had some members arriving at 4pm.

At Marsfield the 'tool room' door will be locked until 8.00 pm.

The sales room will be set up the day before the meeting.

TTTG shares the Old Eastwood Town Hall with another organisation.

The premises are occupied every week day from 9am to 6 pm.

The Committee will be setting up the Hall for the TTTG Meeting at 7.00 pm.

"No early entry" is set in stone.

What to do if you turn up early at the meeting

Find the best on street parking	Go and have a coffee
Maybe have a meal	The Pizza shop opens 6 pm.
There are Coffee Shops nearby	Five Ways is a short drive

The Macquarie Centre and Cox's Road are only ten minutes away.

JD's

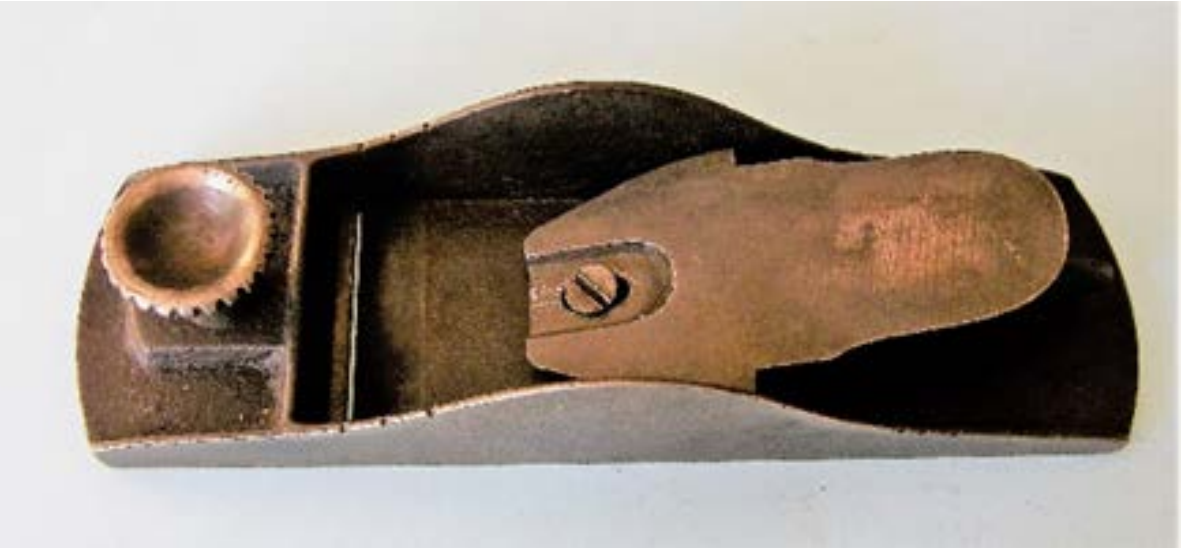
John Daniel

It's all in the eye of the beholder

How easy it is to walk past a modest looking tool or dismiss it as just a "*bit of junk*"; the little plane above, a CHAPLIN'S PATENT block plane, was displayed a short time back at a tool sale in Sydney.

The significance of this little plane would not be obvious to a casual browser and could be easily overlooked or dismissed as *not-of-interest*. Several times the plane was picked up, glanced at, then roughly put back on the table with a grunt of disdain by a few visitors, and of course, created quite a bit of interest from others; I won't elaborate any further, other than to say, '*it's all in the eye of the beholder*'.

The first noticeable feature of this plane for me was the flowing lines of the lever-cap followed by its intriguing depth adjustment. *I had to have it.* Then, with the find in my hand, I was free to play with it.
The basic mechanics of the depth adjustment were obvious. However, when disassembling, it was interesting to discover how it was controlled.



The blade is seated on a floating 'saddle' secured with a single screw passing through a slotted hole. The screw-cap, cast with lugs that slide under the saddle, lock the blade securely in place.

The following photo shows the underside of the saddle that locates on the worm-drive of the adjusting mechanism. Once set-up for use, the mechanical advantage allows a smooth fine adjustment with easy access to the depth adjustment lever also the lever-cap screw. *It's always wise to slightly slacken off the lever cap screw with this design of lever cap to avoid unnecessary stress on the casting.*

The adjustable mouth was a bonus. The mouth is easily adjusted by slackening off the front screw (knob/finger-rest) then sliding the front of the sole to the desired setting. Maybe this basic adjustment is not as controlled as Stanley's *'eccentric plate'* under the finger-rest knob, though I found no inconvenience when adjusting to the required mouth clearance.

With all adjustable mouthed planes, it's necessary to regularly clean and lightly lubricate the contacting surfaces, a process so often neglected, resulting in chipped mouths due to inappropriate screwdriver use.

The sole is lightly pitted as one would expect, however there is no damage to the mouth/throat, and for a plane that left the factory over one hundred years ago and may have passed through many hands and a variety of user-techniques, one could comfortably say that it is in good condition.

This plane fits comfortably in the hand, performs every bit as well as the Stanley and Record adjustable-mouthed block planes, is so easy to set up and adjust, and is a delight to use; it was well worth a econd glance.

When researching tools, it's always interesting to follow the journey from a 'light-bulb' moment through to a final product, and occasionally, one is fortunate enough to get the actual provenance of the tool. As to the provenance of this particular plane I have little certainty, however as to inventor, manufacturer and distributor, this is well documented both in print and 'on the net'. (It's a worry, I'm starting to sound like a computer nerd…)

There are quite a few names associated with the development, manufacture and distribution of the CHAPLIN Pat. Planes.

However, I'll mention the three that seem to stand out.

A patentee, a manufacturer and a distributor

Patentee: - **ORRIL R CHAPLIN** Chaplin, Patern maker, and inventor who was working in Boston , Massachusetts when he designed the above depth adjustment for woodworking planes, Patent No. 1226519 May 17th, 1872. 'Planes with the original patent were made up until the turn of the century followed by an improved patent up until 1914'[2].

Manufacturer : - IVER JOHNSON

Advertisement for Iver Johnson & Co. in the 1883 *Worcester Business Directory.*

Advertisement for Iver Johnson & Co.in the 1883 Worcester Business Directory.[1]

'Iver Johnson, born in Norway in 1842, settled in Worcester in 1863. In partnership with Martin Bye in 1871, he manufactured revolvers on Church St. Johnson bought the building in 1875 and bought out Bye in 1883, 'employing around two hundred men at the time. ..... In 1884 he took into partenership Polimus Lyon.'[1] Lyon left the firm in 1891, and following this, Johnson founded 'the famous Iver Johnson Arms and Cycle Works' [1].

In earlier years I had only associated the name Iver Johnson with fireams, not being aware that the firm manufactured a wide variety of products, in this case, including the 'casting and manufacturing the planes.'[2]

Distributer: - TOWER and LYON

John J.Tower 'was born in Massachusetts in 1837... first listed in New York Business directories in 1862 as a clerk' and again 'as in the hardware business'[1] in 1865. 'Tower exhibited police equipment such as whistles and handcuffs along with iron bench planes with gold-plated handles at the Philadelphia Ehibition in 1876.' Tower formed a partenership with Polemus Lyon in 1884.

Polhemus Lyon, prior to his partenership with Tower, was listed as a `hardware clerk'[1] at 83 Chamber's Street.

Tower and Lyon,now a company 'moved to 95 Chambers Street in 1886'[1]

'Apparently Polimus Lyon left the firm in 1891,'[1] as later directories 'list him at 100 Chambers Street'[1]... In his last listings of 1894 and 1895 he is president of an unknown company.'[1]

To repeat myself, *it's all in the eye of the beholder...*

References:

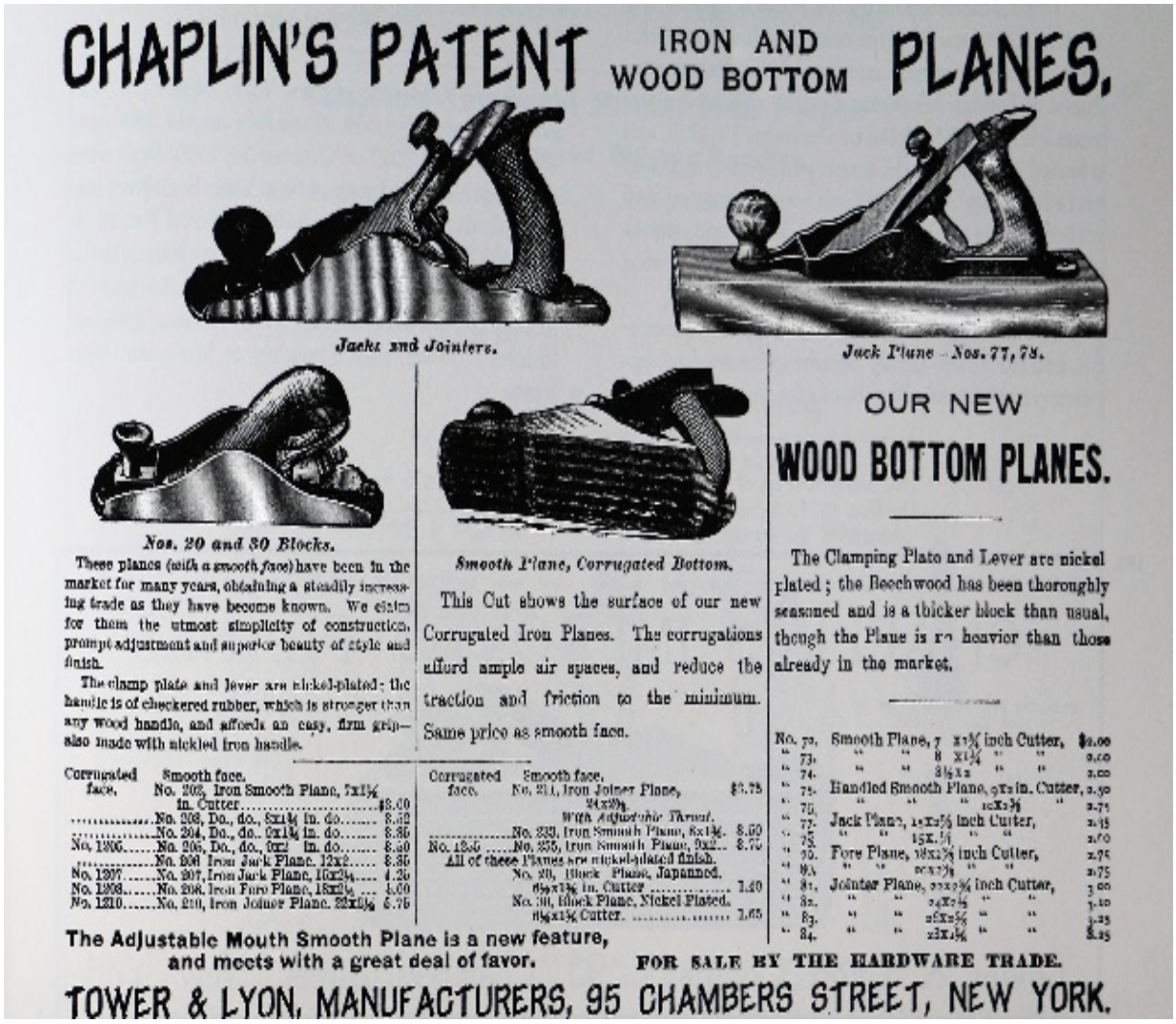
1 PTAMPA Vol 1 & 2 (Roger Smith, Athol, Mass.)

2 Peter Mcbride on Chaplin's Patent www.petermcbride.com/chaplin/

JD's

The plan is to have complete ***JD's*** available as a free download on the TTTG Website by the end of 2018.
The website manager is overworked. To make this happen we need help.
Volunteer Wanted

All the ***JD's*** have been scanned.
If you are a "computer nerd" *(John's words)* why not volunteer?



This Chaplin advertisement appeared In 'Carpentry and Joinery in March, 1881'[1]

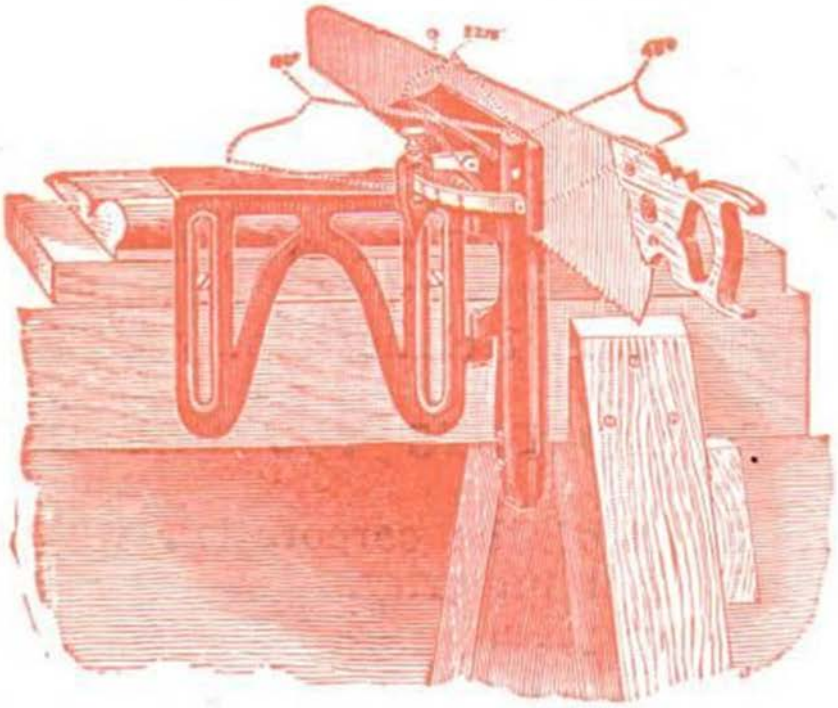
Cast Iron

The planes in this issue of *JD's* are good examples of the use of cast iron after the American Civil War. Cast Iron was the "new material" of the nineteenth century. Cast iron was infinitely cheap to manufacture and applicable to many applications, from hand planes to stoves, the long term cost of this technology was not obvious.

At the 2018 Sydney Wood Show Jim and I were comparing the Wood Rivers planes to the top of the range American planes. We can both remember how only a few years back the only quality cast iron planes were old pre 1970s Stanley type planes. This is no longer true. *Beginning woodworkers now have the choice of several quality planes made by several manufacturers at affordable prices.*

SEAVEY MITRE BOXES

WILL CUT ANY ANGLE



Send $2.00 for One to be Delivered to You

One carpenter says he would not take $25.00 for his box.

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR THEM

WRITE FOR GREEN BOOK

SCHATZ HARDWARE MFG. CO.

296 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

'Popular Mechanics', March 1905

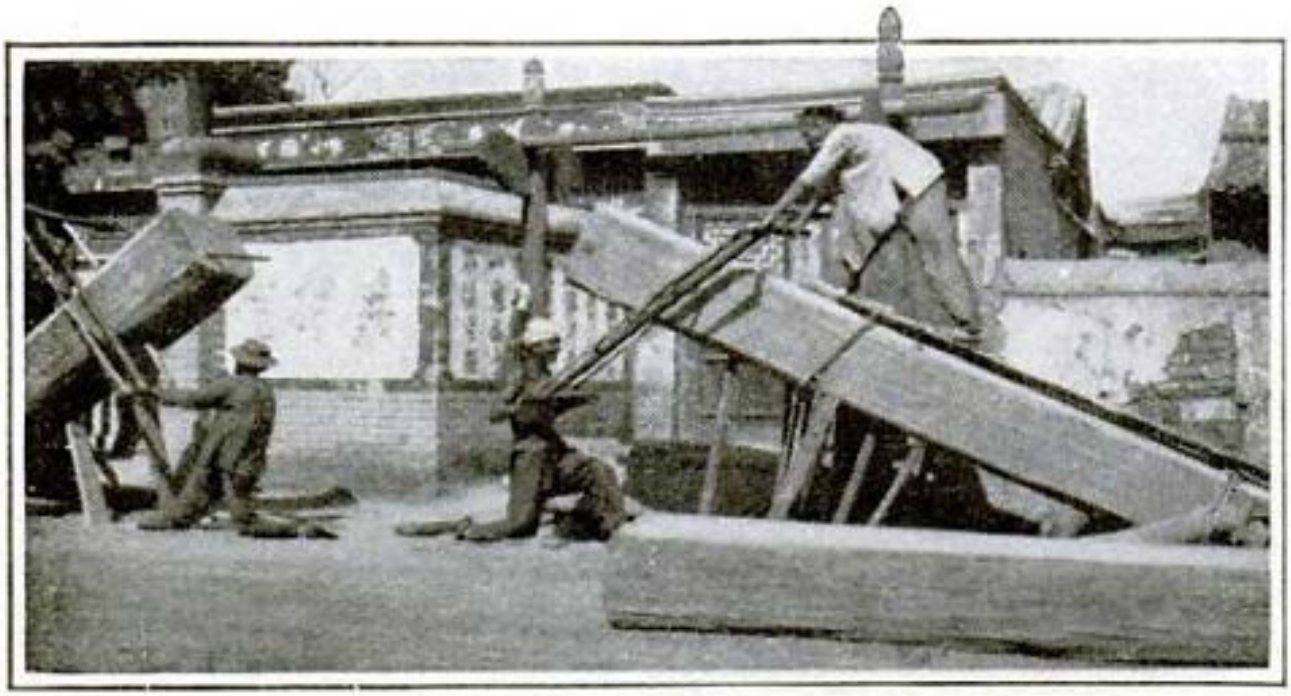
Using Old Machinery

Old machines are usually mechanically well designed and made but they rarely have the safety features of modern machines.

As an example my 6 inch jointer was probably made in the 1920's. The previous owner purchased the machine from the DMR in the 1960's. He had friend, who taught Fitting and Machining, replace the original square cutter block with a modern "safety" circular cutter block.

Popular Mechanics, April 1936

If you are planning to use old machines learn how to use them!



Chinese Wood Sawyers at Work

CHINESE WOOD SAWYERS
EARN PITTANCE

'Popular Mechanics' magazine January 1914

Parkinson's Patent Perfect Vice

The ***Parkinson's Patent Perfect Vice*** for woodworking was manufactured by the British firm J. Parkinson and Son Ltd and was patented in 1884.

The company is credited with the invention of the quick release mechanism, later used by many other manufacturers.

Parkinson's also made an engineer's vice with a quick release mechanism.

The woodworking vice is approximately the size of the familiar Record 92½ vices, but without the familiar steel rod sliding bars. Instead, the vice featured an integral cast front jaw with a fairly massive pair of essentially rectangular bars as the runners. These bars slide with some movement but quite effectively in the rear jaw and bench attachment chassis, also cast in one piece. The screw is the familiar record style, as is the dog. The vice opens to about 300 millimetres, with the usual holes for fitted wooden jaws. The original finish was apparently reddish-brown paintwork.

The quick release mechanism is quite light and effective in use - you don't need the brawny thumbs of a blacksmith to operate it. It is possible that the *Parkinson* is the basic pattern which provided the model for the many similarly featured designs in the second half of the Twentieth Century, for example *Record*, *Wooden, Dawn* and several other vices. One notable similarity with early *Record* models was the oval shaped knob/handle, easy to grip and actuate the quick release at the same time. They are almost identical, and this could be a result of co-operation required during the World War Two industrial government controlled environment.

Joseph Parkinson manufactured Parkson mills and Sunderland gear cutting machines. Perhaps the vices were a smaller sideline? The companies' address was "J. Parkinson & Son Ltd, Canal Iron Works, Shipley, West Yorkshire". Another address was "Cromwell Rd Shipley".

J. Parkinson & Son Ltd was taken over by Broadbent Stanley, who today manufacture industrial lathes and specialise in equipment for the natural gas industry in Britain.

The following provides some insight to the firm in the late 1930's:

As to the demise of Parkinson there is a comment in Scott Landis's Workbench Book that in 1942 the Ministry of Supply instructed C & J Hampton (Record Tools) to assist F. Paramore and Sons, a Rotherham cast-iron grate maker and founders, in setting up a vice making production facility in order that there would be more than one source of mechanic's and woodworker's vices which were deemed essential to the war effort.

I have found a couple of references to this elsewhere, so it is certainly safe to say that if you have a Parkinson vice it is at least 60 years old." (posting on www.ukworkshop.co.uk - 2004)

Presumably, because of their heavy machinery production *Parkinsons* were an important supplier to the war effort; it took precedence over smaller components such as vices, hence the Hampton/Paramore involvement.

It is reasonable then to conclude that Parkinson vices were made between 1884 and World War Two, and probably during the war.

References

www.ukworkshop.co.uk
www.practicalmachinist.com
www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/mini-vise-antique-j-parkinson-son-the-perfect

Parkinson's Perfect Fitter's Vice

The metal work bench in the TTTG Marsfield Workshop is fitted with a Parkinson's Perfect Fitter's Vice.

The TTTG Parkinson's Perfect Fitter's Vice is a large "quick action" model.

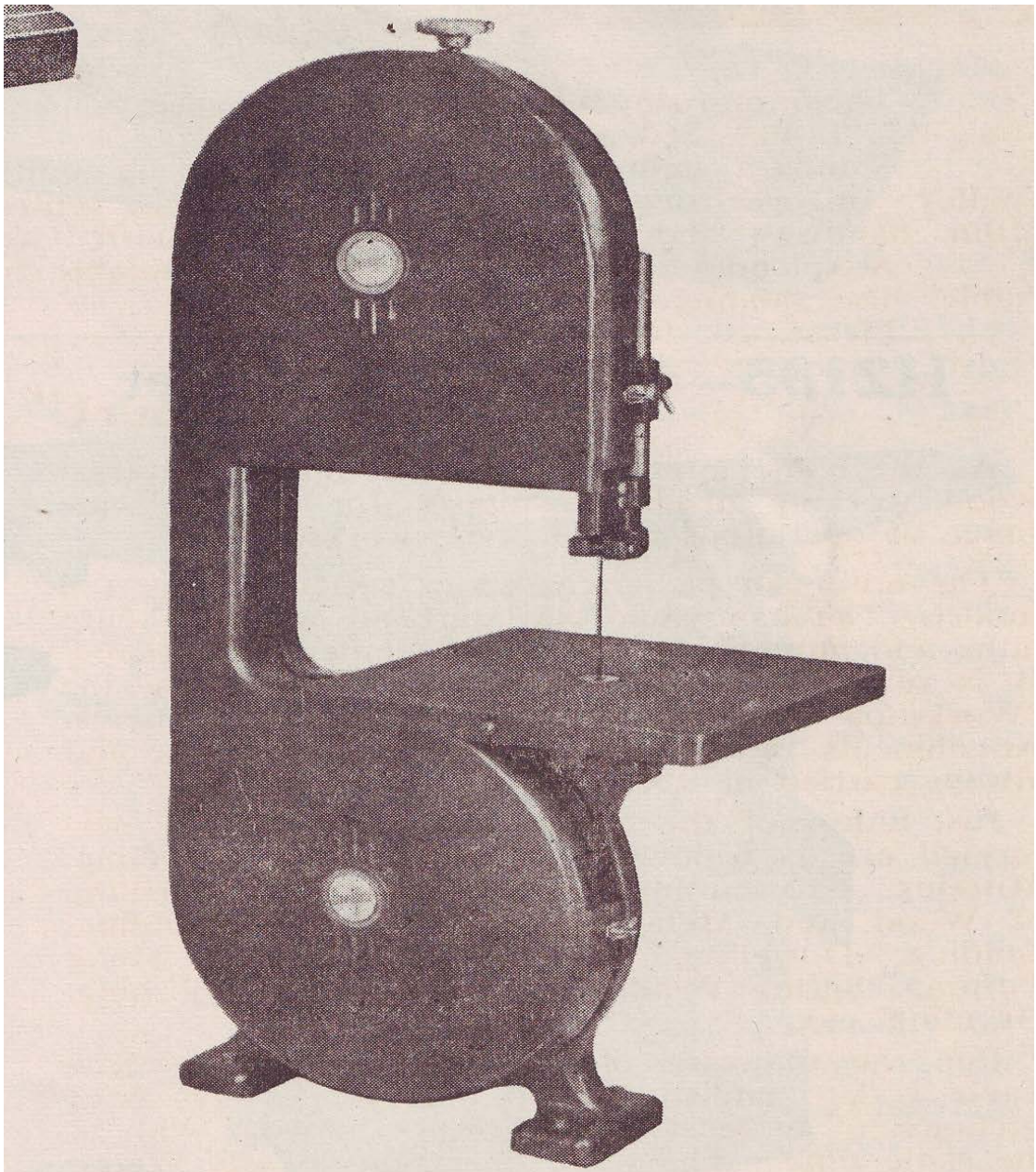
Parkinson's vices were made for woodworking and metal working.

These vices seem to have achieved instant fame.

During the 1920s Parkinson's vices were rebadged and made by Record.

Popular Mechanics Magazine June 1908

Woodfast 14 Inch Bandsaw



This is a sturdy machine, with heavy one-piece frame, cast construction. Cast iron table, 15in. x 15in., tilting to 45°. Dust sealed ball bearings throughout. Has practically all the features of larger costlier machine.

Blade lengths.—99½in., 26 gauge up to ½in. wide.
Power required, ½ H.P.
Speed recommended, 610 r.p.m.

Goodall & Co. Pty. Ltd.
Catalogue1960?

Two Bandsaws

I recently replaced my old, ex High School, Woodfast Bandsaw, probably supplied to the school in 1960 when the school opened. All it needed was an over haul and a few minor repairs. Yes, it also needed a new motor and V Belt but the price was right.

The band saw was working well but after a few years the tyres were close to needing re-vulcanising. Before I went to this expense I fitted a Carter Ultra Blue Urethane Tyre to the top wheel. When I purchased the Carter tyre I ordered four, just in case I live to be 200.

Out of the blue a *McPherson's* Bandsaw was available. It was dirty but in mechanically good condition. The motor was old but the "nightmare" was the *"on/off"* modified light switch in a tin can.

The machined aluminium wheels in the *McPherson's* bandsaw was what won me over. The old *Woodfast's* new motor and safe switch were reused. The old welded *McPherson's stand* was removed. I made a new plywood stand.

Machine cleaned, new motor and switch and Carter tyres and the veretan *McPherson's* 14 inch Bandsaw was back in service. All it needed was sharp blades. I purchased some blades from Timbecon. Excellent quality, good price and they arrived in three days.

What happened next is what I expected. *McPherson's* were ahead of the times and the machined aluminium wheels were the machine's "weakness" in the 1950s. The original tyres were rubber glued to the tyre rim. The first new blade I fitted was a narrow 6mm blade. This compressed the rubber under the blade and allowed the rubber beside the blade to expand. Hot rubber and Flap, Flap. Machine off. Carter's Ultra Blues out of the packages.

I cleaned the aluminium rims with thinners and fitted the Carter Ultra Blues. The first blade I fitted was the narrow 6mm. The blade ran perfectly. Of course setting up a bandsaw does involve some knowledge so learn how before you try. The quality of the machined parts in the *McPherson* helps!

When my son saw the resurrected *McPherson* he looked it over, drew breath and commented *"over engineered to buggery".* Not only well designed but also well made. Every machined part is perfect for it's function.

One of the reasons I ditched the original stand was the absence of any guarding to the motor pulley, drive wheel pulley and V belt. The previous owner had fitted a sheet metal cover that was a lesson in how not to shape and join sheet metal. I decided to use plywood for the new stand and guards to minimise noise. If I don't make it to 200 the *McPherson's will.*

A246—IMPROVED 14-in. BAND SAW

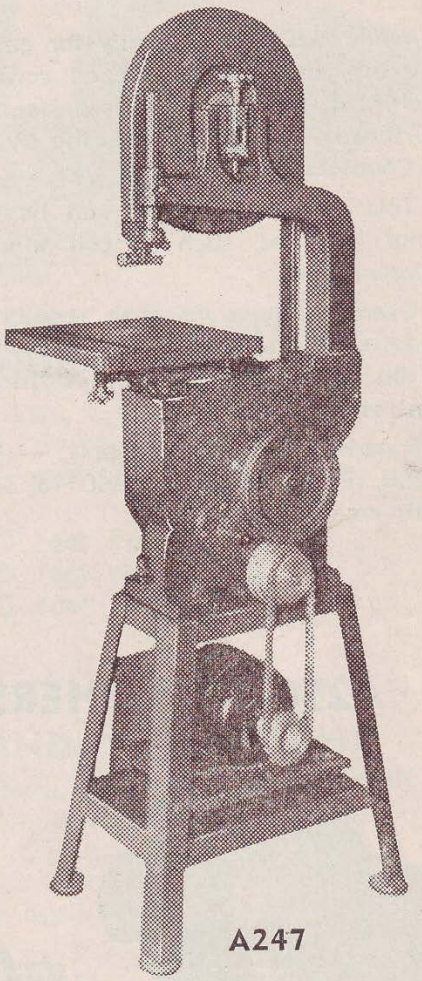
Table, 14 in. x 14 in., swinging smoothly on double trunnions, makes very rigid table mounting. Table tilts 45 deg. to right and 5 deg. to left, is grooved ¾ in. x 3/8 in. to take a mitre gauge.

Wheels are of the disc type in cast aluminium. Upper wheel adjustment has quick index to show blade tension.

Lower wheel completely guarded front and rear. (Guard slotted underneath to prevent sawdust accumulation), mounted on ball bearings, sealed on both sides and lubricated for the entire life of the bearing.

Each guide adjustment is independent of the others, and each made with micrometer accuracy. Guide pins can be set to blade teeth without disturbing the setting of the blade support, and without alterting adjustment of guide pins.

Bandsaw Dimensions: Height, 41¼ in., Width, 16¼ in. Front to Back, 24¾ in. Steel Stand—Height, 23¼ in.; Base, 15 in. x 23 in. Capacity under Guide—5 in. H.P. Recommended—½ to ¾.



A247

A247—"McPHERSON" 14-in. WOOD AND METAL CUTTING BAND SAW

Similar in general construction to A246.

McPherson's 1951 Catalogue

McPherson's made excellent machinery and probably pioneered the use of cast aluminium.

Tanner Woodworking Machines

Undated flyer

A bay in one of our machine shops.

OTHER PRECISION TANNER PRODUCTS INCLUDE . . .

★

6" PLANER (BUZZER)

A good solid cast-iron machine giving good work and wide range, extra heavy fence, tables, and cutterhead accurately machined and ground to preserve long life.

★

½" BALL-BEARING DRILL PRESS

An admirable machine for garage-proprietors, engineers or the home workshop. Will take up to ½in drills. Send for our illustrated Folder giving full details of our ½in Drill Press.

★

10" TILTING TABLE SAW-BENCH

The most modern Saw-Bench on the market to-day. Large table, 27in x 20in. Cuts 3⅛in deep, rips to the centre of a 4ft sheet of ply.

Send for separate leaflets of these machines.

New South Wales Distributors:

CLEVELAND MACHINERY CO. (PTY.) LTD.

193-195 CLEVELAND STREET, REDFERN TELEPHONE MX 3594-5

P.O. BOX 64 REDFERN, *TELEGRAMS "CLEVECO" REDFERN*

Stockists in all main centres.

Manufactured by Tanner Engineering Ltd., Penrose, Auckland, N.Z

YORK PRINTING CO. LTD. PENROSE. AUCKLAND. N.Z.

Shaping, Planing and Slotting Machine

Mechanics' Magazine.

No. 1800.] SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1858. [Price 3d.

Edited by R. A. Brooman and E. J. Reed, 166, Fleet-street, London.

Fig. 1.

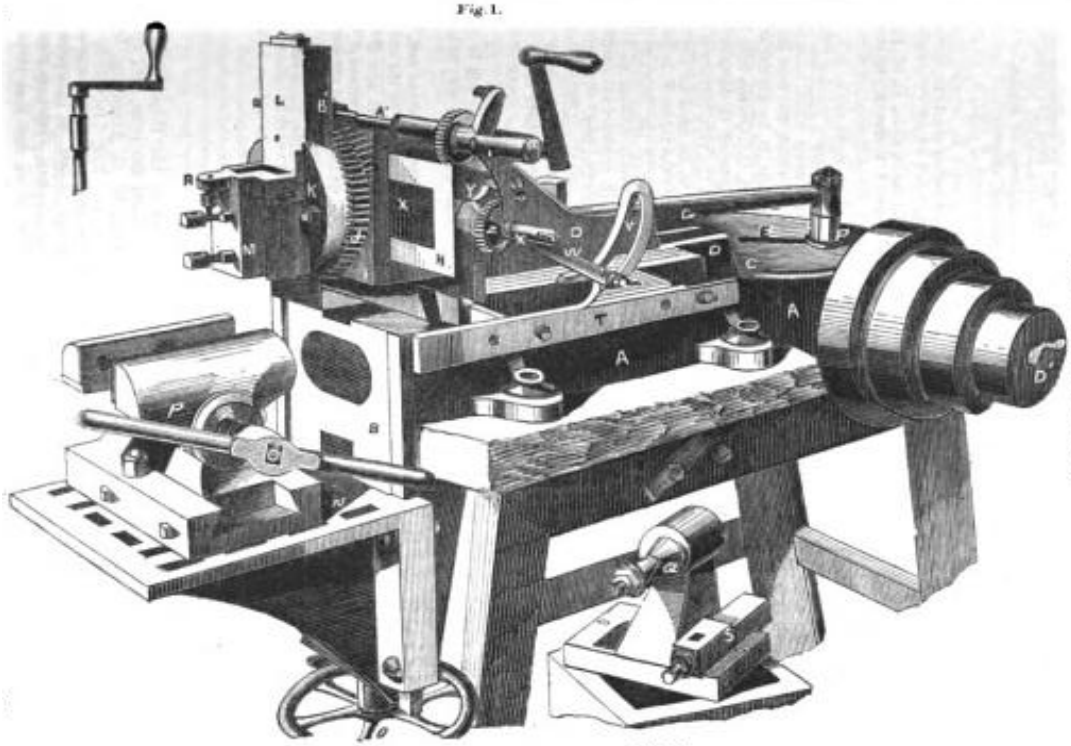


Fig. 2.

MESSRS. BARTON AND SON'S PATENT SHAPING, PLANING, AND SLOTTING MACHINE.

Popular Mechanics, April 1910 ***Philippines Blacksmith's Shop***

WANTED

Laminex (Formica) offcuts

The *NEWS* Editor uses old "bench top" laminate offs to make templates. Local councils are phasing out "Clean-ups" and the supply is drying up.

Off cuts averaging 300mm square are idea. The wilder colour the better.

Even old bench tops with *Laminex* are suitable. *Laminex is easy to strip.*

If you have any to spare please bring it to the meeting.

When I restock my Formica box I will offer a workshop:

Making Templates and Jigs using Bench Top Laminex

Next Jim Davey Workshop in Sydney
Sunday 23 September 2018

Jim will have an extensive selection of sharpening equipment, planes and chisel for you to "try and buy".

Reserve a place on the TTTG Website. *Only $60 for the day*

New Grinder Purchased by TTTG

200mm 8″ 1HP Slow Speed Bench Grinder Rikon

Jim Davey has added this machine to his workshop.
Beyond Tools had one at the 2018 Sydney Wood Show at a good price.

First thing Friday morning TTTG purchased one.

Why? Work Health and Safety compliant.

Safe and the price was good.

We also purchased a Veritas Tool Rest to fit to the machine.

At the next TTTG meeting

Tuesday 14 August 2018

Once only chance to get a virtually free vice

25 CARTER Vices 7-inch Woodwork vice $5 each

There are also a few cheap vices

4 DAWN Vices 7-inch Woodwork vice $15 each

And in the Free Corner

A box of vice parts *PLUS* numerous & curious ironmonery.

Make your own Acoustic Guitar

Australian Guitar Making School – Hornsby

- Using mostly hand tools
- No previous woodworking experience required
- Guitars are made from raw materials *(No Kits here!)*
- Weekly 4-hour classes during the day or night
- Pay per class, no upfront fee
- Classes are kept to a maximum of 5 students
- Non-guitarists are encouraged to join
- Class environment is fun and social

Personal guided attention every step of the way

by
Steve Toscano
Experienced renowned luthier and Guitar Maker

Contact Steve to find out more:

m. 0467 647 936

sydney@guitarmakingschool.com.au

https://guitarmakingschool.com.au

2019 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale

Sunday 24 February 2019

Brickpit Sports Stadium
1A Dartford Road, Thornleigh

Entry $10
9am to 1pm

Seller Tables - enquiries: secretary@tttg.org.au

Next TTTG Members Meeting

Tuesday 14 August 2018

Rear of Old Eastwood Town Hall
74 Agincourt Road
Marsfield

First Meeting at the new TTTG Premises

Doors Open 6.45 pm **"Pick and Pay" 8 pm**

Entry $5 **Parking is on street**

7 pm Members Meeting
Sydney Wood Show review
Details of New TTTG Workshops

8 pm "Pick-&-Pay"
Set price tables
Citric Acid - $5 for 500gm
Free Table

Selling area locked until 8 pm. No early entry.

Next "Real Skills" Workshop

Sunday 23 September 2018

Old Eastwood Town Hall
74 Agincourt Road, Marsfield

9.30 am to 4 pm **$60**

USING AND MAINTAINING HAND PLANES

Presenters: Jim Davey and Bob Crosbie