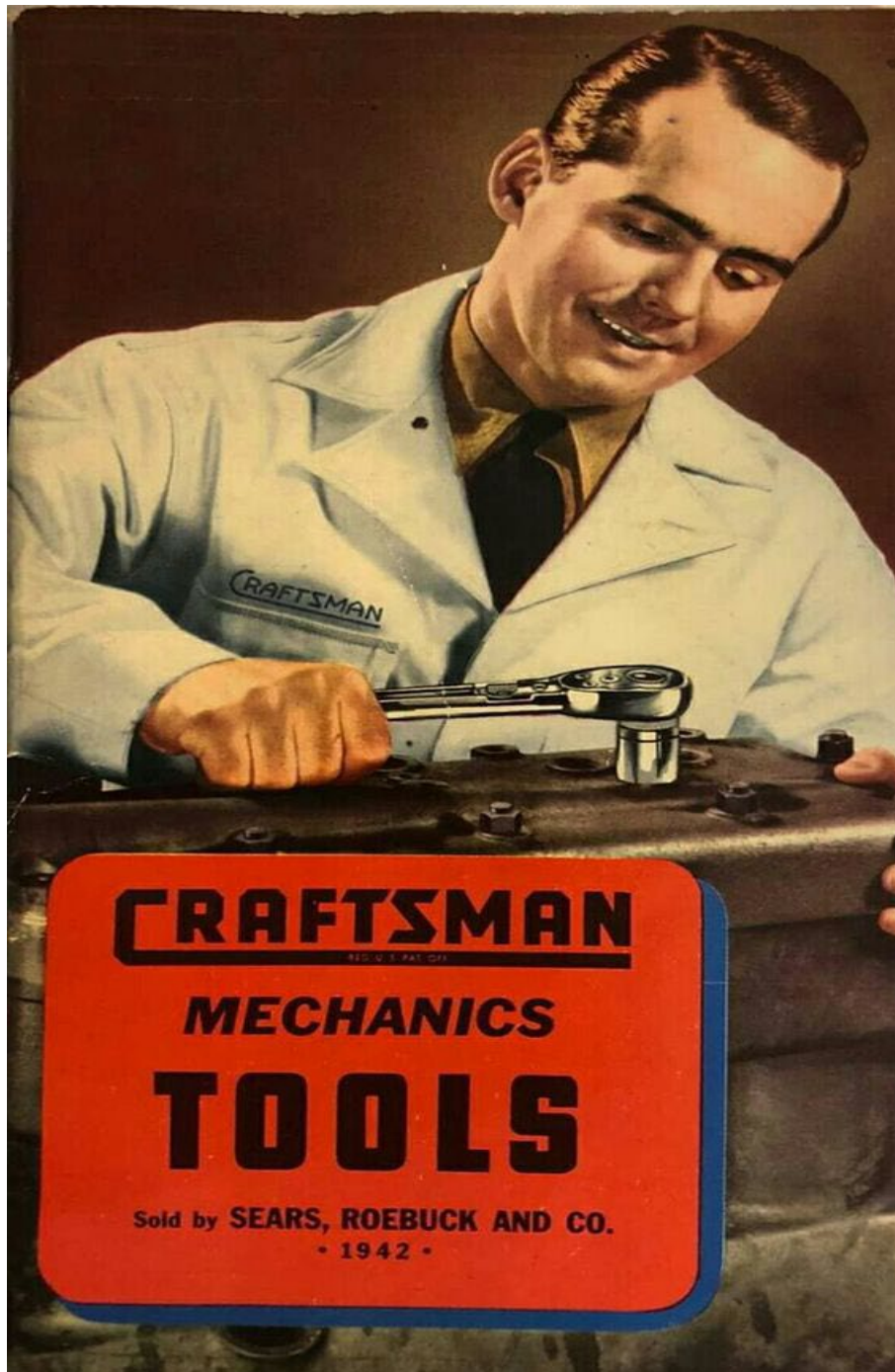


# NEWS 171



**February 2022**

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

**ISSN 2206-1606**

*Cover illustration: 1942 'Craftsman' tools advertisement*

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**Next Members Meeting and Tool Sales**

For details of TTTG Meetings and Sales see [www.tttg.org.au](http://www.tttg.org.au)  
To book a TTTG Tool Sale table email [secretary@tttg.org.au](mailto:secretary@tttg.org.au)

## **What is TTTG?**

TTTG is the Traditional Tools Group; a not-for-profit group of like-minded enthusiasts interested in the history and preservation of traditional trade skills, techniques, and tools, including hand tools, machinery, and other old technologies. TTTG was established in 1992.

Our bi-monthly Members' meetings typically feature a guest speaker or a panel talking on diverse topics related to tools, trades, and technology.

### **Keeping traditional tool skills alive is a key objective of TTTG.**

"Real Skills" workshops have been held every year since 2005. These popular fee-based workshops, open to all, are designed to guide participants in developing their tool skills and learning and practising new techniques.

The Group sells old tools and machinery at affordable prices. Two or three "members and friends" Tool Sales are held each year at the Old Eastwood Town Hall, Marsfield. And every February TTTG runs Sydney's largest second-hand tools sale at Thornleigh.

Membership of the Traditional Tools Group is open to anyone with an interest in traditional tools history, techniques, and skills.

The TTTG digital magazine, creatively titled "NEWS", is published in digital form, and normally emailed to Members four times a year in February, May, August, and November.

"Trad Tools" a monthly TTTG bulletin sent to registered recipients by Mailchimp every month.

Membership of the Traditional Tools Group is open to anyone with an interest in traditional tools, history, techniques, and skills.

## **TTTG Membership Rules**

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

MEMBERSHIP FEE - currently \$50 per year and is due to be paid on 1 July each year and must be paid on or before 15 August.

UN-FINANCIAL MEMBER – any Member who has NOT paid their Membership Fee by 15 August each year. That Member will cease to receive NEWS magazine or access to the Members' area of the website.

NEW MEMBER join between 1 July and 31 March the following year and receive full Membership for the remainder of that MEMBERSHIP YEAR.

NEW MEMBER join between 1 April and 30 June and receive full membership until the end of the following MEMBERSHIP YEAR.

All MEMBERSHIP inquiries and questions to [secretary@tttg.org.au](mailto:secretary@tttg.org.au).

# TTTG Contacts & Fees 2021/22

## **2021/22 TTTG Fees**

**Membership \$50**

### **Entry Fees:**

**Real Skills Workshops  
\$60**

**Members Meetings  
\$5**

**Members & Friends Tool  
Sales \$5**

## **TTTG Contacts**

**Editorial/Advertising  
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[president@tttg.org.au](mailto:president@tttg.org.au)

**Membership Enquiries:**

**John Bates**  
[secretary@tttg.org.au](mailto:secretary@tttg.org.au)

## **NEWS Magazine and TRAD TOOLS Bulletin**

NEWS Magazine is emailed to financial Members during:

**FEBRUARY**

**MAY**

**AUGUST**

**NOVEMBER**

TRAD TOOLS is the “for anyone interested” bulletin on TTTG. TRAD TOOLS is sent to registered recipients by Mailchimp each month.

### **Next Members Meeting**

OETH, 74 Agincourt Road,  
Marsfield

**Tuesday 29 March 2022 –  
starts at 7.00pm**

*Entry \$5 incl tea & coffee*

**TOPIC: “What’s in the  
box” – view and discuss  
a Classic Joiner’s chest  
of tools**

plus

**Sale of surplus tools**

### **Volunteers Wanted**

- To demonstrate skills*
- To “sell” TTTG*
- To write articles*
- To help with the website*
- To sort tools*
- To repair tools*
- To repair old machines*

*TTTG needs members who can talk  
to an audience and can  
demonstrate “real skills”.*

## **COVID-19 and TTTG**

The February 2021 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale was cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

In May the *2021 Sydney Wood Show* was cancelled.

*TTTG “Real Skills” Workshops* were suspended during the 2021 Sydney Lock Down.

*All TTTG Meetings* were suspended during the 2021 Sydney Lock Down.

*“Real Skills” Workshops* were resumed in November 2021.

*TTTG Meetings* were resumed in December 2021.

New workshops are being developed.

Keeping watching the TTTG website and reading NEWS magazine and Trad Tools bulletins sent via Mailchimp.

TTTG sends the Trad Tools bulletin each month to all registered recipients.

***TTTG Workshop Space is limited so the classes are small.***

***Small class sizes and quality teaching ensure “value for money”.***

### ***April Meeting in March?***

Due to a venue booking conflict TTTG is forced to hold its April Member Meeting at the end of March!

***TTTG apologises to members for any inconvenience caused by this change in the Meeting schedule.***



## Just a Sec

John Bates, TTTG Secretary

***As always lots has happened since the last edition of NEWS.***

Workshops and Tool Sales have recommenced following the relaxation of COVID restrictions. “Real Skills” workshops have recommenced.

Our last TTTG Members and Friends Tool Sale was held on Sunday 5 December. And thanks to the relaxation of COVID restrictions the 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale went ahead on Sunday 20 February 2022 at the Brickpit Sports Stadium, 1A Dartford Road, Thornleigh.

The 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale was keenly anticipated and did not disappoint. We filled 60 tables with plenty of tools and the usual ‘Lifeline’ books on sale drew a lot of interest. Special thanks to the TTTG Committee and member Philip Howe for their support and hard work transporting all the tables on the day.

All sellers and buyers fully complied with the TTTG COVID-Safe Plan and NSW Government COVID-Safe Rules & Regulations.

Hopefully 2022 will be a less stressful year.

More good news, our landlord, Ryde City Council, granted us a 6-month rent holiday on the Workshop to compensate for lost bookings and revenue. Many thanks to the Mayor of Ryde and our Council contact Nick Wright.



*Just some of the tables at the 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale - Photo by Chris Clark, Australian Woodsmith*

## **Just a Word**

Bob Crosbie, TTTG Editor

2020 and 2021 were the years of Covid Crisis challenges.

During 2020 the extended Lockdown in Sydney prevented TTTG from holding its usual Meetings, Members & Friends Tool Sales and “Real Skills” Workshops.

TTTG survived 2020. In 2021 reduced restrictions allowed the Workshops and Tool Sales to recommence. TTTG survived 2021.

***2022 will be a year of consolidation and growth for TTTG.***

A bold prediction? The TTTG Committee will make this claim realty!

The success of the February TTTG Sydney Tool Sale shows “interest is out there’.

TTTG needs to reach potential members. The Committee needs to sell TTTG!

***TTTG isn’t only about hand tools.***

There is an urban myth that TTTG members only use hand tools.

There is another urban myth that TTTG members are “the old tools mafia’.

TTTG promotes appropriate techniques and quality work.

TTTG cannot control the price of old tools.

***TTTG accepts donations and can help sell old tools.***

Anyone who contacts TTTG to donate old tools is treated with respect.

TTTG can sell old tools “on consignment”.

TTTG does not offer an old tool valuation service.

***“Real Skills” Workshops.***

For the first three months of 2022 there will be a Workshop in each month.

*The emphasis is on time proven techniques.*

The sub theme “don’t throw money at it”.

***Priority for 2022***

A high priority for 2022 is to review and improve the Website.

*Effective use of the website and social media will promote TTTG.*

***Does TTTG need a larger workshop?***

There is interest in “real skills” and time proven methods.



***Best Buy?***

Ivory Sector Scale

# TOOL SALE EYE CATCHERS

## Australian Woodsmith Editor was at the 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale

It was great fun catching up with fellow TTTG members and checking out their wares at the 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale.

I knew Fred would have found a treasure or two before 9am. The ivory sector scale was picked up for \$30 (after a clean it could fetch more than \$200)

Fred also had an Australian-made Bakelite razor strop on his table. You pop your steel razor in, close the case and then pull the cords back and forward so that the lugs inside the shell move the blade against the abrasive blocks. The International Tractor multi tool was amazing, as was the collection of square buggy wrenches.

I will be writing the event up in issue 169 of Australian Woodsmith.

I do hope these photos are helpful (I have lots more).

Chris Clark

Editor Australian Woodsmith

*Around 300 people attended the 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale. The vendors departed happy!*



**Collection of square buggy wrenches**

*Rare as, good selection and fair prices*



***Above: International Tractor multi tool***

**What was your Tool Sale experience? Positives or negatives.**

*Your comments will help us to plan the 2023 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale.*

**Remember these dates: -**

**Sunday 15 May 2022**

**Sunday 14 August 2022**

**Sunday 4 December 2022**

**a Members & Friends Tool Sale will be held at the Old Eastwood Town Hall, Marsfield on these days. **Entry only \$5****

**Want to book a table?**

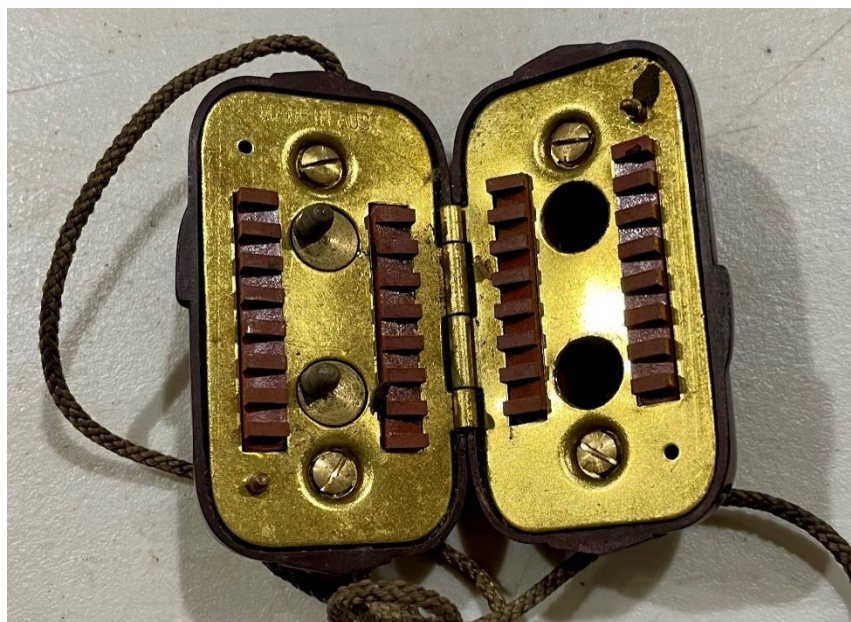
**Tables only \$25 ea**

**Email [secretary@tttg.org.au](mailto:secretary@tttg.org.au)**

***BELOW: Australian-made “Capstan Quikstrop” Bakelite razor strop***



***Below: The mechanism of the “Capstan Quikstrop” razor strop***



# Tools for Users and Collectors at the 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale



**Tools for “Collectors only” at the 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale**



**Even Planes in a box at the 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale**



## All the planes you wanted at the 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale



### What can you spot?

Top left corner Stanley Shoot Board and Plane. Complete.

There were a number of Shoot Board Planes at the 2022 Tool Sale.

## Stanley 55 Universal Plane: *In the Box?*

Combination planes were sold in wood, metal, or cardboard boxes.

Combination planes are often found without the original box.

A complete Stanley 55 comes as a lucky find in an old Globite School Case, first move is to download the manual and then think about making a box.

TTTG Committee member John Deeble has an original Stanley 55 Box.

*John has measured his Stanley 55 Box and made some notes.*

Here are the external sizes:

- Timber is 1/2 inch thick
- Length - 12 1/8 inches (307mm)
- Width - 7 1/2 inches (191mm)
- Height - 6 3/8 inches (161mm)
- End for sliding top is 6 inches (153mm)

Base thickness included in above height is 7/32 inches (5.5mm).

The base is solid timber in 2 pieces.

Groove for sliding top is 1/8 inch leaving approximately 1/4 inch above the groove. I do not have an original sliding top, but I think it would be 3/8 thick with splay to 1/8 edge.

The box corners are joined with Finger joints, 1/8 inch fingers.

Cutter boxes base section 10-3/16 x 3-1/2 inches.

Timber varies in thickness from 5/32 to 3/16.

End spacers are 3/4 wide.

Stanley Combination Plane boxes are usually made from Chestnut.

### ***Making the box:***

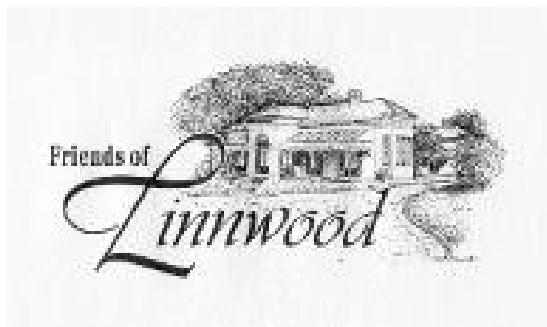
Recycled Tas. Oak would be ideal. Side of road stuff.  
Thickness to 1/2 inch. Plane to width. Square ends.  
1/8 inch fingers are nice, but 1/4 inch are as strong!  
Consider 3mm ply for lid and base.  
Use a router jig and make several boxes.

### **What Router Jig?**

### **Using Routers & Trimmers**

**TTTG "Real Skills" Workshop  
Sunday 8 May**

## Linnwood Mystery Tool



Helen sent this snapshot asking if TTTG had any idea what the tool was used for.

Bob asked if Linnwood had any other old mystery tools. After a few emails Bob arranged to come and have a look at the old tools in the Linnwood Cellar. *Full report in NEWS 172.*

Go to the *Friends of Linnwood* website [www.linnwood.org.au](http://www.linnwood.org.au) and then visit *Linnwood*.



Linnwood is set on 5 hectares at Guildford in Sydney. The house was built in 1891 by George McCredie, a prominent businessman of the day, Mayor of Prospect & Sherwood, and member for the State seat of Central Cumberland, an independent free-trader and advocate of female suffrage.

After his time in government, George McCredie was called upon to supervise the cleansing of the City of Sydney when there was an outbreak of the Bubonic Plague in 1900.

A few years after his death in 1903, his wife Susan McCredie leased the property to the Education Department as the State's first and only Boys Truant School. The Department then purchased the property in 1921.

In 1936 the property converted to a residential girls' school for State Wards aged 14 years and upwards.

By 1966 Linnwood was a Special Training School for Home Science for girls from deprived backgrounds. With changes in the welfare system, homes like Linnwood gradually became superfluous to the Department of Community Services' needs.

After learning of the Department's plans to sell the property on the open market, the **Friends of Linnwood** formed in 2002 to help 'preserve and protect' the property.

Linnwood was listed on the NSW State Heritage Register in February 2003.

# **I cut; therefore, I sharpen**

*with apologies to Rene Descartes (1596-1650)*

John Bates

After trawling through some of the many articles and web sites dedicated to all aspects of sharpening and sloppy reviews of “new” particle metallurgy blades and cutters I now see a distinct “philosophical” divide amongst the ranks of woodworkers and metal machinists.

There are those who sharpen because they cut. This group is in the majority by a long way. But there are also those who cut because they love to sharpen and what this group lacks in numbers it more than compensates for with a single-mindedness and dedication that sometimes borders on obsession and fanaticism.

*Let's call one group the Cutters and the other group the Sharpeners.*

Now I have no cause or authority to pronounce that one of these two groups is right and the other wrong. It is simply a view I have arrived at after considering the facts. Yes, I am a Cutter. I do not like sharpening so when I sharpen a tool, I ask myself what is “sharp enough” and stop there. Hopefully you can clearly identify my likes and preferences, even my bias and my prejudices.

The Cutters have long been taken care of by the developers, manufacturers, and purveyors of fine tools. Let's start with High-Speed Steel, not HSS's invention but its application and use. HSS meant more product produced in less time *and* fewer stops to resharpen than when using the old carbon steel tools. After HSS came the cobalt alloys, Stellite and Cobalt etc. Better cutting and even less time spent sharpening. Jump to carbide tipped tools and now disposable carbide inserts.

*No sharpening at all. The cutters rejoice.*

Hand saws are now almost universally hard point – no sharpening. When they go blunt you just paint a scene on them and mount them on the wall. Router bits also took the tour from carbon to HSS to tungsten carbide. Likewise, you can buy wood turning gouges that now use replaceable tungsten carbide tips. Plane blades: from HSS to particle metallurgy HSS and even some crazy treatment processes like cryogenic. Was that because the wood got harder?

*Nope, it means less frequent sharpening. Another win for the Cutters.*

Don't be fooled by the marketing BS, all this application of technology to cutting tools is about longer tool life and less or no sharpening. They don't want to insult their customers by accusing them of being too lazy or feckless to sharpen their tools. Instead, they want their customers to believe they are innovators at the (excuse the pun) cutting edge of tool technology. Clearly this strategy works, the Veritas particle metallurgy tools are a good example.

### ***So, what about the Sharpeners then?***

They have not been forgotten. Read a few blogs and websites and we see how easily and seductively the sharpening of an edge tool can be turned into the woodworker or machinist version of the Japanese tea ceremony. Scary sharp; blade backs polished to mirror finish, edges photographed under electron microscope and endless grades of water stones or diamond hones from 10 grit to 1,000,000 grit pixie dust. But the edge will never be less than the size of the metal crystal and that is bigger than a molecule of Fe or C or W or WC. Nor will it ever assume the geometry of a straight line formed by two planes.

The Sharpeners never stop at “sharp enough”. When they get to the top they do not stop, they just keep on going. When I see the amount of effort the Sharpeners put in, I am reminded of my old coach. He would say “They race to train, the don’t train to race”, he was a wise man.

If you find that criticism a bit too harsh have a look at <https://scienceofsharp.com/home/> . Just imagine what they could achieve if only they devoted that dedication, time, and effort to developing tool technique and skill.

## **TTTG “Real Skills” Workshops**

*The classes have a limit of six, don’t miss out on a place, book early.*

Remember these dates: -

**Sunday 3 April 2022**  
***Chiselling Wood***

**Sunday 8 May 2022**  
***Using Routers and Trimmers***

**Sunday 5 June 2022**  
***Making Mouldings***

**Sunday 17 July 2022**  
***Hand Cut Dovetails***

Remember also:

Sharp tools are provided.

Bring your own, but ask “Is this sharp?”

# The Best Oilstone

## *Washita or India?*

Norton Abrasives made a lot of oilstones. It has been claimed that the introduction of the India Oilstone made most natural oilstones redundant.



Read the full story at **A History of Norton Abrasives**

A Google search will get you there in a few minutes.

*For the ultimate  
in KEEN EDGES  
there's nothing like*

**HARD ARKANSAS<sup>®</sup>**  
a **NORTON** abrasives  
"NATURAL" STONE

For generalists the selection of saws, chisels, wood-  
sawyers, engravers, for the final refinement in edges,  
HARD ARKANSAS is surely a finishing stone. It takes over  
where other stones leave off—and what an edge it gives  
you! . . . In slip and bench sizes.

HARD ARKANSAS Bevel Edge Slip #HS-4, 4" x 1 1/2",  
\$2.70, and HARD ARKANSAS Bench Stone #HS-5,  
4" x 2" \$9.00, at most hardware stores.

GET THE "HOW TO SHARPEN" BOOK  
32 pages of pictures and data on pro-  
fessional tool sharpening. Send 10¢ to  
Dept. P1-7.

Trade Mark

**BEHR-MANNING**  
TROY, N. Y.  
Also Manufacturers of Abrasive Paper and Cloth

Norton Abrasives Hard Arkansas 1951 Advertisement

Norton Abrasives also sold a lot of oilstones, both natural stones and synthetic stones.

Norton Abrasives picked the likely winners, the oilstones the buyers kept buying.

The natural oilstones with a reputation for consistently producing a fine edge are the Arkansas and Washita.

Washita for fast cutting, Arkansas for a fine edge.

The three grades of India could arguably outperform both the premium natural stones.

Over a century of high sales of India stones suggest the claims made for India aren't sales' hype.

## Norton Abrasives Combination Oilstone

Fine India on one side, coarse on the other side. Two oilstones for the price of one.

India oilstones are made from Aluminium Oxide and are tan, brown, or orange in colour.



Silicon Carbide oilstones were the only close competitors to India oilstones.

Both Aluminium Oxide and Silicon Carbide oilstones are still in production.

Aluminium Oxide Combination oilstones are sold in the large hardware centres at lower prices than the cheapest Diamond Sharpening plates.

These “brand new” Aluminium Oxide Combination oilstones give a good edge, especially if used with TTTG Sharp Oil.

There are millions of old oilstones in suburban garages and sheds. Most have been used with unsuitable lubricants and most stink.

Old “smell like old boots” oilstones are free “side of the roadkill” or cheap.

Most of these old oilstones can be raised from the dead ready for a life’s use.

TTTG Committee member Matt Pryor has been experimenting with cleaning “smell like old boots” oilstones in a quick and safe manner.

Matt rediscovered the ingredients of the legendary Pikes Oil.

TTTG Sharp Oil is a modern non-toxic version of Pikes sharpening oil.

Pikes Oil was made by Norton Abrasives.

TTTG Sharp Oil is only \$6 a bottle, available at all TTTG events.

**Oilstone Reviver will be available in 2022, watch the website for details.**

## The Best Way to Clean Oilstones?

Matthew Pryor

Word has it, in the straight razor forums, that soaking a filthy and clogged oilstone in *Simple Green* restores them to new, aside from the obvious need for a lapping. Also, sitting them in the sun thins and sweats out the heavy and dirty oil. This is a good first step before the *Simple Green*.

*“Cheap options too. I tried a bottle of Simple Green on my stash of gummed up slip stones. Fast, safe, and cheap” The Editor.*

Washing the stones in hot water, with a few drops of washing up detergent/ mould remover, spray and wipe is a harder option. Simple Green works! After washing the oilstones lay the stones in the hot sun.

The online razor forums are a good source of information for hones. Razor users really know what they are talking about compared to wood workers when it comes to stones. They speak about burnishing stones to create a finer cut from a coarser stone as I understand the concept.

*“A blunt razor or razor blade, really hurts!” The Editor.*



*Norton Abrasives made and sold the full range of natural and artificial oilstones.*

*Hard and Soft Washita Oilstones.*

*Arkansas Oilstones were “Lily White”.*

*Arkansas Oilstones were Hard or Soft.*

*Fine, Medium and Coarse India Oilstones.*

*Bench Stones and Slip Stones.*

*Hard Arkansas gave the best edge.*

*Washita and Arkansas gave a keen edge.*

*India gave predicable fast sharpening*

*With a Fine side or Coarse/Medium side.*

*Norton recommended Pike’s Honing Oil.*

*TTTG’s Sharp Oil is based on Pikes’ Oil.*

Matt has now found a quicker way to clean old filthy oilstones. This latest innovation also removes all the stains from oilstones. What does “oil filled oilstone” mean? Matt has found the answer.

## Atkins Silver Steel Saws



# ATKINS SILVER STEEL SAWS

*Mr. Happy-Man Says—*

**“ATKINS 401 Ship Point Saw  
Makes Easy Sawing  
and Saving!”**

**A**N easy push—an easy pull—and it cuts fast, free and quick! Let YOUR ATKINS Saw do most of the work. Save you time, labor and money. Only genuine ATKINS Saws are made of “Silver Steel” to outlast many “ordinary” saws. Only ATKINS Saws are two-way Taper Ground to cut faster and easier—with the famous Perfection handle. Look for the ATKINS name on the blade.

YOUR Hardware Dealer can show you a better ATKINS Saw for every use, in cutting wood or metal. Ask him, or write us, for interesting booklets showing savings on any kind of sawing.

**E. C. ATKINS & CO. Est. 1857 426 S. Ills. St., Indianapolis, Ind.**

Branch Houses: Atlanta, Ga.; Chicago, Ill.; Memphis, Tenn.; Minneapolis, Minn.; New Orleans, La.; New York City; Portland, Ore.; San Francisco, Cal.; Seattle, Wash.; Hamilton, Ont.; Vancouver, B. C.; Paris, France

*Leading Manufacturers of Highest Grade Saws for Every Use; Saw Tools, Saw Specialties, Plastering Trowels, Machine Knives, Grinding Wheels and Files*

**E. C. Atkins & Co** saws were rated with the best for over a century  
For more on Atkin Saws go to <http://atkinssaws.blogspot.com/>

**No. 400 Skew Back**



Ship Point Pattern

**No. 400** SILVER STEEL is the masterpiece in the ATKINS line and made for the artisan who appreciates fine tools. It is carefully hardened and tempered for remarkable edge holding qualities. Taper ground 5 gauges for easy clearance and runs smoothly with very little set. Has a beautiful mirror polish, ribbon edge. Solid rosewood handle full lacquer finish and extra fine polish. Improved Perfection pattern which prevents wrist strain; tightly fastened by 3 nickeled screws and 1 medallion. Filed and set ready for use.

Made in regular and ship patterns.

Packed one in an individual blue and white box.

Length, Inches	Points Cut-off	Points Rip	Width at Point, Inches	Width at Butt, Inches	Weight per Dozen, Pounds	Price per Dozen
24	8, 9, 10, 11	5 1/2	1 3/4	6 7/8	24	\$72.65
26	7, 8, 9, 10, 11	5 1/2	2 1/2	7 3/8	29	72.65

Ship Point Saws, 26 inch only; 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 point cutoff, 5 1/2 point rip; 1 3/4 inch point, 6 7/8 inch butt; 27 lbs. per dozen.

**No. 401 Straight Back**



Ship Point Pattern

**No. 401** Straight back in all respects is the same as the famous No. 400 except it is straight back. That is, genuine SILVER STEEL 5 gauges taper ground for clearance and needs very little set to cut fast, free and easy. Mirror polish ribbon edge. The improved Perfection pattern handle is a big asset as it prevents wrist strain yet directs the entire force of stroke on the cutting edge of the blade. Made of rosewood fully lacquered and extra fine polish. Has 3 nickeled screws and 1 medallion. Filed and set ready for use.

Made in regular and ship patterns.

Packed one in an individual blue and white box.

Length, Inches	Points Cut-off	Points Rip	Width at Point, Inches	Width at Butt, Inches	Weight per Dozen, Pounds	Price per Dozen
24	7, 8, 9, 10	5 1/2	1 3/4	6 7/8	25	\$72.65
26	7, 8, 9, 10, 11	5 1/2	2 3/8	7 3/8	30	72.65

Ship Point Saws, 26 inch only; 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 point cutoff, 5 1/2 point rip; 1 3/4 inch point, 6 7/8 inch butt; 28 lbs. per dozen.



The 400 and 401 were Atkins premium saws.

## **Sharpening Saws: Three Square Files**

All old joinery textbooks have a section on sharpening handsaws.

The Saw Sharpening chapter will include tables of file sizes to use for the different Teeth Per Inch (TPI). The various sizes of “three square files” will be listed under taper, slim taper, and extra slim taper. File length and taper will be specified as absolute.

Before reading further do a Google search for a 2015 Blog by Paul Sellers about Sharpening Saw Files. Paul asks how long files can be used. He also observes that using a new file for each sharpening is very expensive.

Since 2015 finding three square files in all the old sizes has become difficult. Arguably the quality of new files has also deteriorated.

The good news is there are many old files, and they can be sharpened.

### ***What is needed to sharpen files?***

- File card - Bucket -Citric Acid - Dishwashing Liquid -Scouring pad

The two assumed essentials are rubber gloves and hot water!

How much Citric Acid? \$5 a jar means you can experiment!

Give a batch of old files a brushing to remove surface rust and dirt and make up a strong hot solution of citric acid. Throw in the old files leave the batch of files soaking overnight. Next day fill a bucket with hot soapy water. Put on the rubber gloves and give each file a clean with the scouring pad.

Rinse the files in a fresh bucket of hot water. When the files are dry use the file card to remove any grime. Some files will be sharp, some files may need a second soaking in citric acid. Any files with damaged teeth are rejected!

### ***New Files***

For the less adventurous new files are available. Probably the best way to buy three square files is online. Good files do surface in big hardware stores, but it is a matter of “being in the right place at the right time”.

### ***Two warnings***

-Needle files are not suitable for sharpening saws.

-Three Square Files with rounded corners are for bandsaw blades.

### ***What else?***

You also need file handles. Again, always look around or make your own. Some average quality new files come with excellent plastic handles

A second cut Millsaw file is needed to “top the teeth”. New file around \$20, old file 20 cents max. plus Citric Acid.

## The Lure of the *Whatsit*

Mike Williams

**Whatsits**, these attention-grabbing mystery objects can be fascinating, intriguing, educational or just downright annoying.

Some years ago, I purchased a cast iron tool from an “Op Shop” as it looked interesting. The shopkeeper had no idea what it was and since it was obviously missing the blade, the price was only of the order of two or three dollars. It looked like some sort of shave or plough, something like the Preston quirk routers (only smaller) but the blade (if it had had one) was attached vertically, so it must have actually been some sort of scratch stock. The only detachable part (that was fortunately still attached) was a small moveable fence but this in itself was a mystery as there seemed to be a fixed fence on the other side rather like the aforementioned metal quirk router.



The **Whatsit**, showing the fixed fence (left) and the moveable fence (right). I put it on a shelf in the workshop in front of me where I could see it (and therefore think about it) and that was several years ago.



A Preston Quirk Router. “Patented” tool designed to rout a quirk or slot in curved edge material.

I have shown this tool to several members of TTTG who all agreed that they had never seen another one and that it was probably some sort of scratch stock.

Not good enough! It was obviously professionally-made as it was cast iron so if someone or some company went to the trouble of designing a pattern and having it cast, they must have envisaged that there would be a continuing use, however specialised, for it.

During COVID lockdowns, I have spent a lot more time than usual in the workshop and whilst waiting for glue to dry etc., have taken it down from the shelf and turned it over in my hands hoping that inspiration would suddenly come to me.

***There are a couple of clues:***

1. The space between the two “fences” is just shy of 5/8 inch so it is unlikely that it was designed to be used on window sash bars as they are usually about ¾ to 1 inch wide from glass to moulding top.
2. The two fences would indicate that it was designed to be used *astride* a moulding rather than sticking a moulding from one face as hand-moulded window sashes are.

Well, if it wasn't for window sashes or their like, what else might it have been used on?

Aha! How about display cabinets and bookcase doors tracery?

I am fortunate to have a couple of bookcases that have delicate curved glazing bars, so I proceeded to give them a much closer inspection than I had previously done.

In both units, the glazing bars were much narrower and flatter than window sash bars, (about 3/8 inch wide) and unlike window sashes, the glazing rebates were formed by a separate thin strip rather than being cut from the solid.

Without removing some of the putty from the back, I was unable to determine whether the separate strip was just butt-glued to the back of the front moulding or let into a groove in the back (probably the latter) but in any case, the front astragal moulding was a good contender for being made by something like my “Whatsit”.

*Well, I know, my bookcases aren't the real 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century deal, so the astragals were almost certainly made with an electric router or spindle moulder, but you get my drift.*

Looking closely at the grain on the astragals, they were cut from the solid, rather than being moulded with a plane and then being steam bent, so my little **Whatsit** is even more of a contender, with its short base and ability to mould curves.

Window sash bars, when made by hand, are run or “stuck” on a sticking board. The glazing rebates are usually cut first with a sash fillister from

carefully sized stock and then the rebated tongue is then inserted in a side groove of the sticking board so that the moulding can be cut with a sash moulding plane.

Presumably then, something similar was used to mould bookcase tracery bars except that here, there was no rebate and since the bar moulding was much flatter, it could be moulded or scratched from the top. My reference books on this subject seem to skip over this area of cabinet work so I hereby suggest my idea of how it might have been done.

You can see from the photograph that one handle of the **Whatsit** is raised so that one's knuckles are clear of the stuff being moulded, an indication that the tracery mouldings were made before being parted from the stuff.

Hence, I suggest that a sheet of stuff close to the finished moulding height was sawn into the required moulding curve on one edge, probably by transferring the shape with a full-size template.

The stuff was then mounted upside down on a sticking board with the shape overhanging the edge slightly. A quirk router could then be used to run a small slot in the centre back of what would become the moulding for mounting the glazing bar later.

Returning the stuff up the right way, the quirk router could then be adjusted to run a similar slot parallel to the fretted edge but this time at the full width of the moulding, but not quite through the stuff.

The **Whatsit** (can we now call it a scratch stock?) would then be mounted on the stuff and the moveable fence adjusted so that the scratch stock was exactly astride the moulding blank with just enough play so that it could be run along easily.

When the moulding was complete, it could be sectioned off by running a sharp blade along the edge of the slot.

Well, as my **Whatsit** had no scratch blade, I need to make one but what profile should I choose?

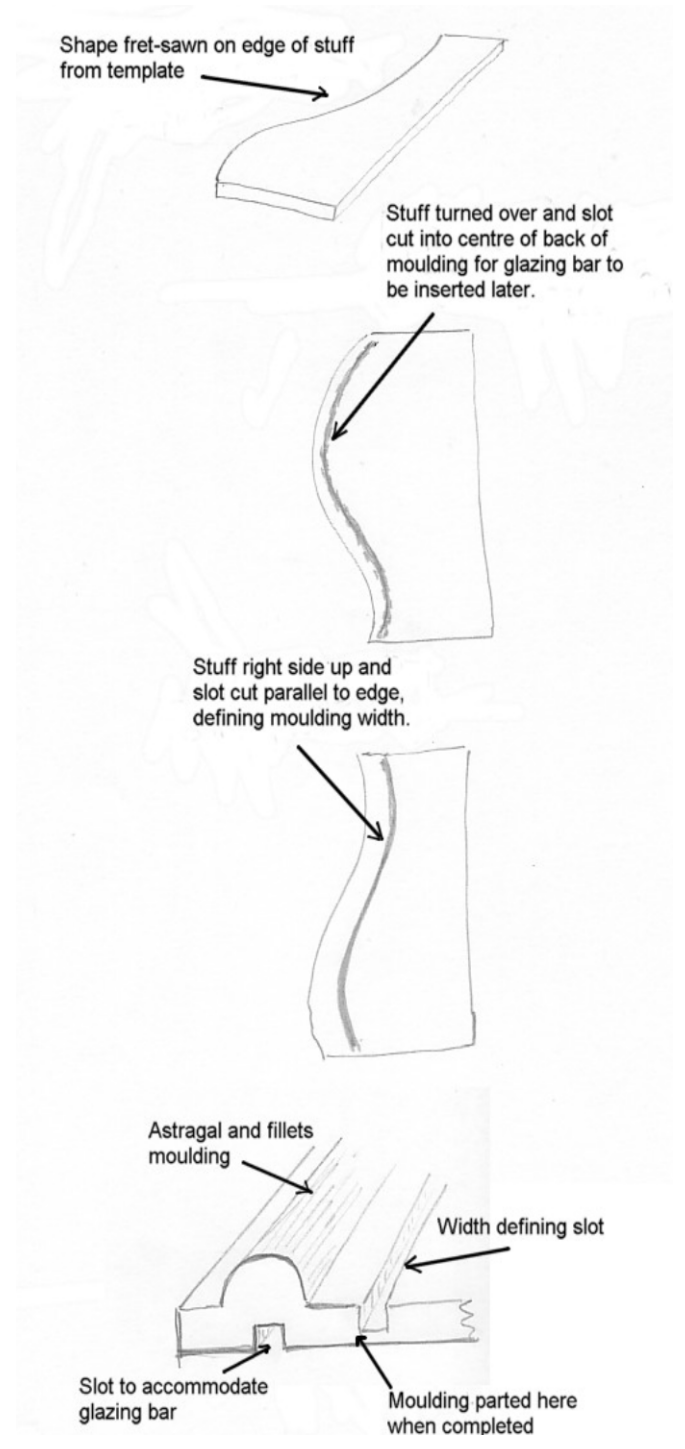
### ***The Blade?***

I embarked on some visual research in books, in antique shops and several friends' bookcases and surprisingly, in almost all cases, the mouldings, although varying slightly in size, were the same shape.

This shape is an astragal and pellet and I believe that the reason for its almost universal use is that it marries beautifully with a common ovolo moulding on the stiles and rails of the bookcase doors.

Well, the **Whatsit** has generated an interesting journey, inspirational and educational and made me look much more closely at the decorative mouldings on period furniture. Also, as to how and why they might have

been created without access to power tools. A close-up photograph of bookcase astragal tracery bar - how they neatly meet both one another and also the simple ovolo moulding on the bookcase stile.



**Any other ideas?**

The editor has a repressed memory of a similar tool being illustrated in a "text" on wooden carriage building.

Mike will bring this *Whatsit?* to a TTTG Meeting.

## **MALCO Quick Action Cramp**

Always painted green with the raised letters MALCO NSW.

**MALCO** QA cramps, G cramps, Sash cramps and Vices are fairly common.

Malco products are quality castings with well machined screws.

The photo below gives an indication of attention to manufacturing detail.

***A future NEWS will give a few pages to Malco NSW***



## Sawsets Are Many

Matthew Pryor

*Who knows anything about this one?*



### **Eclipse 77 Saw Set for extra fine teeth.**

At every Saw Sharpening Workshop, the Eclipse Special is mentioned.

All the Tool Collector mention an Eclipse 77 Saw Set for extra fine teeth.

This comment is rebuffed by sceptics with “extra fine teeth aren’t set”.

John Deeble has found a reference in an Eclipse Catalogue.

***Eclipse sold a conversion kit!***

# Why Do Tool Coatings Work?

John Bates

There are times when our own experience tells us that the “marketing hype” is just that: hype. And then other occasions when we see from experience that the “marketing hype” is actually the truth.

Now we have all seen those fancy coating applied to cutting tools. Gold seems to be a favourite colour, but they come in a rainbow of colours. My guess is the P&N ‘Jet Black’ drills were perhaps the earliest example of a tool ‘coating’ of sorts. And this coating worked too.

More recently I was at a machine tool expo and spotted some fancy milling cutters with an attractive blue coating. My interest was piqued, and I approached the sales rep –

“What does this blue stuff do mate?”

It was a 4-inch or 5-inch shell mill and in a flash he had it into the CNC mill nearby and making lots of chips. Up and down up and down at super high rpm. After a few minutes he stopped the machine, took out the cutter and put it in my hand. Not even warm! I was stunned to say the least.

***But just how does a bit of blue ‘paint’ stop the tool getting hot?***

To answer that question and some others I’ll hand over to Will Lauzon for a while. Please read on....

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## Three Ways Tool Coatings Increase Tool Life

Will Lauzon, Harvey Performance Co., Technical Associate  
Source: “*3 Ways Tool Coatings Increase Tool Life*” - In The Loupe  
[www.harveyperformance.com](http://www.harveyperformance.com)

Cutting tools are commonly found with an ultra-thin molecular compound coating applied to their cutting surfaces. These coatings are engineered to combat against forces that wear down the cutting tool and even lead to catastrophic tool failure. Not only are coatings created for cutting specific materials, but they also limit heat and friction and enhance the performance of your tool. When selecting a tool, the machinist must consider how the material and desired cutting operations may break down the cutting edges of the tool and determine whether a coating will best serve their needs.

But even before those decisions can be made, one must understand how coatings increase the cutting abilities of the tool. The following is a look into the benefits provided by tool coatings and how they work to improve the life and performance of the tool.

## What Is a Coating?

Tool coatings consist of organic and inorganic compounds which are applied and adhered onto the substrate using Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD) or Chemical Vapor Deposition (CVD). Compounds are deposited onto the tools in layers until the desired thickness is achieved. Coated cutting tools provide three main functions:

1. Provide a thermal barrier between the tool and workpiece
2. Improve tool lubricity
3. Increase tool wear resistance

With the proper utilization of these three features, cutting tools can be pushed much harder, run with faster, and last longer.

### **1. Provide a Thermal Barrier Between the Tool and Workpiece**

Heat mitigation is essential in machining, as excessive tool, and workpiece heating during cutting operations can be detrimental. As the carbide tool's temperature rapidly increases, its hardness decreases, resulting in greater wear and burn out.

Thermal conductivity is a material property used to measure the ability of a material to retain or transfer heat energy. For example, tungsten carbide has a thermal conductivity of 88 W/mK at 20°C. This means at room temperature, 20°C (68°F), an uncoated carbide tool can conduct 88 Watts of thermal energy per meter with a temperature gradient measured in Kelvin.

The materials used in tool coatings do not conduct heat as well with thermal conductivity rates as low as 4.5 W/mK. This means that a coating with a thermal conductivity of 4.5 W/mK the coating would transfer 19.56 times less heat than tungsten carbide.

An experiment showing the thermal abilities of coatings is shown below. Both an AlTiN Nano coated tool and uncoated tool were turning 4340 steel at a speed of 155 m/min and 200 m/min, at a feed rate on 0.5 mm/rev and a depth of cut of 3.5 mm [1]. No coolant was used.

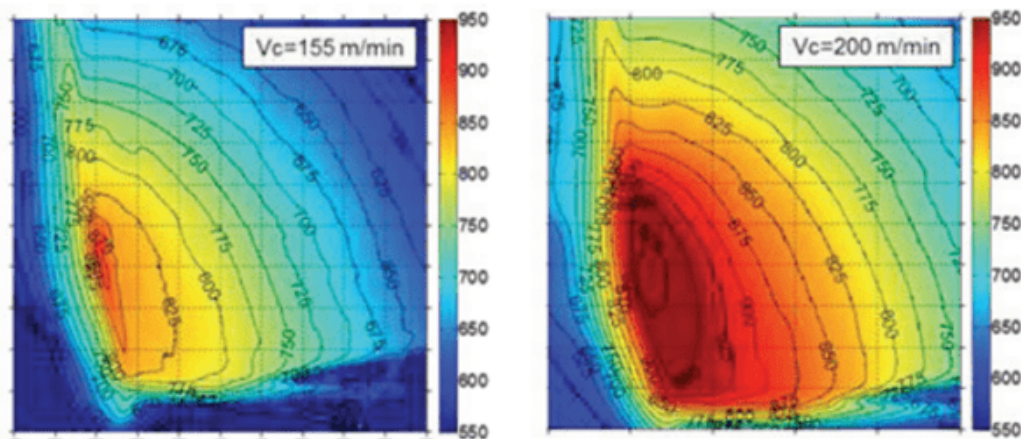
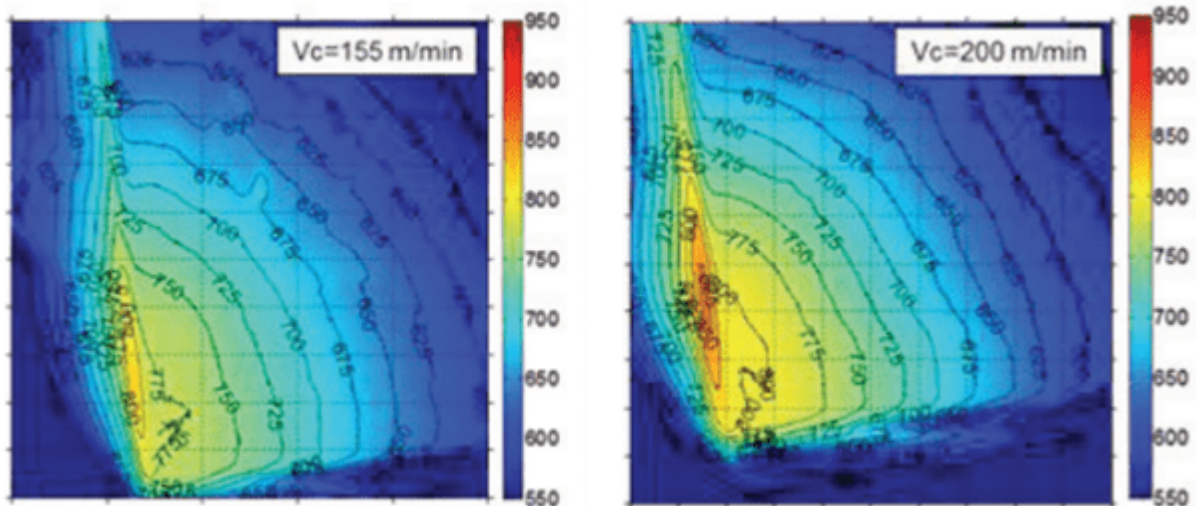


Figure 1: Thermal gradient of the cutting tip of the uncoated tool [1].



*Figure 2:* The above images, found in a study titled “Experimental Study and Modelling of Steady State Temperature Distributions in Coated Cemented Carbide Tools in Turning.” written by Amol Thakare and Anders Nordgren, showcase the effects of cutting tool speed and tool deformation on temperature distributions in unworn (left) and worn (right) tool.

Comparing the two, it is clear that the coated tool absorbs far less heat than the uncoated tool. With lower thermal conductivity rates, tool coatings create a thermal barrier between the tool and workpiece. This greatly decreases the internal temperature of the tool as the heat generated during the cutting operations is redirected into the chips and workpiece.

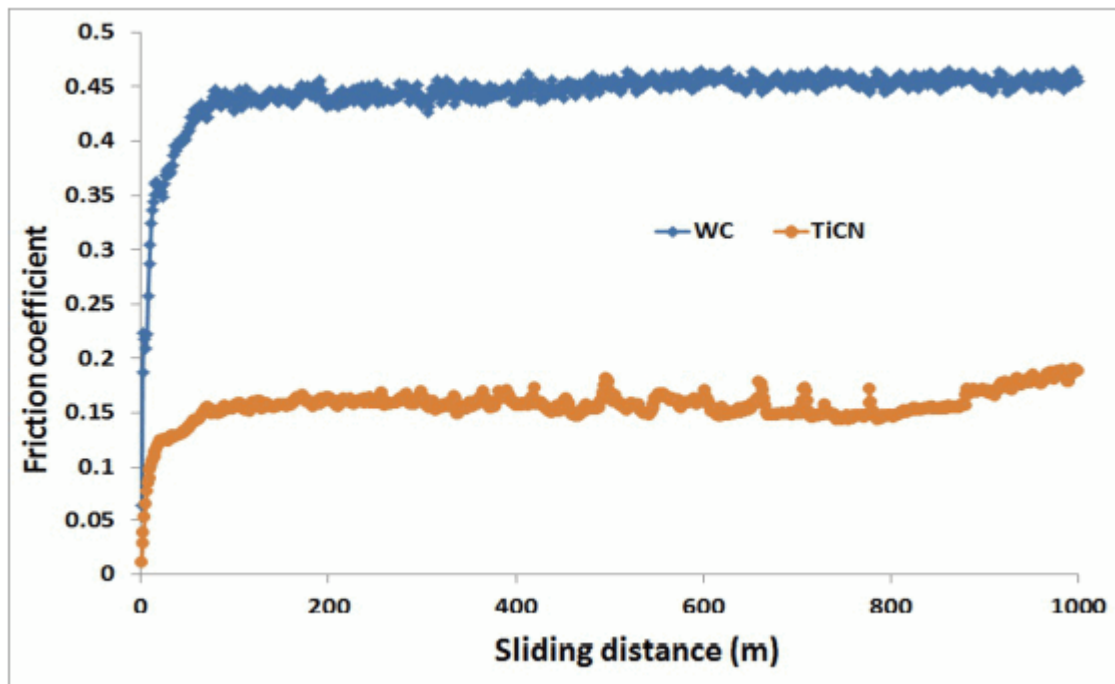
With lower temperatures, faster cutting speeds can be attained. Looking at the thermal gradients above, the uncoated tool running at 155 m/min and the coated tool running at 200 m/min roughly have the same surface temperature. This means the coated tool can run 22.5% faster than its uncoated counterpart.

## ***2. Increase Tool Lubricity***

Another key to limiting heat generation and keeping cutting smooth and chatter-free is to decrease the amount of friction between the cutting tool and workpiece. Frictional force is the resistance to motion, and in the case of cutting tools, the force opposing the lateral and radial movements of the tool as it cuts through the workpiece. This opposing force is determined by the coefficient of friction, usually denoted as the Greek letter Mu ( $\mu$ ). The friction coefficient is the ratio between the force required to move one surface across another, divided by the pressure between the two surfaces. Minimizing  $\mu$  is how coatings decrease the overall frictional forces involved in cutting operations because the force of friction is directly proportional to  $\mu$ .

An example to show how much a coating can reduce the coefficient friction during cutting operations, over an uncoated tool, is shown in a study performed by the University of Technology of Malaysia. In that experiment, 1040 carbon steel was turned at 60 mm/min, a depth of cut of 1 mm, a feed

rate of 0.06 mm/rev, and a repeated length of cut of 100 mm until the tool cut a total length of 1000 m [2]. The coated tool had a TiCN coating, a coating similar to the more popular AlTiN coating. Below are the results:



“Friction and Wear Characteristics of WC and TiCN-coated Insert in Turning Carbon Steel Workpiece,” displays the friction coefficient of the TiCN coated tool and uncoated tungsten carbide tool.

As seen in *Figure 3*, the TiCN coated tool had a much lower coefficient of friction than the uncoated tool. This lower coefficient equals lower frictional forces during cutting operations, reducing heat generation, giving a better part finish, and extending tool life.

Selecting a coated tool with high lubricity would also be ideal for cutting materials with low melting temperatures, as well as materials that generate a tremendous amount of heat during machining, such as high hardness alloys. In materials with low melting points (such as aluminium or other non-ferrous metals), high friction can cause heat generation and sticking of chips leading to chip packing in flutes and galling on the cutting edge. This galling is called a built up edge (BUE) which creates a thicker edge and can break down the tool. With lower friction, it is more difficult for chips to stick to the tool and for BUE to occur. So, when cutting materials that will generate high temperatures (such as stainless steels and aerospace alloys), keeping frictional forces to a minimum, will reduce heat generation, and result in smoother cutting, thus preserving the cutting edge of the tool.

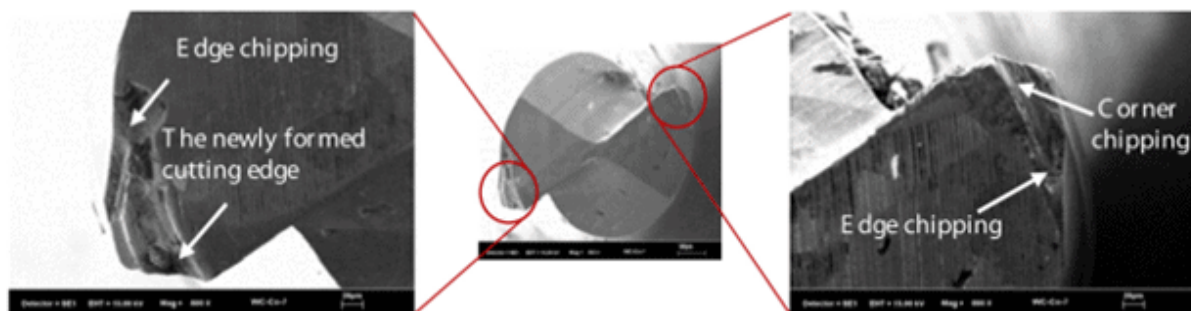
### **3. Increase Tool Wear Resistance**

Adding a coating which has a high microhardness rating increases the ability of the cutting tool to resist wear and avoid permanent deformations.

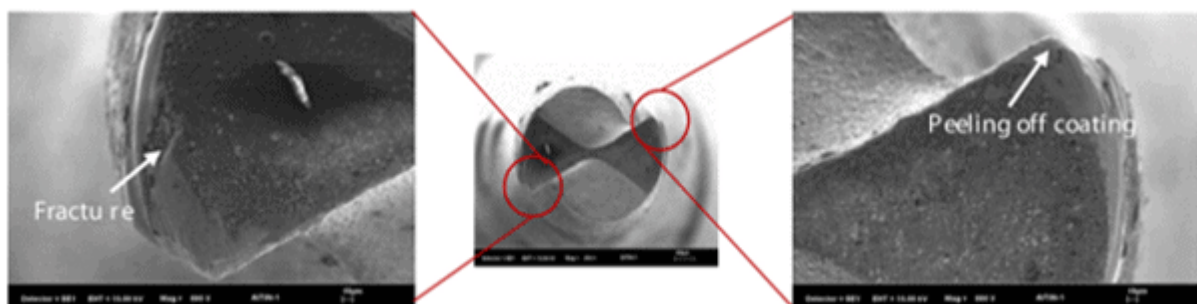
Grades for tungsten carbide tools range from grades C1 to C14 and are selected depending on what the cutting operation the tool will be performing.

From grade C1 to grade C14, tungsten carbide has a Vickers Hardness (HV) ranging from 760 HV to 1,740 HV. However, tool coatings have higher microhardness ratings than tungsten carbide. Adding a coating can increase the hardness of the tool anywhere from 2,213 HV using a TiN coating, to 9,993 HV with the CVD diamond coating. While a TiN coating would not be chosen solely for its hardness, it shows that even a coating with the lowest hardness is harder than the hardest bare tungsten carbide.

Increasing the hardness of the tool will allow it to shear off chips and remove material with greater ease, especially when machining high abrasive materials. The benefits of improved tool performance via increasing tool hardness are demonstrated in an experiment done to investigate the effect of coating material on tool wear in micro milling of Inconel 718 super alloy [3]. In that experiment, a 2-flute micro end mill with a cutting diameter of 4 mm was slotting a piece of Inconel 718 at 20,000 rpm, with a feed rate of 5 micrometers per flute, a depth of cut of 0.2 mm and a length of cut of 120 mm. This cut was performed using both an uncoated and AlTiN coated (3,620 HV hardness) carbide end mill with no coolant. Below are optical comparator images of the two tools showing their wear and deformations.



*Figure 4:* The image above from “An Experimental Investigation of the Effect of Coating Material on Tool Wear in Micro Milling of Inconel 718 Super Alloy,” showing flank wear of an uncoated cutting tool.



*Figure 5:* “An Experimental Investigation of the Effect of Coating Material on Tool Wear in Micro Milling of Inconel 718 Super Alloy,” showing the effect a coating makes on flank wear.

*Figure 4* displays an uncoated cutting tool, and *Figure 5* displays a cutting tool with AlTiN PVD coating.

Looking at the two tools, it is evident that the uncoated tool experienced significant flank and crater wear, which resulted in the flaking of its cutting edges. As this tool performed its cuts, flank wear occurred first. This wear happened directly at the cutting edge as the abrasive Inconel alloy began to breakdown the tool. As the flank wear increased past the cutting edge and into the rake face of the tool, crater wear formed. Crater wear is characterized by its depth into the tool. As chips slid across the rake face and increased this crater, pieces of the carbide tool began to flake off, forming a new, weaker cutting edge. This new edge is blunt and will not be capable for cutting the workpiece properly and will continue to break apart until catastrophic tool failure occurs.

Flank and crater wear are two types of mechanical tool decay that relate directly to the abrasiveness of the workpiece. Increasing the microhardness of the cutting tool can effectively resist these abrasive modes of tool wear. This is shown in *Figure 5*, demonstrating that the AlTiN PVD coated end mill held up much better than the uncoated tool as it experienced minimal flank wear. As the coated tool performed its cuts, the only detectable wear was a small fracture along one of its cutting edges and peeling of the AlTiN coating. The protection provided by the coating against abrasive wear is evident in the example, and with this protection, tool life is increased.

### ***The Benefit of Tool Coatings During Machining***

Together these three main advantages of a tool coating; thermal resistance, increased lubricity, and higher microhardness, means the tool performs better, and lasts longer. By minimising thermal and abrasive tool wear, coatings can substantially prolong tool life.

#### ***References:***

- [1] Thakare, Amol, and Anders Nordgren. "Experimental Study and Modelling of Steady State Temperature Distributions in Coated Cemented Carbide Tools in Turning." *Procedia CIRP*, vol. 31, 2015, pp.234–239
  - [2] Talib, R.J., et al. "Friction and Wear Characteristics of WC and TiCN-Coated Insert in Turning Carbon Steel Workpiece." *Procedia Engineering*, vol. 68, 2013, pp.716–722
  - [3] Uzun, İ., Aslantas, K., & Bedir, F. (2013). An experimental investigation of the effect of coating material on tool wear in micro milling of Inconel 718 super alloy. *Wear*, vol. 300 (1-2), 2013, pp.8–19
- 

### **Steels and Coolants**

A century of innovation and research has produced many new products.

High Speed Steel is the obvious big advance in machining technology.

Efficient liquid coolants have been superseded by surface coatings.

Dry lubricated cutting tools are ideal for use in CNC machines.

Well, I thought that was an interesting read. It gave me a much better understanding of why coatings are applied to tools. Tool coatings do 'work'; they have demonstrable benefits. Of course, that does not mean we should buy all our cutting tools with coatings rather than without them.

Coated tools cost more, and that additional cost is only warranted when you can justify it. For me, and the majority of weekend-warriors, a coated tool would be a waste of money 99% of the time because the functions provided by the coating are not used. Uncoated carbide or HSS (excluding the venerable 'Black Jet' oxide coating) are all you need unless you are into machining Titanium or other exotics.

Steer well clear of those 'gold' coated Chinese drill bits and milling cutters and invest instead

Coatings do work, but unless you are doing production work HSS is fine. Avoid cheap Chinese Gold-Plated cutters and drill bits. HSS cutters and drill bits can be sharpened. Maybe a future "Real Skills" Workshop on sharpening HSS Drill Bits?



Spiral 4 flute titanium nitride (TiN) coated end mill cutters for profiling

### **Fine Woodworking**

**December 2021 (Issue 292), 82 pages, 5 articles**

A young man, who we met in Issue 291, called Philip Morley (from Wimberley Texas) starts with “Kerf-bending: an elegant solution for curved case sides”. It’s a wall cabinet design and I like the design, it looks good, however Morley has, in my view, made it from too thick a timber – using thinner pieces would have refined it and made it far more elegant. If you’re looking for a wall cabinet, this design in thin cut Australian hardwood would look very nice. For the record I couldn’t help noticing the HNT Gordon vise on his bench.

Now for my second favourite woodworker; Christian Becksvoort has an article on taming curved parts with patterns (templates). Becksvoort specialises in Shaker furniture and this article shows how to make and use a pattern to cut curved pieces in a lamp, a Shaker trestle table, a stool and a Shaker round table. I make a lot of curved patterns, chiefly from MDF which I can then shape (fair) using spokeshaves, files, rasps and sandpaper whereas Becksvoort largely uses stiff paper, cardboard etc because he likes to flex it into a third dimension – like for a curved seat. A good article.

If you have a smallish table saw but want to cut bigger panels, this article is for you – Steve Fikar makes a crosscut sled utilising a torsion box design so that it is strong and light.

Michael Mascelli then takes us through upholstering a slip seat. Upholstering is often avoided by woodworkers however I used a FWM article on upholstering by Michael Fortune (my favourite woodworker in case you were wondering) to do 8 dining chairs and it worked out very well. Mascelli’s article is just as good and as detailed (8 pages, 31 photos and 2 illustrations).

Next is an unusual article; Japanese joinery in practice, complete with illustrations of common (?) joints – a housed, half-lapped, half blind dovetail with stub mortise and tenon anyone? It’s known as an ooire ari otoshi joint! – no screws, nails or nail-gun in sight. Whilst recently in Tasmania I saw a barn house being built entirely out of timber using mortise and tenon and other timber only joints – awesome!

Finally, greenwood – The people’s Windsor chair (Part 1) by Curtis Buchanan using only hand tools (hammer, drawknife, axe, auger and bits, hand drill, hand plane and scorp).

**Fine Woodworking Tools and Shops  
(Issue 293), 82 pages, 5 articles**

This is the usual Winter issue focussing on your workshop – mid winter in the US must be a crusher! – don't bother going outside! There are shop cabinet designs, workbench designs, shop lay-out designs, shop storage designs, Dutch Tool Chest designs, vacuum tests and choosing and using dado planes.

There's even a photo of Nick Pedulla's (Sydney, Australia) workshop – all I will say is far-out, don't bother coming to mine!

**Australian Wood Review  
December 2021 (Issue 113), 82 pages, 8 articles**

Henrik Tjaerby ( a Danish designer) uses this article to demonstrate his masterly design and making skills on a chair not least. Designing and making a chair is the woodworker's ultimate challenge. The challenge is getting it to look good, be strong enough for big blokes to sit on (and lean back), sturdy enough to last years of abuse, to be ergonomically comfortable and to be light enough to move one handed. Tjaerby used his CAD drawing, sketching, 3D printing, models/mock-ups, moulds, a steam bender and jigs to design and make an exceptionally light and elegant dining chair.

Keeping to an international theme is an article on Greg Klassen, a US maker who originated the design of "river" tables, art and cabinets – utilising large natural slabs of timber with coloured glass to highlight the natural edge and to form a table or wall hanging etc. The article also touches on the copyright and IP issues of having an original idea copied by others for commercial sale.

Maker of the Year 2021 competition – won by William Bayliss, a young man who works with Evan Dunstone in Canberra. There was also an international sector won by Evan Berding – here is judge Michael Fortune's description "*Viewing this chair is like wandering through the history of chairs in the Decorative Arts wing of the Louvre in Paris*". Nick Pedulla's work features strongly – check him out!

David Luckensmeyer (where does Linda find these blokes?) gives a detailed rundown on calibrating a sliding table saw – good article.

Another American, Peter Spaulding articulates his road of discovery in using tung oil.

From Brisbane, Terry Martin spends some time discussing cutting blanks for turning and why the early decisions you make with the chainsaw irrevocably defines what you will make/turn. Thus, it highlights what you should be looking for when you buy a blank.

And Adam Markowitz reviews seven women designer makers at Craft Victoria's gallery space – they are Aleksandra Pontonio, Linda Fredheim, Chi Yusuf, Laura McCusker, Makiko Ryuji, Anke Kindle and Olive Gill-Hille.

## **Buying Old Tool Online**

### ***Accurate descriptions and realistic prices***

Since Hans Brunner ceased holding online tool auctions it has been difficult to find a benchmark for “what they will pay”.

When Hans Brunner sold regularly online his tool descriptions were accurate and his asking prices realistic.

A business in Melbourne, Vintage Tool Shop, is selling old tools online. Worth a look!

The owners have been selling ANTIQUE & VINTAGE hand tools since 2012 in Melbourne, Australia.

**VINTAGE TOOL SHOP** is at 549 High St, NORTHCOTE, Melbourne, and is OPEN Wed-Sat 11am-6pm, closed Sun, Mon, Tue. See <https://vintagetoolshop.com.au/>

**VINTAGE TOOL SHOP** also makes handsaws!

The descriptions of the old tools are accurate (except they have no idea what a divider is) and the photos good.

The handsaws they make have superb local hardwood handles.

---

### ***Have you visited the Vintage Tool Shop?***

The NEWS editor would welcome a review of the Vintage Tool Shop.

## ***What's in the Box?***



The Toolbox that TTTG Member Tom Marinov scored on 20 February at the 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale.

Classic Joiner's Tool Chest? Raise the lid and unpack some tools and we find?

### ***Coach Maker's tools.***

So, a close look at the box.

Reinforced with strong steel corner angle plates.

The Tool Chest was sold by an old tool dealer; history lost!

# 2022 TTTG “Real Skills” Workshops

## **3 April                    Chiselling Wood**

*What are the best chisels?                    How do old and new compare?*

These rational questions often drift off into the fantasy world of super steels.

This “Real Skills” Workshop will set out to demystify wood chisels.

Before buying more chisels or sharpening gear come to this workshop.

You will, leave knowing what chisels you need and how to use chisels!

## **8 May                        Using Routers and Trimmers**

*What Router should I buy?                    How do I use routers?*

These questions often drift off into the world of advertising hype!

This “Real Skills” Workshop will set out to demystify routers and jigs.

Before buying another router, cutter or jig come to this workshop.

You will, leave knowing what machine you need and how to use it!

## **5 June                        Making Mouldings**

*How are complex mouldings made by hand methods?*

This is a regular question and is followed by “Can you do a workshop?”

This “Real Skills” Workshop will set out to demystify making mouldings.

You will, leave knowing what planes you need and how to use the planes!

---

## ***Also available at TTTG Real Skills Workshops***

Old Tools

- Sort through the junk table and make an offer. TTTG needs the space.
- Good user old tools at reasonable prices.
- Tools for repair at reasonable prices or “make an offer”.

**Plane Handles and Knobs - Stanley type**

**\$10 each**

**Citric Acid \$5 a jar**

**Sharp Oil \$6 a bottle**

## **Chiselling Wood**

**Sunday 3 April 2022**

### ***TTTG “Real Skills” Workshop***

Old Eastwood Town Hall

74 Agincourt Road, Marsfield

*Register by 9am*

*Refreshments provided but bring your lunch*

**\$60**

**Limited to 6**

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

### ***Selecting, Sharpening and Using Wood Chisels***

- ***Chisels for chopping and paring wood***
- ***Mortise, Firmer, Bevel Edge and more!***



Is the chisel worth cleaning and sharpening?

*The chisels above have potential!*

### ***What will you be doing at this workshop?***

- Learning how to flatten chisels and fit handles
- Learning how to grind and hone chisels
- Learning how to use chisels!

## Using Routers and Trimmers

Sunday 8 May 2022

### ***TTTG “Real Skills” Workshop***

Old Eastwood Town Hall  
74 Agincourt Road, Marsfield

*Register by 9am*

*Refreshments provided but bring your lunch*

**\$60**

**Limited to 6**

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

### ***Buying Routers and Trimmers***

The “best” new machines.

Assessing a second-hand machine.

Buying Router Cutters.

Straight versus Spiral Cut.

Standard Router accessories.

Special Router accessories.

### ***What routers can do?***

Home-made Router Jigs

Commercial Router Jigs

Dovetails or Box Joints

Leigh jig isn't the answer!

The Hegner Comb Cutter

The Gifkin Jig

### ***Working safely with Routers***

Protect ears, eyes, lungs, and limbs!



***YOU WILL BE USING  
ROUTERS and TRIMMERS***

***WORK SAFELY!***



## Making Mouldings

Sunday 5 June 2022

### **TTTG “Real Skills” Workshop**

Old Eastwood Town Hall  
74 Agincourt Road, Marsfield

*Register by 9am*

*Refreshments provided but bring your lunch*

**\$60      Limited to 6      Enrol online [www.tttg.org.au](http://www.tttg.org.au)**

### ***How are complex mouldings made by hand methods?***

This is a regular question followed by “Can you do a workshop?”  
The June Workshop will set out to demystify making mouldings.  
You will learn what tools you need and how to use the tools!

<b>Gauging</b>	Sticking on	Sticking down
<b>Sinking</b>	Plough Planes	Rebate Planes
<b>Profiles</b>	Side Bead	Centre Bead
	Hollows	Rounds
	Side Snipes	Side Bills
	Side Rounds	Specials
	Ovolo	Ogee

The planes you really need and how to sharpen the planes.  
Slip Stones and Moulding Rubbers.



The best visual introduction to making mouldings is Paul Sellers (YouTube.com 8 August 2018)  
This presentation is based on traditional workshop practise.  
Free of Tool Collector’s fantasies.

## Hand Cut Dovetails

Sunday 17 July 2022

### ***TTTG “Real Skills” Workshop***

Old Eastwood Town Hall  
74 Agincourt Road, Marsfield

*Register by 9am*

*Refreshments provided but bring your lunch!*

**\$60**

**Limited to 6**

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

### ***Making dovetail joints with traditional tools***

- Sharpening a dovetail saw and chisels for cutting dovetails
- Setting out dovetails with a simple template
- Dovetail pitch and making templates
- Using the cutting gauge
- Using the dovetail saw
- Using the coping saw
- Using the chisels
- Assembling dovetail joints

### ***The techniques for fast stress-free dovetailing***

*You don't need expensive jigs, Japanese saws, or chisels.*

- ✓ *The essential tools are a sharp pencil, dovetail template and*
- ✓ *Back saw, Cutting Gauge, Coping Saw, bevel edge Chisels.*

***Dovetailing doesn't take days!***



***This workshop busts the dovetailing myths!***

*Wood and sharp tools are provided at the workshop.*

## **The Next TTTG Tool Sales**

*The 2022 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale is over, but there are 3 TTTG Members & Friends Tool Sales*

*Remember these dates:*

***Sunday 15 May 2022***

***Sunday 14 August 2022***

***Sunday 4 December 2022***

*Remember the location:*

**Old Eastwood Town Hall  
74 Agincourt Road, Marsfield**

*Remember the entry fee:*

**\$5**

*Remember a table costs:*

**\$25**

