

JD's

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*Just a generic looking saw set,
however*

This is not a discussion as to the merits of various makes of Saw Sets, or an in-depth discussion on their use however before I get too far into the point of this story I will state that I feel that the Eclipse No 77 is one of the most common found and also copied by other manufacturers due to efficiency and ease of use making it the preferred choice of carpenters, cabinet makers and other timber using trades. I will concede that the hard-point saws and Japanese pull saws have lessened the demand for handsaw sharpening however interestingly there is now resurgence in the use of the traditional hand saws.

This interest is demonstrated by the popularity of the Saw-sharpening workshops offered by TTTG..

There is also resurgence in the manufacture of quality traditional saws on the market, though the expense of these makes the earlier saws worth considering.

*That off my chest, I'll get on with
the point of this article.*

It's not often one finds a basic tool with instructions and advertising material enclosed in its original box, especially in this case, an Eclipse saw set. It was a morning ritual for many wood-workers, especially carpenters and joiners to run the file over their favourite saw before starting, the box and leaflets long ago discarded as they were of little importance to a time pressed tradesman; I would suggest that those boxed examples of tools that have survived would have belonged to the home handy-man mind set where order in the shed and a special place for each prized possession was an ingrained habit.

\$5 was the transaction that allowed me to take this generic looking saw set home from a local market, not a heart-stopping experience however occasionally one finds a bonus and in this case it was the instructions in the box for the saw-set accompanied by an interesting advertising leaflet for Eclipse files.



The instructions are clear and easy to follow and with a little trust, will re-enforce some of the directions demonstrated at the TTTG Saw Sharpening Workshops. On the back of the No. 77 box there is a sketch of a No. 78 for cross-cut saws with a tooth pitch from $\frac{1}{2}$ " to $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and up to 13 gauge thick, also the No. 79 for circular saws with a tooth pitch of $\frac{1}{8}$ " and over and up to 10 gauge thick; both can also be used for setting the teeth of medium sized wood band saws.

Like so many men I seldom read instructions and in the dim past have discarded so much ephemera relating to tools that I don't like reflecting on it, so one must be thankful for the conservators in the past that have looked after their tools by carefully re-boxing them after use carefully tucking them away in a safe place; mind you, I have since changed my ways and hope after reading this, tool users out there will place a little more value on the packaging and literature that comes with future purchases of old (and new) tools.

