NEWS 152



May 2017

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NEWS

NEWS is mailed to financial members during the 3rd week of;

MAY AUGUST NOVEMBER FEBRUARY

Get NEWS by email

NEWS can be sent by email.

Send your email address to the TTTG Secretary, John Bates.

johnbates@tttg.org.au

Electronic Newsletter

OFFCUTS, TTTG's newsletter, is posted on the TTTG website and emailed to all financial members in the week immediately before each TTTG General Meeting.

NEWS on paper or online?

The cost of printing a copy of *NEWS* for every member is greater the revenue from membership fees. Receiving *NEWS* by email has the added benefit getting *NEWS* early.

TTTG Membership Rules

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

The MEMBERSHIP FEE is determined by the Committee and from 1 July 2016 the fee is \$50.

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

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 15 August becomes an UN-FINANCIAL MEMBER from that date and will cease to receive the *NEWS* magazine or the bi-monthly Newsletter. Access to the Members' area of the TTTG website will also cease.

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

A New Member joining between 1 April and 30 June 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

NEWS 152

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Fine Impressions

Pymble NSW

2017/18 TTTG Fees

Membership\$50Workshops\$40Tool Sales\$5Meetings\$5

Volunteers Wanted:

To represent TTTG at the 2017 Sydney Timber and Working With Wood Show 23-25 June.

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

April Meeting

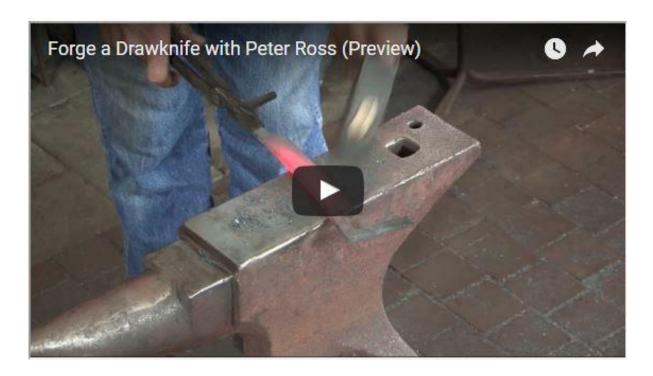
Tuesday 11 April

National Trust Centre

Cover: Duratite Advert

Do dozens of home, hobby and
shop jobs with Duralite

Popular Science, September 1962



Blacksmithing for Woodworkers: Forge a Drawknife DVD

Forge a Drawknife, one of the latest Popular Woodworking Magazine DVDS, was shown to the audience attending the April Meeting.

A drawknife is a fast, versatile and vital shop tool for shaping wood. It can be used to quickly remove waste to thickness stock or cut bevels, and make a variety of cuts to shape legs, spindles and other furniture parts, and more. Master blacksmith Peter Ross shows you step-by-step how to use two materials - rod iron and high-carbon steel - to craft a perfect draw knife blade. You'll learn to weld the materials together, draw tangs, techniques for heat treating and sharpening, handle installation and much more! popwood-newsletter@woodworking-hub.com

The DVD was followed by the familiar TTTG Tool Auction.

Tools will continue to be auctioned at all National Trust venue meetings.

At the Brush Farm venue meeting tools will be sold at "set prices".

"Bid and Buy" at the National Trust venue
"Pick and Pay" at the Brush Farm venue

June Meeting

Tuesday 13 June

Forster Hall

Brush Farm House Eastwood

TTTG's Future Direction

A review of TTTG's challenges and achievements will be followed by a panel discussion of TTTG's future.

This is an opportunity for members to tell the committee what they want from TTTG.

2017 Sydney Timber and Working With Wood Show

There will be a call for volunteers to assist at the 2017 Sydney Working With Wood Show.

TTTG will be selling tools at the show. *Sales assists* are needed.

TTTG will be demonstrating "real skill". Demonstrators are needed.

"Pick and Pay" Sale

Tools will be set out on tables on both sides of Forster Hall.

Each tool will carry a "set price". After the activities are concluded the audience will "Pick and Pay".

The TTTG cashiers will be seated adjacent to the speaker's rostrum.

Refreshments

Members can "self-serve" tea and coffee and light refreshments from the kitchen adjacent to the entry.

"Real Skills" Workshops

Planes: Tuning and Using

Sunday June 4

Forster Hall

Brush Farm House, Eastwood

Details of all TTTG workshops are on the TTTG website

www.tttg.org.au

TTTG Workshops

There is an obvious demand for the "Real Skills" workshops developed over the last decade by TTTG.

TTTG gets many enquiries along the theme of "where can I learn?"

There are two constraints on the workshops TTTG can offer:

- 1) Lack of a suitable venue
- 2) Assistance from members.

TTTG continues to search for suitable workshop premises.

Forster Hall is ideal for meetings but not adequate for workshops. Having to set up work benches immediately before each workshop and remove the benches after each workshop is a logistical nightmare.

At present TTTG does not have sufficient members willing to assist at the "real skills" workshops.

The question has to be raised,

"Are workshops at BFH viable?

Workshop attendance and revenue say "yes", the logistics argue "no".

Just a Sec

John Bates, TTTG Secretary

Well, the 2017 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale is over and by all accounts it was a major success. Thanks to all those who worked so hard to make it a great day for the sellers and for the buyers. The Brickpit Sports Stadium has been booked again for next year so put the 2018 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale - SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2018 - in your diary now.

The **June Members' Meeting** will be held in Forster Hall, Brush Farm House Tuesday 13 June commencing at 7.30pm. As usual a great array of bargain-priced tools, equipment and sundry items will be offered for sale.

Prior to the tool sale there will be an open forum discussion on the future role and direction of the Traditional Tools Group. We want to hear your views and ideas about our current and future activities.

TTTG will again be present at the **Sydney Timber and Working With Wood Show** (Stand T20) from Friday 23 till Sunday 25 June.
Volunteers are needed to help run the stand and promote TTTG to the punters. If you can lend a hand on one or more of these days contact the President, Bob Crosbie, by email at president@tttg.org.au.

I am pleased to report that TTTG membership continues to grow; this is starting to look like a trend!

Which brings me to the task of reminding you that 2017/18

Membership Fees are due for payment from 1 July 2017; cost is \$50. Some members have paid already – thanks!

We allow members a period of grace till early August, but if payment is not received by then this will be your last edition of *NEWS*. So, don't delay – pay now and avoid the rush. You can pay your \$50 by direct deposit to our bank (The Traditional Tools Group Inc BSB No.062271 ACC No.10334075) or send your cheque made payable to TTTG Inc or, if you have a PayPal account, just go to our website www.tttg.org.au and click on 'Renew Membership' under the 'TTTG' drop-down.

The Management Committee meets at Brush Farm House on the second Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November at 6.30pm.

You can help TTTG by promoting the benefits of membership and by attending the Member's Meeting as well as regular events such as the annual Members, Friends Tool Swap & Sale and the TTTG Sydney Tool Sale.

Did I mention that you can change your *NEWS* magazine subscription from printed and posted to digital and emailed?

2017 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale

"The best so far" Editor of Australian Woodsmith magazine 2018 TTTG Sydney Tool Sale

TTTG's challenge is to make this one "The best so far"

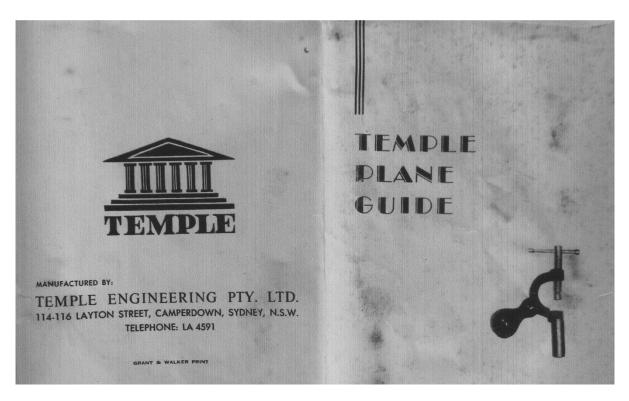
Correspondence

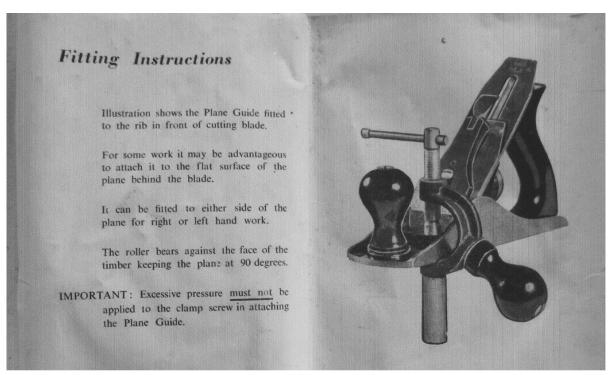
Temple Plane Fence

Terry Butcher has found a copy of the original instructions for the Temple Plane Guide

Temple Plane Guide

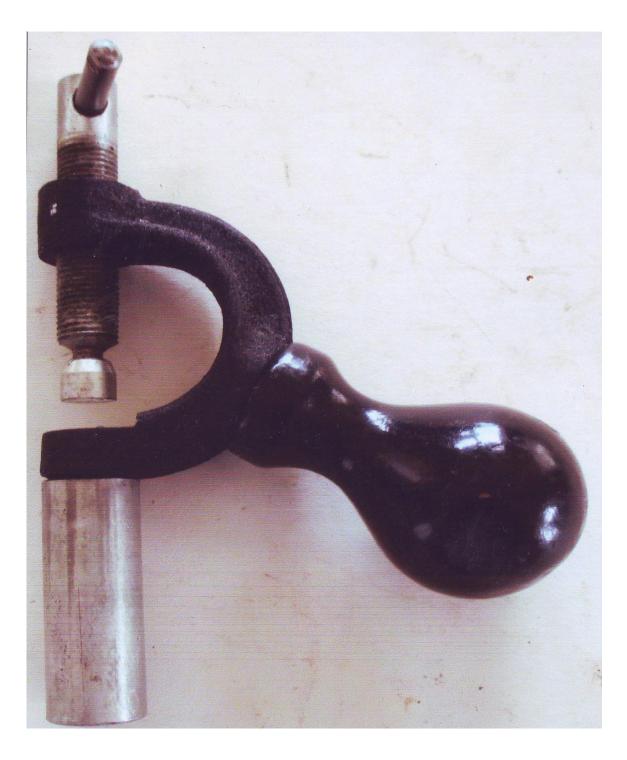
Australian made but was it Australian designed?

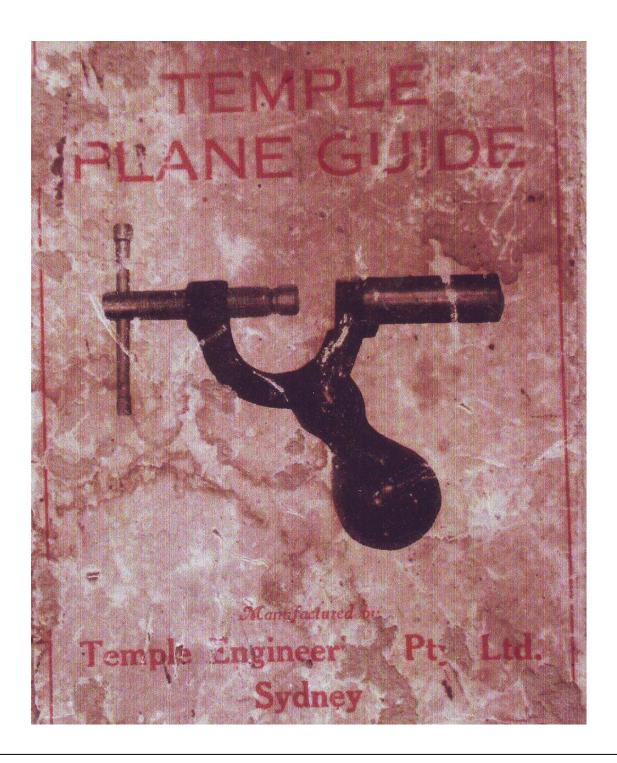




I have a Temple plane guide and believed that it was an Australian invention until I saw an identical tool under a different name on US Ebay. I do not recall the name.

Fred Murrell





What the Temple Plane Guide does

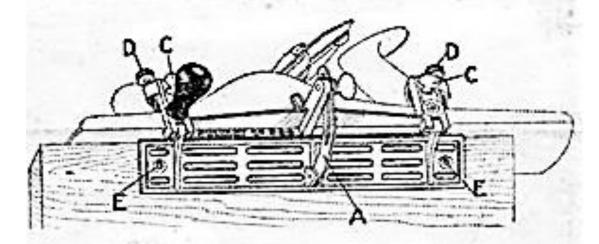
The Temple Plane Guide is an attempt to overcome the difficulty experienced by some plane users when planing edges at 90 degrees.

Unlike other designs of detachable plane fences, the Temple Plane Guide is easy to attach to a metal Stanley type plane.

Is the Temple Plane Guide a better design than the Stanley Jointer Gauge?

STANLEY JOINTER CAUGE

No. 386 FOR IRON PLANES



The Stanley Jointer Gauge is designed for use in connection with all sizes of iron Jack or Jointer Planes.

By means of the slotted piece "A", the tool can be set to work bevels of any angle between 30 and 90 degrees, or to square up the edges of boards with extreme accuracy.

All parts, except the knob, are of metal, and the joints and bearing surfaces are machined.

To attach Gauge to Plane, clamp same in position to the side of the plane by means of the thumb screws "C" (see cut); then tighten the knurled screws "D". This will insure it being held absolutely rigid when in use.

A hole "E" is bored in each end of the Gauge so that a wood face of any desired size may be attached, thus providing a bearing surface longer or wider than the face of the Gauge itself.

The tool is so constructed that it may be attached to either side of the Plane, making it equally adaptable for right or left hand work.

The wooden knob forms a convenient grip for the hand of the workman and can be placed at either end of the Gauge.



STANLEY NEW BRITAIN, CONN. U.S.A.



т

Real Skills Workshops Forster Hall Brush Farm House

All workshops are on a Sunday Sign In: 9 am Cost: \$50

Plane Tuning

4 June 2017 Fine tuning planes for top performance

Fine Woodworking Skills

30 Jul 2017 Essential skills to do quality woodwork

Sharpening Edge Tools

13 Aug 2017 Get razor edge on chisels and planes

Sharpening Hand Saws

27 Aug 2017 File and set saws for top performance

TTTG CITRIC ACID

Sold in an easy to store plastic jar \$5 a jar

Approximately 600 grams per jar

Use TTG Citric Acid to:

Remove Rust Clean Stainless Steel

Sharpen Files and Rasps

How do I use it?

Fill a plastic container with hot water

Add a couple of soup spoons per litre

Add the rusty object

After a couple of hours remove, wash in soapy water and dry Leave rasps, files and "heavily rusted objects" to soak overnight.

Multi Power-tools, Australia

Mike Williams

Sherline Shopsmith Unimat

The end of the Second World War started a revolution in technology and manufacturing.

The Second World War accelerated developments in nuclear science; rocketry advanced from medieval pyrotechnics into a formidable weapon delivery system, later to be harnessed for the space race. Vast numbers of workers, pressed into munitions manufacture during the war, were released into the general workforce with experience and knowledge of machine tools and mechanical skills.

Europe was in tatters, holocaust and others survivors, in what must have seen to them to be a repeat political performance, were now within the reach of the iron curtain states. Skilled workers fled their homelands to America, Canada and Australia.

The US market in particular was vast with hundreds of thousands of servicemen returning to family life and what seemed to be a new society. US manufacturing, having not been the victim of destruction during the war went into overdrive. Houses were to be built but the dearth of builders saw a massive increase in the Do It Yourself market, hungry for tools, both hand and electrically powered.

Australia was in a similar situation but due to a very much smaller population, the effect was less. Locally, industry was bolstered, however, by protective tariffs.

Hand tool manufacture was a nobrainer and the period saw the flourishing of Falcon, Pope and Carter amongst dozens of other small manufacturing start-ups. Power tools were expensive and someone somewhere came up with the idea (which now seems so obvious) of the multifunctional power tool.

Small electrical hand drills now could be augmented with add-on sanders, small circular saws and many other (mostly near useless) attachments. The era of value-added had arrived!

The multifunctional combination work centre

Whoever thought up a way to make a truly multifunctional machine tool is somewhat hazy but probably the first commercially viable product was designed by Hans Goldschmidt in 1946.

Hans had spent some time in the USA as a child when his father had a job lecturing at Yale so when in 1937 he fled Nazi Germany, he settled in California.

Hans' design of the *Shopsmith* was a pair of circular pipes or "ways" along which the motor head would slide. Coupled with a tiltable saw bench, this configuration could be assembled as a bench saw, a horizontal drill press, a 12-inch disk sander and, with a tailstock and tool rest, could be used as a wood lathe capable of turning 15-inch diameter blanks inboard.

In addition, the ways could be hinged up into a vertical position, realizing a very capable drill press, enabling not only drilling but also chisel mortising. Hans formed Magna Engineering Corporation with a couple of associates and produced the Shopsmith 10ER from the mid '40s up to the mid '60s with commercial success.

Sydney made Shopsmith

Locally CC Engineering in Sydney produced the Shopsmith 10ER under licence to Magna which is why it is possible to find so many old Shopsmith machines. Spare parts are still available.

Unimat Lathe

In 1953 Maier & Company in Austria produced the Unimat lathe, although only slightly larger than a clock-makers' lathe, it was designed primarily for small hobby turning of metal but also capable of turning small wooden objects.

The Unimat was marketed as a multifunctional machine and was also designed around a pair of round steel ways.





Unimat Lathe Functions

This design gives the Unimat lathe the capability of being used both as a lathe and as a horizontal boring/drilling machine.

With the addition a small saw table the Unimat can be used as a metal or wood table saw or as a precision slitting saw.

With the addition of a flexible overhead arm and cam drive the Unimat can be quickly turned into a small jig/scroll saw.

The Unimat is, however, not just a small version of the Shopsmith as the ways are not pivoted. To use the Unimat as a vertical drill press and mill, the head is removed from the ways and attached to a heavy vertical rod. This is necessary as designing a pivoting hinge for the ways, which did not compromise the rigidity of the lathe bed, would have been both difficult and expensive. In any case, the head is fairly light so removing it and attaching it to the vertical rod isn't too much of an issue.

Wilhelm Peter Schlesinger was born in Vienna in 1902 and graduated as an Electrical Engineer in 1922. After a number of jobs across Europe, he settled in Berlin where he made and assembled electric power and automotive tools. The rise of the Nazis convinced him that his surname and background was not conducive to getting ahead in business so he changed his surname to Sher and badged his products with this brand. Not only was it a shorter word, it was also the Aryan word for "Lion", which presumably he hoped would make his product highly acceptable in those charged times. This was not to be however and in 1939, he and his wife fled to Australia and settled in Melbourne.

Sher Power Tools



Wilhelm Peter Schlesinger (William Sher)

In 1940 Schlesinger, now calling himself William Sher, formed a partnership with Alexander Faill as The Red Point Tool Company Pty Ltd, to produce a 3/8" hand-held power drill which he claimed was the first portable power drill to be made in Australia.

In 1951 William Sher designed a 1/4" electric power drill for the post-war Do It Yourself market.

William Sher and William Faill moved to a new factory in 1952. They changed the name of the company to Sher Power Tools Pty Ltd in 1957.

Shermatic

In 1958 Sher marketed possibly their most famous electric drill, the1/2" two speed Shermatic, designed for use at home, on the farm and in industry.

A range of attachments for the Shermatic followed and perhaps aware of the success of Shopsmith, (now manufactured under licence in Sydney), Sher designed a very similar but less successful multifunctional attachment, using the Shermatic as the power source.



Ronald Sher

The Sher multifunctional attachment assembled with the Shermatic power source.

The lathe tool rest can be swung up when required.



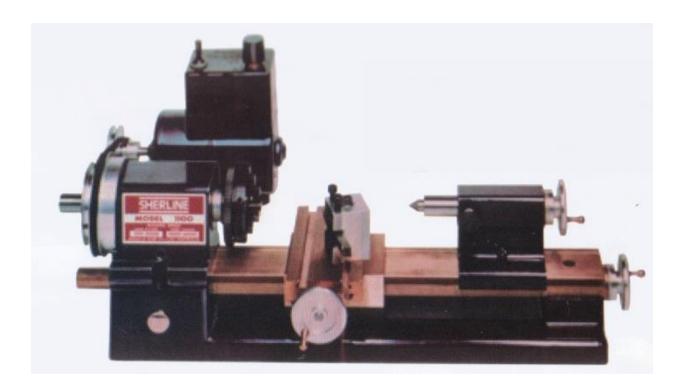
Ronald Sher Pty Ltd

In 1963 Sher Power Tools became a public company and in 1967 the American company Skil took over Sher Power Tools.

William Sher remained with Skil as a Director and Chairman until 1972 when he and his son Ronald left to form Ronald Sher Pty Ltd. Ronald Sher Pty Ltd manufactured bench power tools so they would not compete with Skil in the portable power tool market.

The cast hinge for the Sher Multifunctional attachment





Sherline Lathe

Sher must have been aware of the success of the Unimat in the hobby market and designed a similar sized bench lathe, the Sherline, which did away with the "ways" in order to increase the rigidity of the device. This overcame a criticism of the Unimat design, especially from those who used the Unimat with the optional watchmaker's collets.

Photo above An original Sherline lathe produced in Melbourne



Ron Sher's Melbourne factory making the original Sherline lathes

The end of Sher

The Australian Consulate in Chicago had Sears interested in selling the Sherline Lathe into the USA under their Craftsman label and Joe Martin, an American entrepreneur, was to be the go-between.

Shipping costs and initial teething troubles with quality from Ron Sher's factory in Melbourne drove the arrangement towards full manufacture in the USA with Joe Martin.

The Sherline name was retained but the product is now just one of the many Sherline products coming from Joe Martin's factory.

Another example of Australian technology lost to off-shore.

Sher Quality Tools

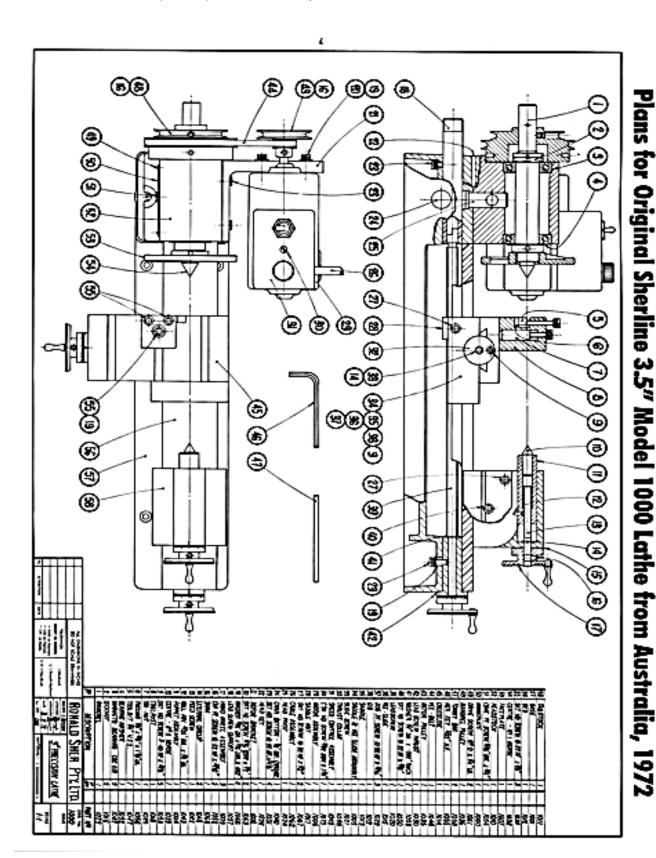


Foy & Gibson
Foy's Christmas Catalogue
1950s-60s

University of Melbourne http://hdl.handle.net/11343/21263

SHER

www.sherline.com/about/sherline-history



19

Sher 7^{1/2} Inch **Portable Electric Saw**



Your "SHER" Portable Electric Saw is a heavy duty tool indispensable for the builder and fencing contractor, but also a "must" for the hundred and one jobs around the house.

ELECTRIC SAW

Your SHER "Timbermaster" will give you every satisfaction if you follow a few simple rules in looking after your saw.

EARTHING:

All "SHER" Portable Electric Tools, except those for 32 volt, are provided with a threecore flex and three-pin plug top. The green wire acts as earthing conductor.

It is essential for your safety to connect your SEER "Timbermaster" only to a properly earthed three-pin base to get the benefit of the safety earthing provided by the

Grip both handles firmly, rest saw table against work, and make sure that the blade itself does not touch the timber. Now switch on by pressing the trigger switch and push the Saw forward with even and moderate pressure.

Do not use excessive force, as this will only cause a rough cut and overload the motor.

If the saw stalls, do not switch the motor off, but free the jammed blade by pulling the saw back slightly until the saw again revs up to its full speed. This will prevent damage to switch.

Always switch the saw off before removing it from the work piece.

Before changing the blade or inspecting the saw, make sure to pull out the power plug. This will prevent accidents in case the switch is being pressed unintentionally.

CARE OF THE SAW BLADE:

You cannot expect to get satisfaction with a blunt saw blade. It is therefore essential not to run the saw too long without sharpening. The points of the saw teeth are the only parts of the saw that should come in contact with the timber. They must be kept sharp by frequent use of the file and set sufficiently to clear the blade of the saw to prevent friction.

A few minutes' filing at regular intervals will save you the inconvenience connected with running dull saw, safeguard the saw motor from overload and help you to get a smooth and clean cut. Avoid uneven filing and setting, insufficient set for proper clearance, out of round, which means out of balance.

To remove saw blade, push safety guard back, insert a nail into pin hole in saw blade, preventing it from turning, and now unscrew the lock screw holding the blade (attention right-hand thread).

Sher Instructions Courtesy Norman Heckenberg DADO-SET can be adjusted up to 3/4 in. width and 7/8 in. depth of grooving. To give room for the cutters, file a narrow strip of the saw table away, as shown below.



The SHER "Timbermaster" is equipped with ball bearings throughout, which are grease-packed to

To dismantle gear box of your SHER "Timbermaster," first remove saw blade, unscrew socket head screws, and then carefully lift off gear box housing. Now remove old grease and refill half the gear box with fresh grease (Gargoyle Grease No. 2 or Shell Alvania No. 2), forcing also grease under the large

CARBON BRUSHES AND COMMUTATOR:

Check carbon brushes for wear and replace by new ones when worn down to 3/16 in. length. Always use genuine carbon brushes recommended by the factory.

If commutator shows sign of wear, send the saw to the factory or to a qualified service agent for overhaul.

At frequent intervals the saw should be cleaned from saw dust by blowing it out with compressed air. Blocked air slots prevent cooling of motor, which eventually will cause burn out. Make sure, therefore, that the air slots are free from saw dust or other obstructions.

To get best results always use the right type of saw blade with your "SHER" Portable Electric Saw. The following types of saw blades are available for your "Timbermaster":-

Combination Blade, No. 701 (For General Purpose Work)

Rip Blade, No. 702 Cross Cut Blade, No. 703
Non-Ferrous Metal Cutting Blade, No. 712 (For Brass, Copper, Bronze, Aluminium) Nail Cutting Blade, No. 713 (For cutting old timber where nails may be encountered) Fiberloc Disc, No. 714 (For cutting tiles, fibrous plaster, Fibrolite, bricks, stones, etc.) Planer Blade, No. 715.

Friction Blade, No. 716 (For cutting plain or corrugated galvanised iron)
3/16in. Groover Blade, No. 617.

SAW BENCH:

A useful attachment for your SHER "Timbermaster". Converts your Portable Electric Saw into a Tilting Arbor Saw Bench which mitres, bevels, crosscuts, rips, etc. Rise and Fall Saw Blade permits to adjust the depth of cut from 0 to the maximum. Saw slips into Bench from underneath, is held firmly and securely in position by its own weight. Telescopic safety guard shields saw blade,

Manufactured in Australia and fully guaranteed by

SHER POWER TOOLS PTY. LTD.

1-35 Wellington Street, Collingwood, N.5, Victoria

Telegrams: "SHERTOOLS," Melbourne.

Phones: IA 1181*

SC2 2M 9-61 J:B.

TTTG Power Tools Collection

Real foresight may include collecting things no one currently values.

TTTG has a growing collection of old portable power tools.

The editor would like give working demonstrations of the power tools.

Any electricians in TTTG willing to "rewire and tag" old power tools?

Sher 3/8" Powermatic Drill **Attachments**



ALL ABOUT YOUR AMAZING NEW **DUAL SPEED BALL BEARING** Powermatic





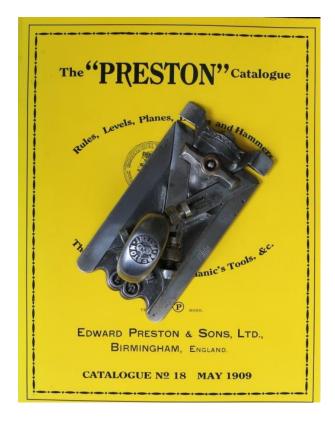




JD's

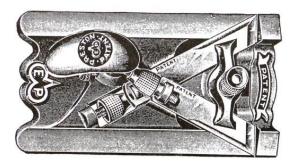
Tim's Plane

John Daniel



Tim's Plane, well at one time it was, the protective owner's mark attests to that.

The plane, a PRESTON No.1369 costing 7/6 (seven shillings and sixpence) back in May 1909 obviously was a prized possession and having it misplaced or stolen must have been a concern. "TIM" was obviously a discerning buyer when he purchased the Rolls Royce of Side Rebate Planes, the Preston's Patent Adjustable Side Rabbet Plane (Nickel Plated), was comparatively expensive back in the early 1900's, however he must have been a skilled artisan requiring such a plane for quality cabinet work or joinery.



PRESTON'S PATENT ADJUSTABLE SIDE RABBET PLANE.

NICKEL PLATED.

This is a Combined Right and Left Hand Side Rabbet Plane, and will be found a most useful tool for side rabbeting, clearing grooves and such like.

The nose of the plane can be removed for working close up into corners.

No. 1369

7,6 each.





Side Rabbet/Rebate plane's weren't a new innovation, the early makers of wooden (usually Beech) planes had been making them for a century or more, also pattern makers were making their own, however with the advent of the foundry, machine shops and focused inventers, it was inevitable that the tool-makers would embrace these new technologies in the advancement of tool making.

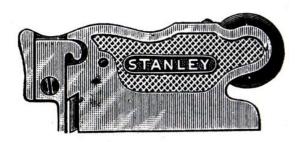
As you can observe from the photos, the plane was in a rather neglected condition, rusted and badly in need of a sympathetic approach. The disassembling was simple enough though the screw securing the toe (front end of the plane that is removable when converting to a chisel plane) was badly damaged due to incorrect fitting screwdrivers; this was overcome by carefully deepening the slot with the broken end of a hack-saw blade.

DATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

Care was taken not to over-run onto the toe itself, this was followed by the use of a correctly ground screwdriver with a constant downward pressure on the screw. It's always a relief to see the screw turn as there is always the risk of the head shearing off. I will have more to say on disassembling and the removal of damaged screws and frozen parts in a future article in *NEWS*.

Once the plane was dis-assembled, it was obvious that the plane had had little use, in later years, just neglected; it's a tool that was designed for a specific function and only used occasionally, such as the widening of trenches on dado joints, trimming shoulders and the like. The cleaning was straight forward though one had to be mindful that care in handling was paramount, remembering of course, "at first, do no damage".





Following the removal of the surface rust with a fine steel wool and INOX, a lanolin based spray, the parts were buffed with JOSCO (green) buffing soap to brighten them up, followed with a soft cloth and a nickel polish which can be purchased at any auto Shop.

Be patient if you want good results, so often we work for hours, sometimes days on a project then get a little impatient at the end. The reassembly was a little fiddly, however once together with freshly sharpened blades it performed as one would have expected of a Preston plane; this one is a keeper.

It's interesting that this patented plane was the forerunner of metal Side Rebate/Rabbet planes, other versions such as RECORD with the NO.2056, STANLEY with the No.79, a combination of the No. 98 and No.99, and VERITAS, to name a few makers of similar planes.

The later planes are of a simpler principal however the blades are hand-set with no depth-adjusting screw; the depth stop/fence fitted to the sole of the later planes certainly gives more control when using such planes.



Preston's latter years

"Falling on hard times, the firm of Edward Preston & Sons was sold to John Rabone & Sons in 1932, and shortly after, some range of planes were sold to the Sheffield firm of C & J Hampton who would later merge with the Record Tool Co. Some of the Preston planes were directly added to the Record line by the Hampton firm, while others were modified or discontinued altogether."

The Record No.2506 is an example of one design modification.

References:

- Wikipedia, "Edward Preston & Sons"
- John WALTER, <u>Antique &</u>
 <u>Collectible Stanley Tools: A</u>

 Guide to Identity and Value.



Murrays Dovetail Gauge

Patrick Leach April 2017

MS116

Murrays Expanding Dovetail Gauge in its original box and with original instructions; the much in demand accordion action tool that self regulates the size and spacing of the dovetails; a mystery to me who made this, a mystery no more; a corner of the instruction sheet is missing.

A few days before Patrick's April list was emailed, the *NEWS* editor found a Murray Dovetail Gauge in the original box with instructions.



The Murray Dovetail Gauge is a well-made too, simple to use and a potential "time saver". Probably UK made in the 1960s.

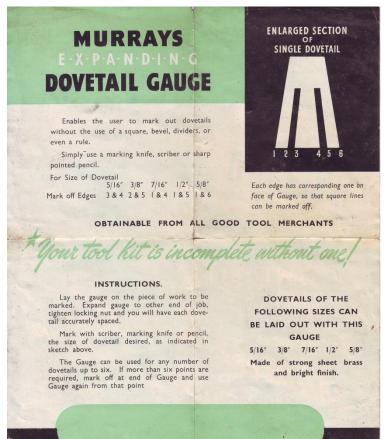


POTTER Bros. Sydney Australia

The *NEWS* editor found this cardboard empty box with a lot of old tools. All the Hollow Mortise Chisels and Augers are high quality.

Does any reader know anything about Potter Bros. Sydney? Did Potter Bros. make or import Hollow Mortise Chisels and Augers? Is this another reminder of a time when Australia could make anything?





Barron Multi-Purpose Rotary Wood Planer

The **ONLY** WORKSHOP TOOL TS KIND-PLANES AND

NISHES • PANELS •

RABBETS • ROUTS • TENONS

CONVERTS any M h.p. or larger drill press into a fast, accurate wood planer, surfacer, paneler, router, rabbeter and tenoner. No blade changes or adjustments necessary. The 5-in-1 Barron Rotary Planer is safe to use—cannot possibly harm drill press mechanism—provides precision-amouth surfaces on the trickiest grains or knotty woods. No experience required. A marvelously versatile tool for any workshop. Furnishes hundreds of unusual paneled, routed and grooved effects for ingenious craftsmen. Cuts rabbets and tenon joints with uncanny speed and accuracy. Will pay for itself over and over again in time saved—improved workmanship. A new blade improvement now enables you to plane varnished or



A new blade improvement now enables you to plane varnished or painted surfaces without difficulty. Order one today on our liberal trial offer. FREE DESCRIPTIVE FOLDER.

Send check or money order for \$7.50 or order C.O.D. Postage pre-paid. Use it for five days and get a full refund if not entirely satisfied.

BARRON TOOL CO., INC., 329 ARCHITECTS BLDG., DETROIT, MICH.

DRILL PRESS OWNERS

HERE'S 1 TOOL WITH 5 DISTINCT USES

THE BARRON MULTI-PURPOSE ROTARY WOOD PLANER

PLANES & SURFACES . PANELS & BEADS ROUTS & GROOVES . RABBETS . TENONS COMPLETE

Finest precision performance - certainty of skilled workmanship—time-saving, money saving short cuts—yours with world famous Barron Drill Press Tools. Fifteen important operations—all available on any standard drill press— with Barron Accessories. Equip your shop with these versatile exclusively designed tools-and save up to \$500. 200,000 Barron owners have bought on our liberal 10 day full money back guarantee. Order, or write for catalog.

BARRON TOOL CO. INC.

206 Architects Bldg., Detroit 1, Mich.

Adverts for the

Barron Multi-Purpose Rotary Wood Planer

Above

Popular Mechanics November 1940

Left

Popular Science March 1952

Guide &

Catalog



The TTTG Tool Collection has a Barron Multi-Purpose Rotary Wood Planer in the original box.

The manufacturing quality of this device is superb. The advertising is equally impressive.

No how-to-use instructions and nothing about safe use.

In the 1960s The Wagner Rotary Planer appeared on the DIY tool market in the USA. The Wagner is a copy of the Barron Multi-Purpose Rotary Wood Planer. The Wagner came with safety instructions.

These Rotary Planers are accidents waiting to happen. Some of these accidents have been reported.



Wagner Safe-T Planer Accident

Fine Woodworking magazine blog Tuesday 13 January 2004

http://forums.finewoodworking.co m/fine-woodworkingknots/general-discussion/scarywagner-safe-t-planer-accident

I got a Wagner Safe-T Planer for Christmas. It's a device that mounts in your drill press and acts like a rotary planer head removing about 1/64" at a time. I had a real scare yesterday: I had a piece of rough sawn walnut that was jointed flat on one face, I slid that face across my Walker Turner drill press table and decided to try out the new tool. I used a fence but no hold-downs or push stick (I know...very unwise)

Wagner Safety Planer Instructions

For Instructions go to http://lumberjocks.com/topics/20534

The hype on the box talked about how safe the device is how you can surface plane small pieces freehand etc...

I was a little suspicious about some of the claims since the owner's manual and text on the box remind me of something from the 1950's or 1960's. Anyway, I started playing around taking very light cuts on the slowest speed which seemed OK so I increased to the next higher speed. I immediately noticed it was much grabbier but cutting more cleanly, my session came to an abrupt end when, somehow, I got my thumb pulled between the cutter and the fence, in a split second I saw blood spiralling, a strange noise and a small but deep triangle shaped wound on the inside of my left thumb and thumbnail. I held a pressure dressing tightly on it until I could get to my family MD's office. Miraculously no stitches were required just Steri-strips. I'll be losing my thumbnail at some point though. Just thought I'd share this humbling, embarrassing story.

Handy Blade Holder

Barron Tool Co. Inc. Detroit 1, Mich. made a device to sharpen the insert blades in the Barron Multi-Purpose Rotary Wood Planer. No instructions were included in the superbly made circular card board box.

Barron 4-inch Rotary Surface Sander

This is another well-made Barron product with extravagant claims. The original box has this information note.



Chop Stick Master





Dear Woodworker,

We are pleased to share that the Chopstick Master™ by Bridge City Tool Works is in stock (while supplies last) for only \$195.00! (+S&H)

This international, award-winning* tool allows young and old, regardless of skill, to make a perfect pair of 270mm wooden chopsticks in approximately 15 minutes. The results are gallery quality and feature a perfect diamond finial on the non-business end. Never in our 34 year history have we developed a tool that brings so much fun and joy to families worldwide. As you will soon see below, this is a remarkable woodworking value and an extraordinary memory making experience!

Popwood 26 January 2017

The *NEWS* editor can use chop sticks but when he read this he didn't send off an order. Instead he sent a copy to TTTG Secretary John Bates for his reaction.

John,

Have a look at this gadget for making chop sticks. Traditionally any woodworker with a saw, bench and plane could make chopsticks rapidly out of bamboo or wood scraps. Seems the modern US of A woodworker needs to invest big money to make chopsticks. Maybe it is me, but this is sad as well as humorous. Could be material a page in NEWS 152. Cheers,

Bob,

Are they kidding? Chopsticks can be had for virtually nothing at any \$2 store. Why would any sane person be bothered making their own and if they did why spend \$200+

Buy a knife and fork. I guess they will put out a set of gadgets to make these as well.......

No you are right black comedy. Cheers,
John

Postscript

The *NEWS* editor can sell you the wood and teach you how to make chop sticks for less money.

Lee Valley 'Grease Monkey'



These are the gloves we use in our own manufacturing operations, chosen for the good tactile sense and flexibility they provide, as well as their excellent durability. The 8 mil thick nitrile gloves resist cuts, snags and abrasion well, and provide the same chemical protection as latex and vinyl gloves, except they are not recommended for use with aniline dyes or ketones.

Not just for the shop, they're excellent any time you are faced with a messy job and need to protect your hands.

Dispenser box of 50 gloves

Reproduced by the *NEWS* editor without editorial comment!



Park Handles

At the 2017 Tool Sale the *NEWS* editor met Greg Thatcher of Park Handles.

The company manufacturers sustainable Australian hardwood tool handles. Park Handles may have the handles you cannot find.

27/64 Drummond Street, South Windsor NSW 2756 Phone (02) 4577 7275

Ask for Greg Thatcher

Tool Question

Hi, can you get me in touch with someone who knows about these planes please?

The handle is a little loose and I was just wondering if it was glued in or has a hidden screw, also, the configuration of taping for adjusting the blade. I think it's tap the front to withdraw the blade and tap the rear to advance? Brook Ayrton

The Reply

Brook,

I know about these planes. The handle is glued in. Don't use screws or modern glues. Adjusting the blade is by "hammer and tap". Never hammer the end of the plane, never hammer the end grain of the front of the plane. If you can come to the next TTTG workshop I can teach you how to sharpen, set up and use the plane. A 26" plane should be in good condition but the sole may need planing flat, don't use a machine plane and don't sand the plane.



The Follow up

Wow thanks a lot! I've got a new bevel on the blade and going to hone to 6000, though it already takes a nice shaving when blunt, I want to clean the dirt and grime off, should I use metho and then boiled linseed oil with super fine steel wool? (I saw that in a video online) and then I'll have to plane the sole flat.

Thanks a lot. Brook

Brook,

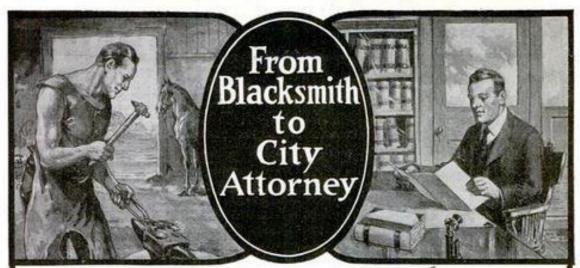
you are on the money! Methylated Spirits and Linseed (doesn't matter if raw or boiled) will remove the dirt and bring out the "patina". Green "no frills" kitchen pads are ideal. Heating the mix helps. Don't be fooled by the "blogs", there is no need to buy a "plane setting hammer" or to use a mallet. Using a middle weight hammer is fine. Just don't belt the wood. There is no need to hone to 6000. In the past the highest grit was "fine". A fine India oilstone will give a razor edge in a few minutes. These old cast steel faced blades take, and hold an edge equal to any modern steel. Use a #7 plane to flatten the sole. Drive the wedge in, but set the blade back. The plane looks to be in excellent condition, just dirty. Bob

Tool Question?

Email President@TTTG.org.au

Skills Training

TTTG Workshops



A hundred years ago courses by correspondence were the latest educational innovation.

There could be a parallel with current online courses.

The question used to be "can a trade be learnt from a book?

The question now could be "can skills be learnt online?

TTTG has offered "real skills" workshops for a decade.

The scope of these workshops is limited by the current venue.

Unless TTTG secures a permanent workshop teaching space the future of the TTTG "Real Skills" classes is anything but certain.

Jim Davey



CREDIT CARD FACILITIES: Jim Davey



VISA



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

Reviews

Popular Woodworking

Every article in each issue this magazine is worth reading and the NEWS editor is highlighting recent articles with a probable appeal to those interested in traditional techniques, tools and machines. The reviews are not intended to be only on woodworking topics.

TTTG members are encouraged to submit review for publication.

Popular Woodworking

December 2016 #229

Beading Planes and Complex Moulders

pages 50-54

Anyone who wants to start using moulding planes should read and digest this article.

Popular Woodworking

February 2017 #230

Knock-down Shaving Horse

pages 50-55

Anyone wanting to build a shaving horse will get a lot out of reading this article. The creative use of found materials is impressive.

Tractor seats are at a premium.

Popular Woodworking

April 2017 #231

Chisels:

What matters; What Doesn't

pages 20-27

This article demolishes a mountain of sales' hype. Full of good advice steering the reader away from the confusing debates about blade shapes, handle types and special steels. Forget what the advertisers say and read this article.

Furniture & Cabinetmaking

Winter 2016 #252

Twice upon a time: reviving the vintage hand tool

pages 52-54

This is one for the tool collectors, great photos and prices from an international tool auction.

Furniture & Cabinetmaking

January 2017 #253

Windsor Journeyman

pages 44-46

This is an interesting article on preserving traditional trade skills with an Australian connection.

Submissions Wanted

The NEWS Editor cannot write every article.

The NEWS Editor encourages readers to submit draft articles or reviews.

The *NEWS* Editor's job is to get the article ready for publication.

Don't worry about style or format. Get some words down and sent a draft.

Editor's Report

The *NEWS* editor needs to receive more material from TTTG members. Everyone has something to contribute so why not give it a go?

On a positive note; more members are opting to get *NEWS* by email. Members receiving *NEWS* by email significantly reduces costs.

President's Report

TTTG bank balance remains healthy and the workshops and meetings for the first quarter of the year were successful.

The first big event of 2017 was the Tool Sale. All tables were sold, attendance was strong and a good profit was achieved.

The April Meeting at The National Trust Centre was well attended. Bidding at the auction was strong.

The June Meeting will be at Brush Farm House. After the panel discussion on TTTG's Future there will be a "Pick and Pay" Sale.

TTTG currently has some excellent tools to sell and many bargains.

Foster Hall at Brush Farm House is a larger venue and TTTG's shed is onsite so the selling logistics are excellent.

There will be lots to buy at the June meeting.

Machines for Sale

TTTG is selling these machines:-

Woodfast 14" Bandsaw	Good Condition	\$200
Ryobi Bench-Top Bandsaw	As new	\$75
Ryobi Bench-Top Drilling Machine	As new	\$45
Small Combined Disc/Belt Sander	Good Condition	\$45
Bosch POF 50 Router	As new	\$40

Contact: John Bates - johnbates@tttg.org.au

mobile 0418 488 210

2017 Sydney Timber and Working With Wood Show Friday 23 June to Sunday 25 June 2017

Sydney Olympic Park

TTTG has been at every Sydney T&WWW Show

This year TTTG will be on Stand T20

Stand T20 measures 7m x 6m

The TTTG representatives on Stand T20 are:

Fred Murrell Selling Old Tools

Jim Davey Selling New Tools

Bob Crosbie Demonstrating "Real Skills"

TTTG will be selling Old Tools

Displays of Old Hand and Power Tools

What is TTTG displaying?

Veteran and rare tools

Early Portable Power Tools

What is TTTG demonstrating?

Cutting Dovetail Joints

Hand Planing Skills

Planing mouldings

Shaping with a Drawknife

Shaping with a Spokeshave

Volunteers are wanted

To talk to the public

To sell TTTG Tools

To demonstrate "real skills"

"Pick and Pay" Sale

WHEN? 7.30pm Tuesday 13 June

WHERE? Forster Hall

Brush Farm House, Eastwood

The "set price" tools include

Record 077A Plane (In box) \$75 Infill Shoulder Plane \$85

Stanley 79 Plane (In box) \$70 Adept Chamfer Plane \$35

Stanley 66 Beader (complete) \$70 Stanley 78 Plane \$55

Stanley 59 Dowel Jig (In box) \$50 Invivta Mortise Gauge \$30

Stanley #113 Compass Plane \$90 Stanley 80 Scraper \$50

Wooden Moulding Planes \$10 each Chisels \$5 to \$15 each

Tools for Sale

TTTG is selling these tools:

Stanley #45 Plane Complete, good condition \$160

Stanley #55 Plane "As new", good condition \$290

TTTG may have the tool you are looking for, add your name to our list.

John Bates - <u>johnbates@tttg.org.au</u>

mobile 0418 488 210



Bulli Showground

Contact
Illawarra Woodwork School
Stuart Montague 0438 510145

⁴⁴ Every tree has a story ⁷⁷