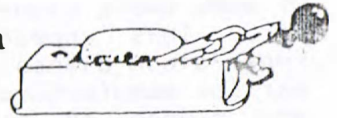


down as far as the shoulders, as shown by the saw cuts *b*, *c* in view (*b*); the shoulders *c* *d* are also cut through by making the saw cuts here shown.



SYDNEY'S 4<sup>th</sup>



# TOOL SALE AND SWAP

QUALITY AND ANTIQUE WOODWORKING TOOLS  
FOR THE COLLECTOR AND CRAFTSMAN

BURWOOD GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL GYM  
QUEEN STREET, CROYDON



SUNDAY, 27<sup>th</sup> MAY



INFORMATION for details about selling spaces please ring Henry

ENTRY \$2

DOORS OPEN 9 AM

## 18 Australian Planemakers

Australian woodworkers have always used planes and other tools from overseas, especially from England and America. The English planes were made of both wood and metal whilst the American ones were almost always metal. Stanley planes made up the bulk of the America planes, although other brands such as sargent were imported in quantity. It even appears likely that completely unmarked planes were unpacked and then stamped by local dealers before resale. It is certainly true that no significant manufacturing of local planes occurred. Our best guess at this stage is that some firms, probably mostly with restricted local markets, made local copies of some basic planes in the period after the second World War. This appears to certainly be true of Carter and Pope-Falcon planes. However, there may be other unknown earlier manufacturers although it seems not unlikely that any planes of significant quality have been made in Australia.

The following brands of Australian-made planes are known to exist:-

- (i) Goodwood - small metal block plane
- (ii) Carter - metal smoother no.4  
- metal coachmakers rabbet  
- metal duplex rabbet  
- metal plough and rabbet
- (iii) MEM Tools Sydney - metal no.4
- (iv) Pope-Falcon - metal no.4, 4 1/2 to 7
- (v) Woodstock - small metal block plane  
- metal routers
- (vi) Turner - metal no.4, 4 1/2
- (vii) Davleco - metal duplex rabbet
- (viii) McLaren Melb. - wood/metal smoother

Carter Tools operated from 1947 to 1959 at Parramatta in Sydney.

Pope-Falcon planes were made near Adelaide in South Australia.

Woodstock tools were made at Coburg, Melbourne.

No other details are known about Australian manufacturers and any further available information and dates will be gratefully received.

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Interesting Finds - Part 2

A tale for discouraged and unsuccessful collectors who should appreciate Karel Capek's 'Tales From Two Pockets' (George Allen and Unwin, 1967)

After my unsuccessful attempt to buy the rare 17th century carpet, I left the shop with that fat surly dog Amina, the shop owner's pet, sitting on top of it.

I had to visit London a little later and went to see a well-known expert on carpets 'What would a white Anatolian carpet with Chintamins and birds, more than thirty square yards in area be worth?' I asked breathlessly. My expert snapped 'Nothing, because there is no such carpet that size'. 'But what if ...' 'How do I know - it would be unique', he snapped again.

Well, after that you can imagine just how desperately I wanted that carpet! It was magnificent and obviously there was none other like it. But I couldn't show the dealer I was keen on it. And I still had the problem that the confounded woman who owned the carpet was always out of town gadding about. So about every fortnight I called in at the dealers, scratched the awful Amina and checked whether the carpet was still there. I kept this up for two years until one day the dealer said unexpectedly that the owner of the carpet Mrs Zanelli had been but didn't want to sell the carpet.

So of course I went off to find the owner who turned out to be an ugly old frump with purple hair, a wig, and a queer twitch. In my calmest and most logical manner, I explained that I would like to buy her white carpet which just happened to suit my needs.

'How dare you?' she screeched. 'It's an heirloom my grandfather left. Get out, get out of my house or I'll call the police'.

I just about cried with rage and frustration. So near and yet so far! What could I do next? Well, I just kept going to the dealers - at least for another year, by which time Amina had simply become fatter and balder. Then I sent a solicitor friend to her to make her an offer she couldn't refuse. Three hours later having suffered a complete family history he staggered out - without the carpet. 'You're never going to get that carpet', he gasped.

Well, being a collector I knew better than to give up. So I made up my mind that I'd simply steal the carpet. I

carefully planned it. There was a cellar to hide in beforehand and an escape route over the shed through the hotel yard next door, afterwards. I practised cutting windows with a glasscutter so I could make my entry.

The night I did the job was raining. I stood miserably and conspicuously in the rain and was clearly spotted by a girl from the pub next door. Instead of waiting till midnight as planned I became so nervous that at eleven o'clock I decided to move. All I had to do was get through the shop window and that magnificent carpet would certainly be mine.

I took my glasscutter and with a fearful scraping began to cut the glass. From inside there was the immediate muffled response of a bark from Amina. Somehow I managed to cut the glass and open the window. Once inside I tried to calm Amina by scratching her fat back. It worked beautifully but as soon as I tried to get her capacious body off that magnificent carpet she set up not just a bark but a massive howl. I calmed her quickly by more tickling but the result was the same. I resolved to kill Amina, but even though I had a knife and a belt I couldn't. I retreated as planned.

A few days later when I called as casually as possible at the dealers, there were grates on the windows and Amina lay like a fat slug on that wonderful carpet.

Well, that's the whole story. That unique white carpet which I think is one of the rarest specimens of textile-making in the world is still there. Rolled up and dusty the fat, loathsome and scabby Amina still guards it. Perhaps I'll have another try: but first I'll have to file that grating.

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#### WANTED

Steam bending equipment.

Tait Restorations, PO Box 274, Castlemaine Vic. 3450

Contact Alex Tait (054) 72 3569

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# SANDHURST TRUSTEES LTD

## MEDIA RELEASE

### HISTORIC TOOLS ON DISPLAY AT TRUSTEES

A collection of historic hand tools is on display at Sandhurst Trustees Ltd in View Street, Bendigo.

The tools were owned by the Sweeney family of Bendigo and were used 90 years ago to construct the front counter for Sandhurst Trustees.

The collection of 55 hand tools have been restored by Mr Julian Rose of Melbourne, a member of the Hand Tool Preservation Association of Victoria.

The tools were recently presented to Mr Rose by Mr and Mrs Gordon Teasdale of Melbourne. Mrs Betty Teasdale is a daughter of Mr Alfred Sweeney, the son of the founder of G J Sweeney and Sons Pty Ltd whose saw mill and factory once stood in Garsed Street. The Sweeney company closed in 1930.

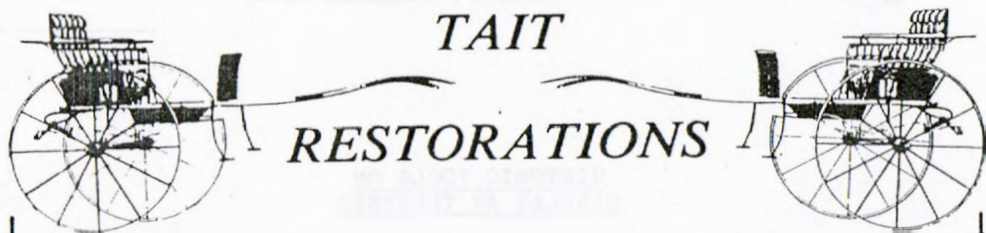
The large counter constructed by Sweeneys is an imposing centrepiece within the wood pannelled front office at Sandhurst Trustees.

All the tools on display can still be used and present an interesting contrast with their modern power tool counterparts.

The collection includes timber planes, steel spoke shaves of various sizes, long and short-handled chisels, dies for cutting wooden threads, gouges and marking gauges. Some are more than 100 years old.

The public is welcome to visit the display at 18 View Street, Bendigo.

February 15 1990



## *Restorers of Horse Drawn Vehicles.*

P.O. BOX 274, CASTLEMAINE, Vic. 3450.

We are a small business offering the services of the traditional carriage builder, which incorporates coachbuilding, upholstery, wheelwrighting, painting, lining and signwriting.

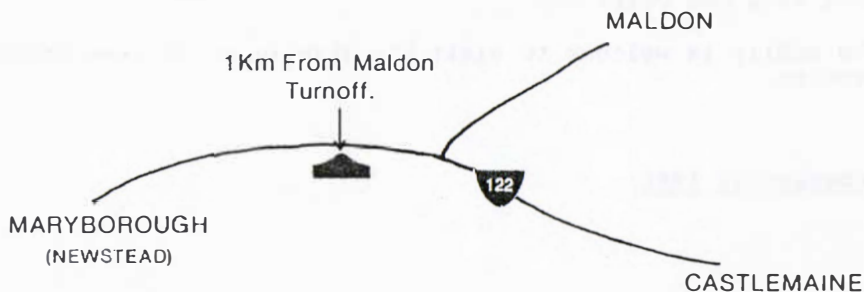
We can supply rubber and iron tyres, mudguards, hickory shafts and other parts.

Apart from restoration we manufacture vehicles for the serious competitive or pleasure driver. Using modern materials combined with traditional workmanship we guarantee satisfaction and value.

Our workshop is located 5 Km. from Castlemaine on the Pyrenees Highway.

You are welcome to visit between 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. - 12 noon Saturday.

For further information phone  
Alex or Neil Tait on (054) 72 3569.



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