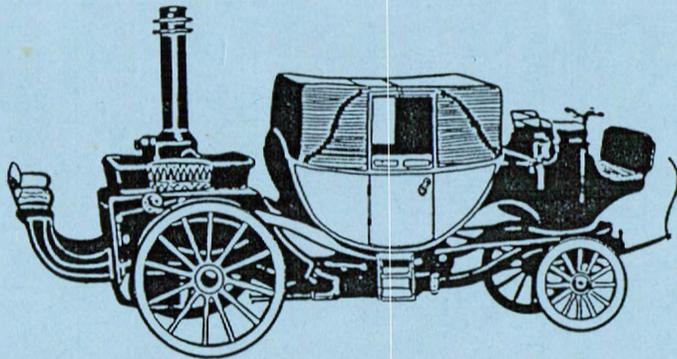


HAND  
TOOL  
PRESERVATION  
ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER



*1854 - Virginio Bordino's steam landau*

*Volume 2, No. 6,  
December, 1990.*

HTPA

AIMS

Promote the preservation, study and understanding of hand tools.

Encourage interest in, and better understanding of crafts and early industries in which these tools were used.

Discover, identify, classify, document, preserve and exhibit these tools - in particular special efforts are to be made regarding the documentation and preservation of Australian made tools.

Share this knowledge and understanding with others and with museums, pioneer villages, the National Trust and similar institutions.

Accomplish these aims in a spirit of fun and fellowship.

Editor - Nigel Lampert

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Secretary - Frank Ham,

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CONTENTS

Editor's Corner	4
Secretary's News	4
Future Meeting Notes	5
Report of Family Activity Day	5
Report of Annual General Meeting	6
Coachbuilding (Part 3)	8
Coach Joinery -	9
Fittings and Finishings	
Letters to the Editor	23
Australian Tools	24
Original W.N. Plumb Pty Ltd	
Interesting Finds	25
Library Additions	26
For Sale	30

## Editor's Corner

Many members have expressed their appreciation of our newsletters. Production owes much to the voluntary efforts of June and Alex McLean with the typing, reproduction and mailing of newsletters. Whilst newsletters may be mailed after some events noted in them, all original information is retained for the benefit of interstate, country and overseas members.

### Next Newsletter

Contributions for our next newsletter are due to the Editor by 25th January 1991.

Nigel Lampert

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## Secretary's News

Our busy season for tool displays is now over. The Working with Wood Show at the Exhibition Building again gave us exposure to some thousands of wood workers. Unfortunately the space allocated to us was small, which limited our display, but already we have two new members as a result. The Classic Crafts Day at Gulf Station was held on a lovely sunny day although somewhat windy. We had an opportunity to show some of the Caine tools as well as the wooden lathe and the pedal fret saw. The Gulf Station manager has already asked us for a display for Heritage Week in April 1991.

The third display was at the Victorian Woodworkers Association exhibition at Doncaster, where we reviewed our friendship with the woodworking fraternity. I would like to thank Keith Sutherland who devoted many hours at all three displays but also Tony Derrett, Kees Klep, Julian Rose, Bruce Chambers, Watson Cutter, Roy Fuller, Nigel Lampert, Doug McIver, Ben Rasalam, Sig Walde and Alan West, who all volunteered and helped man our exhibits.

One essential for future displays is a self supporting hollow E display stand, covered with material with a board across the demountable and transportable by trailer.

Already we have been asked for a display of tools at the Melbourne Steam Traction Engine club at Scoresby over the Labour Day weekend next March.

## Future Meeting Notes

1. Regular club meetings are held on the third Tuesday as below:-

19th February	-	Meat Market	7.30 p.m.
19th March	-	To be announced.	
21st May	-	To be announced.	
16th July	-	Meat Market	7.30 p.m.
17th September	-	To be announced.	
19th November	-	To be announced.	
2. Caine Tool Committee meetings to catalogue the collection will be held at Illawarra on :-  
Saturday 19th January, 9.00 a.m. onwards.  
Saturday 22nd June, 9.00 a.m. onwards.  
Saturday 24th August, 9.00 a.m. onwards.  
Saturday 19th October, 9.00 a.m. onwards

A display of Caine Tools will be held on Saturday 20th April at Gulf Station. Interested members should contact Doug McIver for further information and to indicate they can assist.

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## Report of October Family Activity Day.

On 14th October a very pleasant outing was made to "Woodlands" at Maindample. Here member Don Mathieson has worked for the Wappan Pastoral Company for over twenty years. During this time he has collected old farming tools and his collection is thus distinctively different from that of other club members. His collection includes tools used in the fencing and building of farms. He has an impressive display of axes, hay knives, broadaxes, mortise axes, and other related material. His prize tools include a wooden brace and hand-forged axes made by local blacksmiths. He has dozens of axes and prides himself in making all his own handles. A large range of handles made from a wide range of native timbers is on display. Some further unusual items are about fifty original farm machinery catalogues. These include McKay and Massey Ferguson and give details of the tools belonging to each piece of machinery. Some other uncommon items are a pitsaw and a chinese bowsaw, whilst one special item is a brass hatchet with a shell emblem.

These were non-sparking tools for use in the refineries. It is hoped members may be able to see this important collection on another occasion when Don is sure to have new items to share.

It was particularly unfortunate that this outing coincided with the petrol rationing in Victoria, but Don and his wife are thanked for a most enjoyable day.

Report of Annual General Meeting -  
Tuesday 20th November 1990

A very well attended annual meeting was held at Kensington Primary School where a barbecue and fellowship were followed by the actual meeting. Twenty four people attended including, Harvey Henenberg from USA, and other local visitors.

The meeting considered a number of future options available for the continuing development of the club. It was agreed that there needed to be an executive committee which met separately to deal with planning and other specific issues. Members agreed that this executive should particularly work on the issues of incorporation displays and public liability. Our first executive is as listed below:

President	-	Watson Cutter
Secretary	-	Frank Ham
Treasurer/Membership	-	Ian McIntosh
Caine Committee Chairman	-	Doug McIver
Program Director	-	Kees Klep
Newsletter Editor	-	Nigel Lampert
Librarian	-	Kees Klep
Club Tool Curator	-	Keith Sutherland
Display Co-ordinator	-	Tony Derrett
Catering	-	Ben Rasalam

The financial statement for 1990 was presented, and after lengthy discussion a vote for staggered subscription was agreed upon for 1991. This was intended to provide interstate and overseas members with a lesser subscription, as they are less likely to attend meetings or utilize the club library. These members, it was agreed, would not receive regular meeting notices except for the AGM. Reports on previous and future meetings would, however, need to continue as usual in the Newsletter. The effect of this action would also minimize postage costs to the club. After some further debate regarding club plans and expenses the 1991 rates were set as below to allow for incorporation displays and wording expansion. It was agreed that the subscription for - non-Victorian members would be 75% of the full rates.

Victorian members	-	\$30.00
Other members	-	\$22.50 (75%)

Discussion also occurred regarding the location of meetings. Whilst no perfect solution was perceived, it was agreed to trial the use of the Meat Market Craft Centre for up to three meetings in 1991. Consideration was to be given by the executive to holding one weekend meeting (possibly at Moomba time) and a country meeting. The next AGM will be in November 1991 at the Meat Market Craft Centre.

A vote of thanks was passed to Alex and June McLean for all their time and effort in the production of the newsletters.

The meeting concluded informally with members enjoying the display of cooper's tools and the fellowship of other members.

This meeting takes our club to a more formal stage of development and should enable us to meet our commitments and challenges in a way which continues to satisfy members.

## Coachbuilding (Part 3)

George Sturt in his classic, "The Wheelwright's Shop", described the year of the First World War as "... momentous years for wheelwrights and coachbuilders. The long-impending change from horses to petrol had come at last. An entirely new era had begun in my ancient business ..." p vi)

Following the invention of the steam engine which led to the development of railways early in the nineteenth century the traditional craft of the coachbuilder began to diversify. Coachbuilders might be employed in the building of traditional horse-drawn vehicles such as dog-carts, traps or phaetons: alternatively they could similarly be involved in railway carriage work or the construction and maintenance of cable or electric tram cars. (It is interesting to note that as early as 1839 surveyor Robert Hoddle had made plans for a railway line in Melbourne only four years after its foundation.) Indeed steam trains ran for the first time in Australia at Melbourne in 1854. Horse trains of the mid nineteenth century were followed by cable trams which continued until 1940 in Melbourne. Whilst coachbuilders became "car builders" or tramways respectively; their skills as fine craftsmen in wood were undoubted. The work of motor body builders during the early period of car production is also to be admired and formed another area of skilled work for the coachbuilder.

Motor-vehicles were then not only scarce but very much the province of the rich rather than the average family, probably, just as the gold rushes produced opulence and extravagance in architecture, the restricted ownership of motor cars produced a limited period during which the coachbuilder's craft was applied without restraint to produce joinery and fittings of an extremely high standard using the finest of materials.

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