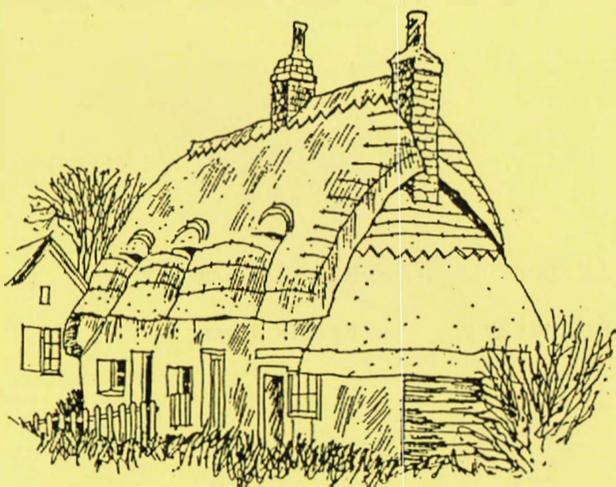


HAND  
TOOL  
PRESERVATION  
ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER



Volume 3, No. 5,  
October, 1991.

HTPA

## AIMS

Promote the preservation, documentation, study and understanding of hand tools and the skills employed in their usage.

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 including museums, pioneer villages, the National Trust and similar institutions.

Accomplish these aims in a spirit of fun and fellowship.

Editor - Nigel Lampert

Secretary - Frank Ham

Hand Tool Preservation Association  
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## EDITOR'S CORNER

Members are reminded that the deadline for the next issue is 20th November, 1991.

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS - 1992

Please return your 1992 subscription promptly. Subscriptions are for the 1992 calendar year and there has been no increase in the rate for 1992.

\* \* \* \* \*

## SECRETARY'S NEWS

### 1. Visit to Perth, Western Australia

In August I spent three days in Perth at a conference. I tried to contact the President and Secretary of the Hand Tool Preservation Society of W.A. but was unable to get in touch with them. However I did visit Alan Bunn who is a member of the HTPS of WA. He works in the Engineering Department of the University and is very skilled in metal working. He is able to supply reproduction parts of Stanley 55 planes and full sets of cutters of high carbon steel. I took some Newsletters for the Society and Desmond Miller, the president, has written thanking the HTPA for the gift. He will be visiting Melbourne in early October and I hope to meet him then.

### 2. Gift of Tools to HTPA

Recently Mrs Janice Loye donated most of the tools of her late husband Robert Loye. The gift including about 30 carving chisels, some planes and books on woodcarving which are now available to members for the Librarian.

### 3. Exhibitions

Our busy season is now upon us.

(a) Working with Wood Show, Exhibition Building  
October 17th - 20th.

A display mostly of Caine Collection tools will be mounted.

(b) Classic Crafts Day at Gulf Station

The National Trust has again asked the HTPA to exhibit and show in use, some of our tools on Sunday October 27th from 10.00 am - 4.00 pm.

- (c) VWA Demonstration - Doncaster  
Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th October.  
We have again been invited to man a working  
exhibition on this weekend.

Any member who can help with any of these displays (setting up, manning or dismantling) is asked to telephone Tony Derrett or Frank Ham

#### 4. Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on November 20th at the Box Hill Community Arts Centre, 470 Station Street, Box Hill. At this meeting it is hoped to decide regarding incorporation of the HTPA and ratify a constitution. Office bearers and members of the Executive will be elected. If you are able to help with administration please let the Secretary know. The level of subscription for 1991 is likely to be set at the 1991 level - if you have any contrary view please come to the AGM.

#### 5. HTPA Logo

It has been suggested that we should have a logo for promotional purposes. e.g. car sticker, membership cards etc. A competition for the best logo will remain open until the end of January 1992 - please put your ideas on paper but don't feel you have to be a Michelangelo to enter.

#### 6. Ken Roberts visit and lecture

Ken will be visiting Melbourne from Thursday 5th March till Monday 9th March. He has agreed to lecture on "English braces and other tools" at the Meat Market Craft Centre on Friday 6th March at 7.30 p.m.

\* \* \* \* \*

## FUTURE MEETING NOTES

### 1. November 19th Meeting - 7.30 pm

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at the Box Hill Community Arts Centre, 470 Station street, Box Hill. As well as being our AGM, part of the meeting will be about the development of hand routers. This segment will be led by Watson Cutter. Please bring along your most interesting user-made or commercial hand routers to share with other members.

## 2. Family Day - Sunday, 1st December

This year's Family Day will be held at Geelong. It will involve a number of activities of interest to both members and their families.

### \* 9.45 am. Meet at the Cement Works McCurdy Road, Herne Hill (Melway 225 D 12)

This day will begin at the historic Cement Works in McCurdy Road near the intersection of Autumn Street. Housed in the Cement Works is an extensive collection of old tools and other items. Our tour here will take about two hours.

### \* 12.00 noon. Depart for BBQ Lunch at Jan Juc.

A BBQ lunch will be held at Watson Cutter's holiday home at 33 Eastview Terrace, Jan Juc. (Melway 237 B 9). Please bring your own everything except for the barbecue.

### \* Optional Visit to the Wool Museum in your own time.

On your way home you may wish to visit the Wool Museum complex, corner of Moorabool and Brougham Streets, Geelong. (Melway 228A, H 3). The complex has a shopping bazaar, craft market and speciality shops. You can also tour the historic wool museum for a charge of around \$7 per person. The Wool Museum and complex are housed in one of Geelong's former wool stores which are an interesting feature of the city's foreshore.

### \* PLEASE:

Kees Klep would appreciate notification if you are coming together with an indication of numbers. This will greatly assist with planning. Either let him know at the November meeting or phone Kees.

\* \* \* \* \*

## CLUB MEETING REPORT - September 1991

Due to difficulties in arranging an evening at the RMIT School of Foundry Technology at this time, our September meeting was held at the Stanley Works, 400 Whitehorse Road, Nunawading. Members were invited to bring rare or unusual Stanley tools for discussion.

Our meeting was well attended with about 25 members and visitors present. We met in the Stanley training centre which was a pleasant setting away from the dreary weather outside. After matters of general business had been dealt with, member Graeme Plaw who has worked for Stanley over many years, welcomed us on behalf of Stanley Works. It was immediately obvious that Graeme had a vast

knowledge of Stanley and its history, together with a desire to preserve and share this rather unique heritage.

Graeme spoke about the origins of the 148 year old firm begun by Fred T. Stanley and his use of steam-driven machinery in manufacturing prior to anyone else. He described how Stanley grew to be the world's largest hand tool manufacturer with an emphasis on woodworking tools.

As this market has obviously declined and also seen cost pressures change the actual quality and finish of current hand tools from earlier days of manufacturing, Stanley has now ventured into the area of mechanical hand tools, although many products under Stanley control do not actually carry the Stanley trade name. During the 1980s Stanley became the largest manufacturer of mechanics and hand tools much as it had with woodwork tools a century earlier. Stanley has 19 divisions many of which are not known to the general public due to their specialist nature. These include products such as automatic doors for airports, an air tools products division, and hydraulic tools for underwater use.

In mentioning the history of Stanley in Australia, Graeme had high praise for the screwdriver still made to the specifications of the Turner company taken over many years ago. Currently Australia makes plastic cases for screwdrivers at Nunawading (the old Turner factory), finishes No.4 plane castings made in Sheffield England, and makes chisels, levels and auger bits, both Scotch and Jennings patterns. These latter activities occur at Hobart in Tasmania. The Tasmanian factory is one of only three in the world which still makes auger bits.

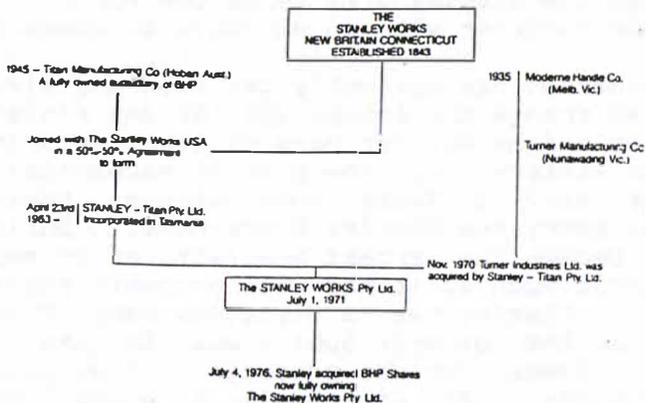
Stanley, however, also still makes machetes for the South American market, and is the largest manufacturer of hinges although none are sold in Australia. Stanley has a vast product list and even used to make items such as roller skates. Despite its long history, Stanley remains a stand-alone company, and is the last company listed on the US stock exchange which has paid an annual dividend for over 100 year.

Following Graeme's talk, we watched two videos from the Stanley range, these covering the usage of planes, chisels and gouges. After this members spent some time discussing items brought by individual members and enjoying the usual club fellowship.

\* \* \* \* \*

# STANLEY<sup>®</sup>

## OVER FIFTY YEARS OF MANUFACTURING IN AUSTRALIA...



The Stanley Works Pty Ltd. was formed in 1971 joining together the previously known companies of Stanley Titan Pty. Ltd. and Turner Industries Ltd.

The company manufactures and distributes Australia's broadest line of hardware and tool products. Range categories include:

HANDTOOLS, CABINET HARDWARE,  
DOOR FURNITURE, DRAPERY HARDWARE  
and SECURITY HARDWARE.

The company forms part of The Stanley Works, an international company with 61 manufacturing centres in ten countries. It sells its products in 30 countries and has been manufacturing for more than 140 years.

In Australia there are two manufacturing plants – one in Hobart Tas. and another in Nunawading Vic. A central administration and National distribution centre services all states. Each state is serviced by a local Stanley Sales Office.

## THE CRAFT OF THATCHING

"In Somersetshire they do share their wheat very lowe; and the whete strawe that they purpose to make thacke of, they do not threshe it, but cut off the ears, and bynd it in sheves, and call it rade, and therewith they thacke their houses".

Fitzherbert, Book of Husbandry, 1534

(Encyclopaedia Britannica, 9th Edition, p.295)

Thatched cottages are one of our enduring images of traditional England. they seem to be an essential part of English country scenery and add greatly to the charm, character, and attraction of buildings and their surrounds. Of course, it is not only in the United Kingdom that buildings were thatched. The most early and primitive roof shelter made by man appears likely to have been thatch, and it seems certain that its use was established in Britain before the Norman conquest. Thatch, of course survives even today in countries such as Africa and Sri Lanka where it continues to provide a cheap, locally available and effective roofing material. Historically, thatch was used in areas of Europe such as Germany and Denmark, but there were differences in the raw material used, and consequently, in the thatching technique. Although there is the risk of fire, thatch is a wonderful material which provides warmth in winter, coolness in summer, and effective noise insulation in our modern society. Subject to injury from birds as well as fire, thatch was never an urban material. In rural areas, at the source of the material used, it provided a cheap, effective and surprisingly long-lasting roofing material. Dwelling houses of good class as well as rural cottages and farm buildings were thatched. There are also many instances of important buildings such as churches using thatch.

