SPANNER & WRENCH COLLECTOR

HAND TOOL PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Inc. Reg No A0025953J

Spanner Special Interest Group Newsletter

www.htpaa.org.au No 34 November 2018

Welcome to Edition 34, Issued in conjunction with the "Tool Chest" number 130.

If you require a copy of a back issue, contact the editor (see back page). Keep the contributions coming so that we can cover a broad range of topics.
An index of spanners covered so far is available from the Editor.
If you have an email address, and would like a colour copy of this newsletter in .pdf format, contact the editor.

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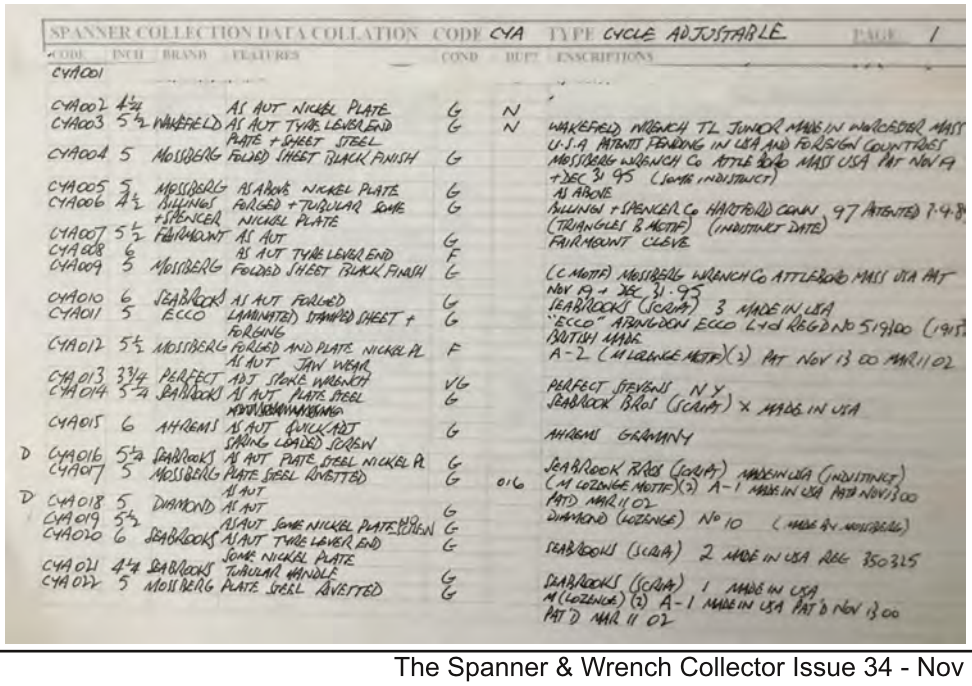
Record keeping for your collection

In issue 14 (Nov 2013) we covered some of Maurice Stubb's collection.
In this issue, Maurice describes how he got into spanner collecting, and how he keeps track of his collection. Refer to front cover and pages 2-4


SPANNER COLLECTION DATA COLLATION CODE CYA TYPE CYCLE ADJUSTABLE PAGE 1

CODE	INCH	BRAND	FEATURES	COND	BUFF	INSCRIPTIONS
CYA001						
CYA002	4 1/2		AS AUT NICKEL PLATE	G	N	
CYA003	5 1/2	WAKEFIELD	AS AUT TYPE LEVER END PLATE + SHEET STEEL	G	N	WAKEFIELD MOGUL TL JUNIOR MADE IN WORCESTER MASS U.S.A PATENT PENDING IN USA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES
CYA004	5	MOSSBERG	FOLDED SHEET BLACK FINISH	G		MOSSBERG WRENCH Co ATTLEBORO MASS USA PAT NOV 19 + DEC 31 95 (SOME VARIATIONS)
CYA005	5	MOSSBERG	AS ABOVE NICKEL PLATE	G		AS ABOVE
CYA006	4 1/2	NILLINGS + SPENCER	FORGED + TUBULAR SOME NICKEL PLATE	G		NILLINGS + SPENCER Co HARTFORD CONN 97 PATENTED 7-4-8 (TRIANGLES B MOTIF) (INDISTINCT DATE)
CYA007	5 1/2	FAIRMOUNT	AS AUT	G		FAIRMOUNT CLEVE
CYA008	6		AS AUT TYPE LEVER END	F		
CYA009	5	MOSSBERG	FOLDED SHEET BLACK FINISH	G		(C MOTIF) MOSSBERG WRENCH Co ATTLEBORO MASS USA PAT NOV 19 + DEC 31 95
CYA010	6	SEABROOKS	AS AUT FORGED	G		SEABROOKS (SCRIPT) 3 MADE IN USA
CYA011	5	ECCO	LAMINATED STAMPED SHEET + FORGING	G		"ECCO" ABINGDON ECCO Ltd REGD No 519100 (1915) BRITISH MADE
CYA012	5 1/2	MOSSBERG	FORGED AND PLATE NICKEL PL AS AUT JAW WEAR	F		A-2 (M LOZENGE MOTIF)(2) PAT NOV 13 00 MAR 11 02
CYA013	3 3/4	PERFECT	ADJ STOKE WRENCH	VG		PERFECT STEVENS N Y
CYA014	5 1/2	SEABROOKS	AS AUT PLATE STEEL NICKEL PLATED	G		SEABROOK BROS (SCRIPT) X MADE IN USA
CYA015	6	AHRENS	AS AUT QUICK ADJ SPRING LOADED SCREW	G		AHRENS GRAMANY
D CYA016	5 1/2	SEABROOKS	AS AUT PLATE STEEL NICKEL PL	G		SEABROOK BROS (SCRIPT) MADE IN USA (INDISTINCT)
CYA017	5	MOSSBERG	PLATE STEEL RIVETTED AS AUT	G	016	(M LOZENGE MOTIF)(2) A-1 MADE IN USA PAT'D NOV 13 00 PAT'D MAR 11 02
D CYA018	5	DIAMOND	AS AUT	G		DIAMOND (LOZENGE) No 10 (MADE BY MOSSBERG)
CYA019	5 1/2		AS AUT SOME NICKEL PLATE	G		
CYA020	6	SEABROOKS	AS AUT TYPE LEVER END SOME NICKEL PLATE	G		SEABROOKS (SCRIPT) 2 MADE IN USA REG 350325
CYA021	4 1/4	SEABROOKS	TUBULAR HANDLE	G		SEABROOKS (SCRIPT) 1 MADE IN USA
CYA022	5	MOSSBERG	PLATE STEEL RIVETTED	G		M (LOZENGE)(2) A-1 MADE IN USA PAT'D NOV 13 00 PAT'D MAR 11 02

My Spanner Collection and Record Keeping by Maurice Stubbs (m)

Forty odd years ago I was at my local trash and treasure market here in Canberra when I spied a large wrench on a table. I really wasn't aware what it was, so I was told by the seller that it was a monkey wrench normally kept in his car mainly for personal protection, which puts rather a different light on it's use.

I bought it , a P S & W (Peck, Stow and Wilcox.) 12 inches long, forged steel with a nice riveted wooden handle, all original and in fair condition except for traces of non original paint. This started my quest for more and more nut turners, and I was becoming intrigued with the multitude of designs engineered for the purpose of turning a nut. I soon was amazed at the complications involved in solving this simple problem.

This intrigue gradually led to build up the numbers in the collection, including many types previously not seen or recognised (at least by me).

Obviously, I was the only spanner collector in the world, I couldn't imagine anyone else who could possibly be interested, that is until I heard of an organisation called The Hand Tool Preservation Association of Australia. I also started to look for spanners on EBay and noted the then vast array being advertised from the USA. I actually bought a few from there when postal charges were reasonable.

Once the collection reached triple figures, I had to see about getting some sort of order into it for my own benefit so that I could locate items at will. This is apart from the physical problem of storage and accessibility.

So here is a synopsis, very basic, on my method of sorting, storage and general usage.

A section of one shelving unit

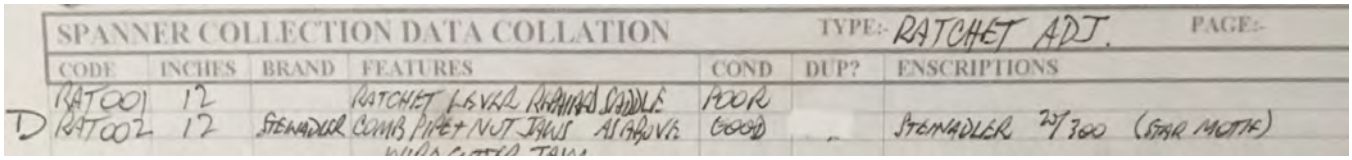
Organising My Collection

The collection now numbers some 1642. There are, however, some items which are a set of items comprising a number of units. It will be seen that it is not a huge collection, but needs a fairly logical sorting procedure, not too complicated.

There are 60 three letter codes which in most cases comprise the first three letters of the item name. Where there is a duplication a similar code is required.
For instance the code AUS is used for Australian manufactured items. There are also listed spanners for Austin motor cars which has the code AUN.

There are a few other variations which are I feel logical for the items involved, such as CMC, cycle - motorcycle, KDA, King Dick adjustable, KDP, King dick pattern for other brands of "F" wrench. WEG, wedge adjust spanners, RLY, railway items. The list goes on.

My main reference is in the form of a ring bound book comprising pages of information entitled “Spanner Collection Data Collation”. A bit too office I feel, but it serves its purpose. This information is set out as columns of descriptions allied to the three letter codes, these pages being alphabetical.



SPANNER COLLECTION DATA COLLATION — TYPE:- RATCHET ADJ. — PAGE:-

	CODE	INCHES	BRAND	FEATURES	COND	DUP?	ENSCRIPTIONS
	RAT001	12		RATCHET LEVER RIVETED SADDLE	POOR		
D	RAT002	12	STEINDLER	COMB PIPE NUT JAWS AS ABOVE	GOOD	-	STEINDLER 25/300 (STAR MOTIF)

Here is a photo of the headers of one of these pages which shows how the information is listed in columns. From left to right.

Column 1. Type code and collection number, i.e. AGR031, These collection numbers were originally in date of collection order, but as the lists have been changed with the reclassification of some items, numbers vacated by this change have been reallocated. There is a photo of one of these pages on front cover which will make some sense of this.

Column 2. Length of item in inches. the bulk of this collection was gathered prior to the introduction of the decimal system.

Column 3. Branding. (If any) I.e. Mc Kay, New Holland, Coes, W & B, etc.

Column 4. Description and features. General description and salient features of the item. This can include condition, finish, materials used:- such as forged steel, sheet steel. Design features and similarities to other types.

Column 5. Condition: the following letters refer to the condition of the item.

- P: Poor condition. Kept as example only when no other example is available.
- F: Fair condition. Just collectible. Showing evidence of wear deterioration and misuse but with no major damage or corrosion.
- G: Good condition. Well worth collection with only minor defects and in good working order. Finish not perfect but presentable.
- VG: Very good condition. Not quite perfect, but no obvious damage. Very minor evidence of use with obvious original finish
- M: Mint condition. As new. Possibly in original packaging and no evidence of use. No corrosion.

Column 6. Duplicates? Code number of duplicate item in collection.

Column 7. Enscriptions. Any form of written identification, numbers, sizes of jaws. May include usage information on specific machinery such as war weapons. When no sizes are included, the measurements on jaws are taken and these are referred to as “jaw” or “ring” as measured.

Well, that’s how my system works. It has been modified from time to time, and as the collection has progressed various items have been reclassified and gaps left in the numerical sequence, filled to some extent by additions as they are found.

All of the above has been computerised on a spreadsheet in excel. Each page replicates the paper page. I regard the electronic copy as just a copy and being a luddite, prefer to use real paper.

That’s the clerical side of things. The actual storage and display is another side of things.

I have no wall space as such, so my display is minimal, storage being in three shelf cupboards presented to me by a university library which used them for video tapes before their demise. These shelves are only just solid enough for the hefty steel they now contain.

Maurice Stubbs' Collection [Contd]

There are a couple of photos of these which illustrate this, but it is at least fairly compact allowing reasonable
access to the collection. I have been able to separate some of the duplicate spanners into a separate alcove to relieve the access a little. Old tent canvas covers the front of these shelves offering some protection from the dreaded rust. "WD40". helps here to.

As most of us have, I have been through the various methods of derusting, and have settled on electrolysis as a good system.

I hope this has been of interest, I know I would enjoy hearing of other's experiences in this aspect of our hobby.

Picture at right shows the main two shelving units. The one on left has the canvas curtain unfurled, while the unit on right has the canvas furled at the top and all items are on view.

A recent find *by G Radion (m)*

DEANE of HOLYOKE Steam Pumps

The Deane pump is so well and widely known. Some words regarding the history of the company and the breadth and scope of its business.

Charles P. Deane, the inventor and patentee of the Deane pump, is the only one remaining of the four principal pump inventors and manufacturers of his generation. Henry R. Worthington, Geo. F. Wake and L. J. Knowles were all in the field before him, each with types of machines as different from each other as from his. Since 1867, when the first Deane patents were taken out, Mr. Deane has been devoting his time exclusively to the perfection of apparatus for the constantly increasing variety of uses demanding pumping machinery.

The business was at first carried on by Mr. Deane, with his father, under the style Geo. II. Deane & Co. at Indian Orchard, Mass., where the pumps were built for some time. Then it was moved to Springfield, Mass.; but growing beyond the capacity of that company, the machines were built by the Holyoke Machine Company at Holyoke for several years until the incorporation of the Deane Steam Pump Company in 1879. Since that time the business has continued to grow rapidly, and, while confined strictly to the manufacture of pumping machinery, includes every conceivable variety and size from the diminutive No. o boiler feeder to the io.ooo.ooo-gallor. water-works engine.

Ref: https://www.fireengineering.com/articles/print/volume-1892-11/issue-23/features/the-deane-steam-pump-works.html

Some interesting adjustables seen in a member's shed recently *By G Radion (m)*

JRM Patented DRGM

This adjustable nut plier type wrench is marked Brevettato*(Italian)*, Patented JRM in script in an oval ring on the jaw and DRGM on the handle.
The implications are that it is a German plier wrench but patented in Italy and English speaking countries.

Internet searches have not revealed anything at this stage, but perhaps a member can shed some light on the maker.

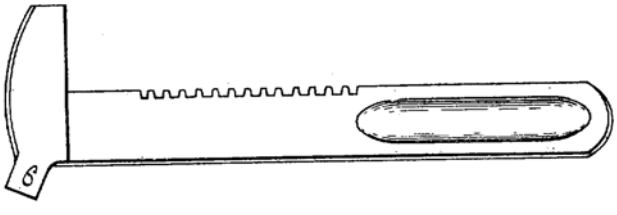
BREVETTATO PATENTED
JRM

It is not marked on the other side

Metz bicycle wrench

C H Metz patented the design, US Pat. number 29520, granted October 18th 1898. The patent is for the design iof the protruding knob at an angle - apparently this showed some novelty.

One can only assume that it was a modified hammer - perhaps so designed to get around someone elses design.



Extracted from the patent specification

Some interesting adjustables seen in a member's shed recently *By G Radion (m) [Contd]*

Wynn's CENTURY Patent, 1892

Ron Geesin describes the mechanism at the top thus: *It featured a 'retaining strap' of sprung steel in a figure-of-eight shape secured by 'screws or rivets'..... The screws tended to come loose and disappear - and so did the rivets.*

An IMPROVED CENTURY, stated to have been patented in 1906, but no patent has been found. In this version, the adjusting screw is captive within the top jaw - refer to Geesin's "The Adjustable Spanner"

PRESTO PAON BELGIUM

The Presto wrench is similar in design to many swivel headed jawed wrenches, however there is a clever modification added.

The sprung addition to the standard handle serves to open the jaws when pumped.

It works a treat, but since the original design without the assisted handle works relatively well, but needs two hands to swivel the head and open the jaws to the desired size, we can only assume that this was an attempt to make it a "one handed wrench"

In operation, the front of the pumped handle has teeth which engage with the geard section at the back of the wrench head, and perform a racking action.

MEC SLIK British Made *by G Radion (m)*

A gift from member Mike Preeston, sourced from that popular Sunday market in Camberwell (Melbourne) was this wedge adljusting shifter named MEC SLIK, 6 inches long.

This type of shifter is often seen with a German name.

As this one is of British origin, I consulted "The Adjustable Spanner" by Ron Geesin and sure enough, Ron has covered it.
Interestingly Ron blames it for his fascination with adjustable spanners as he "borrowed" one from his father's shed in the 1960's.

Since then Ron has amassed a huge collection of adjustables and done a massive amount of research and written the definitive book on British Adjustables.

MEC SLIK British Made [contd]

Ron's research reveals that MEC is the initials on the maker "**Macdowall Equipment Co Ltd** of Romford in Essex

All he was able to find is Patent No GB650363 from 1948 issued to Charles Wilson Macdowall, liviing in Argyllshire, Scotland.

"The patent claims the angles were carefully chosen so that the wedge did not lock in the collar after pressure had been applied, there was no need for a serrated rack to hold the collar and the spring was secured differently to the system described in previous patent by Fr. Paul Schmitt of SUHL, Germany in 1920"

The SLIK by MEC have been found in 6 inch and 9inch sizes.

Contributions from Readers

Steve Sullivan has kindly noted that in the last issue all items were contributed by the editor. Steve has sent in some items to avoid that happening this issue, and all readers are encouraged to follow Steve's example, or expect to put up with a newsletter full of stuff that interests the editor.

Bluebird Battery Terminal Pliers *By Steve Sullivan (m)*

"Bergman Tool Manufacturing Company"

The Bergman Tool Manufacturing Company was founded in Buffalo, New York during the early part of the 20th century. The company was a maker of adjustable wrenches, pliers, and possibly other tools, and their products were sold under the Bergman, "Queen City", and "Blue Bird" brands.

In 1927 Bergman Tool filed a trademark application for "Blue Bird Tools" in a design showing a bird in the center. The application listed the company address as 1573-1576 Niagara Street in Buffalo, and their products were listed as tinner's snips and hand shears. The trademark was issued as #230,677 on August 2, 1927. The members of the firm at this time were Caroline E. Bergman, Jerome E. Bergman, and Ray W. Kempner.

In 1956 the company filed a trademark for "BLUE BIRD" as block text (no design), with the company's products listed as tinner's snips, battery service tools, and pliers. The trademark was issued as #629,907 on July 3, 1956. This trademark was renewed as recently as 1996, and the company's address is given as 8400 Lakeview Parkway in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

KTK5 *By Steve Sullivan (m)*

KTK 5 - Had a hard life this one. Not sure of the manufacturer.
(There is also a similar one marked KTK4, Ed).

Maker and purpose is unknown to Steve and the editor.

If anyone can shed some light on this spanner please advise editor.

WIliams Light Service Wrench *By Steve Sullivan (m)*

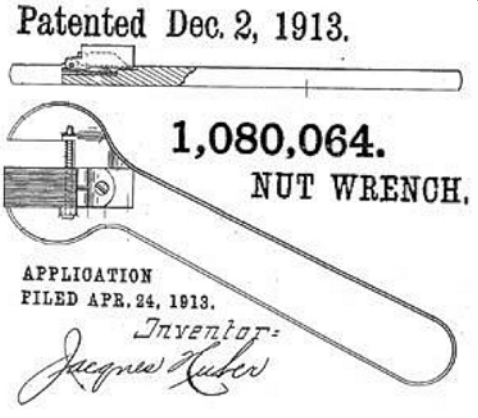
No info on this model, but one can assume that "Light" would differentiate it from "Standard"

It is of much thinner construction than their usual "S" shaped wrenches.

Huber No 3 Adjustable Spanner *by Geoff Pollard*

Recently my father and I were at an auction and there was an unusual wrench that took our eye.
It was at the end of the auction when it finally came up, and there was some keen bidding going on but he finally got it.
It is a Huber No.3, it is 14” long and the leaves are moved / flipped over to alter the width of the jaw opening.

After doing some research, I found that it was invented by Jacques Huber of Basel, Switzerland.



The Patent no 1,080,084 was granted on Dec. 2, 1913.

The handle has "HUF" in an upside down horseshoe icon and below that it says "Patent Huber No. 3" and "Made in Germany" in a circle pattern. The No. 1 size is 6 inches long; No. 2 is 9 1/2inches long, No. 3 is 14 inches long with the opening having 8 increments from 1 inch through 1 5/8 inch.

The body and jaws are drop forged steel, made in one piece.
The leaves or shims can be flipped over individually.

Part of the sales pitch in an adv from the “American Machinist” in 1921 for Huber & Dubs of Zurich in Switzerland – “The wrench maintains a constant distance between the jaws better than screw type wrenches”
The adv makes reference that there is only the one size at that time, being the No.1, so as to when the No. 2 and No.3 were produced I am not sure but it would have been after 1921.

On some web sites, Wrench collector folklore says these were used in the German submarine service. Whether this is correct or not I am unsure.

Huber No 3 Adjustable Spanner *by Geoff Pollard* [Contd]

As to when the company moved from Switzerland to Germany is unknown.

Unfortunately information about this wrench is scarce at the moment; any further information would be greatly appreciated for a follow up article.

Pics at right show the No 3 size jaws with minimum size 1 inch opening, and next to that a demonstration of the movement of the shims.

Above: Makers Marks

References
DATAMP
www.garagejournal.com

Follow up from S & W C no 30 *by G Radion*
Bruce Hewitson showed some of his collection of pipe wrenches.
One of Bruce's wants was a smaller Henkels to go with his **Henkels No 4**.

On one of my recent efforts to clean up my shed, I came across this **Henkels No 3,** in very good condition.
I am sure it will look good in Bruce's collection.

Bruce Hewitson's Pipe Wrenches Part 2

Bell Wrench Co *from research by Bruce Hewitson (m)*

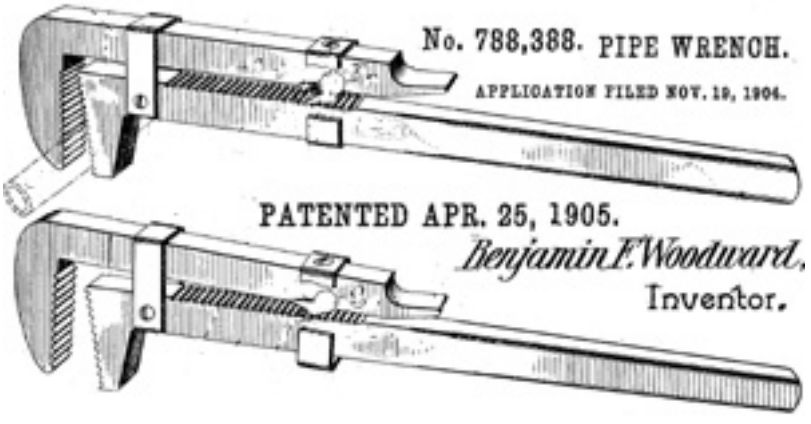
William E. Bell - Tulsa. US Patent: 1,345,983 Ratchet Pipe-Wrench

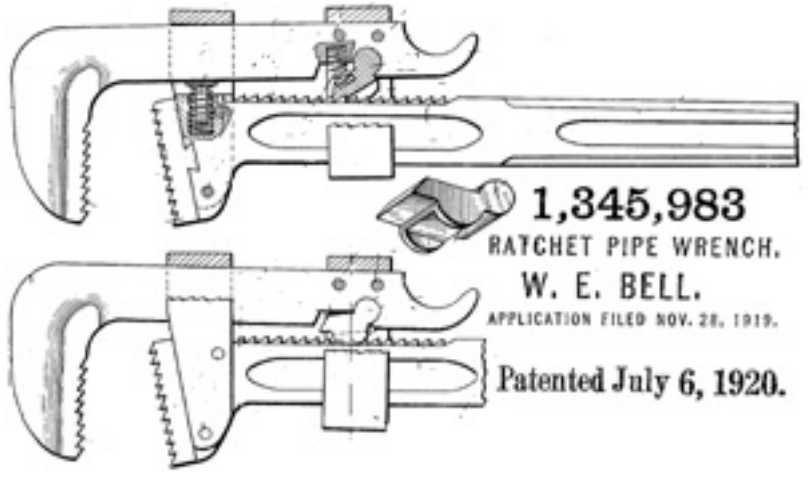
This example shows the prior patent info from "1905 and other Pats Pend" on the handle.

Yet it is clear from the patent drawing that this is the Jul. 06, 1920 Patent: 1,345,983, rather than the 1905 patent as marked on the handle.

It must have been made before Pat 1,345,983 was granted.

See accompanying patent drawings borrowed from DATAMP





Bruce Hewitson's Pipe Wrenches Part 2 [Contd]

BECKLIN

In Issue 30 S&WC we covered Bruce's Becklin wrench. Bruce only had the large one - now he has found a smaller 10 inch model see pic at right of the pair.

Carl F BEACH Patent, manufactured by Lagripper Wrench Co. - Battle Creek, MI

from Datamp: *Quick adjusting pipe wrench; it incorporates a gripping pawl and rack teeth on the movable jaw analogous to similar elements in patent no. 606,317.*
A known example is marked with the earlier patent date on the movable jaw -- possibly representing use of existing parts that could also be used in production of that design.

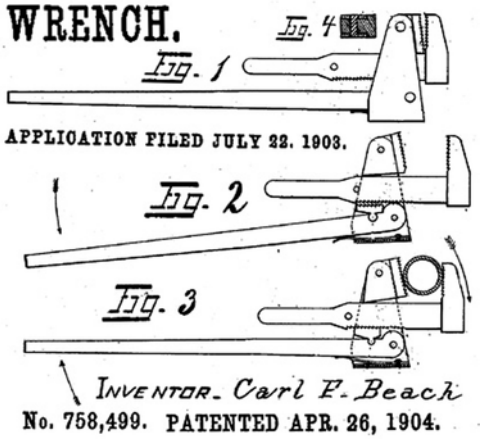

WRENCH.

Fig. 4

Fig. 1

APPLICATION FILED JULY 22, 1903.

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

INVENTOR. Carl F. Beach

No. 758,499. PATENTED APR. 26, 1904.

Pipe Wrench Patents

Bruce has entrusted the editor with a large number of Patents relating to Patented Pipe Wrenches.
It mast have taken a large amount of Bruce's time to research, collate and print off the pages and record electronically.

Some snippets of them have been reproduced in these articles, but there is a whole lot more to share.

If any member would like access to this info, make contact with the editor.

It would be a pity if my copy of this rich store of information was never to see the light of day.

Feedback from member Mike Subritzky relating to the unusual Ward & Payne alligator wrench discussed in Issue 33 -

The author suggested that since the spanner only showed W (Ward), rather than W & P that is must be a precursor to the partnership.

However, the definition of the print (Minuteman in Caulfield) was such that it picked up the P that was not visible to the author when writing the article.

How about that for a printer who usually drops everything to accommodate my requests, often at the last minute, because the deadline had been stretched for the Spanner & Wrench Collector or the Sharp Edge or other inclusions to the Tool Chest (which is printed elsewhere).Thanks are due to Rod and Dennis for their great service to the HTPAA.

Cary of Manchester *By GR*

A new find - size 5 to add to my Cary collection.
Seen below that is a composite picture of my other Cary spanners.

of Red Bank Spring and Axle Works, Manchester.

1848 Established by William Cary and later continued by his son William Edwin Cary.

1863 William Cary listed as coach spring and axle-tree maker, Mount Street, Red Bank: House 18 Stanley Street, Red Bank.

1901 Advertising a wide range of springs, axles and other ironwork for horse-drawn vehicles.

1937 Spring-axle and wheel manufacturers.

1961 Manufacturers of road vehicle suspension springs; reconditioning road springs; forgemasters; sheet metal fabricators; iron and steel stockholders. 800 employees.

1963 Motor Show exhibitor. Coil Spring, torsion bars etc. *Reference: Graces Guide*

Animals on Tools
Planning has commenced for next years display at the Steamfest on the March long weekend - Richard Williams has suggested a theme of "animals on tools. " To that end, we have been assembling names and examples that fit that criteria: Spanners: Deere, Dragonfly, Eagle, Husky, Jaguar, Lion, Snail, Terrier.
More spanners: Garringtons made a range of spanners with bird names: Grebe, Jackdaw, Kestrel, Lapwing, Magpie, Merlin (and probably others).
R Sorby had Kangaroo mark on tools. I Sorby had a suspended Sheep on tools.
There must be lots of others. Readers are invited to suggest others, and loan them for display if possible.

Wanted to buy or swap - Double ended Crescent shifters, cast iron seats, agricultural machinery nameplates, parts lists and interesting spanners for agricultural, vintage motor vehicles and vintage motorbikes.etc, also other interesting shifters and spanners & tool company catalogues from Australian, British, American amd Continental Makers etc. Contact G Radion

Spanner & Wrench Collector back issues: Issues 1-34 now available in folders with clear pockets and provision for extra issues. $25 plus P & P, or collect at a club event by arrangement. Postage will be calculated for a parcel over 500 grams - Call the editor.
Wanted Spanners with animal names or images for a display of animal themed tools. Contact G Radion or Richard Williams, Program Director.

Feedback from those who find this newsletter useful would be appreciated. ***Continued contributions are required to keep it interesting.*** *Thanks to those who have sent content, your stuff will all be used eventually.*

This Issue Edited by George Radion.
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Aims of the Spanner & Wrench SIG:
Promote the conservation, identification and collection of spanners & wrenches and to share information with the group to that end.