
The Benchmark

**Journal Of The Hand Tool Preservation Society
Of Western Australia Inc**



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Next Meeting

Thursday 3rd September

We meet at the Anglican Church Hall, Washer Street, East Victoria Park at 7.30pm for display and discussion of your tools. The formal meeting begins at 7.45pm.

From the President's Workshop (Which he is unable to use)

I would like to thank David Lampard for his efforts over the past four and a half years as Raffle Co Ordinator. He has reluctantly relinquished this position for personal reasons. David has undertaken the collation of tools and cleaning or restoration, prior to assembling them into outstanding prizes, which in turn have raised an enormous amount of money for our club.

David took over from Frank Bowyer when he became unable to attend meetings any longer. He then took on the role full time at the next Annual General Meeting.

His efforts have certainly contributed to our financially stable position, which our club enjoys today. All at the club thank him for his unselfish contribution. The club is now seeking someone to take on this role.

What It entails

1. Collection of tools from the auction table that could be put together to make quality raffle prizes.
2. General Meeting Raffles. Arrange prizes, tickets sell tickets at meetings
3. Being Raffle Co Ordinator doesn't mean you are the sole seller of tickets at all club events. This is a shared task amongst all members. If you think you could assist in any way with this role please contact me on 0498474142 or catch up with me at the next meeting.

Regards Kim

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEE /

Membership fees for 2020

Membership \$55 If Toolchest is included \$87

Associate Member \$25 [Partner of member]

Fees due at the February meeting.

Direct debit : Hand Tool Preservation Society WA BSB 306 127 Acc. 004151-7 [Put name in details]

EVENTS

5th Sep	Tools, Timber, Techniques Timber Con	Canning Vale	Nigel Tel:0407028497
13th Sep	Motor Show	York	Nigel Tel:0407028497
19th Sep	Cat-Mac Tractor Show	Katanning	Nigel Tel:0407028497
11th Nov	Have a Go Day	Burswood	Arthur Tel: 0488153 909

CLUB TOOL SALES

Thanks to all who played a part in the Annual Sale at the West Swan Hall. Sales were strong and we would encourage members to prepare tools and take part in the next effort. There will be more opportunities at some of the events listed above for you to cull or increase your collection.

Note: There are many members with skills and information about their collections which can be shared. Sometimes it is the journey itself or the research of particular tools or companies. Steve Wareing will present a talk about Titan chisels at the meeting. He has acquired a great collection and has researched the history of the company over the years.

THE TOWER of LONDON AXE

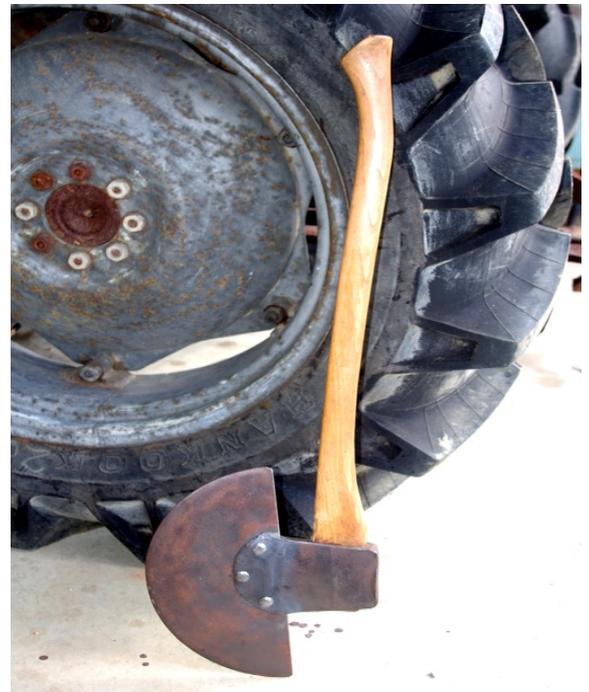
or Round Bale Splitter

On leaving school in 1965 I worked for Mr Bill Ensor, a sheep and cattle farmer, in Canterbury, New Zealand. Mr Ensor baled a lot of Lucerne hay for winter stock feed. His baler was an Allis Chalmers Roto-Baler which produced small rounds that could be picked up manually, not the big ones you see these days.

Many farmers, when they feed out, would roll the bale out on the ground like a carpet, a practice that Bill did not agree with. He believed it was wasteful because the stock would trample and foul a large percentage of the hay. His method was to split the bale lengthwise to the centre with an axe and then toss the split sections of hay off the back of the trailer to the hungry stock. This made the job of feeding out a bit slower but less wasteful, an opinion I still agree with today.

One day we had this idea to make a bale splitting axe with a longer blade to speed the job up. At this time I was attending the metal work department of the local High School so I took along an old axe head and a plough coulter disc. For those unaware, a coulter is a flat disc or a knife, used on a mouldboard plough to precede the mouldboard through the ground, cutting the edge of the furrow to be turned.

Over the next couple of weeks, under the guidance of the metalwork teacher, I cut the blade off the axe head and milled a slot in the cut face, the coultter was cut in two and one half was fitted as a blade, into the slot in the axe head. From memory I think the blade was braised on.



The axe was an instant success, Bill naming it the “Tower of London Axe”. It enabled us to split a bale with two or three strokes, speeding up the process of feeding out exponentially.

I recently made a replica of the Tower of London Axe, although the blade is fixed by rivets rather than brazing. Now to find an Allis Chalmers Roto-Baler. **Geoff Emms**

ANNUAL TOOL SALE

Our annual sale was held in the West Swan Hall instead of at the Wood Show. We did not have all the displays but we did have the buyers. Although the hall was licensed for 42 people during the Covid period about 36 people was the maximum there at any one time during the morning. Rain was promised for the day, and it came, but the marquees erected near the entrance with Geoff and Maitland providing umbrellas and escorting visitors kept the tool buyers happy. Fourteen members manned tables with others supporting in crowd control and raffle tickets.



Small tools sold best with all tables offering a good range of tools. It was noticeable that many of the dads helped their kids choose basic tools for a woodworking career. Several of the larger RECORD planes were sold with tinsnips and calipers also being picked up.

Gerry was happy with sales but noted that there was no interest in wooden planes.

We may need to consider the trend to a cashless society as some buyers had to leave the hall to find an ATM. It was lucky that two of the big customers came back.

On the morning of the sale Nigel put a tool sale sign up in a prominent position on the back of Kim's ute, which was parked on the verge near the entrance to the car park. Mid-afternoon a couple of us were standing outside when a car pulled in and a bloke asked "How much do you want for that ute? " He seemed quite disappointed when Nigel explained that the sign was advertising a "Tool Sale" not a "Ute for sale".



The weather prevented our country members from travelling but others came to express support and to pick up a bargain. Kim, brandishing a serious arm injury was still thanking those who did the heavy lifting when the sun appeared as we packed up and headed home.

What is it ? Problem solved.



From Bruce Hewitson via Email from Steve Sullivan in Adelaide.

Hi Steve

I believe that it is a copy of a Myers wrench. The Myers wrenches were marked "The F.E. Myers & Bros. Co." They made a lot of pumps and pumping machinery

The 3 x raised sections in and arc could be for removing /re-installing valve seats in a pump

Found a couple of Myers Wrenchs for sale on e-bay:- <https://www.ebay.com/itm/RARE-ANTIQUE-F-E-Myers-Bro-CO-Wrench-3774-ASHLAND-OHIO-U-S-A-14-1-2/182459833366?hash=item2a7b741c16:g:ng4AAOSwx6pYqPeS>

And another:- <https://www.ebay.com/itm/RARE-ANTIQUE-F-E-Myers-Bro-CO-Wrench-3774-ASHLAND-OHIO-U-S-A-14-1-2/184205550591?hash=item2ae381a3ff:g:rrsAAOSwwl9eZ-ik>

STANLEY - No. 74



Floor Plane and Handle. Stanley No 74

Type 2 1899 - 1902

Body cast and Japanned

Handle 42 inches long and Tapered

Planes only made between 1886 - 1913



Turned Rolling Pin

The Celtic Cross is formed while the wood is in the square. A thirty degree cut is made and then a slice of wood is inserted and glued. When dry, the timber is reshaped and then the process is repeated on each side. When complete the rolling pin is then turned with the cross formed.



Rolling Pin for making Pasta. Use normal rolling pin to roll bottom sheet and spread filling. Roll second sheet and place on top of filling. Use the pasta rolling pin and roll across the sheets to make pasta pockets.



Club Contact Details

Postal The Secretary
7 St. Kilda Road
Rivervale WA 6103

Phone 0409 290 093

E-mail samualwayne@gmail.com

Life Members: Des Miller, Guy Weguelin, Bob Wallis

President	Kim Mitchell	049 847 4142
Vice-President	Rob Fagnani	0411240394
Secretary	Samual Hunn	See above
Treasurer	Nigel Burgess	0407 028 497
Committee	Gerry Gradisen	94476045
	Les Whiddett	0418916724
	Dave Lampard	9447 1497
Newsletter Editor	Rob Fagnani	0411240394
	Arthur Cunniffe	benchplane1@gmail.com 08 9387 6625
Tool Sale Coordinator	Nigel Burgess	0407 028 497
Librarian	Arthur Cunniffe	9387 6625
Social Coordinator	Committee	
Raffles	David Lampard	94471497
Web Site	Geoff Emms	0437271834
Face Book	Nigel Burgess	047 028 497

Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/handtoolswa/>

2020 Meeting Tool Theme

August — Chalk Lines and Reels

September— Small Tools

October - Australian Made Tools

November - Catalogues

December - Best acquisition for the year



Our happiest
seller

Attending Meetings and Functions

Participation in club events, including meetings, will require that you wear covered footwear, do not lift objects beyond your capabilities, and keep covered any sharp edges on displayed tools. You must be a paid up member to attend meetings. Your insurance cover expires if you are not a member. and you will not be permitted to attend.