

April 2009

MiniTech Engineering & Model Supplies Newsletter

Vol 1 No 3

IN THIS ISSUE

- ? Results of the Keith Bell Estate tender.
- ? Book Review... Steam Tractor Encyclopaedia
- ? Product Review... Dickson type quick change tool holder.
- ? Hints and Tips... Correct lube oils for your lathe.
- ? Getting to know you... Bob Cowan

With all the talk of financial gloom and doom it is easy to become depressed and withdraw from what were normal day to day activities 6 months ago.

Cutting through all the spin that national spokesmen generate for the causes of their problems and a basic summary would be that whole countries have been living beyond their means and greedy people have loaned money to greedier or desperate people when all the facts blared that it wasn't wise to do so.

The good news is however that Australia is one of the best placed countries in the world to cope with the corrections the rest of the world is experiencing.

We are still the "lucky country" with massive natural resources in minerals, science, agriculture, manufacturing and, best of all, it's people. Australia has some of the most talented, creative, intelligent and innovative people in the world.

That gives us every reason in the world to be upbeat, positive and enthusiastic about the future. We can either wait until all the planets align before we dare to think positively or we can focus on all that is good now and get on with enjoyng life in this fabulous country today. I know what feels good for me.

If at any time you wish to unsubscribe to this newsletter just click here... [Unsubscribe](#)



The Dickson type Quick Change Tool Holder – just exactly what will it do for me?

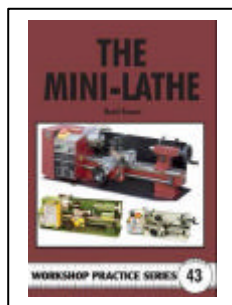
See overleaf.

New Products....



ACME SCREW PITCH GAUGE

Just arrived. Have been hard to get. Approx 120mm long. Great quality. Measures 1-12 tpi. 29° "square" Acme thread. \$30.80



The latest from the WORKPLACE PRACTICE SERIES BOOKS

A complete course on using and improving the new generation budget lathes. Everything from setting up and 'tuning' the machine for best performance to using accessories and carrying out tasks.



American made small size carbide endmill/slot drills, routers, drills. Company that ceased trading sold their stock to us for less than half the price of normal carbide tools. Many imperial sizes but also metric. Less than 6mm \$20. 6-10mm \$23, greater than 10mm \$30



New model from Edwyn Jones. "Matilda" A vertical Internal Combustion model engine. Requires a lathe to complete. Hours of fun in the shed... \$478.50 incl GST



Dickson Type Quick Change Tool Holder... *the benefits*

Technological advances often quote speed as the major benefit for spending big dollars in upgrading to the new "superfast" model. When scrutinised closely, we discover that in many cases, the time savings are measured in nano seconds. Oftentimes a user would have to spend a thousand years operating the equipment 24 hours a day to save enough time to justify the extra expense.

The Dickson Type Quick Change Tool holder does promise and deliver reasonable time savings but it also overcomes another problem... When a change of tool is required and a job is set up in the machine and is using a dead or live centre in the tailstock, then getting the new tool to be exactly on centre height *without* using the dead centre in the tailstock is not an issue.

Each tool holder with this piece of equipment comes with it's own centre height adjustment. Once obtained, the height adjusting screw is locked in place. Therefore when changing the task on a job, removing the tool and replacing it with any of the preset tool holders, the new tool is automatically returned to the exact position for the correct centre height. No adjustments necessary.

The tool holders are locked in place with a quick release lever that operates a cam lock. There is a large and small model and they accommodate 16mm and 12mm shank tooling respectively. The tool comes supplied with 3 standard tool holders plus one designed for holding a parting blade. An optional extra is an extra long tool holder that is 88mm long. Extra standard length tool holders also available on request. The Small is \$269.50 while the larger one is \$402.88 incl GST.

Keith Bell Estate Tender

On behalf of the family of the late Keith Bell, we would like to thank all those who submitted tenders for the well equipped workshop of a fine modeller.

Almost all items sold and the prices generated exceeded the family's expectations. To all those who submitted tenders and were not successful we appreciated your proposal and extend to you the offer that if you send me an email expressing what it is you wish to purchase we are happy to list it in the pages of this publication.

bob@minitech.com.au

Those items that did not sell are listed on the end of the newsletter with an invitation to once more make an offer for the family to consider.

I know you would all be curious as to the final price the items attracted and regret to say I cannot disclose that information as the items were a private sale between the family and the successful tenderers.

Thankyou
Bob

BOOK REVIEW...

THE STEAM TRACTOR ENCYCLOPEDIA JOHN E. SPALDING & ROBERT T. RHODE

The first-ever thorough history of the steamers packed with more than 400 super-rare photographs and brochures that have taken years to collect.

Before the advent of lightweight gasoline engines, steam tractors were met with awe, delight, fear, and enthusiasm at their promise of quicker progress. Even today, county fairs, and tractor shows, these remarkable machines command great respect and always draw fascinated crowds.

Full of rare archive photographs, technical details, specs, information on day-to-day working, cleaning, repair, usage, fuelling, water supplies, the book will appeal to the enthusiast and casual reader alike.

Hardback, 2564 pages RRP \$69.95



GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

BOB COWAN - MINITECH STAFF

Longest Career Position?

17 Years as General Manager of The Trading Post here in Brisbane.

What do you do when you're not working?

I actually enjoy work. We built a new house 12 months ago on a few acres and love doing the landscaping and the garden. Being an "empty nester" has freed me up to do the things I really want

Favourite Food?

Baked Beans, sausages, peanut paste (butter) sandwiches. Not altogether mind you but really enjoy the food I was raised on as a kid in Loxton, South Australia.

Best Film you've seen?

Not a film actually but a show..."Phantom of the Opera" was the most exhilarating show I have ever seen. Going again when and if it comes to Brisbane again.

How many keys on your key ring?

About a half a dozen and try not to carry them with me. I definitely don't put them on a clip ring and hang them on the belt loop of my pants.

What car do you drive?

2002 AU Fairmont. Never let me down....so far

What would you prefer to drive?

AC Cobra that I want to build in my shed...one day.

Where would you like to go on Holiday?

I think I must be a ghoul but I have a morbid fascination with prisons (Have been to Boggo Road, Pt Arthur, Richmond, Alcatraz and Fremantle) and want to go to Auschwitz and Changhi but Jenny (wife) won't come

Do you return tools to their place after you have used them or when you finish the project?

When I'm done, but I do try to put them down in the same place while I'm using them. Even then, I spend half my time looking for tools I had in my hand 60 secs ago.

Project working on now?

1960 Massey Ferguson TE20 tractor. A money pit.

3 people you would like to have dinner with?

My Dad (deceased), Joseph Smith Jr founder of Mormon Church, Mother Theresa.

Who would you *not* want to be trapped on a desert Island with?

Collingwood supporters, Dr Bob Brown, Smokers.

What lube oil should I use for my lathe

Myford have made recommendations for what lube oils to use on their machines and unless the manufacturer of your particular machine recommends otherwise, we present these to you for your consideration...

For headstock and spindle

Myford suggest ESSO NUTO H32 (H – Hydraulic 32 ISO Viscosity)

Suitable alternatives include *Shell – Tellus 32, Castrol Hyspin AWH 32, BP Bartran H or HV32*

For all slide ways –

Myford suggest ESSO FEBIS K68 (K – Multi Oil 68 ISO Viscosity)

Suitable Alternatives include *Shell Tonna S68, Castrol Magna Glide 68, BP Maccurat 68*

For change wheels, feedscrews and leadscrews

Suitable lubricants include *Castrol Moly Grease SBX2, BP Trunnion bearing grease*

FOR SALE



Asian built by "Lamair" and labeled Kenro but can't find a manufacturer on Google. Very strongly built, and despite having 2 Myford lathes, Keith Bell (dec.) performed most of his turning tasks on this machine. 250mm swing, 700 mm between centres. Has a suds pump, fixed and travelling steady, 3 Jaw chuck, face plate, Dickson style Quick Change tool Post, Quick change gear box and metal stand. Can be viewed in Annerley, Brisbane by appointment. Call Bob on 07 38897689

Tip from Alan Taylor- excellent advice....

Every time you forward an email, there is information left over from the people who received the message before you did, namely their email addresses and names. As the messages get forwarded along, the list of addresses builds, and all it takes is for one person to get a virus, and his computer can send that virus to every email address that has come across his computer. How do you stop it? Well, there are several easy steps. Try the following if you haven't done it before:

1. When you forward an email, **DELETE** all of the other **addresses** that appear in the body of the message (at the top). Highlight them and delete them, backspace them, cut them, whatever it is you know how to do. It only takes a second. You **MUST** click the '**Forward**' button first and then you will have full editing capabilities against the body and headers of the message. If you **don't** click on 'Forward' **first**, you won't be able to **edit** the message at all.
2. Whenever you send an email to **more** than one person, do **NOT** use the **To:** or **Cc:** fields for adding email addresses. **ALWAYS** use the **BCC** (blind carbon copy) field for listing ALL the email addresses. This is the way the people you send to will only see their own email address. If you don't see your BCC: option click on where it says to: and your address list will appear. Highlight the address and choose BCC: and that's it, it's that easy. When you send to **BCC:** your message will automatically say '**Undisclosed Recipients**' in the '**TO:**' field of the people who receive it.
3. Remove any '**FW:**' in the subject line. You can re-name the subject if you wish or even fix spelling.
4. **ALWAYS** hit your Forward button from the actual email you are reading. (You may have had to open numerous other pages before you got to the real forwarded message. Ever get those emails that you have to open 10 pages to read the one page with the information on it? Forwarding from the actual page you wish someone to view, you stop them from having to open many emails just to see what you sent.
5. Have you ever gotten an email that is a petition? It states a position and asks you to add your name and address and to forward it to 10 or 15 people or your entire address book. The email can be forwarded on and on and can collect thousands of names and email addresses. The completed petition is actually worth a couple of bucks to a professional spammer because of the wealth of valid names and email addresses contained therein. **DO NOT EVER** put your email address on any petition. If you want to support the petition, send it as your own personal letter to the intended recipient. (And don't believe the ones that say that the email is being traced; it just ain't so!)

Some of the other emails to delete and not forward are:

- A. The one that says something like, 'Send this email to 10 people and you'll see something great happen.' Or sometimes they'll say 'something really cute will happen.' **IT WON'T HAPPEN!**
- B. And don't let the bad luck ones scare you either, they should get trashed.
- C. Before you forward an 'Amber Alert, or a 'Virus Alert, or some of the other emails floating around nowadays, check them out (on snopes.com/google.com) before you forward them. Most of them are junk mail that's been circling the net for YEARS! Just about everything you receive in an email that is in question can be checked out at www.snopes.com or www.truthorfiction.com or www.factcheck.com

It's really easy to find out if it's real or not. it's not true, please don't pass it on. So please, in the future, let's stop the junk mail and the viruses.

Some suggestions we have received already is a **Buy and Sell** section. We are therefore happy to invite anyone who wishes to promote the sale of, or express the desire to purchase something to please send an email with details to sales@minitech.com.au. There is no charge. Space will be at a premium so please keep it brief.

If you have some workshop hints or tips please send them in or if you have a project that you are working that you would like to share we would love to include it. News, events and promotions could also justify a space so long as they aren't too wordy.

We are delighted to be bringing you this our third newsletter and hope you like it. If you would like to make suggestions for improvement we would be happy to receive them....honestly!

If you have received this newsletter in error or wish to have your email address deleted from our mailing list, please send a message with remove from mailing list in the subject line and the only email you will receive after that is one confirming that the action has taken place.

Gordon, Isaac and Bob