

# TURNOUT

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## FROM THE EDITOR—the origins of the electric drill

I received an article regarding the origins of the invention of the electric drill from Gordon Best. The article was from the Engineers Australia magazine April 2019 edition. The following is based on that article and several web sites

In 1891, two years after arriving in Melbourne from Scotland, Arthur James Arnot was appointed the first ever electrical engineer for Melbourne city council. He was involved in designing Melbourne's original street lighting, the Spencer Street Power Station and developing power plants for tramways in Sydney, Christchurch and Auckland.

However he is best known for inventing and patenting the electrical drill in 1889 along with colleague William Blanch Brain.

The drill that Arnot created was not the very same one you probably have in your toolkit today. The drill that he and his friend created was designed to drill through coal and hard rocks. As such, this drill needed to be huge to be effective. But despite its enormous size, the invention paved the way for other inventors to improve on the design in the years that followed. Prior to the invention of the drill, workers in those days used their hands to drill and mine coal, stone and other hard surfaces. The work was extremely tedious, and it is easy to see why the invention was necessary.

The bit that made this invention innovative was that the design made it easy to drill, build and screw all processes that individuals had to do manually.

In 1895 Wilhelm and Carl Fein, these two brothers in Germany were credited with the invention of the first portable hand held electric



This picture was attached to an article about Arthur Arnot's patent and invention, but I cannot authenticate that it is. I have attached more vintage pictures of electric drills on the following page

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### Northern Turners Committee

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### Send all articles to

[turnout@woodgroupsa.org.au](mailto:turnout@woodgroupsa.org.au)

### Your Northern Turners

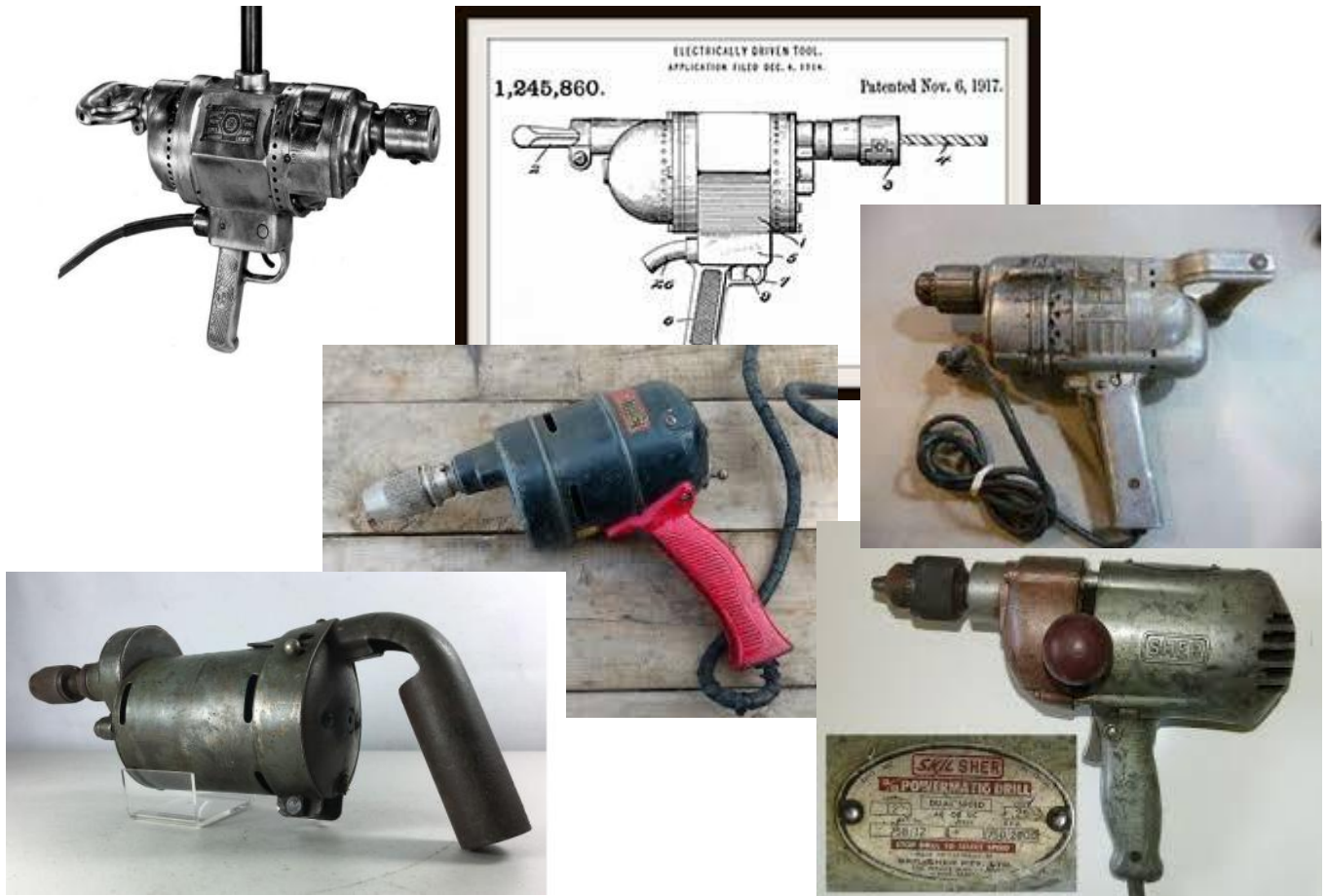
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drill. It was large and required two hands to hold and operate. They continued to develop their design and by 1900 used aluminium components as a weight saving measure.

By 1917 Black & Decker had patented a trigger like switch which was mounted on a pistol grip handle to turn the drill on and off.

*The following pictures are from various web sites showing a range of vintage electric drills*



#### LIBRARY MATTERS:

The following items of interest are from Winter Woodturning Magazine recently in our library:

PROJECTS - Sputnik sea urchin ornament, Festive Snowman on a stump  
TECHNIQUES- How to make tool handles (very useful for beginners)  
Basket weave illusion technique  
Let's talk part 2 - tool selection

Anne Kerr

#### Sealer no longer available

Robert Edge has contacted Customer Service, Caltex Australia in an effort to obtain the end sealer were use and was informed that “Unfortunately, this product is showing as obsolete in our system and is no longer available to purchase.

Currently we have no replacement for this product.”

If anyone has any contacts or ideas where a suitable replacement can be purchased, please contact Robert Edge

## FOR SALE

### Durden L900 Lathe

4 Speed (570, 100, 1800,3600)

1mt. Bed.

Includes basic extras.

**\$150 O.N.O.**

### WOODMAN 350MM Bandsaw.

Max cutting height 200mm

Max cutting width  
342mm.

Table size 400 x 400mm.

Table tilt 0 - 45deg.

Two speed

Sawdust extraction outlet.

Note :- Top pulley needs new rubber.

**\$ 120 O.N.O.**

### Hegner Multicut - 1(includes spare blades)

Depth of throat 560mm

Cutting clearance 50mm

Max depth of cut 50mm

Table size 435 x 230mm 45deg  
swivel.

Motor 240v 100w.

Blade length 130mm

**\$ 250 O.N.O.**

### Tools and Chucks

To be negotiated.

### Books

See attached List on next page

Preferably sold as a job lot

**\$ 200 O.N.O**

### Contact Bill on

Ph:- 8389 6757

Email :- [bill@christmaslane.info](mailto:bill@christmaslane.info)



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## WOODWORKING BOOKS

TITLE	Author
<i>(Woodturning Books)</i>	
Creative Woodturning	Dale L NISH
Make Money form Woodturning	Ann & Bob Phillips
Multi-centre Woodturning	Ray hopper
The Practice of Woodturning	Mike Darlow
Turning Wood with Richard Raffan	Richard Raffan
Woodturning A Source Book of Shapes	John Hunnex
Woodturning Traditional Folk Toys	Alan & Gill Bridgewater
 <i>(Scroll Saw Books)</i>	
Christmas Scroll Saw Patterns	Patrick & Patricia Spielman
Country Woodcraft Patterns	Charles & Doris Pugh
Original Scroll Saw Shelf Patterns	Patrick Spielman & Loren Raty
Scroll Saw Country Patterns	Patrick Spielman & Sherri Spielman Valitchka
Scroll Saw Holiday Patterns	Patrick & Patricia Spielman
Scroll Saw Pattern Book	Patrick Spielman & Patricia Spielman
Scroll Saw Patterns for the Country Home	Patrick Spielman, Patricia Spielman & Sherri Spielman Valitchka
Spielman's Original Scroll Saw Patterns	Patrick & Patricia Spielman
Scroll Saw Puzzle Patterns	Patrick & Patricia Spielman
Wooden Puzzle Toys (2 copies)	Ed Sibbett Jr.
 <i>(General Woodworking Books Books)</i>	
101 Gift Projects from Wood	James A Jacobson
101 Quick & Easy Woodworking Projects	Charles R Self
101 Wooden Clock Patterns	Joyce R Novak
405 Woodworking Patterns	<i>(Editors of FC&amp;A)</i>
Cut-outs for Australia Birds & Animals	Barbara Drogemuller
Designs for Wood	Alonzo WP Kettless
How to make Animated Toys	David Wakefield
How to make Wooden Toys and Games	Walter E. Schultz
Making Traditional Pull-Along Toys in Wood	Alan & Gill Bridgewater
Making Wooden Boxes with a Band Saw	Tom Crabb
Simple Wooden Toymaking	Bob Mathias
Wildlife Toys in Wood	Lee Lindeman & Pat Harste
Wooden Toys	Ingar Nielson
Wooden Toys Puzzles & Games	

### WANTING TO BUY

I am looking to purchase a secondhand lathe with chuck & tools. Being new to the game I don't have very much knowledge about what is even available in the way of small wood lathes. Over the last couple months I have had the loan of a Ledacraft MC 1018 and have really enjoyed coming to grips with the very basics of woodturning and have decided its time to aquire my own. Bill Elliott has suggested a Nova Comet II would suit me (which looks very nice and has variable speed) but in the first instance I don't want to restrict myself to this and so I'm interested to hear of any small suitable secondhand lathes that members are looking to sell. My preference is for one that I can sit on top of my table saw. That way it won't take up so much room in our garage

I can be contacted on email at [peterhudson54@yahoo.com.au](mailto:peterhudson54@yahoo.com.au) or phone at 8370 3016 (please leave a message if we don't answer)

Peter Hudson