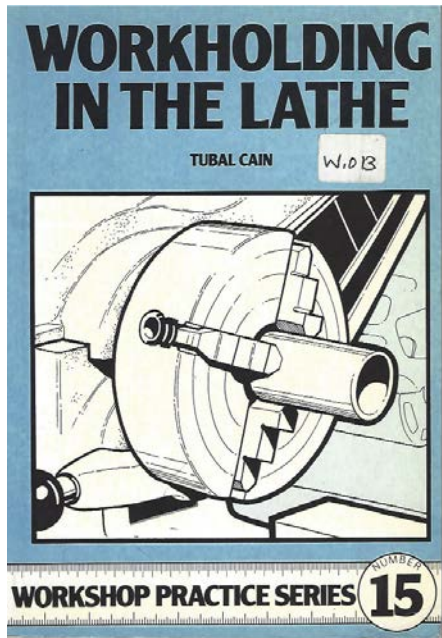


Book Review Nr 1

It is the intention to review two of our library books a month. The reviews will be high level as it is not appropriate to give an in-depth analysis. We would welcome members' views on any books they borrow.

The two books this month are "Workholding in the Lathe" and "Model Yacht Construction and Sailing".



Workholding in the Lathe is Nr 15 of the Workshop Practice Series by Tubal Cain. Our copy is a 1987 edition. The contents page identifies nine chapters. Although the book covers workholding, Chapter 9 covers methods of Lathe Alignment for a modeller's lathe. The titles of the other chapters are "Between centres", "Faceplate work", "Chuckwork-General", "The Universal or Independent Chuck", "The Self-centring Chuck", "Unusual Chucks", "Collets" and "Work Steadies". The book seems well illustrated with photos and drawings.

Model Yacht Construction and Sailing is by LT. Col C E Bowden. The synopsis under the title states "The principles of the design, construction and operation of model and small racing craft in the light of modern knowledge of aerodynamics and hydrodynamics". There are six chapters "Classes of Model Racing Yachts", "The Airflow Around the Sails and its Effect Upon the Hull", "Hull Design and Methods", "Construction Methods", "The Automatic Steering Gear" and "Sailing a Model".

This book was published in 1949 (reprinted 1994) and is more for the purist; no radio control here. C.E.Bowden was an RFC pilot and wrote five model aircraft books; this is his only boating book. The book is 93 pages long of which chapter two is 50 pages. Chapter 2 refers to the relationship between wings, sails and airflow. The book is illustrated and covers size and setting sails, and the techniques of sailing a model yacht. Two methods of hull construction are described, the full sized yacht principle of planking and another when the hull is roughly cut out in layers. A future method is mentioned, plywood hulls (the future being post 1949).

The author, at the start of chapter 2, set his stall out clearly. The sail is the starting point as all motive power is derived from it. Model yacht construction has moved on, but if you wish to sail a model yacht then this book is not a bad place to start.

Reviewed by Clive Reynolds. February 2021.

