

Working Party
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First Aiders
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A Quarterly Newsletter

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Co-ordinator
Helen Watt



Working Party Meeting

New shed gets a makeover but we won't be in any time soon. This should give us time to get organized and prepared for the eventual move which may not be until some time before Spring.



New shed gets a touch up from Bill

Shed Manager Ray Busby

What's Been Happening in the Shed

There has been so much going on lately, that it is hard to know where to start. As most of you know, our new shed in "TOPS" (aka 'The Old Police Station'), is slowly getting into shape, although I must admit I am getting a little bit 'toey' to get the fit-out completed so we can move in.

On that score, we just today painted the concrete floor in paving paint – paperbark in colour. The first coat took about 10.5 litres and I do think we'll need a second coat to get good coverage.

As far as a "plan" about the actual move is concerned, I believe that we continue as we are. That is, continue to organize what we want to take and what we can do to reduce the rubbish around the place.

The boys have started cutting up a lot of the timber outside and had a lovely bonfire last week, reducing a large heap to coals. A good beginning, as we have a looong way to go yet!

Over time we have also accumulated some equipment that is surplus to our needs. To name a few items that come to mind, they are;

- A scroll saw.
- Two router benches (with at least a router to go with one of them).
- Two Triton Work Centres – Mark III (Ian C. has already claimed the third).
They each have an extension table and legs as well.
- A Triton Router Bench which I think is complete.
- The Carba-Tech Band saw was also surplus but we have now promised to hang onto that for David (from Fiji). We will know more about his commitment to that on his next trip to Oz.

There are probably more items we have gathered, that will be 'unearthed' as we get more cleaning and sorting done. The point in raising this is that we would like you, our members, to take advantage of these extra items we have, provided of course, that you have a use for them.

If you would like to have one (or more pieces), then talk to Tim, Vern or myself about a donation to the Shed to make them your very own.

If no-one comes forward, I will offer them to the other Sheds in our cluster group, on the same basis i.e. a donation to our Shed for each item. If that doesn't work, then we will either sell them on E-Bay or advertise them in the Trading Post or similar. So, don't delay, have a talk to us today!! \Continued page 4

Health & Safety with Tim Robinson

OH&S at the Shed

The most important thing to do whenever you visit the Shed is to go home safely.

The move to the new shed is getting closer so we need to assess how this may affect Safety issues.

Here is a list of things you are allowed to say during the move.

- "No"
- "I need help with this"
- "Stop! That is too heavy for you"
- Wait I will help you with that"
- "That/This is not safe"
- "I think it would be safer/better to do it this way"
- "That needs to a stronger rope/tie"
- "That is not safe in that position"
- "If we put that there this is the danger"
- "Before you do that I want to get someone from the OH&S committee to look at it"

The list is endless.

I propose that the first rule for the new shed is that it is a SUS – a "Speak Up Shed" I know some of you have at times kept your thoughts to your selves. But in the new Shed if you think something is SUS it is important that you SPEAK UP.

Remember the OH&S committee is made up of:

Paul Bladen - OH&S Officer to co-ordinate and audit the safety process

Tim Robinson - Safety Officer or the Working Party representative

Tony Marsh – Safety Rep to represent members interests

John Belovitch - member

It is not the role of the OH&S Committee to be responsible for safety in the Shed. That is your role. The OH&S committee's role is to follow up on issues you raise and ensure appropriate action is taken.

Safety is every ones responsibility.



Master Chef Neville fires up the monthly BBQ



All hands on deck required for shift to new shed



Robert at work at the Grossmans Rd. shed

A father writes to his son in prison.

Dear Bubba:

I am feeling pretty bad because it looks like I won't be able to plant my potato garden this year. I'm just getting too old to be digging up a garden plot. If you were here, all my troubles would be over. I know you would dig the plot for me.

Love, Dad.

A few days later, he received a letter from his son.

Dear Dad

For heaven's sake, Dad, don't dig up that garden. That's where I buried the BODIES.

Love,

Bubba

At 4 a.m. the next morning, FBI agents and local Police showed up and dug up the entire area without finding any bodies. They apologized to the old man and left.

That same day, the old man received another letter from his son.

Dear Dad:

Go ahead and plant the potatoes now. It's the best I could do under the circumstances.

Love, Bubba

Sam and Susan were invited to a costume party. Susan went out and rented costumes for the both of them. However, when the time came for the party, Susan wasn't feeling well and Sam went on alone.

A few hours later, Susan began to feel better and decided to go on to the party. She realized that while she knew Sam was in a gorilla suit, he had never seen her costume, and decided to go and see what he got up to while he was alone.

She arrived and observed him dancing closely with a series of beautiful women. She approached him and began flirting, and soon they were taking a walk in the woods alone. They then undressed in the darkness and had sex.

She got home before her husband and when he arrived, she was in bed. She asked him, "How was the party?"

He replied "Oh, the usual - you know I never have much fun at these things alone."

"Didn't you even dance?" she asked.

"No, I sat in the den all night playing cards. The guy I lent my costume to told me he had a ball.

Enjoying the Autumn sunshine at the April BBQ at Grossmans Rd. Shed



Two guys are walking down the street when a mugger approaches them and demands their money. They both grudgingly pull out their wallets and begin taking out their cash. Just then one guy turns to the other and hands him a bill. "Here's that \$20 I owe you," he says.

I knew these Siamese twins. They moved to England, so the other one could drive.

My mate's missus left him last Thursday, she said she was going out for a pint of milk and never came back!

I asked him how he was coping and he said, "Not bad,

I've been using that powdered stuff."

The police came to my front door last night holding a picture of my wife.

They said, "Is this your wife, sir?"

Shocked, I answered, "Yes." They said, "I'm afraid it looks like she's been hit by a bus."

I said, "I know, but she does have a lovely personality."



A younger Tony Marsh



With Shed Manager Ray Busby



Vern & Tony have a chat at Grossmans Rd.

“I grew up in Nottingham joined the Army at 18 and was on a boat with my sister Marion destined for Australia 2 years later.”

I am pleased that you have agreed to be interviewed for our newsletter and firstly I would like to ask you. What does the men's shed mean to you and how do you think we could become an even better asset to the general community?

For me the Mens Shed is a place to meet other retirees and share our experiences, also to get involved in some small jobs which benefit the Torquay community and enriches their lives somewhat. I enjoy producing things with my hands and helping others.

Tony I know that you are an active member of other groups and that they differ in what they offer their members. Can you see anything in the activities of these groups that the mens shed could take on board that would broaden our appeal.

Yes I am a member of Probus Belmont which is more of a social group. It provides a vast range of activities for both men and women. One aspect which could benefit the Mens Shed is that at their monthly meetings they provide guest speakers on a broad range of subjects which I think could also benefit the Mens Shed if we took that on board.

On the personal side of things you could give us a run down of your life so far, growing up, travel, family, children, grandchildren. Your working life, your interests and hobbies, your ambitions and achievements.

Born in London just before the Second World War I spent my younger days in Nottingham where I was also educated. At 18 I joined the army serving in Holland and Germany.

Two years later in 1957 my sister aged 19 and I boarded the SS Moreton Bay and headed for sunny Australia. I was 21 and settled in Melbourne. I was my sister's guardian for this trip because in those days a female had to be at least 21 to travel to Australia alone unless she

was married My first Australian job was with International Harvesters mainly an agricultural machinery company. A little later I worked in Geelong and Melbourne for Machine and General a marine engineering company working on many large vessels that had broken down and needed fixing. Condition were harsh but the work was rewarding.

On the personal side I met my wife Bev. in Geelong. She was a local girl and we were married in 1961 and have two daughters one who now resides in Sydney and the other in Melbourne. We also have a son who live lives nearby at Freshwater Creek. We now have 3 grandchildren ranging in age from teenage to the youngest who is 5.

My hobbies are dancing, AFL I follow the mighty Cats, I enjoy carpentry and like doing odd jobs for other people and just helping out when and wherever it is needed.

Look Tony I am very pleased that you have shared your experiences with us and am sure that your story will interest all of our members because I know that they admire the work that you do at Mens Shed as indeed also do I. Thanks for your time and effort.

I knew these Siamese twins. They moved to England, so the other one could drive.



THE BIG FLOOD 2011

Two campers are hiking in the woods when one is bitten on the rear end by a rattlesnake. "I'll go into town for a doctor," the other says. He runs ten miles to a small town and finds the town's only doctor, who is delivering a baby. "I can't leave," the doctor says. 'But here's what to do. Take a knife, cut a little X where the bite is, suck out the poison and spit it on the ground.' The guy ruins back to his friend, who is in agony. 'What did the doctor say?' the victim asks. "He says you're gonna die."

Two hunters are in the woods when one of them falls to the ground. He doesn't seem to be breathing, so the other guy calls the emergency services and screams, "My friend is dead! What can I do?" The operator, in a calm soothing voice says: "Just take it easy. I can help. First, let's make sure he's dead." There is a silence, then a shot is heard.

Then the guy's voice comes back on the line and says: "OK, now what?"



From left : Inside the old shed on a working day, centre same shed on the outside and on the right the new shed being erected in early March 2011

What's been happening in the shed with Ray Busby

Continued from page 1

On another tack, we have had meetings with Council and the other three groups who are/will occupy 'TOPS' (Torquay Historical Society, Torquay Theatre Troupe and Surfcoast Energy Group). The idea with these meetings is to come up with an arrangement where we can all live harmoniously in our new site. This means sorting who pays what for the utilities that will be consumed, meaning electricity and water. I am pushing for our own separate electricity usage meter, located in the Shed, so we can monitor just how much juice we use. Apart from that there are the electricity supply charges, sewerage costs, etc., etc. When we get more of an idea where we stand, we will keep you in the loop.

Activities-wise we seem to be getting more requests for individual projects from people who believe that our services can help them with their ideas. Among these, we have had Bellbrae Primary ask us to provide 300 mm square MDF boards (70 of them) for the kids to assemble mosaic patterns around a small mirror. Then we had to supply picture hanging wire for each student to be able to take their 'creation' home and hang it wherever Mum allows them to. Also for Bellbrae, Torquay Lions Club asked us to make three artists easels for the school, which we have done. Unfortunately there have been some communication problems about the easel design which we are still sorting out but will be successful (of course!).

Another project was the boxes we made for the Theatre Troupe to be used as stage props in their current production. We have had some good feedback and acknowledgement too which was a bonus.

We have had a request for two bird boxes, one of which Ian and Ron are in the process of completing. The second one needs further discussion to find out exactly what bird she wants to attract. Currently, we are making some display boxes (6 of them) out of 1/2" plywood for a lady and a rebuild of a lid on a garden seat for another lady.

Still waiting on a reply to our quotation submitted to the Danawa Garden group, is a fabricated steel frame to house their mosaic sign to be erected at the garden entrance. If that goes ahead, then Tony will have his head down and welding rods arcing to get that one done!

I think that's about my allocation of space from Lidio, so in closing don't ever forget that this is YOUR Shed so, if there is ever any project you would like to get done and aren't too sure how to go about it, then come and have a yarn about it – I'm sure the solution will be at hand!

From the Coordinator with Helen Watt

1st June, 2011

As I'm sure you're all aware, work on our new shed continues. Thank you to those who got together to paint the floor! Your work is invaluable.

Grant Progress

We have recently submitted our Progress Report to the Department of Human Services (DHS, previously DPCD – Department of Planning & Community Development), so we will receive our next installment of Grant Funds. In our next phase we will have to keep a record of all our work and expenditure, so that we can submit a detailed report to the Department - and then receive our final installment!

'Order' & 'Project Request' Forms

We have now updated our 'Order Form' and our 'Project Request Form', so make sure you check with Ray if you need one of these. The Working Party has devised a system to ensure that all work projects are properly followed through. Please help in ensuring that these processes are followed. This will ensure that everyone is kept happy!

Induction Kits

In the coming weeks you will receive an 'Induction Kit'. We have been working on these for some time, but unfortunately that work had to go on hold while we went through the major grant application process. This Kit will contain all the basic information you need as a Shed Member. We will seek your feedback on these Kits, so that we can ensure that they do what they need to. In future, all new members will receive a Kit as part of their induction into the Shed.

Asthma Education

As part of the Commonwealth Government's Asthma Management Program, The Asthma Foundation, Victoria is conducting a Community Support Program to support asthma management.

As part of this program, they will be visiting us at the Shed, to provide a FREE education session at **10.00 am on Tuesday, 29th June.**

You will learn about *the impact of asthma & linked conditions, symptoms & triggers, medications & how to take them properly, asthma management and asthma first aid.* The chances are either you or somebody you know experiences this condition. So spread the word! Friends, family and community members welcome!

Over the next couple of months, I will be very busy ensuring that all administrative work is up to date, in readiness for the opening of the new shed and the incorporation of Torquay Community Men's Shed. I will endeavour to keep you informed of progress. We have been having teething problems with our recently installed new computer system, which has been very frustrating for all concerned! However, we think it's almost sorted, so it will definitely be "all systems go"! In the meantime, keep up the good work, as you all prepare for the big move!

All the best,
Helen Watt
TCMS Coordinator

If you have anything you would like to see in your newsletter or would like advertised or made known, come and talk to me about it. I would appreciate your contributions. Send me an email at lidioric@gmail.com or see me personally at the shed. Lidio Ricci Editor