



# Newsletter



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With the Easter period and several other Shed activities taking place, we have decided to produce a April /May news letter in order to catch up with the commitment and time frame. It has been a fairly busy few weeks for our "Shedders" and hopefully the following photo's /captions and story line will cover at least some of the many activities.

We think, at this early point in the news letter, its important to mention again that our Shed is primarily a place for men to meet, socialize and if the mood takes them – to tackle a project of theirs or one of the Sheds to learn new skills and spread their knowledge and skill sets where appropriate. It is importantly to enjoy and therefore support the Sheds facility and ambience.

As we are approaching NAIDOC week once again – we are supporting our local Umina Public School by providing a quantity of our Shed's boomerangs for the annual painting and design competition – a small team of Shedders comprising of John O' Keefe, Bill Lacy, Phil Lacey, and Charlie Wilson, have tackled this year's production run and are well on top of the 130 units required by the school.

Seen here is Charlie Wilson, one of more senior members working on the end of line – sanding and finishing the boomerang prior to the final paint process.



Another community project undertaken by Bill Wood was the remake of an unusual "family Treasure" – that being a very old and loved 'meat safe' – it was certainly showing its age and usage on its arrival at the Shed – Bill set about and carefully stripped it down and where required rebuilt with new materials he also gave it a new coat of paint. When the meat safe was returned to its family residence – the enthusiasm, smiles and warmth expressed by the owners said a lot about the craftsmanship and effort that had been applied.



Whilst on Community projects Geof Godwin took on the challenge of a make - over of a "kids trolley", now this was a vintage trolley that had been handed down within the same family for several generations and had the air of a family keepsake. However with a new generation of family expected soon – the trolley required to be reconditioned and readied for a new life with the latest generation

Don Armour undertook a request from our Umina based Salvation Army organization that was seeking some Marjong Tile holders for one of their projects – he quietly set about the design and construction of the items and successfully delivered the project.  
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One of our Shedders is also a member of a community garden project on the Peninsula and came up with an artistic idea for a bicycle rack for the garden – using the remains of a composting system frame and couple of old bicycles, his vision and skill-sets plus some assistance from our metal working team he built the bike rack - Our metal work / fabrication area, after a lot of hard work and effort in fitting it out etc has certainly been showing off its capabilities – seen here is “frame up “ job for a specific work area



This outside metal work fabrication [welding /grinding etc] has been well organized by its resident members and is equipped for a reasonable range of tasks, some of which are evident in later photos and mentions. Fritz Huber keeps the metal fabrication area tidy, safe and highly operational and welcomes the opportunity to pass on his metal working skills to interested members.



Still on the topic of metal work – our machining [metal turning ] area has finally undergone a reorganization, as requested by the operators , involving the repositioning of the two lathes and the construction of a central work bench .



Our next photo is on the area adjacent to the metal lathes and high lights the milling machine and pedestal drill area

Moving right away from the above topics, we recently took delivery of and installed a new powerful computer, into the Shed IT area, with the view and intention of meeting the growing interest of our shedders in lifting/ learning / improving their IT skill levels. This equipment will be available to do just this – so if its Skype, Email – windows or other software or hardware issues– we are set to trot.

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Our motto for UBMSI is “The small Shed with the big heart” our computer room /office area certainly highlights the small area issue – but the knowledge/ experience in the area is great and its proving to be a popular location

Moving out to our Sheds community garden area, it looks very much like winter is on the way / change of seasons etc – several of the beds are in ‘fallow mode’ cleared, fertilized and ready for the next plantings.

Our first crop of lemons is looking very healthy indeed



*Insert Photo 23* – here we see Geoff Godwin and Kevin Savage Working on a home project for Kevin they are constructing a light duty anvil base – its being constructed out of a range of very solid metal pieces.

The next series of photo’s are covering the organizing and development of the rear of the Shed work area – the aim is to improve the practical and safe use of various types of wood working machines. The machines are mobile but robust and heavy – so external storage has been created for them and a work area created, preceded by considerable thought, measurement and calculations. It was determined that the existing concrete surface adjacent to the storage area needed to be replaced to provide a level and smoother surface for the machines. The storage area and new work bench was completed during our normal workdays but the concrete mix and pour was conducted on Saturday so as not to interfere with our members work in progress /safety etc

Machine storage – for roll out usage



New work bench constructed



Damaged slab pavers removed to facilitate new slab for roll out machinery.

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The lads looking to be 'on the level' with the new slab.



Work in progress etc

Concrete mixing team on a sunny Sat 9 May



Mixed concrete "transporter" - on the way to 'the Job' with the third load.



A quick glimpse into the weeks ahead! A project for review our final picture shows a solid discussion underway between a couple of our committee members regarding a "new arrival" being a sideboard /dresser – chest of drawers type item. The topic what's to be done with it i.e. recondition it to its former original state and then what ? or dismantle and re –use various pieces of timber for on- going /future projects.



Well hopefully all of the above at least provides some insight into some of the activities at our shed and the interaction with the peninsula community – it's an active and friendly little place which I am sure you would all agree, a wonderfully diverse membership.