

Welcome to our Shed's December 2015 "news letter", well it's certainly noticeable that's it's *that time of the year!* Lots of activity to finish of projects /final coats of paint /polish combined with a fair bit of social activity etc.

Bill G and I thought we would start this month's photographs and chat with a quick look at the garden area. Now whilst Fred de L has been spending time down south, he and John O'K work at keeping the water well up to the plants. They have a cos lettuce multi story variety! Which if it keeps growing could well stand in for an Xmas decoration! Despite the height and stature the leaves are fine eating.



The fruit trees whist still small and young are certainly showing all the good signs of a satisfactory crop.



The herb garden has also been fortified with a Apple Cucumber plant and even with our happy shedders harvesting as they require this little colony of highly active and well cared for plants, continue to put up a sterling performance.



During the early part of November, the staff of The Peninsula Village, asked if we could create a small penguin for one of the villagers who had a particular attachment to had knitted special jumpers



symbol. They went to say that it was having a special birthday and had "little Penguins". [in fact for years he for little penguins that aided their

rescue when they were picked up with oil slick damage]. Our shedders cut out a life size image of the little penguin and our lovely neighbours Hospital Art Australia did a simply wonderful paint job, with true to life colouring and markings etc. On completion, we popped our finished penguin in a cardboard presentation box with a bed of wrapping paper, and quietly delivered across to "The Village". We were then requested to provide a Shedder to present the Penguin on Monday morning 10.00. Vic B was despatched to undertake the presentation. You can well imagine his surprise that on turning up for the presentation – he would meet the oldest man in Australia Mr Alf Date 110 years old, accompanied by the Governor General Sir Peter Cosgrove, members of the Mariners team, representatives of both State and federal politics, NBN TV crews etc. It was a wonderful morning and Alf Date was delighted at the turn out and various presentations and thanked everybody very warmly. Not only was it a special privilege for our Shed to participate, but what a pleasure to meet Alf and observe his connectivity and responses to the many tributes paid to him during the morning. As Sir Peter Cosgrove is also Australian Men's Shed Association Patron – in Chief it was special and fitting that our Shed in conjunction with Hospital Art Australia, could make this small contribution to this splendid celebration.



The surf life saving season is well underway and the crowds are hitting the beaches with this hot weather. Our shed received a very kind invitation from The Umina Beach Surf Life Saving Club to attend a morning tea and photo opportunity with the “Surf Reels”{ which we recently overhauled} and club members etc. It was a wonderful Sunday morning and members from our Shed and the Surf Club enjoyed great fellowship and warm hospitality.



As a finishing touch we were invited to place on to the actual



to the well restored Surf Reels we a reminding signature of our shed reels.

Our local Wallaby Street Preschool approached us again this year to make up for them a collection of “wind Chimes” – the school providing the bulk - materials and the design drawings etc. It was a rushed job! Our Sparky and plumbing team aided by a couple of other lads,- cut – drilled – filed and grouped the small pipe type cylinders to meet the Wind Chime requirement. The dead line was met alright but we were not able to grab a photo or two prior of the boxes of finished products, before their departure for the School.



Our Shed was again asked to attend and participate in the Ettalong Arts and Craft Show. Doug H and Bill G able assisted by John P took along samples of various skill sets enacted/produced at our Shed and also ran the lap top with our presentation program etc. Several people attending were disappointed that they were unable to purchase the products on show under the banner of UBMSI – maybe next year, we can produce for sale demand was certainly there!



Last Monday whilst Les was busy beavering way on the reconstruction of the GPO phone box Lionel B. Unloaded the second Phone Box that has been on line and waiting to come into our Shed for some TLC for the last couple of months. Looks like another very challenging project to start the 2016 year.



The Ettalong RSL sub –branch approached us with a view to constructing two book cases to their specification - Robert willingly undertook the task and had Mal to assist, as the finished products are fairly large and storage of projects is always an ongoing problem for our Shed, so Robert really applied himself and both items were delivered in somewhat record time – that is for our Shed !



The Xmas luncheon this year was as similar to last year held in conjunction with our neighbours Hospital Art as guests of the Ettalong Bowling Club. It well attended by 55 of our members and guests. The photo graphs of this event will be published in the January edition of the News Letter.

By that time we will have received the photographs from Ettalong Bowling.

In closing this News Letter we take this opportunity to Wish all our members, friends and families a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year and we look forward to some more great times in our "little shed with a big heart".

Until the next time happy Shedding Bill G and Vic B