

August 2018 Umina Beach News Letter.

Welcome to our Shed's monthly Newsletter for the month of August. As we are writing this we have just crossed over the line of September 1 being the start of spring and, of course, Father's Day, we trust you all had catch up time and contacts etc and enjoyed the highly advertised and publicised day.

The NSW government have introduced a new driving law effective Sept 1 2018, which states that when a police/ambulance/emergency vehicle is operating its RED and BLUE flashing lights drivers must reduce their vehicle speed to a max of 40 kph until they are well passed the vehicle or the emergency vehicle is well past your vehicle. This rule apparently applies to incidents on the motorways as well as normal two way roads - it appears if the flashing lights are operating on the motorway in the direction you are travelling then all lanes must reduce their speed to 40 kms until visually well passed the incident. If the vehicle with the blue and red flashing lights is located in the central medium strip between the two motorway directions – then both directions of traffic across all lanes has to reduce its road speed to 40 kms. Drivers caught not obeying these new rules will cop a fine of \$440 plus lose 3 points! Anyway, just be well aware of the new change to road rules and at the first opportunity call in at NSW offices and pick up the pamphlet on the actual new rules in detail [recognise the above is our interpretation of the rules picked up from a radio program].

September 2018! It's time for your Shed's annual general meeting which will be held on Monday 17 September followed by our usual BBQ lunch. Your Shed has been running for 6 years now and it would be good to hear from members any ideas they may have to improve/lift members' experiences during a visit to the Shed - this can be in any field ie socializing, tooling availability, lunch only once a month?! trips off site to places of interest, space for projects etc. Fundamentally Men's Sheds operate in such a way, to satisfy the majority of its members, now we think and believe that our Shed is normally a pretty happy place and lives up to its motto of "The small Shed with the big heart", but there is always room for improvements. So, with that in mind, please if you have

ideas/thoughts about the Shed etc please take time [over the next two weeks] to share those thoughts with Bill Graham or Bill Ide – there is a committee position vacant, give that some thought also.

On a very sad note, you may not have heard but one of our very active members, Mr Ray Tupper passed away on August 16 following a long battle with a health problem. A service was conducted at the Hillside Chapel at Palmdale on Wednesday 22 August. Several our Shed members [and in two instances members interrupted travel/ holiday arrangements to be there], attended the funeral service in support of Ray and his family.



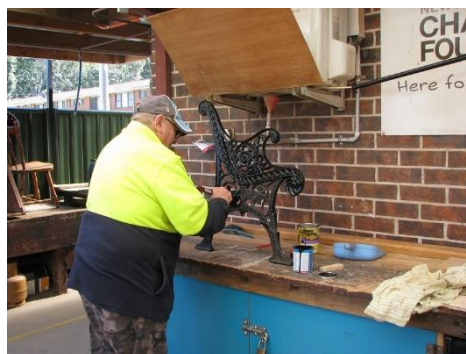
Now, to some of the projects for the month, after one of our members [Rod] spent some time in Woy Woy Rehab Hospital, he asked Bill G if the Shed could make an iPad holder/book stand to facilitate reading and messaging whilst flat on his back in bed. Well, once the finished article was delivered to Rod in the Hospital and it worked well, the nursing team requested we make a few more to help out other patients. A good outcome indeed, we are pleased to say Rod is back home and the additional stands have been delivered to the Hospital.



Following a visit to the Shed by a local lady who wanted us to overhaul a cabinet, our member Robert stepped forward and volunteered to undertake the task [lucky lady], skilful work indeed.



A local couple Mr and Mrs Heber organized a very generous donation of funds to our Shed just recently, as a gesture of our Shed's appreciation, Merv carried out a remake of an old and beautiful cast iron garden bench which belonged to this couple, the metal was all carefully cleaned and repainted, suitable hard wood was obtained for the seating runs, drilled to fit the leg structures and the complete item reassembled with lots of TLC. The finished item was dutifully returned to the Heber's Via Merv Transportation Services.



Presumably by now most of our members would be well acquainted with Mahjong, simply by the fact that Phil has made a large number of Mahjong tile game boards for a variety of clubs here on the Peninsula. Well, just a couple of weeks ago Vic thought the office team "had lost it " when he walked in to

discover what looked like Phil and Bill G playing Mahjong on the floor of the office!



It transpired that a box of Mahjong tiles had been left at the Shed for a tile board to be custom made to fit, when Phil went to retrieve the box of tiles – the box sprung open and the tiles cascaded to the floor! So presumably we can relax - it's business as usual in the office.

On a brief visit to the heavy metal “welding and grinding area” we were pleased to see another metal worker busy in the area with the normal resident - here we see Fritz and Warren working away on a project.



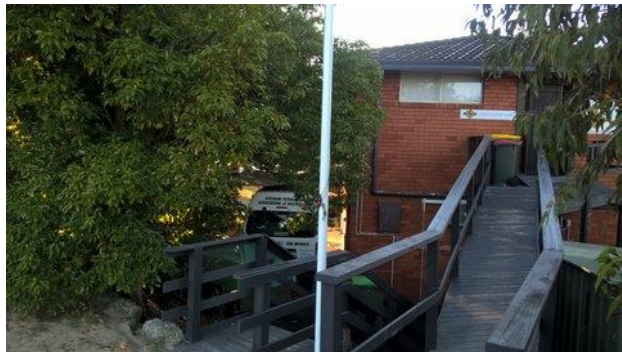
Another garden bed being saved and rejuvenated and ready for the start of spring – Len seen here on the job



Did you come to the last BBQ lunch [3rd Monday of the month] 20 August? There was as usual a good turn up, but if you haven't attended one for a while, why not make a special effort and visit on 17 Sept or if you are away travelling etc how about the 15 Oct [interesting and special guest speaker attending this one]. The BBQ days are great days for fellowship and socializing, the machines are silent and whilst the menu tends not to vary, it always seems to be well accepted. Seen here is one of our chefs John, but there are a team of fellows who undertake the provisioning, setting up the BBQ area, preparing the bread, onions, set up, take down, tidy up and wash up. We think it's time we gave them a little recognition and a thank you at the next BBQ – stand by!



During a chat with some members of the Vietnam Veterans Ettalong, they happened to mention that they were having a real problem finding somebody to supply and install a flag pole at their offices in Ettalong, we said "hey hold on" we may be able to help. You may recall that Chopper brought a flag pole into the Shed some time ago now and it had been stored on the side of the container, so we offered it to the Vets having taken it down there to show them, they were excited it was more or less what they required, and they showed us where they wanted it installed. Fritz and Warwick welded up and machined a base to fit the pole and the site, Robert turned on the wood lathe a beautiful round top to fit the pole and Darrell and Vic went over to Ettalong and installed the finished product.



On the similar wave length of intercommunity involvement our local Umina CWA team wanted a hand with their Hall with regard to the paint that was peeling off the outside of the window frames and it did not look good from a

passing traffic perspective. Lionel happened to mention the project to Bunnings who quickly responded with an offer to provide the supply of paint, brushes, sand paper etc for the Shed to undertake the project and that the representative would also be pleased to attend on the site and provide assistance. Seen here is Vic with CWA lady and the representative from Bunnings outside the CWA hall – Gary and Quinton undertook most of the repainting assisted by the Bunnings lady with Russel and Phil assisting in the initial preparation of the frames. Later in the year when the Hall usage drops off we will undertake to clean and oil the Hall floor - the required materials were also supplied by Bunnings as part of the overall project.



Well that brings us to the end of another quick snapshot of the happenings in and around your Shed for the month, the truth is we only catch a few of the happenings on camera, it would be really good if members contributed photos and details of projects and events happening in and around the Shed. We really would like to give the best coverage to all our members and projects where possible, so please don't let an opportunity pass.

So that's it, until the next edition, enjoy the start of spring and stay safe.

Bill G and Vic B