

DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER.

So it's the 30 December and already Christmas is past and the New Year is approaching at speed. Well, we hope you all survived the pressures and challenges that these festive occasions place on all the family and persons taking part and now you are ready to start focusing on the new incoming year.

We wish all our members, family, sponsors and supporters a very healthy and successful 2020.

What with the White Island N.Z. eruption disaster; here in OZ the massive areas hit by bush fires which are still burning and seemingly uncontrolled in a good number of areas; in the U.K. Boris Johnson In and Brexit underway; the war in Syria still raging; Mr Trump's impeachment in USA – all happening in the month of December! Whatever your age or location around the world, you have to be able to cope with the News which comes to all of us via the now everyday fast communication speeds.

During December we had several members each arrive with a homemade beautiful Xmas cake, across quite a few days, they were all absolutely great eating and enjoyed by a large cross section of our membership. A few of the cakes were actually made by the member whilst most were via their partner's and they were all well enjoyed and made our morning teas special in the lead up to Xmas. A big thank you to all those concerned.

Bunnings Umina gave us a call earlier in the year and asked if we would participate again in their 'Family Night' during which Bunnings invite their customers to attend the store with their family and enjoy jumping castles, face painting, artwork and the well renowned Bunnings BBQ and several other attractions. Bill G put the word out for volunteers for an evening shift and the following lads took up the challenge Darrell P, Bill I, Bill W, Dave P, Larry S.

Seen here setting up with the jumping castle and the CWA in close proximity.



Here we have a couple of shots of the planter boxes designed to be used by wheelchair dependant, keen gardeners. The design allows them to work at a height to plant, water etc that suits their mobility state. The pictures show the project starting up and the finished product ready for collection. The lads involved were primarily Les, Len, Geoff,



We mentioned the project of building 'a jig saw puzzle facility' that being a surface where you can assemble the jig saw painting [providing you can find the right piece at the time] whilst storing up to a 1000 pieces in the 4 drawers under the flat surface. Well, here in the picture is one of these beautifully crafted items being handed over to Maddison by Phil Lacey the builder.



Bill G sent out a note across our membership about a planned 'free breakfast' at the Shed for Monday 23 Dec – with the idea of having more of a social occasion to line up with Xmas etc. Whilst brekky was scheduled for 10.00 many of the lads arrived soon after 7.30 and commenced a big tidy up of the outer areas. The grass was snipped, the garden weeded and watered. areas were brushed etc. A big thank you to the facility looked so



mowed and whipper beds and walkways The outside work down and swept up all that participated - much better and healthier after your efforts. John, Graham and Doug [and Doug's brother-in-law who was visiting] then got into the task of cooking up the breakfast for the 40 of us, well done fellows –cooked to perfection and needless to say "nothing left over"! We also need to say a sincere thank you to Mrs Steadman. Bill Stedy pulled a muscle in his back a few days before the breakfast and simply could not move about – so Mrs Stedy was out and about physically doing the banking and all the shopping for the BBQ brekky – thank you again Mrs Stedy.

We have included a few photos taken on the day of the breakfast, because they really highlight one of the big factors in Men's Sheds and that is the social interaction that takes place, when we relax in good company and have some common interests etc.





Lionel B and Larry S will be talking with you about 'Safety Upgrades' which they intend introducing along with a renewed personal certification process for using most of the machines and devices across both 'the wood and metal worlds'. It is all in an effort to maintain a practical and high standard of safety; yes it will perhaps slow some of us down and aggravate us a little! If you are wishing to tackle a particular project which involves usage of machines at the Shed, it would possibly save time etc if you spoke with Lionel or Larry at the outset; they might be able to process your certification/training earlier – to better accommodate your requirements.



With a view to assisting fund raising activities the thinking is we need to boost our supply of crafted wooden spatulas of various sizes, small rolling pins, door wedges etc which we can display for sale at the Gara/Shed sales – boot sales – and various other outings - perhaps even the Umina Markets. But we need a few keen volunteers to undertake the task of building up the supply – please talk with Bill G if you would like to help in this project.

Following a call from our local Bunnings, Les and the lads set about the task of producing “a collection box for plastic bottle tops” apparently these recycled items will go to the manufacture of prothesis! Following the production of the item it was delivered down to Bunnings and formally handed over by Les and Stedy.



With regard to the Shed relocation project, we are now awaiting news from the CCC in regard to the Development Application, we should know the outcome in the next few weeks [given the Xmas and New Year period], but will keep all our members informed as we move along with the project.

Before we close this year end edition, I think {V.B.} that, a big “thank you” from us all needs to go out to two of our members for their extraordinary support and commitment to our Shed during this year and previous years. That is to Bill G. who opens/closes the Shed three days a week, every week, handles the office and communications whilst in the Shed and away at his home, mops out the premises and makes himself always available to members who have a query etc. Secondly, our President Darrell P, his workload and commitment in starting and growing the UBMSI was huge and as we travel along the time line of 9 years and consider the effort and contribution in that alone – then add the current project of Osborne Av and realise that he also has a very full time senior job function, it is a massive effort. My view is that we owe both these members that special

“BIG thank you” - if you agree, take the next opportunity you see them, to tell them.

Well, that brings us to the end of another newsletter and almost the start of 2020 – so stay safe and enjoy the arrival of the New Year and be as fit as we can for the fun and challenges that are likely ahead.

Cheers for now

Vic B and Bill G

P.S. If you haven't visited the Shed for a while but have thought about it now's the time to act – go for it - we open Mon/Wed/Thurs mornings and it's still only \$2 a visit!

