

2017 – JULY UBMSI NEWS LETTER.

A warm welcome, to all our shed members for this July edition of our NEWS LETTER, we are pleased to advise you in the first instance that we have our Larry as a contributor to this month's edition.

Larry kindly agreed to write up and provide photographs of the project that he handled at the shed, with the assistance of a few of our skilful shedders, here is the story:-

LARRY'S RANGER PROJECT

For more than a year I have been setting up the canopy on the back of my Ford Ranger for outback touring. And now the project is nearing completion.

The project was made possible with valuable assistance from members of Umina Beach Men's Shed;- Fritz carried out endless fabrication jobs making shelving, storage racks, mounting brackets and multiple bits'n pieces, never once saying no to my requests. Fritz also carried out modifications on our camping trailer that will make it more manageable when touring. David contributed with the various wiring jobs, in particular the auxiliary battery and charger feeding the electrical distribution board mounted in the canopy to power the Engle fridge and camp lights. This allows the starter battery to remain fully charged when we're camped. Ray assisted with the plumbing for the under body water tank. Lionel constructed the 5-drawer pantry unit that will keep the kitchen organised and Mrs Larry happy. Along the way Rob and Doug assisted by machining up sundry bits and pieces, and Bill Wood, Vic and Geoffrey threw their hands into the project as well. I'm sure that there are others who have contributed along the way that I have not mentioned, and I apologise for the oversight.

Along the way there has been lively discussions with various blokes displaying interest and making suggestions relating to our set-up and where we're going. There has been endless talk about the pros and cons of various makes of touring vehicles, and various improvements that can be carried out.

My wife is my travelling companion and we are off on a 21 day trip thru Western Queensland on 14th September. Thanks guys for everything that everyone has contributed to get us on our way, and to be comfortable and self sufficient.



Whilst we are certainly in the winter season judging by the early morning temperatures, our "early morning member" Fred De Luca is hard at the preparation of our garden beds for the onset of the spring season.



Still talking gardening – how about these for a "couple of wall flowers!" – look closely past our two members and look at those beautiful plants flowering in the sunshine, when you think that these plants were rescued from a house throw out, and have been cared for by a few of our shedders – it makes the rescue all worthwhile.



Doug Hair, the quiet fellow who sits in the corner of the office! Has provided a new service for our members, you will remember he was behind the introduction of a computer terminal into the kitchen area, so that members had quick and easy access to the internet. He has now developed and provided a series of "how to " detailed instruction disks on a broad range of topics /items. E.g. *"from firewood to an \$80 bowl"* – *"best way to set up a band saw"* – *"forgotten joinery techniques"* – *"how to make a wedged mortise and tenon"* – to-date Doug has covered a range of 43 topics by patiently searching the net and down loading suitable /interesting topics. So next time you are in the kitchen area making a cuppa – take time to view a disk or two.



We had a call from the Vietnam Veterans at Ettalong, apparently during an office changeover one of their treasured pictures 'spirit of Anzac' had suffered severe damage to its frame after falling off a wall. Bill Wood agreed to take on the project of restoring the artwork, which involved him making new frame work sections and restoring the frame work colour etc. When he arranged the return of completed job back to the Ettalong office he also very thoughtfully included a gyprock anchor [picture frame fixture] to avoid a repetition of the damage. Needless to say the Vets were very pleased to get their picture back in such a smart and fitting condition.

At the shed



At the Vets



Our big band saw took on a new challenge this month, being ably managed by Robert M, seen here cutting a precision job with the base platform adjusted to a high angle to obtain the required angles on the finished cut.



Lionel B is normally seen being busy around the Shed involved in “large heavy duty type projects” but here we see him busy with a small /finite task for another member, setting and squaring up a tiny frame for a picture.



Whilst on a trip back from the Hunter Valley Bill W and some other members were presented with a couple of beautiful wine barrels [unfortunately, empty ones!] but they are now being converted into tables for the “Bunnings - sit out” area. Merv is seen here preparing to varnish one of the barrels prior to the top being affixed.



Russell is rapidly becoming our small engine whizzer – whipper snipers /chain saws /lawnmowers etc- he is capable of conducting a serious autopsy within minutes of its arrival at the front gate! Russell, Bill, Fritz, Geoff are seen here discussing the findings of the latest opening up of a machine patient.



For a change we thought we would show a quick glimpse of the team in the office, the motto of our Shed being "THE LITTLE SHED WITH THE BIG HEART" well here we see the electronic – E Hub of your Shed along with the lads who normally reside there.



Before we close this news letter, let's have a mention on the ongoing topic of men's health, the Australian Men's Shed Association has a valuable web site amongst many that offer very accessible information /assistance in regard to the physical /mental health of males. If you, or you know somebody that is struggling with health issues and have difficulty accessing these sites or that sort of information – just stop by the little office at our Shed and we will try and connect you to the site /source you are looking for. We all need to look out for each other – until the next new s letter – happy shedding.

Bill G, Vic B. Larry S.