

## **UMINA BEACH MEN'S SHED Inc FEBRUARY 2020 NEWS LETTER.**

Hi and a warm welcome to our February NEWSLETTER - what with Hot Cross buns having been on sale since early January and members talking about the travel plans etc for the Easter school Holiday time is certainly moving quickly.

We have enjoyed quite a lot of activities in and around the Shed and Peninsula this month.

The Umina library asked us to attend a Seniors briefing morning at the Library courtyard. There were several exhibitors from various interested institutions - Doug H represented the Shed and provided his laptop presentation along with a couple of our "cut away working items" whilst Les took down a supply of carefully prefabricated tool boxes, which he assembled on site with the visitors. Seen here is Doug in action and Les who is certainly holding the interest and attention of a mum and young daughter.



It's always interesting to see various members, move quietly away from their "traditional Skill" and set about something completely different, to help the Shed or make something for a friend or neighbour. Here we see "whipper/snipper" - Russell fabricating a couple of mobile planter boxes on the cold saw preparing the steel lengths and then after the welding, spray painting.



Our "third Monday of the month" BBQ was a cracker, really well attended, great fellowship and good food, Harvey arrived early in the morning so Bill G persuaded him to take up the "onion challenge" – hey, it's only a very small kitchen and to peel and slice enough onions to meet the demand of 30 plus Shedders –tends to get up your nostrils - well done Harvey! Whilst it hard to find a comfortable seat for everybody at these BBQ days the food and humour [we are sure you agree] make for a very enjoyable morning.



Then, similar to the above activity, here we have 'Sparky' Garry right into a session with a flymo, what a beautiful job of cleaning it up and really detailing the item.





O.K. back to traditional skills and one which we didn't think we had within the team, but when a "Bentwood chair" came in requiring a refit of the wicker seat, Mr Google was contacted and a quick refresher undertaken, then Les and the boys tackled the project with confidence.



Our local State M.P. Ms Liesl Tesch called in at the Shed the other day and joined many of the lads for a morning Cuppa around the table of knowledge, lots of interesting discussions and interactions. Our local Zone of AMSA Sheds [no 8] is involved with Wires and Bunnings in making Possum boxes to relieve some of the post bush fire dilemma's occurring for these animals around the country.





Ms Tesch was enquiring about the progress of that item and also another involvement that the Shed has in making a quantity of bird nesting boxes in a prefabricated format for the local Joey's [scouts] to assemble and paint. Several members of our Shed visited the Gosford Shed organized by the Zone leader – where the Possum Box project for Wires was discussed and is planned toward being an individual Shed project.





The Ocean Beach Surf Club approached us for assistance in adapting one of their trailers to a specific design of theirs to better accommodate moving certain equipment from the storage area onto the beach and patrol zones. Wally, Warren and Jeff took on the project, and given all the preparation work carried out at the Shed beforehand, when the trailer actually arrived at the Shed, it was able to be returned at the end of the morning, all complete. Well done lads!



Knock, knock," Hello, do you think your Men's Shed could fix this much loved and long time owned toy for me?" Just one of the many calls/visits we get from time to time. Well this little "road runner" did not stay long in our pit service area – the boys gave it a quick make over and it headed back onto the track!



Rudolph beavers away at home as well as at the Shed, here are the garden seats, now delivered to the community gardens, ingeniously crafted out of some existing single seats that have extensions and beautifully painted. If you look closely you will see that he has provided drain holes on the seats so as to prevent rain water pooling on the seat. We are all wondering how he moved the seats from his place to the community garden?!



The media is full of comments regarding the Coronavirus and it all sounds like very far away from a Central Coast problem. The fact is the governments here in Australia and overseas are doing what they can to combat and contain this threat, but sensibly we cannot simply leave it to them. Let us all be aware and active, hand washing, no handshakes etc and when this year's anti -flu vaccinations become available, make sure we get in early etc! In this week's Peninsula News [edition 489] there is a full page advert headed **Don't turn your back on hearing loss.** Now it is an advert for Peninsula Hearing Shop and No we are not promoting their services but simply wishing to draw every body's attention to "**Induced hearing loss is preventable!**" but, we still have members who shy away from or ignore the use of Muffs and Plugs. The damage that noise induced hearing loss causes is irreversible and we need to realise that an existing condition can easily worsen by not taking precautions and being subjected to machinery noise ... come on now take good care of yourself and the other members.

Well, that brings us to the end of another edition, we hope you found it interesting and enjoyable reading, until the next time -- happy shedding.

Bill G and Vic B