

7 Sept /2020 UBMSI Newsletter - August

Good day to all our Shed Members/ sponsors and supporters and welcome to this August Edition of monthly newsletter. Hopefully everybody has stayed safe during this ongoing pandemic and is staying active, albeit around the home. What with the state borders being closed and no international travel most retirees life styles have certainly changed!

Looking out across the world it would appear that we will all still have to be patient and careful for a period ahead –as right at this moment there does not appear to be a fix or a vaccine on the screen yet! We only have to look at the incidents similar to New Zealand where after a very clear run –the virus suddenly makes a return visit. As we all know our Shed is still closed and we are all pretty frustrated by its closure – but the reality is, such closures are keeping our members, family and community safer than they otherwise would be.

We understandably don't have a lot of news or stories for the newsletter – but let's see what we do have! The **BIG NEWS** is that your new Shed project has moved onto an important stage, we are delighted to advise you that The Central Coast Council formally advised us on the 6th August that the Development Application for your new Shed at Osborne Av Umina has been approved. Now don't let's get over excited at the news there is still a great deal of work to be done in order for us to obtain a construction certificate before we can effectively start any work on the site and of course we still have a lot of fundraising to achieve. But we are moving in the right direction and of course our existing Shed will remain our home base for quite some time once the virus restrictions are lifted etc.

Bill G got a phone call from our member Sam Pansare who proceeded to tell Bill that he and his wife had been very involved in making a short movie , in fact you may recall a project handled by Lionel B and Bill I and others which involved making a “wooden barrow” to a specific design for this actual movie. Apparently the true story behind the movie is about “Iron Man” Jim Shaw who pushed a loaded wheelbarrow across the Australian desert and became a legend. He took the risk and sacrifice for the sake of wealth.

The movie is titled Opals: Fire in the Desert –The Incredible Journey.

[<https://tij.tv/shows/opals-fire-in-the-desert/>]

So here we see the barrow in action – created at UBMSI Birdwood Av Umina out there in the desert doing the job it was built for -



Opals: Fire in the Desert



Opals: Fire in the Desert



Opals: Fire in the Desert

One of our correspondents and committee member Larry S took a little trip out of town a few weeks ago and was kind enough to take a couple of pics and write up a short note about where and how. [don't forget - we would be pleased to receive any materials of interest to our members to put in the newsletter} so over to Larry:-

Apsley River Trip. – *I recently had the opportunity to practice social distancing over three nights on the banks of the Apsley River. The campsite is located 50 Kms east of Walcha within the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park, below Apsley Falls.*

We're all aware of the devastation caused to our National Parks by the bushfires earlier in the year, but it was heartbreaking to notice firsthand the decline in wildlife activity. Only

one solitary wallaby, one goanna and sparse flock of cockatoos visited the camp. There were no insects, bees or reptiles about.

Recent rains have washed bushfire charcoal into the river killing fish and aquatic wildlife, and with vast tracks of ground cover having been destroyed by the fire bare top soil has also been washed in causing massive silting of the river.

The early morning weather was brisk, but with appropriate clothing and sleeping gear it wasn't a concern. A yummy meal of meat and veggies roasted in the camp oven for dinner and bacon and eggs on the hotplate for breakfast kept us in good fettle.



Your committee is still meeting on a once a month basis and due to social distancing requirements our Shed was too limited so we held our June meeting on the site at Osborne av - out in the fresh air – it was chilly to say the least. Our future neighbours The PCYC actually saw the seven of us sitting out around long table on the site and later invited us to hold our meeting in one of their big meeting/training rooms – so that's what we did for the July and August meeting.

This photo was taken on the site at Osborne Av after the July meeting.



The next two photo's are very simply of the citrus trees at the Shed, whilst the raised garden beds at the Shed are naturally showing some signs of neglect with no members there to tender them – the citrus have survived the end of summer and winter months without much TLC and are now full of blossom and early signs of fruiting.



No doubt you will have received the notification of the Shed's Annual General Meeting scheduled for Monday 21 Sept being held at Brick Wharf Woy Woy – so that social distancing and co-vid 19 protocols can be observed. Members will need to bring their own chairs, log in, sanitize and maintain social distancing etc. Tea and coffee will be provided. Bill S our Treasurer will be on hand with his receipt book should you take the opportunity to renew /update your membership for the 2020 /21 year.

Bill Ide our welfare officer has been out and about making contact with lots of our members – if by chance you haven't spoken with Bill Ide for say 3 months – he most likely has been trying to make contact with you – so why not give him a quick call, his mob no is 0401 497 157. With us all not attending the Shed on a regular basis we need to stay connected – so a quick call to let him know **U.R. O.K.** - will be very much appreciated.

A.M.S.A that being the Australian Men's Shed Association have been working hard during this Covid 19 period .For instance they have been producing a fortnightly Radio podcast and in our view they are well worth a listen – normally there are features / issues which would likely appeal /be interest to all of us. Episode 4 season 2 came out Sept 3 so the next will be Thursday 17 Sept – to pick them up mensshed.org/theshedwireless. Apple podcast. They also have a very active web site again with heaps of great articles and coverage of Shed matters –

mensshed.org/theshedonline . The wireless sessions last for about 1.5 hrs but because of the topics and interest factors etc the time seems to fly past – so if you haven't had a listen in – why not give a go!

Well that brings us to the end of this month's newsletter – stay safe and let's keep in touch.

Best regards
Bill G and Vic B

