

September 2020 UBMSI NEWSLETTER

A warm welcome to this edition of the Newsletter - given that our Shed is still closed due to the virus restrictions we won't, unfortunately, be able to chat about recent projects in this edition.

Firstly a big 'thank you' to the 30 plus members who attended our Covid-controlled Annual General Meeting held at the Brick Wharf Park in Woy Woy on Monday 21 September. Secondly, a thank you to all the attendees for maintaining and observing the social distancing requirements etc whilst at the meeting. Hopefully, we were all able to hear the speakers deliver their comments regarding their annual reports, which we were able to view in hard copy etc.

It was announced that your Committee was considering the possibility of re-opening the Shed in early November on the proviso that the Virus incidents continued to fall away and restrictions being softened etc. The view at this point in time, based on the size of the operating areas of our current Shed, that as and when we do re-open there will be a daily limit on attendance – so bookings and rotation of days etc are envisaged – simply to give everybody that's keen to return “a safe and fair go” opportunity.

Your committee will be back in touch during this month [Oct] with the plans etc regarding a re-opening – also the members that advised Vic B that they were available to assist with a programmed Shed clean up – section by section, will likely get a call over the next week or so to plan suitable dates/days for this exercise to be undertaken.

Before we leave the AGM, thanks also go to the lads that sent in their apologies on being unable to attend the meeting; it greatly assists in controlling/planning the overall attendance – again to meet the restrictions etc. Finally, but perhaps best of all, it was really great to see the facial interactions, “elbow greetings” and fellowship being shared as our members arrived at the meeting area. It will certainly be good when we can meet up and share time at the Shed on a regular basis again.





Well, here we are in October after 8-9 months of world-wide Covid activity - fortunately with Australia now moving into the spring and summer season, it would seem that the virus thankfully does not travel as well in the heat than it does in the cooler times. So with the controls that the government [State and Federal] have had in place, the notable reduction across Australia of actual new cases of the virus, the future, health wise, whilst still challenging - looks optimistic.

However, next week the new Federal budget 2020/21 is to be announced, and when one thinks about the funds that the Feds and States have poured into

trying to limit, counteract, the virus the potential for an upcoming financial challenge is a somewhat natural bi-product of such a potent virus. The creation of job keeper/job seeker/assistance to our airlines/hotel costs for incoming overseas travellers put in isolation, plus all the effects of the lockdowns/staff layoffs /business downturns – just to mention a few of the costs.

Sooner or later the government of the day will have to take steps to re-set the economy and government debt levels. So one would think as 'oldies/retirees' we will have think and try and plan well ahead. It would be seemingly unlikely given the predicament that any segment of the national community will be left unaffected in a push to return to a stabilized and balanced economy. The good news is/was! that prior to the arrival of the virus our economy was in a pretty good shape – so the damage is likely a lot less here, relatively, than in a great many other countries.

The good factor is that the number of deaths here as a percentage of population is considered as low due to the measures taken and the general awareness of the public.

So, given that we are still above ground and its spring, the clocks will go forward soon – 12 weeks to Xmas, we just have to be conscious and as ready as possible for the likely upcoming financial challenges originating from the costs of fighting this virus. Sooner or later they will be with us.

Well, after that somewhat gloomy sector a little bit of health and humour before we close this edition



**I told my suitcases
that there will be no
vacation this year.
Now I'm dealing with
emotional baggage.**

**PRETTY WILD HOW
WE USED TO EAT
CAKE AFTER
SOMEONE HAD
BLOWN ON IT...
GOOD TIMES...**

So, to all the members who are busy with grandparent duties over the next couple weeks, stay calm and enjoy - and that brings us to the close of this month's Newsletter.

Best regards and stay safe and we look forward to returning to happy shedding!

Bill G and Vic B



News Letter

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