

## **December 2020 – Umina Beach Men's Shed Inc NEWSLETTER.**

Welcome, to the last of this year's monthly Newsletters and suffice to say the challenges created by the virus pandemic continue to roll out! Just a few days ago, in fact the weekend of the 19/20, the restrictions concerning the virus were significantly increased for greater Sydney and the Central Coast.

Your committee had to quickly take a decision in regard to the planned Xmas BBQ for Monday 21 December, in the best interests of all [members /neighbours /guests etc] and to comply with the new standing regulations, the BBQ was cancelled. Mrs Stedy was out at the supermarket shopping for our BBQ and was just short of approaching the check-out counter with a trolley load of fresh bread, onions, salad ingredients etc when her mobile went off! It was he husband Bill Stedy who quickly asked "what stage are you at with the shopping?" being told all done and loaded into the trolley! "Oh good" he said – with the BBQ now cancelled Christine then had to turn around and deliver all the items back to the shelves.

On behalf of us all at the Shed "a big thank you Christine" for all your hard work that you do throughout the year, all in the background of your husband Bill, in supporting our Shed.



Hopefully you will all have heard that the Sheds - daily attendance limit of 12 members is back, and bookings are essential, this is to meet the current regulations. It is likely as we move forward into 2021 that the regulations will change and with the arrival of vaccines etc progress will be made against the virus. But when looking at the global status, in Australia and particularly NSW we are seemingly very fortunate. But the message we are hearing from all quarters is - we have to keep up our awareness and observance of the standards and regulations to contain and ultimately defeat this virus – the regulations will change overtime – hopefully more in the off direction than on.

You know the old saying "life goes on" well we had an approach from the members of the Dementia team at the Peninsula Village who were looking for a "modified lawn mower" as part of their "in house" equipment. The level of modification was discussed and explained to our member Russell – who set about to meet the requirements, no cylinder compression, no sharp edges or blades, seal off, after cleaning out the fuel tank, remove oil residues followed by a comprehensive clean and detail carried out by Bill S. When all that was done, Russell then undertook the final challenge, that was to remove the ignition "spark"- now a lot of his time at the Shed is with mowers and whipper snippers, actually looking for their spark in order to get them fired up and running. He can be seen here in deep thought, on the floor with the mower, trying to work out how to safely nullify the generator when the pull start was activated, as is usual for Russell –he worked it out! So an old retired mower had a rework and a facelift and is off for new life as something basically like a thought stimulator – here we see Bill S delivering the mower to the Village.



Believe it or not Bill I. Our vice President who always appears to have a very busy life not only at the Shed and its broader involvement with the community, but also his many other interests and commitments, that, take him all over the place. Well now he has decided that after hours and in down time he wants to work at home in his garage. But he needed to get his bench refurbished and has been waiting for Wally D to return to the Shed –Bill and Wally worked out the detail and the job Bill wanted was delivered by Wally –chop chop.



Our Shed has been up and running for over 8 years now and in response to requests from members and also somewhat in preparation for life in the new Shed, the need to conduct and deliver training sessions on for example, wood turning and wood crafts, metal turning, welding, home I.T. usage, keeping up with smart phone capabilities and usage, being certified and capable on various machines to undertake specific projects. This is just a handful of various requests ideas that have been put forward over time. We also need additional gardeners to step production of vegies and herbs etc and to get the beds back to looking loved and productive. Now if you, or if you know someone outside the Shed, who could deliver and enjoy delivering and teaching, passing on specific skills and knowledge please talk with Bill G.

This editions members Health topic is “ladders” – statistics clearly indicate that:- ***Around the home, ladders are linked to more DIY deaths and serious injuries than any other product.***

Those most at risk are: **males over 60 years of age!** So, fellow members please be well aware of the stats and make every conscious effort possible not to become a part of the statistics yourself. Come on now –surely there are enough challenges these days just in everyday life to keep us alert and or stressed without undertaking factually proven high

risk behaviours – such as climbing and working on ladders! Get help from a younger friend or relative or bite the bullet and hire a tradesperson to fix the problem.



Our correspondent Larry S has provided this interesting and informative article for inclusion in this month's newsletter :-

*A survey released in 2019 by the Australian Bureau of Statistics revealed these quick statistics :-*

- *Petrol was the most commonly used fuel at 51.4% and was predominantly used by passenger and light commercial vehicles. Diesel was the second most used fuel at 45.8% and was predominantly used by light commercial vehicles and articulated trucks.*
- *The average passenger vehicle had an average fuel consumption of 10.8 litres per 100 kilometres.*
- *The average motorcycle had an average fuel consumption of 5.8 litres per 100 kilometres.*
- *The average light commercial vehicle had an average fuel consumption of 12.5 litres per 100 kilometres.*
- *The Australian Automotive Association (AAA) estimates the average weekly fuelcost to be just under \$69 a week, amounting to \$3500 a year.*

*So, next time you're contemplating your cars fuel consumption on your way to the Shed ponder these quick statistics :-*

- *The M1 Abrams Military Tank guzzles fuel at 392 L/100 km*
- *a V8 Supercar inhales around 80 litres of E85 race fuel every 100km.*
- *F1 cars have a fuel consumption rating of around 46l per 100 kms*
- *a road train might consume between 55 & 70L/100km, depending on size & load.*

*Thanks Larry that certainly gives us a few things to think about!*





Now back to the Shed, one of our supporters came by the Shed and asked if it were possible that an old but very cherished model yacht, that had suffered damage whilst being transferred to join the family, could be revived. It's mast was snapped and the rigging was in a clutter. Bill I took care of the project after consulting with a friend of his, who just happened to be a keen model maker – and there is the restored craft -much to the delight of the owners family.



The lads out back of the Shed have a project underway making two “Street Library Stalls” for a local community organization – number 1 unit is underway and in the early stages, Jeff S is seen here sanding off the sharp edges on the outside of the structure.



Members multi tasking is always great to witness – now normally Geoff G is associated with panel and paint type projects – but today! He, is on a mission to refurbish and resize some elegant wooden legs using a wood turning lathe, creating a new look and design for them to improve the look of the overall finished item.



Well it's about that time for us to wrap –up this edition and get ready for the arrival of 2021. We all know the challenges and strife that has existed all over the world in 2020 – but hopefully during the course of 2021 –life will head back to what was thought to be “more normal”. Our view is that patience and staying well within the rules will need to be observed, as we think you will all agree – we still have a long way to go and achieve in the Co-vid contest.

Your committee will continue to keep you informed in regard to the changing procedures for Shed operating etc as they are realigned to meet the rules issued by NSW Health etc.

So now, it's fitting for us scribes to wish all our members, sponsors and readers a healthy, happy and safe 2021, 1442/43 or 5781/82 [ whichever is the actual year for you] .

Best wishes

Bill G, Larry S. Vic B

