



# News Channel



June 2016

## Vale Don & Gwen Hazell

As most of you would already be aware, our Patron Don Hazell past away during June, just a few days after the passing of his beloved wife Gwen.

The memorial service held at the Wrest Point Casino and which was overflowing with attendees — a testament to a man who was always well respected in the community as a genuine and sincere person. The following is an excerpt from a letter sent to Don's family from the Shed.



*“As Patron of our “Shed” Donald gave freely of his time to assist and encourage us in our development and maintained a close mentoring role once the Shed was opened. He was very proud to learn of our growth in membership numbers and reminded us often of our need for a bigger Shed. He was right of course and was delighted to learn only a few weeks ago that we had received Federal Government funding for the building of a mezzanine floor extension within the Shed.”*

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**Don't cry over the past, it's gone.**

**Don't stress about the future, it hasn't arrived.**

**Live in the present and make it beautiful.**

### Future Events & Activities

Tuesdays & Thursdays	Music Appreciation Group	Committee Meeting
Hava Cuppa at the Shed – read more on this on page 2 of this edition	21 July — 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you need more information, contact Bruce Laffer.	26 July - starting at 2:00 p.m., attendance is open to members
Shed Health Day	Monthly Shed BBQ	In-House Computer Training
28 July starting at 1:00 p.m. More info is provided on page 2 of this edition	28 July — the last Thursday in the month is the normal day for the Shed BBQ, starting around 3:30 p.m.	The 1st Friday of each month - starts around 10:00 a.m. Ross Thomas provides support on any IT issue.

On 28<sup>th</sup> July we have the Shed's "Health Day", which like last year, will be followed by the Shed BBQ.

Starting at 1:00 p.m., we will have medical practitioners from different fields providing advice and / or tests on various ailments / problems. The practitioners are:

- ◆ Kiah Wicks – hearing tests in their sound-proof bus by Australian Hearing
- ◆ Dr. Natasha Litjens – our local GP from Margate Clinic
- ◆ Josh Miller – an exercise physiologist from Healthy Training
- ◆ Sonya & others— "Kingston LINC"ing up to health issues.
- ◆ Heather Kennett – diabetes and a coach on health & well-being
- ◆ Karen Forster / Bernice James from Cancer Screening, Tasmanian Health Services



Bookings are required for the hearing tests and for those who attended last year, you'll be able to compare those results with this year's test.



## SHED CUPPA AND SANGA?

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS from 10:00AM



Over the past couple of weeks, we have had quite a few members turning up for morning tea / coffee at



the shed. It provides a social environment where

blokes can grab a toasted bacon sandwich (if you are on a free-range diet) a cuppa, biscuits etc. and join in on a general chinwag. There is usually newspaper available and it is 50 cents for a cuppa or \$2 for the full Monty. If you are not presently involved in a specific project, but fancy a bit of company, there is room for you at the table. You are welcome to come and join us. Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am seems to be the best days at present - so pop in and say hello!



Want to know more about it, then send you queries / comments to Peter Alexis either on his by mobile: 0417 487 488 or to his email [email-ments@gmail.com](mailto:ments@gmail.com)

## CWA Pergola Repairs

You may recall in an earlier edition of the Channel News, Heiko de Groot was involved in assessing the cost of repairs to a pergola at the CWA's holiday house in Snug. Well the approval to proceed has been received from the CWA and Heiko is undertaking the role of Project Leader for the work.

Heiko is asking members to register their interest in assisting with this worthy cause, which helps many disadvantaged families within Tasmania. The project plan is to have five working bees, as follows:

### Working Bee 1

- Remove the existing lattice work from the pergola roof and side panels
- Water blast the pergola structure and the picnic table
- Assess the pergola and picnic table structures and review the remainder of the work
- Order and scrounge all materials

### Working Bee 2

- Cut 70 x 21 screening timber to length and screw it to the side panels
- Repair the picnic table including replacement of a brace
- Bog in the pergola and picnic table

### Working Bee 3

- Sand the pergola and picnic table and apply the first coat of acrylic paint

### Working Bee 4

- Apply second coat of acrylic paint to the pergola and picnic table

### Working Bee 5

- Cut Colour Bond sheeting and fasten it to the roof structure



Heiko says that Friday the 8 July 2016 would be a good starting date, with the aim to have the work completed by Friday 19 August 2016.

**If you can provide your skills or just provide your able hands towards the project, please register your interest with Heiko by email at: [heikoandbess@bigpond.com](mailto:heikoandbess@bigpond.com)**

## In-House Computer Training

Regular computer training is provided by Ross Thomas on the "first Friday of the month". There are no specific topics as it was decided some time back to keep the session for people who wanted to show up and ask questions on ANYTHING to do with their IT needs.



So far this has worked well, and each month we have had people show up with all sorts of queries and problems.

Ross is at the Shed from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. every first Friday of each month.



## Kingston LINC Computer Courses

Kingston LINC computing skills courses are extremely popular. They are regular scheduling 10 courses per month including community classes and U3A courses.



We are very fortunate to have Kingston LINC offer to run an outreach program once a month program for members of the Channel Men's Shed. The main trainer will be Graeme Ingram, a recent retiree, with 30 years experience in the telecommunications industry and an experienced computer and tablet user. He will be assisted by a Kingston High School student in the program and this really shows intergenerational learning at its best.

Please see below their suggested programs for September to December. We'd like an indication if this program is of interest to members so Kingston LINC can organise it for us.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
August 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Keep your Brain in Shape</b> Great apps you can use to keep your grey matter challenged and healthy.	Greg Bain (LINC staff)
September 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Intro to using My GOV</b> MyGOV is used for health, Centrelink, tax office and more. Find out a bit more about this program.	Graeme Ingram (LINC volunteer)
October 21 <sup>st</sup> (show week)	<b>Getting the most out of your emails.</b> Some handy hints to keep your communications	Graeme Ingram
November 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Catch up TV</b> Learn how to watch TV on your device or computer and have a play around with some apps.	Graeme Ingram
December 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Using Skype / What's App / Facetime to keep in touch</b> Free programs you can use to keep in touch at	Graeme Ingram

### You can book into each course by using the following on-line links:

19 August—Keep your Brain in Shape

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/computing-and-technology-classes-channel-mens-shed-tickets-26387538839](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/computing-and-technology-classes-channel-mens-shed-tickets-26387538839)

16 September - Intro to using MyGov

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/computing-and-technology-classes-channel-mens-shed-tickets-26387539842](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/computing-and-technology-classes-channel-mens-shed-tickets-26387539842)

21 October — Getting the most out of emails

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/computing-and-technology-classes-channel-mens-shed-tickets-26387540845](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/computing-and-technology-classes-channel-mens-shed-tickets-26387540845)

18 November — Catch Up TV

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/computing-and-technology-classes-channel-mens-shed-tickets-26387541848](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/computing-and-technology-classes-channel-mens-shed-tickets-26387541848)

16 December — Using SKYPE, FaceTime and What's App to keep in touch

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/computing-and-technology-classes-channel-mens-shed-tickets-26387542851](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/computing-and-technology-classes-channel-mens-shed-tickets-26387542851)

### The Difference Between Men and Women

Let's say a guy named Fred is attracted to a woman named Elaine. He asks her out to a movie, she accepts; they have a pretty good time. A few nights later he asks her out to dinner, and again they enjoy themselves. They continue to see each other regularly, and after a while neither one of them is seeing anybody else.

And then, one evening when they're driving home, a thought occurs to Elaine, and, without really thinking, she says it aloud: "Do you realize that, as of tonight, we've been seeing each other for exactly six months?" And then there is silence in the car.

To Elaine, it seems like a very loud silence. She thinks to herself: Geez, I wonder if it bothers him that I said that. Maybe he's been feeling confined by our relationship, maybe he thinks I'm trying to push him into some kind of obligation that he doesn't want, or isn't sure of.

And Fred is thinking: Gosh. Six months.

And Elaine is thinking: But, hey, I'm not so sure I want this kind of relationship, either. Sometimes I wish I had a little more space, so I'd have time to think about whether I really want us to keep going the way we are, moving steadily toward... I mean, where are we going? Are we just going to keep seeing each other at this level of intimacy? Are we heading toward marriage? Toward children? Toward a lifetime together? Am I ready for that level of commitment? Do I really even know this person?

And Fred is thinking: ... so that means it was ... let's see... February when we started going out, which was right after I had the car at the dealer's, which means... lemme check the odometer... Whoa! I am way overdue for an oil change here.

And Elaine is thinking: He's upset. I can see it on his face. Maybe I'm reading this completely wrong. Maybe he wants more from our relationship, more intimacy, more commitment, maybe he has sensed -- even before I sensed it -- that I was feeling some reservations. Yes, I bet that's it. That's why he's so reluctant to say anything about his own feelings. He's afraid of being rejected.

And Fred is thinking: And I'm gonna have them look at the transmission again. I don't care what those morons say, it's still not shifting right. And they better not try to blame it on the cold weather this time. What cold weather? It's 30 degrees out, and this thing is shifting like a garbage truck, and I paid those incompetent thieves \$600.

And Elaine is thinking: He's angry. And I don't blame him. I'd be angry, too. I feel so guilty, putting him through this, but I can't help the way I feel. I'm just not sure.

And Fred is thinking: They'll probably say it's only a 90-day warranty... scumballs.

And Elaine is thinking: Maybe I'm just too idealistic, waiting for a knight to come riding up on his white horse, when I'm sitting right next to a perfectly good person, a person I enjoy being with, a person I truly do care about, a person who seems to truly care about me. A person who is in pain because of my self-centred, schoolgirl romantic fantasy.

And Fred is thinking: Warranty? They want a warranty? I'll give them a warranty. I'll take their warranty and stick it right up their...

"Fred," Elaine says aloud.

"What?" says Fred, startled.

"Please don't torture yourself like this," she says, her eyes beginning to brim with tears. "Maybe I should never have... Oh God, I feel so..." (She breaks down, sobbing.)

"What?" says Fred.

"I'm such a fool," Elaine sobs. "I mean, I know there's no knight. I really know that. It's silly. There's no knight, and there's no horse."

"There's no horse?" says Fred.

"You think I'm a fool, don't you?" Elaine says.

"No!" says Fred, glad to finally know the correct answer.

"It's just that ... it's that I... I need some time," Elaine says. (There is a 15-second pause while Fred, thinking

as fast as he can, tries to come up with a safe response. Finally he comes up with one that he thinks might work.) "Yes," he says.

(Elaine, deeply moved, touches his hand.) "Oh, Fred, do you really feel that way?" she says.

"What way?" says Fred .

"That way about time," says Elaine.

"Oh," says Fred. "Yes."

(Elaine turns to face him and gazes deeply into his eyes, causing him to become very nervous about what she might say next, especially if it involves a horse. At last she speaks.)

"Thank you, Fred," she says.

"Thank you," says Fred.

Then he takes her home, and she lies on her bed, a conflicted, tortured soul, and weeps until dawn, whereas when Fred gets back to his place, he opens a bag of Doritos, turns on the TV, and immediately becomes deeply involved in a re-run of a tennis match between two Czechoslovakians he never heard of. A tiny voice in the far recesses of his mind tells him that something major was going on back there in the car, but he is pretty sure there is no way he would ever understand what, and so he figures it's better if he doesn't think about it.

The next day Elaine calls her closest friends and they talk about this situation for six hours. In painstaking detail, they analyze everything she said and everything he said, going over it time and time again, exploring every word, expression, and gesture for nuances of meaning, considering every possible ramification. They will continue to discuss this subject, off and on, for weeks, maybe months, never reaching any definite conclusions, but never getting bored with it, either.

Meanwhile, Fred , while playing racquetball one day with a mutual friend of his and Elaine's, paused just before serving, then frown and say: "Norm, did Elaine ever own a horse?"

**And that's the difference between men and women.**

### Mezzanine Floor

Structural materials have been delivered to the Shed for the construction of the mezzanine floor. Some disruption to Shed activities will be experienced during the work, which is expected to last a some months, so please be understanding of the need for having a safe work environment and be patient. After all, you can't have an omelette without broken egg shells.

If you recall, funding for the work was received by way of a grant through the federally funded Stronger Communities Program within the Franklin electorate.



## MEMBERS' MEETING BRIEFS

The Members' Meeting was held following the Shed's Committee Meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> May. Here is a summary of the meeting and actions taken.

### Minutes of Committee Meetings

It was stated that the method of communicating with the members was not a fluid system and whilst some information from Committee Meetings is provided to members via the newsletter, it is not the complete set of minutes. Only a few members at the meeting registered an interest in receiving the minutes of Committee Meetings.

The policy of the Committee has always been for the minutes to be available within the Shed for members who are interested to read them and that some of the information in the minutes was confidential.

Suggestions were made to:

- establish an email list of members who wanted the minutes and they could receive a modified version, and
- modify the minutes and place them on the website with a separate members' log-in section with password access.

The President stated both would additional effort on the part of the Secretary to establish and maintain and he already deals with so many other matters. It was agreed that this topic would be included in the agenda for the next [June] Committee Meeting.

### June Committee Meeting Notes

*This subject was raised at the June Committee Meeting and a unanimous decision was made to keep the status quo based on:*

- *the minutes are readily available to any member attending the Shed (with little or no demand for same);*
- *newsworthy decisions were advised by way of the monthly newsletter or, if of sufficient moment, by all points email; and*
- *all Committee Meetings are open to the attendance of all members in a non-voting capacity and this had some success.*

### Get Well Cards to Unwell Members

A member suggested sending out "get well" cards to un-well members. It was pointed out that it would be

difficult to know who was ill, as most members do not attend the Shed on a regular basis.

### Tall Tale Sessions

A member, who was a shed member in Victoria, said they regularly held morning tea sessions during which they told tales of their life experiences, tinged with tall tales. It was suggested that CMS try and start up regular morning tea times on Tuesdays and Thursdays, to get something going whereby men are mixing more with one another. This led to the idea of having a tin of biscuits available and "The Mercury" newspaper. Peter Alexis offered to fund the newspaper for the first 3 months on a trial basis and he would prepare an article for inclusion in this newsletter.

### Office White Board

Now that we have a training programme in place, the need for the white board is unnecessary, however it does demonstrate the extent of activities in the Shed to visitors and potential members.

### Shed Usage

What are the numbers of members using the Shed? The number of members using the Shed is not checked or recorded, because the sign-in sheets are only there in the event of an evacuation, to check that all people are out of the building. In general, use of the Shed is relatively low on any given day, but over the year, it is used by quite a few members and other groups. Fellowship is a key word that should not be forgotten nor underestimated.

### Melbourne Cup Event

Peter Alexis asked about having an event when the Melbourne Cup is run. The suggestion was well received and Peter will commence organizing it.

### Shed Garden

The garden is a Shed asset and, as has been reported in a previous newsletter, planting will commence with fruit trees, then a winter crop. Produce will be used to make soup for the Louis' Van and any balance can be purchased by members, with the income going to general Shed funds.

### Member's Profile

**Name:** Mervyn Robert Fox

**Birthplace:** Croydon, Surrey England

**Family:** Wife Angela, daughters Samantha, and Claire

**Places where you have lived:** Carshalton Surrey. Barlstone Warwickshire. Auckland NZ, Eastbourne Sussex, Cheam Surrey, Swindon Wiltshire, Cheltenham Wiltshire, Belgrave Victoria, plus a few.

**Educational background:** Secondary school I left when I was 15.

**Career progression:** My first job was in a factory making thermometers, decided to be an electrician when I was 16.5. Unfortunately in the early 1960s, to get an apprenticeship you had to be only 16, so had to go to night school for 3 years.

**Has anyone influenced you in your life / career and if so, why?** No-one.

**What the Shed means to you?** I have rediscovered my love of timber, I really love all the different Tassie species. Having a laugh with all the guys.

**What are your favourite sports and hobbies?** Football (with a round ball), cricket, rugby league, rugby union, woodworking projects.

### Margate's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Shed's open day was held on 25 June with attendance down from those anticipated as a result of the cancellation of the Junior Soccer (ground too wet for safe play). An estimated 50 to 60 visitors were shown through the shed, and about a dozen membership applications passed out. Thanks go to those members who put in an appearance and extended a welcome to our visitors.

The Hobart Vintage Machinery Association put on an excellent and varied (everything from a steam traction engine to taxi meters) display and proved first class guests most admiring of the Shed's facilities.

The Margate Fire Brigade had their present appliances and two museum pieces (one the original Margate truck) on display and, as usual created some sensation with their sirens.

