



News Channel



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**Too often,
too many
rely on too
few for too
much**

Issue 7

November 2015

What's Happening in The Shed?

Since we opened, there have been quite a few things happening in and around the Shed. You may not realise the extent of our involvement within the community and neither did we, until a document was put together to list them. Have a look at page 7 where examples are provided.

The funds for the garden project and the digital readout devices were received, so now work is under way and procurement is imminent.

Reconditioning of the engine for the Willys Overlander is nearing completion and body work is moving forward, but there are many other tasks ahead before last year's winner of the raffle prize of a ride in it can be conducted. Read Rueben Sternberg's article on the car's progress on page 8.

Max Employment training programme is about to enter it's 4th month of 6 months and they would like CMS to continue with another 6 month agreement.

Peter Shelley was re-elected as President of the Tasmanian Men's Shed Association and Graham Fogarty is the new Treasurer.

Another Member's Meeting was held on 27th October with improvements to communications being one of the topics.

A draft budget for 2016 is to be prepared and submitted to the November Committee Meeting for consideration.

Another training schedule is under preparation and will be sent to members when complete.

The defibrillator has been installed at the BP Service Station and fridge magnets are being distributed throughout the local community.

There are more details on various subjects on the following pages, so ... happy reading.

Newsletter Articles

If you have an article or information you consider worthy of being in the newsletter, please email your article and photos to:
secretary@channelmenshed.org.au

Mentoring Programme

Under the guidance and tutelage of Heiko de Groot, Max Brumby-Smith has been busy at the Shed making furniture for himself and his mother. You may have seen Max at the Shed, so here's a success story scribed by Heiko.

"Kingston High School has a Big Picture Program for third and fourth year students. The School gives students contact details of local businesses and organisations willing to provide them with one day a week internships or work experience. The students contact these organisations and the School then organises the contract paperwork for the successful students", said Max.

"Max completed a short mentoring program with me at the Shed late last year. Early this year Max approached me and asked if I would mentor him at the shed for the year, as part of the School's Big Picture Program. I agreed subject to the Committee's approval. The Committee gave the nod, the paperwork was completed and Max started at the Shed" said Heiko.



"I had just made the first of six bar stools at the Shed and suggested to Max that he also make some bar stools. After discussions with Max's Mum Bec, Max started on a project to make three bar stools. Max has now completed two bar stools and has parts cut for a third. Max is completing the final sanding of the first two stools as homework", said Heiko.

Max said, "Making three stools is good because I learn more each time and now know exactly what I am doing."

"Initially I supervised Max closely and did the more dangerous machine work for him. Max was soon using the bandsaw and docking saw on his own and the planer and thicknesser under close supervision. Max is now at the stage where he uses hand tools and small power tools on his own while I complete my own projects nearby. From the onset Max has demonstrated a natural ability as a trades assistant, holding pieces of wood, lending a hand as needed and cleaning up without being asked", explained Heiko.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the program and now have lots of experience in joinery including: measuring and marking, cutting accurately and getting a good finish. The members at the Shed have all been helpful and I am amazed at the range of skills that they can demonstrate. I am also pleased at the amount of work that I can now complete in a session", said Max.

"As a result of my experience, an apprenticeship in carpentry is now an option for me, however I will go on and complete years eleven and twelve at college to see what my other strengths are before making a decision", said Max.



"I am pleased that the Shed asked me to mentor Max. I have enjoyed working with him and seeing him progress. I thank my fellow Shed members for the help they have given me with instructing Max. I have also learned much in the process" said Heiko.

Grant Applications

The assets of the Shed do not mysteriously appear without some form of effort.

While many members are sitting back and enjoying the benefits the Shed has to offer, a huge amount of thanks goes to Bruce Weller for his involvement in preparing and submitting grant applications for the benefit of members. This is a time consuming task and each application has different requisites to be met, so each application is tailored to suit the donor organisation and the asset itself.

The Shed has been fortunate to have received about 85% of the grants applied for, which has contributed in no small way to keeping your membership fees to a very mediocre amount.

Recent applications, for which we are hopeful of receiving approval, are:

- An additional new stove in the kitchen to facilitate the making of soup for Loui's Van, operated by St Vincent de Paul Society. The application to the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal is for \$3,495
- A new gear driven pedestal drill for safer operation and speed control. The application to DPAC / TMSA is valued at \$4,122
- Our expression of interest to be invited to submit an application for the Stronger Communities Programme (Federal Government) was successful. The application was submitted in late October for almost \$15,000 to construct a new mezzanine level over the small engines and metal lathes sections. The Shed shall be contributing approximately \$17,000 of in-kind and actual costs towards the construction, so overall, the project has been estimated to be worth \$32,000.

We expect to hear something soon about the oven and drill applications, whereas the mezzanine application is likely to be decided in January 2016.

Thanks a heap for your efforts Bruce and other members who have provided various assistance through the each process.

Statewide Men's Shed Challenge

The Tasmanian Men's Shed Association (TMSA) has prepared a proposal for a challenge to all sheds in Tasmania to make things from pallets and is seeking to know the level of interest within sheds. This was discussed at our October Committee Meeting and received the support of those present. The aim of the challenge is to:

- provide an opportunity to demonstrate skills amongst the membership;
- foster better communications between sheds; and
- facilitate face-to-face discussions with the public, showing what sheds have to offer.



Once general agreement has been reached to proceed, details of the challenge will follow.

Annual Raffle

The annual raffle is conducted to raise funds for the Shed's operations and is underway again. Members have been, and continue to be, encouraged to assist by collecting books of tickets and selling them.

This fund raising venture is the "baby" of Lyndley Chopping, who has spent considerable time and effort raising prizes, confirming venues for the sale of tickets and arranging for tickets to be printed (with many thanks to Catryna Bilyk). Lyndley has also set out a schedule for members to assist with the selling of tickets at Channel Court Shopping Centre and at Clennett's Mitre 10. All positions have been filled, but there could be changes to the schedule so don't be shy about helping out when called upon, or better still, get in first and make yourself available.

The draw will be at the Christmas BBQ on 17th December 2015.

The prizes this year are:

- 1st \$500 Voucher for labour - car detailing or bodywork from Southern Smash Repairs
- 2nd Stihl Line Edger package \$295 from Roberts DonMac
- 3rd Hand crafted Cheese Board from Bruce Webber, Channel Men's Shed
- 4th Patchwork hand-crafted Lap Quilt from Claire Graham
- 5th \$300 Voucher for 4WD Service and machinery service from Margate Mechanical and Machinery
- 6th Hand crafted child's Rocking Horse from woodworking trainees at CMS
- 7th \$110 Voucher wheel alignment, balance and rotation by Beaurepaires, Kingston
- 8th \$110 Voucher wheel alignment, balance and rotation by Beaurepaires, Kingston
- 9th \$50 Christmas Meat Pack from Margate Butchery
- 10th \$50 Wash trim and blow-dry by Cove Hair-dressing, Kettering
- 11th Ride in restored 1923 Willys Overland Tourer by Channel Men's Shed
- 12th \$44 membership to Channel Men's Shed by Channel Men's Shed

Did you make a mess?

Unless you intend to bring your mother to the Shed to clean up after you, please clean up any mess you may have made.



Strategic Plan

Your Committee is embarking on a revised Strategic Plan, to align with the changes that have happened in the Shed since we opened in April 2013 and to provide some aspirations as to where we would like to be in 2018.

This document sets a pathway for the Shed to grow and encourage good governance, which will no doubt be an asset when making future grants applications.

Membership

The number of financial members is now around 156, with a further 6 approved who are yet to make their payment. The subscription for next year, voted on by the members at the 2014 Annual General Meeting, is to remain at \$44.00. Invoices will go out in late December 2015, when you will be asked to make prompt payment for the start of our new year.

Open Day / Garage Sale

This year we held our Open Day / Garage Sale a week earlier than previous years to overcome low turnout, primarily because of the "Show Weekend" when a lot of people go away.

Whilst we did not have our usual ride-on mower as the drawcard, we achieved sales of around \$2,300, all of which goes towards the running costs of the Shed.

THREE GEMS WORTH CONSIDERING

Donated Jewellery

A very generous donation from Roger Walker of a piece of jewellery, with a retail value of approximately \$1,500, is to be the subject of a special raffle to be drawn at the Shed on 17th December 2015.

Before then, each member is offered to purchase a \$10 ticket and if any member has not taken up the offer by 30 Nov., their ticket may be purchased by any other member who may want more than 1 ticket.

To reserve your ticket, send an email to Lyndley Chopping: lchopping@bigpond.com

Fishing Boat Trip

Whilst we don't see him at the Shed a lot, his heart is still very much in the Shed. Rick Gumley has offered his charter boat, the "Mermaid", for a fishing trip of up to 10 people. Rick will be the skipper and provide the vessel with fuel.

As usual, it's "first in best dressed" for those wanting to enjoy a day of fishing and comradery, but there is a small catch (and it's not a fish). You'll need to pay \$80 for the day and bring your own sustenance, but for enthusiasts, it's a small price to pay.

Battery Powered Drill & Grinder

Clennett's Mitre 10 provided a set comprising of a battery powered drill and grinder to the Shed for inclusion in the Annual Raffle, however it was after the printing of the tickets. At their suggestion, we could do whatever we liked with it to raise funds, so we are including it as a "door prize" to the Christmas BBQ and raffle draw to be held at the Shed on 17th December 2015. We will not be asking you to put your hand in your pocket other than to pay your Christmas BBQ fee of \$25 per person, which includes entry to the draw.

Computer Training

Colin Hocking, with the assistance of Ross Thomas and Adam Combe, have been running computer sessions for those wanting to learn more about computers. These are held on the 1st Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. In order to confirm your place on each day, contact Colin by email: colin@woodbridge.com.au or Ross at: ross@willodene.com.au



Arrangements are also being made with Kingston LINC to provide other forms of IT training.

Health & Welfare

A while ago we held hearing tests at the Shed conducted by Australian Hearing, who also obtained the support of other medial personnel to assist with talks on prostate and bowel cancer, as well as a DHHS representative who conducted blood pressure and sugar level tests.



Apart from the obvious benefit to each member or their partner, the medical group created some networking amongst themselves for future similar events.



One of our members has spoken of a qualified practitioner who is prepared to speak at further length about prostate and there is a local physiotherapist who has offered to give a talk to interested members. We'll let you know when these events are to be held so you can register your intent to partake.

How Old is Grandpa?

Stay with this -- the answer is at the end. It may blow you away. One evening a grandson was talking to his grandfather about current events. The grandson asked his grandfather what he thought about the shootings at schools, the computer age, and just things in general.



My brother-in-law sold cars like these

The grandfather replied, "Well, let me think a minute, I was born before television, penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, Frisbees and the pill. There were no credit cards, laser beams or ball-point pens. Man had not invented pantyhose, air conditioners, dishwashers, clothes dryers and the clothes were hung out to dry in the fresh air and space travel was only in Flash Gordon books.

Your Grandmother and I got married first, and then lived together. Every family had a father and a mother. Until I was 25, I called every man older than me, "Sir". And after I turned 25, I still called policemen and every man with a title, "Sir."

We were before gay-rights, computer-dating, dual careers, daycare centers, and group therapy. Our lives were governed by the Bible, good judgment, and common sense. We were taught to know the difference between right and wrong and to stand up and take responsibility for our actions.

Serving your country was a privilege; living in this country was a bigger privilege. We thought fast food was eating half a biscuit while running to catch the school bus. Having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with your cousins. Draft dodgers were those who closed front doors as the evening breeze started.

Time-sharing meant time the family spent together in the evenings and weekends-not purchasing condominiums. **We never heard** of FM radios, tape decks, CDs, electric typewriters, yogurt, or guys wearing earrings. We listened to Big Bands, Jack Benny, and the President's speeches on our radios. And I don't ever remember any kid blowing his brains out listening to Tommy Dorsey. If you saw anything with 'Made in Japan ' on it, it was junk. The term 'making out' referred to how you did on your school exam. Pizza Hut, McDonald's, and instant coffee were unheard of. We had 5 &10-cent stores where you could actually buy things for 5 and 10 cents. Ice-cream cones, phone calls, rides on a streetcar, and a Pepsi were all a nickel. And if you didn't want to splurge, you could spend your nickel on enough stamps to mail 1 letter and 2 postcards.

You could buy a new Ford Coupe for \$600, . . . but who could afford one? Too bad, because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

In my day "grass" was mowed, "coke" was a cold drink, "pot" was something your mother cooked in and "rock music" was your grandmother's lullaby. "Aids" were helpers in the Principal's office, "chip" meant a piece of wood, "hardware" was found in a hardware store and "software" wasn't even a word.

And we were the last generation to actually believe that a lady needed a husband to have a baby. No wonder people call us "old and confused" and say there is a generation gap."

How old do you think I am? I bet you have this old man in mind....you are in for a shock! **Go to the last page to see -- pretty scary if you think about it and pretty sad at the same time.**

Community Outreach

Since its inception in April 2013, the Channel Men's Shed has actively undertaken work in the community both as a form of "payback" for the support the Shed received from the wider community and as part of our mission statement.

The following are samples of projects that members have played either a leading or a supporting role for the betterment of others.

Riding for the Disabled, Kingston

The Shed provided the labour, some design advice and transport for the construction of a ramp to allow wheel-chair access to participants of the RDA program to mount and ride horses. The project was supported in part, through materials provided by Clennett's Mitre 10.

Red Cottage at Margate Primary School

This cubby was constructed to the usual building standards and furnished with toy kitchen equipment by members and Max Employment clients as their introduction to Australian Building Practices.

Huon Aquaculture Salmon Luncheons

Our well-equipped kitchen and member-chefs catered for a group of elderly citizens from the general public and then a group from the Snug Retirement Village.

Recherche Boat Restoration

The North-West Bay Sea Scouts 5.5 metre boat "Recherche" was stripped and repainted.

Girl Guide Support Group

Our members cater regularly for the Boronia Trefoil Guide Support Group, which assists with that group's efforts to keep our local Girl Guide movement viable.

Boat Small Boat Construction

At the request of Kingston LINC, the Shed provided the premises and through its contacts, mentors for the successful construction of a small boat (subsequently exhibited and auctioned off at the Australian Wooden Boat Festival) as part of the Tasmanian Government's 26TEN literacy and numeracy programme.

Loui's Van Soup Support

Our kitchen provides soup on a regular basis for the (Loui's Van) Helping Hands group and we hope that our recently funded Community Garden (in course of construction) will relieve pressure on members' home gardens.

Tennis Table

For the Kingston Tennis Club we are constructing a stainless steel and reconstituted timber picnic table. The Club's limited budget would not have permitted this quality of construction without the Shed's labour and skill contribution.

Swift Parrot Relocation

The Shed has supported this initiative by providing transport cages built to the design of the action plan participants for the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE).

Raptor Refuge of Tasmania

From the Shed's resources, one of our members provided a number of relocation / transport boxes for birds of prey.

Willys Overland by Reuben Sternberg

I guess by now, most people are aware of the old car that is being restored by some members of the Shed. The car is a 1923 Willys Overland. It was owned by the patron of the Tasmanian Men's Shed Association, Bob Clifford of Incat. Bob owned two of these cars for about 50 years with the plan to restore at least one of them. After visiting the Shed in early 2014, he offered the cars to the Shed as a project for members. After two committee meetings, a decision was made to accept the challenge.

In March 2014, a small group of Shed members, headed by Peter Shelley, went to Incat to pick up the cars. The two cars were in a disassembled state, in crates and covered in rust! Armed with utes and trailers the group brought it all back to the Shed. The challenge has just been raised to another level... it was now a giant jigsaw puzzle with photos of restored units from the internet for instructions!



BEFORE



AFTER

With the combined expertise of Dave Dungey, Roger Walker, Derrick Conry, Bruce Webber, Bob Wilkinson, Stuart Braunholz, Rodney Wright, Peter Norris, Mark Hunter and other members of the Mission Australia Group, plus myself, work on the car commenced. Peter Shelley contacted the Willys Clubs in Victoria as well as the Clubs in the United States to see if they could give us any assistance. These Clubs were so accommodating, they immediately sent us documents and an

illustrated parts catalogue; that was a big help in identifying the pieces to our "jigsaw puzzle". Peter Norris made a wheeled trolley to make the chassis movable during the restoration.

Almost all of the parts of the car needed to be de-rusted. Parts that could fit in a 1,000 litre tank were soaked for a few weeks in a molasses mixture — a chemical process known as chelation. Unlike acid treatments, it dissolves rust only without affecting the base metal— furthermore, it is environmentally friendly. The part comes out of the mixture so clean and oil free that rust develops in minutes if not painted or oiled immediately. The parts that could not fit in the tank were painstakingly wire brushed, sanded or scraped. Partly assembled pieces such as the differential, gear case and brake assemblies were disassembled, overhauled and re-assembled.

Peter Shelley contacted Timken Bearings. They were so glad to know this car, that they decided to donate bearings from the USA. Their only company sticker on the car after the



Bearings Australia for the differential bearing that their bearings were being used in restoring the bearings. They actually had to import the request they asked for in return is to put their restoration.

Bruce Webber and the Mission Australia Group embarked on restoring the wooden spoke wheels and the wood rimmed steering wheel. From the rusted rims and spokes layered with paint, to a beautiful varnished spokes and steering wheel emerged.

Unfortunately, the engine restoration was beyond the expertise and equipment that the Shed could offer. The engine was sent out to a commercial engine rebuilder, then later on to Melbourne for further restoration. It took more than a year to get restored and has just recently returned. Roger, Dave, Derrick, Rodney, Stu and others are presently re-assembling the engine and its accessories.

Roger and Derrick, among others, are doing a wonderful job on the body. However, more parts have yet to be restored, not to mention the upholstery and the convertible top.

We have accomplished a lot but there is still a long way to go. We encourage all Shed members to join in the fun and help us restore this almost century old vehicle. It is a wonderful opportunity and a great Shed project to be involved in!



BEFORE



AFTER

More photos of the restoration can be seen in our website: www.channelmshed.org.au/willis-tourer-project

★
★ How Old is Grandpa? He would only be 59 years old!!! ★
★
