



# News Channel



November 2016

## Annual Christmas Raffle & BBQ

This is a revenue raiser that assists in maintaining your Shed, so it is important that members take and sell a book(s). Ticket books will be available at the Shed, where members can register the book(s) you take and record details of the stub returns.

We are again fortunate that Channel Court has permitted CMS to hold our raffle ticket sales at their shopping centre.

An email has gone out to members asking for volunteers to assist with sales for a few hours. The selling days and time slots are provided, so don't hold back waiting for someone else to nominate.

The reality is, if every member took and sold one book, there would not be any need for anyone to be at Channel Court.

The raffle will be drawn at our annual Christmas BBQ on 15<sup>th</sup> December. The cost of the BBQ is \$20 per person — a reduction of \$5 from last year as we will not be having a door prize this year. A separate email will be sent to members asking for numbers to facilitate catering.

Invitations have been sent to local, state & federal politicians within the area, as well as the donors of prizes.

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**"I'm gonna try my best and see where it takes me next."**

A quote by new Shed member Jason Reid, who last year represented Australia and Tasmania in the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles.



**We could all learn from this quote!**

### Future Events & Activities

In-House Computer Assistance	Margate Primary School Fair	Music Appreciation Group
4th & 18th Nov. - from 10:00 a.m. Ross Thomas can assist with your computer issues.	4th November—the fair starts at 4 p.m. and goes until 8 p.m.— support the local community.	17 November — 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you need more information, contact Bruce Laffer.
Kingston LINC Computer Training	Monthly Shed BBQ	Committee Meeting
18 November—The 4th session is about catching up with television on your device or computer	The BBQ starts around 3:30 p.m. on 24th November. This is the last of the regular monthly BBQ's for the year.	29th November - starting at 2:00 p.m.— attendance is open to any member wanting to know more about the Shed.

# MELBOURNE CUP FUN DAY

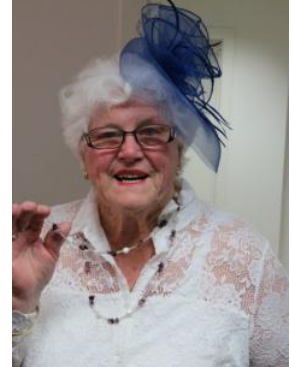
From all accounts, the inaugural Melbourne Cup Fun Day was a success. Our thanks go to the Sub-committee of Peter Alexis, Stephen Sakell, Ross Thomas and Judy Norman, who organised what seems will become a regular social event to be held at the Shed.

Following is an extract of an email from Peter Alexis to his fellow sub-committee members.

*Cheers,*

*Everybody did an amazing job. Attendance was beyond expectations and win or lose, everybody had a good day. My most sincere thanks to each of you and think we've secured an annual event that will continue to grow the social side of the shed calendar.*

*Ross prepared the running sheet for the day, which we are going to update for future events. I didn't get to see all his good work in the Tote room or Steve's amazing catering effort in the kitchen. Judy, you were nothing short of miraculous in the way you transformed an industrial shed into a bright and beautiful social venue along with providing and helping with food prep, sang-a's etc. Peter Shelley's MC skill, by luck or by accident on the hat comp was a masterpiece. Thank you. Perhaps we can compile a food provisioning, prep schedule and general logistics sheet with Judy et al sometime so we can create a brief off the shelf workshop folder to serve as an easy template for future MC events and organisers. It will save over sixty emails, dozens of phone calls and four trips to Moonah among other things.*



I



*Our thanks also go to Miffy McTaggart (Freshwater Pearls) and Dave Dungey for their fabulous prize contribu-*



*tions. The winner of the ladies' hat competition was*



*Elaine Fahy a visitor from Victoria and John Buchanan is the recipient of the ride in Dave Dungey's Maserati. Thanks also to Dave Weltman, Ken Goodsell and Reuben Sternberg for their skill in getting the TV's operating in both rooms.*



# Tools and How (not) to Use Them

## **CIRCULAR SAW**

*A portable cutting tool used to make boards too short.*



## **BELT SANDER**



*An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.*

## **WIRE WHEEL**

*Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, 'Oh sh....!'.*



## **DRILL PRESS**

*A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, denting the freshly-painted project which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.*

## **MULTI-GRIPS**

*Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.*



## **HACKSAW**

*One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle... It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.*



## **WISE-GRIPS**

*Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.*



## **OXYACETYLENE TORCH**

*Used almost entirely for igniting various flammable objects in your shop and creating a fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub out of which you want to remove a bearing race.*

## **TABLE SAW**

*A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity. Very effective for digit removal !!*



*to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity.*

## **HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK**

*Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.*



See more on page 9

## Computer Training By Kingston LINC

Have you attended the digital classes being held third Friday of the month at the Channel Men's Shed yet? Classes coming up are:

Friday 18 November — Catch up TV on your device or computer. Go out and enjoy the longer hours without missing out on your favourite shows. Enrol using this link:

[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)

Friday 16 December - Using SKYPE, What's App and FaceTime to keep in touch. Stay in touch with friends and family interstate or overseas via video and voice calling. Enrol using this link:

[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)



This FREE partnership shows how community groups and government can work together on the ground, to improve access and digital skills for individuals.

### Members' Meeting

The Members' Meeting held on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> October attracted a mere 4 members, along with a handful of apologies. There were twice as many Committee Members in attendance as there were general members.

The Committee understands each member has restrictions on time and distance, in some cases, but to have so few at a meeting where each member has the opportunity to express their views in an open forum, was disappointing at best.

There are two ways to look at the low attendance:

- a) very few members care about the Shed and its management (negative approach),
- or
- b) most members have utmost confidence in the Shed and its management (positive approach).

Whichever might be the case, the Committee does not know where it stands and applying a bit of positive thinking, we'll assume the latter applies. There may of course be other scenario that apply, but we'll never know if members don't have their say in these meetings or in general communications.

## Committee Meeting Briefs

The last Committee Meeting was held on 25<sup>th</sup> October and lasted just on 3 hours. There are many topics discussed in every meeting, some in detail and others just as confirmation. The main matters coming out of the last meeting are summarised as follows.

### Australian Men's Sheds Association (AMSA)

The AMSA recently expelled the Western Australian Men's Sheds Association (WAMSA) as a member of AMSA. This follows on the heels of the Tasmanian Men's Shed Association (TMSA) not being a member of AMSA since 2014.

AMSA has established companies in all states and territories within Australia and appointed representatives without reference to the states or territories, and we believe without openly calling for nominations. It would seem that this has all be done by their appointment rather than an open and democratic election.

A telephone meeting of AMSA representatives was held on 24th October, but failed to pass the revised constitution and proposed by-laws due to not achieving the required approval of 75% of the representatives. Both Victoria and Queensland voted against the motion and they look like being the next states to have second thoughts about being a member of AMSA.

We believe the Governor General of Australia, who is the patron of AMSA, communicated with AMSA about the need to hold a meeting with the states to resolve differences. We also understand that for whatever reason, AMSA did not follow through with the Patron's advice.

The AMSA seems to want to dictate the running of its association without reference to the shed membership. An example is the revised constitution and by-laws were not referred to sheds, but decided amongst the board and voted on by the board.

Both the Channel Men's Shed and TMSA operate in an inclusive and open manner, which seems to be the opposite of how the AMSA operates.

A meeting of the states is being planned to be held in Victoria soon, but without the presence of AMSA.

### AGM Planning for February 2017

The Committee will be on the lookout for candidates for committee positions at the next annual general meeting. It is known that the position of Secretary will become vacant after four (4) years in the role. Not to frighten anyone off, there is the likelihood that the role will be divided into three (3) parts: normal administrative functions; membership; and newsletter.

### Work for the Dole (WFD) Training

Discussions have been reignited between My Pathway and Max Employment regarding the WFD scheme under different arrangements than previously entered into with WFD providers.

If this does proceed, which will not be until early 2017, we will be seeking members to assist with a training programme that is not project based.

### Membership

The Committee has agreed to omit a few members from the Membership Register as they either had not paid their subscription and / or failed to attend their induction after repeated requests to do so. In each case, the members were advised of the likelihood of removal well before the Committee Meeting.

Even with the removal of a few members, the current membership still sits around 190 from all walks of life.

### Drum Sander Incident

A while ago we encountered an incident with the drum sander, whereby the emergency stop did not isolate the feed motor (single phase), but did isolate the 3 phase drum motor.

Most people have an expectation that a stop button would stop the machine completely and the failure to isolate the feed motor lead the Committee to consider the machine has a design defect.

With the assistance of Shed members Tom Davison (licenced electrician) and Reuben Sternberg, a “fix” to the problem was performed with wiring modifications to ensure all motors are isolated when the emergency stop is depressed.

Communications with the agent (Gregory Machinery in Queensland) have yet to result in confirmation that they are taking positive action to deal with the matter. The word from Gregory’s is that the United States supplier / manufacturer has said they have not had any complaints like this before. Well just because it may have only happened once, doesn’t mean there is not a large issue (just ask VW).

Should a satisfactory response not be received shortly, we intend to escalate the issue to make it known to other Shed and probably to at least one government department. We consider both Gregory Machinery and the US supplier / manufacturer have a duty of care to follow up.

### **Welding Training**

Gary Durrant has arranged a further welding course to which members have already responded, which may require a 2nd session to get everyone through.

The issue we have with welding is members who use the facilities do not seem to be contributing to the costs associated with it. A review of income and expenditure with welding reveals it is the only aspect of the Shed that is not paying for itself. This can only be because members are not contributing the appropriate amount to offset expenses – including gas bottle rental.

### **Plywood & Steel Framing**

The Shed has been successful in being the only organization to express an interest in some tiered seating at the Kingborough Sporting Complex. There is a large quantity of materials, some of which will be used for better shelving in the Shed. The left-over materials not required by the Shed will be offered to other sheds in the area.



The Council is obtaining quotes to dismantle the seating and if we’re lucky, it will include delivery to our Shed.

### **Proposed Works**

#### Dust & Fume Extraction Systems

The preparation work for the concrete slab at the rear of the building for the dust extraction system has not started because there are other considerations in the vicinity to take into account.

#### External Paving

A supply of concrete pavers from the Kingborough Council has been delivered, which will be used to improve the area around the Shed – the exact are is yet to be decided.

#### Air Conditioners for the Training Room & Office

Ian Jay is looking into the supply and installation of a heat pump in the training room (the Hen’s House on Monday afternoons) and another unit for the office.

#### Hot Water System and Kitchen Sink

The present hot water service has an insufficient flow rate and the sinks are too small to efficiently clean up the larger pans and pots. This has come about with increased demands (from regular and financially attractive Guide fund raisers) and the new oven and induction cook-top.



### Large Oven & Induction Hotplates

Pictured on the next page are Sean and Robin of Alderson Agencies, Launceston unloading the Shed's new induction cook top-oven combination, which was purchased with the assistance of a grant from the Tasmania Community Fund and a substantial in-kind donation from Alderson Agencies. They further extended their support to the Shed by donating some induction pots valued at approximately \$1,000. We are truly thankful

for the generosity provided by the wonderful people at Alderson Agencies.

Installation is to be undertaken by Shed members and from the Shed's own financial resources. The support of Alderson was particularly notable in that they kindly held their original quote for almost twelve months pending the outcome of our fund-raising efforts.

The new stove will allow improved catering for Shed events and, perhaps more importantly, support your Shed's Community Outreach activities.

Members will be aware that we host luncheons for the elderly (with the support of Huon Aquaculture), Healthy Eating programs, and supply the Kingborough Helping Hands (soup van) and Boronia Trefoil fundraisers which, apart from contributing to Shed finances support the Girl Guides movement and various other charities. Volunteers with an interest in supporting these worthy causes are always welcome and should contact the Committee.

We'd love to recommend you to Alderson Agencies, but they do not deal direct with the public. We really do appreciate their support.

### **Completed and Near Completed Projects**

#### CWA Pergola

The weather has been unkind, but work progressed with the application of the first coat of paint on the pergola and table / bench seating. A second coat is to be applied when weather permits, with the installation of the roof sheeting to follow.

Heiko needs someone with experience in roof sheeting to cap off the work.

#### Kingston LINC Bench Seats



Work on the seats progressed well, but the final installation is not likely to be complete before early next year.

Pictured testing out one of the Shed's latest projects - thanks to Reuben's indefatigable efforts — Sonya Strong & Jane Burrell the artists who have been commissioned by Kingston LINC to paint the outdoor bench seats.

It has been something of a challenge as the seats are to go outside the Kingston Library and are designed to reflect the library contents.

The fabrication challenges included shaping the rippled pages to fit all manner of backsides and still look like an open book and concealing the steel frame required to give the required strength.

#### Mining Tools Display Cases

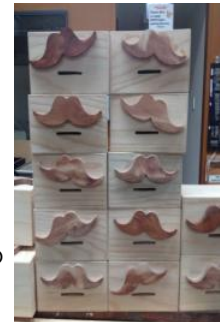
Work on the flat-pack display cases is complete and they have been collected. A great effort by Reuben Sternberg, shown with



Geoff & Janet Fenton from Friends of Melaleuca.

#### Movember Donation Boxes

The collection boxes (stacked at right) were collected. Our thanks go to Ken Lapworth and Lawrie Fisher for their efforts – a very impressive result.



#### Margate Primary School – Art Tables

Two art tables were sanded, stained & varnished, then collected and returned to the school.

#### Chalk Boards

A request for some simple chalk boards was received. Mr Reliable – Reuben – prepared and cut the boards to size, which have been completed and collected.

#### Margate Parents & Friends Fete

Run by the P&F, Margate Primary School is having a fete and intends to have a stall where children assemble catapults. The Shed has pre-drill items to facilitate the stall as requested.

#### Orange-Bellied Parrot Nesting Boxes

Pictured are Gary, Bruce and Reuben at the hand-over of the OBP nesting boxes for DPIPWE (Department Primary industry, Parks, Wildlife & Environment) . Many thanks also go to the members who participated in this project.



#### Mezzanine Floor

Work continues on the new mezzanine with our dedicated team of builders fixing the safety wall, now that the stairs and flooring are installed. Pictured (left to right) are Peter, Lawrie and Michael at work.



## Margate Primary School Twilight Fair

The Parents and Friends of the Margate Primary School are holding a twilight fair this Friday, 4th November. Amongst many other things, there will be variety of food and sweets, games and entertainment, some face painting, a petting zoo and a jumping castle. The fair is a great opportunity to showcase our School to the wider community, enjoy great entertainment and food with family and friends. There will be a variety of delicious meals cakes and sweets to suit all tastes .... and of course, there will be bargains to be found in the bric-a-brac as well as beautiful hand-made crafts, plants and preserves.

Now this may not be of interest to many members, but some are sure to have children and / or grand children who would love to experience and enjoy the night. **Even if you don't have children or grandchildren, it is a community event to be enjoyed by all.**

This is a community event that has been supported by the Shed in making mangonels (catapults) and the Shed's "Stitch and Share Group", who have made close to 500 items for sale. The ladies intend to donate 100% of the proceeds, which will go the benefit of the school development and infrastructure.





## More Tools and How (not) to Use Them

### **BAND SAW**

A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to cut large pieces into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the trash after you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge. Also good for Digit Removal



### **TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST**

A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of all the crap you forgot to disconnect.

### **PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER**

Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids or oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used to strip out Phillips screw heads.



for opening old-style paper-and-tin used, as the name implies, to strip

### **STRAIGHT SCREWDRIVER**

A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to non-removable screws and butchering your palms.



convert common slotted screws into

### **PRY BAR**

A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part



### **PVC PIPE CUTTER**

A tool used to make plastic pipe too short.



### **HAMMER**

Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent to the object we are trying to hit.

hammer nowadays is used as a kind

### **UTILITY KNIFE**

Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door. Works particularly well on contents such as seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines, refund checks, and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while in use.



### **SON OF A BITCH TOOL**

Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the garage while yelling 'Son of a bitch' at the top of your lungs. It is also, most often, the next tool that you will need.