



WAVERLEY COMMUNITY
MEN'S SHED INC.

SCUTTLEBUTT

WCMS MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

Patron - The Hon. Marjorie O'Neill MP, Member for Coogee

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IF YOU ARE NOT WELL, YOU ARE NOT WELCOME AT THE SHED!

THE WAVERLEY MEN'S SHED



NEEDS YOU

**TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
NOW!**



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Membership renewals forms are being sent out just about now as we go into March, please don't forget to renew as soon as possible. If you can't find your Renewal Form, we will have a small supply at the Shed for you to complete and finalise your renewal on the spot.

Over the past few months there has been a marked drop in members' contributions to Scuttlebutt, which is disturbing. This is your newsletter, your voice. So, a reminder, that all Shed members are also photographers and reporters. If you are involved with a project, event or whatever that could be suitable for Scuttlebutt and/or the WEB site. Please email the photos along with a short story to secretary@waverleycommunitymensshed.org.au or to tom@aces.net.au.

We are still looking for an assistant Editor to deal with the "just in case" moments (such as when I go away on holidays). If you don't already know how to use it, I can teach you the valuable skill of using the Publisher (.PUB) program

Tom



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, "SCUTTLEBUTT"

Over the past 24 months we've had little to celebrate, but we have seen the birth and development of the WCMS newsletter. It has taken a lot of effort, not just by me, to get to where we are, but we have beaten the sceptics who predicted that after 3 months there will be no material to print.

But this is not the time to rest on our laurels and we urge all our members to participate and contribute to ensure we keep going.

Tom



FIRST AID COURSES



Through the generosity of the **Wolper Hospital Foundation** we have received funding to conduct first aid training for the members who are interested.

We are also looking for a person able to provide the courses, as Phil Wicks who has run the courses previously over many years has retired (thank you for your past support, Phil).

We will try to hold a choice of 2 courses, a full Certificate Course (including CPR) good for 3 years, and an Emergency Care course involving fractures and injuries, bandaging, and basic care (defibrillator and EpiPen). We hope to cover the full cost (or at least most of the cost) of the courses from the grant..

We invite all members who wish to undertake either of these courses to let us know which course is preferred by email to secretary@waverleycommunitymensshed.org.au

We will then notify those who have registered interest of the date/s of the courses when they are arranged.



WATCH OUT FOR BOND OR INVESTMENT SCAMS

Be aware of scammers pretending to be employees from banks or other institutions offering high yield bond investments.

This scam may involve you being asked to complete an application form and scan your ID documents before directing or assisting you to make a payment to a bank account or use other third-party payment options.

Always complete a thorough investigation of any investment opportunity. To ensure you are receiving advice from a legitimate business, review the **ASIC Professional Services Register** for licence information, and always contact the claimed company on a publicly advertised phone number to validate the request/offer.

If you believe any of your recent online banking payments may be the result of a scam, please contact your Bank immediately.

For more information contact your Bank



WCMS BADGE

Many members have already purchased one or more of the **Shed's iron-on badges**, there are still some badges available for purchase at **\$5.00** each.



Start by
doing what's
necessary...



then what's possible

and suddenly
you're doing the
impossible!



SHED GOINGS-ON (CURRENT PROJECTS ETC.)

Jobs being done at the Shed seem never-ending and challenging (or at least some of them). The making of **possum boxes** are continuing, **Rodney Goldberg** is helping out.



Jeff Silberbach (left) is making an unusually **large egg cup** from camelia cuttings to match his collection of assorted plates and bowls (all different timbers and sizes) ...



while **Alan Rubel** (right) is turning a 300mm stump into a **bowl**.



Graham Ely (left) is utilising all his furniture restoration skills on a **1953 Parker "wicker back chair"**.



Raymond Garfield (right) is making a **speaker box** for placing under a table top



Tony James (left) enjoys playing cards, and with wife Hazel has progressed to playing Samba, a 3 deck variation of Canasta. It is a card game that can be played with 2, 3, 4, 5 or even 6 players! Tony is making a **box that will hold 3 decks of cards**.



With toy production at full pace, more **wheels** are needed, so **Ian Dawes** (right) turns them on the lathe

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Martin Przybylski is restoring a set of *dining chairs*, he strips them back to base and will varnish and stain when they are ready. He's about half way along.



David Brem is manufacturing a replacement see-through door for the street library of the Coogee Synagogue.

Rodger Jamieson is repairing the *neck of his guitar*. It had stress cracks in it which was fixed with the injection of 2 pack epoxy and then tightly clamping it. Have we finally introduced needle-work into the Shed's activities?



After finishing his chair, **Graham Ely** (left) is restoring an *art nouveau table* which had all its joints wobbly

Kenny Lazarus has returned to the Shed from his stay in South Africa. He is stripping timber (assisted by **Peter Black**) to make *chopping boards*.



Charles Gerrard has been working on making two *easels*, he is well along the way and expects to finish very soon

Richard Cortis uses old tools, equipment or cutlery to create tool monsters, hence "**The Spoonbill**". It utilises a spoon and a fork handle for the bill, several knife handles for the feet and neck, and a knife blade for the tail. The body is made of a piece of stainless steel tube, and the head is a half inch stainless steel Whitworth nut. The detail welding is assisting development of Richard's TIG (tungsten inert gas) welding skills.



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New member **Neil Barnard** (left) is repairing a **broken rocking chair**. The chair had a number of structural breakages, Neil makes a difficult job look so easy!



Mike Barker (right) is busying himself making a **bird house/feeder**. Neat design that will fit nicely into his garden.



Peter Charlton (left) is repairing a **table base** made from very soft fruit tree timber, assisted by **Gad Kainer**



Andrew Prior (right) is making himself a **simple box** whilst he enjoys the camaraderie of the Shed



Peter Black is making a **playground fort** for the Galilee School at North Bondi (left). Peter has previously made other playground toys for this school which are very popular with the students..



THE COFFEE TABLE

Our Shed was requested to make a coffee table to specific dimensions and selected timbers for Irene Jackson, a friend of many of our members who attend the Seniors Gym at Uniting next door to the Shed.

As we previously reported, **David "Bremmy" Brem** undertook the job and when Irene came to pick up the table she was delighted. She has now sent thru a photo of the table in her home, it looks fantastic!



GREAT JOB, DAVID



"MOTHER SPEAKS"

Rodney Bassetti's latest work is titled "Mother Speaks" featuring a number of pelicans gathered in a group on a pier.

Rodney is seen in our photo (right) with **Neil Barnard**, explaining his technique.



LOOKING GOOD, RODNEY





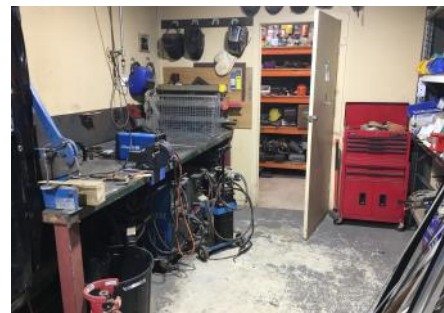
VISITING NERANG MEN'S SHED

Report by Tom Wolf

In early February 2022, whilst on holidays at the Gold Coast hinterland, I visited the **Nerang Men's Shed** and was greeted and made totally at home by **Paul Lannen**. We compared the procedures and funding of our respective sheds that opened at about the same time 9 years ago.

The Shed is located in the grounds of the **Country Paradise Parklands**, set

in a very large floodplane that also houses other local organisations. As is obvious, the men at the Shed have contingency plans for floods and just about any other emergency. The Shed is well laid out, split in two halves, with a woodworking area on one side and a metalworking area on the other side with a kitchen area separating them.



The Shed is open on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, from 7:30 am (yes, you read correctly!!) to 12:30. We arrived just in time to see all the men sitting outside having the compulsory break for morning tea.

Currently, a project undertaken by the Nerang guys is called **"TOOLS FOR TONGA"** where they are collecting from all the surrounding sheds any and all tools to be put into a container and sent to the volcano ravaged island neighbour. If you think you can help, please contact nerangmensshed@gmail.com



After the exchange of ideas, I parted from Paul with an arrangement that we will stay in contact and I have added Paul and the Nerang Shed to our mailing list.

If you are travelling on holidays or for whatever reason, why don't you make contact with the local shed, you'll be amazed at the warm welcome you will be offered!



TOOL RULES
DON'T: TOUCH 'EM
BORROW 'EM
MOVE 'EM
DON'T EVEN LOOK
AT 'EM



HEARING LOSS AND COCHLEAR IMPLANTS

This auditory technology could provide a solution for hearing loss if you find that your hearing aids just aren't quite up to scratch. It is quite common that after you get your hearing aids fitted, they work well to begin with but over time you find that you're struggling to hear conversations again, and phone calls become tricky.

Sometimes, the deterioration happens so slowly you don't even notice the tell-tale signs. But it's a frequent issue that impacts on 1000's of people's lives.

It is not for everybody, but there may be a more permanent solution to improve your hearing, namely Cochlear Implants.

Cochlear implants have been proven to be much more effective than hearing aids, and they work very differently. While hearing aids are good for amplifying sounds, they still rely on parts of the inner ear, which may have been damaged by the natural process of ageing, or if you have spent a long time in a loud environment such as a factory.



These devices actually replace the function of the human ear, meaning sound signals are sent directly to your brain. As you're not relying on potentially broken parts of your ear, it means you catch more of the conversation.

A tiny processor, which sits comfortably behind your ear, picks up on sound and transmits it directly to the auditory nerve, meaning the cochlear (the spiral cavity in the inner ear), which usually processes sound waves, is removed from the equation entirely.

This means that many people are able to process more of the sound, giving a sense of hearing and a new lease of life to those who really struggled beforehand.

Although many people are only just now starting to discover the benefits of a cochlear implant, this isn't new technology. The first ever modern implant took place in Australia in the 1980's, and over 300,000 procedures have been successfully carried out worldwide.

Studies show that people with cochlear implant achieve an average of 80% sentence understanding in tests, compared with 10% for hearing aids users.

Of course, such an intricate process requires surgery to implant a receiver into the bone just behind the ear. So it's important to make sure you get expert advice and think through the impact it will have on your life.

Most people are concerned that they won't be eligible, as there are some limitations to the technology, but if you find you are struggling to hear, or are just generally dissatisfied with your hearing aid, possibly you are a candidate for this technology and you ought to see your doctor or other medical specialist.

Disclaimer: *This article is not intended, nor should it be read, as medical advice. It is merely information to be used in recognising and responding to some symptoms and if in any doubt, medical advice and attention should be sought.*



BRAINFREEZE

This doesn't even
require comment?



PERFORMANCE CRITERIA FOR AMMONIA ABSORPTION REFRIGERATORS

By Richard Cortis

Whilst travelling in our motor home I have monitored the cooling performance of our “three way” refrigerator. This device is ancient technology. Fundamentally, they are very energy inefficient, needing lots of power for a little bit of cooling effect. They operate using an ammonia solution, a heat source to boil off the ammonia, and some complex pipework so that the ammonia can re-dissolve away from the boiler, causing the absorbing liquid to get cold. In “three way” refrigerators, there usually three heat sources, 240 volt AC power from the mains, 12 volt power from the vehicle battery, or an LPG gas burner.



In bygone days, country people not connected to power ran their refrigerators using a kerosene burner with a wick. They just need a heat source to boil off the ammonia so that it can circulate and then re-dissolve. Up to a certain limit, the more heat you put into the boiler, the more cooling you get. Recall that this is a crude and ancient technology and the extent of temperature regulation is very limited. Our experience has been that, on a cool night, we will wake in the morning to find that the lettuce has been frozen. However, on really hot afternoons when there is limited power into the boiler, the contents of the fridge can get too warm to satisfactorily prevent the food spoiling.

Experience has indicated that these devices are flat out keeping the contents cooled more than 20C below ambient. So, on a 40C day, the fridge can warm up to about 15C or higher. Similarly, it is easy to understand why there is a tendency to freeze the lettuce.

Now, present monitoring has revealed a fridge temperature of 12C on a 36C afternoon. We were in a busy caravan park where everyone was using air-conditioning to keep cool. When I measured the power voltage, I found that, rather than the expected 240 volts, there was only 215 volts. Available power is proportional to the square of the voltage, so we had only 80% of the expected power when we needed it most. So, it could not keep up and the fridge contents got a bit warm. It was a bit better on 12 volts, but not much. Luckily, the performance using LPG was a bit better.

Anyway, it is time for a Gin and Tonic, with the cold stuff coming out of the electric esky, which can actually handle the heat.

**KEEP YOUR FRIENDS CLOSE
AND YOUR TOOLS
EVEN CLOSER**

MEMBERS' WORK CONTINUE AT VAUCLUSE

Whilst we haven't reported on the work of our unofficial "Annexe" at Mark Moran Vaocluse for just on a year, despite the COVID lockdowns the work of the members have continued at that Village. It will be recalled that the workshop at the retirement Village, whilst provided to the members of the village by the generosity of the owners of the Village, is conducted by two members of the Waverley Community Men's Shed, namely **Dach Hall** and **Tom Wolf**.



Dach lives at the Village and attends every day, and Tom attends as a volunteer worker on many Thursdays and Fridays, as well as after finishing at the Waverley Shed on many other days. The numerous lockdowns did affect what could be achieved, but the photos display examples of the completed jobs, but there were many more!

Repairs to a broken ceramic lamp base of great sentimental value to an aged resident



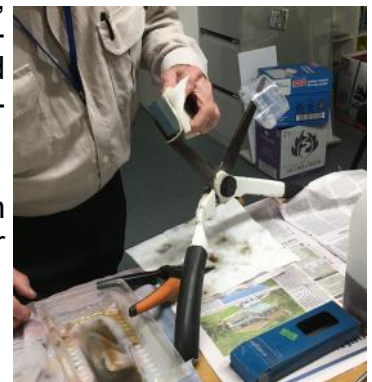
Full restoration of a greatly valued convex mirror in a round frame required removing the backing and the mirror, repainting the frame and then returning the mirror to the frame with its backing.



Dach built a scale kit model of "Mermaid", a ship of historical significance in the development of the early colony of NSW and used by Capt. King in first circumnavigating the Australian continent



Right: Sharpening (by hand) garden shears that had been blunted over the years, it came up "as new".



Left: Sometimes special skills and tools are needed to make repairs. Dach is precision drilling a hole in a mini-lathe for an 8mm dowel whilst fixing a broken chair.

HANDY HINT - FIXING THE BROKEN DRAWER HANDLE

What do you think? The drawer of your bedroom chest is closed and the handle comes off in your hand when you try to open it.



What do you do to open the drawer so you can get to the screws inside? The answer is simple. Get a plunger and create the suction necessary to pull the drawer open, this will allow you to reinstall the handle!

DID YOU KNOW? SOME MORE TRIVIA!

Holder for small nails

Small nails and tacks are difficult to hold with your fingers in order to start with a hammer (without hurting your finger in the process). Just fold a piece of masking tape or cardboard over itself and push the nail through, you can then hold the nail in position and upright by holding the flap while you tap it into position.

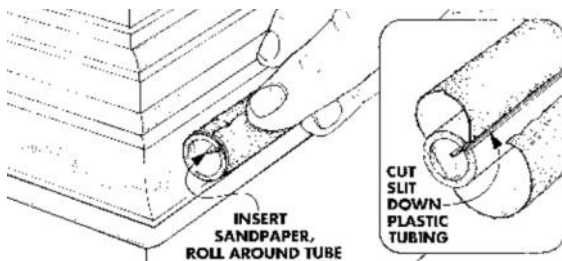


Assembly Blocks

You may need a third hand to assemble a project, especially working with large pieces of plywood. To help to keep the pieces aligned, assembly blocks made from scrap can be used. The blocks are made with intersecting dadoes cut in the middle. Just set the work pieces in the assembly blocks or place the blocks on top to hold the pieces in place until the clamps are installed.

Hinge Installation Tips

When installing hinges, you need to be ready to make a few adjustments. This can mean putting on and taking off the door a few times. The one thing to avoid is breaking one of the brass woodscrews, so use a single steel woodscrew to hold each leaf during the fitting process (see photo). If the hinge mortise is too deep, a thin piece of cardboard can be used as a shim.

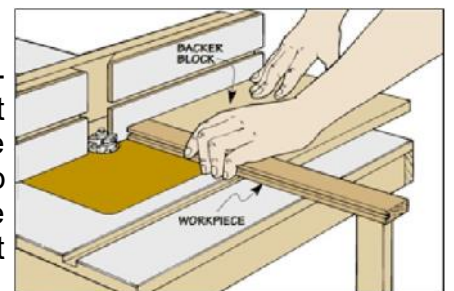


Sanding Rounded Timber

Sanding objects that are rounded outwards is relatively easy, but sanding coves is harder, it seems your fingers just get in the way. So, wrap your sandpaper around a piece of tubing, but FIRST SLIT the tubing along its length and insert one end into the slit. Then wrap the sandpaper around the tubing and hold tight.

Routing End Grain

When you want to rout the end of a narrow work piece, the problem is that the wood fibres on the back edge splinter as the bit exits the cut. All it takes to produce a crisp, clean cut is a simple backer block which is nothing more than a squared-up scrap block that rides against the fence as you push the work piece past the bit. To prevent chip out, just be sure the block is at least as thick as the work piece.



**You need only two tools in life:
WD-40 and Duct Tape.**

**If it doesn't move and should:
use WD-40;**

**If it moves and shouldn't:
use Duct Tape**



SHEDDER'S COOKBOOK

How often does your other (better) half complain that you don't support her by doing some of the cooking? Let's hope not too often.

This is a recipe that **Graham Ely** enjoys as it is so delicious. We are reminded that you don't have to be a great cook (you heard about the army joke when the sergeant asked "Who called the cook a bastard? ...") but it is good to tempt fate at times and to prove victorious.

BISCOTTI

Ingredients

- 120gm Butter or margarine
- 200gm Castor sugar
- 2x Eggs
- 1.5 tsp Baking powder
- 280gm Plain Flour
- Pinch salt
- 60gm Almonds (Vienna optional)
- 1/2 pkt Fruit Medley
- Currants
- Orange Peel

Method

- Cream the butter and sugar
- Add eggs, baking powder, flour and salt
- Then add fruit and nuts
- Roll out on floured board into sausage shape (usually makes about 3)
- Bake on glad bake at 165 degrees for around 25 minutes
- Allow to cool for 5 minutes and then slice diagonally.
- Return to oven for 10 - 15 minutes until crispy.



Bon Appétit!

If you have a favourite recipe that you have actually made and would want to share with your mates, why don't you send it to us.



**My wife asked if she could
have a little peace and quiet
while she cooked dinner ...**

**So, I took the battery out of
the smoke alarm!**



MORE T-SHIRTS ON SHOW

Here are some more T-shirts that have a message, we actually have a rule against wearing offensive garments at the Waverley Shed. Therefore we hope that you will excuse this second collection, your Editor found them too funny to miss.

