



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!**



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**  
**THE WAVERLEY SHED**  
**WILL REOPEN ON**  
**MONDAY, 16 JANUARY**



## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

We start the new year full of optimism, the Shed numbers are looking good, attendances are high, and our profile in the community is terrific. As editor, I have just one issue:



I must contribute to Scuttlebutt!!  
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GET  
THE  
HINT??



Tom



# SHED SHOWCASE REPORT

Shedders,

I write to thank and congratulate all involved in the Shed ShowCase that was held in November. It was a **great SUCCESS**.

But first to recap, the reasons for having a Shed ShowCase in order of importance were:

1. **To enjoy ourselves,**
2. **To build our camaraderie,**
3. **To promote the aims and objectives of the Shed to the public,**
4. **To show our families and the public what we do at the Shed,**
5. **To assist Uniting engage with the community, and**
6. **To sell some product.**

The Friday evening Opening Night was well attended and I think all who attended had a great time.

The work in the Shed to make product for show or sale brought us together with lots of assistance and involvement from others.

The number of visitors and family who attended was great, - several people wanted to join and lots of families were impressed with what we do.

The Show brought many people to the Uniting WMH site that had not visited before with Uniting benefited from the exposure.

**And we sold lots of our work.**

The sales over the weekend were just over \$4,000 but in addition we took nearly \$2,000 worth of orders for future work. **FANTASTIC!!!**

The costs approached \$1,000 meaning the profit was over \$3,000.

**We propose to send approximately half of the profit to other Sheds that have suffered recently in the flood.** Our aim is to help them build back up to provide support to Shedders in their communities.

So

- **thank you to all those who participated:**
- **thank you for the effort to organise the Show,**
- **thank you for promoting the Show.**
- **thank you for making product to show and sell at the Show.**
- **thank you for setting up the Show and then cleaning and putting the room back to suit the WMH,**
- **thank you for attending the Opening Night party.**
- **thank you for being there during the days; welcoming guests, explaining what we do, and engaging with the attendees.**

**In summary: Congratulations to all involved in making it such a success.**

Till the next one,  
Stay safe

*Peter Charlton*

My doctor asked me if anyone in my family suffered from mental illness ...

I said "No, we all seem to enjoy it!"







# SHED GOINGS-ON (CURRENT PROJECTS ETC.)

Harry Jacob's *chopping boards* were a great success at ShowCase with a large number of orders to be filled before the end of the year, so Harry is being kept busy.

After ShowCase many members got involved with making gifts.



Mo Dhanoya is making a *bottle and glass stand* ...



Mo is also making a *name sign* for his 3 months old grand-daughter's bedroom door.



Ray Tajer making a *charcuterie board* (left)

Gad Kainer is about to make a *carved wooden sculpture* and has made the pedestal stand for it (right).



Tony Mandarano making a very intricate design *chopping board*. (left)

Charles Gerrard is making an *octagonal table top* for his garden/patio table (right)



Ever so sorry he's taken on this community project, **Graham Ely** is progressing slowly in restoring an *old wheelbarrow*. (left).

cont. p.3



cont. from p.3



**Tod Thomson** is a very keen backgammon player, he is now making a new **backgammon games board/box** and is challenging all comers for a game.

**Jordan Stuart** is about to race his **billy-cart**. He's making his **seat** for the contraption.

He is also making the **pilot shaped steering wheel** and leaving the rest to fate.



## IAN'S DIGGER

Very intricate and made up of a few large and a vast number of small parts, Ian's digger is coming along.



We've had an opportunity to get photos of just some of the parts and we'll get a completed picture as soon as we can.





# SHED END OF 2022 PARTY

Well organised by **Michael Barker** with **David Colwell** attending to the BBQ, lots of delicious food and most of the guys helping in the clean-up, we had a wonderful party!!

If you weren't there, you missed the event, and you missed the wonderful magic of **James Galea**, Australia's #1 magician, who generously gave back the money he won from **Peter Black**.

Well done to all, here are some photos:







# A JACARANDA FRUIT BOWL

by Peter Charlton

Once upon a time a jacaranda tree lived in the back garden of a home in Croydon a Sydney suburb and it was dearly loved by the owners. It provided shade for years, yes it dropped some flowers in the family pool but because of its beauty it was forgiven.

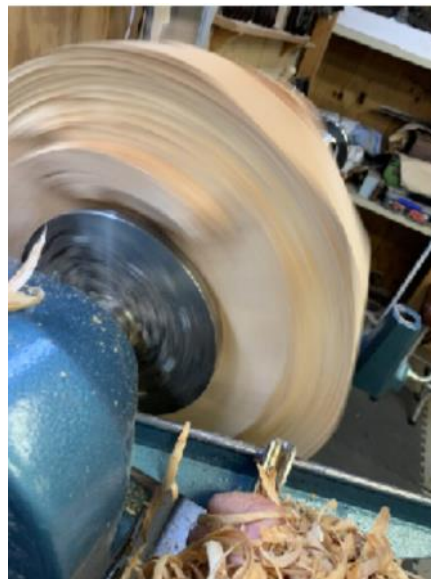
The tree grew, the children of the house moved out and the tree became bigger and bigger. It started to provide too much shade, it covered nearly the whole back lawn.

Then, as it became older it started to lift the pavers in the garden path.

Its time had come, it needed a change, it needed to provide a different service for the family. It became a fruit bowl.

The change started on the last day of October 2021 when the tree loppers came in and cut it down.

The log moved to the Waverley Men's Shed; here is a photo of a few pieces of the jacaranda tree in the boot of the car (19 Nov 2021).



In the Men's Shed it was cut in two and mounted using a large face plate on the lathe – 22 November 2021.

It is a very big piece of tree and it was very heavy.

When turned, it sprayed water all over the turners but the shavings were long and beautiful.



The turner cut a tenon in what would be the base of the bowl but it was still very wet and rough, but the tenon allowed it to be remounted on the lathe and rough turned to start the hollowing process two days later. The photo above right shows some bark remaining on the side of the up turned bowl.

At this stage the bowl was approximately 400 mm diameter by 120 mm deep inside and very thick walled but still very wet. It had a solid a column left in the hollow of the bowl so that it could be more easily turned once dry.

cont. p.7



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The drying process took many months and it was weighed every week or so starting at 5.3kg on 25 Nov 2021 till the change in weight was negligible.

It dried quickly at first, on 4 Dec it had fallen to 4.6 kg, on 20 January 2022 it was 3.5 kg.

By 5 August 2022 its weight was steady at just 2.1 kg. While it was drying it shrank and distorted, on 5 August it was more than 12mm out of round.

On 5th August it was re mounted on the lathe between centres and turned inside and out to be round again.

A tenon was cut in the centre column so that it could be held in a chuck and have a second undistorted final tenon cut in the bottom of the bowl and the outside shape finalised.

Once it was mounted using the chuck in the second tenon at the base it was turned to its final shape and polished

Three finished photos showing it ready for its new life as a fruit bowl at 380mm diameter.



## HANDY HINT - OVERCOMING A WIDE HOLE IN CONCRETE

What do you think? Your hole in the concrete is too wide to secure the screw/bolt you wish to put there. A bit of copper wire and some caulking will help out to make a secure fit.





# COMMON SCAMS

**Extracted (and edited) from the 2022 Diary published by Legal Aid NSW**

Scams are designed to trick or persuade you to give away your personal details or your money. They can be done by phone, mail, in person and online. The internet has given new life to old scams and created new ones. Anyone can be the victim of a scam, but some scams target older people because they tend to have more savings, or scammers see them as less internet savvy. You can protect yourself from scams. A good rule of thumb is: 'if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is'.

## **Investment scams**

These scams try to seduce you with a 'not-to-be-missed' financial opportunity. The scammer might claim to be a stock broker or portfolio manager. They usually offer a low-risk opportunity with high financial returns and may encourage you to invest overseas. The offers look like the real thing, with professional looking emails and websites. They may give you logins to view fake investment balances and growing returns.

Be suspicious of anyone offering easy money. Don't be pressured into anything. Do your own research on a company and get independent advice before you accept an offer.

## **Dating and romance scams**

These usually happen on official dating or social networking websites where scammers create fake profiles to take advantage of people looking for companionship. They play on your emotions and put time and effort into gaining your trust before asking for money. They will often pretend the money is for a personal or family emergency.

Never send money, credit card details or online account details to anyone you don't know or trust, no matter how you feel about them. Be careful about how much personal information you share online. Scammers use information and pictures to target you with scams or even blackmail you if you have shared personal pictures or videos.

## **Spam mail and phishing**

Spam is electronic junk mail-like an unexpected email, SMS text or messaging app promising money and prizes. Scammers want you to send personal information or pay an upfront fee before you can claim an inheritance, travel prize, lottery win, shopping voucher or compensation money. They also use phishing messages to try to get your bank account numbers and passwords and usually pretend to come from legitimate businesses - like your bank asking you to click on a link to reset a password or a trusted organisation calling to verify customer information. Don't respond or attempt to unsubscribe, and don't click on any links or call a phone number. The best thing to do is delete it. If you are not sure who is calling you, use publicly available information to call them back instead.

## **Recent Scams to Watch Out For**

If you get a call from someone claiming to be from the Australian Taxation Office accusing you of tax fraud, or claiming to be from the Commonwealth DPP telling you about an arrest warrant, it could be a scam. Don't give them your details, just hang up. Also, watch out for calls from people who want to talk to you about binary options trading, or who ask you to pay things like taxes, hospital or utility bills or bail money with an iTunes gift card. The scammer will ask you to pay by telling them the 16-digit code on the back of the 'card. If you do your money will be gone and you will never get it back.

Watch out for scammers pretending to be from the NBN. They try to con victims out of their money and personal information by 'connecting' victims to the NBN network for a low price, and often demand that you pay with an iTunes gift card. Also be cautious of missed calls from international numbers you do not recognise. It may be a scammer hoping you will call back and keep you on the line for a long time charging your call at a premium rate. If you get a missed call from an international number and don't

recognise the number, just ignore it. Recent scams include fake texts saying things like "Your package is due to arrive, track here", along with a website address that will infect your phone with malware.



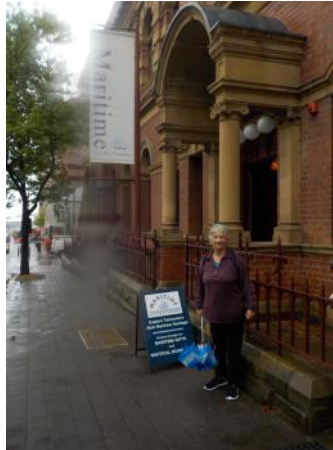


# MARITIME MUSEUM OF TASMANIA

Visited by Tom Wolf

During a recent visit to Hobart, I visited the Maritime Museum near Constitution Dock (lacking the Sydney-Hobart fleet).

As expected, the displays and models were relevant to the establishment and development of the Van Diemen's Land colony (later to become Tasmania). Much of the development of the colony was based on whaling and the whaling exhibit is extensive and well presented, as are the displays about Antarctic exploration, as Hobart is the Australian contact for the teams going to that icy continent.



There is a tribute to Douglas Mawson diagonally across the road from the Museum at the back of Constitution Dock.

# MOVING IN WITH THE FAMILY? MAKE SURE YOU PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS

Extracted (and edited) from the Legal Aid NSW website

As you get older you may find that living alone in your own home is no longer working for you. You may want to be closer to your adult children for companionship and support. There are many reasons why older people decide to live with their children.

## **Granny flats**

You may decide to enter into what is called a 'granny flat arrangement'. This is usually an arrangement between you and your adult child where you make a financial contribution to a property in exchange for the right to live in the property. It might involve the construction of a separate dwelling on your child's property or renovations to the existing property. Or it may involve you selling your home and buying a new home for you and your family to share. It may also include an agreement that they will provide you with physical care and support.

These arrangements often work out well. However problems can arise if you haven't considered what would happen if the circumstances change or if there is a dispute about what you and your family have agreed to.

The problems that can arise if you haven't protected your interests include:

- You could lose all the money you put into the property and you may have to take legal action against your family to recover it.
- The law may consider that you intended to give the money to your child without wanting it back.
- You could end up homeless with your pension reduced.

There are some things you can do to make sure that if this arrangement doesn't work out as planned, your right to a share of the property (your 'legal interest' in the property) is protected. These tips can also help you avoid stressful and expensive legal action down the track.

## **Tip 1: Get it in writing**

Most people don't think about putting things in writing or getting advice from a lawyer when making agreements with family members. However it is a good idea to have a formal agreement whenever any arrangement involving significant money or property is involved – regardless of who the agreement is with.

Wanting a formal agreement doesn't mean you don't trust your family. Even if you are confident that your relationship with your family member won't deteriorate there are good reasons why you should have a formal agreement:

- It will help you and your family to be clear about each other's intentions and expectations. For example, whether the money you contribute is intended to be a gift or a loan. Also, your ideas about what support or care you are expecting them to provide may be quite different from what your family is contemplating.
- If there is nothing in writing, Centrelink might regard your contribution as a gift and your pension could be reduced.
- It will help you and your family talk about and agree on what you want to happen if the arrangement does not work out as expected for either of you.
- If there is ever uncertainty about what was agreed the written agreement will help resolve any disagreement.

## **Tip 2: Get legal advice**

You should get independent legal advice before you make any decisions to move in with your family. This means seeing a lawyer who has not also been seen by your family, and speaking to the lawyer without anyone else in the room.

A lawyer can help you with a written agreement and give you advice about what else you can do to protect your interests.

The cost of getting this advice may save you much more money in the long term if things go wrong.

cont. p. 11



cont. from p. 10

### **Tip 3: Hope for the best but plan for the worst**

When preparing a family agreement both you and your family need to understand what is being agreed so there will be no misunderstandings down the track. It is also important to anticipate what would happen if the arrangement is no longer workable or if things happen in the future over which you have no control.

For example, you should think about what would happen if:

- Your child's relationship with their spouse or partner breaks down and they have to sell the house.
- You start a new relationship and you want to move out.
- Your health deteriorates and you need to go into a residential aged care facility.
- Your health deteriorates and you want to stay where you are.
- You and your child are not able to get along together.

There are other things to think about:

- Are you intending to give the money as a gift or a loan?
- Should your name be on the title to the property as well as your child's?
- Will you receive compensation for the contribution you have made to your child's property if the arrangement doesn't work out and the property needs to be sold or you move out?
- How will your contribution be calculated?
- How will the arrangement affect the inheritance you leave to your other children?
- What kind of personal care and support will your family provide you with, if any?
- Has everyone's will been updated to take into account what will happen to the property if there is an unexpected death in the family?

If you have discussed these, and other possibilities with your family and you can agree on what is to happen it will give you peace of mind and hopefully avoid disputes and possible legal action in the future.

### **Tip 4: Think about your pension**

Your granny flat arrangement may affect your pension entitlements. Centrelink has special rules for granny flat arrangements.

For more information about whether you could lose your pension or have it reduced as a result of the arrangement, see the Legal Aid NSW brochure 'Your home and the age pension'.

### **Tip 5: Get legal advice quickly if things do go wrong**

It is important to get legal advice as soon as there is any disagreement. If you delay getting advice you may lose the opportunity to take steps to protect your legal interest in the property. Also, the law has time limits for certain types of legal action.

### **Where can I get more help?**

There are many agencies that can advise and assist. Contact Legal Aid NSW or see your lawyer

# READING OF THE WILL



To every Will there are lots of  
family members who want to settle  
their differences in an adult way ...

by litigation!



# REMINISCING: MY FIRST CAR

by Tom Wolf

My Dad bought our first family car in 1964, an EH Holden ... you know, with the 179 engine. Regrettably it was a lemon, the first of many my family was to own. But it was not mine, and I had to beg for use of the family car whenever I wanted to use it.

So, when I went to UK for work experience in 1971, the first thing I did was to look for a cheap (the cheapest) car I could get. Sure enough, a friend suggested that someone at her work was trying to sell an Austin A40 in a rotten state (it had no sump!) but for just £20, and it still had 1 month of registration!!

When I took it home, I found that the starter key switch was wonky, with some work experience I had at an auto-electrical workshop while I was at school, a toggle switch hidden under the dash took care of that!

The best part, when I looked under the front passenger seat, I found nearly £40 of lunch-eon vouchers which really helped me to make ends meet for just about all my stay (I was earning £12 a week and paid £6 of that weekly for my bed-sit)

Even with a missing sump (I always had some engine oil in the boot), I got about albeit I was an embarrassment to my mates who were all Ozzie dentists making megabucks and driving BMWs, Morgans, Jaguars and Mercs.

When it came time to go into the Lion Park those dentist mates all piled into my car as they figured it won't matter if it got scratched up!

Apart from fuel, engine oil and 6 month's rego, all I spent was a new battery and enjoyed my time in London being able to get about. You may ask what happened to the car?

One fine day in early 1972, as I was about to leave the UK, I loaned the car to one of my dentist friends whose BMW was being shipped to Australia.

After I left, I believe they parked it at Finchley Road Station (without the battery that had been given to a friend). and that's the last I ever heard of it.



## CORTIS TRAVEL ADVISORY



You can stay at the "motel" wing attached to the roadhouse if you dare.

Between Broken Hill and Tibooburra, taking the Silver City Highway, there is the Packsaddle Roadhouse and not much else.

