



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!



WOMEN'S INTRODUCTION TO WOODWORKING COURSE 2

This course is now underway with a fresh cohort of women ready to learn wood-working skills. Kenny Lazarus and Sid Lewinsky are again the instructors on this 7 week course replicating the success of Course 1, completed a few weeks ago. In addition to this course, we have welcomed women as members to the Shed on Wednesdays, mixed days, where they have successfully joined the men in creating projects. Thursdays and Fridays have been set aside as women only days, and will commence operations as soon as both Administrative and Technical Supervisors can be found/trained.

NEXT "SOCIAL FRIDAY"

Members and friends are invited to meet again for

**SOCIAL FRIDAY,
at 12 noon on 31 July
at Maroubra Seals, Maroubra Beach.**

This venue overlooks the Beach, those attending can get together and eat (or not eat), have drinks (or not) on the 1st floor of the Club. You don't have to be a member to come along, and if there's a Club member attending along with you, you can get discounts on food and drinks. **So, come along!!**



**SAFETY IS
NO ACCIDENT**



SHED GOINGS-ON (CURRENT PROJECTS ETC.)



Rodney Goldberg modified a cracked **wooden vase** by installing a glass sleeve to contain water (left)

To complement the lettering for Waverley Community Gardens, **Ian Dawes** and **Mo Dhanoya** are making **animal and plant designs** as decorations for the Garden. (right)



Jeff Silberbach is turning yet another “**mismatched bowl**” to take home to his wife (left)

One of our newest members, **Gavin Apter**, is making a **brace-let rack** for his mother. (right)

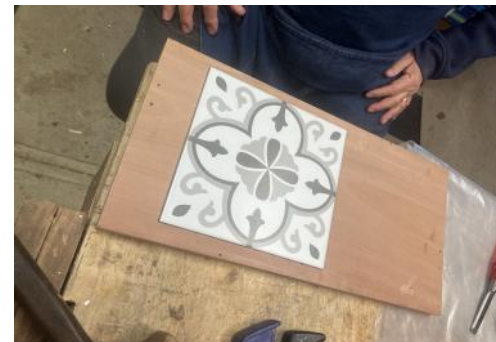


Ian Dawes is working on another **pull-along insect** (above)



Mo Dhanoya has made a **personalised pen** for a friend (left)

Kenny Lazarus and **Sid Lewinsky** are making **hot pot stands** using old tiles found by Sid at the right price (below and right)



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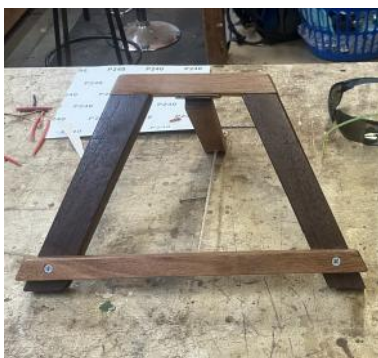
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Peter Black is making a **croquet mallet stand** for a local club (left and below)



Jimmy Hayes has made a personalised **charcuterie board with stand** as a wedding present for his cousin (right)



John Bailey has made a **sewing caddy** for his wife (left)

Steve Fox is making a **chess board** (right)



Phyll Sakinofsky and **Shein Wang** finished off their **coffee table and tool caddy** projects from the Woodworking Course (left)

Ray Tajer is caring for his wife at home, but still found time to make a **model ship** (right)



Christian Dik joined the Shed recently and has finished turning a **small bowl** (left)



William Honeyball is making another **toy garage** (above)



Mat Liminana is making a **decorative box** (left)

cont. p.4

cont. from p.3



Steve Weymouth is relocating the Shed's **laser engraver and 3D printer** to a work station with ventilation under the window (left)

Peter Charlton is admiring his handiwork on one of four **table legs** (right)

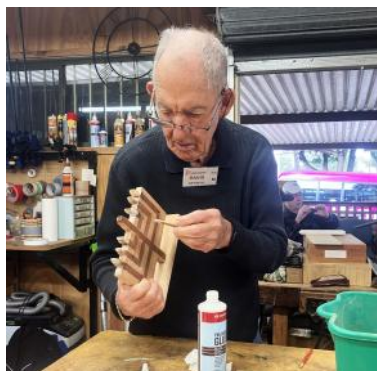


Nick Tyrrell is making kangaroo shaped **crayon holders** for young children (left)

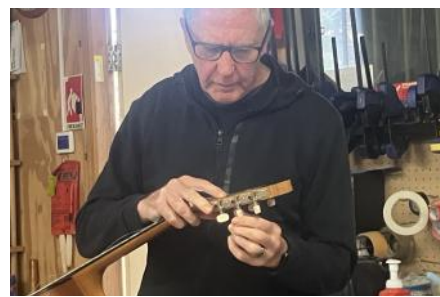


Shein Wang's mailbox project is progressing nicely. (left)

David Berman is making three **chanukiah candle holders** for his children (right)



Terry Ryan has repaired the broken neck of a **guitar** (below)



We regularly are asked by members of the public to do repairs to their household items, repairs to chairs are the most common. **Mo Dhanoya** and **Sid Lewinsky** worked together to repair a **chair** (left)



Craig Rubenstein is converting an **electric plane** to be battery operated (left)

Harold Sher is making a **peg-board game** for his grandson (right)



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Sometimes the hardest jobs we are asked to do is for family, we probably would think twice about taking on the job if we had to do it for someone else, particularly when an unknown person had attempted to carry out a repair job on the broken bit previously (and not too well at that!). That is the case with fixing a very difficult break in the **leg of this table** belonging to **Peter Charlton's** daughter which is being fixed by **Graham Ely** (right).



Peter Charlton has finally got back to the lathe to turn a **camphor laurel bowl**, the beautiful aroma of the timber pervaded the entire machine room. It was nice to see Peter doing what he loves and away from all the worries of finding a new home for us all. (left)



As previously reported, **Tom Wolf** is making a **memorial Chanukkah menorah** for Sydney COA, a community agency that lost 4 of its members in the Bondi massacre. Tom has been assisted in this project by **Mo Dhanoya** and **Kenny Lazarus** (seen in the photo on the right)



The first session of the Course 2 Woodworking for Women went off with a bang! **Kenny Lazarus** and **Sid Lewinsky** made a great introduction and gave the ladies a good feel for the ethos of the Shed, and the impressive range of tools and equipment. **Peter Charlton** had valuable and insightful discussions with the ladies!

A TALE OF TWO CHAIRS

When it comes to repairs/restoration of difficult furniture items, one of our "experts" we turn to is Graham Ely. Most recently he completed a very difficult repair to a rocking chair which has been returned to a very happy community member.



No sooner finished with that project, another community member asked for repairs to be made to an interesting chair believed to have been made overseas with a beautiful and elaborately carved hand-carved backing which had been previously repairs (or "butchered" as some may say. Not only had the glue joints given way, but on inspection it was found that ugly and visible bolts had been added during the repairs which took away from the intrinsic value of the chair.



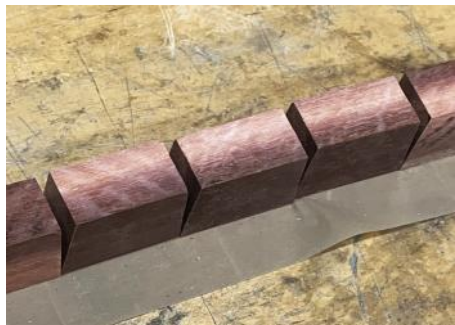


GARTH'S "RING"

As our readers may recall, **Garth Alperstein** and his wife **Melissa** are building a **Japanese style teahouse** in their backyard (see "Building a Japanese Style Teahouse", Scuttlebutt 7-4, April 2026).

It so happens that a **round window** was required for the teahouse and Garth came to the Shed with the dilemma of how he could make one.

He received advice from many members, but decided on having 36 pieces of timber, each 50mm long and with each side cut at 5 degrees angle (a trapezoid) which was glued and clamped.



After that, the photos speak for themselves.



"NI BAN"

Richard Cortis has a friend who owns a yacht called "**Ni Ban**". The friend asked Richard if he could make a model of the yacht for him using stainless steel.

So, Richard started with a scrap SS balustrade post, part of a barbecue drip tray, some SS rod from a junked boat fitting, part of a driveway grating, and some leftover SS MIG welding wire for the rigging. The timber base came from the Waverley Shed and the name was engraved on the Shed's laser engraver.

Basically, everything was scrap except the welding electrodes, some paint, and the epoxy to mount the boat on the board.





KUMIKO (woodworking)

By Mat Liminana

Kumiko is a traditional Japanese woodworking technique used to create intricate geometric lattice patterns without using any nails, screws, or glue.

The thin strips of wood are held together purely through precisely cut interlocking joints. It originated during the Asuka period (7th century) but truly flourished during the Edo period (17th–19th centuries), when craftsmen began using it to decorate **shoji screens, ranma (transom panels), doors, and room dividers** in traditional Japanese homes and temples.

The technique reflects a broader Japanese aesthetic sensibility that values precision, symmetry, and the beauty of natural materials like hinoki (cypress), cedar, and pine, which are prized for their fine, straight grain and workability.

Making kumiko is extraordinarily labor-intensive and demands years of training to master. Craftsmen begin by milling wood into perfectly uniform, razor-thin strips (often just a few millimeters wide), using specialised hand planes and saws, since even the tiniest inconsistency in thickness will throw off the entire pattern.

Each strip must then have precise notches, angles, and joints cut into it (commonly 22.5, 30, 45 and 66.5-degree angles) so that pieces slot together under tension with no adhesive, requiring incredible accuracy since gaps or looseness will be immediately visible.

There are hundreds of traditional named patterns, ranging from relatively simple ones like **asa-noha** (hemp leaf), which radiates in a hexagonal star-like motif, to **kikkou** (tortoise shell) hexagons, to extremely complex compositions like **sudare-goshi** or elaborate combinations of interlocking stars and flowers that can take a master artisan days or weeks to complete a single panel.

Because of this complexity, relatively few skilled practitioners remain in Japan, though it has seen renewed interest globally among woodworkers and designers.

I have engaged in learning the art of kumiko via books and videos, but first I had to create 4 specific jigs to craft the pieces that will ultimately be used in my kumiko:

- one custom sled with several attachments screwed or clamped to it,
- a jig to plane strips to exactly 3.2mm (the width of our table saw blade),
- a jig to cut small strips at a perfect 90-degree angle,
- and a pair of jigs to chisel the small pieces at a defined angle (down to half a degree precision).



I then had to cut and plane strips of maple and make the appropriate cuts, first for the frame and then for the pieces that went inside the frame. At this stage, I have made a test project and am aiming to make a larger one for the top of a box soon.

I am happy to share the jigs that I have made with other members and share what I learn along the way as required.

cont. p.8

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FINISHED KUMIKO PANEL

Following up on the article written by Mat (on previous page), he has now provided photos of his completed panel.



WATER WHEEL GRINDER REPAIRS

Peter Charlton's water grinding wheel broke apart as a result of expanding corrosion of the steel drive shaft. **Richard Cortis** was asked to help to repair the grinder wheel, the photos show his progress and success.

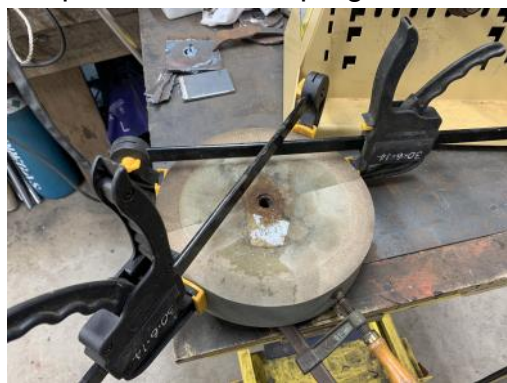


Photo 1 (left) shows the cracked grinding wheel being glued back together.

Photo 2 (right) shows the driving wheel after being filled with polyester and after re-drilling of the shaft hole but prior to excavation of the drive pin slot. Also (sorry no photos), the hub was strengthened by installation of an aluminium ring around the hub to contain the filler and preventing breaking under load. Sorry, no photo.



Photo 3 (left) shows the water wheel grinder after repair.

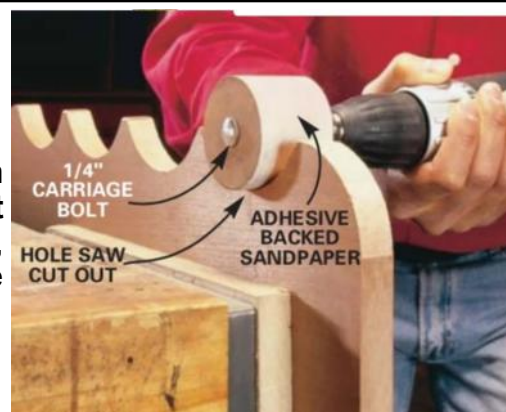
Richard hopes that the epoxy adhesive joints holding the broken grinding wheel together hold on to give some reasonable length of service.



PORTABLE DRUM SANDER

From Family Handioman, downloaded from the internet

When your work is too large to carry to the Bobbin Sander, or to hold it while you are working on it, here is neat little idea that is easy to use.





BIRD OF THE MONTH

Article and photo by Ian Dawes

Brown Quail - *Coturnix ypsilophora*

A rather shy bird with distribution across NSW, Qld, NT and northern WA., they occur in areas with tall grasses, ferns or bushes, often around wet areas. They can sometimes be seen in mornings and evenings on the edge of roads or beside tracks in dense bush.

The ones photographed here were at Yuraygir National Park, just south of Angourie in northern NSW.

We were walking along a dirt road in the early evening when we saw a group beside the road. They were busy feeding and didn't notice us from a distance. They were eating the seeds of the grass next to the road, but the seeds appeared to be out of their reach. However, one would suddenly jump up to shake the grass so that they could eat the seeds when they fell on the ground. Quite an incredible jump for a bird that size – so high he jumped out of the photo area

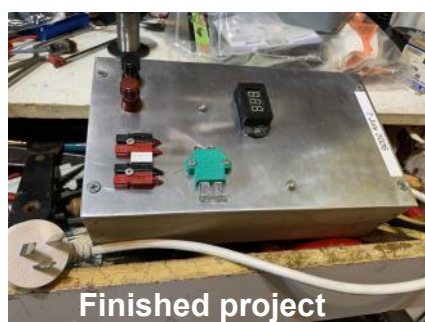
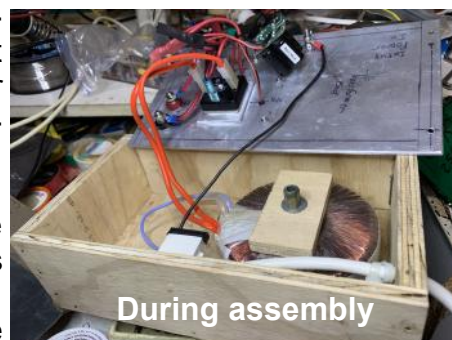


DC POWER SUPPLY PROJECT

By Richard Cortis

Recently, I constructed an electric direct current power supply to operate a small table saw that needed 24 volts at between 5 and 10 amps. This is a bit more powerful than your phone charger so it needed some heavier gear which was provided from a number of sources.

The wooden box was cut from waste pieces of ply at the Shed. the aluminium top plate was given to me by a friend, and the main 240 volt power transformer came from a shed member's garage door opener.

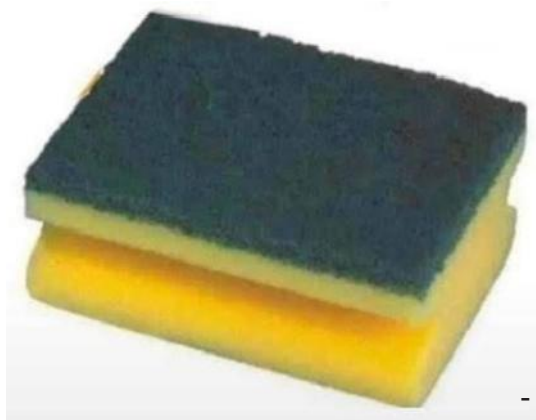


Finished project

The 240 volt power cable came from a junked appliance, whilst the diode bridge was retrieved from some junked equipment, and the fuse holder and volt meter enclosure were 3D printed by a friend.

The actual volt meter, the outlet sockets and cables etc came from my stock.

I wish to thank my friends and members who contributed necessary materials, and, by the way, it works very well.



**My wife asked me to buy something green and gold during the World Cup.
Now she's not talking to me!**



TROUBLE IN PARADISE

(or from little things, big things grow!)

By Peter Robilliard

When I bumped and grazed my lower leg at Bronte Beach on 28 March, I was not concerned. It was such a minor couple of small scratches that I did not bother to clean and put antiseptic cream on straight away. Eight days later and I was on Lord Howe Island with some of my family for 2 weeks holiday.



The minor graze on my leg had become visibly larger and slightly concerning. On Monday, 13 April, I went to the island hospital to see what I should do. The photo on the left (I hope you turn away if you're squeamish) shows my leg 2 weeks after the initial graze,

The island doctor informed me that I had cellulitis and it would take a long time to resolve. Nurse B inserted a cannula in my arm and hooked me up to an IV drip. Over the course of the 4 daily IV infusions, I chatted with nurse Smith who informed me that she was on secondment to Lord Howe Hospital and that she normally worked at John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle as an ICU or ED department nurse.

As I later learned when I got back to Sydney, she was up to date with the latest treatments and was extremely competent in her wound dressing.

When I returned to Sydney, I was treated initially by my GP's nurses. However, I was lucky to find out through a friend about

St Vincent's wound care clinic and their at-home treatment service.

My leg was treated regularly by them over roughly 6 weeks and at the time of writing, I anticipate that they'll sign off on my treatment on 30th June. As often happens when one starts sharing one's medical stories, many friends and family members related their cellulitis experiences.

The moral of my story is obviously to clean up any wound quickly, apply an antiseptic and cover with a band aid or dressing. In my case it has taken 3 months to resolve, and much inconvenience to myself and my wife. It also severely restricted our second week's holiday!

The photo on the right shows patient transport on the island.



My husband bought a world map, gave me a dart, and said "Throw this and wherever it lands, I'm taking you on a holiday".

Turns out, we're spending two weeks behind the fridge!





JULY WHO'S THIS MEMBER? - ANSWER

The July member featured was

William Honeyball, one of our founding members as a teenager.



The photo is the only one he has left of his teenage years, and this is what he looks like now

Regrettably, this photo feature asking to identify (guess) the identity of our members in their early years has proven to be a resounding flop, so this will be the last "Guess the Member"



WINDOWS FOGGING UP?

Did you know you can get fined for it?

When there is a difference between the internal temperature of the car and the outside, you can end up with foggy windows, and if you drive off quickly before dealing with it you end up with an obscured view and extra blind spots. This is dangerous.

It is also illegal. Having foggy windows counts as an obstruction of view, covered under the Road Rules 2014 – regulation 297, “driver to have proper control of a vehicle”. Sub-rule 2 states “a driver must not drive a motor vehicle unless the driver has a clear view of the road, and traffic, ahead, behind and to each side of the driver”.

That means driving with a foggy windshield, side windows or rear window is subject to incurring a fine as well as demerit points. In NSW that fine is \$432.00 and 3 demerit points

So, how do you clear your windows faster?

This will depend on whether the foggy window is caused by warm air inside and cold air outside; or the other way around.

If it's hot and humid outside, consider turning on the air conditioning with cold air to clear your windshield. However, if it is cold outside, then the heater would be the more effective way to demist the glass. There are anti fog sprays available that will assist in stopping fogging up, and keeping the windscreen free of dirt and grime also helps.



I don't know how
to act my age ...

I've never been this
old before!





RICHARD TRAVELS "BEYOND THE BLACK STUMP" - PART 2

Continued report and photos by Richard Cortis

Back on the main road, **Barcaldine** has The Tree of Knowledge, under which shearers met and talked during the shearers' strike early last century. The tree died a couple of decades ago, reportedly poisoned by some political activists. A large memorial structure has now been erected over the remains of the tree. It is a pleasant town for lunch and a walk but be aware that, in this part of the country, not much opens on Saturday and everything except the pub is closed on Sunday. We stopped in the caravan park for the night and the inquisitive caravan park chickens decided to explore our motorhome.



Going about seventy kilometres west from Barcaldine is the village of **Illfracombe** which has an extensive **outdoor farm machinery museum** which extends about a kilometre along one side of the highway. This is an incredible collection of typical and unusual machines from the past, including a "Donkey" water heater (right), typically used in temporary camps where there was not a permanent wood fuel stove with a hot box.



Other items in the collection included a Furphy **water cart** (left) made in Shepparton.

These were supplied to the Army in WW1, and as the soldiers gathered around to drink water, they exchanged rumours and gossip that became the source of many rumours and the term "Furphy" began to be used for an unlikely rumour. That is a road train parked behind the bushes.

Also included were a 1919 27hp tractor (below left); a WW2 Stuart Tank available for purchase from Army Disposal for 5 pounds and converted by removing the turret into dozers and resold for 500 pounds (below centre; and a Fordson half-track tractor used to de-silt dams (below right).



We were unable to absorb all of the machines but we still managed to fill a good couple of hours in casual observation.

cont. p.13

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Thirty kilometres further west is **Longreach**, which is a large service town in central Queensland. It has a train line to the coast and a large regional airport which includes the **Qantas museum** with several heritage aeroplanes including a Boeing 747 and a Catalina flying boat. Just across the highway is the Stockmen's Hall of Fame which is certainly worth a visit. The Tropic of Capricorn passes through the council chambers and the road passes north of the council, so we have officially entered the Queensland tropics. It was a pleasant 29C with low humidity, so shorts and a T-shirt are the current uniform. There are quite a few other activities to amuse you in Longreach so you may need more than a few days.

We intended to travel further west but water from rain further north flowing south in creeks and rivers had caused flooding of roads in the Channel Country even though it had not rained in the area and we were advised not to attempt to pass through. Best to be a bit careful out this way because being rescued can be difficult, expensive, and time consuming.

Being rescued also has a negative and detrimental effect on your ego. This required us to change our plan and head south down the road we had just travelled up. But travelling the other way gives a different view and we noticed things we had not seen on the way north.

We backtracked a few hundred kilometres south to **Augathella** where we had earlier camped in the free spot. Rather than returning to Morven, we continued heading south towards **Charleville** where we stopped to do some laundry and shopping as well as some more sightseeing.

A visit to the small museum at the Royal Flying Doctor base at the airport revealed a treadle radio display. The treadle is a floor mounted electric generator which produces the power to run the radio. It has a pair of bicycle type pedals which must be pedalled very briskly to operate the radio, even on receive as, in those days, radios had thermionic



valves with glowing filaments.

Best to get a young bloke to do the pedalling whilst the boss does the talking. The one room museum at the airport is also worth a visit. There is also a military museum which some may enjoy. It is on the corner just before the RFDS base and museum.

Leaving Charleville and heading 200kms south we arrived in **Cunnamulla** to spend a lazy couple of days lounging in the modern and very pleasant artesian pools on the riverbank overlooking the Warrego River.

There are seven pools, each at a different temperature. You can even book a massage or a mud treatment should you be so inclined. A visit to the railway station gives some insight into the early town history. There are motels and a caravan park in town but we camped at the more spacious caravan park a few kilometres out of town. There are several cafes and a food shop. Like much of the inland we have traversed, the country is dry with dry cracked soil and dry dead grass. They desperately need some rain up here.

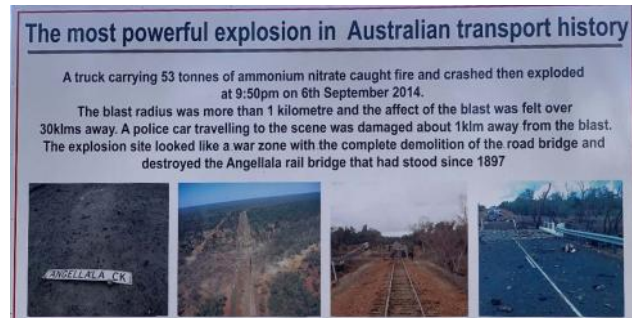


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About 30kms south from Cunnamulla we came to the memorial to the largest transport explosion in Australian history where a truck carrying fifty three tonnes of ammonium nitrate caught fire and then crashed on the **Angellala Creek bridge**, and then exploded, obliterating the concrete bridge and blowing the nearby rail bridge sideways off its foundations.

Eight people including the truck driver, the firefighters, the police man and two onlookers were badly injured. The fire truck was totally smashed and there was not much left of the truck.



Only a crater where the bridge used to be. The blast was heard 30kms away. A police car travelling to the site was severely damaged and the driver injured by the blast when still a kilometre away from the site. There is a viewing platform and some signage describing the event. It is worth stopping to have a look. You can Google more information if you want.

Further south, we crossed the border from Queensland into New South Wales. ***Did crossing the border mean that we moved from Beyond the Black Stump into Back O' Bourke?***

Anyway, about a kilometre into NSW we arrived at the **Barrington** roadhouse which just happened to be closed. I suspect it may be permanent or perhaps just seasonal. I leave it to others to discover. Parked in the roadhouse forecourt were two very large mining dump trucks being transported south in pieces. The wheels and the dump bucket had been removed but the wheel hubs were wider than the bitumen on the highway. There were pilot vehicles and three police escorts to see them on their way south. Lucky for us, they were parked to change from Queensland police escorts to NSW police escorts. We moved on fairly smartly so we were not caught behind them. The things you see when you are out of town!

Arriving in **Bourke**, we had to have another look at the Crossley engine. The engine is run for fifteen minutes each day at noon but we arrived too late. It is worth hanging around to see it go. It is located right at the Port of Bourke on the Darling River and across the road from the men's shed which was also closed when we arrived. Bourke is a bit smaller than we expected but it had a great shop with everything you need including take away meals. There is also a heritage museum and theme shop at the northern entrance to the town.

We spent the night in the caravan park and then headed down the highway towards **Nyngan**. On a previous trip, we camped at the hotel in Byrock but it was too early in the day to stop so we pressed on. But it is definitely worth stopping overnight in the caravan park or one of their rustic cabins. Having dinner is highly recommended.

In Nyngan we stopped at the caravan park just west of the Bogan River bridge and managed a nice spot on the river frontage. There is a nice riverside walking track which starts in the highway rest stop adjoining the caravan park.

In the morning we headed off in light drizzle but, rather than following the main highway as we have done before, we turned off at **Nevertire** to take a lesser road via **Gilgandra** to the Blue Mountains.

We camped overnight in the pleasant free camp at **Mendooran** which has plenty of open space.

In the morning it was raining so we made the decision to make the long drive home giving the windscreen wipers a really good workout. The country needed the rain.





SOME DAYS ARE HARDER THAN OTHERS - ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION

From "Mate, you Right", the newsletter of the Special Envoy for Men's Health

Alright fellas, let's talk about the thing none of us want to talk about: erectile dysfunction. It happens to heaps of blokes – young and old. Sometimes it's stress, sometimes it's physical health, sometimes it's too many schnittys and not enough steps.

The important bit:

- It's common
- It's treatable

It's nothing to be ashamed of

If the old fella is clocking off early, don't suffer in silence. Talk to your doctor. You'd go to the mechanic if your engine wouldn't start – give your GP the same go.



WHAT IS AN ORCHIDOMETER? HOW ARE YOUR TESTICLES?

From "Mate, you Right", the newsletter of the Special Envoy for Men's Health

An orchidometer is a tool to measure testicles that catches problems early.

If you notice a lump, pain or something that just doesn't feel right, don't ignore it. Have a feel, then have a yarn with your GP. Two minutes of awkward could save your life.



DOCTOR JOKES

Contributed by Raymond Garfield

- A doctor gave a man six months to live. The man couldn't pay his bill, so he gave him another six months.
- My doctor grabbed me by the wallet and said, "Cough!"
- The Doctor called Mrs. Cohen saying, "Mrs. Cohen, your cheque came back." Mrs. Cohen answered, "So did my arthritis!"
- The Doctor says, "You'll live to be 60!". Patient answers "I AM 60!". Doctor says: "See, what did I tell you?"
- A doctor says to a man, "You want to improve your love life? You need to get some exercise. Run ten miles a day." Two weeks later, the man called the doctor. The doctor says, "How is your love life since you have been running?" "I don't know, I'm 140 miles away!"
- The patient says, "Doctor, it hurts when I do this", the doctor answers: "Then don't do that!"
- A doctor has a stethoscope up to a man's chest. The man asks, "Doc, how do I stand?" The doctor says, "That's what puzzles me!"
- "Doctor, my leg hurts. What can I do?" The doctor says, "Limp!"
- A man goes to a psychiatrist. "Nobody listens to me!" The doctor says, "Next!"
- A man goes to a psychiatrist. The doctor says, "You're crazy" The man says, "I want a second opinion!" "Okay, you're ugly too!"
- "Doctor, I have a ringing in my ears." The doctor says, "Don't answer!"
- Nurse says to the doctor: "Doctor, the man you just gave a clean bill of health to dropped dead right as he was leaving the office". The doctor said: "Turn him around, make it look like he was walking in."
- Sick man asks his doctor "Will I be OK Doc?", the doctor replies "I doubt it, Mercury is in Uranus right now". The patient says "I don't do that Astrology stuff", the doctor replies "Me neither, mu thermometer just broke!"



MORE FAVOURITE T-SHIRTS

It seems that interesting T-shirts seen around are never-ending, we actually have a rule against wearing offensive garments at the Waverley Shed. It is hoped that seeing more of these will so offend you as to send us some more!!.

