



# MALENY MEN'S SHED Inc

## NEWSLETTER



7 Bryce Lane, Maleny P.O. Box 5, Maleny 4552 ABN 54 929 953 562

Newsletter # 3 – June 2017

Editor: Warne Wilson 54999974 warnew@bigpond.com

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Peter Fitzgibbon**

Another successful Maleny show has come and gone and with good weather it was a pleasure to attend, albeit a bit chilly after sunset. The show owes its success to a committed show committee and a strong volunteer group.

A number of years back, Ray Hegerty organized a group of 'Shedders' to join the volunteers setting up the Pavilion and each year the numbers have increased, making the set up task much easier.

I know I keep banging on about participating in community events but in small towns such as Maleny, 'joining in' and showing the flag are very important, especially when



it comes to community support to gain grants. Mind you, there are other benefits that



come from participating with events such as the show set up, i.e. enjoying hearty smokos plus making new friends. Not to be outdone, Ray Stuart and Kevin Powel put together a team of 'Shedders' and Historical Society members providing overflow show parking attendants at the Pioneer Village. Their success with this operation has netted a nice income from donations, all of which are extremely welcome for shed operations. Many thanks for those members who have helped with current community events, your efforts are very much appreciated.

Also, a notable personality at the show was Ken Scott doing a great job on the microphone for the beef cattle group. He was very well supported by his grandson, Hugh Hunter, who also provided excellent commentary on all things pertaining to beef cattle.

#### **BLACKSMITHS REPORT: Ken Scott**

The last month has been a bit quiet while some take holidays and some are just basking in the sun.

Ian, Ben & Ray have been reinventing the wheel to fit on the old tractor being restored so their skills are being employed.

A new member has shown keen interest so we will be in production of bells soon again.

The Maleny show absorbed a lot of Men's Shed energy last week and from all reports it was one of the best - great weather/great crowds putting Maleny at the top of being a great place to live, and participation in local activities is high.

Long Live Maleny!!

#### **GARDENING REPORT: Clive Powell**

Dogs versus Lawn

This has always been a problem between dogs and lawn, why?

If you have a female dog, peeing will leave a possible brown dead patch on your lawn, but a male dog will not. Again, why? Because the females fully empty their bladders but the males tend to spray a small amount in various places for marking their territory. The only material to perhaps save the patch is to apply water immediately.

#### **ENGINEERING REPORT: Lawrie Abrahamson**

Last month I mentioned the building of a jig to hold and braze, band saw blades, to be built for the wood workers. This job has found Joe Eastmure and Colin Keeley enthusiastic about the challenge. Given the limited time we have available, progress is going well.

Great to have Peter Fitz back from his break away. Peter has encouraged me to apply for a Grant through our national body for a Milldrill and some equipment required to compliment the metal lathe that was donated to the Men's Shed.

The first job on the list for the Milldrill is to rebore the badly worn holes in all of the blacksmiths forge, air blowers. New bushes made on the lathe would then be fitted to the blower housings to bring them back to the original shaft size.

I am confident Warne would agree that Sid from our shed does a great work in the woodworking area looking after engineering tasks as they arise. Thanks Sid.

Had a chuckle the other day. In the USA the story teller spotted a bumper sticker on the back of a car that read; "*Just keep on honking while I reload*".

Till next month, see you at the shed.

### **WOODIES REPORT: Warne Wilson**

The woodies shed is buzzing with activity on Tuesdays. Activities currently include Roy Brown's skilful restoration of an old Singer sewing machine and cabinet, Noel is developing his wood turning abilities, his latest creation being a narrow stemmed wine chalis. Harry is making an occasional table. Keith is restoring an antique table and making a new top for it. After some welding work by Syd Collie, Malcolm has done a marvellous job in making a mobile stand with drawer for the DeWalt thicknesser, and Ashley has been working on connecting dust extraction to the table saw. Wayne Schultz is back making pens and helping others with tricky jobs. Jimmy is looking for a suitable post to carve into one of his artistic totem poles. (If anyone knows of a round post about 1800 long and 150 - 200mm wide going begging, please let us know about it).

John Cutler has donated a capacious cupboard with shelves which will accommodate most of our tools; we are using it already and we will make it lockable. Our newest challenge is to make racks to hold the stacks and heaps of assorted timber we have inherited, and to make way for Harvey and his chainsaw rig to turn logs into useable timber.

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**Some days are better, some days are worse.  
Look for the blessing instead of the curse.  
Be positive, stay strong, and get enough rest.  
You can't do it all, but you can do your best.**

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### **HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES**

**HERITAGE DAY:** The recent Heritage Day was a success, both from the point of view of giving visitors a look at our past and financially. Thanks to the Men's Shed members who helped. Ray Stewart had arranged for Howard, a professional blacksmith, to visit on the day, and he gave us some ideas and put on a show for the visitors. It is intended to make cow bells and other items and sell them to visitors.

**METAL DETECTOR:** Matt Weibusch, a Beerwah school teacher, has been given permission to explore the village area with a metal detector to see if he can discover some historical items. We will also support him to explore other areas around Maleny. Matt will donate items to the society and retain photos for himself.

**PHOTOS:** Marsha, the lady photographer who may have been seen around the village, has posted over 100 pages to Google Maps. This site has been registered in the name of the Historical Society. To access, log onto Google Maps, Maleny Historical Society and click on Photos.

**THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S WEB PAGE:** [www.historicalsocietymaleny.com](http://www.historicalsocietymaleny.com) is being continually updated and provides details of what is going on.

**PAULINE'S SHED:** Ray and his able assistant, Joe, have been classifying and recording all the items in the shed. Articles are being numbered and recorded in a catalogue.

**GLENFERNA:** Work is progressing well with Burnie and Clive attending almost every day, setting things up and showing other volunteers what to do where required. All 26 windows were removed, dismantled, frames sanded and painted, and glass bedded in with putty. Weather boards have been put on the southern and western sides and have been painted. The southern wall had to be rebuilt with new studs and beams on the bottom. Ed Lawley is the Society's Registered Builder and all work is under his direction. When big jobs come up, Ed and other town builders have donated their time to do it. When specialised work is required, such as the removal of asbestos, that work is farmed out.

**CARETAKER:** Kim, our caretaker, has settled in and is learning the run of the place. She has proved to be an expert lawn mower operator, mowing the village as required and even took on the parking area in the cow paddock. Keep it up Kim.

**SHOW PARKING OVERFLOW:** Show parking was carried out again this year and was a good earner. Improved signage next year should make it even better. More volunteers would be appreciated as proceeds are shared 50/50 with the Historical Society and the Men's Shed.

## MALENY MEN'S SHED EVENTS REMINDERS

- ❖ 27 June: Men's Shed BBQ
- ❖ 27 June: Monthly General Meeting
- ❖ 8 and 9 July: KnitFest Maleny Township area. Colin may need help to manufacture display frames.
- ❖ 11 July: CWA Country Kitchens - Judy Stubbs healthy cooking demonstration
- ❖ 14 July: Bike event - Marshallers required - names to Mal Bake
- ❖ 3 September: Festival Maleny Classics Witta Recreation Club, Witta Road Witta.
- ❖ Model Railway Visit - Maleny:



Organising a visit to model railway layouts in the Maleny District. If I get enough names I'll contact the owners to arrange a visiting date.

If you are interested, please email Peter Fitzgibbon: [sharon.fitzgibbon@bigpond.com](mailto:sharon.fitzgibbon@bigpond.com). This photo may be a bit over the top in relation to Bill's but as I haven't got a shot of Bill's layout, this photo will just give a bit of an idea of what layouts can look like.

- ❖ Making Wooden Toys: If you're into making wooden toys, check out web site for some free plans and tips. <http://www.aschisworkshop.com>

# Get to know your fellow shedders!

This month I asked DENNIS HENSBY a few questions:

*Where were you born Dennis?*

**Ulverstone, in NW Tasmania, on the coast between Devonport and Burnie.**

*Could you describe it?*

**In the 50s, Ulverstone was a small market town of around 5,000 people, processing and shipping timber and farm products from the surrounding rich farming area. These days it has grown a little to about 7,000 but a lot of the farm produce is now processed elsewhere. Ulverstone has become more of a dormitory town for the cities of Devonport and Burnie, as well as increasingly a great spot to retire to.**

*Siblings?*

**I have 2 younger brothers, also born and bred in Ulverstone. Currently one is in Caloundra and the other is living in Tweed Heads. I also have a few cousins who have moved to the region by various routes. Ulverstone is slowly moving to the Sunny Coast!**

*What brought you to Maleny and when?*

**I worked in Burnie, Launceston, Melbourne, Ulverstone, Launceston again, then finally in Canberra. When I retired in October 2012, my wife and I began to look about for somewhere warm to retire to. After an investigative holiday up Australia's east coast, we decided that my brother had made a wise choice moving from Darwin to Caloundra a few years previously. We returned to Canberra to sell up and several months later arrived on the Sunshine Coast to look for real estate beside the beach. On a visit to Maleny (on a day off from intensive house hunting), we spotted an interesting house at Witta and moved in in December 2013. It wasn't that near the beach, but it will do.**

*What was/is your profession?*

**I worked in a small variety of jobs until I became a State public servant in my early 20s. I had a few different clerical jobs before beginning a self-funded course in computers. In those days computers were still a rare novelty. That was career changing and I eventually moved into private enterprise in Launceston for a few years. As the "recession we had to have" approached, I applied for and got a job in the Federal public service in Canberra as a computer programmer. We decided to move the family to Canberra just before the recession hit, so that turned out to be a smart move. I spent the next 23 years in a variety of computer related public service jobs before retiring.**

*What do you enjoy most about the Men's Shed?*

**Apart from the opportunity to meet people with similar interests and learn from them, I have been impressed with the friendliness and willingness to help others. Morning teas aren't bad either!**

*What would be your advice to young people today?*

**Plan a career, but don't lock yourself in. Circumstances will change. Take advantage of the opportunities as they present – you never know where it may lead.**

*What advice would you have liked to receive when you were 15?*

**If you miss an opportunity, don't sweat it – there will often be a better deal around the corner.**

***Thanks Dennis!***

## **CFA Volunteer Warns of Fungus in Firewood**

**31 May, 2017**



**Glenadale CFA volunteer, John Hine, was faced with a battle last year, one he never saw coming.**

**This time last year, John was cutting up the annual supply of Redgum wood on his farm in Woodglen. John had no idea he was inhaling a small fungus that lives in some timbers. The substance is in the form of a white powder that, when disturbed, becomes airborne. John said that a few weeks after cutting the firewood he began to feel sick.**

**“I started experiencing symptoms such as muscle aches, fever, sweating and headaches so severe no amount of Nurofen or Panadol could help me,” said John.**

**Initially it was thought that John had lung cancer as chest X-rays and CT scans revealed a shadow on the lungs.**

**“I was referred to the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne for further scans and a bed was set aside for immediate transfer to the Royal Melbourne Hospital. “It was soon discovered that in fact I didn’t have cancer, but a rare fungus infection which has spread from my lungs into spinal fluid and into the brain. The rare fungal infection is called Cryptococcal Fungus. The illness is very uncommon and on average six to ten Victorians are diagnosed with infection every year.**

**“An intense medical treatment plan was administered, including daily intravenous therapy of anti-fungal fluid by a team of specialist doctors and nurses. “The treatment really flattened me, after my release I returned weeks later. It’s been a really long journey which all started exactly 12 months ago. It’s not completely gone yet, fingers crossed I can beat this.**

**The strain of fungus John inhaled is most commonly found in Redgum, but other strains exist in other timbers including Blue gum, and Blackwoods.**

**John shares his story so that others may learn. John said that simple precautionary steps could have been taken, like wearing a face mask.**

**“Our family and friends keep a pack of respirators on hand now; I hope I can educate others about the risk.**

**“I’m a self-employed farmer and CFA volunteer who drives the fire truck. I never even knew of Cryptococcal Fungus until I caught this illness.**

## *The New Car*

A retired older couple returned to a Mercedes dealership where the salesman has just sold the car they had been interested in to a beautiful, leggy, busty blonde in a mini skirt and a halter top.

The old man was visibly upset. He spoke to the salesman sharply, "Young man, I thought you said you would hold that car till we raised the \$55,000 asking price. Yet I just overheard you closed the deal for \$45,000 to the lovely young lady there. And if I remember right, you had insisted there was no way you could discount this model."

The salesman took a deep breath, cleared his throat and reached for a large glass of water. "Well, what can I tell you? She had the cash ready, didn't need any financing help, and, Sir, just look at her, how could I resist?" replied the grinning salesman sheepishly.

Just then the young woman approached the senior couple and gave the car keys to the old man. "There you go," she said. "I told you I could get that idiot to lower the price. See you later Dad, Happy Father's day."

Once again.... don't mess with seniors!



## **MALENY DISTRICT SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB INC**

### **Upcoming Community Events - 2017**

Muscle on the Mountain July 2nd - 9.30am - 1pm - Maleny Showgrounds.

Kniffest - Yarn & Fibre Arts Festival July 8th and 9th - Maleny Township area.

Maleny Classics September 3rd - Witta Recreation Club, Witta Road, Witta.

To include information in this events list simply email to [denvergail1@gmail.com](mailto:denvergail1@gmail.com)



That's all for this month, folks. Please begin forwarding contributions for July.

*Warne Wilson, [warnew@bigpond.com](mailto:warnew@bigpond.com), phone 5499 9974.*