



July 2017

Noosa Shed News Letter

From the President

My apology but this month's newsletter will be a bit abbreviated.

I am composing this while I am on the road through NSW to Marg and my 50th Anniversary celebration in Wollongong. One of our first stops was on the Tweed Coast in the little town of Pottsville. While there, I was made aware of the local Men's Shed which was about to move into their new building after four years in a portable classroom at the local primary school. It was getting pretty crowded for their 40 members and they were restricted to just woodwork. The local female mayor had resisted allowing a "Men's" shed but about 80% of the people of the town staged a march through the streets protesting that they were in favour of having a proper shed in their town. So, long story short, I happened to be there on the first day they moved into their empty new shed. And of course, I couldn't say no to their invitation to address the members and tell them about our shed in Noosa



Believe it or not I kept my talk to 10 minutes but of course I mentioned our fantastic facilities, our enthusiastic members and the positive cooperation we enjoy among us. I also mentioned some basic principles about sheds which I strongly believe in. Here are three of them

1. Any shed is NOT about buildings and facilities. It's about PEOPLE. There is no shed without the men who use it. Looking after one another has got to be number one.
2. Communication among all members is critical. It is important that everyone feel that this is their shed, not just to those who speak loudest and longest. With this principle goes democracy. All members need to have an opportunity to have a say in everything we do. Decisions are made not by one person but by consensus and /or negotiation.
3. The struggle together is important. Sitting back and expecting hand outs does nothing toward advancing the shed. Simply sitting back and whinging and expecting that someone will do it for us will probably result in getting nowhere. Working together on fundraising, putting up buildings etc is an important part of building a sense of ownership and belonging to our shed. The shed belongs to all of us. If it's going to continue to evolve and develop, it's up to you—each one of us.

I came away from my brief contact with Pottsville Men's Shed feeling grateful for the contact with them and very fortunate to be a part of Noosa Men's Shed and it's amazing members.

When I was young, I thought I knew everything and I wanted to change the world.

Now I'm older and wiser, I have realized that the only one I can change is ME

What's been happening in July?

This month, as arranged by Ron Blackman, we heard a very informative talk from the Police on Internet Fraud. Those who missed it and would like information on this topic which is becoming a real problem—particularly with us oldies, there are some pamphlets available at the shed.



The vegie garden is over flowing and the landscaping is looking like a mini-Botanical Garden. **The garden crew is under-manned at the moment. If you can help, please see Gav Menkens**



The Cobber's Shed (recycle shed) got a mezzanine storage area and a shade area extension
The Leather Shop is now set up and ready for use. **First session August 8**



A flotilla a Tinnies cruised the river in search of those evasive Noosa River fish **The next trip is to the North Shore for beach fishing on Wednesday Aug 16. See Wayne Carlson if interested**



Madill's Auto Group presented us with a donation of \$500. An item to be purchased yet to be decided. Suggestions??



It might be time to turn in your driver's licence and get off the road. This is Gav Menkens behind the wheel at the Car Club Hill Climb where we had a number of our members assisting with the event



Rotary has donated the majority of the funds to buy this amazing new trailer which will be used for shed use as well as to transport Rotary's collected hospital equipment. A win-win for all of us.

Coming Up in August and beyond !!

Shed Band

On the notice board outside the office you will find a sheet to be signed if you are interested in being part of a Noosa Men's Shed Band. After the middle of August, we will call together those interested and begin making music together with what ever numbers we have and with what ever instruments and level of expertise we have in the group. Many of us might have taken music lessons in our younger days or perhaps even played in a band. Some are currently still playing—perhaps quietly on your own. Some are music teachers. We have two people who have offered to direct the band which could be great fun for everyone. The day and time for practice will be decided once we see who is interested. Making music from instruments we make ourselves might even be another possibility. Get your name down and lets see what happens with this from here.

Shed AGM

The exact date for our AGM has not yet been decided but early October looks likely. At that time all positions on the leadership team of our shed will be declared vacant and new people elected. I think you will agree that we have made a great start at NMS since 2014 when our journey began. This is thanks to a great number of people doing their bit to make it what it is. Now it's time for you to take a turn in continuing this into 2018. Please consider offering to be nominated for one of the many positions needed to run our shed. There is a roll for everyone and the more who get involved, the lighter the load for everyone.

More on this in the next month or so, but now is the time to start considering what you can offer. Remember, it is **your** shed and what happens in it is up to **you**.

A reminder that your yearly membership fees are now due.

Noosa Men's ShedShed Sponsors and Supporters

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