



# *Alex Hills Men's Shed Monthly.*

19<sup>th</sup> Edition May 2018

As the days get shorter and daylight warmth is fading away it is GREAT to have lights available again and a hot cuppa Tea or coffee on demand. You can feel flushed once more. The Powers that be, have at last Fixed IT about 1120 hrs on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May there **WAS LIGHT**. After about 8 weeks we were almost back in action.

Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of May being a public holiday and the shed not being open there was no need to put the hot water ON.

The annual Fee Increase was discussed at length and with much vigour on May 1<sup>st</sup> when we had our monthly General Meeting with more than 40 shedders present. The aim to keep our finances in the Black not the Red. The increase of our fees to the sum of \$50.00 per year was voted in and this will be imperative if we have any loss of income due to BBQ revenue reducing in the event of changes to Bunnings procedures for allocating our weekly roster to any other groups.

In case of any undue financial hardship this increase may impose on any member rest assured that if you let someone on the committee know, then aid will no doubt be available.

## **A simple test could save your life**

The 2018 Rotary Bowelscan Queensland campaign is under way and Redland City Mayor Karen Williams is urging locals to participate and help save lives. Coordinated by Rotarians from the local Rotary District 9630, the campaign was launched at

Princess Alexandra Hospital last week, with PAH Director of the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Professor Gerald Holtmann MD PhD MBA as guest speaker. The annual drive aims to reduce the number of lives lost to bowel cancer. The disease is the second biggest cancer killer in Australia, with about 80 Australians dying from the disease every week. Bowel cancer can affect anyone and can develop without obvious symptoms for some time, increasing the importance of people of all ages being aware of good bowel health. If detected early, however, bowel cancer is 90 per cent curable, and local Rotarians are encouraging early detection through testing. Throughout May and June, Rotary's Bowelscan campaign will offer subsidised test kits. The test is completed in privacy and analysed for free by Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology. The kits sell for \$15 from participating pharmacies or \$17.50 online, and analysis is free. Cr Williams commended the local Rotarians for their dedicated efforts in helping to raise awareness of the disease and the importance of being tested." Rotary is renowned for helping communities across the world, and with that drive and experience focused on encouraging people to be tested for possible bowel cancer these Rotarians are certainly making a difference," she said. "Last year, Rotarians sold about 65,000 Bowelscan test kits across Australia, saving the lives of more than 4300 people – almost 850 of them from Queensland". I'm urging locals to take part in the campaign by

buying, using and submitting a test for analysis, and encouraging others to do the same. "This is a simple, cost-effective test available to everyone, and it may save your life or that of a loved one." Cr Williams also encouraged Red landers to follow Bowelscan Queensland on social media and to like, share and retweet campaign posts to help spread the word. Visit [Rotary Bowelscan](#) for more information about the campaign, including details of where kits can be purchased.

At our social meeting on Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup> we found out we had been gifted a Boat.



The recent "**Boat donation**" to the shed should be interesting and we will have to see what we can do with it. As a Nautical person. I remember my first trip to sea aged not quite 15 years old, so quite a long time ago. I joined a large trawler in Hull for a trip "Pleasuring" (unpaid work experience) towards Iceland in the Arctic Circle. We sailed on the tide from Hull in the middle of the night with most of the 22 man crew somewhat under the weather and I was given the task with the Cook of going forward to let go the ropes as we left the dock. Our voyage up the east coast of Britain was spent mending nets and rigging gear ready for the catching of a haul of we

hoped Cod or Haddock during the next 2 to 3 weeks. We traversed the Pentland Firth across the top of Scotland which is quite a frisky tidal area where ships can end up going backwards at times. Then North towards the Icelandic waters which were then under dispute at the time of a Cod War. There were **MANY** dozens of trawlers from Britain and many European countries fishing all around Iceland. When a trawler hauls in its nets the vessel has to loosen the two huge steel cables and swing the ship usually to starboard to have the wires open up and allow the mouth of the net come alongside the ship. The main engine must be stopped and so you end up lying in the sea hampered from moving anywhere. A few days into our voyage in the middle of the night we were hauling in our net and had our big deck lights on full strength pointing across the deck to the net as it rose full of fish. Next thing we knew a search light shone on our deck and an Icelandic Navy Gunboat approached from astern and illuminated us everywhere and hailed us on a loudspeaker.

**"British Trawler YOU are Fishing in Iceland's waters and are under arrest!"**  
**"Heave to and we will board you."**

I was on the bridge watching what was going on ready to go on deck and gut some fish when the catch was landed on deck. Our Skipper made a few **Nautically** adverse comments regarding his opinion of the gunboats crews' parentage. He reached for the radio mike and called out for the Royal Navy Fisheries protection squadron. Saying we are being arrested by the **Gunboat Igor**, which was really an Icelandic trawler not much larger than our ship. They had on their deck 6 sailors armed with rifles. Next thing there was a whoosh and the sky lit up all around the horizon. Illuminating shells

burst overhead and the burning flares dropped down.

**5 British** destroyers and frigates, Daring, Diana, Duchess, Crossbow and Palliser coming rapidly towards us from all directions with their radar controlled guns pointing at the **IGOR**. Then a rather British Naval officer came on the radio and said clearly and **emphatically** “ This is a **British Trawler outside your waters** so **kindly GO AWAY**, When you have a dozen manned guns pointing at you it became clear who was in charge at the time. Exit Igor. Next time you have fish and chips for tea. “Think what goes on at sea and with the South China seas being a current topic of news”. What are we going to do with our latest disagreement at sea?

This an article for you to see [how you can contribute to the newsletter with tales of long ago.](#)

### June Birthdays

Bruce Appleton, John Droppleman, Patrick Kennedy, Phil Ramsey, Brian Risson Max Steen, Peter Wilson, Trevor Gow.

May you all enjoy the day with family & friends

The shed is a confluence of good ideas, Good fellas and good aims. So we are really the **Goodies**. Most are, some are free spirits.

We would like to thank a few organisations which make our aims come true.

### Recent Grants coming from: -

The Redland Foundation,  
The Ian McDougall Memorial Grant (2018)  
The Underhill Grant (2017).

These grants assuredly were so very welcome.

Remember the Trailer which was being refurbished and is almost finished. It still needs a bottom in it but that is almost in hand. The brakes and lights were fitted and tested and a trial attachment to a suitable vehicle took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> May.



An open letter “Thank Youse” from David Rahtz (Orange NSW, aka the Deep South) (As he said it) I have recently moved to Orange - a retirement Tree Change - and decided I would get involved in the community from the start, and take up woodworking again after 50 years. Thus I ended up at the Borenore/Nashdale (10km West of Orange) Men’s Shed. For the first

time, I had a go at woodturning, and inherited from a friend a crappy Toolex /GMC lathe which clearly wasn't going to help me to learn good practice. Thus I once again engaged the "Gumtree Shuffle"....h'mm, nice looking Nova for sale....make a nice 66<sup>th</sup> birthday present...rats, it's in Brisbane. Too far to pick up. I checked out budget freight carriers – not too scary – but they said I would have to pack it properly. So I got to wondering about Men's Sheds and nice helpful blokes in Brisbane, so I did some phoning around and the trail led to one Bernie Maguire. I've never met him, but "No problem", he says – "I'll sort it out". So it was duly sorted. So thanks a heap to Bernie and the lads and Alexandra Hills Men's Shed for doing the vital connection bit and collecting and packing up the gear. I told my Men's Shed blokes the story and they were most impressed – gives the Shed movement a good name! Cheers

David Rahtz. Below



Terry Loading up the Lathe for shipment.



A Block of Huon Pine was presented at the social meeting on the 15th and auctioned off, a prize for wood carvers who make exquisite carved pens.



Here we have a member demonstrating his skills as an auctioneer. Michael sold this small block of wood from Tasmania with such fervent skill it made me shake with the camera.

At our Social meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> May we were going to have a presentation by Peter Westcott re "Work Place health and Safety, unfortunately the gentleman going to give the talk had had a fall hurt his back. He could not come. We sincerely hope he has fully recovered and we can arrange another time.

**For any travelers going on Holiday.** Think for a minute. It was mealtime during an airline flight. 'Would you like dinner?' the flight attendant asked John, seated in front. 'What are my choices?' John asked. 'Yes or no,' she replied.

If you are going shopping without the guidance of a spouse. A "Man" was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store but he couldn't find one big enough for his family. He asked a stock boy, 'Do these turkeys get any bigger?' The stock boy replied, 'No Sir, they're dead...'

**Bye the time you read this we should have the power installation fully connected. A Note was sent to all our Shedders that the electrician is/was booked to work on shed power changes on Thursday 31st so the shed will have been closed for the day!**

## First Aid Courses are being organised once more.

It is hoped to be the norm that we always have a qualified First aider at the shed when members are working there. Details of how you can become eligible for fee paid courses are on the Way.

### Bluey at work.

**Planting Bananas** should give us some shade for our Patio. First one going in. Not sure if they will be "Ladies fingers" or "Cavendish" when we see the first crop. Bet they will be Yellow!



Remember to take SAFETY Precautions as this saw certainly makes this a priority when you see how big a piece of wood can be CUT this is a very much a case for counting fingers and wearing appropriate gear, Eyes, Ears and other dangly bits. Should be what you take home.

When you make a mess guess who gets the Job of cleaning up.

(Bernie will tell you if you forget.)



Where is the brush?

© 30-4-18 most articles are put together by Brian (bhbeveridge@gmail.com) with special contributions and extracts from various members. THANK YOU. (You can give us a story any time)

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