



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!

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



New premises update:

We had a meeting with Uniting recently, they are proceeding with their work and they still say we have 12 months from now before the bulldozers arrive.

We asked Waverley Council if we could move into the now empty Bondl Rd Council Chambers until they have approval to re develop the site or use it in some other way but they have said NO. We have asked Waverley Council for other sites but nothing is available.

Randwick City Council have offered us a permanent/long term purpose built facility down near their proposed SES site on Bunnerong Rd (near the container terminal) but it is awaiting designs, finance and approvals, a process that will take years. We asked Randwick City Council if we could use the Inglis Stables temporarily, until the building site at that SES project is available but they informed us that it is already spoken for.

We then asked Randwick City Council for a site, even if it was just land and temporary, and they replied that there is a possibility that we may be able to occupy the old tennis courts near **Totem Hall and Popplewell Park in South Coogee**.

The site is convenient, it is big, it is level, it has parking, it is on a bus route; how could there be better?

We are now working on finding demountable buildings or equivalent that we can out on the courts and will proceed to seek the approvals and finance to make this our home till the building beside the SES is available some time hence.

These are favourable developments, but, to quote Winston Churchill "Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

Peter



ANZAC DAY
APRIL 25





COPYRIGHT AND OUR NEWSLETTER

As members are aware, I often get down on my knees begging for material for Scuttlebutt. In response, I often get what is blatantly plagiarised copyrighted articles.

By that I mean that the article (or picture) is copied directly from printed material either directly from the Net or as directed to the member from some friendly source.

Copyright laws are there to protect the creative person who has brought into existence an original work, be it artwork, something written, a photograph, etc.

So that cartoon you received from a friend and thought to be funny may be copyright. Even stuff you found on YouTube is most probably copyright.

So, even if you are skilled enough on a computer to “screenshot” a video you could be breaching the law.

Things you create yourself are your copyright and if you claim the protection of copyright, it is protected by law. You will see our claim for copyright on the front page of Scuttlebutt.

We have special arrangements with fellow Men’s Sheds to use each others’ material by acknowledging the source and the author, but this must be arranged in advance.

Many photos and articles are out there in the “Public Domain”, they are fair game, but acknowledgement is still necessary. Sometimes articles for community benefit are “fair game”.

What is the significance? As Editor of another newsletter I recently copied an article by arrangement, and my Club’s newsletter was placed on the Club’s website for the benefit of members (thus “publishing” it).

In doing this, I was not aware that the other newsletter’s editor used copyrighted photos. I was in error as I didn’t do the check myself and relied on others.

There are groups out there that do nothing else but search the internet for copyright breaches, which they then report to the rightful owner and claim a very substantial commission from damages that are recovered.

That little exercise over 2 copyrighted photos cost my Club over \$500.00 in damages, mistake is no defence.

This is not intended to be a lesson in law, but rather a warning about how careful and vigilant we must be.

I don’t want to scare away any contributor to Scuttlebutt, but rather to encourage original works, both articles and photographs. Taking photos of your own work with your own camera is OK! So are travel photos you take.

Looking forward to receiving a flood of original works, cheers,

Tom



VISIT BY LOCAL FEDERAL MEMBER

On 26 February, members of the Shed entertained **Allegra Spender**, the Federal Member for Wentworth.

Ms Spender is a proud supporter of the Waverley Shed and she spent her time talking to the Shedders about various local issues, including our proposed move (unfortunately out of her electorate).



SOME WELCOMING "SHED BUSINESS"

At the AGM (and in accordance with our Constitution), your Committee was empowered to invite or co-opt additional members onto the Committee.

It is with great pleasure that I inform you, that at the recent WCMS Board meeting it was unanimously agreed that **Frank Fay** and **Steve Weymouth** be invited to join the Committee.

Until the next AGM they will be coopted onto the Board with the expectation that they will stand for election at the AGM and we will have some new blood.

We welcome them on board and we look forward to their contribution to the ongoing running of the Waverley Shed.

Peter

WHEN LIFE GETS TOUGH, THE TOUGH HIDE UNDER THE TABLE

It must have been a distressful day, **Peter Charlton**, our President, got under a table to make his **phone calls**. Privacy is important, but is there a limit at the Waverley Shed?



NEW PREMISES FOUND?



Peter Ulmer has sent through a suggestion for the new premises.

He says that it is excellent, level open spaces, with very few steps but the steps do have ramps, good ventilation, lots of natural light with only 2 inhabitants but they won't trouble anybody.. The building is in a good state of repair and constantly maintained.

Transportation (especially by car, bus or train) to and from might be an issue. But food is plentiful and cheap plus the food is 'to die for'.

Much better than most canteens or cafes, so, please consider ... **namaste**.



Uniting

Uniting War Memorial Hospital

invites you to a face-to-face seminar on

STROKE

Monday 7th April, 12.30pm to 2.45pm

War Memorial Hospital Day Centre, 125 Birrell St Waverley

- **Information from a stroke specialist on prevention and latest treatment for strokes**
- **Psychological impact of stroke**

Entry from 12pm, light lunch will be provided.

Bookings essential: **Catriona 93690215**
or catriona.beaumont@health.nsw.gov.au





SHED GOINGS-ON (CURRENT PROJECTS ETC.)

Frank Fay is turning a *large bowl* from a camphor laurel tree (below). This species was introduced into Australia in 1822 and is invasive and excludes other desirable native vegetation, so it is good to have it made into something useful.



When a community member brought in a *table for repairs/restoration*, **Frank** dropped all other projects he was working on to help out (above)

Frank has not lost the ancient skill of *whittling* (right), using a knife to shape timber into the shape of a spoon.



Ray Tajar is going home very happy. His wife asked for *playing card holders*, and Kenny Lazarus assisted him to make 4 of them (left)

cont. p.5

cont. from p.4



Harry Jacobs has been turning pens stubbs for the past month or so, and he is having great results in making **pens** for his entire family (a cast of very very many) (left). Now that only leaves **???** more to make?



Craig Rubenstein needed four **table legs** for a project. He shaped them and then he had to cove the sides of the legs, so he made a jig for the router. The results are outstanding. (above)



Another **charcuterie board** in its embryonic state. **Nick Tyrrell** hard at work on the small bandsaw cutting the board.(left)



Nick is also helping make the **"caterpillar toys"**, here he is painting one (right)



We welcomed back our "beekeeper" from the Northern Beaches. **Fred Oertli** is not as regular as he used to be before he moved so far away, but he is still interested in beekeeping. He is making some **native bee hives** (left).

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cont. from p.5



Ian Daves seen hard at work on the lathe, turning "another bowl" (left)



Ian is also making a **cheese board** from a famous brand wine box. (above) and on the left, he is seen putting the final finishing touches to a "caterpillar toy" which has come back for repairs.



Craig Rubenstein (below) tries his hand at **brazing**, a process that joins metal surfaces by letting molten metal flow into the joint.



Albert Verdian is making a **cheese board** for home (left)



David Berman (right) is very pleased with his **drinks table**.

cont. p.7

cont. from p.6

We have been reporting that **Steve Weymouth** is making a **trefoil shape street library** for the Bondi Girl Guides Hall at Thomas Hogan Reserve, Bondi.

As one would expect, having regard to the unusual design, this has been a long-term project that was requested/commissioned by the local guides. The three flower petals and the stem of the flower each contain a box that will hold books.

Mo Dhanoya (below) needed some **door wedges** for home, a bit of help from **Ian Dawes** to turn the knobs, and ... "voilà "



RAYMOND'S CACTUS FLOWER

Photos by Raymond Garfield

Raymond Garfield writes: "This cactus has been in our garden for about 28 years, as far as I can recall it is the first time that it has bloomed. I just had to share."

We checked out the Web, this is what it had to say:

"While succulents are typically grown for their compact and evergreen foliage, their flowers are also a lovely sight to behold and make for a captivating addition to any indoor or outdoor area.

With their vibrant hues, intricate contours, and captivating textures, succulent flowers offer a pleasant visual feast." ...

and "Succulents flower in order to reproduce. Most succulents will send their flowers up on a long stem, possibly to attract more pollinating insects and nectar feeding birds."





A QUIET ACHIEVER

Jeff Silberbach has been a member for several years, and is our computer “go-to-guy” as and when we need him. Jeff “floats” in without fanfare, often he has a quiet word with some friends, and disappears to get on with his work.



Nobody notices the fantastic items he creates and he was quite reluctant about sharing photos of his work when asked by your Editor.

He finally relented and the following photos show his work, most often on the lathe as the goblet (left) show and other photos show, but more recently he has also made an impressive frame for an indigenous art piece for home (right)



He's also made a various lidded boxes (on left), tea light holder (above near right) ... and pens (above ar right)

Nice work Jeff!!

THE MANY JOBS OF KENNY LAZARUS

Kenny Lazarus does more jobs around the Shed for the community and other members, than he does for himself.

When your home **kitchen rangehood** gives up the ghost and there are no spare parts to be purchased (it was a very old appliance), you just have to adapt whatever is available. **Sid Lewinsky** asked **Kenny** to help and the answer was “**yes, of course**”.(left)

Another project that **Kenny** is helping **Sid** with is a **TV table/stand**, very carefully and precisely cut and assembled (right).

As if that’s not enough,

As if he wasn’t busy enough, he was the first to spring into action to help out **Tony Mandarano** to make some **boxes** for **Tony’s** grand-daughter.

Kenny has been very busy helping everyone, including community members who were so impressed by his work that they made a very substantial contribution to the Shed.

Thanks, Kenny!



FIRST AID COURSE

Thirteen Waverley Shedders attended a First Aid Course conducted by the Australian Red Cross on 10th March, 2025.



The Course was very successful, and all who attended gained valuable experience to deal with injured persons.

VICTOR CHANG HEART HEALTH CHECK

On 11th March 2025, 16 members of the Waverley shed attended for testing by the Victor Chang Heart Team.

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death and disability in Australia, claiming the life of one person every 12 minutes. The Victor Chang Heart Health Check identifies issues, and inspires people to act and protect their long-term health. Knowing heart disease risk factors can save life.

The results were mixed, with one or more of the members tested having results outside of the healthy range and being recommended to visit their GP.

Blood sugars were tested, with 15 healthy and 1 elevated; blood pressure was also tested with mixed results; cholesterol tests resulted in 13 healthy, 2 elevated and 1 member high.



CHANNEL 7 SHOWS OUR BRIGHT SIDE

On 24 February, 2025 we had a visit from **Grace Fitzgibbon**, the presenter of *"The Bright Side"* and a cameraman, from Channel 7 who filmed members at work on a variety of projects that were being carried out on the day, and interviewed some members as to the relevance of the Shed in their lives and in the community.

Peter Charlton was interviewed at length and is seen in the photo during the interview.

The report was aired that evening, apart from Peter's interview, members who were at the Shed on the day played cameo roles, with snippets of interviews with **Sid Lewinsky** and **Tom Wolf** also being shown. If you missed it and are interested, see:

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1066481732176101&id=100064428530126

Below are some "screenshots" from the program as presented.



War Memorial Hospital Pastoral Care: Community Support and Reflection

By Bruce Lord, Pastoral Care Team, War Memorial Hospital

As we approach the religiously significant Easter and Passover season, we're reminded of the hope and love offered by faith in our Creator.

For Christians and Jews alike, this season symbolizes God's plan to offer hope and freedom. Passover commemorates the Israelites' rescue from slavery in Egypt, while Easter represents Jesus' sacrificial death and resurrection, offering freedom from suffering with continued life within God's creation. The core message is that nothing can separate us from God's love.

This year, the Pastoral Care team at War Memorial Hospital (WMH), with the support of hospital management, has introduced a couple of initiatives to foster community and support:

1. **E Hunter Lodge BBQ:** Held on the last Wednesday of every month, from 5:30 pm to 7 pm, the Pastoral Care team, in partnership with E Hunter Lodge, invites Men's Shed members to join this BBQ. It is a chance to offer support and connect with people from rural areas seeking medical treatment in the city and who may feel isolated.
2. **"Time with God":** Every Monday from 1 pm to 1:30 pm in the Vickery Chapel, there is a 15-minute set aside for hospital visitors, staff and patients to pray, reflect and contemplate God, creation and their spirituality.
3. **Praise and Worship:** On the first Monday of each month, a short time of praise and worship is held in the dining room of the rehabilitation wing's second floor, with the help of a local community choir.

The Pastoral Care team is dedicated to providing emotional and spiritual support to those facing difficult transitions or challenging times. These initiatives are designed to create a sense of community and offer comfort during tough moments.



NEW ZEALAND MARITIME MUSEUM, AUCKLAND

During his recent holiday in New Zealand, **Richard Cortis** went to the Maritime Museum in Auckland.

To tease Tom Wolf (who is a ship modeller), Richard sent to him photos of 3 models inside the Museum. On left is model of **"Ururoa"**, a 3 masted schooner rigged scow, centre is a model of **"Breeze"**, a coastal trader, and on right is a model of **"Storm"**, a coastal trading steamer.



The Museum is located at the end of the pier, close to where cruise ships dock, and is well worth a visit when in Auckland.

Your Editor was most grateful for the letter, but had to remind Richard of the equally impressive display just outside the Museum, **"KZ1"**, a 90 foot (27.4m) mono-hull yacht designed as the challenging boat for the 1988 America's Cup.

What's more, this display is a model built at the scale of **12 inches to the foot.**

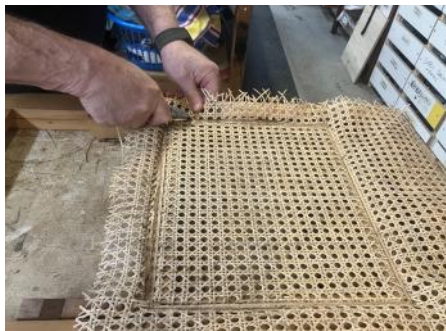




RATTAN CHAIR REPAIR

It is common for children to put their feet through rattan seating, and a member of the community asked for the repair of his *rattan chair*, Tom Wolf did the job with the rattan being set into a groove and being fixed by beading.

There are other ways of fixing rattan to furniture which include weaving the rattan through holes, regrettably we do not have anybody at our Shed who can carry out that kind of repair.



WHO'S THIS MEMBER?

We are under a promise not to disclose how we got these photos, but here we have a **Waverley Shed member** photographed when he was a high school student. Obviously he is the drum major of a pipe band, and the other photo shows him leading the band during the ANZAC Day March

We can't offer prizes to those who guess, but the embarrassment to our ex-student should compensate for the loss of the prizes.

Entries should be sent to the Editor: tom@aces.net.au





OUR WORK AT 2025 SYDNEY MARDI GRAS PARADE



Photos provided by David Cutler, Waverley Council

In earlier issue we showed photos of the decorations we made for the Waverley Council float at the Mardi Gras. Requested by David Cutler of Waverley Council, we worked on the decorations for about 3 weeks, but were the best introduction of the fantastic Council Team who paraded on the day, and by all appearances on the photos had a “Whale” of a time.





WHAT IS MORE ACCURATE: YOUR SPEEDO OR THE GPS?

By Tom Wolf

The answer is not as simple as it first sounds, it is subject to lots of factors and circumstances.

Speedometer: Unless you have your speedometer recently custom calibrated, all speedometers in cars manufactured and sold in Australia after 1st July 2006 must comply with Australian Design Rules which strictly provide that your car's speedo **must not show** a speed lower than your actual speed. To avoid liability, therefore, all car manufacturers calibrate the car speedo to show a speed higher than the speed you are actually travelling at.

On an unmodified car, this higher calibration may be just 1kph, but usually it may in fact show a speed of up to 5% higher. This may depend on the model and the manufacturer. If the car is modified by installation of a tyre different to standard, such as a "lower profile tyre" (or the opposite, a "fat pack all terrain tyre") or if your tyre pressure is low (or high) or dependent on the wear on the tyre, your speed as shown on your speedometer may be way out of whack.

This is because the speedo shows the speed calibrated according to the number revolutions of the wheel and any change in the circumference of the tyre compared to the standard circumference as calibrated will not vary the speed shown but does vary the distance travelled (either faster or slower) during a calculated period of time (ie. kilometres per hour).

A good rule of thumb to follow is if your wheels and tyres on your vehicle have a larger rolling diameter, your speedometer will show a slower speed than you are travelling. If you have wheels and tyres with a smaller rolling diameter, your speedometer will show a faster speed than you are actually travelling.

Global Positioning System (GPS): GPS speedometers are unregulated by governments. It is accepted that they will in most circumstances show your **actual speed** regardless of the tyre variables discussed above. BUT! There can be a time lag between when a speed is recorded and when it appears in your app such as when you travel on a slope or around winding curves. Also GPS does not work in some tunnels or satellite dead spots, meaning there are times when a GPS speedometer does not work at all.

What is important to remember is that when you go downhill, the GPS measures the horizontal distance, even though that distance is just one of the sides of a triangle, and you actually travel the distance made up of the hypotenuse (and therefore you travel a longer distance in that timeframe and therefore travel faster than the speed shown by the GPS!! The reverse is true.

So, what happens if you are caught by the police "speeding"? Police use many methods to check the speed of cars travelling on the roads. They use specialised mobile radar units, as well, in all highway patrol cars specially calibrated speedometers are installed, and also, police are trained to make "speed estimates" that the Courts accept as "expert evidence".

As for the radar device and the speedometer used, each different police force in Australia has rules that require regular calibration tests, and tickets issued while using expired tests become inadmissible (but this happens rarer the finding a needle in a haystack). In fact, in most (if not all) jurisdictions the enabling legislation provides that the reading of the radars or specialised speedometers are deemed to be precise and absolute evidence of speed. Even if you prove that your speedo or GPS showed a different speed, it is no defence to the fine as intention is not a relevant factor. Also, even if your car is fitted with a dashcam that takes video that displays your speed as shown on the GPS, it will in most likelihood **not be accepted** if you decide to fight your speeding infringement notice based on a radar or speedometer checked speed. In the case of a fine based on the "expert evidence" of the estimated speed, only on the very rare occasion will the Court not accept the accuracy of that evidence of estimated speed. As for civil cases where the speed of a car involved in a collision becomes an issue, then such video evidence of speed may be used. Even where the GPS speed is not recorded on the video, there are expert witnesses who can be engaged to estimate the speed of the car by triangulating the car's position to its surroundings shown in the video, but this is really expensive!

Disclaimer: *This article and the views expressed are those of the author and of general interest only and are not intended, or to be used as legal advice. In all instances if you have any doubts, you should seek advice from a qualified legal practitioner.*



MORE HANDYMAN T-SHIRTS

We have enjoyed seeing some interesting T-shirts over the years, 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!!

