

# Noosa Men's Shed Newsletter

**December 2018**



Web: [noosa-mens-shed.org.au](http://noosa-mens-shed.org.au)

Facebook: [NoosaMensShed](https://www.facebook.com/NoosaMensShed)

Member of: [Australian Men's Shed Association](http://www.australianmensshed.org.au) and Queensland Men's Shed Association

## November/December—many changes.

Over the past two months at the Shed, we saw:

A great visit by George Theo, CEO Unitywater.	28 volunteers for the Noosa Triathlon
Another great Melbourne Cup luncheon..	
26 volunteers for the Noosa Hill Climb event.	
New 3D printer.	Substantial new equipment for Metalwork Shed.
Extra Dust extractor—Woodwork Shed	Sewing Machine—Leather Shop.
A new Executive & Management Committee.	
Another successful Christmas party.	
Davo Wilson's 90th Birthday & Christmas toys.	
A great Christmas sale of toys, woodwork, bee-boxes, leatherwork & plants	

## President's Christmas Message

It is pleasing to note that our fourth year has been even better than those just past. Much of this success is attributable to the retiring executive & management committee led until recently by Paul Asbury.

A new executive was elected at the Annual General Meeting on 14 November. The incoming executive (see *top right*) has expressed a desire to continue the policies of the past because they worked well.

The focus in the coming year may be less on infrastructure development and slightly more on ensuring the atmosphere remains friendly and welcoming.

It is important that everyone has a safe & happy Christmas and look forward to continuing to build our friendships in 2019.

Joe Cirillo

<b>President:</b>	Joe Cirillo
<b>VP</b>	David Rodgers
<b>Secretary:</b>	Peter Magarry
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Laurie Kelly
<b><u>Committee</u></b>	
<b>Membership:</b>	Jim Barrass Asst — Stewart Neuss
<b>Long Shed:</b>	David Rodgers
<b>Woodwork:</b>	Tony Sievers
<b>Metalwork:</b>	John Berghauser
<b>Arts &amp; Music:</b>	Philip Morgan
<b>Hobbies Asst Treasurer</b>	Jim Finlay Steve Phillips

Check out the **Shed website** every week to see the changing photos & news updates by webmaster **John O'Halloran**.

Considered to be the best website for a Men's Shed in Australia.



# Important Dates & Events



<b>Mon, 7 Jan</b>	<b>Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Noosa</b>	Co-ord by Tom Gittings
<b>Mon, 4 Feb</b>	<b>Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Noosa</b>	Co-ord by Tom Gittings
<b>Fri, 15 Feb 2:pm</b>	<b>Unitywater Board visit.</b>	

**Safety Is a Choice You Make.**

## Shed Shirts

Noosa Men's Shed shirts can be ordered by visiting **The Branding Office , 1/41 Rene Street, Noosaville.** (Next to the Vet Clinic).

**Hats:** Please remember to wear a hat when outside in the sun.



*Des Valentine, David Rodgers & Harvey Long hard at work as usual.*



*Jerome Stuart hard at work organising the Shed volunteer roster & administration for the up-coming Noosa Triathlon. Wednesday, 31 October. Many thanks to Jerome for doing this job for the benefit of all of us.*



*Paul with Unitywater CEO George and team Alice, Kate and Simone during a visit to the Shed on 1 November.*

## The choices are yours to make at the Noosa Men's Shed:

Woodwork, Metalwork, Building, Art, Electronics & Computers, Leatherwork, Gardening, Bee-keeping, Wood Recycling, Inventors & Innovators, Fishing, Band, Walking, Sailing, Aquaponics, Lapidary & Fossicking, + Kitchen Humour.

## Shed Opening Hours

Christmas - closed 20 Dec—3 Jan

Monday	12:30 - 3:30 2:00 - 4:00	Woodwork * Cards/Games
Tuesday	08:00 - 12:00	All Activities
Wednesday	08:00 - 12:00	Woodwork *
Thursday	08:00 - 12:00	All Activities
	1:30 - 3:30	Shed Band
Saturday	08:00—10:00	Gardening & Coffee

\* Lots of elbow room on these two days.

## “Out - of - hours” Attendance

Please remember the Shed safety policy on “out-of-hours attendance”.

No attendance outside normal hours unless:

- **F**or a good reason,
- **F**amily know where you are,
- **Y**ou have a mobile phone, and.
- **N**o powered tools to be operated unless in the company of another worker, (one of whom must be a Shed leader).
- **I**nsurance **P**olicy: one solo member in Shed only for admin/cleaning duties .

Frail members should never be in the Shed alone for any reason.

Whilst mainstream activities will be closed until 3 January, members are welcome to visit with friends, to water the gardens and show off the Shed. Please secure the Shed when leaving.



Ray, Keith, Ian and John showing Alice (Unitywater) part of a project to restore an old wagon



Our new basic model 3D printer. 5 Nov.

At the Melbourne Cup lunch in the Long Shed.



**Safety.** All the Shed 's new equipment also requires members to be versed in its operation. Please ensure that you have been through the induction process for the equipment as needed. **If you have the slightest doubt about your accreditation to use the tool, please ask your Shed leader.**

**REMEMBER YOUR SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND OUR CONCERN.**



*Peter Magarry & Kate Cash (Unitywater)*



*Unitywater CEO, George Theo addressing the shedders. 1 Nov.*

**The Walking Group** is seeking more walkers to join them leaving the Shed at **8 am** on Tuesdays. Bring a hat, water bottle & remember the sunscreen & some jokes. Also looking for a Leader.



*Paul Schauble eyeing off a healthy morning tea as CEO George Theo talks in the Long Shed. 1 November.*

*The new team after the AGM:*

*VP David Rodgers*

*Treasurer Laurie Kelly*

*President Joe Cirillo*

*Secretary Peter Magarry*

*Treasurer Laurie Kelly & Asst Treasurer Steve Phillips*



### Useful Information:

Below is a link to some "**Dad Jokes**" that are actually so bad, they make people laugh. (AKA "**Tom Jokes**"):

<https://thoughtcatalog.com/january-nelson/2018/06/dad-jokes/>

If you think there is some really useful information out there that may be of interest to our members through the newsletter, could you please send the URL link details to **Peter Magarry** at [pmaga@ozemail.com.au](mailto:pmaga@ozemail.com.au) who will coordinate the column content for the newsletter.



### Lead-lighting—Leader?

We have a lead-lighting kit and three members interested in learning more. Does anyone in the Shed know enough about it to teach the others?



*Looking toward the Woodwork Shed site exactly four years ago in November 2014.*

### **Justice of the Peace**

Shed members should be aware that our web master **John O'Halloran** is also a JP (Qld) who is happy to provide that service to members when he is at the Shed.

If there are other JPs in the Shed willing to help, please see John O'H who will coordinate it.



## Monday Afternoon GAMES

- **Mondays 2pm to 4pm**
- **Cards**
- **Pool or 8 ball**
- **Darts**
- **Bocce**
- **Anything else you can think of.**

***Come and enjoy the fun!!!!***

The electrical safety “**Test & Tag**” program for the Shed is maintained by **David Kumeta** and **Michel Vogeli**. Two points arising from this:

**Some of the tags** may lose their adhesiveness and separate from the appliance. If found, please return the tag to David as each tag can identify the particular appliance and be re-fixed.

**When new equipment** is introduced to the Shed, please ask David or Michel to “**Test & Tag**” it first.



*David Kumeta*

*Michel Vogeli*



### **NMS Calendars - 2019**

***Not Too Late!***

Thanks to Philip Morgan, our Shed has its own **2019 calendar** featuring our own photographs.

Cost are \$6 each and it will make an ideal gift to family etc as well as for use at home.

***See Philip in the Studio for your copy.***

### Central Australia Camping Trip – Part 3. (by Ian Broadfoot)

The run to Oodnadatta was made without incident. We stopped frequently to examine ruined dwellings, abandoned Pichi Richi (the old Ghan) railway facilities, including a giant water softener built at Curdimurka in the late 1800's to desalinate water for steam locomotives and the Algebuckina bridge, a massive wrought iron structure featuring 3-metre-deep girders that span 588 metres over the, often dry, Neales River. Until 2014 the structure was the longest steel bridge in South Australia. It opened in 1892 having taken 300 men almost 2 years to build.



Oodnadatta doesn't have a lot going for it although this would be disputed by the locals. A walk around town is accomplished in very few minutes and the dominant impression is of corrugated iron barely existing gardens, junked cars, machinery never likely to ever see restoration and barking dogs. The biggest structure in town is the pink roadhouse. The only hotel in town is the 'International'. Someone has a sense of humour. After an overnight stay, we decide to head for Coober Pedy.



The road to Coober Pedy had been graded recently and was a smooth run. Part way along, we diverted 50k into Arkaringa station and the Painted Desert. The side trip proved to be worth the effort as the desert is an area of considerable beauty. The beauty comes from weathered sandstone outcrops that are extremely colourful. Returning to the main track, at Mt Barry station, we travel south west and find almost no vegetation and eventually cross the Moon Plain. At this point, all that can be seen, in any direction, are gently rolling hills covered with red gibbers. At one point we noted that we could not see a single living plant. No wonder the area was chosen as one of the backdrops for a Mad Max movie.

Closer to Coober Pedy, we diverted north to the area known as the Remarkables. This is another colourful desert area not too dissimilar to the Painted Desert visited earlier. One difference was we were no longer alone as an APT tour group had their catering tent set up on the highest feature while their tourists were treated to a white linen and silver service lunch. A special vehicle parked nearby had the portaloos mounted on a trailer for their convenience. No kidding! There is outback camping and there is outback travel, in style.



Painted Desert between Oodnadatta and Coober Pedy

The night was spent in a caravan park in the opal town. Much has changed since we last visited. For a start, there are more homes built above ground and a larger, tidier, commercial area. Youths who have moved from desert communities to new housing areas in the town pose a problem for tourists. Theft from campsites in the caravan park at night was rife. *"If it is not locked away it will be gone in the morning,"* the park manager warned. The opal mining areas continue to expand but mining methods look very much the same. Pressing on, we made for King's Canyon in the Northern Territory.

It was a fairly long 620 km haul up the Stewart highway via Marla to Mount Ebenezer where we planned to camp at the roadhouse. On arrival, we found the roadhouse abandoned so drove on to a quiet bush camp site a further 40 km up the road. From here, it was an easy morning's run to the canyon which is 340 km west of Alice Springs. After booking in, we decided to tackle the rim walk in the afternoon.

Because of heat, this walk is usually left till morning but as the weather was mild, we thought we'd take it on while conditions were favorable. The canyon offers a number of walks; some relatively

easy but some more difficult. The rim walk is in the latter category but it offers the best views and the closest encounters with the vegetation and wildlife. We were told that the hardest part is the beginning where the walk to the rim top involves climbing about one thousand steep, broken rock steps. After that, the walk is over flatter terrain followed by a long, rocky but not too difficult descent. Total distance is 6 km and expected hiking time is three to four hours. Jan has two knee replacement and some lung issues but is reasonably fit. We managed but only just and it took us every bit of four hours.



One highlight of the canyon is named 'the Garden of Eden'. It does feature rare cycads and small animals including frogs. The latter remain well hidden from the casual visitor. As a Central Australian tourist destination, I would not place King's canyon in the same category as the Olgas or Uluru.

After an overnight stay in the resort campground, we set off for Hermannsburg and Alice Springs via the Mereenie Road. The gravel section of over 200 km was a real shocker with extreme corrugations and red dust almost all the way. At one point, we came across a tourist standing on top of his 4WD with a movie camera recording our progress as we hammered along. We reduced tyre pressures twice and we found that at 25 psi and 75 km/h we could travel fairly confident of minimizing damage. Fortunately, large sharp stones were infrequent. Some hire companies ban use of their 4WD vehicles on this section but it seems that this is ignored as drivers want to experience the challenge!

Hermannsburg is a former mission station, long since closed. The town's growth has been spurred by completion of an excellent sealed road to Alice Springs. We were very surprised at the expansion of the town in the past decade. In fact, this comment could be made about a number of towns along our route. One factor at play may be the government's desire to limit further growth of remote communities because of the difficulties faced by residents in locations where employment and other opportunities are scarce.

After a night in Alice Springs, which has also grown remarkably, we decided to return home via The Threeways. This was a good fast run north with brief stops at the Barrow Creek overland telegraph station, the Devil's Marbles rock outcrop and the gold stamper battery museum near Tennant Creek.

Next morning, we turned east to Camooweal via the Barkley Highway. The tablelands grazing country was in reasonably good condition with some excellent grasslands downs near the Qld border. We found an attractive camp site on the banks of the Georgina River then endured a very windy night and an attack by hungry Brolgas, followed by a mild 24 hour dust storm as we passed through Mt Isa and Cloncurry. At McKinlay, we paused briefly to photograph the Walkabout Creek Hotel, featured in the original Crocodile Dundee movie and pressed on through Kynuna to Winton. The grazing country around Kynuna looked good and there were a lot of cattle in evidence. It seems likely that the Gulf Country weather system extends this far south.

In Longreach, we visited the Qantas Founders Museum getting a very good look at the inner workings of a Boeing 747 and a 707 aircraft. We had lunch at Ilfracombe and admired the town's large collection of early machinery lined up along the road. Ilfracombe is doing it really tough having destocked a couple of years back. The conditions of pastoral country fell further away after Longreach and things looked bad through much of Barcaldine and Blackall districts.

We camped on the Barcoo River south of Blackall and during the night listened to as many as a dozen the road trains powering down the Matilda highway to Roma loaded with cattle from as far afield as the gulf country. We've not encountered such a mass cattle movement on any other outback trip. In the morning, we continued on through Tambo and Augathella to close the loop again

at Morven.

Around Augathella and Morven the drought was extreme. Conditions were as bad as anything we'd seen on the outward journey around Quilpie. There were several big mobs on the move in the long paddock and not a lot of grass there either. The stock was ok but in rapidly weakening condition. Most of the local properties must be fully destocked or holding foundation stock only, by now.

The first green crops seen were at Amby Downs east of Mitchell. They were low in yield potential. It is certain the entire Qld winter crop harvest will fall far short of meeting domestic demand. (Domestic wheat and barley imports are coming into Brisbane by ship. Such events are rare). Rain is now sorely needed for summer crops like sorghum, cotton and mung beans.

The economic activity that seems to be booming around Roma is the gas industry and further east, road building on the Warrego highway is impressive, especially Chinchilla to Dalby. We stopped overnight at Jackson, where the last Cobb and Co coaches set out for Surat, made Toowoomba next day to visit friends and were back in Noosa on the 17<sup>th</sup> day. We accomplished all we set out to do, perhaps a little too quickly but we had compelling reasons to return. Now, all we have to do is clean and pack away the gear. Will there be a next time? Not according to Jan who is thinking a slower pace and carpet underfoot, sounds the go from here.

Ian



*The End.*

*Thanks to Ian for a very interesting Three Part series. (Contributions from other shedders are welcome).*



*Watercolour by Philip Morgan.*



*There are no words to describe this event at the Melbourne Cup lunch.*



*The start of the Electricians' Shed—15 November .*

### Looking for:

- ♦ Newsletter Editor
- ♦ Assistant Secretary

Interested—please see secretary Peter Magarry.



*Happy Leather Shop workers:*

*Jim Finlay*

*David Sweet*

*Tim Dun*

*David Nivala*



*Geranium cutting in a Caroma pot—  
15 November.*

*Industrial sewing machine for the Leather  
workers.*

# Shed Christmas Party

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## Davo Wilson's 90th Birthday



*Davo cutting his cake whilst Gavin is waiting for his piece.*

*Some of the many toys made for charity by Davo during 2018.*

*The Electricians' Shed almost at "lock-up" stage.*

**20 December.**



**Please support these Major Sponsors & Supporters who have helped us generously over the past four years:**



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