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Christmas Lunch at the Shed

On Friday, 13th December, a very enjoyable Christmas lunch was held in the Shed's Multi-Purpose Centre. This was a celebration in recognition of having completed a most successful year with a growing participation rate, made possible with the addition of a new shed which is now fully operative.

We were honoured to have as our guests, the Mayor of Ku-ring-gai Council, Jennifer Anderson, and, Dean Castell and Sharon Franke from the Bendigo Community Bank. Also briefly visiting was the State Member for Ku-ring-gai, Mr Alister Henskens SC. MP.



Our guests addressed the members and wished the Shed the best for the New Year and encouraged us to continue providing our services to the community. Stephen, our President, summed it up by saying that the Shed is grateful for their support over this year and all the more pleased to be able to give back to the community.

Stephen also acknowledged Mike Vernon and Robert Schild for their volunteer work with the RFS

in their efforts to protect the community and property during this extreme fire season.

A big thank you to all that contributed to the set-up and clean-up in the MPC and the kitchen.

About 60 members attended the lunch with much discussion, tale telling and exchanging of experiences. It was good to see members that attend on different days to come together.

Proceeds from the raffle of a wonderful Christmas hamper, donated by Bendigo Bank, are to be donated to the Hornsby and Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter. The hamper was won by Rob Cummins.



With so many members attending, some had to eat alfresco on the Shed's patio.



Much of the success of the day was due to the wonderful lunch put together by Max and his dedicated cooking group under the expert guidance of Dani and Idris. That guidance and expertise was the culmination of their volunteer support to the monthly cooking group over the whole year and is highly appreciated by all the members.

The lunch menu:

Entree

Chicken wonton cups Ricotta & tomato bruschetta Cottage loaf dip Caramelised onion tarts Brie and tasty cheese & biscuits

Main

Sliced cold ham and chicken

Noodle salad Garden salad Potato salad

Dessert

Strawberry pavlova, served with chocolate cake & vanilla ice cream Fresh slices of watermelon

We wish all our readers a Happy New Year.



Shed Fire Plan

The fire emergency gripping the nation at present emphasises the need to follow the Shed's fire plan when the need arises. The Shed is in an area that has seen a number of major fires in relatively recent history.

The RFS first priority is to save people and their houses. It would not be responsible of the Shedders to put themselves or the Firies in any danger should a fire break out in the National Park around our Shed.

When a catastrophic fire warning is issued or if a fire has broken out in the bushland around the Shed, then the shed is closed or will be closed immediately. Your safety is our primary concern.

The fire plan describes the actions to be taken to minimise the risk to the Shed, if time permits, like clearing the immediate surroundings of anything flammable out in the open and move it away from the buildings, or inside the Shed, to reduce the effect of ember attack.

If a Catastrophic fire warning is issued then the Shed is closed. If a fire breaks out in the surrounding area then the Shed is closed.

Please read the Shed Fire Action Plan

Shed Clean-up 2019



On Thursday, 19 December 2019, a thorough clean-up of the Shed was done by a dedicated group of members. A total of about 20 turned up to move machinery for vacuuming in areas hard to access for the removal of wood dust and metal filings.

Racks and benches cleared of offcuts and miscellaneous items that could not be identified. Full bins were placed at the roadside for the next garbage truck. What could not go in the bins was stored inside till they are emptied, to reduce the fire risk. A sincere thank-you to all that assisted in this task.



The morning coffee break saw the lunchroom filled to almost full capacity.

Bushcare

A Bushcare working-bee was planned for December, but heavy smoke from bush fires prevented us working outside. Surviving previously transplanted juvenile trees have been watered during the dry weather. Another working bee is planned for January.

A submission has been written for a \$3000 Federal Government environmental grant for the Shed

that involves obtaining suitable native ground covers and remove excess soil from the Shed extension. We are awaiting the outcome.

BREAKING NEWS

Our application for a grant under the Communities Environment Program (CEP) has been successful.

This Federal program will enable us to undertake a project which will include restoring and further developing the landscape adjacent to our establishment.



A Kingdom has been Saved

An international incident was averted last December by reproducing a White Queen to replace the broken original from a 50-year-old marble chess set. Thus, restoring the balance at court.

The skills of Mark P. (on the lathe), supported by Chris (on vacuum and sand paper fetching) using a material called Corian.

Thus restoring the balance at court. They will be noted in the next honours list.

Chair Repair

Turning a replacement part on the lathe for a chair that Chris D. is repairing (a paying job).

Note the use of two tool rests.





Men at Work

Recently, a rogue obstacle was discovered that protruded dangerously from the surface of the carpark. A very technically equipped, and superbly fit engineering team laboured extensively to extract a long-forgotten star-picket that was buried about 50cm into the ground. It could have punctured tyres easily.

Notices

AMSA Newsletter

Australian Men's Shed Association

AMSA Christmas 2019 edition of the Shedder newsletter at: <u>https://mensshed.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/The-Shedder-</u> Christmas-2019.pdf



Ku-ring-gai Council Activities

For Council activities and events goto: http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/Things_to_do/Events_activities

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