

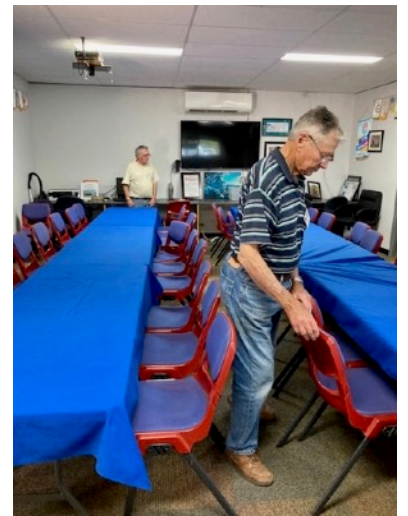
Noises from:



**What a year 2020 has been but the Shed survived all the dramas well and indeed blossomed in terms of member numbers and participation in activities so a safe and happy festive time for all members and their families and a great outlook for 2021.**

### **Shed Christmas Party**

Without a lot of pre party organisation and setting up the party would not go ahead so on the morning of the party some very house proud members, Ian Williams and Dave Russel, amongst others, began the setting up to make the dining areas as hospitable as possible.



And so the “chefs” and servers got to work and you can see the results of their efforts with the fine roast while some of the attendees wait for the call to collect their meal. This shot shows one of the areas set out for people to meet round the tables and enjoy the company as well as the food and wine.



## Swimming in the Abyss – Wade Hughes

An enthralling story of interactions with huge, beautiful, intelligent and surprisingly tactile creatures and the sophisticated and outstanding way they were photographed by Wade Hughes overlaid another story that so parallels our own lives. Like ourselves, between our birth, our nurturing, our maturity and the way we interact with life mirrors a whale, who swims in the abyss.

When arranging this talk I recognised that our presenter had experienced mental issues arising not surprisingly, from early childhood. “In spite of a fulfilling life and career he fell into depression following his encounter with cancer at age 57 years, and again following retirement, ten years later.” Understandably loss of purpose that we often face when our lives take an about turn were affecting him and he has sought professional help to deal with this. Interactions with whales, his photography, his book and a loving partner have restored new enjoyment to his life. This was a message that I hoped to get across to you at the talk and that Dave Beckley emphasised at the summing up of Wade’s presentation.

Your friends, your shed, your family, your life, your world and all about you are treasures to be enjoyed.

**Vic Power. Health Rep**

## CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

As the year winds up, we have started to look back over a very different year than we have had before and hopefully look forward to a better year in 2021. The year was not a failure as far as the Shed is concerned. We have grown over the year, been just as active and pleased many people with our efforts and all of that in only 41 weeks!

All that activity is a clear reflection of the contributions made by many of our members who contribute their time and energies to keeping our Shed on the move. I always feel a warm glow when we have visitors or new members who, when touring the Shed, are so complimentary of what we have at the end of Perrott Close. Many are just stunned at what we have and the camaraderie that exists with our members. Just to sit through a smoko gives testament to the friendship and support that exists.

A recent example of the above was the Christmas Wind Up. The evening was a fantastic event for the 100 plus members and partners who were there. What was so heartening was the number of people who were so willing to give up some of their time to make the night a successful one. Outstanding were the efforts of Bob Peterson and David Symington. Bob was there at sparrows to get things moving and was still there at lock up. I insisted that David go home for a break in the afternoon as his recently operated on ankle looked more like a football. He was back in harness late in the afternoon. They were the leaders, there were so many others who contributed in some way.

Our thanks go to Richard Allen for his contribution as a member of the Management Committee for quite a few years, Richard has stepped down to be replaced by new faces David Symington and John Ogden. A special welcome to John who has not been with the committee before.

Looking forward to 2021 will not, I hope, see major changes. I hope to continue last year’s aim to consolidate with what we have. My New Year’s resolution for the Shed comes in two forms:

- Broaden the minor activities of the organisation to encourage those members, who we rarely see, to become more involved.
- Focus on our Objects and Values, as expressed on the web site, again to involve more members.

I would like to express my appreciation for all the support (and all those belly laughs) I have had over the past year. And to all members may you have a happy and safe Christmas period and may your 2021 be all you wish for.

**Tony Brown**



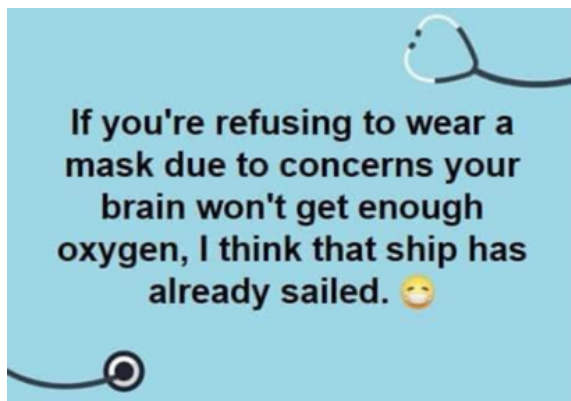
**While all the preparations for the end of the year were going on some members continued to be able to work on their own projects.**



George Greenwell cleans up his house sign while Phil Robinson lines up with Simon and Garfunkel to create Parsley Sage Rosemary and Thyme signs for Claremont Mens Shed.



Possible new members, one seemingly well trained!!, explore the Shed before committing while George looks like he is getting ready to take on Leyton Hewitt in battle of the "hats on back to front".



*Thought I was looking at a Muppet at first!!*

*Fake news????*

*Hope this does not apply to any of our members!!*

**NB There will be no newsletter in January as I am taking a break but please keep getting any items to me over the break as I will need stuff to go into the February edition!!**

## THE INTERNET - ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE

Do not Google or check this with Snopes. They will lie to you. Trust me!

In ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a healthy young wife by the name of Dorothy. And Dot Com was a comely woman, ample of breast, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she was often called Amazon Dot Com.

And she said unto Abraham, her husband, "Why dost thou travel so far from town to town with thy goods when thou canst trade without ever leaving thy tent?"

And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, dear?"

And Dot replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale, and they will reply telling you who hath the best price. The sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)."

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums. And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever having to move from his tent.

To prevent neighbouring countries from overhearing what the drums were saying, Dot devised a system that only she and the drummers knew. It was known as Must Send Drum Over Sound (MSDOS), and she also developed a language to transmit ideas and pictures - Hebrew to the People (HTTP).

And the young men did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Sybarites, or NERDS. And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, Brother William of Gates, who bought off every drum maker in the land. Indeed he did insist on drums to be made that would work only with Brother Gates' drum heads and drumsticks.

And Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others." And Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or eBay as it came to be known. He said, "We need a name that reflects what we are."

And Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators." "YAHOO," said Abraham. And because it was Dot's idea, they named it YAHOO Dot Com.

Abraham's cousin, Joshua, being the young Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid (GEEK) that he was, soon started using Dot's drums to locate things around the countryside.

It soon became known as God's Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE).

**That is how it all began. And that's the truth.**

**Be good to your spouse, Remember, right now they could poison you and it would be counted as a covid death.**

Lambs to the left of me. Mutton to the right. Here I am. Stuck in the middle with ewe. 🐑🐑🐑



I don't know who did this but I love it!



Such a special year needed a Logo 🍷💜



All articles/photos/information to Jamie McKinnon by the day of the monthly meeting.

Email any material for the Newsletter to: [jamiemc1wa@gmail.com](mailto:jamiemc1wa@gmail.com)

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