



Our annual Craft Market on Sunday 8 November is just 2 ½ weeks away. Our longtime bookings coordinator and social media strategist Rob Bassett reports that stallholder numbers have reached our target. Our dynamic Market Manager duo – Don Frayne and Bob Jensen – after years of outstanding service - are stepping down due to health challenges. Nevertheless, Don and Bob have been seen at the Shed, passing on their wisdom to those who are less experienced. A big thanks to Mitch Maciupa, Neil Faneco and others who have stepped up at short notice. Professor Richard Longley has again organised the raffle in a meticulous manner. John McLoughlin has worked hard on developing a Public Relations Plan and putting out material as part of his Publicity Promotion and Signage role. The Children's Entertainment Precinct is booked with our regulars – Rosie O and Cuddly Farm Animals. Good work Hassan. After last year's high energy performance our Music coordinator Peter Bartlett has booked another fabulous line up of talent. Our in-house vintage car tragic Peter Mack has squeezed his network to bring 12 – 15 Bentleys and Rolls Royces to the oval. Dave Russell is kindly organising a toy stall with a view to selling some of our stock. The versatile roving photographer Paul Whiting will prepare a survey of patrons to improve the Market next year. Kitchen coordinator Rob Walker is assembling his team and stocking up the kitchen to deliver outstanding market cuisine. Our African rock spider BBQ coordinator Dave Symington is working with Gary Hillier to purchase food and put a team together. Our esteemed Chris Oeding is taking on the patron parking coordinator role. Thanks Chris.
(I may have missed someone.)
So gentlemen, we hope that everything will go to plan but there are challenges:

Entry Gate

We need a team of 4 – 6 to man the gate entrance, including a coordinator. This would allow regular breaks for all. They need to be Square reader proficient or able to learn. Duties would include collecting entry payments, selling raffle tickets and spreading goodwill to the patrons. I hope those who did this last year will put their hands up immediately. Mike Ansell will be running Square educational exercises from next week.

Volunteers

Finally I ask all Shedders to volunteer their time generously. We will soon be calling for help on:
Saturday morning 7 November - cleaning the inside of the Shed for tours, setting up the stage, collecting and cleaning gazebos, tables and chairs, etc
Saturday afternoon 7 November - setting up the barrier fencing on the oval, erecting BBQ gazebo, etc
Sunday 8 November – a full day setting up, manning the Market, pulling down gazebos, fences and returning the equipment to the Shed. These activities are on the notice board. We need 50 – 60 volunteers.
A cold can or two will be laid on for tired helpers by the grateful organisers at the end of the day.

Raffle Tickets

Would members please consider taking a full or half book of tickets home and selling them to friends and acquaintances.
Thank you to all who have contributed so far.

Robert Elks

When One Door Closes Another One Opens!!



Member Peter Froud has taken on a significant task to change a panelled door to one having glass panes. The door is a narrow entrance to the outside and will let light in as well as allow for checking visitors, the weather and any other points of view.

Having undertaken a similar task many years ago, this one entailing the shaping and replacement of the astragals, I know how difficult the task is but Peter seems very competent and I am sure the job will be completed to his satisfaction.

Just another example of the skills and talent among our members.

Shark Attack - Cameron Wrathall

Gerry McGann first gave a summary of Bull Sharks. The Bull shark is present in virtually all Tropical, subtropical rivers that Surround the Indian Ocean. They are the only shark that can tolerate fresh and brackish water. They have been found 3000km up the Amazon (and that's fresh!). They have been much better studied in southern Africa than in Australia.



They take 20 years to reach sexual maturity, are up to 4m long, 600kg, with the females bigger. They can live for 50 years and only pup every two years and seem to have a maximum of 12 offsprings. They don't come to the surface, so are difficult to study. In Southern Africa, mature sharks are only in rivers in Summer (warmer) months and travel up to 5000km in the ocean in Winter. It is probably the same here. In Africa, the mature sharks appear to return to the same river, year on year. The 8 attacks 1960-present by Bull sharks in East Africa have all been in the hottest part of the year.

On our Swan River, only 14 Juvenile sharks have been tagged. They stay in the river year-round and move to the middle-Upper Swan during summer and autumn because they like the warmer water. In Australia, there have been 157 Bull Shark attacks since records began, with 60 fatalities. In the Swan River, there have been only 4 attacks in 100 years. All were within 2 km (the deepest part of the river) and all were in the 5 hottest weeks of the year.

On January 14th, 2021, Cameron Wrathall was attacked in Blackwall Reach. Cam told the inspiring story of how and where he was bitten (from his buttock to almost his knee!), his swim to shore, the first-aiding kayakers who rushed to help, his heart stopping several times in the ambulance (he described the strange state between life and death!), then the long road dealing with how to walk again, manage constant pain and disability. Cam doesn't take drugs for his constant pain but works on mindfulness and meditation. He is a classic illustration of resilience in the face of adversity.

Cam's disabilities preclude working and now he lives on a disability pension. The Shed made a small donation for his time and if you would like to help out this inspiring and deserving man, please get in touch with gerrymcgann@iinet.net.au and I will pass on his bank details.

Thanks to Gerry for providing this summary - I was not there to take notes!! JMcK

Music @ The Shed

The music program at the Craft Market this year will not feature the ShedBoys. For various reasons the band has been unable to have their regular sessions and have decided to have a break until 2027 to recharge the batteries and get back to full health.

ShedSong continues to flourish with the last session this week proving to be the best one yet with the singing being delivered very strongly as the lads got their teeth into some new songs which has them really getting engaged, The number there was the best it has been for some time.

ShedSong has three gigs coming up soon- 1. Entertaining the residents of Dorothy Genders centre across the road from the Shed n Wednesday evening next week; A 30 minute set at the Craft Market; Entertaining a large group of ladies who support their partners in the oil and gas world at the Royal Perth Golf Club on 3rd December at 12.00pm

The lads will also have an end of year breakup lunch at Clancy's, Fremantle where they will no doubt do a "flash mob' set to entertain the other diners.

Chair's Report For October. This is an update on Current Events.

- The new **Management Committee** for 2026-27 is: Chair Paul Smith, Vice Chair Don Crawford, Treasurer Mike Ansell, Secretary Paul Reiffer (new member), Tony Brown, Bob Grocke, Simon Harris (new member), Jim Lyon, Gerry McGann. Jamie McKinnon (new member), Bob Peterson.

- The Shed signed a new lease with the Town of Mosman Park on October 9th, 2026.

- George Kluge received the first Life Membership designation for his many years of significant contributions to the Shed.

- Simon Harris completed the inaugural welding course for women. There is high demand for this course.

- Another successful Home Maintenance course was completed, co-ordinated by Dave Taylor.

- The Shed has entered into a partnership with the Occupational Therapy unit at the Fremantle Hospital; we supply wooden objects for patients to work on during rehabilitation, and also attend some of the sessions in support of the program.

- The planning for this year's Craft Market on November 8th is progressing well, and another successful event is anticipated.

- A new sculpture course for Members will begin in October.

Paul Smith.

Australia in Contemporary Space - Dr Graeme Wren, Aerospace Engineer.



Graeme introduced his talk by canvassing the idea that we all experience space in our every day lives - the internet, communications, time, and so on. There is a huge range of satellites continually supplying us with what we need to progress through the day. One example with surprised me was the GPS is Timing which then provides navigation. Most of the satellites are registered but there are some which are not so they "fly" outside the regulated field - this almost certainly means spying.

Australia is among 7 countries working in "space" with its first interaction being at Woomera in the 60's. Graeme indicated there were many launch site recognised in Australia with one in the far north being the site for the launch of the Gilmore rocket, the flight lasting 14 secs!! There is another launch expected in 2027. Australia has several interesting sites connecting space entities (we had a talk last year from the leader of the Square Km array at Murchison). There are sites at Murchison, Exmouth and Mingenew There is the Australian Space Agency which appears to have little influence and the Arnhem Space Centre which is very run down. The reason for a lack of progress in this arena is that consecutive governments saw no real value in exploration of space until there were signs that Australia could offer a lot in a worldwide sense. There is an International Space Centre which has 21 nodes at UWA and Curtin with 150+ researchers.

Australia cannot do all aspects of space exploration so there are companies and organisations manufacturing, creating, researching various aspects of space. Some of that research is around how data is delivered from such as the major space telescopes which have been sent into long term orbits. The return of data/pictures loses a great deal, probably 64% due to the radio waves transmitting the data are short. This is exemplified in the fact that there are many towers built built in shopping centres and other significant places to allow the transmission to continue across short spaces.

There has been one Australian Astronaut before Katherine Benell Pegg, who is a dual citizen and entered the space program on her UK passport. It is hoped the will actually take a space flight - it will cost $100m which will need to be secured from private donors as the Govt. will not come to the party on this one!! The hope is that she will inspire many more young people to enter the sphere. **Late news - she has been chosen to go to Euro space to fly to space station.**

There have been many little steps made in Australia though this country offers a great deal in terms of advancing space progress and the hope is that there will be some significant stronger steps in the future.

Graeme seems to be disappointed that a lot of his work has not been recognised, rather it has been hijacked by some who have been parachuted in from the military but he did say that space is now a war fighting domain - see the use of drones in Russia/Ukraine.

This was a very difficult talk to summarise so there could well be mistakes in this piece but the presentation will be posted on the Shed website very soon so you can get a more accurate picture from that. JmcK

Sculpture Course.

As indicated in the Chair report, a course in sculpture began this month and will continue for at least 6 weeks. Some 10 members attended the first session being conducted by local sculptor ?????. The initial part of the course is to construct a model in wood fwill will form the prototype for the sculptures which will be completed in wood, stone or metal.

This is another activity being promoted for Shed members as we look for other avenues where members can come to the Shed nd express there creativity and skill as well as getting satisfaction from their work.

ManCom are keen to hear from members of any other activities they would like to be available at the Shed. There are around 250 members at present but only half do come to the Shed on a regular basis so we are looking to provide more activities which might bring more members in. Any suggestions are welcome either by email, a phone call or by placing a note in the suggestion box near the office.

Gentle Gym

This activity continues to attract aa regular following and in fact there have been some extra sessions recently. The activity offers simple exercises to improve strength, fitness, breathing and mobility - all essential for longer life. The class has an instructor so you are not left on your own to find exercises that suit.

ShedSong

The Tuesday morning sessions from 10.30 -11.45 are now producing some very fine singing which has improved immensely with some new material being delivered by the two directors. The sessions are full of fun and camaraderie and it would be good to have some more join in. The sound produced at the last session was very strong due to the bigger number being there and all really thought that the sound was really good.
Come along on any Tuesday morning to hear what the lads are doing and see if it would suit you - your chance to get on the world stage!!

The Garden Centre

It is amazing what grows and flourishes in the small garden space at the Shed. This is another activity which could attract more participants. Much of what is grown is sold at the Craft Market.

Bridge

A very enthusiastic group get together upstairs in the Shed every Wednesday afternoon and play bridge on computers. The change from cards to computers began during Covid as it was possible to play on-line from home. When able to come back in to the Shed computers were kept as the preferred method. There is room for more players.

The Kitchen

The kitchen crew continue to deliver on Tuesday scones and monthly meeting dinners as well as other more complex events.

The Shops.

Both metal and wood shops continue to be the basis of the Shed activity. With the shops being sorted out in better formats and good quality machinery and tools being brought in the scope for projects is huge. There is a new 3D printer on order and it should be here for the start of the new year.