

Noises From The Shed



The “Chair Man” Rises To Another Level!!

The two cabinets shown were repaired/restored by the very clever craftsman, Ian Worrall. The glass dored oak cabinet had a broken leg on the front right. Ian created a replacement leg and securely joined it to the cabin.

The Walnut dresser is a piece from a well known house in the area. The back was disconnected, the little shelf was missing and three of the legs were broken or damaged. Ian created 3 new legs to match the one remaining one, made a new shelf, refixed the back and polished and dressed the whole cabinet.

The Shed is so lucky to have such a skilled craftsman as a member who can take on these jobs for customers who bring them to the Shed.



Remember: when something goes wrong in the circus, they send in the clowns to distract the audience. Well, something has gone very wrong with this circus, and the clowns are everywhere.

No amount of evidence will ever persuade an idiot.

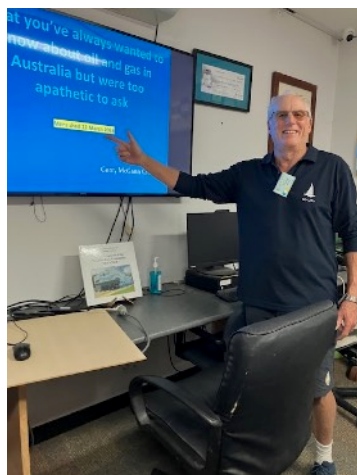
Mark Twain

Actions prove who someone is, words just prove who they pretend to be.

-UNKNOWN

If you don't want the truth, don't ask me. If you want something Sugarcoated, go eat a donut.

What You Always Wanted To Know About Gas And Oil In Australia But Were Too Apathetic To Ask!! Thursday Talk by Gerry McGann, OAM



This talk presented by Gerry McGann, OAM, was incredibly interesting and difficult to paraphrase for this newsletter - Gerry does present challenges to me every time he has a talk happening!!

Oil exploration began in earnest in Australia after the WWI, when the Government started the Bureau of Mineral resources (1926) to collate all of the geological information etc of the country,..The first significant 'discovery' was at Rough Range (WA) in 1953. This was front page news and started a more serious hunt for oil in Oz. Lewis Weeks persuaded BHP and Esso to get involved when he was invited to visit ...They were persuaded to apply for the eastern Victoria offshore...eventually discovering the only big oilfields in Oz..

Australia was self sufficient in oil from around 1985 until around 2000 when oil production really diminished and now the burden of importing oil is the largest import (larger than cars etc)to Australia, at \$56 billion in 2024 . There is now a huge disparity between what is produced and what has to be imported.

Gas was found to be plentiful off the Gippsland Coast in Victoria (though now declining) and the North West Shelf (Woodside) and in the Cooper Basin in Central Australia Much of this Cooper Basin gas is exported to the Eastern States

Gerry explained how LNG (Liquified Natural Gas) had allowed gas that was 'stranded' in offshore Western Australia could be cooled down to minus 160 degrees and sent off in specialised ships,

Fracking has been widespread, particularly in Texas, where old oil wells have been developed to provide horizontal drilling to create long runs of stages where each stage is fracked by introducing intense pressure to "blow up" the rock, shale or sediment with sand solutions being introduced to keep the cracks open and allow the gas to be collected. The pressure is created by a long line of heavy trucks interconnected, something which can only happen in a country like the US which has the capacity to provide that scale.



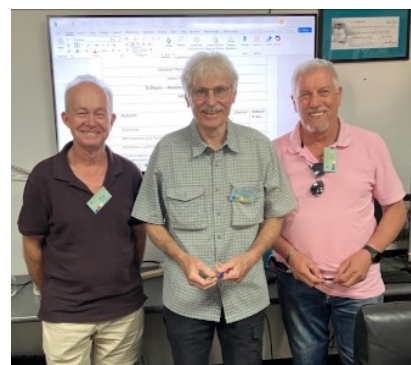
The current situation in the Strait of Hormuz could be a major problem if the "war" continues for some time - no shipping through the Strait, Suez Canal has been closed for a month and the oil producing counties - UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia - have pipelines to the Red Sea and the Med and Qatar has the largest gas field in the world, none of these countries can easily get their products out to the rest of the world.

A hugely important talk given by Gerry which made us aware of the "state of play" in the world of energy production attended by a nearly full house!!

The talk is online on the Shed's webpage. **Editor.**

Monthly Meeting Triumvirate!

This fine upstanding trio of men run the monthly meetings for Members at the Shed on the third Wednesday of each month and the new presentation of Shed business is proving to be very informative, inclusive and meaningful due to the efforts of Chairman Paul, Treasurer (and many other roles) Mike and Secretary Ron. They are to be applauded for their efforts to make these meetings better.



Web Page Re-Write

Early in 2025 it was decided that the website should finally be rewritten to bring it up to date and more in line with community expectations. The **TidyHQ** platform is not the easiest system to use when writing new web pages and it was previously very difficult to create a common style between pages, but we had noticed that it was possible to insert picture files, which seemed to be the way to go. Towards the end of the year **Canva**, a free-to-use & local online graphic design tool, announced that they were making the use of sections of their systems free of charge and this proved to be a major asset during the reconstruction.

So, together with member Ronnie Lardner (thanks Ronnie) initially designing the new menu layout and then writing the text for each page, we set off on our journey. We now have three new Menu titles: **About our Shed, Working Together** and **Our Social Activities** each containing descriptions of what we do, when we do it and how we relax.

There is the public section of the site, which also contains new pages such as **Meet Some Members** and also **Frequently Asked Questions** and there is also a member only section which requires you to login to view the additional pages available. More specific information is also now available such as the **Weekly Schedule**, an **Items of Interest** page which not only contains follow up data from Shed Talks but also provides reference data for other items such as the **Mozzie Park Bulletin Board**, which enables members to communicate with other members regarding job queries, items for sale, etc.

Thanks also to the several members quietly going about their business who were suddenly confronted with a camera and a request to smile, or even a request for information - many of them now feature on the site!

Mike Ansell

Wills, Trusts, Estate Planning and Succession



Joel Starke, from JS Legal, gave a very informative presentation on the topic in the headline.

He began the talk by outlining his credentials as a lawyer in the field of wills etc for most of his career and clearly demonstrated his skills and knowledge as he answered multiple questions from the floor. His answers were fully absorbed by the audience with some members being made aware of things they had to do to fix up their positions re wills etc. One question was asked about whether wills in different jurisdictions was necessary and the response was, particularly if one was in an other country, clearly **yes** as taxation of assets was different in other jurisdictions.

Wills are legal documents which allow transfer of assets to those nominated in the will. They can be contested but only by family members and only if recipients of assets survive 28-30 days after the will maker passes and then probate is commenced. Public Trustees should be avoided at all costs.

Testamentary Trusts take up at least 30 pages but do offer taxation and asset protection in a very strong way.

Nomination of persons or organisations to receive Superannuation funds is vital - if not done the funds are swallowed up by Government. Crypto currency is a very dangerous asset to have as, unless those in the will know where the currency is and passwords are known then it can all be lost.

Power of Attorney, Health Care Directives and Guardianships should all be clearly made and available to the Executor and others to avoid disputes or lack of direction for those close to the will maker.

There is no tax on estates but there is on Super so care needed if you wish to avoid tax being paid. 18, 21 and 25 are the ages when best to gift and family trusts need great care to avoid disputes over distribution..

The questions and responses were complex and I have probably got some of this wrong but am sure you can make necessary corrections and contact Joel for advice if you need to - he was very open to hearing from you,

Editor.

Hacks and Scams

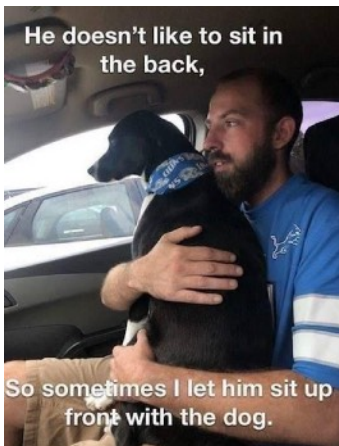
One of our Members had his email account hacked by someone gaining access to his email contacts. The hacker then sent out emails in the name of the Member asking for people to “buy Apple Gift Cards” which he could give to a “friend recently diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer and he would pay back the person who got the cards for him when he got back to town.”

The scam became obvious when the story was told as it looked very suspicious and not written in the way the Member would have done and the approach was not as the Member would have made but it is a warning that it is easy to be fooled - the name and email address on the request were genuine - so be wary and verify with the named person on the email address if he did send the email. It did allow the hacker to get hold of a lot of contacts!!

Have You Ever Seen Rubbish Bins Look So Good?

The remaining litter bins for the Fremantle Golf Club are ready to be transported to Fremantle. What a fantastic job has been done by all the Members involved - great advert for the skills resident in the Shed.

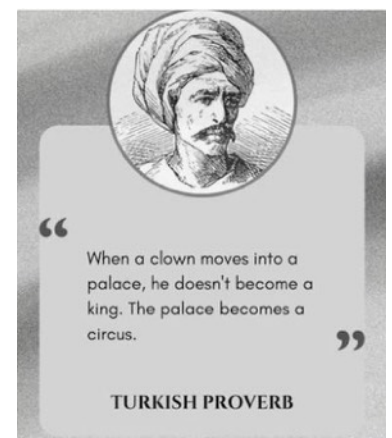
Photo courtesy George W.



Finland has just closed their borders.
No one will be crossing the finish line.

Do you ever wake up, kiss the person sleeping beside you, and feel glad that you are alive? I just did and apparently will not be allowed on this airline again....

The three hardest things to say are:
1. I was wrong
2. I need help
3. Worcestershire Sauce



All items for the newsletter to be emailed to jamiemc1wa@gmail.com before the monthly meeting 0418334513

Mosman Park Community Men's Shed
Contact Details
Email: admin@mpms.org.au
PO Box 4373 Mosman Park 6012