

# Joondalup Mens Shed Bench Press October 2021

Editor Merv Pearce



## *Presidents Report*

Well this is my first crack at a Presidents report so please don't be too harsh just yet.

Firstly, I would like to thank all of the committee for giving me the opportunity to take on this rather demanding role. I quite obviously made a huge tactical error in putting my hand up for the Vice Presidents role as I figured that I could keep up the standard set by previous people in this role, it never occurred to me that Roger would pull the pin and I would be asked to take over as President.

Well now that I am in the job I would like to explain how I view the position. To begin with, the position of President (as per the Constitution) is more of a figurehead than anything else, and to chair meetings and represent the club when required. The President is not there to make the rules, that is the job of the committee and I will expect each member of the committee to be involved in not only their own portfolios but also in any areas that require discussion and a decision.

At each committee meeting I will expect all committee members to give a report on their particular area of expertise so everyone knows what is going well and where there are issues that need to be attended to, and also providing suggestions as to how the committee can assist. Each portfolio requires a lot of work to run and we should all take an interest as the duties of one committee member flows on to the duties of others, so like it or not, we are indirectly (or directly) involved in what each other does. Eg. If Rob requires a particular toy to sell at the markets then he has to get Graham involved as the Shed Manager in order to produce

them. If the request for manufacturing does not come from Graham then DO NOT MAKE IT!

While performing the duties of Vice President I suggested that the role of Vice President should include the job of applying for grants. The first one I put us in for was the addition of more solar panels on the roof. The JCC have approved us putting in for the additional panels and another inverter and I am pleased to advise that after much backward and forward with the government we have now been advised that we have been successful. We have been formally advised (today) that the money has arrived and we need to transfer it to our account. Once this is completed we will put it into the hands of the JCC as they need to coordinate the installation as it is their building.

While on the topic of grants, we recently had Ian Goodenough come to the shed and present us with the keys to the new vehicle. While here Ian also mentioned that we could also apply for other grants for shed equipment. If any of you have suggestions as to what equipment we require, please discuss with either Crawford or Graham because when applying we have to provide a copy of a quotation to show exactly how much it is going to cost, including installation etc.

One other suggestion that I am putting to the committee in November is to change the way we conduct committee meetings. By this I mean that each of the committee members "Managers" (excluding the executive) will have a small sub-committee under them to provide more information about what is required in their area (eg sales) with a view to enable the manager to provide a short report for the committee to discuss. I will provide more information on this after the next meeting.

Regards

John (President)



*Tuesday 5th October*

*We were presented with a talk on prostate cancer from a member of the Gosnells Men's Shed.*

*The talk was very informative and the presenter was adamant that when a bloke turns forty he should go to his GP and have a PSA blood test annually.*

## ***PRESENTATION OF KEYS FOR SHED VEHICLE***

*On Tuesday October 12th The shed was visited by JMS Patron Ian Goodenough MBA,B. Comm And Federal Member for Moore to present the keys to the vehicle which was funded by a grant provided by him.*



*Ian Goodenough presenting the keys to President John Spence*



*After the presentation Ian was given a tour of the workshop. Pictured : Ian and Graham inspecting a wooden motorbike being constructed by Ian Bruce (centre).*



## ***THE POWER OF THE SUN***

*In his position as Vice President John Spence successfully applied for a grant for more solar panels to be installed on the roof of the shed. The panels should greatly reduce the cost of our electricity.*

*The City of Joondalup will handle the installation.*

*Thanks to John for a great effort.*



# Shed Activities and Projects



*Hedley Bond and Albert Daly making a black/white board to add to the stocks for sale at the Farmers Markets.*

*We are looking for more blokes to make toys etc. so if you would like to participate please step forward and let it be known that you would like to be part of the team.*

*This picture shows the slab for the new storage shed on the western side of the car park. Construction of the color-bond shed has been delayed because of shortage of materials as is the case with the building industry and it will be commenced in the next couple of weeks.*



*The thicknesser pictured, when in use is uncomfortably loud and is a danger to hearing. The committee has introduced new rules for the operation of this machine.*

*Before starting up the machine shed Manager Graham Duffy or the supervisor must be advised. He will tell the other blokes in the work area to don hearing protection and once that is done permission will be granted to proceed with the operation.*

**PLEASE ADHERE TO THIS RULE**



# Christmas is coming

*And so is the JMS Christmas Luncheon.*

*To be held at the  
Woodvale Tavern & Reception Centre  
143 Trappers Drive Woodvale  
On  
Wednesday 15th December  
At 11.30am for midday start*

## Menu

*Main course: Roast turkey and honey and mustard, glazed ham with sage and onion stuffing served with rosemary and garlic roast potatoes, cauliflower and cheese, honey roasted root vegetables, cranberry sauce and traditional gravy.*

*Desert: Apple and cinnamon crumble with vanilla custard.*

*Tea and coffee included.*

*Drinks may be purchased at the bar.*

**Cost : \$33.50 per head**

**Please pay Treasurer Colin Mellows**

RSVP to Alan Greenhalgh

Email: [alchrisg3@gmail.com](mailto:alchrisg3@gmail.com) Mob. 0499000175

*Place your bookings NOW with Alan to avoid  
disappointment.  
Partners are also invited.*



# Welcome to new members

Paul Anthony  
Paul Leidich  
Philip Reeve

Ian Perkins  
Steve Rodgers

Welcome to the shed gentlemen, we hope that you enjoy the camaraderie with the members and take part in the activities and crafts that the Joondalup Men's Shed offers.

## November Birthday Celebrations



*Birthday greetings  
to you all*

Sanny Ang  
Albert Daly  
Jim Douglas  
Pat Hadley  
Rodney Herman  
Warren Howard  
Denzil King  
Neville Long  
Kevin Maher  
John O'Dell  
John Poustie  
Michael Robinson  
Darryl Ward  
Andrew Simmons  
Richard Hammer

The total number of paid up members  
as at October 2021

# 145



# Farmers Markets

Joondalup Mens Shed



Poynter Markets Saturday 30th October  
Mosman Markets Sunday 7th November  
Poynter Markets Saturday 11th December

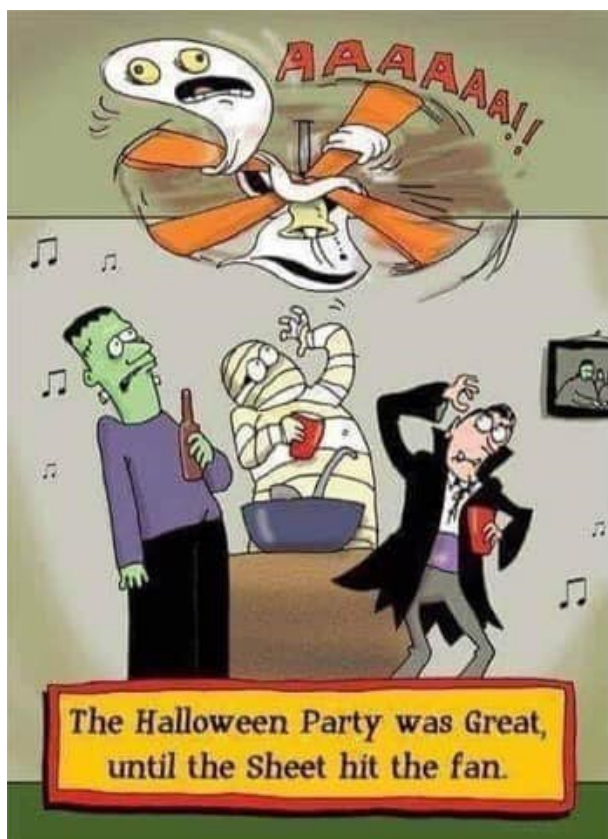
# Sausage sizzles

No scheduled sizzles at this stage

## GINGIN BUS TRIP

Wednesday 3rd November

*At this time of publication there are two seats still available. Please contact Alan Greenhalgh if you wish to join the excursion Mobile 0499000175.*



"If you ever feel useless,  
remember  
it took 20 years,  
trillions of dollars  
and 4 US Presidents  
to replace the Taliban  
with the Taliban"

I told my wife  
she should  
embrace her  
mistakes...  
She hugged me.





## Meet the Member

John Rourke is a long time member of the shed, he joined up not long after the opening of the shed at Padbury Senior High School over ten years ago.

This is the story of his life.

Part five

The job I wrote after was with an Australian Company named Commonwealth Engineering in Melbourne. It was for a works Methods Engineer also with Works Engineering experience. You had to be a member of the Institution of Production Engineers or Mechanical Engineers I sent in my CV and got a faxed reply delivered from the post office about a week later. This informed me I had been selected for an interview in Sheffield and a letter would follow.. The letter stated the Company had been awarded a contract to build 100 trams to be used in the City and suburb's. They were going to be built in their factory in Dandenong, a large city about 40 mile east of Melbourne. I had to respond asap as the General Manager was coming to Sheffield for the interviews. They would pay all costs for transport to and from Sheffield. So I confirmed I would attend the interview..

I got taxi to Newcastle Central Railway Station and got a first class ticket to Sheffield.

I got a taxi to this Travel Agents in the centre of the city as that was the meeting place timed for 10.30 am. There was a guy standing outside with a white jumper on, no tie and he was brown as a berry and I thought that must be him. I walked up to him and asked if he was Don Smith and he said "yes" so we shook hands. He had a broad Yorkshire accent. We walked to his parked car and got inside and he explained he had driven up from London that morning after flying to England from Melbourne and I was the first person he was interviewing. ( I didn't know if this was a good thing or a bad thing) He explained more about the tram contract and what my duties would be .then .asked me to give more details of what I been doing over the years. He was particularly emphasizing plant layouts and large machine tool movements and installation..

He asked about my family and children and whether they would like to live in Australia and how it would affect them and the wife. So I gave him a positive spin on all that. He wanted to know what my hobbies were and how I spent my time away from work. When I told him I was a Newcastle United supporter his eyes lit up and he told me his team was Sheffield Wednesday. So we hit a note there. We must have chatted for about hour so I thought things had gone well. He then told me he had to hire a hotel suite for a week as there had been that many applicants. Anyway we shook hands and he said he would let me know either way by the following week about the interview.

I had discussed the job with Dorothy also the interview and told her I wasn't positive about the job with all the applicants that had wrote in so we just forgot about it.

The following Saturday I received a telegram telling I had been offered the job and informed me a letter would be following. I had to respond straight away. Dorothy and I talked about it and she asked a heap of questions I didn't have answers for. Anyway I told her I was going to the post office and send a telegram and accept the job. I told her we would wait and see what was in the letter and we agreed not to mention it to the kids and the extended family.

When I received the letter, they were offering me twice the salary I was getting in the UK. I couldn't believe it and better conditions. We discussed all this and I told her it was too good to miss. We were due to go to Butlins holiday camp the following week so I told her we would do that and after that start making arrangements to sell up and move to Australia. I sent another telegram in forming Don everything looked good and we were having our holiday first as it was all payed for. I delayed putting my notice in at work until last just in case something went wrong. So we told the kids and they were excited about it except the oldest daughter as she had formed friendships and she had passed the scholarship and was going to Grammar School. But we managed to talk her round. We also informed the extended family so that was all sorted. We got some negative waves from that direction but I expected that. My mum and dad had passed on but the wife's mum was still going strong.

We had the holiday and got back home there were more letters waiting for me. So we put the house up for sale and I put my notice in. A couple of Senior people tried to talk me out of it with more money being offered but it didn't have any effect. My mind was made up. I had 3 going away parties organized. The Company wanted me to go to Melbourne first by the 19 th September and they would put me in a hotel in Dandenong for 4 weeks all expenses paid. Then the family would have to come through immigration which was all organized through the Company and this would be asap after that. I was finalizing my packing when this old guy knocked on the front door and wanted to buy the house for his son who wanted to move in by the end of October. He gave me 500 pounds as a deposit which I pocketed and we shook hands and that was that. I left Dorothy to handle things house wise after that. My brother in law drove us to the airport and as we were driving over the Tyne Bridge I saluted the dark waters of the river Tyne and said 'So Long' The airport was full of relatives and there were tears and hugs and kisses as I walked away from the crowd when the boarding announcement was made and I made my way to the exit for the plane to Heathrow London.

It was my first experience at flying. It took less than an hour to fly to the big city and it was bumpy all the way. I got a taxi to the international flight departures area and checked in my luggage. I carried my briefcase with me. I went through the door with passport and boarding pass at the ready and was directed along a passage and into the B A 747 Jumbo Jet.. A beautiful hostess put her hand out for my boarding pass and she told me to follow her. She stopped and directed me to put my brief case above my aisle seat. and put my seat belt on I did so and sat down.

Once in the air, the hostess came and asked if we would like a drink and she gave me a small bottle of Gin and bottle of Tonic water with a glass and some ice. . Our first stop was Bahrain in the Persian Gulf area. There were passengers getting off and new ones getting on. The next stop was Singapore .The food on the plane was very good and you could drink as much as you liked for free. When we landed in Changi Singapore; it was a huge airport. We were allowed off the plane and you were allowed to buy liquor and cigs. As I smoked then I bought a carton. Also I sat at a bar and had a gin sling. I thought to myself I would come back here one day and go to Raffles. We then flew over some Indonesian Islands, northern Australia and then onto Melbourne.

It was September 15th 1973 that I arrived at Tullamarine airport about 6am. The works Manager was there to pick me up. His name was Rick. It was a long drive to Dandenong. So we chatted all the way. He gave me a list of things to do based on his experiences.

The first thing I needed was to buy a car.( I never drove in the UK although I had passed my drivers test and recently drove a mates car) He said to have a rest that day and he would take me out the next day looking for a vehicle. When we got the hotel, which was very nice . When I got to my room and took my coat off and collapsed on the bed. I tried to sleep but I was going up and down with the effects of the flight Later on that day I had a walk into Dandenong . Next day after breakfast Rick picked me up and he drove to a couple of Garages and advised me just get a cheap automatic sedan. He seemed to know what he was doing and I was learning from his experience. I eventually wound up with a Holden EK Sedan. there was lots of miles on the clock but Rick said that it would last a couple of years . I gave the guy \$500 and drove it away. Rick said he would sort the paperwork ,insurance etc as it would be difficult for me not knowing government paperwork. He showed me the factory and offices and it was on a huge block of land. He invited to dine that night with his family at his place and that was enjoyable and I thanked him.

The next day I rolled up to work. There was a large Ford Fairlane there and I thought that must be Don's (the Boss) He came out to meet me and we had a coffee in his office and a chat. He had a chalk board behind his head with the words " It can be done" in big letters and in smaller letters at the bottom of the board " maybe not at the first attempt"..

We walked over to one of the Divisions called A shop. He introduced me to the Supervisor called Victor. Here they made chassis rails for various types of road trucks. This shop had 4 large bays with overhead cranes. The rails were basically long channel sections which were cut to length and drilled on each face. This machine had two large table beds about 12 m long and each table could be loaded with 6 channel sections also the machine had 6 vertical drill spindles. These and the tables were Numerically Controlled from a program using the Binary System. There was a control cabinet next to the machine.. The machine was a magnificent piece of engineering I was very impressed. The boss told me it was the largest machine of its type in the southern hemisphere. He would like me to concentrate on this project first and do a complete study on it including the rail clamping and a cut out in the rails.



We then walked over to the next shop where the trams were going to be built. This had 6 bays with overhead cranes. The place was empty apart from a bending machine and a guillotine and an old vertical drill. I turned to him and asked where is all the machine tools, tooling, jigs and fixtures and welding gear to build the trams. He turned to me and said "that's your job" he grinned and I thought to my self I'll get the next plane back to the UK. We continued walking around and came to a open ended shed away from the main factory where some painting of previous jobs had been done . He said that some modifications would have to be done in this building. As far as I could see the only advantage it had was a rail line running through it. This was going to be a big job as the trams would have to have an auto type finish. After the walk around he showed me an office that I would share with the Electrical Engineer. It was ok and there was room to spread out drawings. This was part of a bigger office with more staff doing various admin work.

I went back over to the A shop as I needed to know how the machine was programmed. I wanted to be able to make the program from the drawings myself.. I could tell Victor wasn't too happy about that as he was the only one who knew how to do it. I think he must have thought I was taken his job over. Anyway after I had explained my job scope to him he agreed to help me.

A small office which was big enough to spread drawings out and the unit which did the N C was here The program was based on the Binary System using 1 and 0 only. So every position of the drill head and table would be made by a combination of these numbers. Victor had to read off the drawings the various hole positions and jot them down. He used a chart which simplified the conversion from decimal to binary. I was looking for quick ways to get a result. The first thing I thought of was to increase the hole diameter in the cut out and this would reduce the drilling time by about 5 minutes. Victor agreed to this and the cut out-out would take less drilling time therefor more rails could be done per day.

To be continued in November Bench Press

## ***DID I READ THAT SIGN RIGHT?***

Message on a leaflet:

**IF YOU CANNOT READ, THIS LEAFLET IT WILL TELL YOU HOW TO GET  
A LESSON**

**Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says  
(Really? Ya' think so?)**

**Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers  
(Now that's taking things a bit far!)**

**Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over  
( What a guy!)**

## ***Caring for our fellow Members***

Should you hear about any of our fellow shedders being ill, experiencing the loss of a loved one or you haven't seen them at the shed for an extended period, please inform our Welfare Officers Chris Drury, Michael Robinson or John Summerfield. They will make enquiries and visit if necessary and keep Sheddors informed.

Chris Drury: [chris.drury@sumphero.com](mailto:chris.drury@sumphero.com)

Michael Robinson: [robinsonmj1950@gmail.com](mailto:robinsonmj1950@gmail.com) phone 9409 8484, Mobile 0491 036 085

John Summerfield: [sumtrade@primus.com.au](mailto:sumtrade@primus.com.au) Mobile 0432 032 461

## Attendance Statistics for September 2021 Compiled by Ian Mc Callum

Period	Week Start	Week End	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.		Weekly
Week 1	1/09/21	5/09/21	xxxxx	xxxx	32	28	23	0	0	2 Visitors	83
Week 2	6/09/21	12/09/21	23	53	25	19	27	0	0	4 Visitors	147
Week 3	13/09/21	19/09/21	24	58	31	39	24	0	0	1 Visitor	176
Week 4	20/09/21	26/09/21	31	52	32	23	29	0	0		167
Week 5	27/09/21	31/09/21	Pub. Hol	43	29	24	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx		96
Total			88	206	149	133	103	0	0		
Working Days		21 Days									
Weekly Average		31.87	22	51.50	29.8	22.6	25.5	0	0		

Total for the Month

669

# Tuesday Talks Coming Up

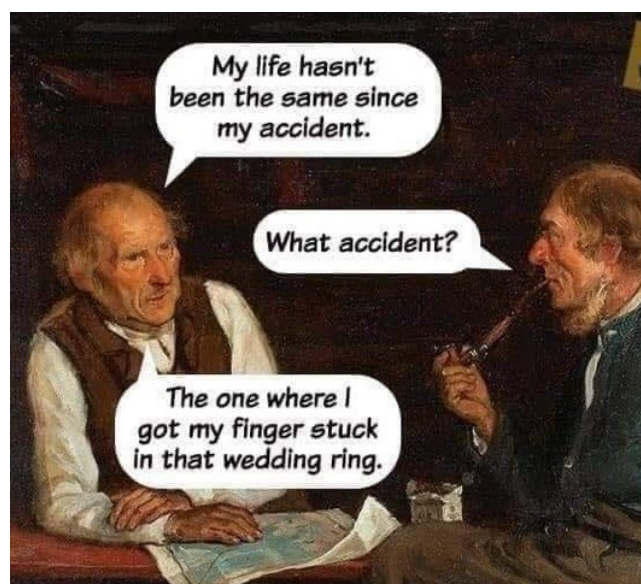
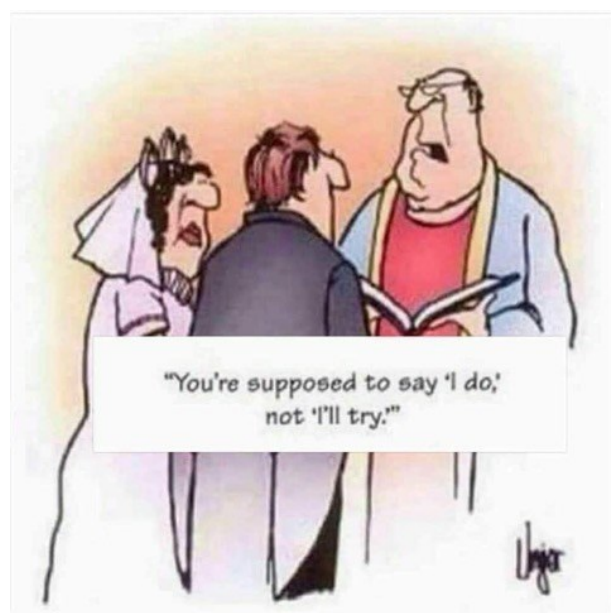
9th November

Tina Hollis from the Stroke Foundation.

7th December

A presentation by Anglicare Friend in need Program. This programs role is to help others, provides training that de stigmatizes conversations about mental health, relationships or financial difficulties and offers strategies for helping mates who are dealing with these issues.

The speaker will be Alex Kopp



## Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy -

As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it OR the store will stop selling it!