

Plane Torque



The Kalamunda Men's Shed Newsletter

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Proudly supported by the Shire of Kalamunda.

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NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY

22 October: Dinner at the Pines

26 October: Zig Zag festival in Stirk Park

31 October at 1400: General Meeting followed by the usual sausage Sizzle and Sundowner

1 November: Rotary Markets

6 November at 1300: Howard's Bull Session, "Holistic Medicine"

19 November at 1300: Computer Group

21 November at 1730: Official Opening, Walridge Resident's Community Shed

12 December: Christmas Lunch

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to KMS:

-  Joey Iuretigh
-  Mike Perry
-  Angelo Colella
-  David Quayle

A CHANGE AT THE TOP

We now have a new Chairman, Dave Buttress. At a recent Committee of Management (COM) meeting, Morris Pavlinovich tendered his resignation as Chairman of KMS. A special meeting of the COM subsequently accepted Morris's resignation with regret. Dave was subsequently appointed Chairman and Murray Carrick, Deputy Chairman.

Both Morris and Dave were members of the KMS Feasibility Committee and Morris was an inaugural member of the WAMSA Feasibility Committee. Morris is still a member of the WAMSA Committee.

We thank Morris for his dedication and commitment as Chairman of KMS over the past 15 months.

A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT



As announced by Elton, KMS has a special offer of personalised house signs produced from re-cycled City of Perth Street Signs at a special price of \$30, available to Members

until the end of November.

The signs make an ideal present for that difficult person who has just about everything.

Several members have taken up the offer and above is a picture of Gerry Chesson who has made up the sign for son-in-law Lyle Housieaux.

Get in quick and contact Dave Buttress or Elton Brown before the offer closes!

ANOTHER MEN'S SHED IN THE SHIRE OF KALAMUNDA

KMS recently received the invite to the Walridge Resident's Community Shed as below:



The Battery Box

(Article by Rod J)

In September, members were privileged to view a vintage car collection as part of an informative and entertaining visit to Frank Selly's Walliston premises.



Frank is acknowledged as a friend of the shed having donated considerable

amounts of work and material at the previous Kalamunda site.

Kalamunda Men's Shed had an opportunity to reciprocate; when during our visit; Frank asked if our shed could produce an item for one of his vehicles. The idea was to create an authentic reproduction battery box that will sit on the running board of a 1910 Vauxhall sedan that he is restoring.

The request was that it be made of Jarrah and constructed with box or finger joints that are typical of that period. A standard car battery is not small, and the box had to contain that,



plus some breathing space. Ian Allardyce and I worked out a plan, Ian found the timber from the shed reserves. This was edge joined and machined to

16 mm thickness. Each of the five panels (4 sides plus lid) consists of two pieces of timber, the base being two sheets of 6mm ply

laminated into a single 12mm ply. This will be screwed to the running board with the power cables running through the base.

The size of the box determined the number of finger joints. It was decided that 3/8" (9.5mm) gave the "best look", this ended up with fifty six joints. The box was machined on a Leigh R9 jig using a hand router as opposed to the router table.

The box is finished in sanding sealer at the request of the collector who is finishing all of the wooden parts of the car with spar (marine) varnish in case the vehicle is caught in the odd shower.

When presented with his box our supporter offered to pay, his offer was politely declined.

This is an example of how KMS can respond to our supporters and at the same time make some of our members feel that they are doing something worthwhile.

Another example of the shed giving "quid pro quo" is KMS receiving a donation of commercial grade hardwood flooring including a large amount of NSW Spotted Gum from Des Kilpatrick who is an importer and agent



for various types of timber flooring.

Des operates out of a

freight depot in Kewdale and offered us a substantial amount of finished floor boards of various varieties of tropical and sub-tropical hardwoods. Again this was a donation to the shed with "no strings". Some members felt it appropriate to respond in some way.

Again we tend to do what we do best and offer the donor a gift created from their products.

So we made a small box from his NSW spotted gum which was presented at a morning tea to which he was invited by Ron Enright who was the major facilitator in the process.

OUR RECENT EXCURSION (Part 1)



(Article by Graeme Y)

On Thursday 25th September, eleven members of our Shed enjoyed the

organised excursion to Mundaring which was billed by John Schoen (Chairman of Social Events) as the "Double Whammy"... and a very good day it was too!

The two activities of the day included Guided Tours of the historic *Mundaring No. 1 Pumping Station*, and the newly commissioned *Mundaring Water Treatment Plant*, and concluded with the usual light lunch and fellowship, including serious discussion concerning our venues, and not so serious banter about current events, albeit issues of Federal and State Government politics, and whatever else which seemed to arise?

Venue 1: Mundaring No.1 Pumping Station

With our arrival at the No.1 Pump Station at 9.30am, we were welcomed by our well organised hosts and invited to partake of morning tea/coffee ... including Cream biscuits, or Chocolate *Tim Tam* bikkies, consumed while Terry (National Trust Guide) discussed the history of the **Goldfields Water Supply Scheme** together with the operations of the plant and machinery.

The scale, scope of works, and success of this “project” which commenced as a very ambitious engineering undertaking in 1895 by the WA Government under the stewardship of Premier John Forrest, who had earlier appointed C Y O’Connor as the Government Engineer to oversee the expansion of the railway network within the state, the construction of Fremantle Harbour, along with construction of the damming of a valley on the Helena River to create the Mundaring Weir, and for the delivery of drinking water to the parched goldfield areas of Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie. At the time, drinking water within the goldfields was more valuable than good whiskey!

The internal working of the pump station is comprised of two parts.

Room 1 houses the multiple high efficiency steam boilers to provide the energy, and room 2 - two x three stage steam engines of revolutionary C Y O’Connor design, manufactured in Scotland and shipped to WA. The feature of the steam engines is one where they wring every ounce of energy from the delivery stroke to drive the pumps which push the water to the first of 10 pumping stations along the route to Kalgoorlie. Host Terry, a retired Marine Engineer was able to fully explain the workings of the plant which were unique to WA. The hands on and visual interactive display provided, demonstrates how the individual pump stations along the route work in stages ...or sequence - say one by one to facilitate the deliver the water to Kalgoorlie.

When the Mundaring Station was commissioned, the high efficiency boilers were coal fired from coal delivered to site by narrow gauge railway from Collie. The supply of coal proved to be too expensive, and this fuel source was replaced by use of local

timber which was harvested by a managed Pollarding (see explanation: Google) process from the weir catchment area which extends on the south side of Great Southern Highway, eastwards from the weir wall past The Lakes towards York, say 45 Km. The harvested saplings were about 100mm to 150mm diameter and between 1.80 to 2.00 metres long so that they could be manhandled and thrown deep into the firebox by the boiler room stoker.

Initially, the burning of the green wood fouled the boilers with sap and resins. Air drying the fuel cured the problem. My Sister in Law’s husband Clive Owen, recalls that during the period of late 1940’s era until closure of the steam driven plant in the 1956 era, the valley land alongside the pump building, and to forecourt area below the weir wall, was completely covered in orderly stacks of harvested timber being dried. Host Terry advised that the regrowth of timbers within the catchment area over almost 60 years is now equal to the original state and forest condition of the 1890’s era.

The old No1 plant pumping plant and equipment was replaced during years around 1956 -1958 by electric motors and centrifugal pumps housed in a separate building adjacent to the historic building. The modern plant remains in service and delivers water from the dam to the new Mundaring Water Treatment Plant.

The successful completion and commissioning of the project on the 24th March, 1903 would stagger the world, and rewrite some of the conventions associated with both pipeline design, and the use of steam powered plant and pumping equipment to deliver this precious resource over steadily rising terrain to the Mt. Charlotte Reservoir, some 600 kilometres inland.

Over the eight years of the project, O'Connor was plagued with the negativity and doubt delivered by the hands of "the naysayers" who either doubted his wisdom to deliver the dream, and by those "vested corporate interests" who stood to lose financially by the success of the venture. The "project" began to impact upon his health, and after a successful preliminary pumping test on 8th March 1902, where-in a small leak appeared at Chidlow's Well. It is reported that arrangements were made to repair this minor leak during following days, but sadly, on the 10th March 1902, the brilliant C Y O'Connor ended his life before the dream was fully realised. He left a note to explain his confidence about the project and his recommendations for the finalisation of the scheme by an entirely new person.

On the 24th January 1903, the dream was realised, and amid community celebration, Forrest turned on the taps in Coolgardie, and Kalgoorlie. He praised O'Connor as a "great man with vision and commitment."

Footnote:

The foresight of Premier John Forrest to develop the gold mining industry within the Western Australian Goldfields has stood the test of time over more than 115 years. When the engineering brilliance of C Y O'Connor is factored into the mix, the initiatives delivered by successful railway projects, the Fremantle Port, and the Goldfields Water Supply have proved to be defining ingredients into the shaping of the economic fortunes of Western Australia.

If we take a broader perspective, the infrastructure of the Goldfields Area Water Supply (GAWS) allowed for the numerous towns along the route of the pipeline to become viable retail and commercial support centres for the growth and development of

our wheat belt and agricultural farming land areas of inland WA.

The following link provides an historical chronology of the work and achievements of Charles Yelverton O'Connor.
<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/oconnor-charles-yelverton-7874>

Opportunity for a KMS Orchestra?

Check out this link:

www.youtube.com/embed/96l_UrTOZF0

HISTORY VILLAGE

(Article by Murray C)

KMS once again helped the Kalamunda History Village at their Oct. '14 School Holiday Programme.



The great thing this time besides the fact that it was one of the most popular

activities, was that my helpers were relatively

new KMS members, Lyle M & John B.



We had 45 or so kids participating. We had to close the entry door as

there were more & more wanting to have a go, despite the fact the we had already extended the allocated time by over ½ an hour. We were the last activity still receiving

new children when all of the other activities had packed up.

Most importantly, Lyle & John really threw themselves into the “support role” & enjoyed the activity.



The kids' faces said it all.

KMS PLAYS A PART

Our Thespian and Shed Boss Jim, organised the construction of a carousel for the musical, “Merry Go Round”. Well done Jim and those KMS members who supported him.

Part of the subsequent review by Gordon The Optom follows:



'Merry Go Round' is a lively and fun musical written by Bree Vreedenburgh. Bree wrote this sensitive drama in connection with WA

Mental Health Week. Why does the fact that WA's suicide rate is higher than the road toll, seem to go unmentioned?



The opening set is 'another brick in the wall', with a back lane wall covered in graffiti. The wall is removed to reveal an admirable fairground scene, complete with ice-cream stall, a beautifully painted backcloth depicting a big wheel, but the main attraction is a working horse ride / carousel that actually rotated! A masterpiece by the team of Peter Nettleton, Jim Chantry, Tim Prosser, and Gabrielle Dahmen.



Are you ready?

At the last general meeting, Eddie Van R gave us a comprehensive overview of the **Bush Fire Ready Action Group** initiative.

Eddie explained the programmes in place and the processes to get a local group established.

If it is applicable to you, now is the time to get started!