

Plane Torque



The Kalamunda Men's Shed Newsletter

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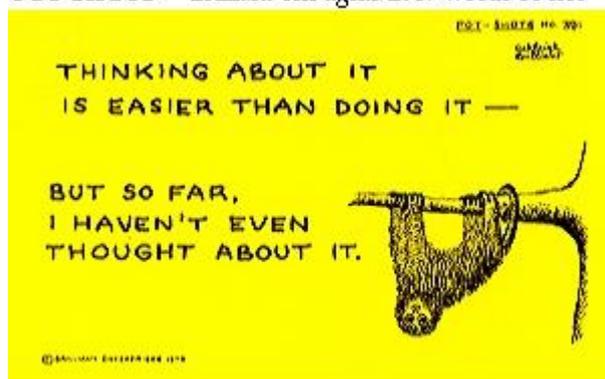
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www.kalamundamensshed.org.au

- 18 November: Computer Group
- 27 November: General Meeting at the Shed
- 4 December: St Barbara's Day
- 5 December: KMS Market Stall (list in Tea Room)
- 6 December: St Nicholas Day
- 20 December: Kiwi Xmas in the Park
- 20 December: Musical Christmas at Hartfield Park
- 22 December: Summer Solstice
- 25 December: Christmas Day
- 25 December- 4 January: Shed Closed
- 1 January: News years Day
- 26 January: Australia Day – Shed Closed
- 29 January: General Meeting at the Shed

POT-SHOTS — Brilliant Thoughts in 17 words or less



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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This last month, or so, has been a very busy time for me when I have had a succession of personal commitments that have severely limited my time at the Shed. My sincere thanks to Richard Young & to other COM members who have “stepped-up-to-the-plate”.

There are other reports within this “Plane Torque” newsletter, so I'll but list some of the activities.

- KMS November Rotary Stall
- Zig Zag Festival
- Continuing work or Area 4, including finalising of an equipment grant from Forrestfield Bendigo Bank.
- Melbourne Cup Luncheon
- Continuing induction / orientation for new members
- Finalising arrangements for our Christmas Luncheon -11th December.
- Shed closure dates for the Christmas/New Year period.

Kalamunda Men's Shed is a registered charity and all donations are fully tax deductible.

Christmas Greetings:

This being the last newsletter prior to Christmas, on behalf of the Committee Of Management, I extend to all members, & their respective families, all the very best for a happy & safe festive Season.

We look forward to an active, prosperous 2016 year ahead for KMS.

GUEST SPEAKER OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING



Have I let the cat out of the bag. Well! What a wonderful talk from Fran Taylor at the October General Meeting. Told by a counsellor when 16 she would not be able to be a sailor (I hope you are looking down now you bastard!) Fran had already fallen in love with tall ships after a trip on the *Dunera* when 14. Since that time she has sailed on a

mighty range of square rigged tall ships, but not the *Duyfken*, why you ask, because it does not have a wheel, the best place to be on a watch. Her sailing career interrupted her work at Woodside and eventually culminated in bringing *Endeavour* back to Australia from Whitehaven in the UK across the Atlantic and Pacific to Sydney. The telling of the story by Fran is both informative and entertaining. She related methods of coping with Ecuadorian customs officers (Blonde and boobs worked), landing on an island to avoid a storm and creating a party, and turning up at the right time to become a prop for a movie. These were punctuated with harrowing tales of being the shorty on the outside post when furling a sail in rolling seas and the compact lifestyle of life on board the *Endeavour*. It was clear this was a trip of a life time even if they did get bogged in Botany Bay. Now back to the cat; I recently arranged for my 14 year old grandson to sail on a tall ship in Sydney, the *Soren Larsen*; not only did he climb the mast, but he also got to be behind the wheel as it sailed beneath Sydney Harbour Bridge; to cap all of this off I joined many other members by buying Fran's book and Fran generously signed it to Liam. I do not know if his mother will enjoy this story, my life expectancy probably just reduced. Thanks Fran.

COM ACTIVITY

KMS Xmas Lunch

Xmas Lunch this year will be at the Lesmurdie Club in the Boronia Room on Friday 11th December. The bar will open at 12.00 noon. Alcoholic drinks can be purchased by members at the bar. Lunch will begin in buffet format at 12.30pm with roast beef and pork and accompanying salads and roast vegetables. There will be vegetarian lasagna. The meal will be rounded out with pavlova and apple crumble and self-serve tea and coffee will be available.



The cost of the function will be \$40.00 per head and **it is important that this be paid to the Treasurer by Wednesday 2nd December.** A raffle will be held and donations of prizes are welcome.

The Xmas lunch is a great function for camaraderie at the KMS and it hoped all will come and enjoy the day.

November Rotary Market



KMS had a successful market day in November 7th making \$841.00 toward member supplies. A special thanks to all who manned the stall, especially Graeme Bradley who did most of the organising. If you missed out on the fun we are on again December 5th and the list for support is on the Tea Room.

Melbourne Cup Lunch

What a fairy tale Melbourne Cup ride for the Payne family. Good luck to Michelle and Stevie. However there were few winners, except the sweep, at the Shed Melbourne Cup Lunch.

Good fellowship followed with a sausage sizzle enjoyed by all.



BUILT IN THE SHED

All Done!

Well nearly. Jamie C has been working on restoring this buggy for some months now. It came in pieces. Jamie stripped it down and commenced restoration. Jim M made parts that were



missing, and the painstaking work began.

The buggy originally came from a friend of the Shed, Don H, when he was cleaning up his own shed. It was a project he hoped to embark upon but other priorities, like restoring VW motor cars, took over! Don is a well-known horseman in the area and we hope we have done justice to this gift. The buggy's

original bits are over 100 years old and came from somewhere East of Kalgoorlie. Don will be in the Shed to see the finished product on the morning of Tuesday 24th.

There are only minor matters to attend to and then we will invite Don over to see the finished product.

We are still not sure about the future of this item of WA history. If you have any ideas, please let Chairman Murray know.



COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Zig Zag Festival

Hat's off to Richard Gates, in particular who managed the activity, & to the many helpers collecting wood samples, cutting them up, and transporting equipment before & afterwards.

We received a special thankyou from Norma Hatchett of the Zig Zag Festival Committee saying "If you could please pass on a big thankyou to all your members for their tireless input on Sunday 25th Oct. I was amazed at the never ending creative bits that left the benches. I saw rockets, jets, planes and doll houses, even a frog house. The kids loved it, the parents loved it and all the grandparents that picked up a hammer and nail loved it. I think the new generation of DIY enthusiasts have been launched." Clearly we hit our aim of getting kids out



and about doing fun things and even making things to enjoy; beats sitting with a computer. Well done all who participated, these events put KMS on the map as party of the community.

If you couldn't be there this year, the good news is that there will almost certainly be another opportunity next year. Murray Carrick

DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

St Nicholas Day

In The Netherlands, the most important day during December is 5th December, when Sinterklaas (St. Nicholas) brings kids their presents!

St. Nicholas' day is on the 6th December, but in The Netherlands, the major celebrations are held on the 5th December. The name Santa Claus comes from the name Sinterklaas.

On the morning of St. Nicholas' Day, Sinterklaas travels to a city or town in The Netherlands, usually by boat, wearing his red bishop's robes. He travels with his servants called 'Zwarte Pieten' ('Black Peters'). When Sinterklaas and the Black Peters come ashore at a town from the boat, all of the local church bells ring in celebration. Sinterklaas then leads a procession through the town, riding a white horse.

On December, 5th children leave clogs or shoes out, by the fireplace or sometimes a windowsill, and sing Sinterklaas songs. They also believe that if they leave some hay and carrots in their shoes for Sinterklaas's horse, they will be left some sweets. During the year Zwarte Pieten keeps a record of all the things they have done in the past year. Good children will get presents delivered by 'Zwarte Piet from Sinterklaas, but bad children will be taken them to Spain for a year to teach them how to behave! Dutch tradition says that St. Nicholas lives in Madrid, Spain and every year he chooses a different harbour to arrive in Holland, so as many children as possible get a chance to see him.

Sinterklaas parties are often held on St. Nicholas' Eve (5th), where treasure hunt games are played with poems and riddles giving the clues. Special biscuits and sweets are also eaten at the party.

Christmas Day itself is a much quieter day in The Netherlands, with a Church Service and family meal. On Christmas Eve night, Dutch Children believe that Santa Claus, (who is also call 'Christmas man' / 'Kerstman' to avoid confusion with Sinterklaas!) comes from Lapland in Finland to deliver more presents!

Kiwi Xmas in the Park

A Community Event in Stirk Park on Saturday 20th December with entertainment, foodstalls, rides for the whole family in preparation for Xmas festivities. 9.00am to 6.00pm; for enquiries ring Catherine Brown 0478 772 866.

Musical Christmas at Hartfield Park

Enjoy a free family musical night between 6.00pm and 9.00pm in Hartfield Park on Saturday 20th December for all ages under the stars. Bring a rug and picnic tea and enjoy a free sausage sizzle

Summer Solstice

Timing AEDT

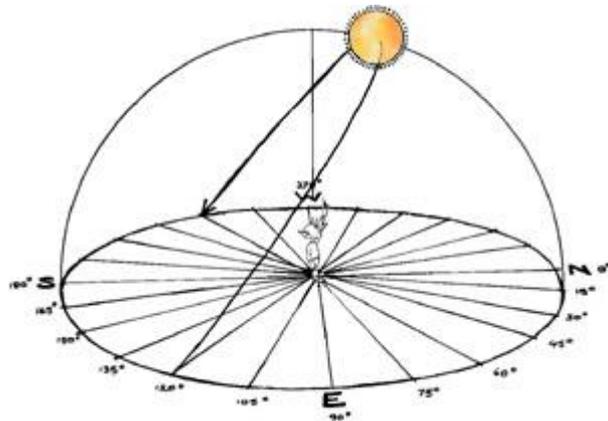
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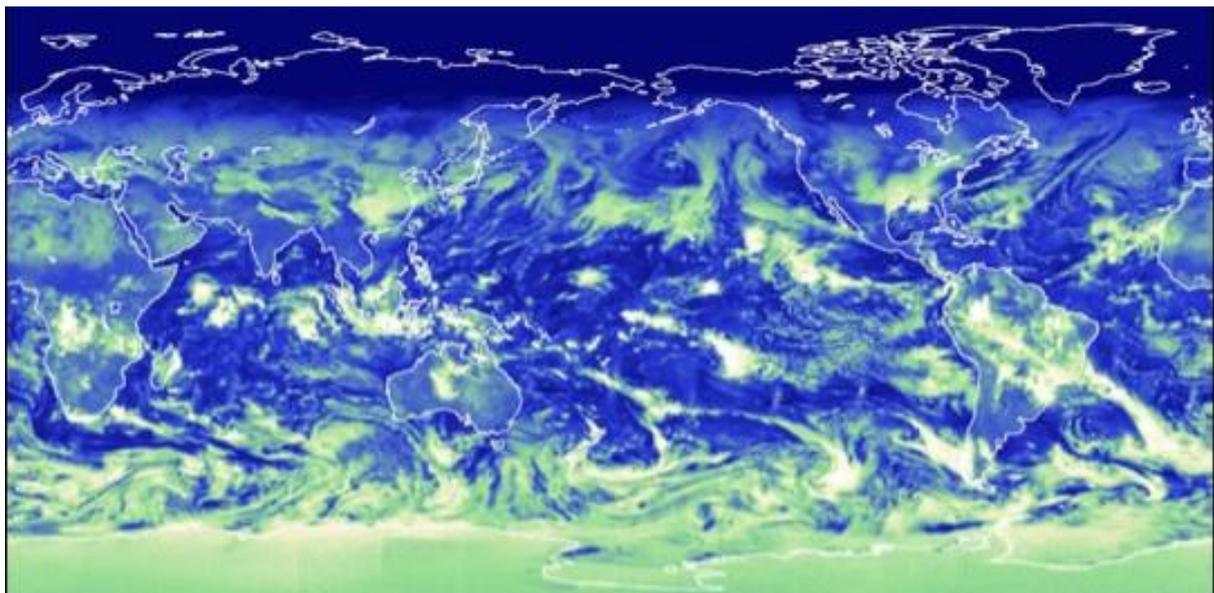
The Sun in summer

Artist: Frey Micklethwait. Source: Museum Victoria.



On the day of *Summer Solstice*, the Earth's south pole is tilted towards the Sun. The Sun rises south of east, sets south of west and reaches 75 1/2° above the horizon at noon. This is, usually, the longest day of the year.

Temperatures on our planet are not determined by the distance of the Earth from the Sun. Rather it is the angle of the Sun's rays striking the Earth. In Summer, the Sun is high in the Sky and the rays hit the Earth at a steep angle. In winter, the Sun is low in the Sky and the rays strike the Earth at a shallow angle. In the diagram below the amount of reflected light at the Southern Summer Solstice highlights this point.



A SENIOR EAT OUT

Well the time came around again for Bill and Ben and their partners to explore the culinary delights for Seniors nearby. This time Bill and Ben, with their partners, invited Barry and Bev along to also enjoy the daytime ambience. The conversation was wide and varied and occasionally returned to the food.

The delights of Guildford were to be explored and one of the older buildings housed a small but popular Vietnamese café/restaurant, the Hoang Kim at 207 James Street, opposite the Railway Station.

You had a selection of places to sit. The front verandah overlooking James Street and the railway line was popular, however we considered that the olfactory and audible senses could be affected by the stream of cars chugging past, together with the odd commuter train. So we sat elsewhere.

A pleasant garden alfresco area was out the back. However plain, but comfortable dining was inside. We chose the latter.

Despite the fact that it was Friday 13 November, BLACK FRIDAY, this epicurean sextet did not succumb to a bad prawn or a torn Vietnamese fresh roll. The food was both plentiful and delightful.

We shared three entrees, five mains and rice. The Vietnamese chicken salad, curry fish and king prawn ommellite (sic) are to be recommended. Another pleasant surprise at the end was the bill, coming to \$37 per couple with peppermints thrown in. Individual billing was also welcomed.

So do yourself a favour and go down to James Street Guildford for lunch!

Cop This

"To live is the rarest thing in the world. Most people exist, that is all."

— Oscar Wilde

SCIENCE SPOT

Boyles Law

Boyles Law is stated as "The absolute pressure exerted by a given mass of an ideal gas is inversely proportional to the volume it occupies if the temperature and amount of gas remain unchanged within a closed system. Or mathematically

$$PV = k$$

where P is the pressure of the gas, V is the volume of the gas, and k is a constant.

So much for the background here is the real test....

BY A CHEMISTRY STUDENT

The following is an actual question given on a University of Arizona chemistry mid-term, and an actual answer turned in by a student.

The answer by one student was so 'profound' that the professor shared it with colleagues, via the Internet, which is, of course, why we now have the pleasure of enjoying it as well:

Bonus Question: Is Hell exothermic (gives off heat) or endothermic (absorbs heat)?

Most of the students wrote proofs of their beliefs using Boyle's Law (gas cools when it expands and heats when it is compressed) or some variant. One student, however, wrote the following:

First, we need to know how the mass of Hell is changing in time. So we need to know the rate at which souls are moving into Hell and the rate at which they are leaving, which is unlikely. I think that we can safely assume that once a soul gets to Hell, it will not leave. Therefore, no souls are leaving. As for how many souls are entering Hell, let's look at the different religions that exist in the world today.

Most of these religions state that if you are not a member of their religion, you will go to Hell. Since there is more than one of these religions and since people do not belong to more than one religion, we can project that all souls go to Hell. With birth and death rates as they are, we can expect the number of souls in Hell to increase exponentially. Now, we look at the rate of change of the volume in Hell because Boyle's Law states that in order for the temperature and pressure in Hell to stay the same, the volume of Hell has to expand proportionately as souls are added.

This gives two possibilities:

1. If Hell is expanding at a slower rate than the rate at which souls enter Hell, then the temperature and pressure in Hell will increase until all Hell breaks loose.
2. If Hell is expanding at a rate faster than the increase of souls in Hell, then the temperature and pressure will drop until Hell freezes over.

So which is it?

If we accept the postulate given to me by Teresa during my Freshman year that, 'It will be a cold day in Hell before I sleep with you,' and take into account the fact that I slept with her last night, then number two must be true, and thus I am sure that Hell is exothermic and has already frozen over. The corollary of this theory is that since Hell has frozen over, it follows that it is not accepting any more souls and is therefore, extinct..... leaving only Heaven, thereby proving the existence of a divine being which explains why, last night, Teresa kept shouting 'Oh my God.'

THIS STUDENT RECEIVED AN A+.

Submitted by Howard