

Plane Torque



The Kalamunda Men's Shed Newsletter

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Proudly supported by the Shire of Kalamunda.

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www.kalamundamensshed.org.au

Upcoming Events

- 18 April: Computer Group Meeting
- 19 April: Basic Electronics Course
- 20 April: Photographic Interest Group
- 20 April: Biodiversity Workshop 6.00pm-9.00pm
- 25 April: Anzac Day
- 27 April: Silver Chain
- 1 May: Wine Club Meeting Reisling
- 5 May: Wildlife Nature Walk (Fully Booked)
- 15 May: COM Meeting
- 16 May: Computer Group Meeting
- 25 May: General Meeting
- 22 June: The heart and its health
- 27 July: London to Brighton – “The Journey”

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It is great to see that we have a Photographic Interest Group being commenced on April 20 by Peter Goodall and Ray Thompson

I have just been through the impressive images that Ray has on the internet of recent trips our Members had to Armadale and Optus Stadium. These images are available for downloading and will provide an incentive to increase our knowledge of photography in general.

The special interest groups we have in the shed provide a valuable variety of alternative activities for our Members. We are lucky to have such a range of talented people with the skills and motivation to conduct these sessions.

A large group of volunteers have been involved in a general clean up of our yard and the result has reduced the large stockpile of timber and steel that has taken several years to accumulate. For example, we filled three skips with scape metal. A clear message generated there is, if you are pulling down an old shed or patio in your back yard, don't bring it to Kalamunda Men's Shed.

A lot of our newer Members were involved in the busy bees for the cleanup, it was heartening to see them getting involved.

City of Kalamunda recently asked if we could construct a cabinet at the entrance to their main office to house bins for recycle items. Darryl and Lyal have taken on this project.

Graeme



Cartoon of the Month from the Union of Concerned Scientists

History revisited in March

Remember those history lessons where you sat listening, eyes glazed over, to your teacher babble on about World War 1 and the effect it had on the World?

Not so with our last Guest Speaker and resident Historian, Elton Brown.

Despite the odds, (our new projector did not line up correctly with the screen) Elton battled on with a well prepared and fascinating talk about the **Aftermath of World War 1**.



We were acquainted with the major players, their fate, the reparations and many more facts. Unfortunately, time ran out and there are many more stories to be told, especially the emergence of the Middle East. Hopefully we can schedule Part Two of Elton's talk, in the future, this time with everything in alignment!

COP THIS

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." George Santayana

APRIL SPEAKER

Rebecca Prebble

Do you know what **Silver Chain** can do for you?

Rebecca Prebble is a Client Service Co-ordinator, working with Silver Chain.

Rebecca will provide information on the services that Silver Chain can offer to those living in the community.

She will discuss what support is available, the government funding options available, and how individuals can access support to remain living safely and comfortably in their own home.

A talk not to be missed as we get older and wish to remain in our homes!

BILLY CARTS AWAY



Members will be aware that John S and team started the construction of hill trolleys and that the project stalled.

The slow and rocky start for the Billycarts is finally over with a rebuilt and they are going to a new home, thanks to a final push to finish them off by Morris P and Ross H. Thanks to a fortuitous phone call the

carts are off to a good home where they will be enjoyed for some time...Bridgetown School Bush Camp.

Thanks to all those involved with the initial build and supply of axles, wheels, and frames.

Another successful project by the Kalamunda Men's Shed.



SOCIAL PROGRAM

First things first Ray Thompson has kindly made available photographs he took at the last three excursions and these are available to members to download, copy or watch a slide show by following the links below:

KMS Swan Valley Wine Tasting Tour - <http://img.gg/lke89Iz>

KMS Perth Stadium Visit - <http://img.gg/6hmBIN2>

KMS visit to Vintage Machinery Museum - <http://img.gg/Wr9Ufth>

Perth Stadium and Matagarup Bridge

The first event to report was an extensive visit to the new “Optus” Perth Stadium on Tuesday 20 March. This Guided Tour of the Stadium just for KMS members was pretty extensive taking in examples of all of the seating areas, the entertainment, food and change rooms of the Eagles and Dockers.

There was no real action on the pitch except some were entertained by the erection of the goal posts. It will take about 90 minutes and give us a good look inside to whole Stadium complex. Our guide for the tour was able to explain all of the facilities well and being a ground curator even gave some insight on the insert cricket pitches. He even explained that the screens at the stadium were a larger area than his block of land. Ray compiled a great view from the top of the stadium



As a bonus the group was shown the development of the Matagarup Bridge and had lead in discussions with the site manager. His story was well delivered but contained no politics, no deadlines, and no budget details. We had a great discussion on the mechanics of a suspension bridge. It was interesting to members who had been on the Civmec excursion where we saw the construction of the parts (remember there are very few parts of the same shape and size). Here we saw them preparing to launch the bidge to the river with no “Plan B”. Perhaps we will visit it again when it is finished.

The Shed Tours the Swan Valley.

Perth's Swan Valley has been producing wine for 184 years. During its early history, most of the wine produced was fortified, sherry, port and Muscat styles etc. Amongst the small quantity of dry table wine however there was one that became quite renowned. It was Houghton's "Chablis" which became the only Australian wine to be served at the House of Lords in London. These days it is referred to as Classic Dry White. In more recent times, new wine producing regions in Margaret River, Pemberton and the Porongorups to name just a few have stolen much of the limelight away from the Swan Valley. So, it was appropriate that our organiser of our regular tours, Fred D. put together a day trip into the "Valley".

On Friday 13 April 14 KMS members toured the Valley and visited three vineyards on the bus which was ably skippered by Mike M. The first stop was at John Kosovich Wines which is located at the northern end of the valley. This winery was established in 1922 and is probably the only remaining old family owned winery. On descending down into the old underground cellar door tasting area we were greeted by that lovely



aroma of wine in barrels that is not present in contemporary establishments. Third generation family members Arch, (winemaker) and brother Peter allowed us to taste all their award winning white and red wines accompanied by a comprehensive commentary. An unexpected treat was to be able try their fortified Shiraz which was immediately recognised as a brilliant example of what we used to refer to as a Vintage Port. As Arch had graciously waved the tasting charge, it was good to see that all present responded by purchasing very significant quantities of wine to take home.

Windy Creek Estate is an 80-year old winery formerly known as Cobanov Wines but in this case the cellar door building is in the modern style. All their the grapes are grown and processed on the property. A wide range of dry and fortified wines were tasted and the complimentary cheese and bikkies enjoyed. A major attraction of this winery was that the cost of most of the wines was in the \$10-12 range. Again, more produce was purchased. After a quick look at a vintage truck it was back on the bus to the next venue for a much-needed coffee.

The final stop was at the Ugly Duckling for a limited wine tasting and lunch. The wines there were not particularly good although one bottle was purchased to accompany lunch. One white wine made quite an impression on those tasting it in that its nose was reminiscent of

pickled onions! There was a bit of this on the palate as well. No wine was purchased to take home. The lunch however was good with most opting for the gourmet meat pie and salad and some for the gourmet tasting plate comprised of many cheeses and antipasta style meats.

Thanks to Fred for two very enjoyable outings.

NEW WOODWORKING SHED DEVELOPMENT

Ross has done an excellent job contacting three builders and clarifying issues, such that we have received three quotes from reputable builders. Your subcommittee evaluated all the proposals and has selected a builder. The selection of course will be subject to us obtaining the necessary finance and agreement from the City of Kalamunda, who ultimately will be the owners of our new facility.



*Plans are in
Place to Build
A New Shed*

The **Rotary Club of Kalamunda** has been very generous, pledging a donation of \$30,000 to match the cash amount that KMS will contribute to the project. Obviously KMS will be contributing substantial “in kind” resources to this project as well.

The estimated total cost of the project is \$432,000 which includes a 5% contingency.

John has met with the **Kalamunda Chamber of Commerce** and Rod, Ray and Richard met with the **Bendigo Community Bank**. There is a lot more work to do but we are hopeful of getting a positive response from these organisations.

A meeting is planned with Lotterywest to discuss this project further.

John has developed an **information leaflet** which describes the project and its reasoning, together with an application for financial assistance. If you know of someone who would be willing to contribute please contact a committee member.

Remember that all contributions are tax deductible.

We have agreement in principle from the City of Kalamunda to the project, and will submit a formal Planning Application soon.

KALAMUNDA ACTIVITIES

Biodiversity Workshop

The City of Kalamunda and the Forever Project are excited to announce this FREE community event. An evening showcasing our unique plants and animals on 20 April

Celebrity presenter Chris Ferreira, with ecologists Mike and Mandy Bamford will talk about environmental programs, and how you can better identify and manage the threats to your local natural areas. For catering purposes please register via phone or email.

Vale Des Morrissey

It is so sad to hear that we lost our little Irish mate, Des Morrissey, under tragic circumstances, early in April.

Des was the Irishman all sheds have to have!

He was a major contributor to Shed life, getting involved and attending just about all our functions/groups.

His woodworking skills needed to be enhanced and for this he worked under the tutelage of Barry (The Master), Rod and many others. Table tops and window sills were produced!

When we first started in central Kalamunda, he was one of our early members.

Des liked to talk and in recent years came to the Shed just for conversation and fellowship.

He always volunteered for jobs, sometimes forgetting or arriving on the wrong day that was what made him special.

Des and the Master who originated from the opposite side of the Irish sea, would often banter about the pros and cons of their various countries.



Des's public profile after an article in The West Australian contributed to significant sales of our feature Rocking Horses. Even a high profile Criminal defence lawyer, Patty Chong turned up on one Saturday to collect three of these masterpieces, from Desmond.

poorer as a result of your passing.

You will be truly missed old mate. The Shed will be

Vale Stephen Hawking.

8 January 1942 - 15 March 2018.

When Professor Stephen Hawking, died this month he left an enormous legacy of science including contribution to the understanding of the origins of the universe, the nature of gravity and the world we live in as well as general philosophy. Despite his scientific brilliance he did however have a great deal of practical advice and a sense of humour. These two areas of his wisdom are briefly explored in this article for the benefit of us mere mortals. Stephen Hawking was diagnosed with motor neuron disease 55 years before he died outliving his life expectancy.

Stephen Hawking by Mitchell Troy, Melbourne.



Here are some quirky facts about Stephen Hawking. He was born on 8 January 1942, exactly 300 years after the death of Galileo, the famous astronomer. His death on 14 March 2018 was exactly 139 years after the birth of Albert Einstein the renowned scientist who despite failing high school maths went on to give us, amongst many other things, the theory of relativity ($E = mc^2$ and all that stuff. Hawking was the 17th Lucasian Professor of natural philosophy at Cambridge University between 1979 and 2009. Sir Isaac Newton, the most famous scientist and philosopher of his time was the 2nd to hold this position in 1669-1702 and Paul Dirac, the 16th, (1932-1969) are the big three in science from this chair.

In a recent talk, the iconic physicist applied his brilliant mind to a more emotional matter. Hawking gave a poignant message to people suffering from depression, making a poetic comparison between depression and a cosmological black hole – no matter how dark they seem, neither are impossible to escape.

He said: “The message of this lecture is that black holes ain't as black as they are painted. They are not the eternal prisons they were once thought.

“Things can get out of a black hole both on the outside and possibly to another universe. So, if you feel you are in a black hole, don't give up – there's a way out.”

Speaking to the same audience, his daughter Lucy noted Hawking's incredible mental fitness – both intellectually and emotionally saying of his drive it is....

“...not just to keep going for the purposes of survival but to transcend this by producing extraordinary work – writing books, giving lectures, inspiring other people with neurodegenerative and other disabilities.”

A selection of Hawking’s famous quotes are worth a look as they commit to a powerful political voice, give us a look into his brilliant mind and give a worth-while comment on life in general.

On disability. “My advice to other disabled people would be, concentrate on things your disability doesn’t prevent you doing well, and don’t regret the things it interferes with. Don’t be disabled in spirit, as well as physically.”

On priorities. “My goal is simple. It is a complete understanding of the universe, why it is as it is and why it exists at all.”

On free will. “I have noticed that even people who claim everything is predetermined and that we can do nothing to change it, look before they cross the road.”

On humour. “Life would be tragic if it weren’t funny.”

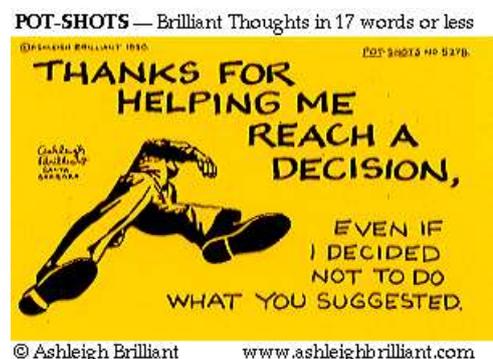
-In other words, stay connected in your community, by coming to the shed for example and stay busy.

Eddie vR

A-NOTHER SHED



The Kalgoorlie Zone has sheds at Norseman, Kambalda, Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie. Morris P attended on behalf of Mens Shed WA. Most have 10-30 members, engage in local projects and have local supervision arrangements. Kalgoorlie has Shire supported Supervisor. Annual fees range fro \$20 to \$50 per year and funding from the community is found.



SOLAR REPORT

This report covers 63 days from 28 December 2017 to 28 February 2018 (our latest power bill) and gives information on KMS power generated, exported and used in that period. It should be noted that this is probably the highest period of solar generation of the year.

Solar generated	1,873 kW hr.	
Solar exported	1,225 kW hr.	@ \$0.07 \$87.40
Solar used	584 kW hr.	
Power imported	619 kW hr.	@ \$0.18 \$112.32
TOTAL USED	1,167 kW hr.	

KMS power bill for this period is \$51.95 which includes a 33 cent per day supply charge. Our power usage averages 18 kW per day, every day or \$3.26 (ex supply charge).

Rod J.

KMS WINE CLUB

The group met on Tuesday 3 April 2018 and the theme for the day was any wine *excluding that originating from* Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, California or France. Although the number of attendees was down a little due to travel or family commitments, those present rose to the occasion resulting in the presentation of an eclectic and interesting array of wines to taste and comment on. Those present were Richard, Ian, John S, John B, Russell B, Ray T and Y.T-Eddie.

We were very fortunate to be able to commence the proceedings with a sparkling wine brought along by Russell – it was a Spanish 2014 Freixenet Brut Reserve. It proved to be an excellent start. Three whites followed, and these were – Bavaria: Peter Mertes 2016 Mosel which was in the classic style as one would expect from Aldi. It was light, soft and delicate. Italy was represented by a 2014 Di Gallura Vermentino and it proved to be good and true to style. Portugal: NV Pinot Grigio from the caves of Portone. It was also true to form and enjoyable.

The red segment commenced with a Spanish Rioja Aradon Tempranillo/Garnacha 2016 – an instant hit with its plummy, soft flavour and was met with universal approval. Argentina was represented by two wines. Firstly, a Macho Gaucho 2016 Malbec and this had a firm, full, good flavour, which for one or two of us was a bit too astringent. Secondly, from Trapiche we had a 2014 Malbec. This was a deep red, full bodied, rich flavoured red.

Despite the challenges of sourcing hard to get foreign wines, the afternoon was a great success, not a dud amongst them. Yours Truly found that all the local stores carried very small stocks of wines from the regions that we were looking for, the reason given being that Australian wines are so good, especially those from our own Margaret River, that there was no reason to focus on overseas products. But we all knew that, didn't we? So, buying local is good, but sometimes we need to have look beyond our horizons in to reassure ourselves that all is well. To end a very successful tasting, we were treated to a special fortified from Portugal provided by Richard. It was a Portuguese Quenta de Santa Eufemia white port which had ben matured in the barrel for 30 years. It was given to Richard in Portugal while he was celebrating a milestone birthday in 2005. It opened well and was a light caramel in colour and tasted like liquid Christmas pudding. Thank you, Richard.

Coming up with a new theme for the next meeting can be a challenge. Y.T fostered a brief discussion on the quirky topic "alphabet soup", an A to Z of wine grape varieties and how these could be twisted into various themes for future meetings. Hopefully some of the members will come up with some vine ideas.

Eddie vR

Next meeting.

Tuesday, 1 May 2018 – it's the Tuesday after the Shed's April general meeting.

Time: 2.30 pm.

Theme: A Riesling from Western Australia. (Suggested by John S).

BYO nibblies etc.

MERDS, (Enterprise, responsibility and diligence syndrome).

Basically, most of us would regard ourselves as hardworking, responsible, sober and enterprising people and it would sometimes, (often ?) come as a surprise that we are practised at procrastination.

Many people have observed that time seems to be passing faster and faster. The year is scarcely started when Easter arrives and before you know it is Christmas time again. Most of us find it harder and harder to fit the jobs required of us into the day. Only procrastination seems to be easier and easier. This is often dismissed as a perceptual phenomenon, entirely the result of changing, subjective, perceptions. One explanation is that as you get older, your metabolism slows while the time and the speed of light remain constant, but you and your slowing metabolism perceive time as speeding up because it is leaving you behind. Another approach to this problem is to argue that with each passing day, week, month or year, any given unit of time become a smaller fraction of your elapsed lifetime-the time span that you have experienced and perceived. When you are eight years old, it is about 1% of your elapsed lifetime; when you are forty, a month is only about 0.2%- a month is only a fifth of what it was at eight years of age.

No doubt there is something in this. Perception of time does change with age, but my experience as a maritime archaeologist has suggested that something of more cosmological significance is going on. The quality of time may be changing.

From *Messing about in Earnest* by Nick Burningham and Earnest was the name of a tiny sailing dinghy that Nick used to explore the Swan River from Fremantle to the upper reaches of the river. Published by the Fremantle Arts Centre Press.

10 RULES OF THUMB by Wendell Castle, 1932-2018. Furniture designer and CNC wood sculptor.

1. If you are in love with an idea you are no judge of its beauty or value.
2. It is difficult to see the whole picture when you are inside the frame.
3. After learning the tricks of the trade, don't think you know the trade.
4. We hear and apprehend what we already know.
5. The dog that stays on the porch will find no bones.
6. Never state a problem to yourself in the same terms it was brought to you.
7. If it's offbeat or surprising, it's probably useful.
8. If you do not expect the unexpected, you will not find it.
9. Don't get too serious.
10. If you hit the bullseye every time the target is too near.

