

# Plane Torque



The Kalamunda Men's Shed Newsletter

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## **SPECIAL EDITION**

Joint foundation sponsors: The Rotary Club of Kalamunda and the Forrestfield Community Bank.

Proudly supported by the City of Kalamunda and Lotterywest

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[www.kalamundamensshed.com.au](http://www.kalamundamensshed.com.au)

### **NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Cancelled until further notice**

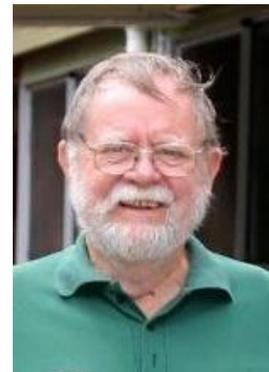
## **CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER**

### **RESPONSE TO COVID19**

#### **The Shed is closed!**

Hey guys we have to take this seriously, some of the comments I have received is correct that there are more young and middle aged people that have caught the COVID19, but there are more of our age group that are hospitalised or dead. Consequently, we **MUST** take it seriously.

The coronavirus is currently changing life in our country dramatically. Our ideas of normality, of public life, of social interaction - all of these are being put to the test as never before. I firmly believe that we will succeed in this task if all of us see it as their task.



So let me say that this is serious. Take it seriously too. We can and will do everything we can to help our members through this difficult time. Don't panic, but don't think for a moment that he or she doesn't really matter. No one is expendable. Everyone counts, it takes all our efforts.



To this end I would like to test the interest in establishing a buddy system in which we have about 16 groups of about 8 members who take it on themselves to contact one another by phone weekly. I will break up the membership list into these groups and pass them along by email and phone to get it going. If you do not want to participate in this form of communication please email me [chairman@kalamundamensshed.com.au](mailto:chairman@kalamundamensshed.com.au) , or SMS me on 0418 293 328.

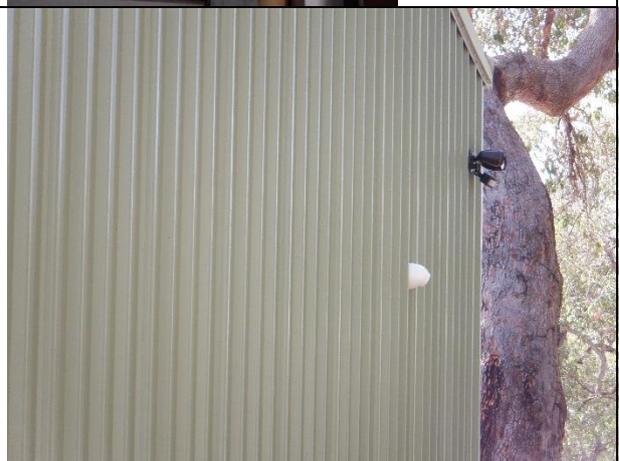
### **THE FIT GOES ON**

We still have stuff that is hanging around, but it is small and relatively minor so it is a good time to give thanks to the great team that managed getting the woodworking shed complete. Thanks to Ross, Jason, Armin and Brayden.



As most of you will know we have been using a Community Development Grant that was supported by Ken Wyatt to complete the fit-out of the Shed. The end of this process is happening while we are away.

In the first tranche of this grant we added positive air conditioning, dust extraction and ducting to the new woodworking facility and improved the safety by upgrading the lighting in the metalwork space. In the second tranche we have installed batteries in the PV circuit, bituminised west of the patio to improve access to both buildings, created a healthy environment for members in the amenities area by installing new cabinets and a lino floor, complete the installation of the dust extractors, installed security for the new building, acquired a new sound system, purchased a defibrillator and motorised the roller door on the metalwork facility.



It is hoped that by the end of April all of this work will be completed. I can't say I won't be pleased to see it finished!

### **ACTION AROUND THE PLACE**

The green shed has been moved and is thoroughly installed on the eastern boundary thanks to the effort of Graeme and his team. The next step will be to add a stair down from the ramp to the East to make access easier than balancing along the wall.

Richard and his team have cleaned up the rubbish steel on the western boundary and taken it to the dump. This task highlighted the need to remind members that our block **is not a dumping ground**. If it is rubbish, take it to the transfer station don't make a job for someone at the Shed.

Ian has taken on the task of getting a great improvement in the amenities area. His knowledge and experience meant that we got more bang for our buck in making this area healthier and more comfortable.

Ross has continued his role in the woodworking area, improving the cost and efficiency of the sound system we acquired.

Thanks to all for your help.

## **FOODBANK**

The Food Sensations Workshop has been postponed but will return when COVID19 moves on.

With COVID-19 epidemic demanding our daily attention, now is a good time to take better care of our physical and mental health. Eating healthily, exercising, staying connected (at a distance!) and frequent hand washing will help us fight the coronavirus. As face to face delivery of our Food Sensations workshops have been temporarily suspended, our good news is that these nutrition education workshops are now available online!

## **Jim (James) Maslin**

Our good friend and dedicated shedder, Jim Maslin has had an accident, falling while doing some DIY at home. Probably using his expertise and cunning innovativeness to help someone out!

As a result of the fall, Jim broke his hip in two places and was scheduled to have surgery at Royal Perth hospital on Friday 3 April.

Our Welfare Officer, Ross has been in touch with his family and offered our assistance. We wish Jim all the best for a speedy recovery.

## Message from the Mayor - COVID-19 KALAMUNDA CONNECTED COMMUNITY REGISTER



Everyday life has become harder for us all and although the precautions may seem extreme, they are necessary. The current situation will test us like never before and it will take a long time before we have recovered.

The City of Kalamunda has developed a community register in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on our community. The Register seeks to match members of the community who will require assistance and support during the ongoing and prolonged COVID-19 pandemic.

The Register also calls upon community volunteers to register their details on the

volunteer landing page and the City will then have the ability to match volunteers with those in need.

The City is calling upon all community groups and clubs to promote this initiative and contact their members seeking an expression of interest for anyone wishing to be a community support volunteer or anyone within your group or club who will require support.

Community members can register to assist, or they can register needing assistance for themselves or someone else. The City will be taking registrations via phone on 9257 9999, via the website [www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/covid-19](http://www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/covid-19) or via return email [enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au)

I urge your community group or club to be involved in this very important initiative to support our vulnerable community members. Let's work as one for the benefit of all of our community.

Finally, please be kind, stay strong and support one another. I know we will get through this together.

## **A Message from Men's Sheds WA Chaplain, Richard MacAlister**

### **Stay Safe, Stay Strong**

In the first two videos released on our YouTube channel, MSWA Chaplain, Richard MacAlister talks about how you can look after yourself and the community.

[Stay Safe, Stay Strong Part 1](#)

[Stay Safe, Stay Strong Part 2](#)

You may be interested in looking at these videos to hear some good thoughts.

## Try a few Parody Songs to bring a smile to your lips

Here are a few:

<https://www.latimes.com/entertainment-arts/music/story/2020-04-01/coronavirus-song-parodies-go-viral>

## SAD NEWS

*We have just received the sad news that Rob Wiltshire, one of founding members, passed away on 31 March. Rob was very active in the Shed and served on the Committee of Management about seven years ago. He had been in poor health for the last few years and our thoughts are with his family at this time.*



## CNC LASER

(contributed by Rod)

Most of our members are aware that KMS has acquired an 80-watt CNC laser machine. Since its arrival and like the CNC router before it, it has not stopped working although to some degree it has replaced some of the router's operations.

For those of you that don't know, computer numerical control (CNC) operates a machine, in our case



a router, which is the same as a conventional router but is controlled by a machine. The same goes for the laser which is a light source that basically burns its way through materials.

To operate either machine you need basic computer knowledge, fortunately we have some top guns around, and Trevor Shaw leads the laser team and has generously donated his time to train up other members.

The jet fighter is by John Blades and the Land Rover is by Trevor Shaw, both models are from 3mm MDF material which is widely available. When things are back to normal we hope to offer these and similar items as a flat pack at the markets.



**Our Access has been improved.**



Local contractor, Ken McKay and his team completed the asphaltting of our Shed access early this week. This work was funded from the Federal Government's Community Development grant.

## SOLAR BATTERIES

(contributed by Rod)

It's been confirmed that KMS has enough solar generating capacity, however it generates at the wrong time of day! For example, the system is rated at 5 kW but at 8.30 on Wednesday morning it was only producing 250 watts. This was due to the panels being shaded by neighbouring gum trees. Our working hours 8.30 to 12.30 are not helpful as the main solar contribution is in the afternoon.

Our suppliers DNX Energy advised that additional panels would only result in KMS exporting power back to the grid for no reward. So, the answer is storage, generation in the afternoon is stored in batteries for use the next morning, so on, and the cycle continues. Other than the Synergy standing charge, our power bill should show a significant reduction where we are in credit.



The above photo shows two ten kilowatt LG batteries together with the inverter. The “Unistrut frame was constructed by Lyal and Drew Mitchell it supports the batteries which each weigh around a 100kgs. The installation was carried out Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup> and by Thursday both batteries were fully charged.