

# SHED TALK

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE  
MT. GRAVATT MEN'S SHED

VOLUME 17 JANUARY 2026 NO. 1



## SHED ACTIVITIES FOR 2026

Art / Painting   Card Playing   Carpet Bowls

Cartooning   Chess   Cooking   Computer

Emerging Technologies   Gardening

3D Printing   CNC Routing   Laser Engraving & Cutting

HeartFIT   Leatherwork   MetalScrolling   Music / Guitar

Native Bee Keeping   Photography   Small Engines

Travel   Welfare   Welding   Writing

Woodworking   Wood Carving   Wood Turning   Ukulele

This edition focuses on our valued interest group activities.

**Click on the Activity to access the details.**

All leaders are keen to make their group as satisfying as possible for their participants and welcome questions and ideas for 2026.

Do you have a hobby that could form the basis of a new interest group?

## Our Vision

***Provide Mateship and Support for Men***

## Patrons

**Body** Dr Brian Kable

**Mind** Prof Grant Devilly

**Spirit** Rt Rev Doug Stevens

## Management Committee

**President** Peter Tyley

**Vice President** Lionel Armitstead

**Secretary** Mark Gillow

**Treasurer** Kingsley Manickam

**MC Members** Lionel Armitstead,

Bruce Conmee, Wayne Hansen,

Mark Hastings, Bart McKnight,

Kevin Schneidewin, Andris Svilans

## Area Co-Ordinators

**Building & Grounds** Stephen Ord

**Workshop Projects** Fred Darvill

## Community

**Projects** Bart McKnight

**Office** Jim Wiseman

**Recreation Room** Colin Smith

**Workshop** Lloyd Akeroyd

**Welfare** Ron Fair

## Other

**Music Coordinator** Terry Thomson

**IT Coordinator** Bruce Conmee

**Deputy IT Coordinator**

**Assistant Treasurer** John Bettenay

**Assistant Welfare**

**Woodworking Facilitator** Lloyd Akeroyd

**Wood Machinery** Lloyd Akeroyd

**Immediate Past President** John Wicks

**Test & Tag** Brad Gibson, Nev O'Brien

# New Building Sub-Committee Update

While it may appear that not much has been happening with the new building extension a lot has been going on in the background during the last couple of months. Here is an update on what has happened.

1. The sub-committee has approached the market to source a company that could design and build the new extension. We received and assessed three good quality responses. To determine which company was most suitable they were assessed against the following criteria:

- Quality and suitability of the proposed design
- Experience and capability of the contractor
- Value for money
- Demonstrated understanding of project requirements
- Ability to meet the proposed timeline

In addition, the interested companies were required to have an on-site meeting at Mount Gravatt Men's Shed premises to gain additional insight into the requirements of the project and to view the proposed site. This was mandatory if they wished to proceed to submit a proposal.

Further to this the sub-committee requested that the companies provide access to a reference site where they had completed a project similar in nature to our proposed new building. The subcommittee visited several sites in the weeks before Christmas. We have seen some excellent designs and have a number of good ideas that can be incorporated into our new building.

A construction partner has been selected and endorsed by the MGMS Management Committee. Details of the successful candidate will be made available shortly.

2. Signing of the new lease for the extension area. This involved undertaking the necessary surveys of the land, taking into consideration the environmental protections in place in the showgrounds and working with the Mt Gravatt Showgrounds Trust to ensure that any other conditions were satisfied.

3. Finalisation of the Capital Grant Document provided by the Queensland Government. There has been a delay of many months in having this document returned to us by the Queensland Government. Completion of this document allows us to gain access to the grant funding and outlines the terms and conditions for which access to the funds will be provided. The first round of funding will provide access to five hundred thousand dollars. This funding will be available to us shortly and will allow us to engage the successful contractor.

Next steps include:

- Formally engaging the contractor
- Firming up the building design
- Preparing the Development Application for submission

Bruce Conmee

Cover

## AMSA delegate visit

The MGMS has been selected for a visit from about fifty delegates attending the AMSA conference to be held in Brisbane 24-26 March 2026.

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March, the Seventeen Mile Rocks shed will be providing a morning tea for the group, who will then travel to our shed for a visit from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.

Displays of various activities will be set up to showcase the skills of the members and the delegates will be catered for with a BBQ luncheon.

For the afternoon, the group will be bused to Suncorp Stadium for a tour.

**Members from the Gladstone Shed are seeking billets from MGMS for the duration of the conference. Any members wishing to provide a billet, please contact**

Wayne Hansen. M: 0468 722 069

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## Editorial Team

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# MAJOR SURVEY COMING IN MARCH 2026



It is time to think about the future of the Mount Gravatt Men's Shed.

## WHY?

From humble beginnings in 2009 the Mount Gravatt Men's Shed has grown to over 350 members, making us one of the largest Sheds in Australia. We have an extensive range of activities for members offered through the shed and a presence that is recognised through the local community. It now has limited opportunities for storage and sometimes restricting our ability to get together and participate in social and physical activities. Our membership is also evolving. Our "old guard" is getting older and over the years they have given a lot to the Shed. With the rapid development of technology, the potential members of the future will highly likely have different, backgrounds, work history, skills and interests compared to our original membership base. It is an interesting challenge for us and we need to start planning for a sustainable future for the Shed.

Recognising the Shed's importance to the community the State Government has granted us \$2 million to expand our facilities over the next two years presenting us with many options and opportunities to make our Men's Shed better than ever.

The Management Committee has had two special workshops considering the future of the Shed. We have an ambitious objective of members being involved in

developing a plan that clearly heads in the direction that members will be very satisfied with well into the future.

As part of these workshops, preliminary data analysis has identified:

- Only about 3 out of 10 shed members (30%) engaged with the shed weekly.
- One in ten members (10%) did not attend the shed at all over a 12 month period and a further 14% (about 1 in 7 members) attended the shed less than five times in the same year.
- A bit over a third of members (37%) attend the shed fortnightly to monthly.

## SURVEY

There are some very significant issues buried in these numbers. In response, the Management Committee has requested we do an extensive survey of all members to get some facts on the variances and understand the reasons why members do or do not engage with life in the shed and to help us prepare for the future of the shed. We will also be assessing a number of issues that have been the subject of many discussions over recent years.

We are aiming to release the survey in early March. There is still some work to do on the content of the survey and how it will be distributed and monitored.

To get the most out of this survey we need as many members as possible to provide us with their input. We can't stress enough the importance of this for the future of MGMS, as well as how you can support it and how it can support you. We want to develop, with your involvement, a happy place for men socially, providing good physical activities, developing some skills and good mental support.

# Art / Painting

Alan Carter (Group Leader)



The Art Group started 3rd March 2015. It was going to be a course lasting three months. That never happened. By popular demand, we are still going as strong as ever, with new members starting regularly. Painting has become the catalyst for the comradeship that has developed within the group. Some men have found talent they never knew existed, others just kept getting better and still others are learning how interesting painting can be.

We welcome men who have never painted before but think they would like to give it a go. Tutoring is available (no cost). Painting turns into a great hobby. You can paint just about anywhere, anytime, day or night. Any medium is accepted. eg oil paint, acrylic, watercolour, pencil, coloured pencil, pastel and gouache.

It is a very gregarious and happy group which meets Friday mornings in the recreation room from 9 am - 12 noon.

Alan Carter (Group Leader) M: 0433 559 600

## Card Playing

Ray Pyzik & Neil McPhail -Team Leaders



## Card Players

Do you want to:

- improve your brain power
- maintain your memory skills
- make new friends

Then come along to the Shed on Monday mornings and play cards. We meet in the Recreation Room each Monday (except Social Meeting days) at about 9.00 am and play 500 and Bridge until about 12.00. Don't be daunted if you haven't played these games before or you are a bit rusty, we can assist.

We are always looking for new players.

Ray Pyzik and Neil McPhail



# Carpet Bowls

Jim Wiseman -Team Leader



If you haven't heard, there is a group of men that meet every **Thursday at 12.45** to indulge in some light banter in the peace and quiet of the rec room.

To provide the catalyst, a few bowls are rolled down a green mat placed on the floor. This mat is to prevent any damage to the carpet tiles which other members use on other days of the week.

The men that gather are very friendly and range from all ages, all backgrounds, and a large variety of experiences which are shared freely.

Our current problem is we need some new stories to share. The game of bowls is incidental.

No experience is necessary and all body shapes and sizes are accommodated.

The area is even "Air Conditioned."

So, if you would like some quiet relaxation, join us on Thursday afternoons [ we always play a game ] and share your stories with us.

We can accommodate from two to twelve storytellers.

## Cartooning Capers

Kevin Lindeberg - Tutor/Instructor

The cartooning group is small but solid, and always welcomes expansion by others who would like to have a go.

The art of cartooning covers a wide gambit of factors, all of which go to assisting the mind ticking over.

The cartooning group is a chatty, friendly environment where different ideas and world-views can flourish.

I try to assist in their capture on paper by lending my cartooning skills. It is done against the background that each person's effort is valued, no matter where his drawing skills may be at.



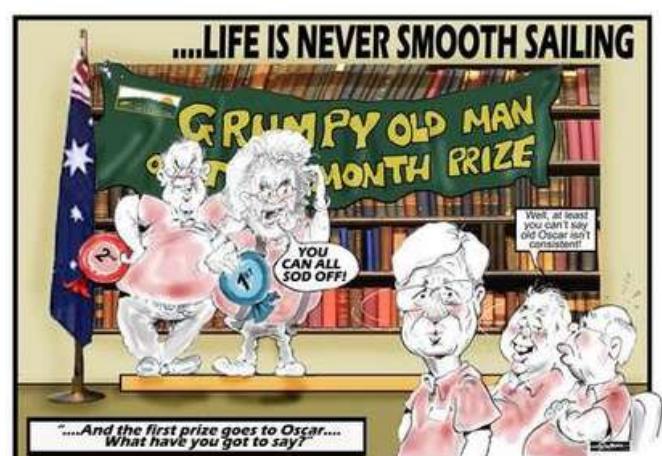
We try to enhance what is, and to break through entrenched drawing barriers into a wide wonderful world where what is desired to be expressed on paper, can be achieved.

This can be a most fulfilling personal experience. You may surprise yourself!

Remember also, no one is turned away because they might believe that their skill set is not up to the mark. Perish the thought.

Ours is an inclusive group of men, and as their tutor/instructor, I would welcome you.

We have pencils, pens, rubbers and paper, and friendship. As for you, just bring your smiles and willingness to give it a go - you never know there may be an enjoyable match-up. **Thursdays 9:00 to noon.**



St. Barts  
Anglican  
Church  
Mt Gravatt

To Know Christ  
To Make Christ Known

We gather for worship Every Sunday at 7.00am & 9.00am

ROTARY CLUB OF MOUNT GRAVATT Inc.

PROUDLY SUPPORTS

THE MOUNT GRAVATT MEN'S SHED Inc.

Rotary Club of Mt Gravatt is a platinum sponsor of the Shed.

Striving to be a Christ  
Centered Family Community

HERTFORD STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

Cor of Hertford & Dupre Sts.  
Upper Mount Gravatt. 3343 5405

Service Time 9:00am

MGMS Bronze Sponsor

# Laser Cutting & Engraving

Greg Self - Leader

## Laser cutting and engraving at Mount Gravatt Men's Shed.

Lasers are perhaps the world's most versatile manufacturing machines.

Our laser is a commercial quality 600mm x 600mm Koenig CO2 engraver/cutter. Design and machine control is by Lightburn, the world's most popular laser software. Some of our members have very affordable diode lasers at home.

We can help you learn CAD (Computer Aided Design) in Lightburn, where to find thousands of fun and practical designs on the internet, how to create custom products and how original artwork for laser marking, signs and other uses can be generated using AI art. It's easier than you might think.

Training is one-on-one or small groups by arrangement.

If you do not wish to do-it-yourself on the laser, talk to us about the many ways we can help, signs, gifts, awards, labels, boxes, models, puzzles, toys, stencils, rubber stamps, etc, etc. If not free, our prices are well below market and the money goes to the Shed.



## Emerging Technologies

Activity Leaders:- Greg Self, Tony G

Activity time:-12:30 every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month



**CNC Routing Models - Art**



**3D printing Design & Engineering**



**Laser Cutting and Design**

Emerging Technologies are here to stay. Like the iPad and smartphone, the technology may seem daunting at first, but when you learn to embrace it, the unforeseen rewards are motivating.

Our group is the same, take the time to learn what can be achieved and you will be surprised where you see the opportunities and goals.

3D printing can be used for prototyping in engineering, toolmaking, and art, and has many other applications. Laser engraving/cutting is the same. Combined with several free CAD software packages, the possibilities are endless.

3D printing can produce shapes that are only possible with injection moulding. A 3D print can be used as a pattern for moulding (resin, lead, metal, plastic) shapes that are not possible to machine.

Laser cutting is significantly faster than 3D printing, although it cannot perform the same range of tasks as a 3D printer, and vice versa.

CNC routing is in its own class. Used heavily in industry for mass-producing complicated work, engraving faces for cabinet making and more. Requires some learning and skill to program using free software and some of the software our shed has purchased.

The Emerging Technologies Group gets together from **noon every second and fourth Monday**.

# Gardening

Bryan Cleary - Leader



The reason I volunteered to lead the Gardening Group was that I had always gardened at home as a hobby but I am slowing down. I have two large gardens at home which are about the same size as our shed plot. I had a landscaping business for three or four years but now I mainly concentrate on growing vegetables. Members take some of the produce home while the ladies in our Cooking Group use some in their recipes. The ladies do request a certain type of herb.

We need a set group of members so we can have meetings to decide what is planted and run the group in an orderly manner. The garden needs to be expanded and that is on the agenda for the future.

Water is a critical factor in gardening and I prefer tank water to mains water which contains too many chemicals which become deposited in the soil.

Our little group would welcome new members with open arms and we are very keen to communicate with likewise shredders.

Cover



**BRUCE COLLINS**  
0408 740 543

[www.heartfit.net](http://www.heartfit.net)  
hello@heartfit.net

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 heartfit.matureagefitness  
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 heartfitinista



HeartFIT has been going at the Shed for 8 years. It has been a great journey, we have built a great core group of guys who have been very consistent with our workouts and have spoken of the need for and many benefits of exercising regularly. But like many groups last year we were down on numbers late last year with many of our regulars needing time out to recover from medical procedures, travelling or busy schedules elsewhere.

HeartFIT is about living our best life for longer...to do that we need to stay healthy, fit and mobile. We can assist that with everyone working at their level, being inspired and motivated by the other guys in the group and having a bit of a laugh together as we go. The program focuses on:

- Strength Conditioning - to increase muscle mass and bone density.
- Heart Health- cardio exercise for fitness & prevention of chronic diseases.
- Balance & Flexibility - improving mobility and quality of life.
- Co-ordination & Falls Prevention - remain strong & confident at home and out socially.



HeartFIT is held in the recreation room Tuesdays from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm and Fridays from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm.



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

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# Cooking

Toni McDonald and Cath Atkins - Activity Leaders

Meet: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month, starting at 10.30am.

We also help out with gatherings like the volunteers' Christmas party and shed anniversary parties.

In 2025, we made quite a selection of savoury and sweet dishes and some of the winners in the flavours stakes were pork and pineapple curry, tex-mex cottage pie, Chinese fried rice and Moroccan beef pie with a crunchy filo top. We made vegetarian and meat pasties and got a very interesting selection of sizes and shapes. I think one of Mick's pasties could feed a family of four! But half the fun of our group is to experiment a little and the guys to make dishes for themselves and their families.

Sweet dishes included a delicious mango cheesecake, almond cake with lemon drizzle and a basic butter cake recipe that could be zjooshed up with different flavours. Our Christmas recipes for 2025 were two types of rum balls, choc cherry fudge and Macadamia lime fudge. All good to pop into the fridge for Christmas or into little bags for friends and family. You cannot beat homemade cooking 😊.

The cooking group guys assisted with the preparation of the supper for the Show Volunteers Thankyou Supper in August. As you can see in the photos, we made a range of delicious kebabs and salads for the 100 volunteers and a good night was had by all.

In March 2026, the cooking group have been asked to help out with the catering for the AMSA Conference lunch, so we are currently drafting a lunch menu for 50 visitors and Sheddies. We are thinking mini homemade quiches (yes, real men do eat quiche!), ricotta and spinach in filo pastry, fruit kebabs and other tasty treats.

Many thanks to Allan's wife Robyn and Bill's wife Kris, who kindly stepped in whilst Cath and I were on holidays and during the Mt Gravatt Show. Cath is also the Chief Steward for the Mt Gravatt Show Cooking Competition (that receives over 200 entries each year) and in 2025, we hosted two new judges who came along from other local shows. Congratulations to Bill Krafft who won second prize for his ANZAC biscuits and Mick Theaker won a Highly Commended for his cheesecake in the Men's Only Cake section.

As many members that come to the shed on cooking Thursdays know, Bill has been perfecting his ANZAC and gingernut biscuits. The guys think he is getting pretty good, but we insist that Bill keep practicing in his quest to get first place in July 2026 😊.

Sadly, a couple of the our cooking regulars have had to drop out due to illness, so we are looking for a couple more guys to join our merry band of men. If you would like to join our cooking group for a laugh and delicious food to take home for yourself, family and friends, please contact reception. Or if the yummy smells coming from the kitchen on cooking group days are making you feel inspired, we also put the recipe for the next class on the noticeboard by reception and you are welcome to take one and try it at home.



Bill's chicken and mushroom pasta bake



Richard making the ham, mushroom and zucchini lasagne



Cath, Howard, Mick and Bill making butter cakes



Mick's giant pasties



Production line for show volunteers' supper



Butter cake drizzlers



The Leather Group is a friendly group of men focused on producing quality products such as belts, jewellery boxes, letter holders, fly swats, fishing rod buckets, pocket knife sheaths, stock whips, mobile phone holsters and whatever your imagination desires. Leather aprons for use during wood turning are also very useful. This activity is both interesting and very rewarding.

Assistance if needed, is provided by the expert tutelage of Rod, Ross and Geoff. Attendance numbers in the leatherwork group are increasing regularly, due no doubt to the many and varied useful items members can make.

**Tuesdays 8:30 am to noon.**

COOL

## Metal Scrolling

**Tony Giacomantonio - Mentor**



**MENTOR:** Tony Giacomantonio Mondays 9 a.m. to 12 Noon

Wrought iron is a low-carbon alloy that can be heated and reheated and worked into various shapes by talented blacksmiths. As it is no longer produced on a commercial scale, mild steel is now used instead, as it is soft, ductile, magnetic, and has high elasticity and tensile strength, many of the same properties as wrought iron.

MGMS has a kit of bending tools (from Metalcraft Australia) that can shape mild steel bars into scrolls, twists and rings without having to heat the steel. Scrolls are made by shaping a length of bar into a common S or C-style shape. Thus with only a few hours of practice, you will be making decorative and functional objects by connecting these scrolls, twists and rings together.



# Music / Guitar

Terry Thomson - Music Coordinator

Hello to all you fine young musicians.

Just a short note to inform everyone in case some of you are unsure that the shed reopens for the 2026 year on Monday 19th January and the music groups are scheduled as programmed to start back on Tuesday 27th. I hope we have a good roll up. As for the 2026 afternoon learner group, I will continue to run this as long as we have at least four people willing to attend.

Also as part of the MGMS "Strategic Plan" we need to look at what we achieved last year and the plan for this year so I will conduct a meeting for those wishing to attend in the recreation room at 9.00am on Tuesday 28th January. I encourage everyone to put their ideas (I have got some) forward and look forward to a great 2026.

See below a link to a guitarist playing some great music. This was sent to me by Kim Tvede who is leader of the "Writers Group".

Thanks Kim.

<https://youtu.be/XwCK1z3wT8g?si=qwF4wVwbc3rUcMCf>

The Music Groups meet on Tuesdays from 8.30 am – 2.00 pm.

John Urane is looking after the “original group of 6” in the meeting room from 8.30 am – 12.00 noon.

Paul O'Neill is in control of the group in the Girl Guides Hut from 8.30 am – 12.00 noon.

Basil Wood is in control of the JAM group in the Recreation Room from 10.00 am – 12.00 noon.

Terry Thomson is looking after the Learner group in the Recreation Room from 8.30 am – 10.00 am.

Terry Thomson is looking after the “2018/19 Group” in the meeting room from 12.30 pm – 02.00 pm.

The Guitar Learner Groups start with the basics of music theory. They learn how to read music, and play melodies and accompaniment.

The Intermediate Ukulele Group which consists of about four to six players has a JAM session every Friday afternoon. Paul O'Neill and Ron Frazer are the leaders of that group.



Bunnings Mt Gravatt

# Native Bee-Keeping

Bill Semple - Group Leader



We are a vibrant group of MGMS members aiming to assist others who want to keep native bees. Some members of the Native Bee Group are experienced native beekeepers while others are just starting in beekeeping. Experienced members pass on advice and tips from their many years of experience.

Activities of the group include:

- Provide each member of the group with the resources to acquire a hive
- Build hive boxes for sale to members with the proceeds going to the shed
- Maintain some hives at the shed and increase their number
- Help members to increase their knowledge by discussion at meetings, field trips and talks by experts
- Maintain contact with the Australian Native Bee Association to monitor general research, especially the latest thoughts on hive design.

We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 10 am usually at the shed but sometimes at other locations. Advice is given on any location changes. Shed members would be welcome to come to any activities to get to know the group and explore whether they want to join the group.



## Chess

Alan Highman - Chess Group Leader

Hi Shedders,

Happy New Year!!

Sadly we lost one of our chess players in December, Donald Hill. He was just shy of his 95th birthday.

We hope to see some new players this year so if you're interested in learning or playing, please come along and join us.

Hope you liked the fun puzzle in the November newsletter. To start 2026 here is a puzzle and an opening trap to avoid.

Opening Trap:

P-f4 P-e5

PxP BxP

N-c3 Q-h4+

P-g3 QxP+

PxQ BxP#



Solution: Page 19

# Photography

Lionel Armitstead



2025 was a good year for the Photography Group . There is a variety of skills within the Group ranging from very professional to using a smart phone.

During the year thanks to Fred Darvill and Baska a site on the Shed's website was created where we could put some of our photos. Field photo shoots were generally had at the beginning of the month with varying themes. Each member would submit the best 5 or 6 photos for Baska to put on the website. The group would then discuss them at the monthly meeting in the Shed on the 3rd Thursday of the Month.

The group finished the year with a dinner at the Club Southside.

The Group is kicking off 2026 with the following

- 5 February 2026 - Photoshoot at Beenleigh Historical Village, Main Street, Beenleigh.
- 19 February 2026 - Meeting at the Shed from 12.30 pm
- 5 March 2026 - Photoshoot at Toohey Forest (to be confirmed).

Lionel Armitstead



# Small Engines

Ron Frazer- Group Leader



It still amazes me after some 48 years in the automotive trade that you can take a machined chunk of metal (engine) add on a fuel air mixer (carburettor) then means of igniting this (magneto/spark plug)..crank it up and it runs or it does not...so we go into fault finding mode. The result is that it runs or it is discarded as spare parts. This is what happens in a small engine session.

We have been running since 2017. The group consists of dedicated men who don't mind getting their hands dirty. They laugh a lot so someone must have told a joke. We work with safety always foremost in our mind.

Small Motors happens on ***Friday mornings from 8:00 am to 12 noon.***

The course includes

- Workshop safe work practices.
- Types of tool sizes and their use.
- 4-stroke engine parts and operation.
- 2 stroke parts and operation.

You can bring your engine/mower/trimmer along and work on it under supervision. No diesel engines or ride-on mowers as we do not have the room. We do have to impose a group size limit to suit the availability of benches and space. Come along sometime and have a chat if you are interested.

Ron Frazer



The go-cart circuit and starting grid for motor mowers from various northside sheds at Lakeside.

# Travel

Travel Leader: Kevin Schneidewin



**Meetings:** Generally monthly for planning purposes and socialising. We have been meeting in Broadwater Park since Covid and will continue to do so.

**Activities:** We organise social outings in an endeavour to satisfy the various travel needs of members, particularly to foster social connections between members. These activities include:

- day bus trips, longer bus tours
- overseas cruises
- local boat trips, caravan and cabin holidays (generally one week) to beaches and country places of interest
- From time to time we visit local festivals such as "Jumpers and Jazz Warwick", "Casino Beef Week" and the like, and any group social activity even if it does not include travel can be organised

The activity leader has an email list of all interested Men's Shed members, and if any member wishes to join our group they only have to give Kevin their email address. They will receive notice of meetings, and minutes of meetings to keep them informed of what is planned, and details of specific events as they are being organised.

The travel group is the only shed activity where wives and partners can fully participate (except movie arvos) and we have developed a close friendship within our core group of thirty or so. This group is always ready to welcome new members and their wives/partners. Some of our activities such as bus trips are open to ALL shed members .

*Kevin Schiednewin's Email: [glenkev123@gmail.com](mailto:glenkev123@gmail.com)*

## Ukulele

**Paul O'Neill - Group Leader**



The Friday ukulele group continues to power on. Just over two years on, group members who have persisted with attendance and practice have achieved a reasonably high standard of proficiency. The group meets for just one and a half hours 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm on a Friday. Lapsed members are always welcome to return. Consideration is being given to starting a new ukulele learners' group. An expression of interest form is available in the office. If sufficient numbers are registered the class will run on a **Friday afternoon from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm**. Contact Paul O'Neill in the office Tuesdays and Fridays.



# Welding

Russell Caldwell & Barry White - Leaders



## Welding on Fridays: 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

The aim of the group is to teach old fellas our age to weld little jobs at home. Home handy man stuff which we keep down to the basics. We have a stick welder and a mig welder. The members are taught to fabricate with bits and pieces from around the house. We try to keep it simple "KISS" for people who have not welded before. Welders are very cheap so we cover the basics of how things work and then they can do little projects of their own.

We work with the scrolling group and combine our skills to produce intricate works of art.



We also work with the small engines group to repair the frames of their motor mowers. All we are trying to do is produce something different.

The members gain the knowledge to complete the little jobs that need to be done around the home. Join our group and you will be pleasantly surprised.

Cover

# Woodcarving

Bob Nunn - Group Leader



## Tuesday 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm.

If all members are in attendance there are eight people in the group.

The first thing that the members are asked to do is to carve a grapevine leaf. This exercise helps them to understand the use of the chisels and how they can create decorative objects. Members then tend to branch out and choose their own projects. My job then as Activity Leader is to assist them to achieve their desired outcome.



Bob Nunn



# Welfare

Stephen Fleury

Most members are aware that both Bruce Stafford and I have retired from our post as Welfare Coordinators, along with a few of the welfare team members.

My plan was to have filled all the vacant positions by the end of December 2025, but unfortunately, I wasn't able to come close to completing that task.

Ron Fair has taken on the role of Welfare coordinator. Email. [welfareatmtgravattmensshed@.org.au](mailto:welfareatmtgravattmensshed@.org.au) Phone 0438 725 739. Team members to date are, Howard Groffman, Neil McPhail, Charles Trevor, Ian Svensson, along with recruits Peter Jamieson, Geoff Skerman,

I will be at the February meeting and introduce the new Welfare team before handing over to Ron to lead Welfare forward.

As you can see, we need another four members to fill the teams. Please consider volunteering, as we can't operate without you.



Stephen Fleury in Greenslopes Hospital before Xmas

**MOUNT GRAVATT MEN'S SHED Inc.**

**Medical Aids**

Below is a list of items available for use by members and their immediate family

**1 x Over toilet chair**

**1 x Commode**

**1 x Bed pole**

**Crutches**

**3 x Canadian**

**3 x Underarm**

**1 x Shower stool**

**1 x Wheel Chair**

**1 x Shower Chair**

**1 x Arm Chair**

**2 x Shower leg protectors**

**4 x Walking Sticks**

*Note: These aids are free of charge to members*

*Note: Page 2 of equipment will appear in next month's newsletter*



# Writing

Kim Tvede - Group Leader

**Time: Wednesday 9:00 am to 11.30 am**

The group was formed initially for members wanting to write a family history or personal memoir. Some members were into writing a complete book of family genealogy for publishing, others to write family or personal stories, mostly for family members before those stories were lost. An approach of recording and publishing brief background stories of around 3000-4000 words for members to share, with the option of extending such stories personally as an approach was developed.

This evolved into anecdotal stories into collections of individual short stories one might otherwise tell others over a coffee break. Some of these stories were suitable for readers, with the storyteller being assisted in turning a story-telling activity into a published written format. Some stories are for restricted readership only.

Some stories are published on the internet, but not all. Members have since diversified; some are exploring writing fiction for adults or youth, and other genres, such as travel.

The group has developed guides for prospective writers, and methods to record voice-to-text for those with limited typing skills. Schools and other interested community groups can also access the group's public documents for developing lessons or similar activities within their settings.

Starting with an instructional approach, but evolving for members with diverse needs and interests, the group has evolved into a reference and support service for members wishing to engage in writing for a number of purposes, so it is now about interested members accessing experience to assist with whatever needs to emerge in response to such interests.



Cover

# Woodturning

Bruce Meyers - Group Leader

**Monday 8.00 to 12.00 noon**

**Wednesday 12 noon to 3.00 pm**

**Thursday 8.00 to 12.00 noon**

Having spent 50 years in the printing industry, I have found woodturning to be very fascinating and interesting. The group makes anything from pens to rolling pens, bowls, candle holders, the list goes on. A very likeable group whose main focus is on having a happy and good time while woodturning. We will always have room for anybody wishing to dabble their toes into the woodturning pool.

Remember you are always welcome.



# Intermediate Woodwork



**Activity Leader: Lloyd Akeroyd and Stephen Ord**

**Wednesday 08:00 am to 12:00 noon**

Intermediate woodwork has been running in the shed since the time when the shed was merely a great idea. It runs in conjunction with "Wednesday Woodwork". The aim of Intermediate Woodwork is to ensure that members of all backgrounds are capable of safely and skilfully using the woodworking machinery of the shed. Wednesday Woodwork allows those members to use their skills to work on projects for the shed.

Those who undertake intermediate woodwork will create three projects while learning about the machines, the techniques for using them and the mitigation of the hazards encountered.



Cover

# Own Woodwork



**Colin Vietheer- Group Leader**

**Tuesday 8 am start to 12-noon finish**

The "Own Woodwork" session is an opportunity for members who have met the safety requirements for the operation of fixed machinery and portable power tools to undertake their own personal projects.

The group currently has a core of about 6 regular attendees. While personal projects are done, members are happy to work on community projects brought to the shed. In the past year, this has included repairs to furniture, making nesting boxes for parrots, building bases for older Singer sewing machines, wheelchair access ramps for retirement homes, lattice screens and squatters' chairs.

As members have met the requirements for individual work, the leader's role is to provide overall supervision, guidance and assistance where needed.





LINDEBERG 2026

# MISSION COMPLETED...



"WELCOME BACK MEN FROM  
ANOTHER ONE OF LIFE'S MISSIONS...  
DEBRIEFING IN ONE HOUR IN  
THE CONFERENCE ROOM WITH  
OTHER SURVIVORS..."



"...OYSTERS, CRABS, PRAWNS, TURKEY, ROAST BEEF, BEER, WINE,  
SCREAMING GRANDKIDS AND THEIR PARENTS, WRAPPING PAPER, PRESENTS,  
NO AFTERNOON NAP, UNEXPECTED VISITORS...WHY DO WE DO IT?..."

**Saw a golf buggy parked in a disabled parking space at the supermarket today. I couldn't help wondering what their handicap was.**



Politicians and diapers must be changed often, and for the same reason.

Mark Twain

**After Birth:**  
**How long does it take for the eyes to open?**  
**Cows - Immediately**  
**Goats - After 2 hours**  
**Cats - After 6 days**  
**Dogs - After 10 days**  
**Humans - After marriage**



BUNNINGS  
warehouse

**Chess Solution:**

1. P-g8(N) P-b5
2. N-e7 KxN
3. N-c6#



# HUMOUR

I ASKED MY WIFE WHAT SHE WANTED FOR CHRISTMAS, SHE SAID A 18 CARROT NECKLACE.



NEW YEARS EVE 😂 NEW YEARS MORNING



I think my wife has started to show the first signs of Alzheimers...

She said she can't remember what she ever saw in me!



**Customer Service:**  
"Is it plugged in?"



**Customer:**  
"DUH... YES! Do you think I'm a idiot?"

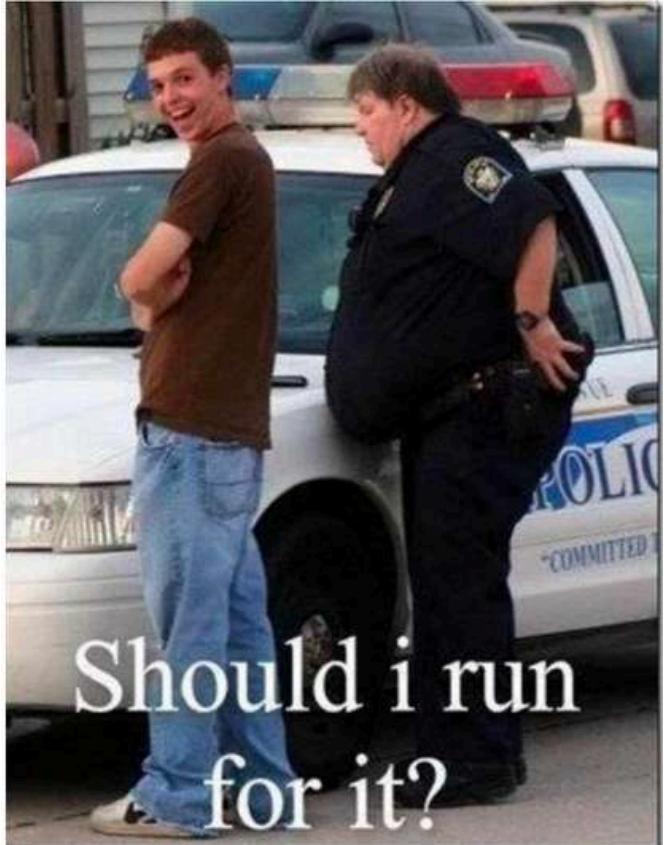
CARROTS CAN BE GOOD FOR YOUR EYES, BUT WINE CAN DOUBLE YOUR VISION.



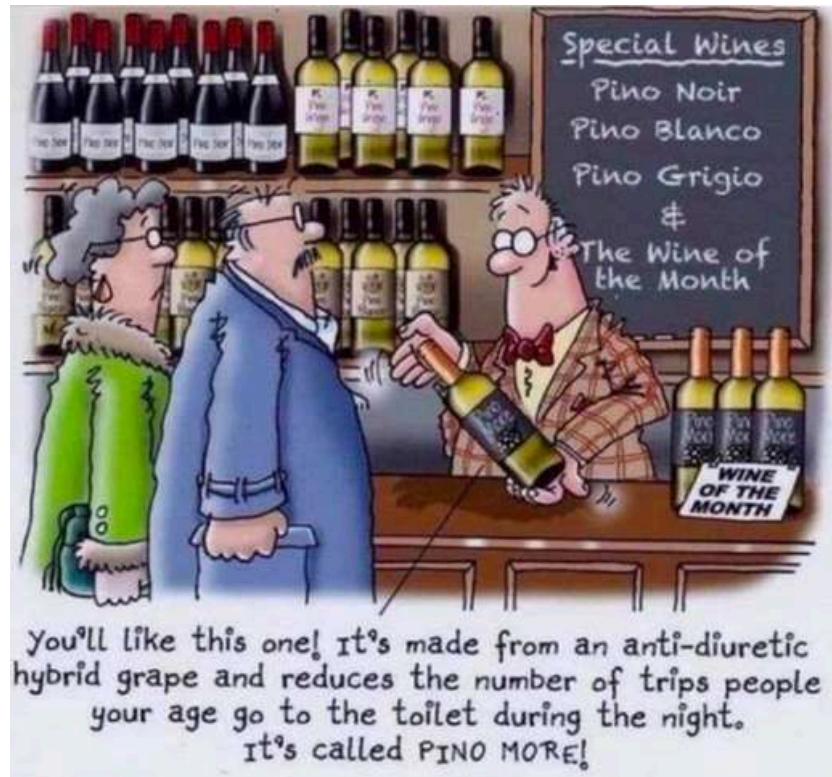
COVER

To everyone that received a book from me for christmas, they're due back at the library next friday.

Thank you.



Should i run for it?



You'll like this one! It's made from an anti-diuretic hybrid grape and reduces the number of trips people your age go to the toilet during the night. It's called PINO MORE!

IF YOU LOVE SOMETHING,  
SET IT FREE. IF IT COMES  
BACK, IT'S YOURS. IF IT  
DOESN'T, IT NEVER WAS.  
AND IF IT JUST SITS THERE  
ON THE SOFA, WATCHING TV,  
UNAWARE THAT IT'S BEEN  
SET FREE, YOU PROBABLY  
MARRIED IT OR GAVE BIRTH TO IT!

I DON'T NORMALLY COOK

DOES ANYBODY KNOW HOW  
MUCH WHISKEY YOU ADD TO  
MASHED POTATOES?

YOU KNOW YOU'RE  
IN A BAD NEIGHBORHOOD

@ THE MENS ROOM

WHEN YOU SEE THIS

My goal in 2026 is to  
accomplish the goals  
I set in 2025 which I  
should have done in  
2024 because I made  
a promise in 2023  
which I planned in 2022!!



Oh look, they've started to make  
teenager mannequins.



I send flowers "From  
Steve" to my neighbors  
wife every Friday night,  
then watch them fight  
from my living room  
window while eating  
popcorn

Saturday 7th February NB# 2:45 for 3 pm: Arvo Entertainment Group bring a plate of food to share if interested.

"Woodworking Introduction" 8.00 am to 12.00 pm on Thursdays. The wood-shop area is **shared only** with the wood-turning group. at these times to limit noise during instruction.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>February 2</b> <b>Social Meeting</b> <i>Community hall</i> 10:15 for 10:30: \$8 for lunch (presumed as for 2025)	<b>3</b> 8:30 Leatherwork 8:00 Guitar lessons (2015/18/19/20) 8:00 Own woodwork 8:30 Guitar (2021/22/24) 10:30 Jam session 12:30 Woodcarving 1:00 HeartFIT	<b>4</b> 8:00 Intermediate woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Writers 9:30 Emerging technologies (Vcarve & CNC router) 10:30 Cooking 12:00 Woodturning	<b>5</b> 8:00 Woodturning learners 8:00 Woodworking Introduction 9:00 Cartooning 1:00 Welding 12:45 Carpet Bowls	<b>6</b> 8:00 Small engines 8:30 Laser 9:00 Art/painting 12:00 Ukulele Jam 1:00 HeartFIT (Shed Rec Rm)
<b>9</b> 8:00 Woodturning 8:00 Own woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Metal scrolling 9:00 Cards 9:00 Chess 12:00 Toy-making	<b>10</b> 8:30 Leatherwork 8:00 Guitar lessons (2015/18/19/20) 8:00 Own woodwork 8:30 Guitar (2021/22/24) 10:00 Jam session 12:30 Woodcarving 1:00 HeartFIT	<b>11</b> 8:00 Intermediate woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Writers 9:30 Emerging technologies (Vcarve & CNC router) 12:00 Woodturning <b>1:00 MC meeting</b>	<b>12</b> 8:00 Woodturning learners 8:00 Woodworking Introduction 9:00 Cartooning <b>10:30 Cooking</b> 12:45 Carpet Bowls 12:45 Carpet Bowls	<b>13</b> 8:00 Small engines 8:30 Laser 9:00 Art/painting 12:00 Ukulele Jam 1:00 Welding 1:00 HeartFIT (Shed Rec Rm)
<b>16</b> 8.00 <b>Induction</b> 8:00 Woodturning 8:00 Own woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Metal scrolling 9:00 Cards 9:00 Chess <b>10:30 Sausage sizzle</b> guest speaker \$5 12:00 Toy-making	<b>17</b> 8:30 Leatherwork 8:00 Guitar lessons (2015/18/19/20) 8:00 Own woodwork 8:30 Guitar (2021/22/24) 10:30 Jam session 12:30 Woodcarving 1:00 HeartFIT	<b>18</b> 8:00 Intermediate woodwork 8:30 Laser <b>9:00 Welfare</b> 9:00 Writers 9:30 Emerging technologies (Vcarve & CNC router) <b>10:00 Travel group</b> (Esk Caravan Park) 12:00 Woodturning	<b>19</b> 8:00 Woodturning learners 8:00 Woodworking Introduction 9:00 Cartooning 12:45 Carpet Bowls <b>12:30 Photography</b>	<b>20</b> 8:00 Small engines 8:30 Laser 9:00 Art/painting (#NB: maybe) 12:00 Ukulele Jam (#NB cancelled) 1:00 Welding 1:00 HeartFIT (#NB: Community Hall)
<b>22</b> 8:00 Woodturning 8:00 Own woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Metal scrolling 9:00 Cards 9:00 Chess 12:00 Toy-making <b>12:00 Emerging Technologies</b>	<b>24</b> 8:30 Leatherwork 8:00 Guitar lessons (2015/18/19/20) 8:00 Own woodwork 8:30 Guitar (2021/22/24) 10:30 Jam session 12:30 Woodcarving 12:30 Guitar 1:00 HeartFIT	<b>25</b> 8:00 Intermediate woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Writers 9:30 Emerging technologies (Vcarve & CNC router) 12:00 Woodturning <b>1:00 WOC meeting</b>	<b>26</b> 8:00 Woodturning learners 8:00 Woodworking Introduction 9:00 Cartooning <b>10:00 Native Bees</b> <b>10:30 Cooking</b> 12:45 Carpet Bowls	<b>27</b> 8:00 Small engines 8:30 Laser 9:00 Art/painting 12:00 Ukulele Jam 1:00 Welding 1:00 HeartFIT (Shed Rec Rm)