

SHED TALK

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
MT. GRAVATT MEN'S SHED

VOLUME 16 NOVEMBER 2025 NO.11



LEST WE FORGET
REMEMBRANCE DAY



QMSA Executive



IN THIS ISSUE Queensland Cruising Yacht Club



Shed Talk editor Wayne Hansen being presented with QMSA Newsletter of the Year Award by Michelle Graham. Michelle is the editor of the Shed Chatter newsletter.

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The Queensland Men's Shed Association (QMSA) represents all member-sheds in the state. The QMSA held a presentation afternoon at which worthy achievement was recognised. The 2025 presentation was held at the Queensland Cruising Yacht Club on Thursday 20 November at Shorncliffe.

Shed Talk was acknowledged as the best newsletter produced by a Queensland Men's shed.

In accepting the Newsletter of the Year Award, editor Wayne Hansen acknowledged the contribution to Shed Talk by all those who submit copy, art and photos to the publication. He also thanked the editorial assistants, proof-readers and illustrators who help to produce each edition: 'The quality of Shed Talk reflects the quality of Mt Gravatt Men's shed. I've tried to produce a publication that's highly visual and includes images of as many members as possible. I'm particularly proud of the quality of debate within the newsletter: it reflects the open democracy that is MGMS. Much of the writing is excellent.'

Shed Talk is published monthly and is read by many people who are not members of the shed.

[Link to past newsletters](#)

Phil Vardy

Vision

Provide Mateship and Support for Men

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& THE HOLLAND PARK WARD OFFICE

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President's Ponderings

Hello members and shed mates,

As we move toward the next phase of Mt Gravatt Men's Shed, I'm reminded of what truly makes our shed such a valued and meaningful place: THE PEOPLE, the shared purpose, the hands willing to help, and the hearts willing to support.

Our shed isn't simply a workshop or weekly hangout; it's a community that builds mateship, confidence, health and purpose. Whether you come for the tools, the coffee, the conversation or just a break from the world, you're an important part of what makes the shed strong.

This month, two valued members say farewell to executive roles. The service, dedication and positive contribution of these members have helped shape the shed we know it today. I refer, of course, to Treasurer John Wild and Secretary Nev O'Brien.

John has served the shed with diligence, accuracy, and integrity. His steady management of finances, grants and budgeting has ensured that we continue to operate securely and responsibly. John, thank you for your commitment, patience, and professionalism. We deeply appreciate all that you've done.

Nev has been central to keeping our communication, administration and organisation on track. His reliability, willingness to assist, and calm approach have made the secretary's role seem far easier than we know it to be. Nev, thank you for your effort, your humour, and your ongoing support for the shed community.

John and Nev are stepping down from their official duties, but we hope to see them around the shed as valued mates and contributors.

As we welcome new members, new leadership and new ideas, let's keep our motto in mind: **shoulder to shoulder**. Let's look out for each other, make room for everyone, and continue to build a place where every member feels respected, useful and included.

Take care and stay connected,

Peter Tyley

0458 553 330

peter.tyley@bigpond.com



Solar shed

Sir,

In September, the federal government released a new climate target. In just ten years, Australia will aim to reduce emissions to 62-70% below 2005 levels.

The Prime Minister says that the target is 'ambitious but achievable'.¹ The Leader of the Opposition says that the target 'is never going to be reached'.²

What's the MGMS policy on global warming?

Some members say that we're a men's shed: climate change has nothing to do with the aims set out in the MGMS Constitution. Other members say that climate change is a matter for everyone: MGMS should do its bit.

The cheapest form of energy is renewable. The proposed grant to extend the shed presents us with an opportunity to become net producers of electricity rather than net consumers. Plans for extension could include:

- Solar panels covering the entire northern roof, and
- Large storage batteries.

If a solar system were well-designed, MGMS could meet all its own power needs and most of the needs of the showgrounds and their neighbours. Recharging electric vehicles might be possible.

Imagine the title: Mt Gravatt Men's Shed – a zero emissions association. I think that the Premier or PM would want to open a power-generating extension.

Phil Vardy

1. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/setting-australias-2035-climate-change-target>
2. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-09-19/federal-politics-live-sept-19/105790890>

A chance to show off

The Australian Men's Shed Association (AMSA) is the peak body in this country for organisations like ours.

Every two years, the AMSA organises a conference. Next year, the conference will be held in Brisbane (See page 14 of this edition).

Part of most AMSA conferences is a series of organised visits to local sheds. These visits allow men from all over Australia (and overseas) to network and collect ideas about what might work at their sheds.

MGMS is one of the most successful sheds in Australia. A visit by conference attendees to our shed would be an opportunity for us to demonstrate our most popular activities: art, music, leatherwork... (too many to list). And we have some terrific features: windmill, memorial walk, sit-lathe... AMSA might subsidise our hosting lunch or morning tea for conference attendees. Worth thinking about.



Around the Shed



Russell Caldwell & Mark Corben making bowling aids for the Mansfield Uniting Church



Laurie O'Brien - chief cubby ticket seller



New members for November
L to R: Richard Hudson, Lachlan Burton, Connor Buckner & Mark Gillow



Brian Nolan making a BBQ Lid for the Marshall Rd State School Swim Club



New member Alan, Brian Clarke & Greg Duncan cooking sausages for the monthly social meeting



Bryan Cleary at the lathe in the metalwork shop



Phil Hillery, Brian Wandel, Neil Hansen & Neil McPhail playing bridge at the Monday morning games session

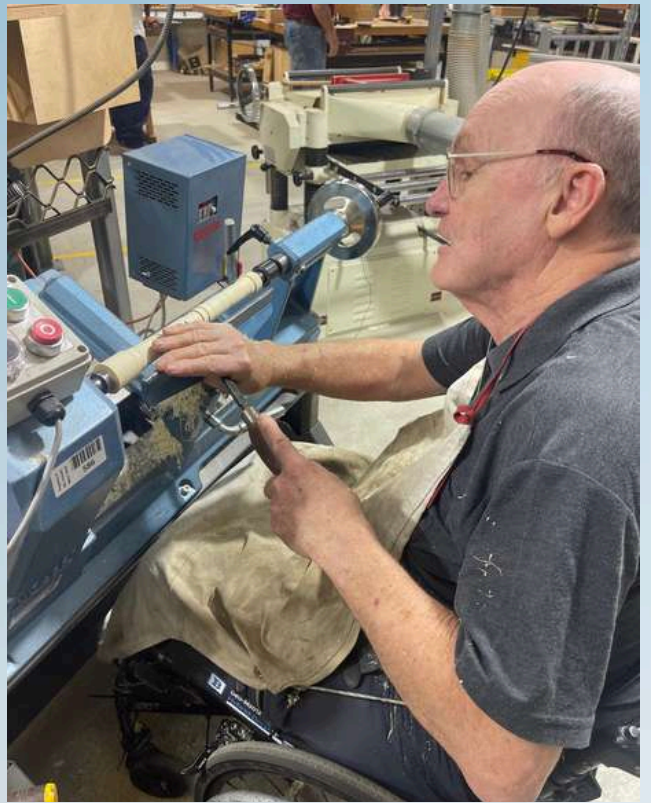


Longreach entrepreneur Richard Kinnon & Geoff Wacker



Michael Hayes & Bryan Cleary

Correspondence released from the National Archives following a 2020 High Court decision reveals that the Queen did not know about the dismissal of the Whitlam government until after the event.



Phil Vardy using a Vicmark sit-lathe which, lowered and tilted, allows seated turners to operate the machine.



Ron Lipinkas & Stephen Ord



Jim Stephen, a member with plenty of bread

Security during overseas travel

Paul O'Neill

In 2000, my wife and I were driving our motorhome along a lonely stretch of highway in Romania. We were pulled over by an unmarked "police" car. The officer demanded our passports and asked if we were carrying US dollars. After some heated back-and-forth, the officer agreed to inspect our passports through the rolled-up car window. However, he was more insistent about the dollars. I handed over my wallet for a quick inspection. After some rapid discussion in Romanian, the officer and his partner waved us off.

At first, we were relieved; we did indeed have US dollars: about \$400 hidden under floor mats and stashed in a money belt. But our smugness evaporated when we realized that the Romanian policeman had relieved us of a debit card.

Fast forward to 2017. Our second visit to Santiago, Chile. On a crowded subway ride from the airport, a bag containing our passports, credit cards and cash was stolen. Potential disaster. But we were saved by a credit card not carried in the stolen bag. And we were in a city with an Australian Embassy.

Over time, we've learned from mistakes. We've developed some clear principles for overseas travel security:

1. **Never leave Australia without travel insurance.**
2. When away from accommodation, keep key documents, cards and phones on your person at all times.
3. Never put all your eggs in one basket. Always have a backup plan.
4. Be aware of your surroundings, and be extremely wary if approached by strangers.

The first principal is in bold for a very good reason. Leaving home without travel insurance is an unjustified risk. It's worth shopping around for the best deal, or accepting a higher insurance excess. Many credit cards offer complementary travel insurance.

My wife and I go to great lengths to keep documents and cards on our persons, often securing items inside our clothing. We never keep both credit card and backup card in the same place. We always store passports and one credit card in the most secure location.

For daily transactions, it's impractical to dig through concealed pockets or pouches. We therefore use small wallets attached to a chain, secured to a belt loop, and stored in an accessible pocket.

Some travel experts advocate using hotel safes for valuables. We never do. In our experience, over 60% of hotel safes are small and not bolted down. They can be carried away. And they can usually be unlocked with master keys that staff keep on hand

Other travel experts recommend 'bum' or cross-body bags. These are probably okay, but they can still be cut or snatched from the wearer. Day backpacks? Keep them for lunch, water bottle and guidebook. You wouldn't miss these things if they were stolen in a busy station.

One of the greatest travel mistakes is carrying credit cards in your phone case. Phones are prime targets for petty criminals, especially in cities like London where hundreds are stolen daily, often by thieves on electric scooters. The loss of your phone is a calamity; but loss of phone and credit cards is worse. These days, phones store itineraries, boarding passes, accommodation details etc. Backup is simple: store copies of all essential documents in a secure cloud location that can be easily accessed if a phone is lost or stolen. And we never carry phones in the hip pocket. Too risky.

One of the most rewarding aspects of travel is interacting with locals, most of whom are friendly and honest. But some are unfriendly and dishonest. Even seasoned travellers like us have been deceived. And never follow anyone to see something 'interesting' - you might end up lost in a Moroccan souk. We did.





The slacks and shorts we wear when travelling have been modified to include an internal pocket big enough to hold a passport, backup credit card and even a secret stash of cash. It is a simple process, involving sewing the pocket up and inserting an access slot in the internal pocket body. There are a number of commercially available products that also allow documents and cards to be secured close to the body and out of reach of thieves.



We also have a few shirts that have concealed zippered pockets. These are very handy for times when we need constant access to our passports, like when arriving or departing at airports.



A good money belt offers a secure spot for emergency cash. It can hold between AU\$500 and AU\$600 if the notes are tightly folded.



Wallets and purses for daily use can be clipped to belt loops. This provides enough security for the cash you need for the day and a credit card, but they can still be snatched by a more determined thief.

Remembrance Day

11 November 2025



Edward 'Teddy' Sheean.

On Remembrance Day (11 November), Mt Gravatt Men's Shed commemorates the service and sacrifice of all Australians engaged in past armed conflict. At this year's Remembrance Day ceremony, MGMS member Jim Wiseman spoke movingly about Australian seaman Teddy Sheean.

Edward 'Teddy' Sheean grew up in rural Tasmania. In 1941, at the age of 17, he enlisted in the Royal Australian Navy and subsequently served as an anti-aircraft gunner aboard *HMAS Armidale* (figure). In late 1942, the *Armidale* was bombed and torpedoed by Japanese aircraft. The corvette began to sink. After helping to free a life-raft, Sheean was wounded by two bullets. He made his way to a 20 mm Oerlikon and opened fire on the attacking Japanese (figure). Sheean managed to shoot down at least one aircraft. He continued firing until dragged under the Timor Sea by the sinking ship. Many of the survivors of *HMAS Armidale* credited the 18-year-old Sheehan with saving them from strafing.

On 1 December 2020, exactly 78 years after his death, Ordinary Seaman Sheean was awarded the Victoria Cross. Sheean's nephew accepted the medal.

The past and continuing contribution of Jim Wiseman and others at ANZAC and Remembrance Days is gratefully acknowledged. Lest we forget.



Jim Wiseman at Remembrance Day ceremony.



Hugh Smith



John Raines



HMAS Armidale was one of 60 Bathurst class corvettes designed and built in Australia in WWII. Bathurst Class corvettes were smaller than the Flower Class corvettes of the Royal Navy lauded by Nicholas Montserrat in *The Cruel Sea*.



Ordinary Seaman Edward Sheean, firing a 20mm Oerlikon. Oil on canvas, Dale Marsh (1978) Australian War Museum ART28160 reproduced under Creative Commons licence.

Before I emigrated from the UK in 1969, I played the double bass (rather badly) in a folk group. Unfortunately, the Australian Government would not allow me to bring the bass as part of the Ten-Pound-Pom scheme. I thought that my love affair with music was over.

Fast forward 52 years. A former member of the shed, guitar virtuoso John Crabbe, encouraged me to learn the guitar. Sadly, a misspent youth playing cricket had damaged my left hand (too many short balls on the knuckles caused arthritis). Stretching fingers over the neck of a guitar was difficult.

John recommended that I learn the baritone ukulele and join the Mount Gravatt Men's Shed. In 2020, at the age of 78, I joined MGMS and was welcomed into *The Shed Tones* and later *The Shed Beats*.

A guitar has six strings, usually tuned EADGBE. A ukulele has four strings, usually tuned GCEA. A baritone uke has four strings, usually tuned DGBE. The baritone uke therefore has chord patterns similar to a guitar.

I was rather envious of the richer tones that my fellow musicians were achieving with their guitars. How to get the rich sound of the guitar with the simplicity of the uke? The answer: the tenor guitar.

A tenor guitar is the same size as an acoustic guitar, but has only four strings: DGBE.

The tenor guitar had its roots in Blues music; it appeared in the 1920s to enable banjo players to become guitarists. Over the years, the tenor guitar has been adopted by many mainstream musicians e.g. Warren Ellis, a long time collaborator of Nick Cave.

Tenor guitars are not common. Those on sale are mainly solid electric instruments. I was interested in an acoustic model. Prices ranged from 500 to many thousands of dollars. What to do? I decided to modify an acoustic guitar with nylon strings.

I removed the two lower strings (E and A) and began to play as if the guitar were a baritone uke. It took me a while to accommodate to the wider fingerboard, but I liked the fuller sound.

A few weeks ago I noticed that I needed a new string. Shed members recommended Dwight Wood of DRW Custom Guitars, Mansfield. Dwight has been a valued sound consultant to the shed. He has recently advised on the selection of new sound equipment.

I took my guitar to Dwight. He advised it needed a little TLC. While Dwight was working on it, I mentioned that the width of the neck was a problem for me.

Dwight, also known as The Guitar Whisperer, offered to modify the neck and transform the instrument into a true tenor guitar. I left my guitar with him. The next day, Dwight texted me to say the transformation was complete, and at a very reasonable cost.

And the moral of the story? Regardless of your age and ability, you can master the tenor guitar and enjoy playing with fellow shedders. And as Dwight has demonstrated, a traditional guitar can be economically modified.

Steve Pyott had the largest collection of tenor guitars in the world. His collection was an amazing cross section of the various models and makes from vintage to modern both acoustic and electric.



Here are just a few of the unique tenor guitars in Pyott's collection. All guitars are for sale through Steve's son Michael: michaelpyott@gmail.com



Guitar under repair



**Tenor guitar.
Note the narrow neck.**



Planned trip

One of the most popular activities at MGMS is travel.

In February next year, the travel group will visit Esk, a picturesque town in the Somerset region 65 km NW of Brisbane. Esk is close to major water catchments Lake Wyvenhoe and Lake Somerset.

For the trip, the travel group will join *The Esk Bush-Bashers*, a group of local musicians who play Australian music for coach groups and other audiences. Formed in 1989, the band is known for its lively performances. The ensemble features a mix of traditional and homemade instruments alongside guitars, accordions and vocals.

Participants will be based at the Esk Caravan Park which provides tent sites, van spaces and cabins. Motels are close to the caravan park. Travel is an easy day-trip by car.

Please join us. You'll be most welcome. Those interested should put their names on a sheet to be available in the shed early next year. Car pooling should be available.

Lunch: 17 February 2026, 10.30 am - 2.30 pm. \$35 p/p.



Members and partners at an Esk Bush-Bashers event



The Esk Bush-Bashers

Hi Shedders,

As we approach the end of another eventful year, we look forward to 2026 as being bigger and better than ever.

Many thanks to those shedders who joined us to enjoy a friendly game of chess. I hope the puzzles have added to your enjoyment and will do in the future. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all shedders.

This month's puzzle is a novelty. White to move and force mate. Solution on page 16.

AH



Cover

Chess

Chess originated in India around the 6th century and spread to Persia. The game then travelled through the Arab world and into Europe. Modern chess rules emerged at the end of the 15th century. The game was standardised in the late 19th century.

The first official world chess championship was held in 1886 and the World Chess Federation (FIDE, Fédération Internationale des Échecs) was established in Paris in 1924. Worldwide, more than 600 million people play chess regularly.

Standardised grammar versus engaging the reader

I read the article in the June newsletter about using style guides for spelling and grammatical consistency in the newsletter with some interest. While I basically agreed with the intent of the article, I did so with some contextual reservations.

Yes, when we are talking about being clear and consistent in language, where every word can count for subsequent interpretations, perhaps in a legal context, then the use of standardised meaning and grammar can be critical. After all, as a doctor once told me when I needed medical clearance to participate in a particular research program, “Kim, if it was just between you and me, then we could agree on conditions, but there are these people called lawyers.” That is not to say lawyers are problematic. They help sort out issues when folk cannot agree on a reasonable solution.

In an organisation of well over 100 members with diverse backgrounds and experiences, to expect that all differences of opinion over particular views, actions and occurrences may be reasonably resolved through informal rational discussion, is perhaps a naïve view of conflict resolution. Then the words in the communications, minutes, rules, constitution and legislation can take on a significant role in dealing with resolutions over disagreements. That is the way of our world.

However, in the shed’s writer’s group the majority of stories being written are some sort of memoir. To be sure there are folk writing full family genealogical histories. There are also members writing novels, historical tales set overseas, and espionage drama set locally being some of the most recent. Some folk have written and published stories in well-presented books on interesting stages of their life or the lives of family members. Many others have recorded stories from their own lives as memoirs intended mostly for family records and which allow reflection and sharing of events and associations from their past. In some instances those tales are quite emotionally challenging, and may not be for general shared reading.

There is a particular challenge in writing stories that might have ‘lived’ as oral tales and putting them into print. For that sort of story, one may operate in journalistic style and sequence sentences in structured forms to unfold an understanding of the story being presented. Some folk do this quite well. But there is another way.

Some tales are better expressed if the writer draws on the style of popular authors of mostly fiction. Some folk have been recommended the books in the ‘Jack Reacher’ series by Lee Child, others the formats and style of Daniel Silva and his espionage novels. Why those? Well, they are popular writers; they must have something other than the topics and stories to keep folk coming back to read more of their work. Their approach to writing rapidly builds pictures and connect people with them. These writers use direct speech to express relationships and emotions, and they mostly do that using brief sentences. Some of their sentences can be one to three words in length, some have the ‘subject’ implied as if in verbal, not written form. Often, they would fail a standardised English school-NAPLAN assessment. But they hammer the point well.

Why do these styles work? Mostly they address ‘who, what, when, where and why’ - things that one journalist-member refers to as ‘furniture’. The thing they get to really quickly is the emotion of the protagonists in the story. If you want to tell a story and have listeners or readers understand the story, by all means address the ‘furniture’. If you want to actually engage the listeners or readers, reveal the emotions. Folk can relate to emotions even if the setting is unfamiliar. And they likely to stay engaged.

Sometimes, just sometimes, over-editing can reduce the impact of the writing. By all means fix the spelling and also incorrect grammar we may use when speaking, but trying to make the text fit standardised grammar rules may actually make the story less engaging for readers. Break the rules in favour of engaging the reader.

Kim Tvede

Editors note. KT is the convenor of the MGMS writers group.





The above shows the MGMS music group, in their band uniforms, performing at St John's Anglican Church, Oxley.

The following are words from Jack. 'On Saturday 18 October, eight members of the *Shed Tones* played two one-hour sets at the Oxley Men's Shed's annual open day. Present were Basil Wood, Hugh Smith, Laurie O'Brien, Sebastian Alvarez, Kornel Banvolgyi, Leo Bauer, Dave Richardson and Jack Files. We played a selection of hits from the 50s, 60s and 70s including *Morningtown Ride*, *Crazy Little Thing Called Love* and *See You Later Alligator*. We were treated to sausage sizzle or three for our troubles.'

Our contact at the shed reports that feedback during and after the day was extremely positive.

Message from Oxley Men's Shed

On behalf of all the members of our shed, would you please pass onto *The Shed Tones* a large vote of thanks for their support of our recent shed expo held on Saturday 18 October 2025. The performance was great and enjoyed by all who attended.

Regards,
Jim Pascoe, Secretary

Music does a lot of things for a lot of people. It's transporting, for sure. It can take you right back, years back, to the very moment certain things happened in your life. It's uplifting, it's encouraging, it's strengthening.

Aretha Franklin



The Shed Beats rehearsing in the Girl Guides hut

[Link to the Shed Beats performance](#)



The Members' shed ***A series on association governance***

Phil Vardy

How to shorten AGMs

For all associations, the annual general meeting (AGM) is the most important assembly of the year. But many members choose not to attend. Why?

For most of us, the AGM is boring. We sit in a hot stuffy room with poor acoustics; we listen to undisciplined speakers drone on about trivia. That's a little unfair. Speakers report on important matters; we merely perceive reports as trivial.

We can't make AGMs exciting. But like this paragraph, we can make them short.

The Act requires an association to do three things at its AGM:¹

- Present the audited financial statement to members;
- Appoint an auditor; and
- Elect a MC.

Why do more?

In a small association, an AGM can be held in 20 minutes:

- If reports are distributed before the meeting;
- If office-holders speak briefly to their reports (or not at all) before moving endorsement;²
- If attendees ask few (no?) questions; and
- If elections are uncomplicated.³

Of course, it might be highly appropriate to produce detailed annual reports. But these could be distributed before the AGM.

It might not be possible for a large association like MGMS to hold an AGM within 20 minutes. But with effort, our general meetings could be shorter. And if the AGM were combined with the end-of-year beer & prawn fest, attendance might improve. Democracy.

1. Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Qld.) s.59A & B.
2. See The Vocabulary of Meetings, *Shed Talk* July 2025.
3. See Succession Planning, *Shed Talk* August 2025.

Editor's note. Members forward Shed Talk to friends in Australia and overseas. After seeing Shed Talk, a member of another shed emailed me seeking advice on a matter of governance. I referred the member to the author of The Members' Shed. The reputation of MGMS is spreading.

Social Meeting

The shed social meeting is held on the first Monday of the month. Lunch is included.



Newsletter proofreaders Reuben Egan & Neil McPhail



Founding President Brian Wheeler, Dave Tate & Kevin Scheidewin who was awarded Honorary Membership



Distributing name tags and collecting money for the social meeting lunch - a chicken, fish or beef burger with salad followed by an ice block. A bargain at \$8:00

A scene at the Seine

In the late 1880s, a body was pulled from the River Seine at the Quai du Louvre, Paris. With no evidence of violence, the body was assumed to be that of a young woman who had taken her own life. A pathologist reputedly made a wax plaster death-mask of the beautiful *L'Inconnue de la Seine* as woman came to be known.

Fast forward several generations. In the late 1950s, Austrian anaesthetist Peter Safar and Norwegian plastics manufacturer Åsmund Laerdal collaborated to develop an effective mannequin with which to teach mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. The pair believed that a realistic life-sized mannequin would motivate people learn to the lifesaving procedure.

Inspired by the tragic story of *L'Inconnue*, Åsmund Laerdal commissioned Norwegian sculptress Emma Mathiassen to model a face for the mannequin.

The resuscitation mannequin was introduced to the world in 1960. Now, more than 65 years later, Resusci Anne has helped save thousands of lives.

Article suggested
by Barry White



**Left. Death mask of
L'Inconnue de la Seine
Below. Resusci Anne, a
mannequin used worldwide to
teach cardiac massage and
mouth-to-mouth
resuscitation.**



***Next to creating a life, the finest thing a
man can do is save one - Abraham Lincoln***



**AUSTRALIAN
MEN'S SHED
ASSOCIATION**
Shoulder to Shoulder

AMSA Conference in Queensland

Mt Gravatt Men's Shed (MGMS) belongs to the Queensland Men's Shed association (QMSA). In turn, QMSA belongs to the Australian Men's Shed association AMSA.

Every two years, AMSA holds a 'national gathering', an event at which shedders from all over Australia meet to network and have fun. The 11th National Gathering will be held locally: 24 - 26 March 2026, Royal on the Park Hotel, Alice Street Brisbane. Co-hosted by QMSA and Fair Dinkum Builds, the gathering provides an ideal opportunity for Brisbane shedders to take in the national scene without travelling interstate.

The theme for the gathering is Building Healthy Communities – recognising the practical, social and wellbeing benefits that sheds bring to men, their families and the wider community.
Day 1. Shed tours, welcome reception, trade exhibition
Day 2. BBQ breakfast, conferencing
Day 3 Conferencing continued, awards dinner

<https://mensshed.org/event/11th-amsa-national-mens-shed-gathering/>

[Link to website](https://mensshed.org/event/11th-amsa-national-mens-shed-gathering/)



First Aid

At Mt Gravatt Men's Shed, one or more trained first-aiders are always on duty. Each first-aiders can be identified by a green badge.

In the past, MGMS first-aiders have had to respond to medical incidents and to minor cuts and abrasions. But first-aiders have never had to respond to serious injury. This good fortune is attributed to high safety standards in the workshop.

Upon joining the shed, members are asked to complete a confidential history that can be accessed if (and only if) a member experiences a medical incident.

Photography Group

Brisbane Botanical Gardens

30 October 2025



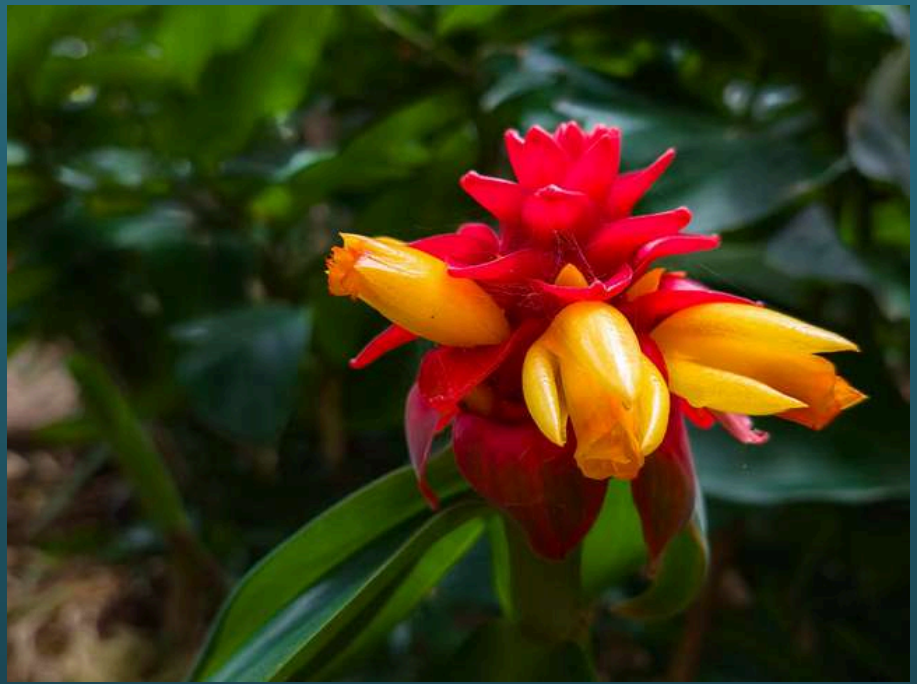
Alan Sanders



Mark Gillow



Mark Gillow



Keith Cordell



Wayne Hansen



Alan Sanders

[Link to Photography website.](#)



AND STILL THEY COME...



"Hey, tell President Pete to put out another two plates, we've got more unexpected drop-offs by their wives!..."

AUTO REPAIR TIP #176



FLIPFLOPS ARE UNSAFE



Shed stalwart Bart McKnight is the MGMS community projects coordinator. Signarama is a large sign manufacturer. The local Signarama outlet assists Bart with corflute signs.

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SOLUTION:

1. $Pb7 - b8(N) + R \times N$
2. $Pa7 \times R(N) + K - d6$
3. $Pc7 - c8(N) + K - e6$
4. $Pd7 - d8(N) + B \times N$
5. $P \times B(N) + K - f6$
6. $Pg7 - g8(N) + R \times N$
7. $Ph7 \times R(N) + K - g6$
8. $P - f8(N)\#$



Lessons from Trafalgar

Imagine the scene almost exactly 220 years ago. It's the morning of 21 October 1805. Gibraltar is about 100 miles to the east; the wind is from the west; 33 French and Spanish ships are sailing north; 27 British ships are sailing east.

The largest ship in the combined fleet is the *Santisima Trinidad*¹ - four gun-decks, 130 canons, 1200 officers and men. The largest ship in the British fleet is the *Victory* - three gun decks, 102 canons, 875 officers and men.

The commander of the British fleet is Horatio Nelson: 47 years old; 1.7 m (5' 7") tall; slight build; no sight in the right eye (lost when Nelson was 36); no right arm (lost when Nelson was 39).

The plan is for the British to advance in two columns, one led by Nelson in *Victory*, and the other led by Collingwood² in *Royal Sovereign*. Collingwood is to engage the rear third of the enemy; Nelson is to engage the middle third. Timing is everything: the action must succeed before the leading third of the enemy fleet can turn and enter the fray.

At 11.45 am, Nelson is on the poop deck. He turns to his officers and says, 'I'll now amuse the fleet with a signal: 'Nelson confides that every man will do his duty'.

One of the officers suggests 'England' rather than 'Nelson'. The admiral agrees; he crosses the deck and speaks to Signals Officer Pasco.

Nelson: I want to say to the fleet, 'England confides that every man will do his duty'. You must be quick for I have one more signal to send, which is for close action.

Pasco: If your Lordship will permit me to substitute 'expects' for 'confides', the signal will be sooner sent, because 'expects' is in the signal book, and 'confides' must be spelt.

Nelson: That will do, Pasco, make it directly.

And so the famous signal is hoisted: England expects that every man will do his D-U-T-Y.

You know the outcome: Nelson is killed; the British win a great victory; Britannia rules the waves for well over a century.

Nelson could simply have given an order and expected compliance. But he didn't. Two important points:

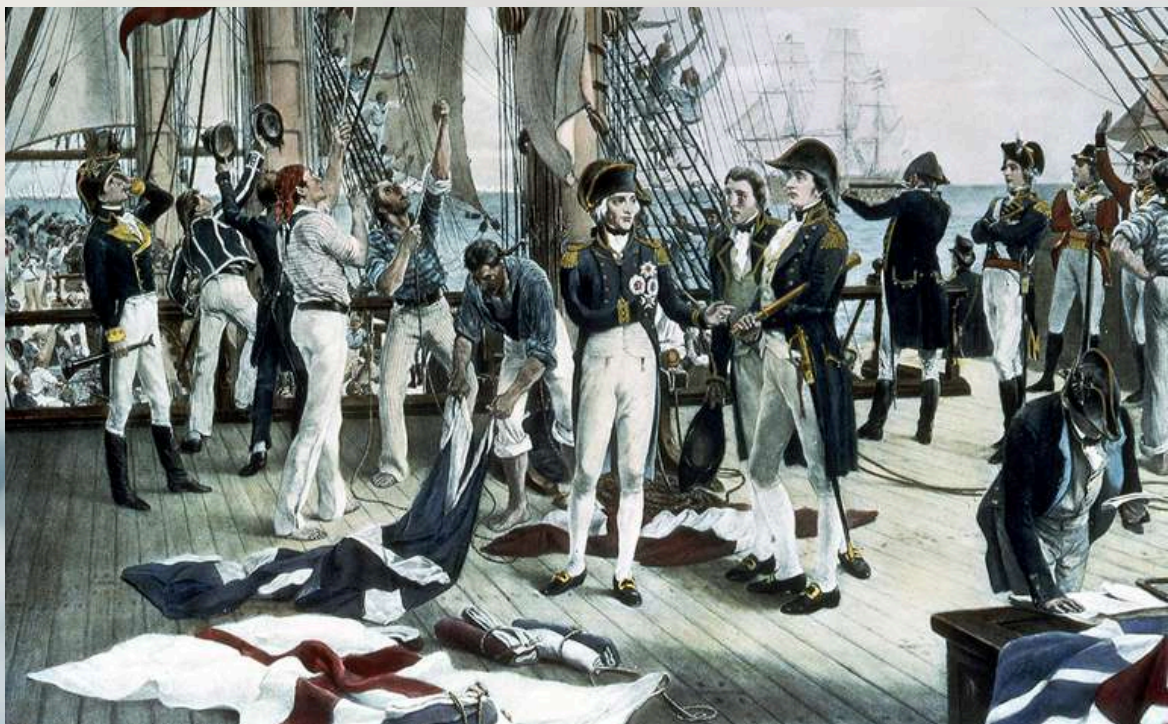
- Lord Nelson was not too proud to accept suggestions from junior officers, and
- Junior officers were not afraid to make suggestions to the most famous man in England.

By leading rather than commanding, Nelson focused the talents of others. Trafalgar was won by leadership rather than ships and seamen. Management is important; but leadership is more important.

Lead first; manage second.

1. *Santisima Trinidad* means 'Most sacred trinity'.

2. Yes, that Collingwood, a 57-year-old Vice Admiral. He died on duty at sea four years later. Cancer.



HUMOUR



When you come from nothing, you want to give your kids everything. Then you realize giving them everything teaches them nothing.

Math is hard.

15 + 15 is thirty, but 16 + 16 is thirty too. 😞

Dad: Son you're adopted

Me: Wow, I wonder who my real parents are

Dad: We are your real parents, your adopted parents are coming to pick you up

Homemade brush cutter for sale. \$100 or will trade for prosthetic leg.



When a sudden wave hits and you fall into your tackle box. 🌊



I took the day off. My wife was so happy. She rushed out to tell the postman: 'My husband is home today!'

Me: Did you know that women use about 30,000 words a day, but men use only about 1500?
Wife: Yes. That's because we have to repeat everything!



In case you think you're working under pressure



Humans are the only species that would cut down trees, make paper out of them, and then write, "Save the trees" on it.

A man was injured while playing peek-a-boo.

He's currently in the ICU.

A man brings his best buddy home for dinner...unannounced at 7:30 pm after work.

His wife begins screaming at him and his friend just sits and listens.

Wife: "My hair and makeup are not done, the house is a mess, the dishes are not done, I'm still in my pajamas and I can't be bothered with cooking tonight! Why the hell did you bring him home?!?"

Husband: "Because he's thinking of getting married and I promised him a demo!"

Coming soon..



A woman visits her husband in prison. Before leaving, she tells a correction officer: "You shouldn't make my husband work like that. He's exhausted!" The officer laughs and says, "Are you kidding? He just eats and sleeps and stays in his cell!" The wife replies: "He just told me he's been digging a tunnel for months!"



Engineers have just made a car that can run on parsley... Now they're hoping to make buses & trains that run on thyme!

Did you hear about the race between 19 and 20?
21

What flat Earthers see on a clear day



My wife and I went into town to shop. When we came out, there was a cop writing out a parking ticket. We went up to him and I said, "Come on man, how about giving a senior citizen a break?" He just ignored us and continued writing the ticket. I called him an "butthead." He glared at me and started writing another ticket for having worn-out tires. So my wife called him a "jerk." He finished the second ticket and put it on the windshield with the first. Then he started writing more tickets. This went on for about 20 minutes. The more we offended him, the more tickets he wrote. He finally finished, sneered at us and walked away. Just then our bus arrived, and we got on it and went home.

December 2025 – January 2026

Saturday 6 December 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
1 December Members only lunch \$15pp. Sign-on sheet at shed office Pay on booking. NOT ON LIST – No ENTRY	2 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	3 8:00 Intermediate woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Writers 9:30 Emerging technologies (Vcarve & CNC router) 10:30 Cooking 12:00 Woodturning	4 8:00 Woodturning learners 8:00 Woodworking Introduction 9:00 Cartooning 1:00 Welding 12:45 Carpet Bowls	5 8:00 Small engines 8:30 Laser 9:00 Art/painting 12:00 Ukulele Jam 1:00 HeartFIT (Shed Rec Rm)
8 December 8:00 Woodturning 8:00 Own woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Metal scrolling 9:00 Cards 9:00 Chess 12:00 Toy-making	9 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	10 8:00 Intermediate woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Writers 9:30 Emerging technologies (Vcarve & CNC router) 12:00 Woodturning 1:00 MC meeting	11 8:00 Woodturning learners 8:00 Woodworking Introduction 9:00 Cartooning 10:30 Cooking 12:45 Carpet Bowls 12:45 Carpet Bowls	12 8:00 Small engines 8:30 Laser 9:00 Art/painting 12:00 Ukulele Jam 1:00 Welding 1:00 HeartFIT and EOY celebration <i>(Lower Community Hall)</i>



January 19 8:00 Woodturning 8:00 Own woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Metal scrolling 9:00 Cards 9:00 Chess 12:00 Toy-making	20 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	21 8:00 Intermediate woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Writers 9:30 Emerging technologies (Vcarve & CNC router) 12:00 Woodturning 1:00 WOC meeting	22 8:00 Woodturning learners 8:00 Woodworking Introduction 9:00 Cartooning 10:00 Native Bees 10:30 Cooking 12:45 Carpet Bowls	12 8:00 Small engines 8:30 Laser 9:00 Art/painting 12:00 Ukulele Jam 1:00 Welding 1:00 HeartFIT <i>(Shed Rec Rm)</i>
January 26 Australia Day 	27 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	28 8:00 Intermediate woodwork 8:30 Laser 9:00 Writers 9:30 Emerging technologies (Vcarve & CNC router) 12:00 Woodturning 1:00 WOC meeting	29 8:00 Woodturning learners 8:00 Woodworking Introduction 9:00 Cartooning 10:00 Native Bees 10:30 Cooking 12:45 Carpet Bowls	30 12 8:00 Small engines 8:30 Laser 9:00 Art/painting 12:00 Ukulele Jam 1:00 Welding 1:00 HeartFIT <i>(Shed Rec Rm)</i>