G’Day Shedders,

Welcome to the new committee and my first newsletter. As we know, Ron has previously published the newsletter but unfortunately for us he wants a break from it after many years. So when they asked for volunteer to take over the role, I forgot to take one step back. So here I am. The new reporter, editor and publisher. However, I am going to need your help.

I cannot attend all functions, shed days or find out information for the newsletter and web site without a source of information, photos and articles. So please help me. Email me with anything you think would be suitable. For instance, if you attend a Shed function, take a couple of photos and write a short story to go with the photos. If you are involved in a project, take those photos and a little story to go with them. In other words, let's all become reporters. Please email me any story and pictures to my email address crockeiv@hotmail.com.

This is a larger than normal newsletter as reporting on the AGM takes a large space.

Thanks in advance,
Ian Crocker

The AGM was held on the 3rd August and resulted in a number of changes to the committee. Two of the old faces being Bob Maynard (Secretary) and Ron Langley (Vice President) did not stand. And we have a brand new line-up of the three Committee members.
Ron Langley (Vice President), Bob Maynard (Secretary) and Dennis Comber (Committee).

Thank you gentlemen for all the work you have done over the past years. But I am sure that some other chore will come your way.

And now for our new Management committee. Welcome back to our President, Mike Siegle (6th year as no one else wants the job and he enjoys it) and Treasurer, David Ongley.

And welcome to our new Vice President Tony Hudson and Secretary Les Harrison.

Our new other Committee members are Terry Bray, Paul James and Eoin Milne.

Bob Maynard has taken on the job of Public Officer.

Presentation of President’s Award:

The President advised members that the recipient of the President’s Award for 2016 is Ramon U’Brien, an original member of the Shed.

The President mentioned that the award sets one apart from peers and is a tremendous honour for the recipient and should encourage others to become involved in Shed activities as it delivers a powerful message. The Award is presented to a member who shows a positive attitude to the Shed’s ideals is a willing worker and has a good attendance record.

Ramon responded with a brief overview of the founding of the Shed and thanked the President for the unexpected award.

(Previous award recipients: 2013 – Alan Peek, 2014 – John Stalling, 2015 – Denis Clunie.)
PRESIDENT’S ANNUAL REPORT

Members and Guests, on behalf of The Nepean Men’s Shed Committee I would like to welcome you all to the 6th A.G.M. of our association.

This is my 5th year as President and I am pleased to report that we have had a very successful year. We have faced many challenges over the past 6 years and we have used them as stepping stones that has brought us here today!!!!!!

We have seen our Shed grow and prosper over the years and this has been due to the time, effort and dedication of your elected committee.

As president I personally wish to sincerely thank.......Ron Langley (V.P.) Bob Maynard (Sec) David Ongley (Tres) along with Gordon Shearston, Bob Osborne and Dennis Comber who are also part of the Committee.

You have all helped keep the ship on an even keel and without your knowledge, input and enthusiasm we would not be sitting here today.

There are lots of other members who have contributed on a day to day bases....Ian Crocker what a great job he has done with our web site, Peter Crisp who looks after welfare and never forgets to send a card, Terry Bray and the housekeeping/recreation team, Paul James, Ken Gibbons, Jeff Thorn and John Stalling our Safety team, what a great job they have done. Andrew Podolski who is our asset manager looking after the tools, nuts, bolts, and screws Ramon U’Brien our founding member who has worked tirelessly and has been responsible with Bob in applying for Grants as well as heading up the Garden team. Les Harrison who with David has taken up the role of Membership and Induction for New Members, Colin Carr, Denis Clunie, who with others look after the moving and general garden maintenance. Also I wish to thank our First Aiders Ron, Gordon, David and Russell, Chris Ultzen, who helped with the Lawyers to secure the property. A big thank you to Jeff Thorn and Ken Gibbons who were past members of Penrith Rescue Organisation and gave us the heads ups to secure this property.

Please let’s give a big thank you to all of these Members who have contributed towards the Shed... making it what it is today.

We have participated in the following activities during the past 12 months.

July 2015:
Penrith Rescue Org. commenced their winding up...we built the secure tool room. Membership was really taking off and Ron commented we would have to have smoko in shifts!!

August 2015:
BBQ for Prostate Cancer, 1st aid and office being constructed, building of work benches and cleaning at Simeon Road.

September 2015:
New committee appointed, at the A.G.M Denis Clunie received the President’s Award 2014 /15 The Commonwealth Bank donated workshop equipment and tools.

October 2015:
Electrical items tested and tagged. Donation of $566.00 to Prostate Cancer. Visited by Prue Carr State member for Londonderry and Councillor on P.C.C, empted storage at Went Falls...and other members sheds. Ron and Bob attended the 6th A.M.S.A. in Newcastle....I believe they stared a room and what happens in N/C stays in N/C.

November 2015:
20 foot container delivered, starting with the layout, new driveway gates installed, 2015 President’s Lunch at Penrith R.S.L. Deb Siegle won both raffles but handed them back so there was no suggestion of a fix?

December 2015:
We reflected on how lucky we are as a group of “Grumpy Old Men” to soon have ownership of the largest Men’s Shed in Australia....if not the World. We held our Christmas Lunch at Penrith Bowling Club, 30plus members attended. Jim Collier our resident artist donated an original watercolour won by Leatitia Maynard. Tuesday the 15th December marked the 5th year that the Shed was founded.

January 2016:
We noted that we had come a long way since 2010 when we just had 4 members! More work undertaken at Simeon Road.

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President’s Report continued

February 2016:
A group of us attended The Henry Lawson Theatre to see “The Oldest Profession” it was a great night and we all noted John Stalling who happened to be on the front row we thought he was part of the show with his amazing laughter.

March 2016:
Celebrated “Men’s Shed Week” with our first Open Day and a visit from Stuart Ayers.

April 2016:
NRO signed the transfer deeds for the Shed. On the 5th April we enjoyed the Hawksberry River Boat Cruise with morning tea and lunch approximately 40 members attended with wives and partners...Great day out.

May 2016:
Stuart Ayers State M.P. was confirmed as our Shed Patron. Electrician busy with installing supports and cable trays for heavy plant and benches. Gardening group began work with donations from Flower Power, we also had a donation of scrubs and trees from P.C.C.

June 2016:
Completed driveway, emergency and exit lighting. Had confirmation of Land Tax Exemption. 40 plus member’s attended “The President’s Lunch” at The Penrith R.S.L. Once again a great day out, and the ladies really enjoyed the day.

Enclosing I would like to thank you all for attending. I’m sure you will all make a difference in many different ways. Please remember we are all part of the same team and all members are important.

It is your Shed so please enjoy the time that we spend together.

Thank you…..Michael (Mick) Siegle

Non Committee Roles

Shed Co-ordinators: Tony Hudson, Paul James & Ron Langley.
Leaders Woodwork: Colin Carr, Dennis Clune & Ken Garbutt.
Leaders Metalwork: Morrie Mufsud, Keith Sharples & Tony Hudson.
Leaders Other: Dennis Comber & Michael Siegle.
Safety: Paul James & Jeff Thorn.
Assets: Andrew Podolski.
Events Organisers: Mike Siegle & Terry Bray.
Welfare: Peter Crisp & Keith Sharples.
Housekeeping & Recreation: Terry Bray & Ian Crocker
Membership: Les Harrison & David Ongley.
Web/Newsletter Editor: Ian Crocker.
Tool Sharpening: Keith Sharples.
Library: Gerry Powell.
Gardens: Ramon U’Brian.

Dates for the Calendar

01/09/16 Bunnings North Penrith BBQ Team D
08/09/16 Bunnings North Penrith BBQ Team A
15/09/16 Bunnings North Penrith BBQ Team C
22/09/16 Bunnings North Penrith BBQ Team B
29/09/16 Bunnings North Penrith BBQ Team D
06/10/16 Bunnings North Penrith BBQ Team A
13/10/16 Bunnings North Penrith BBQ Team C
20/10/16 Bunnings North Penrith BBQ Team B
09/12/16 Christmas Party

NEW Members

We welcome the following new members to the shed.

Syd Davis
Frank Hodges
Russell Anderson
Gerry Powell
Ken Garbutt
Steve White
Shane Connolly
John Hickey
Carson Stacey
Neville King

Shed Membership Total 75

Social Day Suggestions.

Any thoughts as to what we could do or go with our wives or partners. Please give details to Michael.
Christmas Party 2016

When: Friday 9th December
Where: In our own Hall
Cost: $40 p/h
Menu:
Nibbles & Bread Rolls to start with. Then hot Ham, Port & Chicken Breast. Garden Salad, Roast Vegetables & other salads. Deserts being Pavlova, Cheese Cake, Apple Pie & Black Forest Cake. Gluten Free is also available.
So mark it in your calendar NOW. More details closer to the party.

2016 “Grandparents Day” Project

Men’s Shed will teach the young children in child care centres aged 5 to 12 years how to build a “Billy Cart”. The billy cart bodies will be constructed at the Men’s Shed workshop as a kit and the parts assembled with the children at the centres. There are nine centres and each will get two carts. So a lot of carts to build.

The Men’s Shed members will go to the child care centres after 3.30pm.

The children will paint and decorate the carts.

Grandparents day is Sunday 30th October—at Jamison Park. Billy cart races would be arranged for all children to participate in and a sausage sizzle for Grandparents and Families to enjoy.

Two teams leaders have been appointed and suitable plans for the carts is being arranged.

This is a great opportunity to promote the shed and help out Penrith City Council who are organising the day.

We will be acting as marshals for the races. We might also conduct a BBQ on the day.

Trend Timbers Open Day

Fri 02 September - Sat 03 September
9am - 4pm Friday and 9am - 4pm Saturday
15 Railway Rd North, Mulgrave | NSW 2756

Note: Demonstrations will be held on Friday and Saturday
Discounts on all timber blanks, dressed boards and selected machinery

Best Slogan on a MAN’s T-Shirt:
"Please Do Not Disturb me, I am Married and already very Disturbed"
Emergency Lighting, Exit Sign and Smoke Alarm systems have now been installed throughout the building. It even had a live test when a blunt saw met a piece of wood and created some smoke. System was certified on the 3rd of August.

What did the Tin Man say when he got run over by a steamroller?
“Curses! Foil again!”

Wooden toys and still more toys are being made for sale at the Glenbrook Fair. Also anything else that our members can make for sell at the Fair held towards the end of the end of the year. It has proven to be a good fund raiser in the past for the shed.

So far we have cars, trains, boats and planes and lots more. And of course Reindeer.

A frustrated husband in front of his laptop:
Dear Google, please do not behave like my wife...
Please allow me to complete my sentence before you start guessing & suggesting.
Ron, Paul and I were invited to make a presentation today at the 5th Penrith Neighbourhood Centre on the 12th August 2016. It was a small gathering of just six visitors. Ron spoke about the formation of the Men’s Shed organisation in Australia. Paul described the motivation he found at the Shed after suffering a form of depression for several months after learning he had terminal liver cancer and his renewed vigour to enjoy his future life being involved at the Shed. I spoke about how I learned about our Shed by meeting an old friend at a prostate cancer support group meeting.

We took several questions from the floor, from both the male and female attendees.

I reckon we gave our respective stories over about 30>35mins. Our brochure was handed out with a few left for others who may be interested.

What Does the Penrith River Festival and Pallet Furniture have in Common?

The Nepean riverbanks will come to life with illuminated light and interactive art displays, live music and pop-up restaurants... On Friday, 4th November & Saturday, 5th November 2016. The Penrith River Festival is a “new” major event organised by Council to celebrate our unique river lifestyle. This is an inaugural river festival with plans to grow each year and attract visitors to the region. [https://www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/REALfestival/](https://www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/REALfestival/)

So, interesting but what has that got to do with Pallet Furniture?

We have been asked by Penrith Council to assist them by making some Pallet Furniture for use at the festival. So what is pallet furniture?

Google “Pallet Furniture” for more ideas.

And our delivery of pallets has just arrived today (15/8/16) so sharpen up those saws, drills and pencils. Track down that measuring tape and screwdriver. We have a bit of work to do.

Plans for gardening work at front of Simeon Road

Photos & proposed work submitted by Ramon

One medium sized tree to be planted in the U shaped grassed area. Nearest power line is about 8m from the tree position, limiting the tree diameter.

Border of Rockdale 250 mm wide Colorbond corrugated garden edging from Bunnings suggested to keep grass and ground cover separated and edge easy to manage.

West facing front of building on left above, looking south, needs beautifying with low growing plants. To be planted with native grasses, pebble mulch.

Front slope is difficult & dangerous to mow about 20 x 3.8 m. To be planted with ground cover. Something tough, beautiful and easy to manage required, Grevillea ‘Poorinda Royal Mantle’ chosen. Example photos: