



**THE IPSWICH MEN'S SHED INC**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Location:</b><br>3A Mining Street<br>Bundamba Q 4304<br>Phone The Shed 07 3436 5857<br>Or Mobile 0455924784 | <b>Postal Address:</b><br>3A Mining street<br>Bundamba 4304<br><a href="mailto:ipswichmensshed@hotmail.com">ipswichmensshed@hotmail.com</a><br><a href="http://ipswichmensshed.org.au">web</a> : ipswichmensshed.org.au |
|--|---|

**“Shoulder to Shoulder”-**

**President:** Terry Carter **Vice President:** Bob Lewitz  
**Secretary:** Brian Parker **Treasurer** Ian Weier- **Assistant Treasurer** Ron Banks  
**Registrar:** Ted Wedmaier  
**Executive Officer Electrical:** Darryl Edwards

**Committee:** John Humphries; Dennis Sinnott; Ron Bopf;  
Ian Ross; Ross Kerfoot

Membership fees \$35 for 1 year – daily fees \$2 plus \$3.00 lunch  
**Open Tuesday, Thursday 9am-3pm – Saturday 9am-2pm**

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT!**

**OUR THOUGHTS GO OUT TO ROD EVERSON THIS WEEK AS HE RECOVERS FROM A SHORT STAY IN HOSPITAL FOLLOWING CHEST PAINS AND SHORTNESS OF BREATH AT THE SHED ON TUESDAY. THANKS TO QLD AMBULANCE SERVICE AND SHED MEMBERS WHO ASSISTED ROD.**

**REMEMBER - IF YOU ARE FEELING UNWELL, PLEASE INFORM THE SHED MEMBERS AS WE NEED TO ACT QUICKLY TO AVOID ANY COMPLICATIONS.**

**IT HAS BEEN ANOTHER BUSY MONTH OF MARCH, AND APRIL LOOKS TO BE JUST AS BUSY. OUR MEN’S SHED WEEK SAW US ATTEND A LOCAL BUSINESS BREAKFAST, ENTERTAIN A ROTARY CLUB MEETING AT THE SHED, A GUEST SPEAKER SPOT AT THE IPSWICH PROBUS CLUB AND A BUNNINGS BBQ - ALL IN ALL A BUSY TIME.**

**OUR THOUGHTS ALSO GO OUT TO MEMBER BOB EDYVEAN AND HIS FAMILY AS HIS DAUGHTER RECOVERS FROM A HEART ATTACK SUFFERED WHILST ON BOARD A CRUISE SHIP OFF CAIRNS LAST WEEK.**

**BOB ALSO HAD HIS PHONE STOLEN, SO NOT HAPPY JAN!**

**WE HAVE COMMITTED TO WORK AT BUNNING’S BUNDAMBA THIS WEEK FOR MUCH NEEDED FUNDS AND I THANK ALL WHO HAVE COMMITTED TO ATTEND. TO TOP IT OFF, A BBQ AT BUNNING’S BOOVAL ON SATURDAY COMPLETES THE WEEK.**

**MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE, SO PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO JOIN US AGAIN THIS YEAR !**

**WE HAVE MANY MEMBERS AND FAMILIES WHO ARE NOT WELL AT THIS TIME, SO PLEASE ACCEPT THIS AS A GET WELL SOON WISH!**

**MANY THANKS TO IAN WEIER FOR HIS CONTINUED GREAT WORK AS TREASURER AND MY EVER RELIABLE SECRETARY BRIAN PARKER - A SPECIAL THANKS.**

**AS WE HEAD INTO THE LAST QUARTER OF THE YEAR, GIVE SOME THOUGHT AS TO YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE SHED AND WHAT YOU MAY LIKE TO DO OR PERHAPS BE ON THE COMMITTEE FOR THE NEXT YEAR.**

**DON’T FORGET THE IPSWICH FESTIVAL PARADE 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL – SEE ANDREW ORR !**



# MEET SHED MEMBER - Kevin Pearce

*(Kevin is an outstanding Journalist who wrote this story of his life. It is a tribute to his talent and ability and is reproduced in full without alteration or addition).*

## **PART 2: (Continued from the March edition):**

Kev became involved in sports.

"I wasn't much of an on-field performer, but at ages 19 and 20 was awarded my football club's 'clubman of the year' trophies. I retired from playing and became the club's proxy delegate to the Gladstone Rugby League's management committee, and later was elected to that body and became junior vice-president," he said.

"I also coached the city's under 13 team, and was manager of the under 19 representative team."

Taking notes for The Observer's sports reporter led him to hosting a sports program on Radio 4CD, on which he also "called" rugby league games. As time progressed he also was on-course caller of the races at the city's Ferguson Park.

He also became Gladstone Cricket Association president; and a committee member of Gladstone Turf Club. He was invited to join Rotary, became immersed in that organization and was a director of clubs in Gladstone and at Gympie.

"I must have been a bit of a firebrand as a young fellow. I was inaugural secretary of the Gladstone Union Cooperative Society, the second such organisation in Queensland (after Brisbane) and forerunner to the Credit Union Cooperative. I also became inaugural secretary of the Australian Journalists' Association Gladstone branch," Kev said.

"I served as a Justice of the Peace/Commissioner of Declarations from 1978 to 2015." Kev was born at Monto hospital on July 30 1947, to dairy share-farming parents. His Dad had returned from World War 2 and found it tough to make a living; thus Kev's parents moved from farm to farm, resulting in him attending five primary schools, and Gladstone State High.

"We lived about 50 miles out of town and at 13 I was too young to leave school after passing the old scholarship exam. So, I had to travel to Gladstone each Monday, board there until Friday, and return home each weekend. That placed significant financial strain on my parents. At age 14 I found a job as a farm-hand." Kev said.

"I have never been sacked from any job, but became a bit of a nomad, living with my parents for only four months in total from age 14. I worked on various farms in the Boyne Valley and Monto districts, and a cordial factory, before a stint with the State forestry department after which I moved to Gladstone."

Between 1971 and 1980, Kev married twice, having a son (Tom) with his first wife, and in 1982 (Troy) and 1984 (Brett) with Margaret. Tom left James Cook University with a psychology honours degree (he lives at Wagga Wagga); Troy graduated from Queensland University as a Bachelor of Electronic Commerce (now owns CliftPearce Accounting in Mortimer Street); Brett is manager of Woolworths' Kenmore, having worked with the company from age 14 while at High School.

"Just goes to show the cleverness of my wives (well they married me, didn't they?) The boys certainly did not inherit their smarts from me," Kev said.

"My only 'civic' involvement in Ipswich was a three-year term as coach of a Blackstone-Welsh Church Soccer Club junior team. I had never played soccer. The team had no coach, so I became 'it'. We did reach the preliminary final in my last year; and I was a kennel steward with Ipswich Greyhound Club for a time.

After leaving The Queensland Times in 1993, we bought Lee's Highway Snack Bar (now Bundamba Takeaway). Margaret injured an arm, leading us to sell the shop and this led me to work as a real estate salesman with Les Thornton's The Professionals."

"Ipswich was pretty 'dead' at that time and sales were few. I received a drawer full of 'awards' from The Professional group; but too few financial rewards to continue.

"In 1996 we leased a taxi in Ipswich, and then retired from 'gainful employment' on July 30 2014. Soon after, I joined Ipswich Men's Shed where I hope to continue to potter around, yarn, and make myself useful in a backseat, low-key capacity.

"Apart from 'the shed', my interests today include family, caravanning, reading, occasional golf, and attending Ipswich horse racing," Kev said.

***(This has been an amazing and interesting journey through your life to date Kevin and we thank you for sharing it with us).***

## **OUT AND ABOUT:**



### **Still on the theme of writing and journalism: History of the Ipswich Library and Information Service:**

Ipswich Library was first established by a group of local people in 1850. It became a School of Arts Library in 1858 and was then eligible to receive government assistance.

A School of Arts Hall was built in 1861. When this was extended a few years later, it was able to accommodate the lending library and reading rooms where Ipswich residents had access to a wide variety of newspapers and magazines. Although the Council took over management in 1868, it remained a "School of Arts Library" until 1947.

The library has had at least seven different locations since 1850 including the Old Town Hall (formerly the School of Arts), the Memorial Hall and the former Bank of Australasia building in d'Arcy Doyle Place.

"In July 1850, when the town was a mere eight years old, a group of Ipswich people resolved that the present state and position of this rapidly increasing town make it desirable to establish a public institution for the supply of news and the diffusion of knowledge generally". Put simply, it was time Ipswich had a library.

Funds were raised by asking for donations and by charging an annual library fee. When enough money was raised, committee member Frederick Forbes travelled to Sydney to select the first supply of books. A small library and reading room were then set up in rented premises - possibly a timber building in Brisbane Street which had been built as a temporary court house.

In August 1858, the library committee formally became a School of Arts and applied for a grant of land and government funding. The application was successful and a School of Arts Hall was built in 1861. The library remained in the old timber building until 1864, when the hall was extended with an elaborate façade and front section. The library then moved into the extension.

The small community of Ipswich had managed to establish an impressive library. Newspapers and magazines were obtained from Australian capital cities and from England and Ireland - the overseas publications must have been months out of date, but were read eagerly.

Books were obtained locally and from an agent in London - Longman and Co. By the early 1860s, there were more than 2000 volumes and the library had 200 subscribers. When new books were obtained, the event was considered so important that the titles were listed in The Queensland Times.

Perhaps the most far-reaching achievement was the production of "Ipswich Punch", a humorous magazine based on the famous British "Punch". It was entirely hand-written and hand-illustrated, and there was just one copy of each edition, kept on a table in the library reading room. The authors produced it for fun, but it has survived as an important historical record which offers a vivid glimpse of Ipswich life in the 1860s.

The library received a major setback in 1866 when a severe financial depression affected Queensland. The voluntary committee found it hard to keep up payments on the new building and in 1868, it was forced to ask the Ipswich Municipal Council to take over management. The building became the Town Hall (although the name School of Arts Hall persisted for a long time) and the Council took responsibility for running the School of Arts library.

The library survived and, with the Council now supervising, continued to expand. A Californian newspaper was added to the list in 1870 and "The Englishwomen's Magazine" was ordered in 1871 to tempt more women to become subscribers.

By the turn of the century, the Town Hall had become too small for the growing city and many discussions were held about extending it again or constructing a completely new building.

In 1918, a Memorial Hall was planned to honour Ipswich men who had fought in World War I. A group of aldermen suggested that there would be benefits if the Memorial Hall and Town Hall projects were combined. This idea was rejected but a compromise was achieved - the School of Arts Library could be moved out of the overcrowded Town Hall into the new building. Returned soldiers were offered free membership.

The library remained at the Memorial Hall until 1947. It was then moved into the former Bank of Australasia Building (cnr Brisbane St and d'Arcy Doyle Place) and the Council formally took over, ending the long connection with the School of Arts movement.

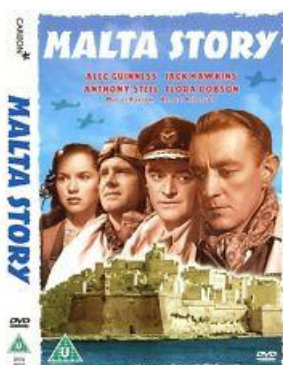
In 1975, the Library was moved to the former St Paul's Young Men's Club Building (cnr Limestone Street and d'Arcy Doyle Place), then to leased premises in Bell Street and finally in 1995 to the purpose-built Global Information Centre in South Street.

## JUST A MINUTE - Alan Steele



Favourite TV: Watching Football  
Least Liked TV: Reality Shows  
Books I Like To Read: Fiction Stories  
Favourite Author: Bryce Courtney  
Favourite Food: Roast Chook and Veg.  
First Car: HD Holden – Brown in colour  
Favourite Pastime – Using and building computers

### Movie Review:



Some time ago we featured the amazing history of shed member John Borg and his tale of growing up in war torn Malta. Now, thanks to John, we have a DVD in our library which shows what it was really like to live in this little country in those days of terror and war.

“**Malta Story**” uses a fictionalized love story to tease out the film, but this does not distract from the true story of those days which is revealed during the movie. It uses actual footage of the bombing raids, the immense fortitude of British fighter pilots in trying to destroy massive fleets of German ships, and clearly shows the devastation of Malta whilst revealing the courage, resilience and strength of the people of Malta, who were later awarded a George Cross medal in

recognition of their continuing heroic struggle against enemy attack.

If you have a penance for history (the movie reveals amongst other things, why Malta was so important to both the British and the German's and how many tonnes of bombs were dropped on the island in such a short time); or you want to see what John had to go through growing up, or you just want a damn good 'old fashion' viewing night, watching an outstanding black and white movie featuring Alex Guinness and Jack Hawkins, then try 'Malta Story' - well worth a view and in our library now.

Thank you John for providing this movie to us for our viewing pleasure.



Coffee table / games table for Sale !!

Has chess, draughts, dominos, cards, dice,

Owner would like \$70.00. Anybody from the shed interested? [Refer to Brian Parker](#)

## Tobruk Anniversary:



The commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Siege of Tobruk will be one of the key events in 2016.



The service of all Australians who took part in the battles for Tobruk in 1941 will be commemorated. This includes those who took part in the capture of Tobruk in January and the Siege of Tobruk between April and December, and those who played a vital

support role on the sea and in the air.

To assist us in remembering this event which helped change the course of the war, shed member Bob Lawley whose grandfather fought in the war, has brought us this very interesting information:

The siege of Tobruk, Libya lasted from April 10 1941 until November 27 1941

It lasted 241 days in 1941 during the Western Desert Campaign (1941-1943)

Around 14,000 Aussies served in Tobruk surrounded by Germans and Italians under the command of Field Marshall Erwin Rommel who became known as the Desert Fox. He went on to earn the respect of both his own troops and that of his enemies.

The garrison was left behind to deny the port to Axis troops.

Australian and English troops were the main numbers of soldiers, but there were also Indian, Polish and Czech troops there as well.

British and Australian ships ran the German blockade to bring in supplies and to take out wounded soldiers and prisoners, in what became known as the Tobruk Ferry.

The Nazi propagandist Lord Haw Haw (William Joyce) derided the defenders as "Rats". A term the Aussies took as an ironic compliment.

Australian casualties from the 9<sup>th</sup> Division were: 749 killed. 1996 wounded. 604 prisoners.

John Hirst Edmondson was the first Australian to be awarded the Victoria Cross in a fatal bayonet charge against German troops.

Just like Long Tan where the Kiwi artillery were amazing, in Tobruk the British artillery in the siege were outstanding. They took out the German panzers while the infantry of the 9<sup>th</sup> Division concentrated on the German infantry behind the tanks.

The Polish contingent were reputed to ignore the Italians, concentrating instead on the Germans due to what happened in their homeland.

The "rats of Tobruk" medal in the shape of a T is one of the few private medals which are allowed to be worn with other official medals. These were issued by the Rats of Tobruk Association.

A number of Commemorative Medals were made in Tobruk including 300 that featured a standing rat. These were made by a Dental Technician from captured enemy aircraft metal.

Tobruk was the first defeat for Hitler's Germany.

### **BRIAN PARKER'S WHIMSICAL WORDS OF WISDOM:**

"If you're feeling stressed, try drawing male genitalia on government property." *Um Okay???*



## BETTER MEN PROJECT:

By Dean Olafsen.



With the help and support of the Shed Management Committee I recently launched the Better Men Project (BMP).

Under this umbrella and over the next few months various programmes will be established... BMP Public Forums... Fathers Fun Days... Marches of Solidarity with other Agencies (e.g. Domestic Violence).

One of these the Circles of Support and Growth (COSAG) has already commenced.

Ten men and three trained facilitators have begun to meet weekly... Thursday night 7.00pm – 9.30pm.

The process involves each man (as he feels safe to do) sharing his story in an atmosphere of honesty, trust and confidentiality.

Other men then have the option of responding (out of their own life's experiences) to issues, themes raised by that sharing.

Advice is not given (unless asked for by the "story teller")... Any one can say anything... but no one has to!

Consistent with what might be expected, themes to emerge thus far, include:

Depression – Recovery from Divorce – the struggle to forgive others/ones-self for past hurts and traumas - letting go of past grief – working it out with your parents / working it out with your children ... coming to terms with your own ageing.

The group is in the process of creating some Protocols to guide Group- Behaviour and Rituals to nurture its life and spirit.

The leadership Team are deeply appreciative of the support this initiative has already received from the local community. So far a total of \$750 has been donated by local State and Federal politicians ... more is hoped for from organisations that have been approached.

The Shed Committee has indicated that it will also make a donation and a request (from BMP) will be made shortly to cover the cost of some resource materials.

New members are always welcomed... and if you (or a friend) would like to join us, please give me a call – 0407-038-483.

# SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

XX

Thank you Brian for these witty words:

Agging Mildred was a 93 year old woman who was particularly despondent over the recent death of her husband Earl.

She decided that she would just kill herself and join him in death.

Thinking that it would be best to get it over with quickly, she took out Earl's old Army pistol and made the decision to shoot herself in the heart since it was so badly broken in the first place.

Not wanting to miss the vital organ and become a vegetable and a burden to someone, she called her doctor to inquire as to just exactly where the heart would be.

"On a woman," the doctor said, "your heart would be just below your left breast."

Later that night, Mildred was admitted to the hospital with a gunshot wound to her knee!



## EUDUNDA STREET STAFFORD COMMUNITY MEN'S SHED



The Stafford Men's Shed is situated down a driveway at the rear of the St Clements on the Hill Anglican Church. Although situated in the church grounds off to the side of the church car park, the men's shed stands as an independent identity. Men's Shed members do share part of the church hall for toilets and kitchen facilities, but the shed is separate to the church and has its own committee which makes all decisions for the group.

Although only slightly larger than a double garage this is a well thought out and well laid out shed whose only focus is on wood-work. To the left of the shed is a wood-work shop with power tools and lathes. To the right a separate work bench area used for finishing projects. The shed also has a wood store and a project area at the rear, currently under a canvas awning, which shed members hope to make into a permanent awning in due course if council and church restrictions can be over-come.

Membership of Men's Shed is capped at 35 and this shed has a waiting list for people wanting to join. Apart from wood-work, a couple of the members with medical issues who cannot use any machinery, spend their time maintaining the grounds around the shed under the watchful eye of the committee.

What stands this shed out from others is the high quality dust extraction system permanently in place around all machines and extracting to a cabinet outside and to the rear of the shed. To see a top class extraction system and what can be done for around \$13 thousand dollars, this is the shed to visit.

The other thing that stands this shed out particularly well, is the high standard of safety practices in place. Standard Operating Procedures are attached to every machine. Only authorized and trained members may use the machines and safety glasses or eyewear is worn everywhere in the wood shop, even by those just passing through.

*A man and a friend are playing golf one day at their local golf course. One of the guys is about to chip onto the green when he sees a long funeral procession on the road next to the course. He stops in mid-swing, takes off his golf cap, closes his eyes, and bows down in prayer.*

*His friend says: "Wow that is the most thoughtful and touching thing I have ever seen. You truly are a kind man."*

*The man then replies: "Yeah, well we were married 35 years."*

*I walked into a bookstore and asked the assistant where the self-help section was. She said that if she told me it would defeat the purpose!*

*What's the difference between ignorance and apathy?  
I don't know and I don't care!*

# SHEDDER'S ADS

(This page is available for shedders ads for such things as buy, sell or exchange etc. Submit ads to Terry or Laurie for future publication).

**WANTED:** If anyone has any old ATX (tower) computer cases laying around that they want to give away, please let shed member Allan Steele know. He rebuilds computers and has enough parts available to rebuild at least two new computers - if he can acquire the ATX cases.

## RECENT ROTARY MEETING

TOM EDWARDS, BARRY THORNE, DEAN OLAFSEN, DENNIS KENDALL



IPSWICH ROTARY RECENTLY VISITED THE SHED FOR THEIR WEEKLY MEETING

CONGRATULATIONS TO RE-ELECTED MAYOR PAUL PISASALE

AND NEWLY ELECTED DIV 4 KYLIE STONEMAN

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU

(Copyright: The articles and information contained in this document are owned and written by the Ipswich Men's Shed [except where specified] and may not be copied, reproduced or used without permission or reference to the Ipswich Men's Shed).





**PRESIDENT TERRY WAS GUEST SPEAKER AT THE IPSWICH PROBUS CLUB RECENTLY. KEN FISHER ACCEPTS A PAINTED SAW BLADE AS A GOODWILL GESTURE!**



**RON BOPF CONTINUES TO TURN OUT SOME GREAT BREAD BOARDS!**



**ANOTHER JOB FOR COL TO RENOVATE A KIDS ROCKING PLANE!**

# NBN COMES TO 3A MINING STREET



*NEW NBN PHONE LINE NUMBER*



*07 3436 5857*

*WIFI PASSWORD AVAILABLE ON REQUEST*

**THANKS TO  
ALL WHO ASSISTED**



**BUNNING'S BOOVAL ON THE MOVE  
TO BUNDAMBA**

**MEN'S SHED TO WORK AT BUNNING'S BUNDAMBA  
THIS WEEK TO ASSEMBLE FURNITURE AND BBQ'S  
THANKS BUNNING'S AND WELCOME!**



**BBQ BOB HEADS THE BBQ TEAM**

## MORE PIC'S



## OUR RECENTLY RETIRED 2 STROKE SPECIALIST



**BRIAN MAKES YET ANOTHER BOX!!**