

President's Report for Year 2015-2016

It is with pleasure that I submit my Annual report for 2015-2016.

The year has been very successful and most rewarding as the Ipswich Men's Shed continues to grow and develop.

Thank you for the opportunity to be your President in 2015-2016. I have enjoyed the role and have many people to thank for our successes. Firstly to the Committee, in particular Ian Weier, Treasurer who has been a tower of strength; to Brian Parker for his Secretarial duties; and Bob Lewitz for his much appreciated fund raising and general support. Laurie Caldwell has added much in his roles as newsletter editor and representative on the State Zone; and to all other committee members - big thanks. My thanks also to Bob Edyvean for his encouragement and support; to all the Shed Bosses who assisted during the year; the Garden group, Engineering group and the Wood work group - thank you; Trainers Dennis and his team and Roger, our 2 stroke Ex-pert. The Shed doesn't run without a great team and I feel we have achieved much throughout the past twelve months, and made a name for ourselves in the Community. I look forward with renewed enthusiasm for the upcoming year and I welcome the new Committee after the AGM on 5th July.

There have been many highlights to applaud throughout the year and a few lower points when we farewelled member, Hedley Pearson and member Chris Draper's wife, Beverley.

We started the year with Ted Wedmaier completing a Memorial window at Ipswich Hospice in the form of a wishing well and the families involved were thrilled with the result.

A visit to Brookfield Expo in July saw us highlight our Shed with displays, and members who attended enjoyed the day, braving the cold and windy conditions. Our Shed has been visited by members of many other sheds including Bellbowrie, Rosewood, Oxenford and Brassall Baptist Shed. We also enjoyed visits from State Politicians Coralee O'Rourke and Jennifer Howard as they toured Ipswich. Members volunteered as marshalls at the Ipswich Hospital Foundation Park to Park run in July and fun was had as we encouraged runners along the course. Some Ipswich Shed members also visited the Amberley RAAF Air Base and Ferny Grove Tram Shed. We also participated in two street parades throughout the year.

The Annual Christmas party and Awards Night at Jets was another successful social event and saw Ron Bopf awarded "Shedder of the Year" whilst I was honoured to be presented with Life Membership. To celebrate the last day of 2015 at the Shed, a Christmas Party was attended by 50 members and guests, with all present contributing to the success of the function.

Member Alwyn Logan made toys for the annual Salvation Army Christmas Appeal and our Shed donated money to the cause. Dave Wernowski made a giant Christmas stocking for the QT newspaper competition. Two Rotary Clubs visited our Shed for their meetings and we provided

them with a hearty meal and in turn, enabled us to show-off the Shed and associated equipment. Both Rotary Clubs were suitably impressed with our establishment and our ability to undertake such varied projects.

Grants have allowed us to strengthen our range of equipment, and with our tenancy agreement being renewed for a further 2 years, this allows us to plan and expand. We are currently in talks with Council re an additional site and are looking at a Community Grant for Solar to cut our electricity costs. We were successful in being awarded a Volunteers grant of \$5000 which enabled us to provide laptops for members' use and training opportunities. A recent meeting with The Salvation Army management team has provided us with an opportunity to provide work to repair furniture for sale within their Sales centre and this further cements our tenancy commitment with them. We await further grant application outcomes which will again strengthen our members' facilities.

BBQ's were again a major part of our fundraising and our successful Bunning's BBQ's add much needed funds to our coffers and add great fellowship to the group. Roger Overell arranged for us to cook Friday barbeques at Jets Rugby League Club in exchange for keeping the proceeds for our efforts. This was a PR exercise and was most worthwhile. We assisted at the openings of Bunnings' Springfield and Bundamba stores, thus providing us with funds and gift vouchers.

Our Membership continues to grow and additional days will be discussed at our first meeting of the new committee in July/August.

I wish to reflect on some of the activities during the year:-

- Shed Members worked on the renovations to the Salvation Sales centre, erecting change rooms and shoe racks prior to its opening.
- Dave Wernowski was instrumental in completing ballustrating for the family home of Blaise Wyatt, a disabled boy who resides at Silkstone, while others assisted with sheeting and house improvements. This activity was arranged through the group "Swichon".
- Ron McDonald conducted a first aid course for approx 20 members and some guests from The Salvation Army and the local Wood turners group.
- We undertook an additional upgrade to our electrical wiring - thanks to Brad Ardrey Electrical.
- The Zonta Club of Brisbane requested an order for the orange lady cutouts and these were completed quickly.
- Jeff Edwards completed a beautiful island bench for the kitchen
- Completion of outfitting a Caravan for the Salvos emergency accommodation.
- Renovations and/or repairs of two other vans
- An elevated stage for Swichon
- Renovations to the Salvos people carrier

- Carousels for Goodna Special School
- 20 Election frames for Cr Sheila Ireland
- A wooden lectern made for Ipswich Quota Club, funded by Cr Sheila Ireland
- The timber storage unit has been relocated and this has given us more room for new machinery which was acquired from a Shed member who was downsizing his workshop.
- 500 white painted crosses for the RSL
- A replica bed and wooden lecterns for the Ipswich Hospital Museum

During the year we have received many donations and we thank the community as well as Dulux for providing much needed paint supplies. Thanks to John Missen and Mayor Paul Pisasale, we now have a defibrillator if the occasion arises.

Grants throughout the year have allowed us to purchase a mower, trimmer, shredder, milling machine, and three laptops and printer. Thanks to Mayor Paul Pisasale, AMSA and the Australian Government through Shayne Neumann. As well as the computer upgrade, we were fortunate to organize the installation of the NBN which has proved an addition to our training and internet speeds. We introduced the SOP: Standard Operating Procedures and continue to train Members in the safe use of machinery.

The sailing group continues to upgrade their skills, with regular visits to Wivenhoe Dam. Shed members also assisted the local rowing club with the removal of some of their boats to a new location.

Laurie's contribution to the monthly newsletter has been excellent and the member profiles are most popular, giving us an insight into the backgrounds of our members. The Sergeant Sessions at Smoko have also proved popular, with members being fined for any activity which has been reported to Sgt Bob. The "Wise Guys" health event organized by Able Australia's Hazel Malone was held recently and proved successful with approx 60 people attending and many varied guest speakers contributing to the day. An enjoyable lunch was provided by our Shed and Council.

Life member, Dean Olafsen saw a need in the community for men's health support and during the year, he launched two support groups – the "Better Men Group" and the "Circle of Support Group". An International trip to England is planned for members in October 2017 for those wishing to enjoy a holiday and also visit a few sheds whilst there.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the past twelve months representing the Ipswich Men's Shed as your President. Thank you for allowing me to undertake this role.

Terry Carter
05/07/2016

THANKS TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS IN 2016

SALVATION ARMY

IPSWICH HOSPITAL
FOUNDATION

MP JENNIFER HOWARD

MAYOR PAUL PISASALE

CR BRUCE CASOS

CR SHEILA IRELAND

CR KYLIE STONEMAN

BENDIGO BANK

HAFCO

IPSWICH ROTARY CLUBS

ABLE AUSTRALIA

BUNNINGS BUNDAMBA

DULUX PAINTS

COLES IPSWICH

BETTER BUY MEATS

IGA

JOHN GREATREX

MP SHAYNE NEUMANN

BUNDAMBA ANZAC
COMMITTEE

ARDREY ELECTRICAL

AMSA

MANAGED SOLUTIONS

TELSTRA AND NBN

OFFICEWORKS

JETS RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

IPSWICH HOSPITAL
MUSEUM

NORTH IPSWICH BOWLS
CLUB

TAFE QLD

ZAHNOW CONCRETE

IPSWICH COMMUNITY

WIVES AND PARTNERS

TROPHIES R US

KEITH ATWELL SIGNS

QMSA