

Shed West visit to Ipswich Men's Shed Tuesday 18 April 2017

Sixteen Shed West members accepted an invitation to visit the Ipswich Men's Shed on Tuesday. Ipswich President, Terry Carter, welcomed us with a cordon bleu morning tea and BBQ lunch, and a tour of their amazing premises.



Ipswich Shed President, Terry Carter, VP Laurie Caldwell and Founding President, Dean Olafsen.

Located at 3A Mining St, Bundamba, IMS approved Bunnings to move in over the road and their sausage sizzles are a major source of revenue for their Shed, apart from Bunnings sponsorships, a very tidy arrangement.



Bunnings across the road. Note Tradies utes.



Howard and Don



We were impressed with their chair rack



The sign in and pay table – a good idea



Smoko – Look at the spread

Ipswich Shed comprises four distinct functional areas. A separate office and cashier's room greet members upon arrival, flowing into the toy and art department, Off this room is the tool room with a repair area. Between this bay and the wood working area is the air conditioned computer and food preparation room. Between the wood working and Metal fabrication bays is the wood storage area. A skillion area has been secured by mesh gates which allows "dusty" activities such as sanding to be safely done. Outside the covered areas is a functional vegetable garden, with an ornamental garden, and storage area for trailers, steel, and bins (for sale). This is a truly functional model Men's Shed comprising about 90 members, a lot of whom have trades. We are very grateful for their ideas and support.

Below are a few photos of their Shed –



Metal Workshop Milling Machine



The Wood Store



Metal Lathe – a few ex Railway Workshop members



The covered skillion area is very large and functional



Very useful router



Space for Boat Building & repairs



Wood working bay



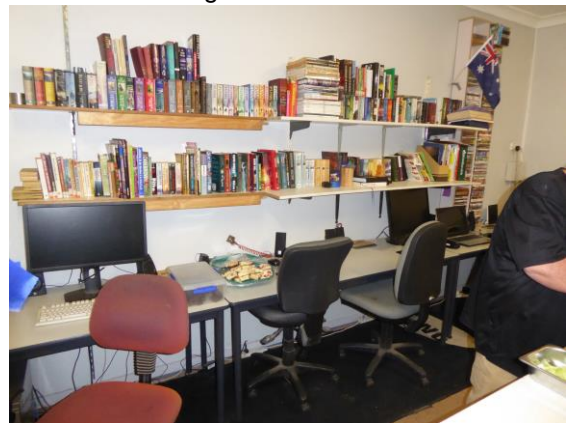
Roger "Bumpa" Overell in his Fix It Shop. Looks after all the tools. Bumpa courteously showed us around.



Large bobbin sander



A hyper safe SawStop bench saw



Air Conditioned Computer and Food Prep room



Drop saws located against outer walls of skillion with dust extractor outside.



Belt Sanders with own dust extraction



Art & Toy Making area



Tool Room behind and picture framing foreground. I think Mack Dowling is interested in this!



Bob Edyvean at work on a new masterpiece



Very impressed with the drill & charger racks in the tool room.



Scroll saws and drill presses



Tool sharpener – a very good one.



Picasso himself. Very creative artwork on old saw blades.



Name tag board – a good idea. Very visible.



And some budding gardeners – Mack?



The Shed and driveway



Suggestion Box – another good idea.



Well equipped and organised Office



Amazing vegetable garden



Honour Board. Ipswich kindly donated one to Shed West which will need to be installed at Kenmore in a "clean" environment.



Paul Pisale, Ipswich Mayor, donated a huge number of unusable rubbish bins to the Shed, which they sell for \$10 apiece. Wonder if we could approach BCC to see what they do with damaged or unusable bins? Have to think of storage – maybe Bellbowrie?



John Greatrex, QMSA Vice President, addressed the gathering and brought us up to date on what is happening. Of concern was the lack of QMSA regional representation for Brisbane Metro North. It made John's day when Gerald Barbour offered his services to fill this role.

As Metro North is one of the bigger zones, John suggested trying to find a deputy to help Gerald cover the northern side of the zone, so let's hope he will be successful.

From all of us at Shed West, Gerald, thank you for putting your hand up for this job. Any help you need will, I am sure, be forthcoming from our membership.

To cap it all off, it was a truly interesting and inspiring day. Our heartfelt thanks to Ipswich for hosting us, and we are sure we will be implementing some of the good ideas we picked up. Howard White has offered to help Ipswich with his training modules, and Ippy has already sent over some of their procedures for us to look at.

This is what Men's Sheds are all about. Working together for the greater good of our movement, and those who are members of it.



They had a flag made up in Sydney, which is something we should do (when we get a pole!)



Shed Boss Hi Vis – Made in Ipswich. Necessary for Kenmore & Bellbowrie.