



THE IPSWICH MEN'S SHED INC

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"Shoulder to Shoulder"

President: Terry Carter **Vice President:** Laurie Caldwell

Junior Vice President: Dennis Sinnott

Secretary: Brian Parker **Treasurer:** Ian Weier

Registrar: Ted Wedmaier; **Executive Officer Electrical:** Darryl Edwards

Fund Raising/Purchasing: Bob Lewitz

Committee: John Humphries; Ron Bopf; Ian Ross; Roger Overell; Bob Lewitz

Patron: Kylie Stoneman; **Future Development:** Bob Edyvean

Membership fees \$35 for 1 year – **daily fees \$3 plus \$4.00 lunch**

Open Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday 9am-2pm

Dear Members – With our president Terry Carter currently gallivanting round the world, it falls on me to complete the newsletter this month.

May has been a busy month with a Bunnings barbecue netting us enough cash to pay out the incoming power bill. We have also had a visit from a very grateful team from Shed West, who had great things to say about us. Anyone who has not heard the comments, or who has not seen the photographs can request access to them through one of the committee.

Other visitors who have enjoyed our shed this month has been a Lowood gardening group who offered help and took away ideas (thanks for inviting them Ian Weier), and a number of shed members from the Rosewood Men's Shed.

Sales of the wheelie bins concluded early in the month with just a few left without wheels or lids still available for \$5.00 each.

A number of projects were completed this month with a lovely dressing table rebuilt by Jeff Edwards, the BBQ trailer nearing completion thanks to John Baker and other activities too numerous to mention occurring throughout the shed.

A special thanks to the gardening team and others who assisted in completing the gardening and compost bays at the back entrance. Starting to look really good, as is the yacht currently under refurbishment beneath the awning outside the timber shed.

It has been suggested that the shed takes on bigger and more diverse projects and I am sure that we can do just that. The problem however is finding those projects to

undertake. If anyone has some ideas, please bring them to the group so that we can explore the concept and hopefully put some of the ideas into practice.

Although it feels a way off, time will go quickly until the next election due in August for shed committee and leadership positions. All roles are vacated prior to the election and anyone and everyone has the opportunity to apply for a vacant position. If you feel you can assist the shed or contribute to the future direction of the Ipswich Men's Shed, you are welcome to apply. Nomination Forms will be issued in due course and anyone applying will need a nominator and a seconder to sign the form.

We have another barbecue due early June – please keep an eye on the notice board for a volunteer's sheet and help out if you are able to do so.

In May we received a grant from the AMSA round 14 for the sum of \$2,500 relating to Men's Health and the Spanner in the Works Program we held during the year.

Thank you all for the support you are providing to me and the committee during Terry's absence.

Regards Laurie

Printed by Cr Kylie Stoneman

TERRY'S JOURNEY TO THE MEN'S SHED AND The Closure of Betta Electrical



Last month we read of the very productive and enjoyable years that Terry spent with Hoey and Ploetz Electrical Store in Ipswich. In due course the store became Betta Electrical but sadly, after many years of trading it was finally forced to close. The reason?

Terry advises that the reasons for the closure were the expansion of Betta, reluctance to move and increase size of shop area, increased rent, additional staff, financial limitations, tired of retail sales and consumer demands, warranty changes, responsibility of owner, high risk and costly insurances, licenses, company law etc, and the changing pace of electrical products and product reliability.

Also contributing to the closure was the over-supply of electrical outlets and trends to super stores which had a huge range and high turnover. The profit margin was getting lower by selling goods at invoice price and then relying on rebates to make a profit.

Finally the decision was made to close the store and Terry describes this as huge weight off his and his wife Shona's shoulders. The only concerns arising from the decision was how to relocate staff and how to get rid of all the things they had saved for that rainy day and (in some cases) still have today.

Terry says – "To clear the good stock was easy but we had to take a loss on most goods as the mark ups are very low on electrical goods. Gone were the days when we could make a reasonable mark-up. After being in the electrical industry for approximately 32 years, it was time for a change."

Following the closure of the store and after seeing his wife Shona and daughter Brooke off on an overseas trip, Terry decided to return and clean up the shop one last time. In so doing, he stepped on a false ceiling to retrieve a light and suddenly found himself crashed out on the hard concrete floor some 3 meters below. Ouch! Fortunately the only hurt was to his pride and Terry soon recovered sufficiently to tackle the next challenge in his life.

Real Estate had always been in Terry's mind, after he previously applied for a real estate job some 33 years before. Unfortunately at that time he was unable to secure a position and so, with the closure of Betta Electrical and with time on his hands, he mulled over the idea for about three months. Then a fortunate meeting at Rotary with a Real Estate Company owner, saw a happy and relaxed Terry finally move into the industry.

Terry says, "The transition was not too difficult as I was still dealing with many people I had done business with before. The difficult thing was to do the course for a license after so many years without study and to integrate with young competent staff. At aged 57, one doesn't pick up things as fast as the young ones. They tend to be intolerant to the aged and have shorter

fuses than us old guys, but nonetheless they are helpful. The real-estate industry has many rules and regulations for one to learn and I have found that a hand shake is no longer a person's bond these days. Everything must be in black and white and in triplicate."

Real estate is an exciting industry but the onus is on one's self for motivation and the will to succeed. And succeed Terry did. Ever mindful of reputation, honesty and a need to be useful in the community, he worked hard to enhance even further his reputation as a successful businessman and outstanding citizen in the Ipswich area.

Then, In due course Terry retired and thankfully for the Ipswich Men's Shed, he brought the expertise he had learned over the years, his reputation and his knowledge of business practices to the shed. Over more than three years he has led an outstanding team to the point where the reputation of the Ipswich Men's Shed now rates highly amongst sheds throughout Australia and is often held up as an example of what a real Men's Shed should be.

Thank you Terry – Both for your story and for all that do for the Ipswich Men's Shed.



PC NEWS: DISABLING STARTUP PROGRAMS

Do you switch on your computer and wait for it to boot up while icon after icon appears in the system tray?

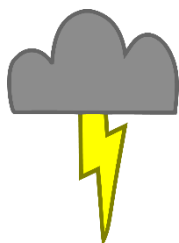
This is caused by many unnecessary programs using the auto-start facility. Startup programs occupy memory and use other system resources, although their presence will typically be felt mostly through longer boot times. Worse yet, these programs are often not important, so you're getting a longer boot time with no real advantages.

The main culprits are chat programs, hardware utility programs and many other types of programs.

Windows hides many of these programs beneath an arrow on your taskbar. Disabling these programs is done via the startup manager in the Task Manager in Windows 8 and 10. To access Task Manager, press Alt-Ctrl-Del simultaneously. Windows 7 or earlier can use the built-in msconfig tool to disable startup programs.

Each startup program can then be enabled or disabled from here.

Thank you Bonny Chattergoon of Chattergoon ICT Services (Gold Coast) Ph: 0431062752 for this interesting information.



HELPFUL HINT: KEEPING A REIN ON POWER

Energy Queensland recommends the following steps to help reduce peak demand, remain energy efficient and save money: Set your air-conditioner to 24 degrees. Clean air-conditioner filters regularly. Shut doors, windows, curtains and lower external blinds early to keep the heat out if using an air-conditioner. Use your clothesline instead of your dryer. Use your dishwasher and washing machine outside of the 4pm to 8pm peak. Switch your pool pump to off-peak.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLD WHEN!



Great work Rob – Getting items ready for the next garage sale later in the year.



Jeff's efforts in restoring this dresser was well received by the owner.

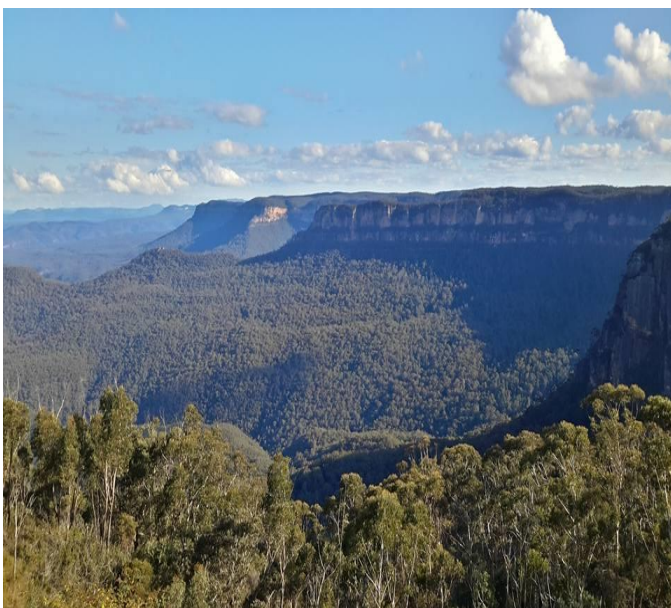
Ted hard at work painting a new sign.



Terry in Rome testing new style lunches for the Men's Shed



The view from Ron Bopf's hotel window in The Blue Mountains – WOW!



Brian making lantern stands for the Grandchester model railway group

A shout out to Kevin Wilkinson, Bob Edyvean and Ken Beitzel, all who have been in hospital during the month of May. Hope you are feeling better now, and if not - get well soon.

Welcome back Terry, Roger and Ron Bopf who have been away on holiday in May.

SHEDDER OF THE MONTH:


GRAEME SMITH - GARDENER



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