Pittsworth Visit

On the 2nd of March, Ipswich Mens Shed visited the Pittsworth Mens Shed and Pittsworth Women’s Shed.

We were ably driven by chauffeur extraordinaire Henry P in a 25 seater Sixt Hiire bus. There were 22 of us – 19 male and 3 female – the trip taking about one and a half hours each way.

We were warmly greeted at Pittsworh Mens Shed by President Graeme and Special Projects officer Merv. After a delicious morning tea and a mingling of shed members we were escorted through their 3 buildings which make up their shed. Merv explained all the projects – community, personal and commercial, as we passed each section of their shed.

Their shed is very community focused and rely on commercial projects as well as community and government grants to finance their activities.

We enjoyed (if you can use this word) an open and honest discussion with one of their members afflicted by early onset dementia – something we all must be aware of.

Their shed is situated on 10 acres of Local Council Land and they share this land with other buildings housing various Community Groups including diverse community club houses, historical buildings and a museum.

They have one of the best dust extraction system we have seen and two or three unique machines which had some of our members mouth “salverating”

Our shed then visited the Pittsworth Women’s Shed. We were gob smacked by what this accomplishes – prenatal baby ware all over the world. They are also significant contributors to the supply of Doctor/Nurse scarves to Queensland hospitals and the Queensland Ambulance Service. It just shows what a small group of determined individuals can accomplish with good will and common sense. We thank President Glynn for her warm welcome and open heart discussion.

After lunch at the only pub in town we returned to Ipswich – well watered and very suitably impressed. This visit has allowed the grants committee to advance its concepts for our shed, to further our aims for the health of our shed members and our contribution to the community as a whole.

Feedback from Members would be appreciated – good or bad, can we improve on this Mens Health initiative?