

NUTS & BOLTS



*'Every man needs
a shed'*

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Message from the Editor

Editor: Ray Peddersen

Welcome back to shed for another productive year ahead in 2018, the Chinese Year of the Dog.

I thought I would have limited material for this Nuts & Bolts, but I was proved wrong as contributions began to fill my inbox as soon as we returned from the Christmas break.

The President's 2017 Report, highlights the successes of 2017 and the new initiatives planned for our shed in 2018.

The PCYC-Youth Shed Mentoring project has proudly been supported by our shed since July 2015, find out more in Kevin Searle's article.

I would like to acknowledge all the contributors to this issue; Bob Ikin, Kevin Searle, Peter Finch, Bruce Murray, Bevan Guttormsen, Noel Hohenhaus, John Abbott and a very special mention to the excellent camera work of shed photographer Allan Johnson, his 'snaps' makes my job so much easier.

"Buy land, they're not making it anymore." Mark Twain



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Member News



Christmas Lunch 07 December 2017



Christmas Lunch 2017 at Carina Bowls Club, great cooks, great company, combined with roast pork, crackling, chicken, prawns & pavlova always a great recipe for success. Thanks Brian for another great Christmas lunch.



Member News -continued



Australia Day Lunch



Australia Day Lunch 26 January 2018 The renowned Slim Dusty Tribute band the "**Corrugated Shedders**" fronted by Bob, Adrian and George on guitars and the legendary master of "skiffle" Freddie Butler on the washboard entertained with two of Slim's classics "The Pub with No Beer" & "Love to Have A Beer with Daryl, Jim, Rex....." and the Aussie classic "Click go the Shears". The dinkum Aussie tucker of cheerios, meat pies and sausage rolls, followed by corn beef, damper, fruit salad and ice-cream and liquid refreshments was provided by the excellent teamwork in the kitchen by John Abbott, Adrian, Leo, Henry and Noel, a great effort by all.



Debbie Mulligan – "Men's Shed Survey" 29 January 2018

Debbie Mulligan from the University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba is visiting Men's Sheds and getting shed members to fill in a simple two page questionnaire about when and why they have joined a Men's shed and how it has impacted on their lives. Debbie is collecting this data to aid in her research on – How joining a Men's Shed - can contribute to great improvements in the mental and physical health outcomes for older men.

Dr. Matthew McLean "Working with your GP" 05 February 2018

East Brisbane GP, Dr. Matthew Mclean's presentation informed us that the three main killers for older men; prostate cancer, bowel cancer and melanoma, can all be prevented or best managed by early detection.

As we get older it is important to establish a long term doctor-patient relationship with your local GP, as they can schedule regular blood tests, skin checks and screening programs to detect and treat any developing health issues.



Member News continued



Woodworkers Tour 06 February 2018

John Coates the owner of the Woodworkers Company treated shed members Ross Coates, Mal Weier, Rex Gelfius, Alan Peiniger, Ray Carter, Gordon Bowler and Leo Flanigan to a behind the scenes tour of his joinery works. John has a passion for producing timber doors and windows using the traditional methods. The photo at right is 100 year old door press still being used today.

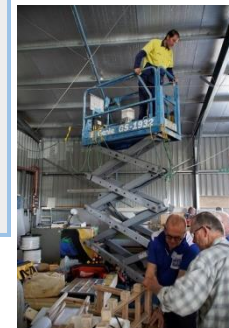


Our Shed's Year - 2017

Community Events Our shed participated in the Carina State School Fete, Morningside State School Fete, Men's Health Week Shed Open Day, Morningside Festival, Green Heart Fair, Morningside Markets, Stones Corner Twilight Markets. Thanks to our well-managed workshop production team we were able to maintain a supply of; cheese boards , toys, serviette holders, spiral trivets, hanging planters , leather and glass wares, jams and pickles to sell at our stalls. Two Bunnings BBQ's also helped to promote and raise funds for our shed.

Community Projects completed this year included; 4 Tepees for Child Minding centre, Pony Club Jumping Styles, Domestic Violence Figures, Boxes for Norman Park State School, Garden Chess Sets, 160 Business Card Holders, 40 timber Crosses for St Pauls Woodridge School, the carving of Wood signs for Reconciliation Gardens

Shed Improvements Solar panels & LED lighting installation. Dust extraction system design & installation. The "Sawstop" installation and testing. Paving and fencing BBQ area. Display boxes in the Rec-Room. The three newly formed special interest groups; Wine, Guitar and Glampers are all doing well.



Vale Alwyn "Al" Gerber



REPORT FROM CARINA MEN'S SHED FOR CHCWA AGM 2017

Shed membership continues to hover around a hundred, with a comfortable balance of new recruits and people moving on (unfortunately, including a number of deaths).

We continue to explore opportunities to extend our range of interests by tapping the diverse knowledge and skills of our members and the establishment of Common Interest Groups. Guitar and wine appreciation groups are the latest additions to the wide variety of interests in the Shed.

We plan to trial opening the shed on Saturday mornings in 2018 and we are also investigating the possibility of offering basic skills training packages to the public, for example, the use of woodworking hand tools as we have had some enquiries in this regard. We have had some enquiries from men who are still working so opening on Saturday morning will allow these men to become members and access the shed facilities.

The workshop continues to support the community with many projects completed throughout the year. The recreation room continues to accommodate its multi-functional demands: an inviting and convivial casual hangout for members and visitors, as well as being an excellent venue for our dedicated card players, drawing and art group and the guitar group. We've hosted several guest speakers, internal and external group meetings and special occasions (Australia Day and Melbourne Cup lunches).

With support from the Clem Jones Centre we have begun development of the area between our shed and the basketball court as an outdoor recreational area. We envisage this area progressing from a home for our BBQ to installation of outdoor furniture, elevated gardens, shade cloth and have recently applied for grants to achieve these objectives.

Realizing grants may not always be available our Marketing team has been very active this year displaying our wares at community, fairs and markets. This has also helped to raise our profile in the community.

The solar system and energy efficient LED lighting have now been installed at the shed.

Our fitness program for members continues - one hour of gym (cardio, strength, flexibility and balance) complemented by one hour in the pool (similar focus) each week. We have also been introduced to Pilates in the latter part of this year. For the second year in a row we entered a team in the Bridge to Brisbane 5 km walk event raising valuable funds for the shed. In spite of the demonstrable and acknowledged personal benefits, it's an ongoing challenge to motivate many of our blokes to move out of their comfort zone.

This year the Carindale PCYC Youth Shed Mentoring Program has received significant interest from many schools eager to include the program in their curriculum. The program is supported by PCYC Carindale, Rotary Carindale and Carina Men's Shed. Many male teenagers have passed through the program and reaped the benefits of simply spending time with positive adult male role models. Feedback from our members indicates they gain a lot of satisfaction out of helping these lads as well.

Our International Men's Health Week Open Day on the 17 June was very successful and International Men's Health Week will be a permanent part of our calendar from now on. We pride ourselves on being a community shed and the open day visitors were impressed with the variety of activities offered by our shed.

The Executive Committee has focused on governance this year completing the risk management review provided by CHCWA and undertaking a review of all its policies and procedures.

The President attended the AMSA (Australian Men's Shed Association) National Bi Annual Conference 29 September – 01 October 2017 at the Gold Coast and he gained some valuable information and contacts for the future.

Past President Mal Weier was elected as President of the Queensland Men's Shed Association on 16 November 2017. Mal was also made a Life Member of our shed and received a Queensland Day Award recently for his contribution to the men's shed movement.

Our members remain sincerely grateful to be a member of the Clem Jones "family", and acknowledge in particular the contribution of the Carina Leagues Club and the unwavering support of Steve Heald and his staff. We will continue to be on the lookout for opportunities to assist other members of this family.

Bob Ikin
President

CARINDALE PCYC - YOUTH SHED MENTORING PROGRAM - article provided by Kevin Searle

In 2013, the Rotary Club of Carindale approached PCYC Carindale with a sincere desire to support PCYC in delivering an ongoing and sustainable program that could involve Rotary members and PCYC working together to improve the lives of 'at risk' youth. The Branch Manager of PCYC Carindale, Sergeant David Beard, suggested the area required a purpose built facility whereby the PCYC could adapt the principles of the Men's Shed Association and apply them to youth. Sgt Beard had identified that some local youth were at risk as a result of fractured home lives and poor role modelling and could see such youth making poor life choices thus potentially ending up in correctional centres.

As a result of the funding from Rotary, PCYC, and Brisbane City Council the Carindale PCYC Youth Shed was able to be built and equipped, and the Youth Shed was officially opened in July 2015. A program was designed along the basis of what was happening at the local Carina Men's Shed and adapted to the PCYC Youth Shed. Sgt Beard saw great value in young males working together with adult males who could impart wisdom and knowledge around life skills to the youthful participants.

The Youth Shed Mentoring Program commenced in July 2015 with students from Whites Hill College attending outside of school hours. The young men would come and go depending on other commitments, but all the while working together with volunteers from PCYC Carindale, Queensland Police Service, Carina Men's Shed and Carindale Rotary. The participants learnt many wood working skills and built many wonderful items such as billy carts, park benches, wooden clocks, bar stools and work benches. In its first year, the program saw over 20 different youth attend, sometimes as many as twelve attending on the one day.

By 2017, the success of the program with Whites Hill students had received significant interest from many schools eager to include the "Youth Shed Mentoring Program" as part of their regular curriculum. This year(2017) alone, the PCYC Youth Shed Mentoring Program will facilitate groups of ten students from Whites Hill College, Brisbane Bayside College and Clairvaux Mackillop College. The program content is always subject to change to ensure a high level of interest and enthusiasm is maintained and to continue to meet the needs of the participants. This year, Sgt Beard introduced a cooking session within the program whereby one student is asked to set up the BBQ, prepare and cook the food, and then serve to his fellow mates at the end of the session. The meal is critiqued by the participants and volunteers which invokes positive and opinionated conversations amongst the group.

The hidden agenda to the program has always been to focus on modelling positive behaviours and hopefully change the poor behaviours previously being exhibited by the youth. By the end of each session, there are plenty of smiles and pats on the back for a great time shared.

As of today, many male teenagers have passed through the program and reaped the benefits of simply hanging out with positive adult male role models. Feedback from schools has been very positive and welcoming and could be considered as a helpful alternative and holistic approach to their student's education.

The continued support from all levels of Government, businesses and community groups is greatly appreciated as we continue to develop and grow this wonderful opportunity to improve the lives of young males in our community.



Member Profile

Bruce Hamwood Murray



I was born in Unley, South Australia in 1941 to Colin and Joyce Murray. I am the eldest of 4 children.

My parents ran a Physiotherapy business, health food shop and radio programme on health at that time and about 1946 they moved to Toowoomba, Queensland. The government changed their requirements on physiotherapy so we moved to a small crop farm and dairy at Russell Siding on the Toowoomba railway line near Helidon. I went to school at Helidon on the steam train and came home on McCaffertys bus. After 4 years we moved back to Toowoomba. I continued my schooling at East State School and Harristown State High School and 1 year at Gatton College.

In 1959 I accepted a motor mechanic apprenticeship with Falconer Motors, Ford Car, Tractor and farm machinery dealers in Toowoomba and the Darling Downs. Falconers as commonly called operated an "On the farm service". On completion of my apprenticeship of 5 years I became an A Grade qualified Diesel Motor Mechanic. I progressed to leading hand and then workshop foreman. Enjoyed many social activities with the Presbyterian Youth and was on the committee for 7 years which ran Shannon Park, a 200 bed Presbyterian camping facility. I was also on the Inter-Church Youth Council which helped to promote an understanding of different faiths in our society. I was on the Committee of Management and sang in the choir at St Stephens Presbyterian Church. I enjoyed being a member of Junior Farmers (Rural Youth) and did bag sewing at harvest time on a Jondaryan property, and 3 months a year enjoyed Highland Country Dancing classes.

Then I met my wife Jan through the Presbyterian Youth Group in Toowoomba. We married in September 1966 and moved to Goondiwindi where I was appointed service manager for a new dealership that Falconers had opened. We went to the Presbyterian Church where we became friendly with other newly married couples and kept busy in the church organisations. I was inducted and ordained as a Elder. We joined Rural Youth and helped with their fund raising activities (old time dances, local show entry, open air movie nights on a property, grew wheat in a paddock loaned to our group, tennis etc.)

We built a new home in 1968 and our daughter Helen Louise was born in 1969. We were very sad to leave Goondiwindi after 3 years, we then lived at Stafford North from December 1969 until June 1971. I worked for Ford Motor Company as a tractor assembly mechanic at Eagle Farm. As country people the call of the bush grew too strong so we moved to Dalby and back into the agricultural service industry.

I started work July 1971 at Napiers as their farm tractor mechanic and travelled far and wide from Dalby. Robert Bruce was born 1972. We worshipped at the Dalby Presbyterian Church and soon became involved with church, kindergarten, school, scouting, sport and other activities the children were involved with. I following the family tradition from Grandfather down enjoying Freemasonry going through the chair. I again became involved with the church camp facility at the Bunya Mountains which meant many trips to working bees etc. Meet up with some lovely people and formed close friendships. I left Napiers to work at Marcol Industries who were the IH dealers and became workshop foreman. The agricultural machinery industry suffered turbulent times so after 23 years working on farm machinery I joined the Toyota-Stihl dealer as a mechanic for a couple of years which lead to a lifestyle change and into the tour coach industry.

In 1985 we left Dalby and moved to Kingsthorpe to a new home on a small acreage in the hills between Toowoomba and Oakey. I was working for Peters Coaches in Oakey as mechanic and driver. My job was to service school buses and tour coaches and take paying passengers on many tours throughout Australia By now Helen had started her nursing career and Robert was still in High School. Jan joined the staff at Peters Coaches in 1986 and we successfully built their tour business.

I decided in 1992 to cease being a paid tourist and changed companies which would allow me to stay home. I worked for McCaffertys Coaches as a mechanic in Toowoomba. Jan left Peters Coaches in 1993 and started work with PAMarr Furniture Removals in Toowoomba. She was administration manager and her position moved to their Brisbane office in 2000. By this time McCaffertys had purchased Greyhound Coaches so I asked for a transfer to Brisbane. January 2001 we both were working in Brisbane. I joined two motor sport organisations which allowed me to be on the race track as a flag marshal and that lead me to be a communicator with race control. I did this for 10 years and truly loved being an official and the V8 supercars events.

Helen married Jeff Murray in August 1999 and Robert married Tanya Golden in March 2001. For a few years we were all in Brisbane. We decided after much deliberation to sell our home at Kingsthorpe in 2003 and bought a 3 bedroom townhouse in Tingalpa.

Bruce Murray's profile continues next page



Helen completed her physio nursing and general nursing training and then completed her Bachelor of Nursing at Griffith University. After a couple of years in Scotland Jeff and Helen returned to Brisbane and continued in IT. Lexie Rose Murray was born in 2008.

Robert did an electrical apprenticeship and is a qualified electrical contractor. Taya Lee Murray was born 2003 and Kirra Maree Murray was born 2005. In 2007 Rob, Tanya and the girls moved to Greenhill (Just south of Sarina) and are still residing there.

After 23 years in the coach industry I retired on medical grounds in 2005 and Jan retired in 2009 after 16 years with PAMarr Furniture Removals. Retirement has meant that we could travel this beautiful country with our caravan. In 2012 we travelled around Australia for 7 months and thoroughly loved the lifestyle. We had our caravan for 10 years and travelled many trips over the years.

In August 2015 I joined the Carina Men's Shed and enjoy the companionship. I help maintain our shed's equipment.. We joined the Glamping Group who organise 5 day trips with some couples taking caravans while others stay in cabins. We enjoy our time with this group as we are similar ages and have similar interests. Since 2011 we enjoy several winter months a year at Hervey Bay, house sitting.

September 2016 Jan and I celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary with a party for family and friends. Many compliments about our loving family and the good job they did organising our special day.

Our life now is very relaxed and we assist where possible with child minding our beautiful granddaughters and take an interest in their activities.

Yarns & Bush Poetry (sourced from - "A Yarn or Two" by Snow Pick)

THE POLE SITTER

There's a million funny stories, if you like humour and can smile,
And some sound quite authentic, from a bloke with a bit of style.
Now believe me, I have knocked around, and heard stories from the best,
Yarns from every walk of life, about the folks here in the West.

I've heard blokes say, they don't believe, these stories to be true,
But they have to start from somewhere, so I'll leave that up to you.
Now I'm motoring down the highway, heading out into the scrub,
Wondering just how far it was, before I'd find a pub.
I wasn't in a hurry, at least, I wasn't pushed for time,
So I'm sort of eyeing off the scenery, and this brand new power line,
It's the line of course that made me, sit down and write this yarn,
And, well if you don't believe it, it won't do me any harm.

I marvelled at these light poles, straight as sentries in a row,
And the cables strung between them, in never ending bows.
It was hot and dry and dusty, the gang had worked out here for weeks,
And tempers get a little tense, kind of brittle so to speak.
Well I noticed this here light pole, right away from all the rest,
And a bloke was sitting on the top, like a crow upon a nest.
Now I had to ask the reason, this pole was out of line,
And this bloke he says, "*Now listen mate, it ain't no fault of mine.*"

*"You see, we 'ad the job 'ere finished and this pole was lying there,
Sorta 'ad no use for it, not even for a spare."
So 'e says, "I asked the boss, what I'd do with this 'ere pole,
And I thought it crude and nasty, but I did as I was told."*

So if you see a liney, sitting up there on a pole,
Chances are he's got a nasty boss, and is doing what he's told.
'Oh to be the boss'.

Peter's Travel Tips (article provided by Peter Finch)

Trains and Backpacking

Train travel is similar to self-drive in that you have freedom to go when you want to, but again short holidays do not really allow for much freedom. As Australians only get visa free for 90 days in Europe it is hard to get longer stays.

Train travel in Japan, USA, Canada, UK & Europe is best done with a rail pass. In each area the types of pass are different, Japanese passes are for consecutive days of travel, whilst in Europe there are a number of days in a 2 month period. But in Europe you can choose a set number of countries and they must have a common border. You can also get better fares if there are 2 or more people traveling together at all times. USA & Canada passes are for regions, such as west coast or East coast. You can travel in most countries by train, but they don't all have passes, but in China you need to buy tickets there, or through an agency and collect them in China. The first thing you need to do is plan where you want to go, then get a map or a travel agent to put the trip into a logical order of places to be visited, so you don't keep back tracking.

In Europe you can only book seats around 90 days prior to travel, and you pass just gets you on a train, it is extra to pre book a seat, and as train travel is popular there, you will find yourself standing a lot if not pre booked. On the fast trains it is mandatory to pre book seats. There are several special tourist trains in Europe, and these also need to be pre booked. Like self-driving you need to carry money in some way, and again if you pre book trains or hotels you are locked into a schedule.

Having to carry your luggage and get it on & off trains is an issue, I remember in Canada we were getting off at a station that was not the terminus, and to get 3 suitcases, hand luggage & ourselves off within the time the train was stationary was almost a disaster. You may consider an overnight train, it saves on a hotel, but if you do not want to sit up in a seat, like on an aircraft, for many hours, then the cost of a sleeper can be as much as a hotel, and you miss out on the scenery. Getting to & from the station to a hotel may often incur a taxi at additional cost.

Sometimes a train is a good option, I am training from Venice to Rome on my holiday next month, and I purchased the tickets from **Italia Trains** online, easier than flying and about the same time allowing, for check in time, and time from the airport in Rome to my hotel. Train travel is a good option if you want to stop in a few places for a week or so and do day trips from the central point, by car or organised tours.

Backpacking, is great for young people on a working holiday, they have more time being on a 1 or 2 year working holiday visa. Whilst it is the most freestyle of holiday, on a short holiday you can spend a lot of time arranging travel, getting accommodation and sightseeing in each city, **however for us oldies you have to carry everything you take with you, not for me now I assure you.** This style of travel is not always safe, especially in some regions, if you plan on this style of holiday you should look at the Australian Government warning web site.

Again by staying in one place for some time and doing day or short trips from these stops is easier, you do not have to carry all of your luggage with you, leave it in left luggage at rail stations, or for day trips leave in your hotel. One of my daughters backpacked through China, but on arrival in each city booked day trips, I remember her saying due to language etc. most back packers gave up after a week or so.

Often you hear back packers say that are not tourists but travellers, I think this may be a way of making a hard way of travelling more attractive! Just my opinion.

This is all on styles of holidays; there are those of us that go on holiday to visit friends & relatives, in the industry they are referred to as VFR clients. They sometimes add in part of their holiday touring and any one of the options I have discussed are good for this.

Happy travelling!!

Quote of the Month

"Politicians and diapers must be changed often, and for the same reason." –Mark Twain

Grey Nomads Column European Holiday Part 1 - submitted by Peter Finch



We flew into **Zagreb, Croatia** (via Dubai) a day and a half before the tour started, and found the city easy to get around and we walked everywhere. Zagreb has been voted the safest Capital city in the EU. The city is famous for its coffee bars, which are everywhere, with proper cups and no rush; we sat in several and watched the world go by. Most of these coffee bars have snacks or full meals as well as beer & wine.

Croatia was not what I expected, clean and friendly with lots of Austrian style architecture, I was expecting Soviet style buildings, but none in sight. The tour included a morning walking tour of Zagreb, which in the 11th Century was two small villages, one the Catholic dominated one, still has the Cathedral and monastery, the other was a village of merchants and artisans. The villages were originally separated by a creek and often the two sides got into fights on the connecting bridge, so much so the bridge was known as the **Bloody Bridge**. Whilst the creek has been covered in and a lane has taken its place, the short walk from one of the original city gates is still called the **Bloody Street**.



Roman ruins Sarajevo (right next to our hotel)

cover now, again it was noticeable that the Muslim women don't wear the Hijab or any head covering, and never have in Bosnia.

From Sarajevo we went to Dubrovnik, a highlight of the tour. To get there we had to go through 3 border crossings, a coach takes about 30 minutes to get through these crossings, and there are normally two border checks, which if you are the 3rd coach in line means you can be stuck for over 2 hours. Our tour guide suggested on border crossing days we had an early start, breakfast at around 6.30am, but it made the crossing much easier with less time sitting stationary in a coach. A few hundred years ago the Ottoman's transferred a 24 km wide bit of land from Croatia to Bosnia, so Bosnia had a bit of coast, this meant we went from Bosnia to Croatia then back into Bosnia and then back into Croatia, Our early start and the fact that we only had to go through the border check with the country we were entering we got through reasonable quickly.

After 5 months of planning Lydia and I went on a 6 week holiday in Europe, and then I stayed on for 5 weeks to see my family and friends in England.

We started off with a **14 day coach tour of Croatia, Slovenia & Bosnia**, including a day trip to **Montenegro**. The tour was very relaxed, 3 two night stops and 1 three night stop, with 5 couples for the 1st 4 days and a further 5 couples for the rest of the tour. This meant that we could all have a window seat on the coach if we wanted to, as well as less time getting off and on the coach and checking into hotels. As it was a 40 person coach you could not be sure you would get the low number on any other tour or date.



Wall Art, Zagreb Market

From Zagreb we went to Sarajevo in Bosnia, what a change in scenery. In Croatia there was no evidence of the wars in the 1990's, but as soon as we crossed the border we saw many burnt out houses, the roof, window frames and doors all burnt and destroyed. In **Sarajevo** there are still many buildings with bullet holes, and the Cathedral has kept a part of the front wall with the bullet holes as a reminder. We were told by our city tour guide that 11,000 people were killed in the siege of the city, but people seemed happy and friendly. We were also told that before the war Muslims and Jews intermarried, the only state where this occurred, as well as intermarriage between all four religions, Catholic & Orthodox. It is an old city and was part of the Ottoman Empire, as was most of the Balkans until the Austria Hungarian Hapsburg Empire moved into Slovenia and Croatia. There is a small museum about the assassination of Arch Duke Ferdinand, the event that started World War 1. The Souk, Muslim market has been rebuilt, and is under

Dubrovnik is a great city, the old walled city has no transport in it, and many narrow cobbled streets. It is a very interesting city, and you can walk round on the walls, a charge is made for this. We opted to go on the cable



Dubrovnik (smoke from bushfires nearby)

car up the mountain, where we had a great view of the city, the red roofs and the layout; also a number of outside restaurants are up there. There was an optional evening cruise and dinner in a restaurant right on the beach, well more pebbles than sand but a great sun set. We had a day trip to **Montenegro**, again different to Croatia, with a cruise ship right in the centre of the city, many old churches and buildings and lots of restaurants.



Then it was off to **Split**, back in Croatia, a longer drive and more border crossings. The main attraction in Split was the ruins of Emperor Diocletian's Palace, built at the turn of the 4th century, only foundations and some rooms left now. He was the only Roman Emperor to live and to retire, the rest died of natural causes or in wars or by assassination.

A few hours' drive north of **Split** were the amazing **Plitvice Lakes**, 16 lakes down a hillside, a UN Heritage site, crystal clear water, and we walked down it was 1700 steps, with a boat across the largest lake. It was in August, the end of summer, but the waterfalls were still magnificent. We had two nights here, and it meant we had a full day to explore the lakes, I noticed some tour busses were there only for one night and the passengers only got to see the lower four lakes.



Plitvice Lake Waterfall



Diocletian's Palace. Split

We then crossed into Slovenia and stopped at **Lake Bled**, very picturesque, a lake with the church on an Island and a castle overlooking the lake. I had wanted to visit Bled ever since 1962, when I was on holiday in southern Austria, due to working for the United Kingdom Atomic Energy

Authority; I could not visit a Communist country. It was worth the 55 years wait. A side day trip to **Ljubljana** was interesting but could have had a bit longer there, but again a very clean and friendly city.

Next stop was **Venice** our hotel was a 16th Century Monastery a very interesting building across the canal from St Mark's Square. There was a free launch across to the square. The 3rd and last optional tour was a Gondola half hour cruise. With our own singer and musician on a squeeze box, we were the only Gondola with this entertainment. So ended a great tour, after the farewell dinner we all sat in the old Monastery's garden to very late with several bottles of Italian wines drunk.

We then trained to Rome and had two days there, and went into St Paul's; I had purchased on line entry tickets that got us in ahead of the line of people. If anyone is going to Rome go to this web site: **vox mundi**, well worth it. We did a full day tour, again booked on line, to Sienna and San Giamano, there was only one other couple on the tour, so we went in a seven seat vehicle with driver and tour guide. We had very leisurely walking tours of both cities and ended up with lunch and a wine tasting at a Tuscany winery.

Next issue of "Nuts & Bolts" will include "European Holiday- Part 2" (Mediterranean Cruise & Self Drive Trip of England)

Local History Corner



Belmont Tramway, Opening (John Oxley Library - Image 149900)

In 1912 the Belmont Flyer (a locomotive with two carriages) commenced operation. This branch line ran from Norman Park, up to and around Skyline Drive to the, current Ferguson Rd roundabout opposite Camp Hill Bowls Club, then crossed Perth Street and on to the junction of Halland Terrace and Wiles Street.

It then cut across the school reserve (the site of the current Camp Hill Junior School), to Little Ferguson Road then proceeded along Old Cleveland Road to the terminus located close to the site of the Belmont Public House and the wool scouring works on Bulimba Creek.

At the end of the journey the train would be turned around on a rise to the left of Old Cleveland Road outbound. The train would stop at any of the tiny stations along the way including Seven Hills, Mt Bruce, City View, Mayfield, Carina, and Belmont. The fares varied from about one penny to threepence (1 to 2cents) with rarely more than one hundred passengers a day. Word has it that at the end of the day on the last train back to South Brisbane, the crew would stop at Glindeman's Dairy for a cup of tea, much to the irritation and frustration of the passengers who just had to wait.

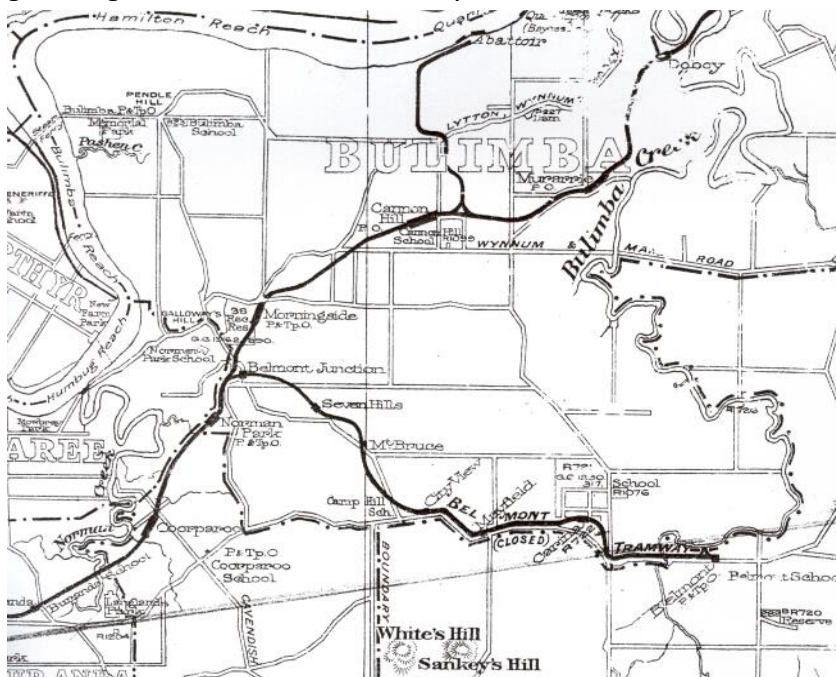
Owned by the Belmont Shire Council, the railway line was some 6.2kilometres (4miles) long and cost around \$40 000 (£20 000) to build. Constructed against the advice of the Commissioner of Railways, the line was actually called the Belmont Tramway, effectively by-passing a regulation preventing local Shire Councils from operating railways.

It was expensive to operate and services were suspended in 1915, at which time the Shire's tram and carriages were sold. The line was reopened due to local agitation and was operated by Queensland Railways on behalf of the Shire until 16 April 1924, when services were again suspended due to the condition of the bridges, the Shire Council asked the Railways Department to take over the Flyer but the request was rejected.

However, the people succeeded in having the route reopened in May 1925 but time and white ants had wreaked havoc. When the Greater Brisbane Council was formed, it swallowed up the Belmont Shire but the council was not interested in running the tramway at a loss and permanently closed the line in October 1926. When the electric tram route 06 (Valley – Belmont) was built in 1948, the Old Cleveland Road section was laid over the track bed of original alignment of the "Belmont Flyer".



"Belmont Flyer" - (John Oxley Library-Image 163191)



Editor's Note

The sources for this article were the Camp Hill State School website and Wikipedia.

Looking for Shed Member's Old Photos

If any shed members have old photos of themselves when they were younger, like standing next to your first car, or on a family camping trip, or maybe a night out at Cloudland or church dance, or your first motor bike, or the first fish you caught.

I can scan the photos and put them in Nuts & Bolts and you can supply a yarn to go with the photo, or I can put it in as a 'Guess who Quiz' Could be a lot of fun!!

Stephan Family Saga – Conclusion

Noel's great-grandparents Freidrick & Anna Stephan migrated from Germany to Queensland in 1877 and started farming in the Fassifern valley. Freidrick's second eldest son Carl soon left home aged 17 and took up 80 acres to farm nearby in Templin. In 1880 he married Johanna and over the next 33 years while farming their land they managed to raise a family that eventually grew to 22 children, 12 sons and 10 daughters all single births and all surviving to adulthood. The Stephan family is recognised as being the largest in Australia and is mentioned in the Guinness Book of Records.

Noel's Great Grandparents Freidrick & Anna Stephan arrived in Queensland from Germany in 1877



1823 - 1926



1831 - 1905

In 1948 a reunion of the 22 Stephan siblings was held in Ipswich and about 150 of the estimated 300 descendants at that time attended.

In 1980 a reunion of the nine still living Stephan siblings and their descendants was held at the Boonah showgrounds. Noel's mum (79) and her 3 sisters and 5 brothers were able to ride in the original 100 year old dray used by Carl, which was still in excellent condition. About 850 of the 1009 descendants attended this reunion.

By time of 2001 reunion the number of descendants was around 1935.

Noel's Grandparents Carl & Johanna Stephan were married in 1880 and raised a family of 22 children



1863 - 1926

1860 - 1923

In summing up let me say that I am very proud to be a sibling of the Stephan family of 1935 descendants as at the year 2001. Some die some are born so the number remains stable. I am very proud of my mother Emma (the 16th child of Carl & Johanna) born in 1901, for what she taught me and the family history and knowledge she passed onto me.

I was able to be part of the reunions at Ipswich in 1948, and at the Boonah showgrounds in 1980 & 2001 when a lot of further history was learned from relations. It was at the 2001 reunion that my cousin Therese from New Zealand and myself decided that we would put pen to paper the history of the Stephan family and record it in book form. We gave ourselves 12 months to complete which we did, Therese would compile the family history from Germany through internet and other means, while I would do the Australian connections. By contacting a member of that next generation, they gave to me life history of their father or mother, wedding photos, marriage dates, death dates, many other photos and lists of their children, marriages and their siblings, as of now numbered at around 1935. We were able to distribute 165 history books into this generation's descendants of the 22 children of Carl & Johanna Stephan our book consists of 195 pages. Undoubtedly many other families of that era faced many uncertainties and hardships also and coped very well.

Thanks be to god for our forefathers.
I trust you have; enjoyed reading the series.

Noel Hohenhaus.

The 9 surviving Stephan siblings at the 1980 reunion



Harrv & Emma's mob 1980 reunion. Noel in back row



2001 - Reunion of Stephan family descendants at Boonah Showgrounds



100 year old original Stephan dray used, 1980 reunion.

Health & Welfare Corner- Some timely safety advice for fellow shed members when you're out & about this summer, concerning the inherent dangers of plastic outdoor furniture.

Entrapment by Bill Kearnes

Trevor's on a mission to Consumer Affairs
trying to get a ban on plastic stacker chairs.
He reckons that they're dangerous, a serious threat to life
Cos it was through a plastic chair, that he got into strife.

It was at the Tamworth Festival, a concert in the park
Trev and Ken were there, with gear to last them until dark.
An esky full of coldies, Trev was without a care-
Stubbies, thongs and t-shirt, on his plastic stacker chair.

But as he stretched his legs out, his left crown jewel rolled free
and dropped through the chair seat, a real catastrophe.
But Trev remained unaware of his dire situation,
until they gave the singer, a standing ovation.

As Trev rose to his feet he gave a fearsome yell,
Cos tethered to his testicle,
The chair came up as well.

He grabbed the chair with both hands as he crashed back to the ground,
But the errant family jewel was well and truly stuck, he quickly found
He tried to extract the enclosed cod but he began to curse
Cos nothing he did seemed to work, it only made things worse.

Trev's mate Ken was laughing fit to go right off his brain,
Ken's tears were from laughter but Trev's were from real pain.

Ken produced a Stanley knife and Trev's mouth went dry,
He said "I'll only cut the chair" but Trev wouldn't let him try.
Well Ken climbed underneath the chair and tried to poke things through,
It's times like these when you find out, what your mates will really do.

They pulled and poked and prodded but all efforts were in vain
Trevor's nut was red and raw and giving heaps of pain
All this unwanted attention was no good you realise,
Trevor's tortured testicle swelled to twice its normal size.

Well the word spread quickly through out the Park,
And people tried to get a glimpse of Trev's threatened castration.
Mums and Dads and kids and dogs of every age-
Trev got more attention than the singer on the stage.

Little kids were pointing, dogs were trying to have a smell,
And Trevor, trying to cover up, said "Go to Bloody Hell"!
"Poor bloke needs an ice pack" was the only good advice,
So they sat Trevor over his esky, with his agate in the ice!

Someone called an ambulance, and they drove through the crowd,
Trev was drinking Bundy rum, and swearing very loud.
When the ambos stopped laughing they carted Trev away,
to the hospital where he was the highlight of the day.

Well Trevor's now recovered, with both crown jewels in place,
But don't offer him a plastic chair if you truly value your face.
And next year at the Festival Trevor will be there,
Wearing tight undies and long trousers, on his canvas fold-out chair.

Puzzles Jokes & Trivia



"Waiter... there's a hair in my soup!"

Age in Perspective!

Have you ever been guilty of looking at others around your own age and thinking, surely I can't look that old?

My name is Alice Smith and I was sitting in the waiting room for my first appointment with a new dentist. I noticed his dental diploma, which bore his full name, suddenly, I remembered a tall, handsome, dark haired boy with the same name had been in my secondary school class some 30-odd years ago.

Could he be the same guy that I had a secret crush on, way back then? Upon seeing him, however, I quickly discarded any such thought, this balding, grey haired man with the deeply lined face was far too old to have been my classmate. After he examined my teeth, I asked him if he had attended Morgan Park high school.

'Yes, yes I did' he said, beaming with pride, 'When did you leave to go to university?' I asked. He answered: 'in 1965, why do you ask?'

'You were in my class!' I exclaimed.

He looked at me closely. Then the **ugly, old, bald, wrinkled, fat arsed, grey haired, decrepit, bastard** asked..

'WHAT SUBJECT DID YOU TEACH?' ...

Submitted by John Abbott

Rescuing Hug

This is a picture from an article called "The Rescuing Hug". The article details the first week of life of a set of twins. Apparently, each were in their respective incubators, and one was not expected to live. A hospital nurse fought against the hospital rules and placed the babies in one incubator. When they were placed together, the healthier of the two threw an arm over her sister in an endearing embrace. The smaller baby's heart rate stabilized and her temperature rose to normal.

Let us not forget to embrace those whom we love.



Beer Drinker Quotes

One night on *Cheers*, a TV Sitcom, Cliff Clavin said to his buddy, Norm Peterson:

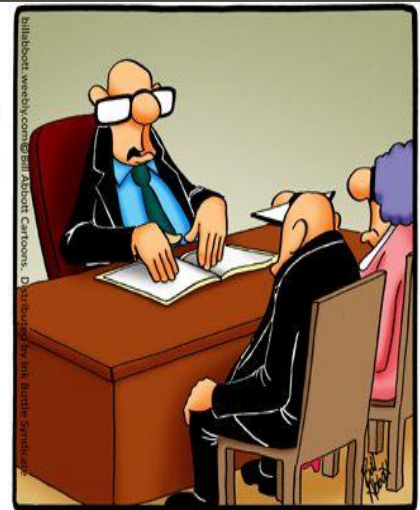
"Well, ya see, Norm, it's like this ... A herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo. And when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones at the back that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the speed and the general health of the whole group, keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members.

In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Excessive intake of alcohol, as we know, kills brain cells. But, naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine. That's why you always feel smarter after a few beers".





Cartoons below submitted by Bob Ikin



"I've crunched the numbers in your retirement account. It's time to figure out who will be wearing the mask and who will be driving the getaway car."



"Your insurance will cover either the vasectomy or the anesthetic. Your call."



"How do you know this isn't the button for the nurses' station?"

The Aisle, the Altar, the Hymn

Through the ages, men have been trying to unlock this mystery:

Why do their wives, who accept them just as they are before they get married, begin the quest to change their behaviour and life-style once their vows are exchanged?

Finally, the riddle is solved.

A social-scientist has arrived at this simple and logical explanation. When the bride, accompanied by her father, starts to walk slowly down the long aisle, she sees the altar at the end and hears the choir singing a hymn. Walking down the aisle, the conditioning process starts where the brain absorbs these three stimuli:

Aisle, altar, and hymn.

She becomes mesmerized as she continually reinforces these perceptions:

Aisle, altar, hymn.....Aisle, altar, hymn.....Aisle, altar, hymn.

And finally, as she stops beside the groom, the conditioning process is complete. She looks up at him smiling sweetly and keeps saying to herself:

'I'll alter him!'

HERE ENDETH THE LESSON

Submitted by Bevan Guttormsen