



Bunbury Men's Shed Inc

ABN:48 300 538 034

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2026

Welcome to the Bunbury Men's Shed Occasional Newsletter.

The aim is to produce a monthly Newsletter which will attempt to summarise the significant immediate past events that have occurred at both the Shed and Frankel Street and hopefully, the planned events for the upcoming month that will take place at both sites.

To achieve this goal, the occasional editor of the Newsletter will rely on information provided by the Shed Committee and the members of the Shed. So, if you are aware of a project that is underway or planned that deserves a mention, please let one of the editorial team know.

At present the editorial team comprises the Secretary, John Brigden, and Committee members, Murray Hawker, Kim Rudd, and Chris Parr.

FRANKEL STREET SALE NEXT SATURDAY 13th June.

Come along and give the hard-working Peter Blowfield, John Brigdon and Clark Ward plus many others, a hand to move the goods on sale. Last month sales from Frankel Street contributed more than \$1,500 to the Shed coffers. These funds help to pay for Max's Morning Tea Feasts every Tuesday, as well as other day to day expenses for all Shed member's benefit.

SOCIAL DAY TODAY FRIDAY 5TH June

Ian Rotherham has organised a speaker who can show us how to make our dollars stretch further.

"Who doesn't need to stretch our dollar further when the price of what we buy is rising and eating into our wallets.

"Even if you only get one useful tip for yourself or your family it's worth the price of admission. Oh, that's right it's **FREE**.

And here's a question our speaker might ask you all: Do you know where 95% of your hard-earned goes? You've had a week to think about it: so make sure you're not caught out.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

This month has seen the complete restoration of the bench in the garden adjacent to the Shed.

Originally dedicated to the Memory of Robin Malatesta, the bench has been slowly returning to the earth, when it was noticed by members of Bunbury Men's Shed. The amazing restoration work was completed by Pat Cain and Don Robertson.



Thank you to Pat and Don for your own dedication to the work on this bench.

ANOTHER SPECIAL PROJECT

Norm Blackburn recently donated a 2014 Skoda wagon to the Shed. Kim Rudd worked on the car to rectify the various issues and was ably assisted by Alan Norman, and other members of the Shed. The car was recently sold to a bunch of European backpackers for \$2500.



A Note from Men's Sheds WA

This month brings **Men's Health Week (15-21 June)**, a chance to shine a light on the importance of regular check-ups and early detection. A quick check can save a lot of trouble down the track. You wouldn't skip your car service, don't skip yours. Let's encourage mates to go to their GP.

For more information check out the recent Men's Shed Health and Health Bulletin sent to your inbox last week. Copies are available at the Shed. **ASK SOMEONE**

VOLUNTEER HELPERS

We understand that Frank Blocksidge and Laurie have been working with Sam Campassi on a Wednesday to help him gain some of the skills that these two legends have developed over a lifetime of metal work. Thank you Laurie and Frank.



SHED MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Murray Hawker

Some words from Murray:

I was born in Mt Barker West Australia on the 29 August 1949. My parents ran a small 300-acre farm and a contract bulldozing business.

When not wandering the surrounding bush, my young life was spent attending the Kendenup primary school followed by the Mt Barker High School and then the Denmark Agricultural College at which I was fortunate enough to graduate as dux.

My employment included farmwork, shearing shed work and work at home helping to develop my parent's farm.

My outside pursuits were mainly speedway and golf.

I completed my national service obligation and was accepted into the WA Police Force. It was while in the police service that I successfully applied for 2500 acres of conditional purchase bushland adjacent to my father's farm. I gave up policing and returned to farming.

During this time, I was fortunate enough to meet and subsequently marry my wife Jannine who came to Kendenup to teach at the local school.

In 1978 I accepted a position in Iraq as the Farm Manager of several properties totalling 40,000 acres to improve their farming yields. This meant moving to Iraq with my wife and family. My wife had our third child in

Iraq and while we were there the Iraq Iran War commenced which provided us with some unwelcome moments.

Returning to our farm in Kendenup Jannine and I resumed our lives. I was successful in gaining a seat on the Plantagenet Shire Council which I held till we moved to Bunbury. I was a keen member of Apex during our years in Kendenup and was privileged to be awarded a Life Membership upon reaching the compulsory leaving age of forty.

In 1990 Jannine and I purchased the BILLO Supermarket in the Minninup Forum which we rebadged into Farmer Jacks.

This business was successfully resurrected before selling in 1997.

I then purchased the Termi Mesh franchise and operated this for several years before selling it to my senior installer who still operates the business today.

Our final venture was in partnership with a close friend with whom we purchased a 3000-acre farm near Geraldton that needed improvement and set about transforming it. This was achieved and sold.

We have been fortunate to have taken the opportunity to travel throughout Australia firstly by camper trailer and more recently by caravan.

My wife and I now are enjoying our retirement living close to our family and grandchildren.

MENS SHEDS OF WA DEMONSTRATIONS



Graham MacKella, Shed Development Officer from Men's Shed WA at the band saw demonstration last Tuesday 2 June with an enthusiastic crowd.

Now that Graham is on board we should have more of these sessions.

Planning a trip away; here's the answer.....

My Wife just put up a World Map, gave me a dart and said, "Throw this and wherever it lands, that is where we are going on Vacation" Turns out we are spending a week behind the refrigerator!

We also have Google Earth available at the shed so that we can visit any in the world and have it displayed on our TV. This includes Street View.

Thanks to Chris Morris for producing this newsletter. Please provide feedback on what you want in it.

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chairman Ray Williams

Secretary John Brigdon

Treasurer Steve Cliff

Past Chairman Kim Rudd

Member Rep Frank Blocksidge

Member Rep Ray Stewart

Member Rep Peter Blowfield

Member Rep Tom Smith

Member Rep Murray Hawker

Member Rep Christopher Parr

Member Rep Ian Rotheram