



MALENY MEN'S SHED Inc NEWSLETTER



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Newsletter # 9 – December 2017

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FROM THE PRESIDENT: PETER FITZGIBBON



So with the passing of another busy year, we find ourselves on the eve of welcoming 2018 and look forward to tackling all the twists, turns and challenges that may present themselves in the year ahead. But all these 'issues' fade into insignificance during the holiday period, with Christmas functions to attend, family visits and the inevitable shopping sojourns.

Christmas Party

Another well attended Christmas get-together by members, family and invited guests. A special thanks goes out to Andrew Wallace, Alaina, Jenny (standing in for Andrew Powell) and Rev Catherine who in their busy schedules made time to attend the function. Catherine, who is a big supporter of the Men's Shed, performed a short blessing before feasting commenced.



A hearty thanks must go to Glenn and his Men's Shed helpers and the ladies who provided additional delicious goods and served. Mind you the ladies would say that the men supported them, but whichever way you address the issue they all contributed to providing an excellent do; so thank you Heather, Coral, Sharon and Marie.

Dementia Info Session

During November we had the pleasure of hosting Lorrae and Vince who discussed dementia, the journey for those afflicted.



Model Railway Visit

We had a well-attended model railway day visiting local model and steam layouts. Sharon provided an extremely comprehensive smoko that prompted one member to comment 'the model railways were OK, but the food was fantastic'! The 'way to a man's heart'.



I would like to extend a special thanks to all our committee members and those who have stepped up and volunteered to make our shed a successful operation. Although we are deemed to be a 'Men's' organization we could not function without the support of partners and wives. They provide 'behind-the-scene' encouragement, cooking treats for smoko and a much-appreciated physical presence at functions, without their input we would have struggled.

So with the festive season well on it's way I'd like to wish all our members and their families a safe, merry Christmas and a very happy and prosperous New Year. I hope Santa brings you all the new tools that were on your wish list. Enjoy the festive break and see you back at the shed in the New Year.



Upcoming Event: 25 December

Christmas Breakfast at the Neighbourhood Centre

Join those at the Neighbourhood Centre for breakfast, or if you can spare a small amount of your time volunteer to help to make everyone's Christmas a little bit merrier.

FROM THE SMITHY: KEN SCOTT

Working Iron: A Primer on Blacksmithing Darren Bush | July 14, 2011

150 years ago most census records showed that a fifth of the respondents listed their occupation as blacksmith, including my 3rd great-grandfather, Roger Farrer. I don't know



what Grampa Farrer fabricated every day, but if he was like most smiths, he was making everything. Horseshoes were a small part of the job. He was more likely fabricating or repairing a farm implement, making hardware like hinges or pulleys, or even something as mundane as nails. The box of nails we buy at the hardware store for a few dollars were once made one at a time – by hand. Visit a living history site and there will be a crowd around the blacksmith. It pulls people in...How does he do that?

The methods Grampa Farrer used are essentially unchanged. I call them the

Three H's: Heating, Holding and Hitting.

Many blacksmiths still use coal, and there are good reasons for it. You can get fast heats, and a skilled smith can manipulate the heat along a long piece of steel. The downside is that coal is dirty, which is fine if you have a detached shop. I use propane because it's clean, relatively inexpensive, and the neighbours downwind don't need respirators.

"How hot does it get?"

Very hot, 760 degrees, C. I can make it hotter or colder, but I usually keep it right around there. Welding heat and tool steel can require more heat.

When working with hot steel, the best analogy I've used is that metal becomes a lot like clay when heated. Your job is to shape it like you would clay. To make things long and skinny, you can grab a piece of clay and stretch it. Unfortunately, it takes a bit more work than that to stretch a piece of metal. You use basic forces to move your metal. To make a long, skinny piece out of a short fat piece, you squeeze the sides of the metal by turning the work as you hit.

FROM THE ENGINEERS: LAWRIE ABRAHAMSON



With the Men's Shed Christmas Lunch behind us, and the daylight hours lengthening, our focus becomes less on work and more on family, friends and socialising.

The Christmas lunch went down a treat and many thanks to the organisers and helpers. It was a golden opportunity to chat with folk we had not met before and smile with the special invited guests in a very relaxed atmosphere.

The above photo was taken this year to record our mate Don holding a conference with fellow 'Shedders'. True to Don's management style he has the presence of mind to have Col the Treasurer present. 'Onya Donald'

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, Lawrie

FROM THE WOODWORKERS: WARNE WILSON

It was good to welcome back Harry Malcher and Wally Stowe after extended bouts in hospital, both are into making sawdust and shavings again.

Ashley Williams is in the finishing stages of his antique dining table restoration; new timber has replaced warped pieces, sanding is complete and, given Ashley's years of experience in finishing, we are looking forward to a stunning result.

The Men's Shed Christmas tree has taken its place in the Uniting Church with some forty others from Maleny organisations on Friday 15th, ready for the official opening on Saturday 16th. Our innovative tree this year will draw a lot of attention; please make an effort to call in – see the ad below in this issue for opening times.

Roy Brown and Dennis Hensby have worked hard to cut down an enormous bench given to us by the Maleny Lattice Factory which has closed down, to produce a large solid workbench for us, topped with 19mm ply. This is in use already and it will take its place very well when we get our new shed.

Dennis has also been working on a display board for Peter Fitz's members' photos. John Taylor has improved and repositioned a rack to display our many and varied screwdrivers to make it more convenient for our very active woodies who always seem to be looking for the right driver to screw or unscrew something. We have accepted a challenge to make a large piece of cedar furniture in the New Year. This will provide a great example of the skills the woodworkers have developed.

FROM THE GARDENERS: CLIVE POWELL

Compost – Black gold!



Compost energizes the soil food web, which is made up of microscopic bacteria and fungi, along with earthworms, crickets, and many other life forms. Many fungi form symbiotic, or mutually rewarding, partnerships with plant roots, making it possible for vegetables, flowers and shrubs to feed themselves more efficiently. Research shows that compost enhances the ability of tomatoes and other vegetables to stand up to common diseases and may improve their flavor and nutrition, too. Compost also helps the soil

retain moisture. Composting enhances a garden's ability to grow healthy plants while reducing rubbish and land fill.

What Is the Difference Between Compost and Fertilizer?

The simplest way to distinguish between compost and fertilizer is to remember this: Compost feeds the soil and fertilizer feeds the plants. Fertilizer adds to the soil's nutrient supply, but instead of feeding the soil food web, the ingredients in fertilizers are intended to meet the needs of fast-growing plants. While recommended amounts of compost can be quite general, fertilizer application rates are based on the needs of plants. Either organic or conventional fertilizers work well for vegetables, but organic fertilizers have been shown to be friendlier to the soil food web. Chemical fertilizer can also feed composting, but continual use may throw soil chemistry out of balance and discourage microbes.

FROM THE COMPUTER CLASSES: DENNIS HENSBY



Accessories: Many people like to accessorise their 'stuff', be that a car, a house, or a computer. PCs are built modular, which is probably the single design feature that ensured success beyond the wildest dreams of IBM, the creator of the PC. The upshot is that there are a myriad of accessories available, often at very good prices, and, because of the modular design, pretty much any accessory works with just about any PC, desktop or laptop.

So what can you get? The first accessory you should have is a printer, but since these are well understood, I won't go into the huge range here.

There is a formidable range of speakers available (\$10-\$1200). Since PCs usually don't come with them, speakers are usually a must for desktop PCs. Laptops come with tiny inbuilt speakers. Even fairly cheap external speakers can provide a better sound than the tiny (tinny?) laptop speakers. You can get a pair of acceptable speakers for less than \$50.

For laptops, the most popular add-on is a separate mouse - wired or wireless. A separate mouse duplicates the functionality of the inbuilt trackpad and again is well understood. Did you know you can also purchase a larger separate monitor (\$150-\$3,000) for your laptop if you want a bit more screen area at home? Naturally, you probably wouldn't take this with you when you travel.

USB – Universal Serial Bus (the words Serial and Bus are unimportant in this discussion). The point is that those little rectangular holes (ports) in your computer case are designed to universally connect a range of different devices to the inner workings of your computer. Most computer users now know about USB memory sticks, also called flash drives (\$10-\$100, depending on memory size). You can also buy USB extension cables of various lengths (\$5-\$25) if you want to position a USB device a little further away from your computer, e.g. a printer.

When a memory stick doesn't have the capacity for the job you can buy a bigger one, or an external hard disk (1Tb for around \$70, 2Tb for \$100 or 3Tb for \$130) that connects via a USB cable. As a matter of fact, USB Hard Disks are great for moving files around or doing backups – you are backing up regularly, aren't you?

You can purchase a USB hub for around \$15. This device usually has 4 USB ports and a short cable that plugs into one of your existing USB ports, turning a single USB connection into 4 connections.

What about all those little memory cards you use in your camera or mobile phone? Yes, you can get a card reader (\$5-\$20) to plug into a USB port. These matchbox sized devices vary in design a fair bit but basically they provide a number of card slots that will take the common sized memory cards and allow your computer to read files directly off the memory card. Make sure you get one that takes your type of memory card.

Some laptops have an inbuilt DVD player and some don't. If you need one, you can buy a portable DVD player/burner that connects into a USB port, for \$40-\$100.

There are also other specialist devices available, bar code readers for example, but I believe I have covered the most useful ones. If you want something unusual, try googling it.

From the Historical Society: Desley Malone Ph 0428 942 288

A Federal Grant that I applied for months ago from the Stronger Communities Programme has been successful. This grant will enable us to refurbish 2 rooms in Lawley House. One room will display the history of Maleny's timber industry. It'll include Ashley Sewell's collection of every hardwood timber in Queensland. The other room will tell the story of Maleny's Dairy Industry. The curators of Lawley House are Clive and Tom.

Thanks to Clive Powell for the signs displayed around the Village.

The Council's Building Certifier, Bruce Milgate, inspected Glenferna and has signed off on the project. Last month the house was prewired and the archives, office and verandahs have been insulated. The sheeting is next to be done. Doors have been installed, walls boarded up, rooms and doors painted. Progress has been outstanding and I thank the volunteers, including Ed, Bernie, Clive and Tom for the many hours that they continue to put into this project.

The Society has a Facebook Page. It now has almost 1,700 people who have liked the page and is the largest FB group in the Sunshine Coast Cultural Heritage network. It's a great way to learn who helped make Maleny what it is today and see lots of old and new photos. There's almost 60 albums of photos; guaranteed to keep you entertained and busy.

You need to join Facebook to visit this site and please, like the page if you enjoy it.

<https://www.facebook.com/historicalsocietymaleny/>

The Sunshine Coast Council has announced that the grant application for the Regional Collections Support Program has been successful and has received funding to the amount of \$7,500.00. This will enable us to purchase a compactor, archival storage boxes, and an air quality control unit to store Maleny's history according to Museum Standards. A lovely Christmas gift for Glenferna; our Pioneer Village and the Maleny community to preserve Maleny's History.



Andrew Wallace MP inspecting Glenferna after the Christmas lunch with Desley and Tom Malone.

Andrew was a builder, then he became a construction lawyer for builders before becoming a MP. He appreciates the work that's been done on Glenferna and has offered his full support for the completion of the project.

Woolies Barbeque Roster

Sat 23 Dec – Ric Townsend, Ashley Williams, Harry Malcher

Sat 6 Jan – Peter Allom, Lawrie Abrahamson, Glenn Todd

Sat 20 Jan – Peter Fitzgibbon, Kevin Howell, Keith Sherwood

Sat 3 Feb – Clive Powell, Roy Brown, Richard Lee

MALENY UNITING CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL OPEN TIMES

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

DISPLAY TIMES:

December

- 16 Saturday 10 am - 8 pm
Official Opening 4 - 5 pm
17 Sunday 12 - 4 pm
18 - 22 2 - 8 pm
23 Saturday 10 am - 8 pm
24 Sunday 10 am - 7 pm
Christmas Eve Service 7 pm
25 Christmas Day 8 am
Other times by appointment
ph 0409 268 665

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CREATIVE &
INSPIRING
CHRISTMAS
TREES

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1290 Maleny Landsborough Rd

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All donations go to Range Care



A community project of the Maleny Uniting Church

www.malenyuniting.com.au or find us on Facebook

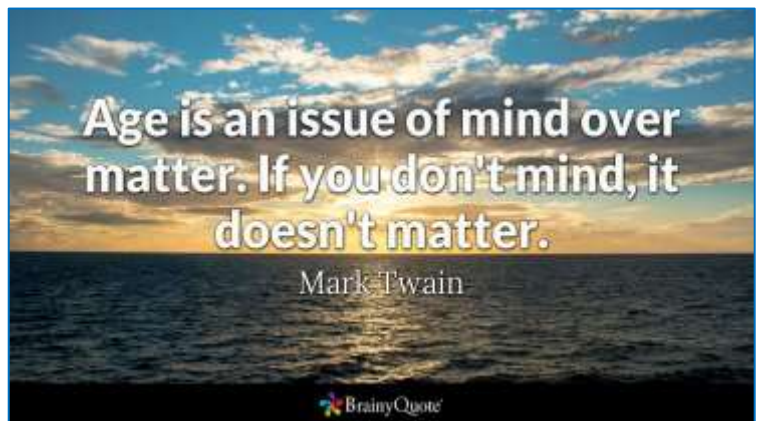




Upcoming Community Events – 2017/18

- DECEMBER 15-25** Maleny Christmas Tree Festival “The Colours of Christmas” at the Maleny Uniting Church, 1290 Maleny Landsborough Road
- DECEMBER 25** Maleny Community Christmas Breakfast
Maleny Neighbourhood Centre
- DECEMBER 31** New Year’s Eve Bash, Witta Sports Ground
- JANUARY 26 7am-12noon** Citizens Ceremony and Aussie Day Expo, Maleny Showgrounds

To include information in this events list simply email to denvergail1@gmail.com



I do not understand where the backing of Bitcoin is coming from. There is no fundamental issue of capabilities of repaying it in anything which is universally acceptable, which is either intrinsic value of the currency or the credit or trust of the individual who is issuing the money, whether it's a government or an individual.

Alan Greenspan

HE'S TAKEN OUT HIS PAPERS

He's taken out his papers, an' he's just like you an' me.

He's sworn to love our country an' die for it, says he.

*An' he's done with sheiks an' princes, an' he's done with kings an' queens,
An' he's pledged himself to freedom, for he knows what freedom means.*

*He's bought himself a bit of ground, an', Lord, he's proud an' glad!
For in the land he came from that is what he never had.*

*Now his kids can beat his writin', an' they're readin' books, says he,
That the children in his country never get a chance to see.*

He's taken out his papers, an' he's prouder than a king:

*'It means a lot to me,' says he, 'just like the breath o' spring,
For a new life lies before us; we've got hope an' faith an' cheer;
We can face the future bravely, an' our kids don't need to fear.'*

He's taken out his papers, an' his step is light to-day,

For a load is off his shoulders an' he treads an easier way;

*An' he'll tell you, if you ask him, so that you can understand,
Just what freedom means to people who have known some other land.*

Edgar Albert Guest 1881 - 1959

A rabbi and a priest are driving along when they crash into each other. Both cars are totally demolished, but, amazingly, neither of them is hurt. After they crawl out of their cars, the rabbi sees the priest's collar and says: "So you're a priest. I'm a rabbi. Just look at our cars. There's nothing left, but we are unhurt. This must be a sign from God. God must have meant that we should meet and be friends and live together in peace the rest of our days."

The priest replies: "I agree with you completely. This must be a sign from God."

The rabbi continues: "And look at this. Here's another miracle. My car is completely demolished but this bottle of wine didn't break. Surely God wants us to drink this wine and celebrate our good fortune." Then he hands the bottle to the priest.

The priest agrees, takes a few big swigs, and hands the bottle back to the rabbi. The rabbi takes the bottle, immediately puts the cap on, and hands it back to the priest.

The priest asks: "Aren't you having any?"

The rabbi replies: "No ... I think I'll wait for the police."

COURAGE

*When evening comes the shadows grow, as the sun begins to set.
Take care that you don't come to know, a thing that's called regret.
Not what you try or what you do, throughout a carefree youth.
It's what you don't you'll come to rue, when time reveals it's truth.*

*There is wisdom to be had from mistaken words and acts.
You'll find that failure's not so bad, it strengthens you in fact.
Rejection's fear or the fear of failure, that paralyzes you.
Is the stuff of tears and that which keeps you dreams from coming
true.*

*It takes a certain kind of nerve to tell someone you care.
But then nature tends to serve the person who would dare.
Bravery isn't something you can cultivate from seed.
It must be conjured up anew each time that there's a need.*

*So take these words and hold them close, it's certain you'll find that,
one second of courage to speak from the heart
will result in you hearing them back.*

Poet: Wish Belkin, From Wish Belkin's "Diurnalis" © 2000



**MERRY CHRISTMAS
TO ALL OF YOU!
and
A HAPPY NEW YEAR!
SEE YOU AT THE SHED!**