

Showgrounds Community Men's Shed Newsletter – October 2022

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE – Peter Panek

Hi Sheddies,

Well, the Perth Royal Show has come and gone and what an event it was for us all. For the first time the Shed has experienced the full effect of the Royal Show. Previously the Show had been cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19, then last year the Shed was outside of the reduced footprint of the Show, and we had to drag people into our Shed whilst they were on their way to the entrance gates. Last year, we estimated that about 1,500 people visited the Shed. This year we believe the number was probably in excess of 15,000.

With there only being 3 main gates available to the public to get into the Showgrounds, being Gate 1, the railway station gate and Gate 10, we had very large numbers of people walking past our Shed. All we had to do was to get them through the door.

What we learnt very quickly was if we left it to themselves, they would just wander on past the Shed and not give us a second look. Hence, one of the Royal Show Organising Committee members, Curt McDonald, took it upon himself to stand at the side of the road for hours on end and spruik the delights to behold within the Shed. Whilst this worked well, what really was needed was a "Hook" that would really attract the general public. The "Hooks" that worked a treat were the "giant kids castle" and "the Gong." When these words were ushered, the public flocked to our doors. Once the public laid eyes on the castle, selling them a raffle ticket was almost a forgone conclusion and after learning that by purchasing two raffle tickets then they could ring the Gong, well let us just say we sold more pairs of tickets than single tickets. Genius I say.

Following the Show, we had two meetings where our Sheddies discussed the items that worked well and what needs some attention, or suggestions for next year. From this debrief of our members will come some great ideas for future Royal Show events. However, without a doubt, the Shed will next year need a kids castle and a giant Gong as a bare minimum. This will ensure at least the same level of interest from the public and we can only grow from that large base.

The Shed provided our members with a terrific opportunity to engage with the Shed through their active participation at the Show. We had approximately 114 members volunteer to take part at the Show which is an outstanding participation rate and I commend all of those who took part.

I have previously emailed all the Shed and thanked the members of our Shed who put in a special effort, and I would like to again publicly thank the following Sheddies by reproducing my previous comments.

"Firstly, the Royal Show Organising Committee which consisted of Curt McDonald, Bill MacLeod, and Stewart Forbes. Without their invaluable planning and organisation, we simply would not have had a successful event. Curt, Bill, and Stewart were simply everywhere throughout the Show and they just dealt with all of the spanners thrown at us before, during and after the event. Without their efforts, we would have been lost."

The Raffle Prize contributors being Robert Bellingham – Raffle First Prize of the Castle. Also, Bill MacLeod and Mike Wiggin for the coffee table for the Castle. Bill MacLeod, again, for the bespoke chess table and Simon Benwell for the chess pieces which made up the second prize in the raffle. Trevor Gorey for the artisan crafted hall table third prize. Mike Wiggin again for the bespoke jewellery box fourth prize. Bill MacLeod, once again, for his contribution of the hand-crafted hall table fifth prize. Without the generous contribution of these members our raffle would have been far less successful.

A big thank you to the Team and Deputy Team Leaders for organising their groups to produce items for the Show to sell and for organising their teams to participate at the Show and contribute to the tremendous atmosphere of the Shed throughout the Show.

Also, a special thank you for the Kitchen team who not only kept the RASWA personnel fed daily with Scones but also our own members fed with food throughout the Show.

The Shed also had considerable help behind the scenes by our Shed Treasurer, Paul Setchell and our Vice President, Stewart Forbes who managed all of the finances and daily reconciliations of the Show proceeds. Their quiet handling of the back room detailed work was conducted without fuss and goes largely unseen by the membership but is essential for the efficient running of the Shed.

Finally, I wish to thank the Volunteers at the Show for without their effort our offering to the public would not have been the enormous success that it was. Many volunteers put in multiple days at the Show and some huge effort to help make this event such a wonderful success.”

If I have missed anybody, then I apologise as it was not my intention. I have simply been overwhelmed by the efforts put into this event by so many that some names of active participants may have been overlooked.

The biggest single successful part of our fundraising were the raffle tickets. We sold almost \$11,000 worth of tickets to the public and almost \$9,000 were sold directly to or through our own Sheddies. The raffle was drawn on the 18th October as advertised, and the results are posted on our website. I know that selling raffle tickets is not on everyone's bucket list, but almost without exception, our Sheddies have risen to the challenge when asked with both good humour and grace. It is because of these efforts that the Shed finds itself in a sound financial position and in a position that is the envy of many other Sheds.

Our Shed continues to grow, and we are in the early stages of embracing potentially 3 new groups into the Shed. The first is an “Audiophile Group” which is looking to establish a group of like-minded people who are genuinely interested in all things music and Hi Fi related. The second potential group is a Beer brewing group, although this group is less well advanced. Finally, due to a significant donation to the Shed of a full scale “Flight Simulator”, we are hoping to set up a location where our members can practice their flying skills all from the safety of our very own Boeing 737 simulator. Whilst much work needs to be done to get these groups established and bedded down, we wish them every success. Watch this space for further details as things develop or keep an eye out for any announcements from these groups as they start to gain traction.

Please enjoy the rest of this newsletter and catching up with what is going on in your Shed.

Best regards

Peter Panek

President

WOODWORKING GROUP – Greg Righton

It was a busy time leading up to the show with members contributing towards the completion of the RASWA and WARRRL projects and were also busy making many products for the shop. The WARRRL project proved to be particularly troublesome with engineering input changing the final design of the recycling units, but we got there in the end with a day to spare!

The Royal Show far exceeded our expectations, but it could not have been achieved without the fantastic effort from our woodworking members over the 8 days of the show. Volunteers were required for a range of activities at the shed including the selling of 2,200 raffle tickets over the 8 days, shop sales of timber and wood turning products and Xmas trees, production of name plates from the CNC router, the baggage minding service and scroll saw and woodturning demonstrations.

We estimated up to 15,000 people walked through the shed over the 8 days with our volunteers happily contributing and interacting with the public.

Sales from these far exceeded expectations and were as follows:

Raffle tickets from the show	\$11,000
Raffle tickets from our members	\$9,000
Shop sales	\$7,650
CNC nameplates	\$6,350
WARRRL x 4 recycling units	\$17,000
RASWA Display cabinets, Sandbox and refurbished bins	\$5,700
Future orders of CNC nameplates and Xmas trees	\$3,000
Total	\$59,700



Following on from the success of the Royal Show we now know it will be our major fundraiser for the year.



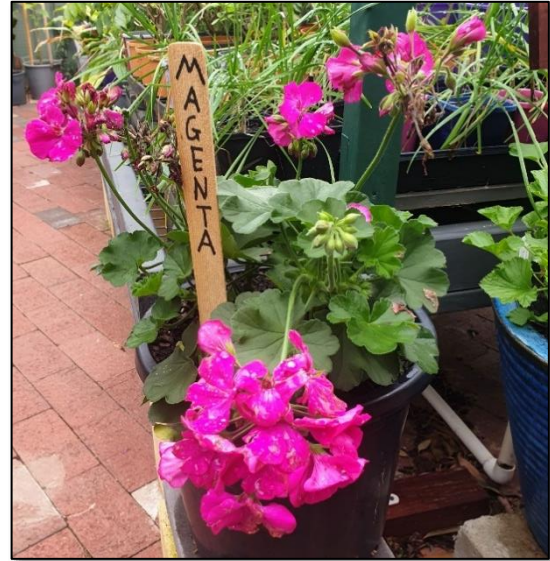
GARDEN GROUP – *Stewart Forbes*

The garden group has had a busy couple of months, firstly battling the elements to get all the plants in the best possible condition for the Show, then arranging, labelling, and pricing all the plants and then marketing the plants during the Show. Many thanks to everyone who helped, thanks to the efforts of the garden group members, we had good sales and we are now busy propagating new plants to fill the gaps for general sale and for the 2023 Show.

The Indian Hawthorns bordering the verandah made their annual contribution to the Show by being in full bloom for the start of the Show and will only get bigger each year.

The only misfortune we suffered during the Show was the inadvertent sale of our magenta geranium “mother” plant, which has left us without any magenta geraniums to take cuttings off. If anyone has a magenta geranium cutting to spare, Gavin will be delighted.

During the Show, the Shed had good exposure on the RASWA planter boxes filled with the only fully grown sunflowers in Perth in late September, most of which were in full bloom during the Show. Next year we'll try to make sure that they all flower on time – a tricky exercise which also depends on the weather.



One of our new members, Peter Swan, has a very large staghorn fern which has numerous pups and needs subdividing. If someone has expertise in this area please let me know so that I can put the two of you in contact. Fortunately, our shed staghorns are still too small to subdivide.

We will soon be starting construction of a pergola to give summer shade over the paved area next to the artificial lawn. This has been talked about for just about as long as the Shed has been in existence but is now going to become a reality thanks to a grant from Lotterywest through the Mens' Sheds of WA.

At first the pergola will have a shadecloth “roof” but in time the shadecloth will be replaced with deciduous climbers like wisteria so that we have shade during summer and sunshine in winter. Wisteria flowers naturally during late September and early October so it will provide a stunning display for the Show each year; something like the photo below, courtesy of our Treasurer, Paul Setchell.



The nursery is always open whenever a member of the garden team is at the shed, whether just to browse, buy or discuss garden issues. We can't always give instant answers to questions, but we'll always try to help.

Happy gardening to all.

KITCHEN GROUP – *Werner Ribul*



The last two months have gone by in a flash, especially for me thanks to a 7-week trip to Europe, but more about that later. The key Men's Shed event during that time was of course, the Royal Show 2022. And what a tremendous event it was, especially for our Kitchen Group!

Kitchen Team Events

Peter Macgregor who kindly stood-in as Kitchen Team leader during my absence kicked-off the proceedings at the September Members Luncheon with an Italian-themed lunch of “**Penne Rigata with Pesto**” which was accompanied by a garden salad. From all accounts, the food was delightful and the company enchanting for all those who attended. The yellow vests worn by Peter and Mark are not part of the new Kitchen Team dress code but were required due to increased traffic outside of the shed in preparation of the forthcoming Royal Show!



As reported in the last newsletter, a key part of our preparations for the Royal Show was the production of Jams & Preserves for sale at the show. A small team led by **Jeremy Wallace** and **Don Dufty** prepared large quantities of the Shed-made goodies. This was aptly reported in a

Post article (reproduced alongside) which described these efforts and contributed greatly to our success in selling out all produce during the show. Many thanks again to Don and his fellow jam-makers and to the SCMS sales team during the show!

Royal Show jam session

Ninety-one-year-old Donald Dufty hopes his jams and preserves will fly out the door at this year's Perth Royal Show in Claremont.

Mr Dufty joined the Showgrounds Community Men's Shed last year after moving to Perth from Albany for cancer treatment.

The cooking arm of the group welcomed him in, and their treats will be for sale near Gate 10 at the Show this year.

Don wants sales of his Grandpa's Old Fashioned Preserves to help raise money for cancer research and to support the Men's Shed.

His preserves are so good that in 2000 he entered them in the Albany Show and won "nearly all the prizes".

He said he also won the most points in the cooking section.

"It had just been a bit of a joke, really," he said.

At one stage he had 23 varieties on the go, but he now focuses on seven or eight at a time.

They include four-fruits marmalade, grape jam, apricot jam and cauliflower pickle.

The Royal Show runs from this Saturday, September 24 to next Saturday, October 1.



Donald Dufty with a selection of home-made jams and preserves that will be for sale at the Claremont Showgrounds Men's Shed during the Royal Show.

Following the Royal Show, the Men's Shed staged a 'Thank You' sundowner for all SCMS members who volunteered their time. The Kitchen Team led by **Peter Macgregor** and our Pizza Masterchef **Simon Benwell** provided the culinary support for this event. As confirmed by our President, their efforts were highly appreciated but meant that those Kitchen Team members who worked hard during the Royal Show didn't get the benefit of enjoying the sundowner and we will arrange another event for them at a

convenient time in the future. For the duration of this year's Royal Show, the Kitchen Team provided a daily consignment of our famous freshly baked scones, jam & cream for all RAS staff on duty. To meet the delivery deadline of 9am, an early start to the baking session was needed as shown by the picture below. Peter tells me that they actually started well before 8am to get 120 scones through the oven. What a great job by Danny and his Master Bakers!



One last surprising outcome of the Royal Show was revealed when our President Peter Panek drew the winners of this year's **Men's Shed Raffle**. None other than our stand-in Kitchen Team leader, **Peter McGregor**, came up trumps and was presented with his first prize – the famous Men's Shed Children's Castle! Showing his boundless generosity, Peter decided to donate it back to the Men's Shed after an initial weight check confirmed that he would not be able to take it back home with him on the train. Watch out for the castle to appear in a new colour design at next year's Royal Show!



One of the lesser known services that our Kitchen Team offers to all members is the provision of home-made cakes to celebrate members' birthdays during the popular Thursday morning tea sessions – remember the free Scones with jam and cream? Over the last 6 months, our team received orders for 11 birthday cakes which were delivered and enjoyed by all members attending those morning tea sessions. In this picture you see our *Pizza Masterchef extraordinaire* **Simon Benwell** getting ready to taste a delicious Orange & Poppy Seed cake that was baked in his honour in September.



If you want to share your next birthday celebration with good mates at the Men's Shed, you can order your preferred birthday cake with our Kitchen Team Leader Werner Ribul. Please give us a week's notice to ensure you get a delicious cake for your celebration!

Finally, it is time to reveal some of the highlights of my recent culinary expedition to Italy and Austria! After tasting many pizzas, pastas and desserts in Rome, top marks eventually fell to the humble "**Wiener Schnitzel**" consumed at Wolfgang Puck's restaurant at the Vienna airport, shortly before departing Austria. It was so memorable that I decided that it will feature as the main course at the November Monthly SCMS Luncheon, so make sure you grab your ticket before it's sold out due to popular demand!



In the meantime, stay safe & eat healthy (at the SCMS Kitchen)!

RECIPE OF THE MONTH – *Werner Ribul*

Pea and Ham Soup

Prep Time: 10 minutes Serves: 3
Cook Time: 90 minutes
Total Time: 100 minutes

Ingredients

- ¾ cup dried yellow split peas
- 4 cups water
- 500g Bertocchi Kaiser Fleisch (smoked pork) sold by Coles in the pork section
- 1.5 large brown onion
- 2 bay leaves
- Salt and pepper

Method

- 1) Soak the peas in the water overnight
- 2) Peel and slice the onions into thin slices
- 3) Place the peas and the water they have soaked in, the smoked pork (left on one piece), the sliced onions and the bay leaves into a large pot with a lid
- 4) Bring the mix to a boil and then gently simmer for about 1.5 hours on a low heat with the lid on. Check from time to time that nothing is sticking to the pot.
- 5) If you have a pressure cooker, that can be used instead. In this case, once the pressure cooker has come to full pressure, allow 40 minutes.
- 6) Once the peas have softened and broken down take the pan off the heat.
- 7) Remove and discard the bay leaves.
- 8) Remove the pork and cut it into bite sized pieces.
- 9) Use a manual or electric beater to smooth the liquid in the pot. I suggest not using a stick blender or a blending machine as that makes the soup too smooth. It is meant to be a bit rustic.
- 10) Add back the cut up pork pieces. Test the seasoning and add salt and pepper as necessary. Bring the soup back up to serving temperature.

Recipe Notes

Serve the soup with croutons. They can be easily made by freezing a loaf of commercial white bread. Remove the crusts and cut slices into small dice. Spread the pieces on a baking tray and bake in the oven (165 degrees fan forced) until crisp and very lightly golden (it will take 15-20 minutes). Sprinkle croutons over the soup in each bowl.

Alternatively serve with chunks of bread for dunking.

The soup keeps well in the fridge but will thicken. On reheating, add a little water to thin it.

COMPUTING AND SOCIAL MEDIA – Les Gunn

We support the Shed's diverse groups and members in many Information Technology areas.

We have a Facebook Page which we use to publicise events such as our Shop items and Open Days. Recently we have featured our Groups such as the Woodworking Group and we have reached many people through social media with these posts. We also have a subscription Facebook Group "SCMS (Private Post) Group" which has 50 members, and it features personal posts for birthdays and other news.

See our Facebook Page for photos and comments about these projects. (Search for "SCMS Claremont" on Facebook to find the **Showgrounds Community Men's Shed** page).

The Computing and Social Media Group contributed to the opening of the Shed for the Royal Show with announcements on Facebook to promote the event.

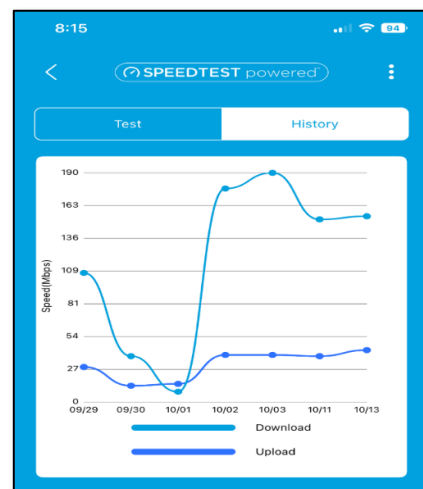
If any readers visited the Show, you may have noticed the number and variety of signs that were put up around our Shed to help visitors navigate through the various exhibits and products for sale. A large "Roster" sign helped organise the many members who volunteered to man the displays, shops, and services that we offered to visitors. Computers were also set up to display videos, slide shows and live Photoshop demonstrations by the Photography Group.

The Shed WiFi carried 100% of the many EFTPOS transactions during the opening hours with only one, short "reboot" incident before opening, the day *after* most other vendors at the Show lost the internet for a time.

The screen shot to the right shows how the extreme load caused by many visitors to the Show affected the speed of the internet on the Telstra 4G service; taken from the perspective of samples captured via the Shed connection.



One of the signs printed for the Royal Show via our large (Ao) printer



The Computer and Smart Phone Help Desk is open by appointment, and you are welcome to bring your PC, Tablet or smart phone or just use one of our desktop PCs/Macs.

Whatever you decide, almost always, a password is required so don't leave at home those credentials for your Google/Microsoft/Apple/ TidyHQ account sign-on.

Please set up your appointment with Les Gunn via email: les.gunn@gmail.com or text: 0412171006, for help with email, smartphones, Wi-Fi, Cloud storage, malware or virus protection and any other IT issues that may have you bogged down in technology. On Facebook see our page at: <https://www.facebook.com/SCMSClaremont> and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/739066453191187> for the private Group.

BICYCLES GROUP – *Michael Bisset*

The Bike group is chipping away at fixing bikes. So far we have delivered around 70 to B4H and sold approximately 20. Just a reminder that our main mornings are Tuesday and Wednesday if any member would like to be part of our team.

Thanks to Greg who put a very nice timber tray on this tricycle for the Dalkeith kindy. And a shot of me in pain on some Italian steep mountain recently.



BEE KEEPING GROUP – Curt McDonald



The Beekeeping Group is Swarming!

Sheddies had front row seats this month for one of nature's most spectacular natural displays: the swarming of Honeybees!

A spectacular run of beautiful spring weather following the rainy period in late September created ideal conditions for bees to swarm all over the state. Hobby and commercial beekeepers alike have been inundated with calls from friends and neighbours who have observed this fascinating phenomenon.

Swarming is a very natural activity for honeybees. It is the way bees split their hive and expand their numbers to ensure their survival as a species on the planet. While beekeepers (including ours) routinely take steps to minimize the odds of a hive swarming, the bees know best and once they decide to go it is nearly impossible to stop them.

Generally, a hive will get the urge to swarm sometime in early spring and start making preparations one to two weeks in advance. On the day of the swarm, the existing queen will take about half the bees and jump to a temporary stopping point less than 200 meters from the old hive. The whole swarm will alight on a bush or a tree or even a wall (see accompanying pictures!) and form a large ball.



There is only ever one queen in a hive, and at this point she is somewhere well hidden in that ball of bees. The queen emits very strong pheromones which serve as a compass for the rest of the bees in the swarm, so they all stay very close to the swarm to keep in touch with that smell.

After forming the temporary ball, the swarm sends out 30 or 40 scout bees to look for a new permanent home for the swarm. These scout bees fan out and report back when they have found a viable home in a hollow tree, the wall of a barn or maybe even in an overturned garden pot(!). The scout bees then have a dance-off competition (I am not joking) to see which scout bee found the best new home. The most excited dancers convince other scouts to go and check out their location and confirm its attractiveness. A process of elimination goes on over a few hours until a consensus emerges and then the whole swarm takes off to the new home!



Meanwhile, back in the old hive, a new queen (or several) has been created and will soon emerge and start laying to build bee numbers back up again. This is how nature makes two hives from one!

We have had a number of swarms arrive at various locations around the back of the Shed in the last few weeks. There is no way to know for sure where these bees have come from, but there is a good chance that they have come from our hives. Hence, the Bee Group has gone to the effort of capturing them and put them back in the main apiary in new homes.

These new swarm hives are welcome to the Bee Group as some of them will be given to our bee group inductees so that they can set up their own hive at home. Others will be kept to replace some of our original hives that will have been lost during this swarming season.



While swarm season and the Royal Show have provided plenty of excitement for the Leadership Team we are looking forward to a calmer period for the Bee Group in the weeks ahead as we return to our normal meeting schedule this coming Friday Oct 28th at 3:30 pm. All Shed members are welcome to join us and stay on for the social hour afterwards. If not look for some of our new season honey which will be hitting the shelves soon!

WINE APPRECIATION GROUP – *Graeme Owens*

The September and October wine meetings were well attended despite the interruption caused by the Royal Show. Alas the wine group could not carry out any events during the show due to various restrictions, but the members of the group were well represented in the volunteer group.

The September meeting was ably run by Alex Nutter who presented us with an informative summary of the wines we have tasted to date and lots of other interesting facts before (re)introducing members to the joys of Swan Valley Wines.



The wines of John Kosovich and Mann were provided. The standout wines were the John Kosovich bottle-aged Chenin Blanc (2015) which was rated as excellent and good value for money at \$48/bottle while the other favourite was the John Kosovich Rare Muscat which was again excellent and considered good value for money even though it was \$98/bottle.

Our October meeting was delayed by the Show until October 18th. This Meeting was hosted by Stephen Keenihan and Chris Harding who decided to expose the group to Pinot Noir from New Zealand.

The objective of the night was to taste entry level wines (<\$40/btl) from three areas (Martinborough, Marlborough and Central Otago) and compare them against 3 more expensive wines (>\$70/btl) from similar areas. The wines presented clearly divided the group as some did not enjoy the New Zealand style of Pinot Noir especially at the cheaper



end of the market. However the wines which were favoured were the 2014 Charteris Winter Vineyard from Central Otago (\$75) and the much cheaper 2017 Fromm La Strada (\$40) from Marlborough. We clearly have much more Pinot Noir education to do!

At the October meeting the Members were reminded by Stephen Keenihan (who doubles as the shed safety officer) of the need to drink responsibly and importantly to constrain the amount of wine poured and imbibed. A breathalyser was available for all members to use and it will be a regular feature of meeting from now on. It is worth noting the none of the group measured above .04 and most were much less.

PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP – *Mike Somerville-Brown*

Royal Show– September 2022

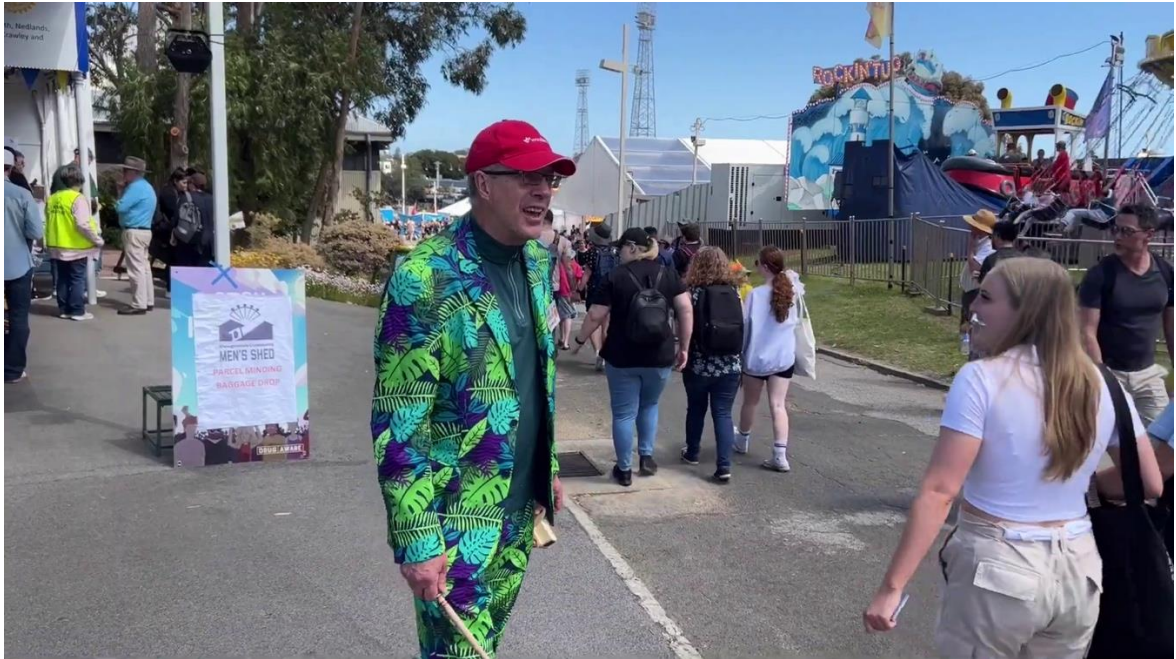
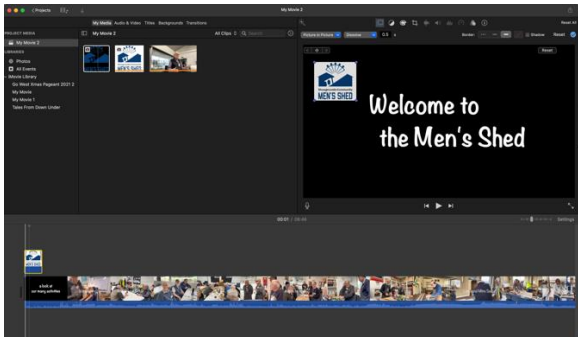
The big event in September was the Royal Show. In preparation for the Show the Photography Group members did a range of activities including:

- A small group of members busy making picture frames for sale at the 2022 Royal Show. Many thanks to Chris O, Chris P, Tony, Tom, Mochtar & Mike under the guidance from Peter Blake, Greg Righton and Noel Hickman from the Woodwork Group for their time and skills.
- Brant was busy taking videos of many of the group activities in the Shed and with skilful editing crafted them into a short movie that was played during Show Week. Brant and I also crafted a short movie showing the making of the major raffle prizes including Claremont castle, Chess Set, Hall Table and Jewellery box by our Shed members. This movie was also on display during Show Week.
- A selection of photos from past field trips was selected by the Leadership Team, printed and mounted on corflute for sale. Thanks to Les for “wrangling” the computer and printer to not only meet the precise frame sizes but also printing additional photos during Show Week due to the demand from the public. Our Group was also responsible for printing all the large format signs undertaken by Les, John and myself.

Our objective was to principally engage with our members and the public; and perhaps also sell some photos and frames. The original plan to provide a series of short presentation on photography topics was quickly changed on the first day to an exhibit that better showcased our photography skills through our photos resulting in more visitors to our exhibit. It seemed that visitors of all ages were impressed by not only the quality of our photos but were interested about how we acquired our skills in taking and editing, the location we took photos, etc. It is worth noting that some historical photos also caught the attention of many visitors.

Special thanks to the 18 members who volunteered to “man” the Photography Exhibit during Show week. Most of these members volunteered for multiple sessions and helped make our exhibit a success.





Porongurup and Stirling Ranges Trip – 17 to 20 October 2022

The photography group conducted a tour of the Great Southern Region with 12 members visiting the Porongurup and Stirling Ranges National Parks photographing the landscapes and

wildflowers along the way. We also visited a couple of wineries in the region and sampled some of their highly regarded wines. Highlights of the trip included:

- Bush walking in the national parks and spotting the native flora and fauna of the region including some beautiful wildflowers, some only found in this region.
- An opportunity to practice astrophotography led by John Bolto following the successful workshop on the topic on 13 Oct 2022.
- Evenings were spent in chalets/motel rooms reviewing photos and discussing the day's events over meals prepared by the group and glass or two of red wine.

As usual we had a range of cameras from smartphones, compact cameras to DSLRs. See examples below and see if you can identify the camera that took each photo.

All dinner meals were prepared by members with a range of curries on the first night, a BBQ with delicious steaks and gourmet sausages on the second day, while the third day was Italian night with several pasta dishes, garlic bread and a salad sourced from a member's home garden. These meals were followed by delicious home-made desserts. Watch out the Kitchen Group!!

Many thanks to all the members for their contribution to cater the meals. We thank Chris for organising the accommodation, John and Peter for leading the photography visits and Alex for organising the winery "tours".





We hope to see you at our next Photography Workshop.

COMMUNITY LIAISON – *Steve Gerreyn*

It has been a very busy period over the past couple of months culminating with our huge involvement with the Royal Show, which was a tremendous success for the Shed. This Event was a major “eye opener” to the general public to see what a Men’s Shed has to offer to the broader Community.

Some of the other key Community Initiatives included:

Blokes Kitchen – Healthier Barbecuing

As part of Veteran’s Health week our Shed hosted this Event for Veterans and other local Sheds. Nick Nation, Accredited Practicing Dietitian shared his no-nonsense food and cooking approach for about 20 attendees.



Moerlina Primary School Visit

Eighteen children from Year 1 visited the Shed for a tour recently. It was an absolute pleasure and they were very well behaved and interested. Noel Hickman gave them a demonstration of Wood Turning and John Hassell was a hit with the CNC Router, particularly when he produced a couple of Name signs. There was some interest also from a couple of the Teachers who wanted to get their husbands and fathers involved in the Shed.



Christmas Trees

As a result of showcasing a Christmas Tree at the Royal Show (that I constructed for myself last Christmas), we now have 20 orders for these trees at \$100 per tree. A team of six has been working on preparing these over the last few weeks and we should be pushing them out the door within a week. Thanks to the guys that have helped out in this project.



“WE ARE DEDICATED TO IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF OUR MEMBERS AND OUR COMMUNITY”

ROYAL SHOW REPORT – *Curt McDonald & Bill MacLeod*

The 2022 Perth Royal Show is over and we are now planning for the 2023 Show. BUT, before we move on, let’s just reflect on what was achieved through this year’s Show.

Most importantly, we had magnificent participation from our members, and that has happened throughout the past 12 months:

- shed members started planning and making products that their groups could sell during the show,
- we had a massive stockpile of “stuff” including preserves, photos, woodworking and wood turning products, prepared by volunteers and ready by the start of the show.
- more than 100 members volunteered to man the shed during the show, plus others helped to set up the shed prior to the show and yet others helped to put it all back ready for use again.

Whether you were available to help out on most days of the show, or only for a limited period, the Royal Show Organising Committee appreciate your contribution. Some noteworthy contributions by individuals were acknowledged by SCMS President, Peter Panek, at the “after party” on Tuesday 4th October, so we will keep this report brief by not singling out the outstanding efforts by so many individuals.

That said, there were some outstanding efforts by groups during the show, we particularly acknowledge the Kitchen group. Those intrepid souls were at the shed before 7:30 each morning during the show to produce 100 of the “famous SCMS scones” and deliver them to RASWA before 9:00 every day. As soon as the scones were dispatched, the kitchen crew turned their attention to ensuring there was food available for lunches for our shed volunteers – an army of SCMS volunteers ‘marches’ on its stomach!

The Royal Show was also fantastically successful in terms of the income it produced for the shed. We sold the vast majority of the items that were produced prior to the show. Raffle tickets were also a popular item with the public during the show, to the extent that we actually sold out of tickets on the last day of the show. The manufacturing of products was ongoing during the show, particularly the CNC team making name signs and wood turning

making spinning tops. We also received orders during the show, particularly for signs and Christmas trees, which are being manufactured and delivered now. We also recruited new members for SCMS and other sheds.

The Volunteer Sundowner was a chance for those who contributed to gather and celebrate the success of the show to which they had contributed. However, again a disproportionate load fell on the Kitchen group who again put in the effort to prepare a varied and enjoyable feast for the gathered throng. We thank them again for their effort. From the feedback we have received, the After Party was enjoyed and appreciated by all who attended.

Going forward, several groups are still working diligently to fill orders, particularly signs and Christmas trees, before we draw a line under to 2022 Perth Royal Show. We are also looking forward to another great collaborative effort to prepare and deliver the 2023 Royal Show. This will be another chance for all members to participate in the camaraderie of your shed. We hope to see you at the shed soon as well as at next year's Royal Show.

Stay Safe and enjoy the activities of the Shed!