



WCMS NEWSLETTER

Issue 2/2023

April 2023



COVID-19

Most of us are blithely ignoring the continuing presence of Covid-19. It has now been 3 years since it started wreaking havoc on the world, and now, thanks largely to the interventions imposed on us and the availability of potent vaccines, we can all go about our lives in a normal fashion.

It's still a good idea to:

- Wear a mask where appropriate
- Use hand sanitiser whenever you see it

Pop-up Shop at Coleman Court

We were given a two day stand at Coleman Court, outside Aldi's, in the lead up to Easter. Sales weren't particularly brisk compared to previous stalls but we are well content with the exposure that the Men's Shed and the Australian Men's Shed Association receives from these activities.

The Management of Coleman Court are so pleased with us that they have offered to supply two stand-up placards for us to use and advertise our Shed. So well done to all those that made the products and Dennis and team that manned the store for the two days. Great effort.

Tram Ride

A group of intrepid members undertook a day of public transport here in town, first taking the bus to Civic, and then the tram to the end-of-the-line, Gunghalin. After lunch at the Canberra Raiders Club, they repeated the journey in the reverse direction. Thanks to Tony for organising this event.

Dust Extractor Shed

Unfortunately, our new shed had a few issues with the roof leaking. The problem was diagnosed as a poor bit of engineering where the roof joined the main shed wall. The only

solution was to pull the roof panel off, pull it apart and rebuild from scratch. This time however, the ends of the roof sheets were painstakingly cut to fit the ribs of the shed wall, and that along with copious amounts of silicon appear to have fixed the problem. While it was being rebuilt, it was also raised another four inches to give it greater run-off. Allan and Brian are well pleased with the result of their handiwork!

Committee News

The big news, and its not good, is that our Secretary Cliff Frost has resigned from the position. We are all aware that he has been under a lot of stress and strain looking after his mother in Melbourne and keeping up to his teaching commitments here in Canberra. We would like to thank Cliff for all his hard work and dedication to the job, and we all wish him well in his 'retirement'. Now maybe he can get on with his glass-works and timber projects and of course: his XJ6! BUT the good news is that Warren Jones has agreed to act Secretary until the next Committee election.

Other news is that Allan also had a 'moment' over Christmas, and had to take a leave-of-absence from his position as President. Brian filled in for him for the interim, but Allan has now returned and is once more in control. Also at the same time he stood down as the Workshop Manager, a Committee nominated position that has now been filled by Dennis.

As it is now April, we ask that ALL members think seriously about stepping up and help with the daily running of our shed, and of course be an influence on our future course. One pressing issue is the cleaning of the kitchen, toilet and meeting area. Michael Molande who has been doing the cleaning has a full time job and is unable to get to the Shed to do the cleaning. Michael Warke and Allan have done some of the cleaning for the last couple of weeks but unless a volunteer, or volunteers, comes forward the Executive Committee may have to consider paying someone to come in and clean once a week.

President's Report

Thanks to all who wished me well during my recent 'moment'. It is times like this you appreciate the worth of family and friends in coming to grips with life's challenges. Thanks to Brian, who as Vice President ably stood in for me and found the time to prepare applications for various grants on offer from the Federal and ACT Government. WCMS has done very well with recent success in applying for grants.

- ACT Government Communities Directorate Grant - \$2000 towards a Computer Learning and Engagement Environment
- Stronger Communities Grant Program - WCMS invited to apply for a grant of \$3500 to build verandah extensions.
- National Shed Development Programme Round 24 - \$2200 funding for IT Updates, including a new SmartTV for the meeting room.

In closing Happy Easter to all members and stay safe on the roads and don't eat too much Chocolate.

Allan Booth
President, WCMS