



WCMS NEWSLETTER

Issue 1/2026

January 2026



President's Report

Well, here it is, a brand-new year. The end-of-year is always busy. We had a great guest speaker in Rob Honeybone Jr, we did two BBQ's, one at Bunnings and one at Denman Prospect, we gave ourselves a great lunch, We did a craft evening for Bunnings at their Christmas family night. A whole bunch of blokes jumped in and finished the installation of the insulation in the workshop. Whew, I'm exhausted just reading it.

ACT Property Group, who now call themselves Infrastructure Canberra (iCBR), came for a serious chat about renewing the lease, which I am pleased to report should be finalised by the end of this financial year. The only real change for us is that we will have to start paying for our own water usage. It will be good to once again be secure in our tenancy.

And can you believe it, in an unrelated incident, iCBR also removed the skip bin from the end of the carpark, which we have been using for free for at least five years, forcing us to engage Cleanaway to supply and service our very own skip. The Big Blue Bin has landed.

Overall, I'm quite pleased with our performance and particularly pleased with our continuing involvement with the community. It should remain our focus and wherever possible we need to engage with more men, of all ages, and from all walks of life.

I'm also delighted with the rising levels of participation by all members; nothing makes me smile more than a full house of blokes all interacting with each other. Well done us.

First up this year will be the annual Australia Day Big Breakfast for all members and guests, pencil this into your diary. It will be followed by David Smith MP being our guest speaker in that same week. Always fascinating to see a politician at work, getting quizzed at length by the public about things that matter to them. And if that isn't enough excitement for one week, we have a Bunnings BBQ on the Saturday as well.

All hands to the pump boys!

Brian Black
President

Coming Events

January

5th Monday – Shed reopens

8th Thursday 1200, Lino Lunch – if Lino doesn't make it, anyone else can volunteer to BBQ something out of the freezer. Dennis will happily supply funds for bread etc.

15th Thursday 1000, Committee Meeting

15th Thursday 1200, Member Speaker: Brian, "Cape York in 30 slides"

26th Monday 0900 Australia Day Big Breakfast

29th Thursday 1200 Guest Speaker: David Smith MP, Lino Lunch

February

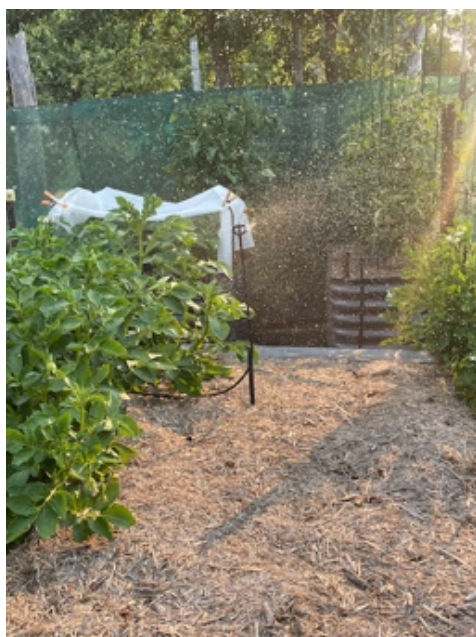
7th Saturday Bunnings BBQ

19th Thursday 1200 – Guest speaker: Nicole Warren – "Aged care," what's available, what are the eligibility criteria, latest changes to the system, you and the law

March

19th Thursday 930 – Bus ride and visit to Canberra Railway Museum, Tour and BBQ lunch. Has now been confirmed by the Museum, so get your name on the whiteboard to secure a spot in the bus.

Garden Report



As Graham has been away on and off for the last few months and left the garden in my care for at least over Christmas I thought I'd share with you.. Being a little short on time to be standing around watering a vegie patch, although I do love it, and as the weather was getting hotter and hotter, I dumped the old system of dead drippers and a manual timer. I replaced them with an automatic timer that is currently set to water twice a day without anyone's intervention, and a bunch of sprayer sprinklers.

I also helped myself to about two kilos of tomatoes over the break, but there are heaps more that should be starting to ripen soon.

Vale

I regret to inform you that a past member of the Weston Creek Men's Shed, Mike McCallum, passed away on 17th December last year. Graham Lacey said this of Mike.

"Mike was a member of the Shed for some three years from 2017 to about 2020 until ill health got in the way. He is probably best remembered for his rocking horse project. This involved restoration of a wooden rocking horse which was donated at our 2019 Rivett Shed Warming to Pegasus Riding for the Disabled for them to raffle. Mike was an ex-Army Vietnam veteran who like many others had a range of issues resulting from his service."



Quarterly Highlights



Rob, Robin and Pat showing off some of the goods on sale at the December Coolman Court stall



Rob Honeybone Jr giving his presentation regarding 'teeth' and dentistry.



Installation of insulation and panelling all complete, now they only had to put it all back together... and find everything again!



The Annual Christmas lunch being enjoyed by a good number of members. Thanks to Dennis and all those that helped him organise and run the lunch. Well done us!



A surprised *First Tomato Winner*, Robin. I hope you enjoyed the spoils!



Brian, John, Alex and Graham taking the whole BBQ delivery project very seriously. Seriously, no, it was a hoot really.



John W, Warren, Brian and John J taking great delight in assembling craft baskets for the young people at the Bunning Family Night. A god wayto put us out there in the community and to show Bunnings our appreciation for all they do for us.



Our very own big bin. First time we've had a proper waste service in 11 years!

Anyhow.....

See you at **your** Shed,

Brian Black.

President, WCMS
Weston Creek Men's Shed