



# WRINKLY RAG.

**APRIL 2016**

## **TO ALL MEMBERS**

This is **YOUR** newsletter

It is **YOUR** voice

So **PLEASE CONTRIBUTE**

Put pen to paper or compose an email and send it to the editor, his email address is on the last page. A few lines will do or you can even write a few instalments.

We also welcome jokes, adverts or even critiques if you're that way inclined.

### **SPEAKERS CIRCLE**

April Circle featured Gary Pike who spoke of the Gibb River Road and gave a graphic account of the trials and tribulations that can be encountered. If you are not prepared to camp out, accommodation can be very expensive particularly at places like El Questro. Gary also told of the uphill battle against the cane toad which will eventually take hold in WA.

We had a good audience of 40 plus, but we do have more space so tell your friends and enjoy a pleasant afternoon outing.

The speaker for Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May will be Ryan Rowland, travel guide and historian who will relate stories of POW 's of the Japanese in Borneo during WW II.

### **SOCIAL**

Lunch at the Mallard Duck in Henley Brook on Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup>. It is for members **and partners**, a 3 course lunch, tea or coffee will cost \$45.00 per head + drinks. Please put your names and how many will be attending on the sheet at the Shed.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



At our last meeting we welcomed Richard Gates, from Kalamunda Shed who addressed the meeting in his capacity as Representative of Council of the Ageing. He was collecting information about the issues of concern to older voters. Issues that he could present to COTA, and from them to local polities. Hopefully they will be considered during the upcoming election campaign.

Robin, Ashley and I attended a WAMSA Zone meeting at Gosnells Men's Shed. The aim of the meeting was to link sheds into particular areas or zones. Then information can be shared more easily and more quickly from WAMSA to sheds and vice versa. Our Zone is "Metro Foothills" and includes Midland, Kalamunda and other nearby Sheds – 10 in total. Items discussed included grants; insurance; rules and changes to the constitution which are coming into effect soon. These changes include presenting a copy of the constitution to each new member and sending a financial report to the Department of Commerce at the end of the year.

The Litter Letters "WHY?" for EMRC have been completed. These will be filled with litter and placed on highway verges to get across the message not to drop litter. Special thanks to Brian, Pat and Tim and to the others who had helped out. It was a big project and will be collected in the near future and, I understand, placed on Toodyay Road.

Six visitors from Northam Men's Shed attended last Thursday and were made to feel very welcome. So much so that they commented on it as they were leaving. Says something good about the atmosphere at our shed.

Please remember, if any Member is using a power tool or machine at the shed they MUST make sure that someone else is in the shed with them. Stay safe!

Marty B

## DOWERIN FIELD DAY

Wally has advised that Probus have arranged for a bus trip to the Dowerin field day on Wednesday August 24<sup>th</sup>... The bus will pick up at Sculpture Park at 8 am returning around 5.00 pm. Cost will be \$40 per head, and covers both bus fare (\$25) and entry (\$15). Partners welcome. We are taking names now and payment is due by July 11<sup>th</sup>. Money in envelope with names on the flap. No payments on the day.

## PROFILE

### Perry de Rebeira

#### Continued.../.....

Finding my way from Southampton to Twickenham was my first lesson of the complexity but convenience of the London public transport for someone limited to using walking, school bus and bicycle. Having spent a week to look at the prominent tourist sights of London my landlord found me a position as a plumber's mate with a local company named WC Deane (no pun invented or intended) with a contract "plumb" blocks of flats in the east end of London (Whitechapel) – war damage still being rebuilt. For 10 shillings a week my local tradesman, a Londoner, allowed me to travel with him and a workmate, born on Jersey. The ride to and from work each day was for me an education in spoken English (by the English – with a glottal stop instead of T in words like BU\*\*ER)), history, manners and wit of the many and various tribes I was to meet in UK.

It took only three weeks to realise that there was too much see and do in three months, so sold my return passage, cashed my insurance policies and set about looking at England and Wales and "The Continent", with travels extended to what was then called Yugoslavia.

After almost two years of this carefree life I joined four fellow South Africans and migrated to Canada where I found employment as a machinist/turner before leaving the boat. This was the time of the "Cold War" and "DEW Line", when the USA was building Distance Early Warning stations along the North American Continent, which provided employment for people and created the need for a workforce with experience, with tradesmen in great demand (apologies ladies, but there were no facilities for you in those days).

The company I worked for specialised in manufacturing precision aluminium castings using the lost wax process. As a machinist/turner my work entailed making components for dies. When assembled, warm wax was injected under low pressure. When cooled, the die was disassembled and the wax form was embedded in plaster. This mould was then baked, the wax recovered, and molten aluminium poured into the mould, under pressure. After cooling the plaster carefully broken to reveal a housing or machine part measured to 3/1,00<sup>th</sup> of inch. Much of our work was for Sperry Rand, a company researching and building navigational components for early space travel.

Most of the dies we made were of aluminium, which for me was another learning experience. My expertise in machining this metal was almost never called on in later years. Interesting and absorbing work, rewarding employment, carefree lifestyle, unfamiliar culture and language, experiencing a blizzard that froze the St Laurence seaway and closed Montreal for a week – all worth waking for every day. A lifelong memory is the concert given by Oscar Petersen in his home on Mt Royale. Long weekends were looked forward to. By taking a Greyhound bus on Friday night I could be in New York in early Saturday morning, marvelling in services available in the city that never sleeps. Visits to the jazz clubs on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street or a visit an uncle in Brooklyn, then back to Montreal on Monday night.

Wanderlust set in again and I decided to accept a wedding invitation from an Australian mate. In August 1961 my feet turned south and west, travelling by Greyhound out of Montreal across 17 of the United States to meet the *PO Orcades* at Long Beach, Los Angeles, sailing for Australia via Hawaii, Japan, Hong Kong, The Philippines, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and ultimately, Fremantle (known by locals as F'rmanle).

With the Customs and Immigration officials there was a member the Australian Engineering Union who signed me up – first payment in WA before stepping off the boat. Like a boomerang this action returned when, enjoying my leisurely first visit to Australia, I received an unearned unemployment cheque. This embarrassed me to find a job and start to pay tax. This I continued for 30 years!

Without looking at my “papers” I was hired as a machinist, my first experience with the admirable principle in Australian industry – if you can do the job you can have it. Things have changed.

My first job changed too, leading to a better one and lasting for eleven years, progressing from foreman to timekeeper, estimator, draughtsman to manager. With a steady job, playing hockey with the fledging Victoria Park club and working out with the Subiaco Police and Citizens Judo Club, life was satisfying. I was living in a flat down the road from a newly-constructed Fairlanes Bowling Centre. I was introduced to 10 pin bowling in Canada so I dropped in for a look. A fortunate decision, for there I was to meet Alma. Not only a champion bowler but she owned a car, which I didn't, so she was duty driver through our courtship in her Fiat 500. (It was also here that I met Ashley Peggs, who has been a mate ever since). Alma and I married in 1966 and we gave up bowling for birding studies, which was part of Alma's teaching profession. In 1974, I was offered a position with the CSIRO Wildlife Research studying birds. Enormously rewarding, it enabled us to travel the world working, looking, teaching and learning in Australia, New Zealand, Vanuata, Hong Kong, China, South Africa, England, Holland and Sweden.

In 1991 I resigned from CSIRO to devote my disposable income to the Great Sandy Desert where we designed a research project to study desert birds. Based on a site 230km east-east of Broome, it was on this enterprise in 2010 that I suffered a stroke. Fortunately, we were at a secondary site but it meant Alma had to drive 150km to meet an ambulance on the Great Northern Highway. After stabilising in Broome, the Flying Doctor flew me to Perth, ultimately to spend 4 months in the stroke ward in Swan Districts Hospital. Excellent nursing care, therapy and daily visits from Alma with encouragement (and smuggled wine bottles) enabled me to make good progress in my condition.

Increasing deafness prompted me to study Auslan (Australian Sign Language) for 5 years at Midland TAFE. I lost all my Auslan vocabulary, one of the many results of the stroke. Belonging to the Shed has now replaced many of the crafts I can no longer do.

## PROJECTS

### Rise garden:

The gate will be installed between the Rise block and the woodworking shed in the early days of May so then we will be able to get cracking on erecting the garden beds. We will then be looking for volunteers to get the gardens planted in readiness for Spring plantings. The plan is to clean up the site, remove some trees and reinstall some raised beds to get these beds back into production. The produce grown will go to producing meals for the disabled.

### EMRC Bins

This project is nearing completion thanks to the tireless efforts of Tim, Pat, Merton, Hyden and others. A job well done.

### FOR SALE

We have 2 electric planers looking for a good home and lots of work. One Ozito and one Makita. Enquire at the woodworking shed. Cost, a donation to the Shed coffers.



There is also a set (2) speakers for a computer. Enquire at the lunch room. Make an offer.

If you have any items you wish to advertise for sale let Allan know.

### Predictions - Like Polls - So Very Wrong

“We don’t like their sound and guitar music is on the way out”  
Decca Recording Company when declining to sign up The Beatles. 1962

“X-rays will prove to be a hoax”  
Lord Kelvin, President of the Royal Society. 1883

## News from the Shire of Mundaring

### Reducing smoke nuisance

The Shire has now entered a Restricted Burning Period. Residents are permitted to burn one 1square metre pile at a time after 6pm without a permit, provided a number of conditions are met. Permits can be obtained from local brigades - full details in the [Fire and Burning Information Book](#).

WHILE burning garden refuse can be a convenient way of removing dead plant material from your property, there are some things you should consider before lighting any fire—

- Weather conditions
- Be a good neighbour
- Condition of refuse
- Control the load
- Winter burning

If your burn is effective, it should produce minimal smoke. We ask all residents to be courteous and reduce smoke nuisance. For more information on smoke management few the fact sheet - [Smoke Management](#).

### Free fuel reduction workshops for residents

FIVE free workshops will be held in May to assist Shire of Mundaring residents reduce fuel loads on their properties.

Chief Executive Officer Jonathan Throssell said workshops would begin on **Sunday 1 May and run for five consecutive Sundays**.

Residents will learn from Shire officers and local volunteer brigade members how to safely reduce fuel loads on their property through a number of methods, including burning.

Mr Throssell said it was important that residents managed their fuel loads appropriately. "Reducing fuel loads during the cooler months assists local brigades in the warmer months when fire is such a threat to our area," he said.

Peter Holland and Rosemary Greenham took part in 2014 and said the knowledge learnt had been helpful in managing their property since. "We learnt about the correct tools and techniques to use and it has given us the confidence to implement our own winter burning regime that we will continue as soon as the Prohibited Burning Period ends," Mr Holland said.

"If there was a significant fire near our property we believe there is a good chance we would come out the other side of it, or that it would allow the firefighters to help us defend it because we've already done the base work.

For residents not comfortable burning off, an alternative means of reducing green waste is to dispose of it for free at one of the Shire's transfer stations.

Expressions of interest for the free burning workshops are invited via the Shire website [www.mundaring.wa.gov.au](http://www.mundaring.wa.gov.au).

The 2016 Fuel Reduction Program has been bought forward to make the most of the cool weather. Some workshops may be cancelled due to conditions. Should this occur, residents will be advised of alternate dates.

For more information, phone 9290 6696 or visit [www.mundaring.wa.gov.au](http://www.mundaring.wa.gov.au)

**NOTE** – Residents who register for the workshops will be advised where the workshops will be located. As these are mostly private properties details are not posted on the Shire website

# **SOCIAL EVENTS**

## **Sundowner's**

Held on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday** of the month. After the workshop at 2:00pm

Members only, with occasional invites to others

## **“Sing – a – Long” Group**

These are held at 2 weekly intervals on Thursdays – subject to change if Meg is not available

Next dates – 12<sup>th</sup> May, 26<sup>th</sup> May, 9<sup>th</sup> June.....

## **Shed Policy Meetings.**

The **3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday** of the month

## **Games Night**

Ralph Squance has organized a games night so you can try your skill at darts, pool and/or cards. You can also form a cheer squad to support the contestants

*No cameras, please.....*

This is a fortnightly event on Mondays, so come along and give it your support

Next dates – 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 16<sup>th</sup> May, 30<sup>th</sup> May, 13<sup>th</sup> June.....

**Keep checking the notice board in the woodworking shed for updates and new events**