

The Gosnells Community Men's Shed News



Lewis Homestead

March 2022

Vol. 10 # 09

Editor: Gordon Hamilton hamilton_g@bigpond.com

70 Lissiman Street, Gosnells, WA. PO BOX 330, Thornlie, WA 6988. ABN 38 030 506 750



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PATRON: Teresa Lynes

Office Bearers			
Chairman	Allen Holloway	Vice Chairman	Geoff Wiltshire
Secretary	Phil Measday secretary.gcms@gmail.com	Treasurer	Arpad Pratsky
Committee members: Geoff Bowra; Chris Beckett; Alan Gordon and Scott Henderson			
Workshop Manager: -----;		Shed Administrator: Fred Howe	
The Shed Phone number: 08 9398 4064 ;		Shed email – shedboss.gcms@gmail.com	

MISSION STATEMENT

The Gosnells Community Men's Shed promotes and fosters men's health and well-being in a friendly and safe environment.

VISION

To be recognised as a progressive community-based organisation working in the community.
To be a place where men of all ages and backgrounds meet in friendship.

VALUES

A respectful and caring environment where participation in activities and contribution to the efficient and harmonious operation of the Shed are recognised as being of equal value.

Diary Dates – Coming Events!

(See details further on in NL)

31 Mar Social BBQ at the Shed. This is an alcohol event commencing 4:00pm;

Social BBQ Thursday 31st March

Come for a burger in a bun plus and some good fellowship at the Social BBQ lunch being held at Lewis House on Thursday 31st March commencing at **4:00pm**.

There the usual small fee of \$3 for the burger to defray the costs.

For catering purposes please let Geoff Bowra know if you are attending.

It is important to note that **COVID 19 rules** will need to be followed, including maintaining physical distancing and practicing good hygiene procedures.

CHAIRMAN'S Notes March 2022

March is here and we kicked off the celebrations for our 10th Anniversary with a Breakfast function at the shed, which was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended.

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New Covid restrictions came into force the following day, meaning we were unable to continue with the Lunch planned for 7th March, sending us scurrying to find a location for the planned Lunch – Gosnells Hotel came to the rescue and looked after us well.

Unfortunately the Sponsors Appreciation Function had to be postponed.

The March Anniversary End-of-month BBQ will be held at the shed on Thursday 31st March From 4.00pm, this is a BYO alcohol event.

Twelve members and partners recently enjoyed an evening of bowls at the Gosnells Bowling Club followed by a great meal in the clubhouse.

Summer has gone, and as cooler weather arrives we are now able to commence some planned jobs such as creating a paved mower path from the shed to the lawn area and also lining the ceiling of the patio. If you would like to be involved in these or other tasks coming shortly, please send an email to the secretary.

Allen Holloway
Chairman

SHED MANAGEMENT:

Treasurer Position

This position appears to have been resolved!

Sub Committee Vacancies

We have seven sub-committee's looking at various aspects of Shed management. They all report to the Committee of Management and are advisory rather than decision making.

Opportunities exist for members to participate in this process and learn more about what is involved in managing our Shed. The Finance, Projects and Grants, Membership and Social committees are all in need of additional members.

Members who may be interested can attend meetings of a sub-committee simply by contacting the relevant chair and arranging a visit. It is a good way to discover how the committee's work and what they spend time discussing.

The whiteboard in the foyer (outside kitchen) has a list of the various committees and the dates of future meetings.

Facilities Report.

The chaps on the facilities subcommittee are doing a sterling job of keeping the shed area clean and the gardens in good shape, considering the excessive hot weather they have done a great job. As we are not now doing recycling, a large skip has been in place to get rid of all the excessive metal/aluminium. Members who do bring in household batteries, toothpaste tubes, tooth brushes, plastic bottle tops and used pens/highlighters can still deposit them in the bins provided as Brian Beech from the Lions will ensure they are taken away on a regular basis. There are a lot of supermarkets and service stations who now have bins for all kinds of recyclables if you wish to use them.

Al Gordon

ACT BELONG COMMIT:

Act, Belong, Commit Program

As reported recently, our shed is apparently the first in Western Australia to enter into a partnership arrangement with **Mentally Healthy WA** to participate in the Act Belong, Commit Program.

We have literature from Mentally Healthy WA in the foyer and members are encouraged to have a look at what is available. The messages are simple – being mentally healthy feels good!

ACT: do something like take a walk, read a book, dance (if you can remember how), chat with a friend.

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BELONG: do something with someone, join a sports club, book club, catch up with your mates, attend community events, connect with your neighbours.

COMMIT: Do something meaningful, volunteer, take on a challenge, learn something new, help out a friend or neighbour, commit to a cause.

So now you can see why the Shed management felt that our shed and this program are a great fit. By becoming a member and participating in shed activities you are becoming involved in many of the suggested activities identified above.



Health & Wellbeing

The talk on 22 February by Ian Brabazon about MediAlarm was well received by about 19 members and partners. Ian explained how this alarm can be very helpful in the event of an accident, illness or fall where nominated people will be contacted and help can arrive. This would be of great benefit to anyone living alone, particularly older people. The device works not only in the home but outside and wherever there is mobile phone coverage. The MediAlarm is also at a very reasonable price and if anyone who missed the talk would like to find out more please contact Ian direct on 0407 384 184.

We will be looking at doing a talk approximately every six weeks. If any members have requests or suggestions of subjects for talks please let me know so I can follow up and make plans. I would also like to thank Ian Brabazon for suggesting this presentation.

Welfare

I have made contact with several members that have not been around the shed recently and the good news is that most of them are recovering well but slowly after major operations.

Terry Barrett was seen at the shed recently for a coffee and a chat, and is recovering slowly.

Athol Simmonds – I spoke to Athol's son Dave and he has informed me that Athol is doing okay but is concerned about Covid and has decided to stay away from the shed for the time being until things settle down.

Peter Crake has had a major operation on his foot and has a long road to recovery and is expected to be at the shed for a coffee and a chat in the near future.

It was also good to see Robbo Rao at the shed last week.

Geoff Bowra has informed me that Ross Evans and David Frame are away from the shed due to medical issues.

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Wayne Brouwer has recently had a medical issue but is on a long road to recovery.

Phil Measday has recovered from a hernia operation, however still needs to take it easy for some time yet.

Les Siemens has last week undergone some serious surgery. He will be undertaking rehabilitation for a period and is hoping to get back to riding once again with the cycle group. David Gardiner is in daily contact with Les. We wish Les all the best in his recovery and rehabilitation.

I would like to wish these members a speedy recovery and reassure them that all members at the shed are looking forward to seeing them back around the coffee table for a laugh and a chat.

Thanks to members that have contacted me about their health issues, our thoughts are with them.

If any members have issues that are keeping them away from the shed we wish them a speedy recovery and would like to see their faces around the coffee table for morning tea soon.

Men's Sheds of W A have organised a men's health event at the Brunswick Junction Men's Shed for 17th March. This will focus on men's health issues and also a workshop for welfare officers to be conducted by Richard McAllister and Rebecca Talbot.

Once again, we need to be Covid safe at the shed and abide by current regulations put out by the Government.

Kind regards,

Graham Hughes

Welfare Officer 0419 514 631

Dehydration in People over 60....

Article By: *Arnaldo Liechtenstein*, Physician.

Whenever I teach clinical medicine to students in the fourth year of medicine, I ask the following question;

What are the causes of mental confusion in the elderly?

Some offer: "Tumours in the head". I answer: No!

Others suggest: "Early symptoms of Alzheimer's". I answer, "No!"

With each rejection of their answers, their responses dry up.

They are even more open-mouthed when I list the three most common causes:

- Uncontrolled diabetes - urinary infection – dehydration.

It may sound like a joke, but it isn't.

People over 60 generally stop feeling thirsty and consequently stop drinking fluids when no one is around to remind them to drink fluids, they quickly dehydrate.

Dehydration is severe and affects the entire body. It may cause abrupt mental confusion, a drop in blood pressure, increased heart palpitations, angina (chest pain), coma and even death.

This habit of forgetting to drink fluids begins at age 60, when we have just over 50% of the water we should have in our bodies. People over 60 have a lower water reserve. This is part of the natural ageing process.*

But there are more complications.

Although they are dehydrated, they don't feel like drinking water, because their internal balance mechanisms don't work very well.

Conclusion

People over 60 years old dehydrate easily, not only because they have a smaller water supply, but also because they do not feel the lack of water in the body.

Although people over 60 may look healthy, the performance of reactions and chemical functions can damage their entire body.

So here are two alerts:

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- 1) Get into the habit of drinking liquids. Liquids include water, juices, teas, coconut water, milk, soups, and water-rich fruits such as watermelon, melon, peaches and pineapple; orange and tangerine also work.

The important thing is that, every two hours, you must drink some liquid. Remember this!

- 2) Alert for family members: constantly offer fluids to people over age 60. At the same time, observe them.

If you realize that they are rejecting liquids and from one day to the next, they're irritable, breathless or display a lack of attention, these are almost certainly recurrent symptoms of dehydration.

Safety & Risk Management subcommittee

Vaccination Status Report:

Total Members =	176
Certificates received =	141 (80%)
Boosters =	104 (74%)
No certificates =	35 (20%)

The list of persons who have not provided proof of vaccination was discussed. It was felt that some of those are probably vaccinated but have not bothered to supply the evidence. Others on the list are not expecting to be visiting the Shed

If you have not had your booster and you are unsure of what date you can have it I can give you that information from your current certificate.

Once again if you need help to download your certificate and you have your myGov access details I will be happy to help you.

Ray Smith

Chairman Safety & Risk Management Committee

COVID 19 TESTING: (Hint)

There are many occasions these days for us as individuals to self-test using a RAT kit. Here is a link to a short video by a Melbourne Doctor, Dr. Eric Levi, on how to do it properly. Just cut and paste this link into your web browser. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3GsUARpPPc>



FUND RAISING:

“CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE”

This is ongoing so please continue to bring in your recyclable drink containers.

Other recyclable items (except coffee pods) are being collected but are being processed by the Lyons Club of Gosnells. Any queries please discuss with Brian Beech.

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Re-introducing Food to the Shed

Consideration is currently being given to the re-introduction of lunches to the Shed.

We all understand that the Shed is very much about the health and well-being of the members and in an effort to encourage greater socialisation at the Shed rather than going elsewhere during COVID, consideration is being given to increasing the regular lunches to every Thursday.

Details are still being sorted, however, if you are interested in participating in such activities through either assisting with meals or attending as a diner, please let the social committee know by email to the Secretary.gcms@gmail.com

Finally SHEDDER OF THE YEAR (2021).



Bill Hughes - Recognition well deserved

Presented at the February End of Month BBQ.

I had a better photo of Bill but it needed to be photo shopped!!

SOCIAL SCENE

Social Events

March is the commencement of celebrations marking the 10th year anniversary of the founding of the GCMS. John Bowler produced Shedlight Series 108a to 108d with a selection of photographs depicting activities across those ten years. These Shedlights may be viewed on the Shed website. Celebrations planned for March commenced with:

Big Breakfast at the Shed

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Which was held on Wednesday **March 2nd**. Forty members and partners enjoyed the well-presented meal. Well organised by Geoff Bowra and supported by a number of people on the morning to make this happen. The unexpected rain did not dampen the occasion.



This was followed by a lunch at the Gosnells Pub on the Monday Holiday March 7th. Again John Bowler produced Shedlight Series 109a & 109b capturing some of those attending. Each ticket to the even was numbered and prizes were drawn for the lucky ticket holder. The prizes were manufactured by Shed members. Pictured below are some of the prizes.



Unfortunately revised Covid 19 Health rules meant that a Sundowner event planned for 16th March has had to be postponed to be rescheduled for a safer date later in the year. This event was aimed at thanking people / Organisations who have supported the Shed in our first 10 years.

- *John Travolta tested negative for coronavirus last night. Turns out it was just Saturday night fever.*
- * *I saw an ad for burial plots, and thought to myself, "That's the last thing I need."*
- * *Relationships are a lot like algebra. Have you ever looked at your X and wondered Y?*
- * *A courtroom artist was arrested today for an unknown reason. Details are sketchy.*
- * *I've always had an irrational fear of speed bumps but I'm slowly getting over it.*
- * *I've finally told my suitcases there will be no holiday this year. Now I'm dealing with the emotional baggage.*
- * *If you're not supposed to eat at night, why is there a light bulb in the refrigerator?*

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TABLE TENNIS:

Games start around 9.00 am Monday mornings in the Wiltshire Room and go until we are exhausted, usually around 10.30 am. No great skill or stamina involved. We are strictly a fun group!



CYCLING GROUPS:

GOS GARBAGE CYCLING GROUP

Short Ride Cycle Group

No news is good news!

COFFEE CHEETAHS BIKE MOB

Hi fellow shedders and others!

As far as I'm concerned, the stinkin' hot weather will soon be 'behind' us, and I'm pretty sure, even the most ardent 'sun-lovers', have had enough of the hot weather this summer, a summer we've never had since official recordings began!....who knows what happened before that?

The last month, we've not planned any 'grand' rides with the weather not being conducive for many hours outdoors, but we have still had a few good wee rides around our neighbourhood, thanks a lot to Graham R's incredible and intimate knowledge of every cul-de-sac, laneway, and secret path etc. within 10 kms radius of our shed! We honestly don't know how he keeps showing us new rides week after week!

A couple of weeks ago, he took us to our favourite destination of the cafe at Piara Waters shopping centre, but one day, we're sure he'll 'run out' of new ways to lead us!! Great having Rob S join us most Thursdays these days, and John V due back soon, as his latest caravan trip will surely be coming to an end?

Our old buddy Les S had been 'in the wars', and as I write this column, (Sun 13th Mar. 3-00pm) he is in Hollywood Hospital recovering from major surgery, and If anyone wishes to give him a call, knowing Les well, he'll be most delighted0417 935 673 is Les' number. Get well soon Les, we miss you!

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Until next month



David Gardiner 0417 174 893 Photo **Graeme Gurney**

GOLF NEWS Feb / March 2022.

Over the past four weeks we have played at Hillview with 12 players hitting the course in very hot conditions. Our following game was held at Armadale where we had 13 players on a clear and humid day. We then played Marri Park with 10 players attending on a clear and warm day. Our last game was at Armadale with 11 players.

Overall winners have been Ron, Chris B, Drew and Lloyd. Closest to the pin winners have been Warren, Drew, Phil and Lloyd. This month we added another prize, this is awarded to the person that has the longest putt on a prenominated hole. The first winner was Bill H followed by Bill D and Vic. The following players have been playing without much luck over the past few weeks, Lloyd, Bill H, Rob S and Drew.

It is pleasing to see that we have had various winners this month.

Until next month, happy golfing.

Kevin Cragan.

Photography Group:

We had five people attend the first meeting in over a year. We discussed how we wanted the group operate into the future. We agreed to have bi-monthly meetings with a photo shoot excursion on the alternate month, bi-monthly. The aim was to get out as a group and take photos.

With the borders opening up we had a discussion on the gear you need when on holidays. The gear you take will depend on the type of holiday you having and the priority photography is a part of your holiday.

When: Tuesday 12 April 2022, 1 pm at shed

Where: Fremantle.

Carpooling leaving the shed and meeting at Parry St Car Park.

What on: Architectural / historic building photo shoot.

Afternoon coffee at a cafe

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Please contact me if you are interested in joining the group or coming to Fremantle with us.

André Hoareau

0457 680 489

computing.gcms@gmail.com

Computer and Technology Group:

All the classroom PC's are now working and available for members use.

Technology Help Desk

Friday 9:30 – 12pm

NBN?, Baffled by your phone, want to do more with your iPad, PC too slooow.

Friday's one on one sessions are available. I can provide help in any area of technology. This includes PC's, laptops, tablets, iPads, phone, camera, TV's, photography and any software package (Windows, IOS or Android). I'm happy to try and resolve your technology issues.

Book a time:

Put your name down for the next available Friday's time slot and describe your problem on the whiteboard in the computer room. Consults are up to two and a half hours. No House calls!

Windows 10 Classes

Mondays at 9:30 – 12pm

The Windows 10 classes for beginner's is carrying with two shedeers, a full class under current COVID-19 conditions. We have covered the basics on how to find your way around the menus, how the task bar works and using multiple screens or apps at the same time.

We have learnt how to use File Explorer to manage our files and started a basic introduction to using the internet.

Free to all shed members.

André Hoareau

computing.gcms@gmail.com

André Hoareau

computing.gcms@gmail.com

Hi ALL,

MUSIC MEN:

Well it's been a productive month Music Wise!! With three new songs accepted, polished and filed away.

'NEW BOYS': Allan Boyle and John Taylor have settled in quite well and Allan has purchased a New Amplifier and seems pleased with it.

It will take the 'New boys' many weeks to get through our 'Vast' collection of songs but persistence will pay off!!

Ross Evans has not been able to attend any sessions in March due to ILL Health and we wish him a speedy recovery.

We meet on a Wednesday from 12 noon until around 4p.m and on a Thursday from 9a.m. until around 1p.m. so grab a cuppa and pop in, take a seat and test out your hearing aids.

That's it for this Month,

GEOFF BOWRA

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MODEL GROUP:

Greetings everyone,

Numbers attending in March have been down due to ILL Health or isolating due to Covid contacts but those who have attended have been busy with various Model Projects.

LEGGO Models are on the Up-and-Up and some lovely creations have emerged!!

SOME of our Disabled members [and carers] have not been allowed to attend as they have NOT Produced their Proof of Vaccination Certificates. BUT RULES ARE RULES >>> SORRY!!!

SO!!.. if you wish to pop in for a look at what we do and partake in our sumptuous afternoon teas, then note that we get together on a Thursday from 1p.m. until 4p.m.

Bye for now,

GEOFF BOWRA



Recipe

Ginger beer hot cross buns

Ingredients

2 x 7g sachets dried yeast; 1/4 cup caster sugar;
1 1/2 cup Bundaberg Ginger Beer (room temp)

Dry ingredients

4 cups plain flour; 1/2 cup powdered milk; 1 teaspoon allspice;
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon; 1 teaspoon ginger powder;
2-3 teaspoon finely diced glaze ginger; 1 cup sultanas; 60g butter;
1 egg;

Flour paste for crosses: - 1/2 cup plain flour; 2 teaspoon caster sugar;
1/3 cup water;

Glaze: - 1 tablespoon caster sugar; 1 teaspoon gelatine; 1 tablespoon water

Let's Bake!

1. Combine yeast, sugar and warm Bundaberg Ginger Beer in a bowl, cover and stand in a warm place until mixture is frothy. Approximately 15 minutes.
2. Sift dry ingredients into a large bowl, mix in yeast mixture, egg, sultanas and diced ginger. Mix well, cover and place in a warm spot until doubled in size. Approximately 45 minutes.
3. Grease 23cm square slab pan.
4. Turn dough onto a floured surface. Knead for 5 minutes. Divide dough into 16 equal size balls. Place balls into prepared pan, stand in a warm place until dough reaches top of pan. Approximated 15 minutes.
5. Preheat oven to 200 degrees Celsius (fan-forced) or 220 degrees Celsius (standard)
6. Mix flour, sugar and water together to form a smooth paste for crosses.
7. Cut corner from clip lock bag. Place paste in bag and pipe crosses on buns.
8. Bake in the oven for 20 minutes until browned.
Turn onto a wire rack and brush with warm glaze.

Make the glaze - Put ingredients in a small saucepan. Stir without boiling until sugar and Gelatine are dissolved.

Do you have a recipe to share??



HOUSE CLEANING:

Cleaning Roster

We are in need of more members to join our merry band on the cleaning roster.

There are 17 of us on the roster working in pairs once a week on Mondays. That leaves one member orphaned. At present, we are roster on once every nine weeks.

The cleaning is not onerous and takes no more than one hour to complete.

We clean Lewis House and the office of the Workshop Manager. Tasks include, vacuum/mop floors, clean toilets, empty bins, replenish toilet consumables (if necessary). Cleaning products are provided. These are only light duties and definitely **NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED**.

As an organisation run by solely by volunteers, we rely on the support of all members to help keep the operations going. Don't sit back and leave it to someone else, otherwise, it will be left to the few to carry the burden. Participation is rewarding and you will be helping make the Shed more enjoyable for your fellow Shedders.

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If you can spare the time and are physically able, please come forward and I will add you to the roster.

Thanks

Mick (Alan's cleaning buddy)

ROSTER! FOR NEXT 6 WEEKS: Please check the notice board!

Week commencing		
212/03/22	Andre Hoareau	John Millar
28/03/22	Gordon Thornton	
04/04/22	Warren Standing	Graham Robinson
11/04/22	Patrick Bartlett	Geoff Wiltshire
18/04/22	Phil Measday	Jim Ridgwell
25/04/22	Alan Gordon	Mick Atkinson

**If you are unable to do the day allocated please contact the next person on the list to
Please note we have a vacancies on the Roster! Please volunteer at the front Office.**

Hey!

In case you feel bad about missing your exercise today, ponder this:

- *The inventor of the treadmill died at the age of 54.*
- *The inventor of gymnastics died at the age of 57.*
- *The world bodybuilding champion died at the age of 41.*
- *The best footballer in the world, Maradona, died at the age of 60.*
- *James Fuller Fixx, credited with helping start America's fitness revolution by popularizing the sport of running, died of a heart attack while jogging at age 52.*

BUT ...

- *The KFC inventor died at 94.*
- *Cigarette maker Charles Winston died at the age of 102.*
- *The inventor of opium died at the age of 116, in an earthquake.*
- *And, the Hennessy Liquor inventor died at 98.*

How did smart people come to the conclusion that exercise prolongs life?

The rabbit is always jumping up and down, but it lives for only two years, and the turtle, that doesn't exercise at all, lives 400 years.

Get some rest, chill, stay cool, eat, drink and enjoy your life!

WHAT HAVE OUR MEMBERS BEEN UP TO!

Last week I travelled up to Kalbarri with my mates Eric and Jaden to compete in the Kalbarri Sports Fishing Classic. A 3 day fishing comp held each year over the Labor Day long weekend.

I have fished this comp lots of times but Eric and Jaden have only fished it for the last 5 years or so.

We fished in the game-fishing section from Eric's 6.8m wet centre console boat. Luckily the weather was not so bad and we did not get too wet this time.

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Finding things a bit slow because of the green water, we changed from trolling to attempt a pink snapper on 2kg line. To score points in the game fishing section one has to land a fish greater in kilograms than the line used. After losing multiple fish to the reef, broken lines, sharks etc. Eric landed a snapper of 2.19kgs.

The second day also slow fishing, I landed a Spanish mackerel of 7.99kg on 4kg line and Jade a 3.5kg tuna on 3kg line. The mackerel was enough points to win the Top Gun Award for the day. We were still behind the leading boat that had a 15.5kg tuna on 6kg line.



On the final day we lost a few tuna on 2kg and 3kg line, before I managed a 2.7kg tuna on 2kg line. When returning to the weigh-in found that we were the only boat to present a game fish that day, putting us in the lead. At the trophy presentation dinner that evening our achievements were confirmed with winning the Highest Point Scoring Snapper for Eric, Highest Point Scoring Mackerel for me. We also won the Champion Game Boat 6-7m and I picked up the ultimate prize, Champion Angler Game Overall! A very successful and rewarding result made more so as the last tuna was caught on a lure I made in the Men's Shed prior to the comp!

As the weather was still good we decided to go for a social fish for bottom species at a remote spot called "Jurassic Park" the following day. It sure lived up to its name, as every drop was a fish that either destroyed our tackle or was eaten by a shark. We got a few good fish up buy moving from the sharks and I landed this personal best red emperor of 11.5kgs. A memorable trip out from Kalbarri.

Laurie Malton



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Emu built from metal rods by ***Glynn Hart***, now fossicking in his back yard.



GCMS Local and Family History Group

Did you know? Pt 6 The Bell(e)s of Gosnells

Archibald Day Bell was born in Highfield, Direlton, East Lothian, Scotland on September 23 1835. He became a ship's Captain, and settled in Dunedin, Otago, New Zealand. His wife to be Jessie Margaret Hay, was born in Keith, Morrayshire, Scotland on June 29 1841, and in New Zealand, after their marriage on 15th March 1864, Jessie subsequently gave birth to three sons and ten daughters. Captain Bell died of a heart attack, on September 8, 1900, en-route, moving his family to WA, to take up the post as Commandant of Fremantle Port. His own father, (dying 4th May 1885) and other siblings, had moved Ripley, Dodge, Minnesota. Jessie stayed on with the family at 37 Chatsworth Road, Highgate, Perth until she died there on 17th August 1912, leaving an estate of £83/11/10d.

Two of their daughters were to have a direct involvement with Gosnells. Violetta Florence Bell, born in 1880, and her younger sister, 1884, Agatha Lillian Bell, known as 'Gathie' – had interests with property in Gosnells. Agatha of course, married our Edward Thomas Lewis, to set up the Lewis Homestead, but her sister 'Vi' had a more turbulent life.



Violleta met Percy Patrick Bouvlet M Rattigan in Perth: he was a near neighbour and friend of Edward Thomas, and probably that is how the sisters first met their husbands. Percy's life ended tragically...

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He was born in County Roscommon, Ireland on November 26th, 1869, and with his mother and 8 siblings, but no father, arrived in Melbourne as Assisted Ticket Passengers (No 760) on August 3rd, 1883 on the maiden voyage of the SS Pathan.



By 1903 he was living at 614 Hay Street, Perth, and employed as a Manager for Foy and Gibson, the well-known Department Store. He married Violetta in 1904. By 1906, he had purchased Lot 31, now Astley Street in Gosnells, a year before Edward bought 1099, but was paying reduced Rates of 2% on an asset value of 150 pounds, as the land was undeveloped.

However, whatever his plans, he committed suicide having been sacked by Foy and Gibson. As reported in the Perth Daily News, the Acting Coroner, J C Brickhill JP, found the death had been caused by a single revolver bullet to the head. On the 2nd April 1909, he had been sacked; on the next day he bought a revolver and was found dead in scrub on the south shore of Monger's Lake on the 4th. Constable Suntor was called, and gave testimony he'd found a note addressed to Violetta, stating he was the first of his family to ever be sacked, and he could not live with the shame. Buried at Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth.



Subsequently Violet sold the Astley Street land to George Nelson, and moved to Subiaco having vacated Hays Street. In 1913 she was working at the newly opened Exchange Hotel in Pingelly as a barmaid, and by 1914 had married Joseph Malloy (1876 – 1965) and a son in 1915. She died in 1970 and is buried at Peakhurst, NSW.

Next Month: The Armstrong Family – early pioneer days and some shenanigans!

Please contact: beckett226@gmail.com or telephone afternoons on 9398 1572 if you are interested in local, or your family's history. Help will be provided!



FOR SALE
Proceeds to the GCMS.

\$50.00
ONO
Contact
Graham Bartley-Smith

- * *My dad died when we couldn't remember his blood type. As he died, he kept insisting "be positive," but it's hard without him.*
- * *Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.*

The Gosnells Community Men's Shed News

Batteries

GCMS members may all be aware that, in recent weeks, there have been two major domestic fire incidences in Perth suburbs, purportedly caused by exploding Lithium-Ion batteries. Both of these incidents have led to the total destruction of the premises involved.

My purpose in writing this article is to warn our membership of the dangers inherent in the use of these batteries, coming from someone experienced in large battery use. That experience amounted to 30 years working in Telecommunications in W.A., installing and maintaining Telecom and Telstra equipment in many parts of this state. And wherever there is an exchange, big or small, there are also battery banks, big and small.

The first thing to say is, wherever there are batteries, big or small, there are built in risks involved. But, with most battery powered products these days, there are usually easily understood directions, mostly. Also, you can't account for those who don't read them.

So far as I can determine, we are the biggest problem. But, we're not responsible for them all. An example is the advertising associated with the sales of vehicle batteries. In particular, new Lithium batteries. There is one local manufacturer who regularly takes out full or half page adverts in Saturdays West. I have yet to see any warnings or instructions appearing in these ads. That, obviously, is a commercial decision, I say dangerous.

So, to the Nitty Gritty of this problem!

So far as I can see, the main problem is in the charging of these batteries. Where product instructions warn that full charging should be avoided, TAKE NOTE. Where a figure on percentage charge is shown (most say 90%), adhere to that figure. If you are unsure of how to arrive at that figure, go for a lower one, say 80% or 75% and, WITHOUT FAIL, monitor your charge often (2 hourly or less). Avoid overnight charging, you can't sleep and charge safely. Take note of the fact that, in the case of the two recent disastrous fires, L-Ion batteries were being charged, unsupervised, overnight.

Finally, in a recent report by the U.S. Fire and Emergency Authority, over a recent five year period, there were 25000 fires and explosions involving 40 different size/types of lithium batteries. That's 5000 annually. The types ranged from mobile phones to large commercial vehicle batteries.

If members are interested in looking at the website, they will see some glaring examples of various lithium battery fires, including a mobile phone, and the incredible amount of damage that fire caused. I'm sure if everyone looked at that, they'd get the message.

If you Google "Lithium - Ion Battery Fire Statistics", you'll get the message, I'm sure.

Cheers,

Rob Cairns.

GCMS founding member.



Your Shed! Our Shed! Our Future!