

Centenary Shedders

Issue No. 10 | December 2021



Our Bird Nest Boxes installed at Lorikeet Park

As part of our Shed's diverse contributions to the local community, we were pleased to respond to a request from Cr Sarah Hutton, Councillor for Jamboree, to build a number of bird nest boxes for installation in a local bushland park.

At Council's request the nest boxes were purpose built by our members to suit Rainbow Lorikeets and similar sized birds. Subsequently installed by Council at the appropriately named Lorikeet Park, lorikeets wasted no time in occupying new bird boxes, as evidenced in the photograph. The park, located in Dandenong Road opposite Mount Ommaney Centre, was so named in recognition of the birdlife that relied, for many decades, on the hollow-bearing trees that existed in the bushland in and around this site.



By Kirk Taylor

In the early 2000s, trees had been cleared near this site to make way for the neighbouring housing development. As part of the development approval, to offset the lost hollow-bearing trees the developer installed nest boxes on trees in the remaining land that became Lorikeet Park. With those original nest boxes falling into serious disrepair over recent years, local environment group Centenary and District Environment Action Inc (CDEA) made representations to Cr Hutton for their replacement with new nest boxes. Agreeing to proceed with the project, Cr Hutton commissioned Centenary Suburbs Men's Shed to construct the nest boxes.

This is a good example of local groups partnering with Brisbane City Council for projects which benefit our community and, as in this case, the environment as well. Our Shed was pleased to make its contribution to this community project.

Story by Ed Parker

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Christmas wishes from the President

Hi all. Just a short note for the end of 2021.

Many thanks to all supporters. You help our shed to exist immensely.

Some exciting news this year as the ATO have confirmed our DGR status. We can now issue Tax receipts for both cash donations and "in kind gifts" The latter allows for a value to be placed on articles that are given to the shed and receipt issued to the donor. We can see that as being a wonderful way to acknowledge these gifts.

Given the ups and downs of 21 the shed has thrived and our projects have provided the shed with excellent cash flow. Thanks to all the hard working members that put in many hours every week.

We would also like to thank the Murphy Foundation for the very large grant that they have given our shed. It is really appreciated by all.

I would like also to record Eric Finlay's hard work as our grounds man. Eric keeps the grounds in wonderful condition. Thanks mate.

May I on behalf of the committee thank all for their support in 2021 and we look forward to working with you in 22.

To all your families and your good selves a Merry Xmas and a great New Year.

Regards David

Garry's Art goes BIG.



Ballet International Gala (BIG) will hosts dancers from the world's leading ballet companies as well as four Queensland ballet dancers for seven intimate performances at QPAC's playhouse theatre and our own Centenary Suburbs Shed member, Garry Dolan will be involved ,providing numerous pieces of his art to be used as an integral part of the performances.

Garry will be creating large one-off paintings to be used for the backdrops to the ballet acts. Each painting will be digitally scanned and slightly animated to be projected onto the stage while the dancers are performing. He will be painting an old harbour scene which will have flags fluttering in the breeze and birds flying through the sky for the backdrop to the performance of le corsair, a pirate story. This will be the first time that this technology will be used for a major ballet anywhere in the world.

Gary has been a full time artist for the past twenty years, his passion for the arts has taken him throughout the World.

He responded to an article in the Shed's newsletter seeking an art tutor for the newly completed Art shed. As a member of the Shed, Gary has been conducting art classes at the Men's Shed for the past two years where about nine of our regular art members are starting to benefit from Gary's very patient tuition. The Ballet International Gala will host its World premier exclusively in Queensland in January, performing seven intimate performances at QPAC'S Playhouse Theatre Between the 26th-30 January, 2022

'BIG', the Ballet International Gala, will host its world premiere exclusively in Queensland this coming January, performing seven intimate performances at QPAC's Playhouse Theatre between the 26th – 30th January 2022.



Neneka Yoshida, Principal artist with the Queensland Ballet, will be performing at the International Gala is pictured with Garry admiring his painting of her

Renovated to Last Another Seventy Years.



Original Box

Vicki and Neil Huddy of Riverhills, are starting to plan for their retirement, looking to down-size and discarding what will no longer be required by the family in future years.

Making a decision about what will be discarded and what to keep is a difficult one, as everything within a home has a connection in some small way to the family's past.

An ornate wooden Japanese blanket box that has been part of the family history for more than seventy years was a cause for discussion, showing the ravages of time, the question, will it be kept or disposed of.

Vicki's father, Keith Jessop, joined the Royal Australian Navy at 18 years of age and found himself in Japan serving in the British Commonwealth Occupation Force after the end of WWII. After several tours of duty on board HMAS Bataan, he returned to Australia with a souvenir from Japan for his mother, an ornate wooden blanket box which has remained in the family for the past 70 years.

Vicki's husband contacted the shed to ascertain if there were members with restoration skills to restore the family treasure. Two of the shed member's John Mahler and Ed Reece accepted the challenge and spent twenty long hours sanding, washing, scrubbing and cleaning the wood work that has intricate Japanese carvings etched into the grain. They also made repairs to the ornate brass clasp.

For the final finish John and Ed used a concoction of Neatsfoot oil and bees wax that was sourced from our own bee hives which they rubbed into the timber, enhancing the grain, bringing it back to its original beauty.

Vicki and Neil were ecstatic with the finished restoration and assured the shed members it would remain in the Huddy family for another seventy years.



Shed manager Ian Schroder, Vicki and Neil Huddy with their renovated family heirloom.

Gardening makes you Groovy

The personal rewards derived through gardening are enormous, whether it's the gardens of ancient Greece and Rome or our own vegetable gardens here at the Shed, the rewards are enormous.

Gardening makes you patient and humble, it insists that you observe seasons and weather, putting you in sync with the natural world. It permits you to get unapologetically dirty. It's most satisfying to grow from seed, you feel like a minor deity that creates and sustains life.

About one year ago I was asked to assist Ian Schroder with the gardening, I was unaware of the disastrous start to growing vegetables in the newly established garden beds. When the garden were first established we were supplied with soil that included more clay than good soil which would not sustain life.

A complete renovation of the garden beds by changing the soil and adding mulch as well as an enormous amount of TLC has produced a remarkable response to the recent growth of our vegetables.

The members are starting to reap the benefits with access too fresh vegetables which should all be available for the Christmas season such as tomatoes, celery, beans, carrots, garlic, passion fruit, herbs and capsicum.



Mal Lancaster proudly displays a bunch of healthy carrots.

For Sale

These tried and tested Bird Boxes can be seen high up in the trees in bushland in the City Council Wards of Jamboree and Walter Taylor providing homes for many types of birds.

There is a continuing demand for these bird boxes which the Men's shed has been making for the past two years. They can be purchased for a cost of \$60 by contacting Mr Ian Schroder at the shed on 0415545568 email. ischroder@live.com.au



Skilled Woodworkers

This dedicated group of woodworkers have been making prestigious photographic display boxes for Brilliant Prints one of the leading supplier of canvas printing to Professional and retail photographers throughout Australia and to clients in several overseas countries and a sponsor of the men's shed for the past two and a half years.

The display boxes used by professional photographers to display family photographs such as weddings where there are numerous images of the event.

Working on the project two days a week these shed member have produced 1350 display boxes which now take pride of place in homes throughout Australia.



Left : Allan Commerford, Col Howarth, Norman Grough, Graham Chen, Jon Churven, Peter Moratis

Community Award for Leadership

About 200 volunteers from the Jamboree Ward were guests of Cr Hutton at the Jamboree Community Christmas Party held at the Jindalee Bowls Club on Thursday 9th December.

David Cope, president of the Centenary Suburbs Men's Shed, was presented with a certificate by Cr Hutton for his strong leadership. He was one of several volunteers who received community recognition.





A BBQ Breakfast was supplied for our sponsors at the shed for the final gathering before the festive season.

REFURBISHED "CLOCKS" PROJECT



The above Marine Brass Clock and Hydrometer Set were given to shed member Trevor Remphrey in 1987 in recognition of 25 years employment with Honeywell Pty. Ltd.

Trevor was involved in the early development of marine engine room automation systems which allowed unmanned engine room operation at night, resulting in less stress on staff and greater safety at sea.

This gift seemed appropriate to this service. Using the facilities and expertise readily available at Centenary Men's Shed Trevor has now restored these valuable relics after they were recovered from the backyard shed in Westlake.

They are proudly still operating as a feature of his unit's courtyard in Toowong.

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