



# Narooma Men's Shed Newsletter

May 2023 Issue 63



## President's Report



Another very busy and full month just as all of them seem to be! This last month started in a very sociable way. Our hard-working social secretary, Steve McGourty, found us another, yet different, setting to enjoy good company and good food – the Tilba Winery. Thank you Steve. We are looking forward to the next venue you have selected - the Bermagui Pub.

With the return of the whales Reg and co have been kept busy cutting out shapes and touch up painting in preparation for the run towards Christmas. The way the year is passing that will be on us before we know it!

The Dalmeny Market was very successful this month. Although the crowds were not large we had pleasing sales.

The “twin” Bunnings Sausage Sizzles was quite a demand on man-power but well done to both Curly and Dick’s teams. Both the Friday and the Sunday were rewarding even if we did add somewhat to the current infla-

tionary crisis. \$77.00 for 2 sausage sandwiches and drinks was a bit much to charge! Come on,, those who set the price you know who you are!

We’ve started the lapidary sessions. Thank you to Max Friend, the well-known local stone polisher who presented a demonstration. The sessions are being continued guided by the expertise of Eric Teague, Bernard Jackson and Bruce Hughes.

Thank you Council - Taylor’s Lane has been re-surfaced and what a boon it is.

We were well represented at both the Anzac Day Dawn Service and the 11.00 Service. Thank you to Dick Nagle, Jen Nagle, Peter Lonergan, Steve McGourty and Wayne Dineen who were involved with the ordering and laying of our wreath and the taking of photographs. Thanks too to the members who attended the services.

We are also gearing up for the Oyster Festival May 6th. Stall helpers are required. “ **Your Shed Needs you!**”

So, that’s April and now for May.

David Trickett.

## An Anzac Dawn Service

It is dark. The dawn is some way off yet. People are gathering in small groups. Figures huddle in dark jackets against the damp chill. The veterans' medals gleam as they catch the outside lights of the building. Some are lighted by the bright light of the covered patio area of the Club. Some come with remnants of uniforms, a beret, a slouch hat. A blazer or a suit jacket identifies the officials. Others come in sweat shirts or jumpers, track pants or shorts, beanies or baseball caps. Poppies and rosemary mark the sombre intent of remembrance. Some young children drop grandparents' hands and skip off towards the building. Others remain steadfast alongside their beloved veterans, guiding them down the steps and supporting them like a stabilising walking stick. Younger men and women, some bearing the stories of forebears in the ribbons and medals they sport on their right breast, file in respectfully. Greetings, smiles, jokes There is the sound of last minute organization. The dawn light is switched on. The microphone is tapped. The flags lie still against the poles. More come. All ages. Even prams. The numbers swell. The choir softly intones its warm up tune. To prepare for the start of the ceremony the choir touches the emotions of those

past difficult times filled with both hope and fear through the lyrics of "Now is the Hour" The chatter softens. The single beat and the rolling rat-a-tat-tat of the drum sound the mounting of the catafalque party. Six service men and women take up their positions guarding the cenotaph. The "Welcome to Country" is made. The Unknown Soldier is evoked. The Padre leads the prayer of remembrance. The hymn "Lest We Forget" triggers the swelling of emotions. A chorus of birds sounds the on-coming morning light. The Veteran, in all guises, is identified for us cataloguing their duty, their courage, their sacrifice. A prayer of Remembrance reminds us what we have today is the gift of those who surrendered their tomorrows. The poetic vision of "The Soul of Australia" expresses so vividly the experiences that gave forth that soul. Wreaths are laid accompanied by the choir's soft rendition of "God of Our Fathers". Again the birds, with their chorus, add to the feelings of unity within diversity.

The Ode. The Last Post. The raising of the flags. The lowering of them to half mast. The bowed silence. Reveille. The anthems of New Zealand and of Australia. The tones of the didgeridoo. Then the dismounting of the catafalque party.

The Dawn Service is done.

Tim Horstead.

## The Shed at Play - Lunch at Tilba Winery

What a lovely way to pass a beautiful Tilba autumn Saturday!

Twenty-four of us and our guests feasted on a “gourmet’s delight” and slaked our thirsts on an array of nature’s bounty – including the homemade apple cider!

Good food, good drinks, good weather, grand settings, gregarious company – together the makings of a true “ 5G “ experience!

Our next gastronomic expedition will be to Bermagui Hotel on Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon sharp!

Numbers will be needed in advance, so please put your name down on the list at the sign– in table at the Shed’s entrance by Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May.

All the best,

Your Social Secretary, Steve, and his stunning wife, Sally.



## Narooma High School's RoboRebels off to the U.S.



Narooma High School's robotics team, the RoboRebels, qualified to attend the World Robotics Championships in Houston, Texas recently, and they went with some help from the Shed,

They qualified after competing successfully in the South Pacific Regional Robotics Competition held in Wollongong over three days in March –quite an achievement.

The team, aged from 16 to 18, has been working after school twice a week and every Sunday since January to design, build and program their 2023 competition robot. They focussed on coding the robot to achieve a specific task: to balance itself on a see saw bridge.

The RoboRebels have a passion for science

and technology, with their eyes set on futures in this field. To raise funds the team has run holiday robotics camps, attended local community technology events and, for the last two years, has run a Science Day Expo at Narooma High School to showcase emerging technologies and to provide hands on science-based opportunities for local primary students.

The RoboRebels was formed in 2015 following the successful receipt of grants from Google, Macquarie University and Ford with a view to inspiring young people to grow a love of science and technology.

Tim and I were proud to present the team and their teachers the Shed's "BIG" cheque. Maybe the RoboRebels might help us with technology gap!

Martin Cooper

## INFORMATION and ...

### MY AGED CARE –

#### An UPDATE on the UPDATE

It is said that the two things we can't change are death and taxes. Well, there's at least one more – Governments can and do amend the rules as often as they want.

In the March update, I wrote that window cleaning and footwear were now on the decline schedule. Turns out that just in the last couple of weeks: · window cleaning [but not carpet cleaning] is now back on the list of approved services; and · so long as a podiatrist certifies that you need a particular type of shoe, there is a probability that its direct purchase by that podiatrist also qualifies. **However, you won't get reimbursed if you buy the footwear yourself.**

Any future updates will be included in upcoming issues of the Newsletter.

#### MEDICARE "PLAN G" - Nursing Home Plan

##### *An Alternative*

Say you are an older senior citizen and can no longer take care of yourself and the government says there is no Nursing Home care available for you.

So, what do you do?

You opt for "Medicare Plan G".

The plan gives anyone 75 or older a gun (Plan G) and one bullet. You are allowed to shoot one worthless politician. This means you will be sent to prison for the rest of your life where you'll receive three meals a day, a roof over your head, central heating and air conditioning, cable TV, a library, and all the Health Care you need.

Need new teeth? No problem.

Need glasses? That's great.

Need a hearing aid, new hip, knees, kidney, lungs, sex change, or heart?

They are all covered!

As a bonus, your kids can come and visit you at least as often as they do now!

Who will be paying for all of this?

The same government that just told you they can't afford for you to go into a nursing home.

Now, because you are a prisoner in a nursing home., you don't have to pay any more income taxes!

Is this a great country or what?

Now that I've solved your senior financial plan, enjoy the rest of your week!

# Membership

## New Members

If you wish to become a member or you know someone who would like to be a member, please get an application form filled in and return to a committee member of the Narooma Men's Shed.

The membership form can be downloaded from our website from the About Us menu, or collected at the shed.

## Procedures

1. All members are to complete an application for membership form.

**WHY:** It is a legislative requirement of bodies that individuals apply for and are accepted as members.

Once you become a member you are covered by the incorporated body's insurance.

2. All members are to complete the Member Record Card.

**WHY:** In case of an emergency such as an accident while at the Men's Shed, it is important that we have the name and contact of a person you nominate to be contacted in such events. Naturally, the ambulance would be called if necessary.

3. All members are to sign the attendance sheet each and every time they are present at the Men's Shed.

**WHY:** In case of an accident and any subsequent insurance claims, it is vital that the organisation and you can prove you were at the Men's Shed at the time of the accident.

4. The weekly fee of \$5 is to cover refreshments (tea/coffee etc.) as well as workshop consumables (e.g. sandpaper, drill bits etc.). annual fee is \$60



# Humour



A politician never lies.

A politician was visiting a remote little rural town in Australia and asked the locals what the government could do for them.

"We have two big needs," said the townspeople.

"First, we have a hospital but no doctor."

The politician whipped out his iPhone, spoke for a while and then said, "I have sorted that out. A doctor will arrive here tomorrow.

What is your other need?"

The townspeople replied, "We have no mobile phone reception in our town".

**Do these look like they're laughing or have I gone crazy?**



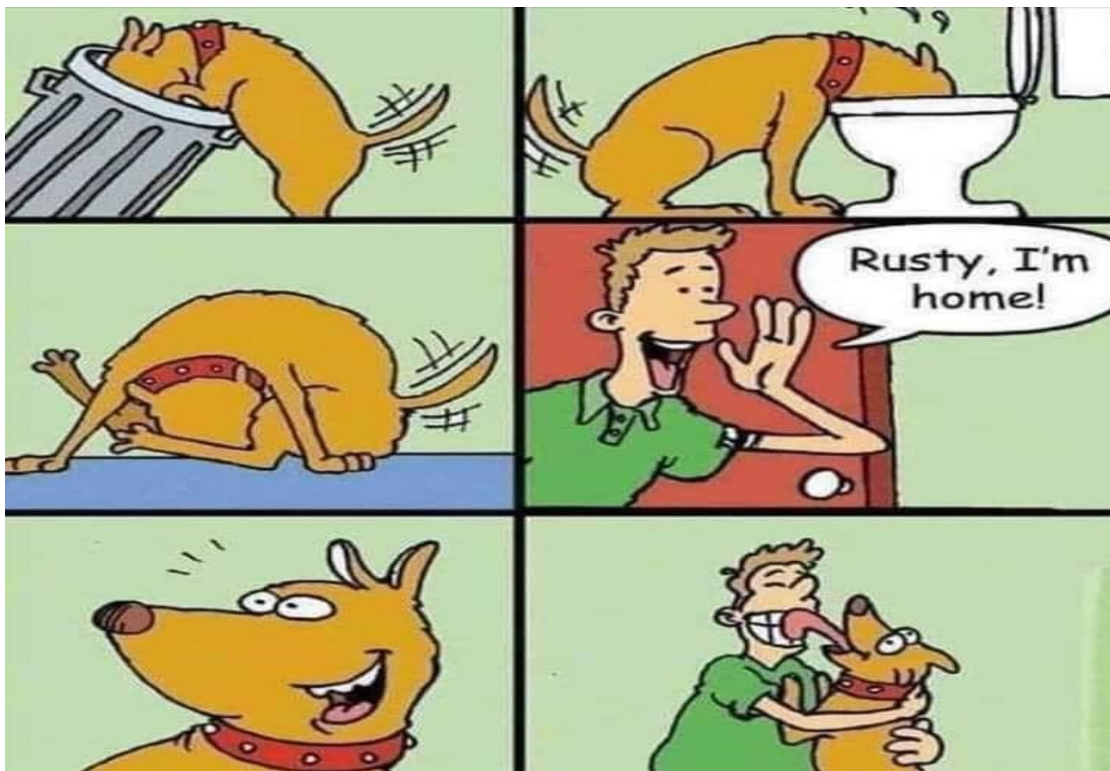
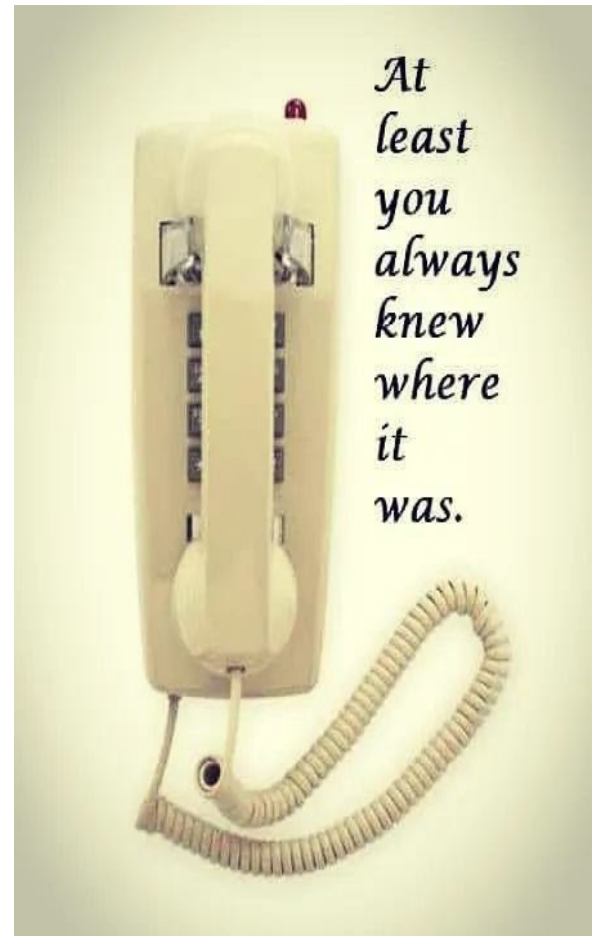
Sometimes the grass will appear greener on the other side because it has been fertilized by bullshit.





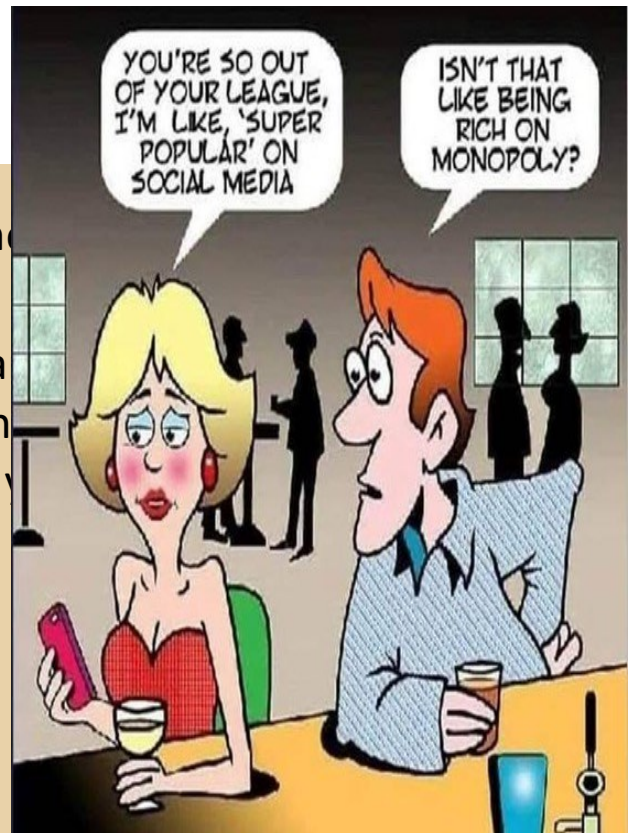
When I die I want my last words to be, "I left a million dollars under the..."

WisdomChief.com.com

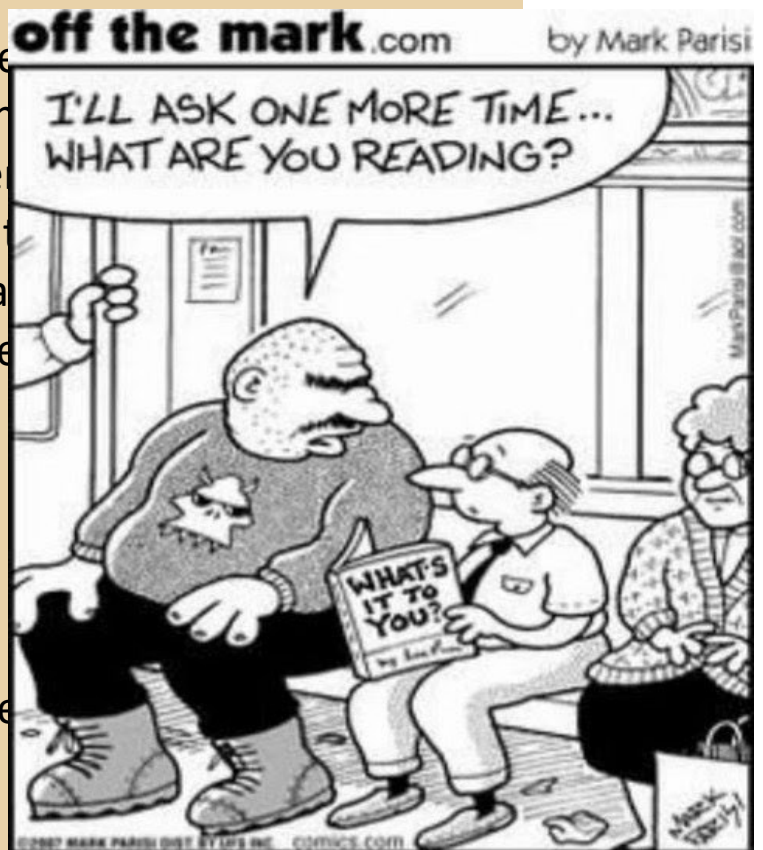




COFFEE IN HAND, SUPPLIES AT THE READY,  
ALIGE SETTLES IN, WAITING FOR THE  
FIRST TELEMARKETER TO CALL.

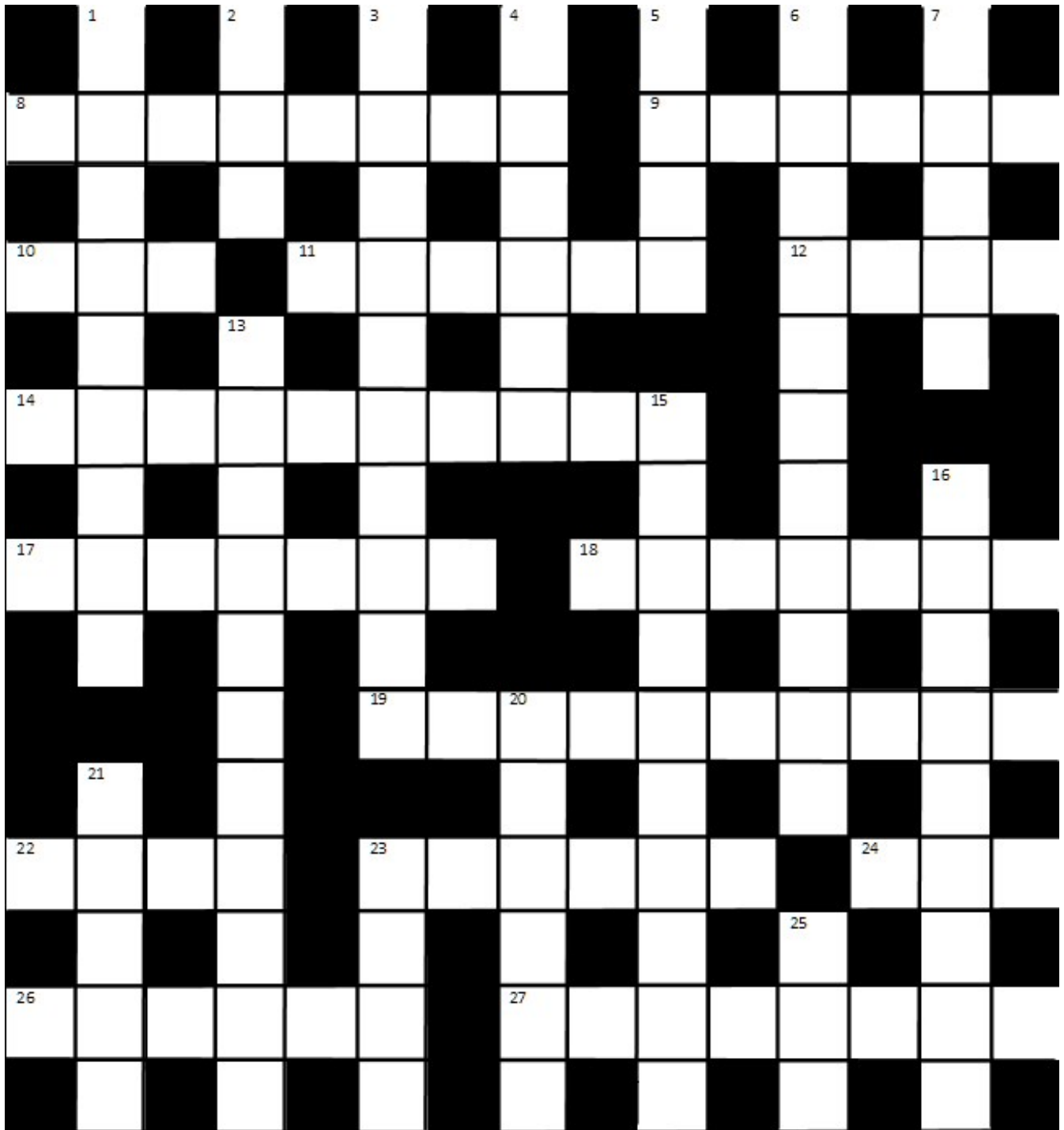


Home  
en a  
vern  
for y



They are all covered!

# Crossword #8



## ACROSS

- 8 Pejorative term for post-Roman period in Europe (4,4)
- 9 An antelope or a sports shoe
- 10 Greenback (1,1,1)
- 11 Place under a debt of gratitude
- 12 Rich meat sauce, usually with pasta
- 14 Modification
- 17 Incensed
- 18 Riding the long paddock with stock
- 19 Football club in postcode 5453 (5,5)
- 22 Throw a line
- 23 Result
- 24 Japanese oyster diver
- 26 Water surrounded, e.g., by a reef
- 27 Angular distance from the equator along a meridian

## DOWN

- 1 Follows behind (4,5)
- 2 Glide on snow
- 3 Whisks
- 4 Home of St Clare, patron saint of television
- 5 Unencumbered
- 6 Covertly
- 7 Furnace for metalwork
- 13 Joyful event
- 15 Direction orthogonal to the equator (5/5)
- 16 A near-neighbour, only 2.5 million light years away
- 20 Not purchased
- 21 Two hundred milligrams of diamonds, for example
- 23 Anatomical companion of radius
- 25 Most tradies have one

## The Evolution of a Landscape Painting

During the lockdown period in Queensland in 2020, I spent much more time in my “studio”, engrossed in my oil painting. This article is a description of the sequence, as a landscape painting came to life under my brush. It began as a panoramic photo taken just with my iPhone, back in March 2019. Jan and I drove up to the end of the road to Charlotte Pass in Kosciuszko National Park, walked the track up to Mt Stillwell and back, then walked the Snow Gum boardwalk, and captured this view towards the top of Kosciuszko. The painting is based on a cropped portion of the photo, fitting a 2 x 1 aspect canvas, in fact 900 x 450 mm.

I composed the painting (using artistic license, as in “creativity”) to focus on the Summit Track (which is why that is the title of the work), and the top of the mountain, which was actually not visible in the photo. Also, as the weather was a bit dull by then, I wanted the viewer to feel like the sun was shining, at least on the foreground grassy area, to make the contrast seen so often in the High Country, of the weather being beautiful one moment, horrible the next!



As a slave to classical composition, I even calculated the focus area to fit the Golden Mean of the Greeks, namely 0.618:0.382, which is 556 mm from the left edge, and 278 mm from the bottom. In the painting, this point is just where the track disappears over the ridge, just below the more distant slopes. I also liked the way the lines of the edge of the grassy area and the line of the snow gums on the middle right converged in that area, and then I deleted some trees to make it a brightly-lit grassy spot as well. I can't remember now, and don't usually record in words the sequence of events, but the photos show where I got to in each session. Before the first photo, I actually painted the whole white canvas in yellow ochre, using acrylic paint. Then came the sky blue over that, as in the first image, and so on, all in Art Spectrum oils. It was all pretty spontaneous, as I went over and over some parts to hit upon the colour combinations I thought best conveyed the textures of the tough alpine plants.



How long did it take? Maybe 30 hours in total once I started painting. I probably spent 3 more thinking it all out. I chose this format as I had already made a rustic frame, as you will see on the end-product. This was made from the off-cuts of Brigalow slabs that were used for the shelves in the outside area of my old Men's Shed in Samford, north-west of Brisbane. I retrieved these from the waste bin and one of the Woodies kindly helped me dress one side and form the rebate using the table saw. I trimmed the bits to size, filled the borer holes, and constructed the frame. I couldn't use mitre joints as the off-cuts were irregular in two dimensions (only the bottom is straight on both sides). I think, in all modesty, that I made a reasonable job with my own invented joints.



The finished framed product is shown on a table easel. Please ask me if you'd like to see it "in the flesh" (or buy it, with half the proceeds going to the Narooma Shed). At our Samford Area Men's Shed, we had a vigorous art group of 6-14 participants, meeting for three hours on a Friday morning. It was very informal, and mentoring was available for complete art newbies from a few more experienced members. Several members who had not touched a pencil or brush in an artistic sense since primary school, pretty soon turned into enthusiastic exponents of drawing and painting, using various media and styles.



**COMMUNITY SHED - word game**  
the challenge is to make over 100 words from the 13 letters

**C O M M U N I T Y S H E D**




# Crossword #8 Answers

	A	E	H	D	A	N	T								
E	D	U	T	I	A	L	N	O	O	G	V	A	L		
	E		U		U		O	L		I		R			
	A	M	A		T	O	H	S	U	P	T	S	A	C	
	O		Y		S		N				A		C		
E	R	E	A	L	C	H	T	U	S	O	S	R			
	D		E		T			R		B		G			
	G	N	I	N	O	R	D		D	E	R	E	G	N	A
	A		I		O			T		L		O			
			T		N	O	I	T	A	R	E	T	L	V	A
	E		E			S		E		C		A			
	G	U	A	R		E	G	L	B	O		D	S	D	U
	R		C		E		S		G		I		G		
	K	O	B	E	E	R		S	E	G	A	K	A	R	D
	F		S		F		A		E		S		T		

# Communication

## NMS Web Site

Remember we have a website

[www.naroomamensshed.com.au](http://www.naroomamensshed.com.au)

Also find us on Facebook Search  
"Facebook Narooma Mens Shed" in your browser.

If you have any news articles and photos that you would like published on the web site, or know of links to other interesting web site e.g. other Mens Sheds, please email details to the web master at [colin381@gmail.com](mailto:colin381@gmail.com)

## AMSA Online

The goal of The AMSA Shed Online is help people connect in the same way they do at the shed – over a cuppa and a laugh. We hope you're here to share information, ideas and make connections with your fellow shedders around the world.

Anyone can contribute comments to the blog posts and participate in conversations on the discussion forums. But, you will need to join the site first.

<http://mensshed.org/theshedonline/>

## Committee Members

### Executive Committee Members

David Trickett	President
Wal Sheehan	Vice-President
Martin Cooper	Treasurer
Tim Horstead	Secretary

### Ordinary Committee Members

Rody Byrne	Public Officer
Dick Nagle	Wood Shed Manager
Peter Lonergan	Metal Shed Manager
Geoff Broadfoot	Meeting Room Manager
Wayne Dineen	