



August 2026

The not so Wrinkly Rag

The Shed is supported by the Shire of Mundaring, Lotterywest, Mundaring Community Financial Services (Bendigo Bank), Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, and the WA Department of Communities.

Donations of \$2 and above are tax deductible – just ask the Treasurer for a receipt.

What's on in the Next Month or 2?

General Meeting	10:30am on 20 th of August 2026.
Annual General Meeting	11:00am on 20th of August 2026.
Wood carvers	7:00pm every Monday – contact Terry 0429-951-393
Fundraising	Next raffle on 5 th of September at Woolies. Ticket sellers needed.
Public Open Saturday (usually last Saturday of the month unless it's a public holiday)	29 ^h of August - Open Morning 8:00am-noon. Bacon & egg toastie and juice plus tea or coffee for \$5 - 8:00am–10:00am. All welcome, even family, friends, neighbours.
Thursday Theatre	10:30am on 3 rd of September 2026 in the main hall – <i>Goldfinger</i>
Committee Meeting	11:00am on 10 th of September 2026.
Deadline for Wrinkly Rag copy	5:00pm on 11th of September 2026.
Wrinkly Rag publish	5:00pm on 13 th of September 2026.
Speakers' Circle	10:30am on 27 th of August 2026 – Mick Cotter - <i>prospector and miner, and pastoralist developing property on the Western fringe of the Nullabor</i>

Editorial – Ross Boughton

Wrinkly Rags are published by the Monday before the monthly general meeting based on information provided up to the previous Friday, being the day after the monthly committee meeting.

Please send articles of general interest (up to 2 A4 pages), photos, funnies, leads to president@mundaringshed.org.au for inclusion in the Wrinkly Rag. Only **minimal** edits will be applied – **spelling and grammar errors** may slip through. 😊

Normal publishing rules apply – if you “borrow” material, please attribute it to the owner.

Disclaimer

The information in this publication is of a general nature. The articles contained herein are not intended to provide a complete discussion on each subject and/or issues canvassed. Mundaring Community Men's Shed Inc does not accept any liability for any statements or any opinion, or for any errors or omissions contained.

President's Patter – Ross Boughton



Our Annual General Meeting is on Thursday and President, Vice president and Secretary positions have already been filled.

We need a nomination for Treasurer.

There will be an election for ordinary committee positions as we've had 8 nominations for 6 positions.

Keeping the Shed safe and tidy

Reiterating: *"In our concept design from 2019 the area with the board table and chairs, leading to the secretary/treasurer office, computer alcove and back doors to the shop and hall is labelled "meeting space". As this is also a thoroughfare, we must maintain accessibility and not leave stuff on the floor. Incoming and outgoing jobs can be left in the respective workshops in areas so designated, but with some form of identification (usually a jobcard tag). Items destined for the workshops that don't warrant a jobcard tag can be identified with notes attached with string, tape or rubber bands (ask the duty manager for supplies).*

Items destined for other members should have a small note attached to their QR code card with a paper clip explaining where the items are. The top shelf above the sink is an acceptable place to leave small items.

Donations for raffles or disposal in other ways can be left on the table in the shop as long as they are labelled. Unlabelled items may be transferred to the "free" table outside.

Fresh produce may be left on the tray so labelled on the boardroom table, but please add a small note indicating its provenance (your name and the type of produce is sufficient e.g. Pat P - cumquats, Neil M - Tahitian limes).

Finally, paperwork for the committee and several appointed positions can be left in the trays above the duty manager desk."

Additionally, the accessible toilet is not a storage facility for other than consumables and mobility aids. The area between the kitchen and library is for bins, cash-for-containers donations and the BBQ. The undercover area between Building 4 (ablutions) and Building 5 (plastics, model railway, CNC etc.) is for a table and chairs only.

Remember: Other members use the shed too!

Don't forget



breakfast on the 29th

New Members

New members in the last month: Please welcome Graeme Maitland and the returning Gez Tsangaris.

Around the Shed

Woodwork (Building 5)

Organising and tidying up has been proceeding apace. I'll get a good montage of photos for next month's Wrinkly. Nick Bains has cut out 6 nesting box kits for a Chidlow Primary School science project. Nick and Pete Airey, Ian Allison, Stephen Fox, Stephan Millett and I (Ross Boughton) spent an hour and a half there today (17th) being mentors to about a dozen and a half year 6 students as they attempted to assemble the kits – more next month.

Plastics (Room 5B)

Lots of noises and smells emanating from the room, so I guess something is happening! Some plastic billets are being turned in the woodwork shop and will be used as corners for picture frames once a 90° chunk is removed.

Metalwork (Building 6)

The box trailer is made – just waiting for some warmer, drier weather to paint it and fit lights before taking it down the hill to get licenced.

On the move - 1

The orange tree has been removed from 3205 Jacoby Street and replanted at #1 to the North-East of the lemon.

On the move – 2

They said it couldn't be done. The whole thing would break. But with the assistance of Gary, Matt and James from the Shire, a miracle has been achieved. Well done Max Hore and Stephen Fox.



RSL Commemoration Concert

On Saturday the 15th the Shed hosted the Mundaring RSL and Parkerville Community band to commemorate Victory in the Pacific (VP) Day (15th of August 1945) and the Battle of Long Tan (18th of August 1966) or Vietnam Veterans Day.

Around 40 people attended, including a handful from MCMS and Trish Cook MHR, Klasey Hirst MLC and Matt Moran (representing RSL WA).



They were treated to sandwiches, chicken nibbles, wraps, tea and coffee on arrival and lamingtons, brownies and other goodies at intermission.



The band kicked off with a set of tunes from World War 2 and after intermission continued with familiar (toe-tapping) favourites from the 60s.



The band played *Sunset* and Eric Smith lowered the flag, then band leader Peter Hind read the ode while the band played *Abide with Me*.

After a respectful silence Peter played *Rouse*, Eric raised the flag, and the band continued with *Advance Australia Fair* and *Waltzing Matilda*.



Daring Red Bloomers – Denise Caldwell



Daring Red Bloomers, a ladies Red Hat group from Mundaring and the Hills get together to share in fun and friendship. It is all about social connection and with the support of MCMS we hold a monthly Activity Day on the fourth Tuesday of the month in their function hall.

For ladies interested in seeing what Red Hatting is all about, we also meet in the MCMS library on the second Tuesday of the month. This day is called our *Natter Day* and it starts at 10am.

What went on in July.

Tuesday July 28th the group shared in morning tea and enjoyed a Xmas party with a twist. Making the most of the winter weather and brightening up a cold dreary day, the Daring Red Bloomers celebrated July with a *Christmas Murder Mystery*. There were themed activities with lots of clues as to who-dun-it as well as added entertainment to keep everyone engaged. Finally, the villain was revealed. Santa Claus and all his helpers get to live on. Unfortunately, Snowman will have to find a way to be rebuilt for next season.

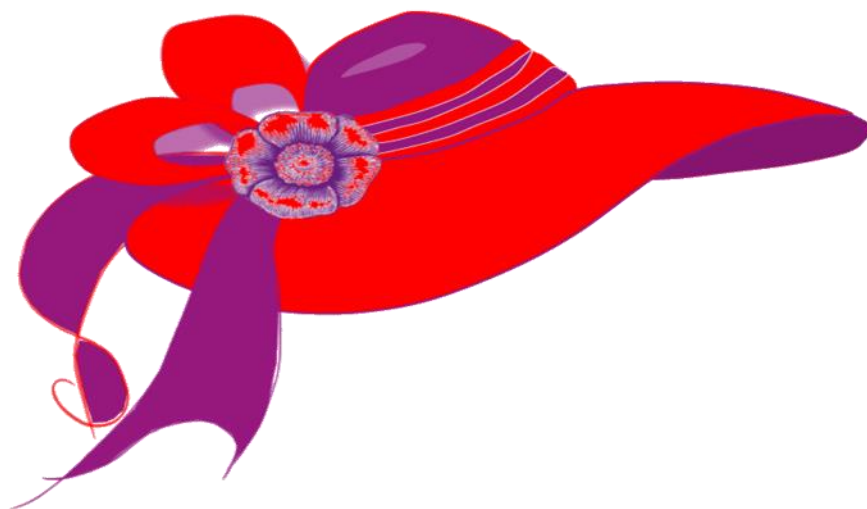


Coming up in Tuesday August 25th at 10 am.

We are looking forward to welcoming Jeff from the Mundaring Historical Society as he shares stories of Mundaring and the Eastern Hills. By learning about our unique local history, we gain a deeper appreciation for the dedicated work that goes into preserving our heritage. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with the past and keep our community's history alive.



All welcome, come and join us for a cuppa and a chat.



Wrinkly Smiles – Eric Smith



Attendance – Stephen Fox

GuestTrack, our entry point check in system yielded 3,882 entries during our membership year July 2025 to June 2026 inclusive and can be viewed as an Excel chart below.

Our best day for attendances is Tuesday with 1,297 recorded attending closely followed by Thursdays with 1,248 and a distant third place for Mondays 481.

Saturdays scored 278 and Fridays 245 and a count of 3 for a Sunday in September the result of some members attending a Camera Club information session.

March had the greatest number attending in one month with 374 and December the least because of our Christmas shut down.

3882 GuestTrack logins during our July 2025 to June 2026 Membership year																																
	Jul					Oct					Jan					Apr					May					Jun						
Tue	1	22					1	2								1											Tue	22				
Wed	2	5					2	22								2											Wed	7				
Thu	3	23					3									3											Thu	45				
Fri	4	3	1	2			4									4											Fri	10				
Sat	5	5	2	5			5	7	1	6						5											Sat	32				
Sun	6		3				6		2							6											Sun	0				
Mon	7	14	4	8	1	7	8	9	3	9	1	12	5	8	2	5	2	28	6	5	4	11	1			Mon	116					
Tue	8	21	5	22	2	23	7	28	4	23	2	21	6	32	3	29	3	5	7	28	5	32	2	27		Tue	291					
Wed	9	9	6	6	3	2	8	1	5	7	3	4	7	8	4	5	4	27	8	34	6	3	3	2		Wed	108					
Thu	10	22	7	20	4	25	9	30	6	31	4	26	8	26	5	25	5	3	9	8	7	34	4	32		Thu	282					
Fri	11	6	8	3	5	5	10		7	2	5	5	9	3	6	4	6	6	10	29	8	2	5	5		Fri	70					
Sat	12	8	9	4	6	3	11	5	8	4	6	3	10	4	7	6	7	1	11	5	9	4	6	4		Sat	51					
Sun	13		10		7		12		9		7		11		8		8		12		10		7			Sun	0					
Mon	14	10	11	9	8	8	13	13	10	11	8	13	12	6	9	9	9	11	13	6	11	14	8	9		Mon	119					
Tue	15	21	12	27	9	5	14	25	11	28	9	29	13	30	10	28	10	28	14	11	12	29	9	32		Tue	293					
Wed	16	6	13	5	10	4	15	6	12	4	10	6	14	4	11	6	11	7	15	31	13	5	10	5		Wed	89					
Thu	17	32	14	25	11	22	16	30	13	34	11	24	15	26	12	29	12	30	16	5	14	32	11	28		Thu	317					
Fri	18	4	15	1	12	2	17	4	14	3	12	3	16	4	13	3	13	3	17	29	15	3	12	4		Fri	63					
Sat	19	2	16	3	13	4	18	6	15	4	13	7	17	5	14	4	14	5	18	4	16	7	13	6		Sat	57					
Sun	20		17		14	3	19		16		14		18		15		15		19		17		14			Sun	3					
Mon	21	14	18	12	15	10	20	10	17	13	15	7	19	8	16	4	16	7	20	5	18	13	15	12		Mon	115					
Tue	22	26	19	22	16	25	21	27	18	26	16	25	20	27	17	19	17	33	21	14	19	33	16	31		Tue	308					
Wed	23	3	20	3	17	8	22	5	19	3	17	5	21	4	18	4	18	5	22	25	20	5	17	3		Wed	73					
Thu	24	25	21	35	18	22	23	23	20	34	18	26	22	21	19	27	19	32	23	6	21	31	18	31		Thu	313					
Fri	25	5	22	4	19	5	24	5	21	4	19		23	3	20	4	20	4	24	26	22	4	19	3		Fri	67					
Sat	26	6	23	7	20	6	25	4	22	1	20		24	6	21	3	21	6	25	2	23	5	20	5		Sat	51					
Sun	27		24		21		26		23		21		25		22		22		26		24		21			Sun	0					
Mon	28	13	25	9	22	10	27	13	24	12	22		28		23	11	23	11	27	5	25	8	22	14		Mon	106					
Tue	29	23	26	24	23	29	28	32	25	26	23		27	29	24	30	24	29	28	26	26	25	23	26		Tue	299					
Wed	30	3	27	1	24	3	29	3	26	10	24		28	6	25	4	25	6	29	4	27	8	24	5		Wed	53					
Thu	31	27	28	29	25	21	30	24	27	29	25		29	26	25	26	25	28	30	31	28	27	25	23		Thu	291					
Fri			29	2	26	5	31	4	28	3	26		30	4	27	4	27	4			29	3	26	6		Fri	35					
Sat			30	7	27	8			29	6	27		31	15	28	16	28	13			30	11	27	11		Sat	87					
Sun			31		28			30		28							29				31		28			Sun	0					
Mon					29	3					29						30	9					29	13		Mon	25					
Tue					30	25					30						31	33					30	26		Tue	84					
Wed											31															Wed	0					
3882																																
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June																				
	358	205	203	338	333	216	305	305	374	330	363	363	3882																			

Beer Factories – Craig Ward

We have had over 100 of these vital suppliers of the amber fluids – breweries. Even though the population of our wonderful, amazing state was low, refreshments were still necessary. The first brewer was Lieutenant R.N. BULL, who sold his first brew at 3/- per gallon (30c per 4.5 litres) in 1830 (Bull Creek flowing into Canning River was named after him). Later, in 1835, W. DEVENISH produced “the best beer in the colony”. Big claims from a monopolist!

There were a number of brewers and breweries throughout Perth. Many of these were “one-night stands”, often connected to a particular tavern and lasting a short time, or bought out by others. Many eventually were incorporated into the Swan Brewery.

In 1837 James Stokes was brewing and selling beer, only 8 years after settlement. The name of this godsend was the ALBION BREWERY, often referred to as STOKES BREWERY, and although the “*Perth Gazette*” praised his ale, the locals held a different opinion – “tangle foot, only to be consumed as a last resort”. A new undertaking was the STANLEY BREWERY, opened in 1848. A “nutritious ale, superior to imported variety” also a “light ale for invalids and nursing mothers”



Stanley Brewery, Perth, 1848.

(Compare this with the current TV ads). This business continued, until 1909, then renamed as the EMU BREWERY Ltd. Later, in 1928, the SWAN BREWING Co.Ltd. took control.

This company commenced in 1857, with a proud heritage dating back to 1837. First as the ALBION BREWERY, later renamed as the STANLEY BREWING Co.Ltd. Following ownership changes, they became the EMU BREWING Ltd. from 1909. A bitter rivalry with the SWAN, which, then in 1928, took control. This was when the amber drop of Emu Bitter Ale was created by Colonel Ballenger, the head brewer. Up until 1980 the Emu held its own until flown over by the “Black Duck Soup” mob.

Along the southern coast, with a large population, a number of establishments were founded. Fremantle was the home of four. In 1834 Anthony Curtis opened his first inn – the STAGS HEAD and added several others. The ales here were often imported and described in the local paper, the “*Perth Gazette*” as “execrable trash which is foisted upon us in the shape of beer”. After he constructed a brewery in 1843, and from further citations, the ales had improved. Later opinions were “heads of families would do well to resort to this establishment”, and “an excellent tippie”. After his death in 1852, his property was sold and advertised as being “a first-rate house and premise, with a brewery and all catering required”.

Forty years later, the next processor was the PORT BREWERY Co Ltd. Owned by Ernest Birch and commenced in 1895. “Of excellent quality and suitable for the varied tastes of all consumers” was the description of its product. A refrigeration plant was proudly operated there, with ice supplied to local families. As well as supplying the hotels, bottled beer was transported to the goldfields. This ceased in 1908.

A short-lived concern was the FREMANTLE BREWERY AND ICE Co. Ltd., from 1898 to 1902. After liquidation it remerged as the aptly named PHOENIX BREWERY, because its “feathers” burnt two years later, in 1904.

Not all of these masterful enterprises had short lives. The CASTLEMAINE BREWING Co. was “born” in 1897 and “died” in 1929, after adoption by the SWAN BREWERY in 1927. Constructed on the Canning Road, it was later rebuilt on Riverside Road on the banks of the Swan River. The river then became the dumping site for beer waste. This disregard upset many locals and spurred the council to threaten legal action. (Heard this before!)

After leaving Fremantle, our odyssey leads us to Bunbury, a thirsty port town with seafarers arriving daily to load timber for foreign lands, and Yankee whalers with money to spend. Two breweries opened their doors in 1897, the FEDERAL and the BUNBURY. Frederic Bouge began the SHAMROCK BREWERY under his own name, later changing it to the FEDERAL BREWERY in 1902, its final title, before an inglorious departure in 1905.

The same year saw the birth of the BUNBURY BREWERY Co. Ltd. in Victoria Street. Their famous “Terrier Pale Ale” and a stout, was so popular that, Archibald Holland, the brewer had to add more vats in 1898. The brew was lapped up enthusiastically in nearby towns and by timber cutters and millers



Transport of vital liquids.

Herman Beigel began his enterprise, in 1903, on the Leschenault River, naming it BEIGEL'S BREWERY CO. Ltd. Before his brewing commenced, the bottling of the Bunbury Brewery's output began his business. A 1902 fire destroyed his bottling plant, but from the ashes began his pursuit of the “perfect” ale. After winning first prize at the National Show in 1903, he boasted of the “not merely the best, but the champion ale”. A truthful advertisement! This success initiated another brewery at WAGIN in 1906. As a member of the Bunbury Municipal Council and Harbour he was a well-respected local. However competition from Perth forced the closure of his two breweries.

Greenbushes, a small dot on the map, but once a rich tin field, supported up to 2000 thirsty toilers. The SOUTH WESTERN BREWERY AND CORDIAL CO. LTD. was the answer to their calls. But the tin ran out and so did the miners, hence a year later the brewery closed its doors. Mining is a fickle pastime!

Heading eastwards, the locals did not miss out of these marvellous body stimulating industries. Narrogin was the first, built by Nicholas Bushalla. It began as a mineral water factory alongside his hotel and upgraded to a brewery in 1903 with an experienced brewer, who stayed for a year. Mr Bushalla had no experience and had poor results. The locals described it as “Mallet bark juice”, after the dark coloured water produced by the mallet bark tanning procedure. In 1910 a new brewer was hired until its closure in 1913.

Northam, being on the road to the Eldorado in the east, also required a brewery. Many men and a few women passed through here on the way to Southern Cross, then to the Eastern Gold Fields. In 1894 when the railway commenced, there were no brewers to supply the thirsty gangs. However, two years later, when the passer-by's increased, Gustavus Luber, a local businessman, built the ECLIPSE BREWERY in Fitzgerald Street, with an experienced brewer to run the show. In 1907, after many owners the AVON BREWING Ltd. was formed to purchase the Eclipse. Their liquid gold was a Pilsener Lager, and as home refrigerators were not available, ice was a mainstay



*Eclipse Tower in Northam
1897-1909*

for them. (Christmas 1956, here in Perth, something wonderful happened. A truck load of fridges arrived by road. It took only three weeks for the trip from Sydney.) Unfortunately, the brewery closed in 1935, which would have caused much hand wringing when later the Northam Army Camp was opened during the war years.

Also, in 1907, a second brewery, the NORTHAM BREWING AND REFRIGERATING CO LTD commenced in York Street near the railway line. Here ales, stout and bitter beers were carefully crafted. Many of these fine beverages were transported to exotic places such as Leonora and Wiluna inland, and to Denmark on the south coast. This great concern had an interesting history. Opened 1907, closed 1917, opened 1922, final demise in 1937. A great blow to the many who worked there for a five-star employer who offered a sample taste test the end of each shift.

Thirst, and poor transport, ensured that many towns boasted a brewery – often for a short time. York was one of these towns. Established in 1830, its brewery does not eventuate until 1882. A busy centre with prospectors seeking their fortunes and for farmers “wetting their whistles”. Closed with much sorrow in 1901.



Thirsty Patrons waiting
for opening.

All was not lost, as in 1929 a repositioned outfit from the Boulder City Brewery moved to Merredin. The brewing crew and their houses also shifted camp. This was a big operation with a wide range of products including Merredin Bitter, Oatmeal Stout and King Lager. But once again the “Black Duck” boys took over in 1945 and shut the doors four years later.

In 1896 the Australian Brewers' Journal noted “a gigantic new brewery is being erected at Esperance”. This was to be the ESPERANCE BREWING & AERATED WATER Co. Ltd. However, reality was somewhat less – the building was of corrugated-iron, and the output was small. The prospect was positive with the only two competing factories being at Coolgardie, 370km north, and Albany, 490km away. But with few drinkers around, this became a failure.

In 1906 the owners packed up and moved lock, stock and barrels to Ravensthorpe to operate under a new name, the PHILLIPS RIVER BREWING & AERATED WATER Co. Ltd. The port of Hopetoun brought in many prospectors and tradesmen with the Port Hotel, a regular passenger service and weekly shipping from Fremantle and interstate. A larger population of miners promised greater financial rewards, but three years later the second closure. Alas, the future of the southern ale factories looked bleak, but the northern regions with pastoralists and miners gave hope!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: - “The Breweries of Australia” by Keith Deutscher