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SBA NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2020

We started the year 2020 with those bushfires. Huge loss in lives, property, forest and animals that will take many tears and years to recover. Then we had coronavirus, protests and lockdowns, border closures that changed our plans and maybe a potential vaccine. With restored freedoms, we have remarkably survived and pulled through to face another year. Now we should all have a safe and comfortable lo-stress summer.

Barbyitis

An old bon-bon joke. What do you call a row of men waiting for a haircut? A barbecue. Do you remember when and where you had your first BARBECUE/ Barbeque/ BBQ ?

The Shand family on a very early trip to Phillip Island went to visit The Nobbies. On the way back to Cowes, we decided it was lunchtime. We had been given this folding wire device that could be used to squeeze our sausages and chops. So on a quiet bush track, we decided to cook our meat. We found a couple of rocks and with some kindling, we lit our little fire between them. We then used this primitive barbeque tool to sizzle our food over the flames of the hot coals. It wasn't too successful but our experiment meant that we became 'bbq-ers'.for the first time.

Many people believe the word "barbecue" derives from the word "barabicu" found in the language of the Arawak people of the Caribbean. The word translates to "sacred fire pit" and involved digging a hole in the ground and placing some meat – usually a whole lamb – above a pot so the juices can be used to make a broth. The meat was then covered with leaves and coals and cooked for several hours to everyone's satisfaction. Spanish explorers used the word "barbecoa" in print in Spain in 1526 and variations of it appeared later in Portuguese, French and English.. The term barbecue can refer to the meat or the cooking apparatus itself. It could also mean being invited to a "Barbie" as a social occasion in Australia. Here we have three distinct techniques : grilling, baking and smoking

How times have changed! You can now buy state of the art stainless steel BBQs with all sorts of bells and whistles. We can buy all sizes of Webbers, a Reverse Flow Charcoal Smoker, Electric Ignition Charcoal Outdoor Ovens, Woodfire Pizza Ovens and more., When COVID hit, people started cooking more at home so we developed this more sophisticated apparatus, sauces, tongs and tools for cooking our hamburgers and fishburgers.

We Australians love our BBQs. Our Probus Club has one every week in the warmer months. Bunnings are again 'firing up the barbie' selling those delicious Snags outside to support their local communities.

In order to attract overseas tourists to our country, we used this 1984 advertising campaign featuring Paul Hogan. He invited them with his famous phrase, " Come and see us in Australia, I'll slip an extra shrimp on the barbie for you."

"Don't forget to fill the gas bottle!"



The Smiths Beachcomber Association Committee takes this opportunity to wish you all a *happy, joyful and relaxing time for your Christmas season and a healthy and prosperous new year.*

Ian Shand. SBA Newsletter Editor

