



Annual Report 2023



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The Victorian Men's Shed Association (VMSA) is the peak body, focused on representing, supporting and advocating for Men's Sheds in Victoria and for the health and wellbeing benefits they deliver to their members and their communities.

Participation in Men's Sheds helps mitigate the known risks to men of social loneliness, isolation and depression caused by unemployment, retrenchment, retirement or other life-changing conditions. Sheds provide a safe and friendly environment where men can talk, learn new skills, share their life experiences and engage in meaningful activities and projects as part of the community.

As members of the VMSA, Victoria's Men's Sheds gain access to support with managing and funding their sheds, regular communications on mental health and physical wellbeing education and advice and benefiting from the know-how accessible throughout the Men's Shed network.

Chair's Report



As the peak body for men's sheds, the VMSA's role is to represent and support all men's sheds and to assist them in delivering improved health and wellbeing outcomes to the many thousands of men who make up the men's shed movement across Victoria.

The Victorian Men's Shed Association is a men's health organisation supporting men's sheds in their work to support and improve men's mental health, physical health and wellbeing.

There are over 300 men's sheds in metropolitan, regional and rural areas across Victoria and it is great to see them delivering health programs and activities to promote men's health. The VMSA is proud to provide support and advice to encourage such events.

The impact that men's sheds in Victoria have because of this work greatly assists men in the management of their health issues. These activities engage men's shed members and provide opportunities to reduce the incidence of self-harm or suicide and to cope with problems such as loneliness and social isolation.

In short, the work of men's sheds helps men lead longer and happier lives.

Men's sheds provide a safe and welcoming environment in which men can support and help each other and the VMSA's central purpose is to support men's sheds in all the vital work they carry out to improve men's physical and mental wellbeing.

Chair's Report cont.

We should never forget that every time a shed opens and men walk through that door, it benefits and strengthens those men, their families, and their communities in so many ways.

In the past year, VMSA staff and board members have visited many men's sheds and participated in their events and meetings. We have also helped to set up the Victorian Parliamentary Friends of Men's Sheds and the VMSA group and held a three-day event in Queens Hall in the State Parliament to exhibit what men's sheds make to raise the profile of men's sheds politically and in the broader community.

In October 2022 we held the VMSA Statewide Men's Shed Forum and AGM at the Meadows in Broadmeadows which was our first such event since the COVID epidemic. Many sheds managed to get to this very important meeting, and we thank Melbourne Greyhounds-The Meadows and Greyhound Racing Victoria for their sponsorship. We also thank ExxonMobil for providing funds to enable country sheds to attend.

We look forward to working with sheds to strengthen the men's shed movement in the year ahead.

Men's sheds welcome all men over the age of 18.

Trevor Dobbyn

Chair

VMSA's Strategic Goals

The VMSA undertook a substantial review of its strategic direction in 2022-23 to ensure it aligned with the organisation's primary purpose to promote men's health through support of its state network of Sheds. The review also aimed to produce an articulated strategy that would encourage future funding from the Victorian Government and other stakeholders to underpin the association's sustainability.

The three strategic pillars:



GOVERNANCE



SUSTAINABILITY AND SERVICE



SUPPORT FOR SHEDS

VMSA Purpose

To advance mental health and personal wellbeing by supporting the growth and sustainability of Men's Sheds in Victoria.



Governance

The VMSA is committed to the best governance policy and practice aligned with the aspirations of its community, its strategy and its resources. We recognise that strong and effective governance is the foundation upon which all other strategic objectives are built and achieved.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION
POLICIES AND PROCESSES	Develop and maintain a set of governing policy documents to ensure integrity and clarity in organisation governance, including well-articulated roles and responsibilities.
FEDERATION MODEL (AMSA)	Negotiate a formal and effective federated Men's Shed model with the Australian Men's Shed Association. Delineate the role of the VMSA as a state body in relation to other state and national bodies.
SKILLS MATRIX	Ensure that the board, management and staff have the appropriate skills and knowledge to support VMSA objectives and its Victorian membership base.
RISK MANAGEMENT	Document and regularly review VMSA's financial and non-financial risks, including identification and documentation of risk mitigation controls.
SUCCESSION PLANNING	As far as possible, recruit and coach staff to ensure business continuity and minimisation of key person risk.
RECONCILIATION	Consider the implementation of a formal Reconciliation Action Plan.
BOARD COMMITTEES	Establish and maintain a formal board committee structure and ensure that Committees are utilised to effectively oversee VMSA operations and to enable the VMSA Board and office holders to focus on strategic issues.



SUSTAINABILITY

Central to VMSA strategy is our belief that our business practice must be sustainable if we are to provide long-term value, continuity and support for the Victorian Men's Shed community. The foundation for this is high community regard and respect for the Men's Shed reputation and brand.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION
BRAND AND REPUTATION	Be constantly aware that the VMSA's sustainability is almost solely reliant upon its good reputation. Evolve the VMSA brand to align with strategic goals, including its closer integration into a federated Men's Shed national governance model.
VALUE PROPOSITION	Consider and agree on a clear value proposition for VMSA in the context of the aspirations of member Men's Sheds, government stakeholders and potential commercial and community funders.
GROWTH	Establish clear growth objectives across multiple metrics, including VMSA revenue, shed membership, partnerships and staff. Increase the number, capacity, quality and sustainability of Victorian Men's Sheds.
DIVERSIFIED FUNDING	Diversify revenue sources to increase funding creating more opportunities for Men's Sheds.
RESOURCING (PEOPLE/IT/FINANCE)	Ensure the VMSA strategy and business plans are supported by adequate staff, IT and financial resources. Enlarge the VMSA workforce to support strategic goals.
PARTNERSHIPS	Acknowledge that the VMSA's sustainability is dependent upon effective partnerships. Build stronger relationships with key stakeholders (sheds, government, business and community) on a foundation of high community regard for the VMSA's reputation and brand.



SUPPORT FOR SHEDS

Our most vital community contribution is ensuring that VMSA member sheds are able to provide their members with the support, connectedness and networks to promote individual mental health and personal wellbeing.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION
MENTAL AND PERSONAL WELL-BEING	Help member sheds to promote the mental and personal well-being of their members through provision of education and referral partnerships with relevant providers.
COMMUNICATIONS	Actively communicate with members through multiple channels and ensure that essential information and support are readily accessible online and through VMSA staff.
SHED ENABLEMENT (ADVICE/SUPPORT)	Improve relationships between the VMSA and both local men's sheds and regional groupings of sheds. Provide the necessary training, advice and tools to achieve and maintain the highest standard of governance within member sheds to effectively deliver on the VMSA's purpose.
DIGITAL TOOLS	Develop and partner to provide useful digital tools and enablement for sheds and their members to remain connected and manage their affairs.
FIELD STAFF	Resource as many field staff as practical and affordable to ensure VMSA maintains a presence and provides proper support throughout the Victorian shed network.

This 3-year strategic plan, which will be revisited annually, will inform the priorities and programs for each year's business plans over the period to 2025.

THE VICTORIAN STATE
GOVERNMENT'S ANNUAL GRANTS
PROGRAM INCLUDES A SIGNIFICANT
PROVISION FOR OUR MEMBER
SHEDS. MANY VICTORIAN MEN'S
SHEDS SUCCESSFULLY APPLIED FOR
FUNDING FROM THE VICTORIAN
GOVERNMENT IN 2022-23:

MEN'S SHED

Akoonah Park Men's Shed Inc
BoolarraMen's Shed Inc
Camperdown Men's Shed
Chelsea Men's Shed Inc
Clifton Springs Community Men's Shed
Drouin Men's Shed
Echuca Moama Men's Shed
Emu Creek Men's Shed
Euroa Men's Shed
Gippsland Lakes Men's Shed
Jika Bike Shed
Korumburra Men's Shed
Labertouche and District Men's Shed
Lakes Entrance Men's Shed Inc
Laurels Bacchus Marsh Men's Shed
Learmonth Community Skills Shed
Mansfield Men's Shed
Newstead Men's Shed
Nowa Nowa Men's Shed
Nyah and District Men's Shed Inc
Nyora Men's Shed

Peninsula North Men's Shed
Peter Mac Men's Shed
Pines Community Men's Shed
Port Phillip Men's Shed
Portland Men's Shed Inc
Rosebud and Districts Men's Shed
St Lukes Men's Shed Highton
Tatura Men's Shed
Traralgon Men's Shed & Woodworking Inc

Partnerships

VMSA expresses profound gratitude for the invaluable partnerships cultivated with esteemed organizations such as Booran Motors, Bunnings, ExxonMobil, AEG, Blooms Hearing, Stroke Foundation, Prostate Cancer Foundation, Dementia Australia, Diabetes Victoria, Parkinson's Australia, Greyhound Racing Victoria, and The Meadows.

Through these collaborative endeavours, VMSA has expanded its outreach, enriched its programs, and provided crucial support to both members and the broader community.

Whether through generous donations, educational workshops, or shared resources, each partnership has been instrumental in empowering the Sheds to thrive and fulfil the mission of advancing men's health and well-being.

VMSA eagerly anticipates the continuation of these meaningful collaborations, poised to collectively make a positive impact in the years ahead.

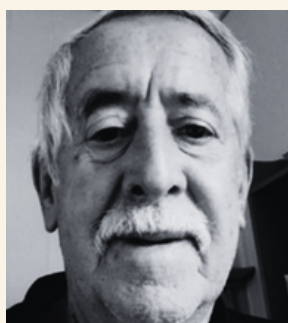


Board members

The board members of our Men's Shed play a pivotal role in guiding the direction and operations of our organization. Comprised of dedicated individuals from diverse backgrounds, our board members bring a wealth of experience and expertise to the table. Through their strategic vision and steadfast commitment, they ensure the effective management of resources, uphold the values of inclusivity and camaraderie and foster a supportive environment for all members.



Trevor Dobbyn
Chair



Colin Prowd
Vice Chair



Mick Overman
Treasurer



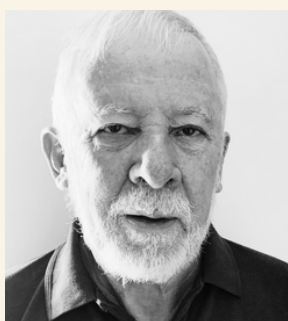
Max Finlayson
Secretary



Marcelle Davis
Committee



Peter Broomhead
Committee



Graeme Newman
Committee

Finance Report

The past financial year's trading surplus is greater than originally expected and budgeted primarily due to the delayed introduction of the additional, government-funded, field officers.

These are both now operative in communications and contacts with member sheds. The VMSA Board and management will continue to expand these interactions for the benefit of all member sheds throughout the state.

The VMSA Board is committed to expanding its income base through non-member and government-based income streams to increase the ability to provide service and support to all its member sheds and the greater Mens Shed Community.

Mick Overman

VMSA Treasurer

Key Indicators & Analysis

Net Surplus for 2023 year of \$28,695

- The trading loss represents trading and a budget surplus of over \$64K post-COVID years
- Turnover now exceeds \$330K (includes all Government Grants; last year \$247K)
- Increase by \$87K from the prior year (increase of 35%)
- Total Turnover increase in last 3 years (Post COVID) \$133K

Expenditures

- Total operational expenditures \$306K = increase by \$49K on 2022 year (19%) (compared to increase of 65% on prior 2021 yr)
- Expenses increased primarily attributed to staff & promotional expenses driving member clubs service delivery

Wages & On Costs

	2023	2022	2021
Wages	\$229,432	\$197,285	\$112,933
Super	\$ 22,182	\$ 17,763	0
Total Wages Cost	\$251,614	\$215,048	\$112,933
As % of Turnover	75%	86%	56%

- Increase in labour cost of \$36K = 17% (indicative of focus towards service delivery to member clubs)

Statement of Financial Position

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