

DINGLEY VILLAGE WINS THE GREEN SHED AWARD

*Pomonal Regional
Road Show*

*Cut For a Cause
St Leonards Men's Shed*

*The Pines Men's Shed
Gets a Stunning Makeover*

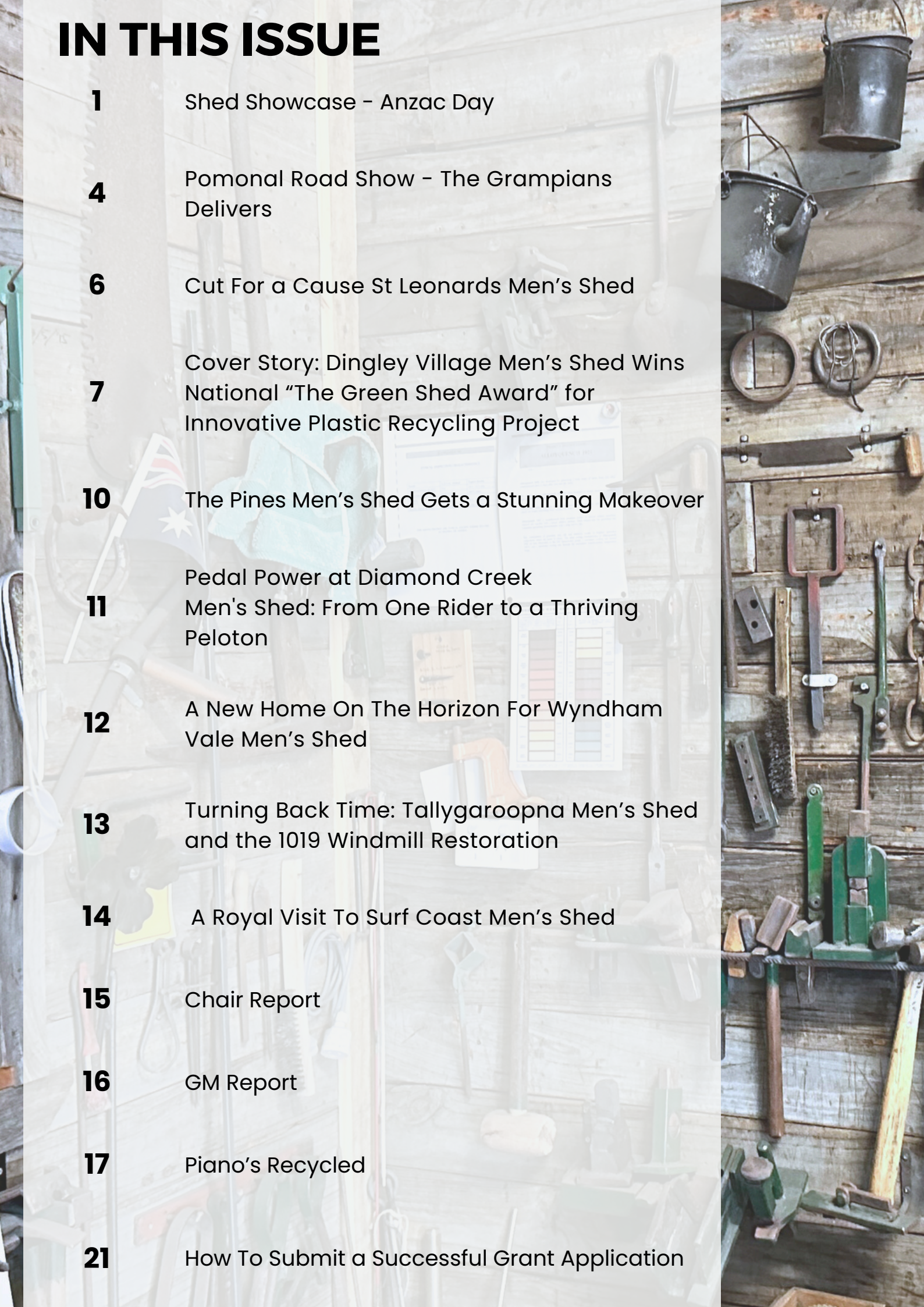
VICTORIAN
MEN'S SHED
ASSOCIATION

SHED TALK

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ANZAC DAY SHED SHOWCASE



INVERLOCH MEN'S SHED

The Inverloch Men's Shed was proud to take part in another moving Anzac Day ceremony at the Cenotaph, organised by the Inverloch RSL. The speeches and poems delivered by young community members were a standout highlight of the day. Thanks go to Richard and Cam for laying the wreath, and to Wanda and Tracy from the CWA for its beautiful creation. A strong community coming together to remember. Lest we forget.



MONTROSE MEN'S SHED

The Montrose Men's Shed led the setup and pack down for what was perhaps the largest Anzac Day commemoration Montrose has seen, with the whole community coming together for a moving ceremony. A special mention to Max and Jane Lamb who have for many years invested so much care into organising the day and creating wreaths for community groups to honour those who served. Lest we forget.

Do you have a great shed story or funny moment to share? Let us know for the next edition of Shed Talk! Email vmsa@vmsa.org.au

DIAMOND CREEK MEN'S SHED

The Diamond Creek Men's Shed fired up the BBQ after the local Anzac Day service to provide refreshments for the community, joining forces with the Lions Club of Diamond Valley for a great community occasion. Lest we forget.

BENALLA AVIATION MUSEUM AND MEN'S SHED

The Benalla Aviation Museum and Men's Shed marked Anzac Day in fitting style, opening the museum until midday to give the community a window into military history. Mark Carr's Winjeel took to the skies to perform a flyover of Anzac ceremonies across Euroa, Violet Town and Benalla, with President Craig Morrison aboard. A unique and moving tribute to all those who served, those who did not return, and those who serve today. Lest we forget.



ROWVILLE MEN'S SHED

This Anzac Day the Rowville Men's Shed paused to reflect on eleven years of commemorating the day together, and to remember two much loved members, Barry and Ed, who passed away last year. Lest we forget our mates



Do you have a great shed story or funny moment to share? Let us know for the next edition of Shed Talk! Email vmsa@vmsa.org.au



BENDIGO ROAD SHOW



MAY 15, 2026

08:30 AM – 02:00 PM



BENDIGO GREYHOUND RACING CLUB

**MCIVOR HIGHWAY,
JUNORTOWN**

WHAT TO EXPECT

The Roadshow brings together Men's Shed members, community partners, and sector organisations for a day of networking, information sharing, and practical sessions relevant to shed operations, health promotion, and community engagement.

SCHEDULE

- Breakfast: 8:30am – 10:00am
- Roadshow Event: 10:00am – 2:00pm
- Lunch: Provided

RSVP

**mark@vmsa.org.au
0477 908 144**

BY 11TH MAY

SCAN



EVENT SPONSORS



**AUSTRALIAN
MEN'S SHED
ASSOCIATION**
Shoulder to Shoulder



Beyond Bank
AUSTRALIA



POMONAL ROAD SHOW

THE GRAMPIANS DELIVERS

There's few things more beautiful than waking up in the middle of the Grampians on an Autumn morning, surrounded by stunning wildlife and scenery. From Halls Gap we took a short hop to Pomonal where we held the second Regional Health Roadshow of the year. What a great place to have a get together. A large crowd from far and near descended on this picturesque village in the heart of the Grampians.

We began in style, with the breakfast of kings, bacon and egg rolls and posh coffee. A full room of Shedders then listened to interesting talks about how to look after your mental health and well-being. The VMSEA would like to thank Sally Cunningham (The National Centre For Farmer Health) and Melanie Pesic (Grampians Community Health) for making the trip. We were also fortunate to have Chris and Jen from Blazeaid who discussed their roles and how Men's Sheds can help.

Emma Kealy MP, the Member for Lowan, then gave the room her views on the importance of Men's Health and how Men's Sheds support it. Emma is a great supporter of Men's Sheds in her electorate but also across the state as the Co-Chair of the Friends of Men's Sheds in State Parliament.

Our hosts the Pomonal Men's Shed had the centre set up and ready to go for a delicious lunch. After some good food and good company, all we needed was good music, and Pomonal's very own Russell Kellet kindly donated his talent to the event.

These events don't happen without significant support from our friends and health partners. Including The National Centre for Farmer Health, Total Dust Extraction, Beyond Bank and AMSA. We also had the returning support of the Prostate Cancer Australia Foundation and Ambulance Victoria.

I would like to throw some more sunshine to all involved in making our first but certainly not our last trip to the mid-west so memorable, we will be back.

Next up, we move on to the metropolis of Bendigo on the 15th May 2026, invites and details will be going out in the next week to all sheds in the region. The challenge has been laid down from the West and the East in our first two Roadshows, now is Central Victoria's turn to show the rest of Victoria that Bendigonians and their neighbours know a thing or two about helping us put on another big shed bash!

Slán go Foill (Bye for Now)
Mark





POMONAL ROAD SHOW

BONNEY ENERGY MEN'S SHED COMMUNITY AWARD WINNERS

A highlight of the Pomonal Roadshow was the presentation of the Bonney Energy Shed Community Awards, recognising three sheds from the Wimmera and Grampians region for their outstanding contribution to their local communities.

Each winning shed received a \$200 Bonney Energy fuel voucher.

Ararat Men's Shed

Was recognised for their volunteer work with Ararat Neighbourhood House, Ararat Community College and a range of local schools and preschools. The shed was also acknowledged for developing a welcoming and inclusive environment that has seen its membership grow steadily over the past few years.

Beaufort Men's Shed

Was acknowledged for outstanding community partnerships with the Beaufort Pony Club, the Beaufort branch of Bendigo Bank, the Beaufort Research Centre and the Heart Program. The shed also produces signs for the local Beaufort Market and was recognised for the remarkable effort of keeping their shed group together for three years while waiting for a new home.

Hamilton Men's Shed

Was recognised for their tireless partnership work across the Hamilton community, including with the Southern Grampians Shire, Western District Health Service, the Hamilton SES, the Hamilton Sheepvention Committee and the Hamilton RSL. Congratulations to all three sheds. The work being done across the Wimmera and Grampians is a powerful reminder of the difference Men's Sheds make to the towns and communities they call home.

The VMSA would like to extend a sincere thank you to Bonney Energy for their generous ongoing sponsorship and support of the men's shed community awards program. Their commitment to recognising and celebrating the incredible work shedders do for their communities across Victoria is greatly appreciated.



CUT FOR A CAUSE

ST LEONARDS MEN'S SHED

Going bald had never been part of the plan for Roger Cree. Having worn his hair long for more than 50 years, the decision to shave his head and beard was not one he took lightly. But when family circumstances intervened, Roger did not hesitate.

Just before Christmas, Cree's sister-in-law's great nephew Cooper, aged just 12, was diagnosed with blood cancer and flown from Cobram to the Royal Children's Hospital. In the weeks that followed, Roger began seeing ads for the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave and decided to act.

His original fundraising goal was \$2,000, but with the support of his community, his family and the members of the St Leonards Men's Shed, Roger has now raised more than \$3,600 for blood cancer research, and donations are still coming in.

When Roger first joined the St Leonards Men's Shed he fitted in straight away, arriving with his trademark ponytail. There was just one small challenge. Before he could use the machinery the shed needed to source some snoods to keep his hair safely contained. Roger took it all in good humour, and not long after the snoods arrived he delivered the news that they would no longer be needed. As they say, the rest is history.

The St Leonards Men's Shed hosted the shave on 27 March, with the shed organising for the barbers to be in attendance and local real estate agent Lachlan Campbell from Neville Richards Real Estate running two auctions, one to shave Roger's head and one for the beard. Clippers were guided by Olivia and Dominic Spiller from Cutter Street Barbershop on the day.

It was a fitting venue. Roger had been involved with the shed even before moving to St Leonards last year, and shed members donated generously on the day, with the shed itself also contributing and raising an additional \$310 on top of Roger's fundraising total. Donations can still be made at worldsgreatestshave.com/fundraisers/rogercree/2026



This article was originally published in the Times News Group. Photos by Nyah Barnes.

DINGLEY VILLAGE MEN'S SHED

WINS NATIONAL "GREEN SHED AWARD" FOR INNOVATIVE PLASTIC RECYCLING PROJECT

The Dingley Village Men's Shed has been officially named the joint winner of the 2026 Green Shed Award by the Australian Men's Shed Association. The award, presented at the association's annual Gathering and Awards Night, recognises the Shed's outstanding commitment to sustainability through its large-scale plastic recycling initiative.

Since the project's inception, the team has successfully diverted over 20,000 plastic milk containers from landfills and local waterways, transforming them into durable, serviceable products for the community.

From Vision to Innovation

The journey began in 2019 when a group of retired engineers at the Shed sought a solution for the growing problem of plastic waste. What followed was years of custom engineering and persistence:

The Shredder: Member David Taylor designed and refined the first shredding machine to process plastic into the perfect granule size.

The Extruder: In 2020, Kevin Strahan fabricated a custom extrusion machine using the Shed's own lathes and welding bay, while Robert O'Brien designed and assembled the complex electronic systems required to run it.

Persistence Through Lockdown: During the 2020 COVID-19 restrictions, the team conducted over 500 trials in a member's garage to perfect the temperature and speed settings required to produce high-quality recycled materials.



1. Plastic storage area – where it all starts, storing the collected plastic caps and containers



2. The very noisy chopper/ granulator – the plastic is chopped and granulated



3. Plastic granules are sieved for the correct size – granules are sorted to the right size for extrusion

DINGLEY VILLAGE MEN'S SHED

CONT.

Turning Waste into Community Assets

By 2022, the Shed moved into regular production. Today, they utilise a variety of custom dies to create everything from garden stakes to heavy-duty furniture. Their impressive production tally includes:

- 36 Two-Person Benches: Each repurposing 275 two-litre milk bottles.
- 6 Benches with Backrests: Using 414 bottles each. □ 100 Garden Stakes 1.8 metres in length.
- 4 Adironrack (Cape Cod) style Deck Chairs.

Special Projects: Including six oversized bench seats custom-built for a local bowls club, as well as planter boxes and deck chairs.

A Team Effort

The project's success is driven by the current core team of Kevin Strahan, Ken Groves, Brian Esmond and Damien McShane supported by the entire Dingley Village Men's Shed membership who consistently supply the empty containers that fuel the machines. The Green Shed Award highlights how local community groups can lead the way in environmental engineering and circular sustainable economy practices. These awards are a powerful reminder of the impact Men's Sheds have across Australia – improving lives, building healthy communities, and creating places where everyone belongs.



4. Plastic caps are used to provide colour – colour is added to the mix



5. A 50mm x 50mm die mounted to the plastic extruder – the die is set up on the extruder



6. Damien resetting a die – showing the die setup process

DINGLEY VILLAGE MEN'S SHED

CONT.



7. Metal dies and the different profiles – showing the range of shapes that can be produced



8. The Shed made plastic extruding machine – the extrusion machine in action



9. Extrusions are still pliable and have to be clamped to keep straight – the freshly extruded plastic being shaped



10. Bench legs 2 pair waiting for completion – components ready for assembly



11. Kevin with wooden jig for assembling the legs of bench seat – assembly in progress



12. Two person bench seat – a finished product

THE PINES MEN'S SHED

GETS A STUNNING MAKEOVER



The Pines Men's Shed in Frankston has a striking new look, thanks to a remarkable mural created by local artist Tyson over seven dedicated days across the Easter break.

The mural was commissioned with support from Frankston Council and transforms the exterior of the shed into a vibrant celebration of the craft and camaraderie at the heart of the Men's Shed movement.

Tyson describes the concept behind the main wall as a close up of a carpenter at work, hands as the focal point, planning wood with curly shavings flying through the air. Behind the main figure, a dotted grid with tool silhouettes and basic shelving alludes to a workshop shadow board, drawing the viewer into the scene. A vintage enamel mug bearing the shed's name sits above the door, a nod to one of the most important items in any shed.

The second wall continues the theme, with a selection of workshop tools depicted in front of the same dotted shadow board grid. Tyson chose to keep the existing colour of the shed as a base, finding it complemented the warm and masculine tones of the palette and added to the vintage character of the tools on display. The tools fade gradually toward the end of the wall, giving the mural a natural and considered finish.

Shedders watched the mural grow day by day over the Easter break and were blown away by the finished result. It has genuinely transformed the space. A huge thank you to Tyson for his incredible talent and dedication, and to Frankston Council for supporting this fantastic project.



PEDAL POWER AT DIAMOND CREEK MEN'S SHED

FROM ONE RIDER TO A THRIVING PELOTON

What started as a humble initiative by one member managing osteoporosis 10 years ago, has evolved into a powerhouse of health and mateship. The Diamond Creek Men's Shed cycling group now boasts nearly 30 active riders, transforming from a quiet idea into a vibrant, thrice-weekly, business and community sponsored activity that supports local cafes, bike shops and council ride programs.

With the support of local business, our riders now wear custom team jerseys, providing a profound sense of identity and pride. Beyond the mechanics, the group has become a vital health hub. Participants frequently cite improved physical fitness, better bone density, and significant mental wellbeing gains, combatting isolation through consistent social interaction.

This success demonstrates that group cycling is an ideal "shed activity" that extends camaraderie outside the workshop and onto the social fabric of the Diamond Creek Trail itself. We encourage other Victorian Men's Sheds to embrace cycling to create similar positive outcomes, fostering both physical health and strong community bonds, by starting with modest and flat local terrain and building stamina and fitness over time. Using restored or donated bikes, for just one pedal stroke begins this personally beneficial community based journey.



A NEW HOME

ON THE HORIZON FOR WYNDHAM VALE MEN'S SHED

After nearly a decade of making do in cramped temporary accommodation, the Wyndham Vale Men's Shed has some exciting news to share. A contract has been unanimously approved to build a fit for purpose shed as part of the new Wyndham Vale Reserve football pavilion development, delivering the permanent home the shed has long deserved.

The shed has been operating out of two joined ATCO buildings, roughly the size of two double garages, since October 2016. The buildings were originally provided by Wyndham Council as change rooms for the Wyndham Football Club before being condemned and repurposed for the shed. Always regarded as a temporary solution, the accommodation has served its purpose but the limitations have been felt.

Despite the cramped conditions, the shed has gone from strength to strength. Rather than waiting for a better situation, members chose to demonstrate what the shed was capable of, expanding membership, growing community involvement and actively promoting the shed's role in men's health. Today the shed has an active membership of 19 and a waiting list of 20, with members ranging in age from their mid 30s to 90 years old. The demand speaks for itself.

The approval is a testament to the hard work of the shed committee and the efforts of Ward Councillor Maria King, and has been warmly welcomed by both the Iramoo Community Centre and the Wyndham Football Club, organisations the shed has supported in many ways over the years.

The road ahead does come with some short term challenges. The shed will need to vacate its current buildings by mid-August 2026 and will be without a workshop for approximately six months during construction. Equipment and materials will be stored in containers and the shed committee is already planning how to keep members connected and engaged during the build period.

Iramoo Community Centre will provide meeting facilities, and the committee is organising outings and visits to other sheds within day travel distance to keep the camaraderie going. State Member for Werribee John Lister has also offered to help facilitate engagement with local schools and technical colleges during the transition period.

A heartfelt thank you from the shed to the Councillors of Wyndham for their kind words and support in helping realise what has often been an underestimated resource for the community.

Information provided by Peter Gibbons, Secretary, Wyndham Vale Men's Shed.

TURNING BACK TIME

TALLYGAROPNA MEN'S SHED AND THE 1919 WINDMILL RESTORATION

When local farmer Rob won a derelict windmill at a clearing sale in December 2025, he had no real plan for it. He simply wanted it. What followed was one of the most ambitious and rewarding restoration projects the Tallygaroopna Men's Shed has ever undertaken.

The windmill in question is a 1919 Alston, originally manufactured in Gisborne, Victoria. Like many of its kind it had been distributed widely across the continent, playing a vital role in the Goulburn Valley by pumping underground water for farmers in the years before the Eildon Irrigation system arrived in the early 1950s. This particular windmill had not been so fortunate, having been flattened by a storm and left to rust in a paddock for some 50 years.

When Rob approached the Tallygaroopna Men's Shed to ask if they would attempt a restoration, the answer was a hesitant yes. With no hands on experience with windmill mechanics, no owner's manuals and no schematics to work from, the shed's engineers spent several weeks brainstorming before picking up a single tool.

What they found once dismantling began was a significant challenge. Bearings had seized, vanes were so badly bent they needed to be completely rebuilt, and balancing them afterwards required even greater skill. The frame itself was a twisted wreck from the outset, and the hot summer hours spent rebuilding the entire structure tested the team at every turn.

But the shedders were not to be deterred. Drawing on the practical knowledge of their experienced ex-farmer contingent, the team worked through every obstacle the project threw at them. In the end it was, as they put it, the true definition of the phrase yes we can.

The finished windmill was installed at Rob's property using local equipment, and it now stands proudly in its place of honour, spinning just as it was designed to do more than 100 years ago.

It is the kind of project that reminds us all of what Men's Sheds are capable of when they put their minds and their tools to work together.



A ROYAL VISIT

TO SURF COAST MEN'S SHED

The Surf Coast Men's Shed was honoured recently to welcome Her Excellency, Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC, Governor of Victoria, as part of her tour of the Surf Coast Shire.

Accompanied by Surf Coast Mayor Libby Stapleton, the Governor met with shed members, enjoyed a tour of the facilities and then joined the shed's singers and band for a rousing rendition of I Am Australian, a moment that will no doubt live long in the memory of everyone who was there.

Gifts were exchanged before the Governor moved on to her next appointment. While the visit lasted just 30 minutes it passed all too quickly, with members describing it as an absolute pleasure and a genuine honour.

The shed would like to extend its thanks to the Governor's Aide, Alice Gardiner, for her work in organising and coordinating the visit.



REPORT FROM THE **CHAIR**

2026 is the year of the Firehorse in the Chinese Zodiac and also happens to be the 14th year that funding for men's sheds by the Victorian State Government hasn't been indexed. It is therefore reducing in value in real terms year on year.

In 2012 the VMSA had 50 member sheds and were allocated \$1m and we now have over 280 men's sheds and are still receiving around the same amount.

Of the \$1m allocated to men's sheds in the last financial year the VMSA was allocated \$178k and the sheds receive \$860k through the Men's Shed Development Grant. This sounds like a bit but last year applications for this grant were heavily oversubscribed and a lot of sheds missed out.

Contrast this to Neighbourhood Houses which get \$40m which is indexed. No disrespect to them, but the dollar comparison here tells its own tale on the relative position of men's sheds.

Men's sheds are run by volunteers on the smell of an oily rag, but they do need help and it's time we did something about it.

The contribution men's sheds make to Victoria is now the subject of an independent academic report carried out by Curtin University in Perth on behalf of the VMSA. This report will be completed in the next few months and will help us make the case for an increase in men's shed funding.

Our members are telling us they are not happy about this underfunding issue, so stay tuned for further developments as the VMSA considers this important issue and what to do about it in an election year. A second survey with questions from Curtin University will be emailed to shed presidents/contacts in the next few weeks and your completion of this will greatly assist the university in getting a clearer picture of what men's sheds contribute to the state of Victoria.

The Chinese Zodiac Fire Horse year is said to be associated with, among other things, action, energy, moving forward and fixing old problems. Perhaps these should guide our actions in 2026, which is also the year of the state election.

Watch this space.

TREVOR DOBBYN
VMSA Chair



REPORT FROM THE **GENERAL MANAGER**

Hello Shedders,

Thanks again to all sheds that completed the VMSA survey earlier this year. We are currently sifting through the data and there really is an impressive mountain of community work being done out there. This information will help to clearly show the true value of our movement to funding bodies and the wider community.

Speaking of volunteer work, The Ararat, Beaufort and Hamilton Sheds were presented with VMSA community awards at our recent Pomonal Road Show. All three have a list of local partnerships as long as your arm, and it was a real pleasure to recognize the often-unsung volunteer work that they do. On the way to Pomonal I stopped in at Beaufort MS who are still meeting in an old boat shed whilst waiting for the council to approve the construction of their new home. I remember having the same conversation with them in the same place over two years ago. I can think of more than half a dozen of our members that are currently meeting in similar makeshift spaces and it is a testament to their fortitude and solidarity that they are able to carry on under such difficult circumstances.

As always, there are some excellent stories within the pages of this publication. One of the highlights features St. Leonard's Roger Cree who wore his hair and beard long for 50 years. There's one of these blokes in every shed, but Roger decided it was time to get the razor and scissors out and you can find out why on page 6. A huge congrats also goes out to Dingley Village MS who won a national shed award for a very inventive project (featured on page 7).

There's going to be loads of VMSA shed visits, network meetings and road shows coming up over the next few months so please keep an eye out for notifications here, on our website and on our social media pages. This is my favourite part of the job so I am really looking forward to hitting the bitumen, whilst quietly crossing my fingers that there's some fuel left in Victoria to help get me and Mark around the place.

Happy shedding,

JIM KANE

VMSA General Manager





Join us to celebrate
**BERWICK DISTRICT
WOODWORKERS CLUB's
40th BIRTHDAY**

Woodworking Display & Expo

also hosting
**The Australian
Scroll Saw Network
Biennial Exhibition**

**FREE
ENTRY**

JOIN US FOR OUR
40th Birthday
CELEBRATION!

(Children under 16 to be accompanied by an adult please)



**Friday 10 July 2026
Saturday 11 July 2026
and Farmers' Market
Sunday 12 July 2026**



**5.00pm—8.00pm
9.00am—5.00pm
8.00am—1.00pm
9.00am—5.00pm**



The Clubrooms
The Old Cheese Factory
34 Homestead Road
Berwick



Got questions? Reach out!

John McMahon: 0437 096 840 or Jayne Worthington: 0409 991 356
email: bdwwcsec@outlook.com www.bdwwc.club

Scan QR Code for further details



PIANOS RECYCLED

CREATING PIANO FUTURES

Australia has a piano problem. Right now, more than 1,200 Victorian piano owners are wondering what to do with their old instrument. Without alternatives, around **2,858 pianos will end up in Victorian landfill in the next five years.**

In April 2026, **Pianos Recycled** celebrates 10 years of creating piano futures. We're a circular-economy social enterprise — the only organisation in the world dedicated solely to finding new value for unwanted pianos. Because of this unique mission, we receive **100–120 pickup enquiries every month**, but with current storage capacity we can only process **12–15 pianos**.

Our programs build circular-economy capability, reduce waste, and strengthen local creative industries through **material recovery, education, and community engagement.**

Three pathways for unwanted pianos

35% of owners want to preserve memories of their heirloom. For these clients, we collaborate with local craftspeople to transform the piano into new items that honour its history.

Around **25% of pianos** can be economically restored. Through our PREPS program (Programme for Recycled Educational Pianos in Schools), we rehome these instruments into Victorian schools for a low subsidised tuning and delivery fee. **More than 100 schools** have already benefited.

The remaining **40%** are pianos whose owners simply want the “problem” gone. These are carefully deconstructed so their high-quality components can be reused or recycled.

Why this matters

Old pianos weren't just musical instruments — they were **fine furniture**, built by skilled craftspeople using premium timbers selected for stability, resonance, and longevity. Every piano contains **100–200 kg of beautifully seasoned timber**: maple, walnut, beech, mahogany, spruce, pine, and mixed hardwoods. These resources are often superior to what can be bought retail today, and many are rare or expensive. They also come with something no timber yard can sell: **provenance.**

Each month we recover **700+ kg** of quality timber and veneers but could reclaim more if we had good homes for it. In 2025 we ran two successful pilots:

- A collaboration with **Holmesglen Institute**, where students — our future wood craftspeople — deconstructed pianos and used the materials in their projects. Holmesglen will repeat this unit in 2026, and we hope the pilot's success will attract government support to expand it across the remaining 11 Victorian TAFEs with cabinet or furniture-making learning units.
- A **free excess-timber giveaway** invitation to 53 Men's Sheds near our Braeside warehouse, which generated huge interest.



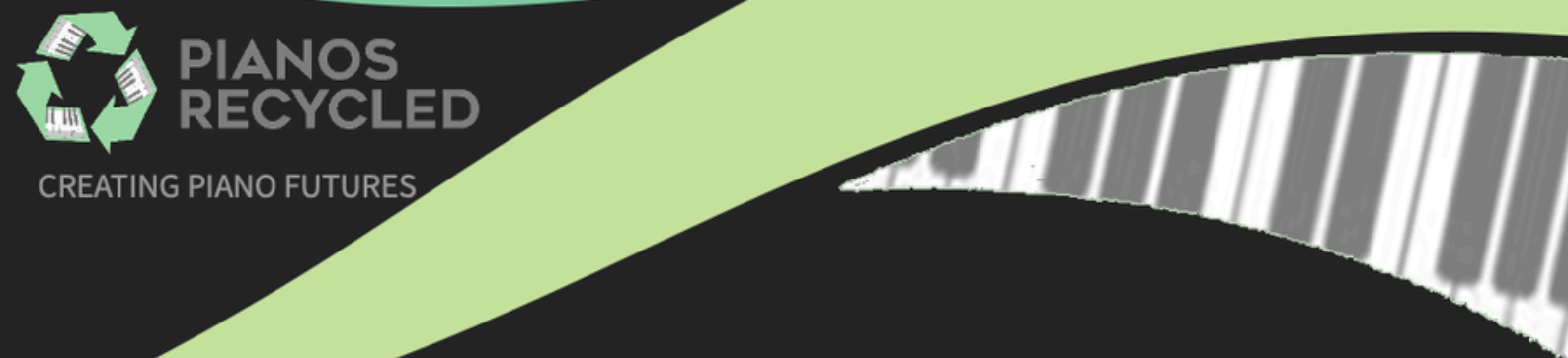
www.pianosrecycled.eco



info@pianosrecycled.eco



Unit 10/13-17 Crawford St.
Braeside VIC 3195 AUSTRALIA



How Men's Sheds can get involved

We already collaborate with several Sheds and want to expand these partnerships. We see two key opportunities:

1. Piano transformation projects

We're receiving more custom orders and need additional skilled makers. If a Shed member has the craftsmanship and attention to detail to take on a transformation project, we'd love to hear from them. We provide initial material and a standard project to help assess readiness.

2. Access to high-quality reclaimed timber

We're exploring ways to make reclaimed piano timber available to all Victorian Sheds, including:

- A bi-monthly "free-for-all" clearance weekend
- A Men's Shed bundle/pack service for regional Sheds

We welcome your thoughts on these ideas — and any others that help us divert pianos from landfill and get their timbers into the hands of craftspeople who value authentic, stable, high-quality materials.

To explore what's inside a piano and what can be made from it, visit our **Men's Shed Resource Hub**:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PCSu9YyKbcC5rRvP0xzcQsbJmusilQeA?usp=sharing>

All the best in your making.

Peter Humphreys

Director & Co-Owner, Pianos Recycled

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Unit 10/13-17 Crawford St.
Braeside VIC 3195 AUSTRALIA

A photograph of two men working on a project in a shed. One man, wearing a cap and glasses, is using a tool on a piece of wood. The other man, wearing glasses and a plaid shirt, is also working on the same piece. They are both focused on their task.

Apply now

Men's Sheds funding

Grants up to \$100,000 available

MENS SHED FUNDING PROGRAM

HOW TO SUBMIT A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION

Great news for Victorian Men's Sheds!

The Victorian Government is continuing its \$1 million annual investment in Men's Sheds across the state.

Victorian Men's Shed groups can apply for grants of up to \$100,000 towards:

- The construction of new Men's Sheds, including the conversion of a building into a shed
- The refurbishment, extension or upgrade of existing Men's Sheds
- The purchase of major shed equipment

Applicants are encouraged to log in to one of the free online information sessions, where staff from the **Department of Families, Fairness and Housing - VIC** will talk about the grants and how to submit a successful application.

Upcoming information sessions:

Friday 8 May at 2:00pm

Thursday 21 May at 6:00pm

Applications close at 2:00pm on 4 June 2026.

See the website for more details, to download the Grant Guidelines and to register for one of the sessions **<https://www.vic.gov.au/mens-shed-funding-program>**



OH&S HUB

WE'RE LOOKING FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO SHED TALK'S NEW HEALTH AND SAFETY SHARING PAGE

Last edition we launched this page to encourage sheds across Victoria to share their health and safety experiences, tips and policies with the broader network. The idea is simple. Rather than every shed working through the same challenges in isolation, we can draw on each other's knowledge and experiences to improve health and safety standards across the whole Men's Shed movement. So far we have had no submissions and we would love to change that!

To help get things moving we want to draw your attention to the newly updated [AMSA Health and Safety Manual](#), which is a comprehensive and valuable resource for all sheds and well worth sharing with your committee and OH&S officer.

We want to hear from sheds about anything health and safety related that you think would be useful to share with the network. This could be test and tag tips, shedder induction policies, near miss experiences and the lessons learned, how your shed manages hazardous materials, first aid procedures, or any other approach or initiative that has made your shed a safer place. Submissions can be made anonymously if preferred.

No contribution is too small. If it has made a difference in your shed it could make a difference in another. Send your emails to Jim at vmsa@vmsa.org.au and let us build something useful together.

SHED TO SHED

VMSEA LAUNCHES TOOL AND EQUIPMENT REPURPOSING PROGRAM

The VMSEA is excited to launch a new shed to shed repurposing program, giving men's sheds across Victoria the opportunity to pass on surplus tools, equipment and materials to sheds that need them most. The program is open to all Victorian men's sheds and is intended to particularly benefit sheds that are doing it tough.

The program will run through the [VMSEA Public Notices Facebook group](#), which already has 860 members and is free to use. Each month the VMSEA will put up a post in the group to get the ball rolling. Shed representatives can then add a comment under the post with a description of what they have available, their contact details and an image where possible to show the condition of the items.

If you would like your listing featured in Shed Talk, simply send the details through to Jim at vmsa@vmsa.org.au and it will include it in the next edition.

To keep things above board the program operates on a shed to shed basis only, through shed executives, ensuring it remains a genuine community initiative.



Share Your Surplus Items!



SAVE THE DATES

VMSA ROADSHOW DATES 2026

Bendigo 15 May – Greyhound Racing Club Victoria

South East Metro 19 June – Acoonah Park Hall

The Victorian Men's Shed Roadshow is coming to locations across Victoria in 2026. These events bring together men's shed members, community partners and sector organisations for a day of connection, practical information sharing and sessions to support shed operations, health and wellbeing, and community engagement.

Save the dates and keep an eye on our [Events](#) page for full details, locations and registration information for each Roadshow event.

EVENT SPONSORS



AUSTRALIAN
MEN'S SHED
ASSOCIATION
Shoulder to Shoulder



Beyond Bank
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Men's Health *Forum*

Friday 8 May 2026, 11am - 1pm
Edithvale-Aspendale Football Netball Club
Regents Park, Sixth Avenue, Aspendale

Tim Richardson MP State Member for Mordialloc Parliamentary Secretary for Men's Behaviour Change, Health and Wellbeing	Ged Kearney MP Vic Federal Member for Cooper Assistant Minister for Social Services	Mark Dreyfus MP Vic Federal Member for Isaacs Special Envoy for International Human Rights	Dan Repacholi MP NSW Federal Member for Hunter Special Envoy for Men's Health	Paul Edbrooke MP State Member for Frankston Minister for Men and Boys
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FIND YOUR LOCAL MEN'S SHED

Camaraderie, connectivity,
and engagement for men
of all backgrounds.

www.vmsa.org.au





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CareAbout is proud to sponsor **The Men's Shed**. Our partnership only deepens our commitment to making sure older Australians feel empowered to make aged care a choice (**not** a compromise). If you need support with your care, please freecall us: **1800 002 292**.

KEEP DOING WHAT YOU LOVE AT YOUR LOCAL MEN'S SHED

With Aunty Grace's Support at Home services, you can keep enjoying the activities and mateship of your local Men's Shed for years to come.

Got a Home Care or Support at Home government package?

Aunty Grace is here to help with:

Stay Connected

More time at your Shed, building, creating and catching up with mates.

Stay Active, Stay Strong

Access to physiotherapy and other clinical services with no out-of-pocket contributions under Support at Home.

Support at Home

Assistance with everyday tasks so you can stay safe and independent in your own home.

Transport to the Shed

We'll help you get to and from your Shed so you don't miss a thing.



Support at Home that keeps you moving, connected and independent

At Aunty Grace, we deliver better care and **Support at Home** that's consistent, compassionate, and clinically backed.

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
WHETHER IT'S A PROJECT SUCCESS,
A MEMBER'S ACHIEVEMENT, OR A
COMMUNITY INITIATIVE, WE'D LOVE
TO FEATURE IT IN SHED TALK.**

Send us your photos and stories to
vmsa@vmsa.org.au and let us showcase
the amazing work happening in your shed.

Don't miss this opportunity to share your
journey with the wider men's shed
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HOST YOUR NEXT MEN'S SHED EVENT IN OURS



WE CONFESS, OUR 'MEADOWS SHED' PROBABLY LOOKS A LOT DIFFERENT TO YOURS. HOWEVER, IT SHARES THE SAME VISION, MISSION & ROLE.

Here at **The Meadows Conference and Events Centre** we too believe in empowering communities. Our mission, like just every Men's Shed, is to offer a place for people to connect. We are dedicated to providing our venue to groups who require a unique and great space to host a function at a very reasonable cost. It goes in hand in hand with being a not-for-profit organisation, just like the VMSA.

As a proud sponsor of the VMSA, our shed door is always open should your shed members need a space to gather. This October we will again be hosting the **VMSA Annual Conference**. If you plan to head along, our hospitality team will be available to show you around our venue. We've seven sensational indoor and outdoor spaces to entertain you. If you'd like more immediate information about our venue and hospitality packages you can jump on our website or call on (03) 9355 5222.

And don't forget, our venue doubles as a Australia's premier greyhounds race track. We can also host you on a Wednesday or Saturday race night. Visit melbournegreyhounds.org.au to learn more.



*The
Meadows*

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80 Northcorp Boulevard, Broadmeadows, Victoria
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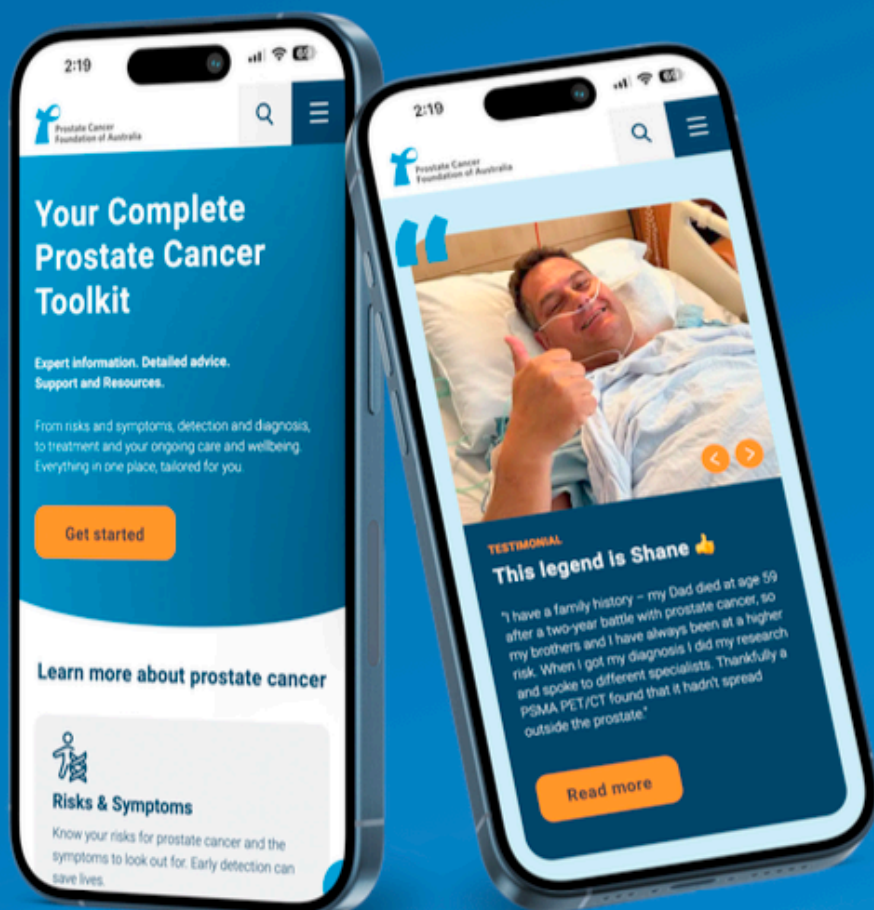
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Our local team and business volunteers provide practical and tailored support for community organisations and small businesses in the East and Central Gippsland areas, at no cost to you.

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Scan QR code
or contact Michelle
on 0429 008 475
to register
your interest

Follow Us on Social Media



Don't miss out on the latest updates, events, and community initiatives from the men's shed!

Follow our Facebook page **Victorian Men's Shed Association** for all the news, photos, and stories straight from Sheds.

Plus, join our Facebook group **VMSSA - Public Notices** to connect with fellow members, share ideas, and stay in the loop with discussions on topics that matter to you.

Stay connected, stay engaged, and be a part of our vibrant online community!

Follow us today!

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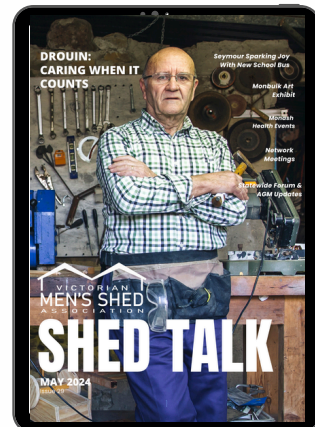


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