

HAMILTON MEN'S SHED FIGHTING FIRE ONE KNOCK AT A TIME

Help Us Build A Future
Victoria's Sheds Are
Answering The Call

A New Chapter For The
Tangambalanga Kiewa Men's Shed

VICTORIAN
MEN'S SHED
ASSOCIATION

SHED TALK

JULY 2026

Issue 54

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*You're
warmly*

INVITED

to the VMSA Statewide
Forum & AGM



The Victorian Men's Shed Association
(VMSA) warmly invites your Shed to our

STATEWIDE FORUM & AGM

This event brings together members from
over 300 Sheds across Victoria to
connect, share experiences, and explore
key issues and opportunities.



We'd love to see your Shed
represented on the day.

**Each Shed is invited to send
up to two members to attend.**



**THE MEADOWS CONFERENCE
AND EVENTS CENTRE**

80 NORTHCORP BOULEVARD
BROADMEADOWS VIC 3047

WHAT'S IN STORE:

- ✓ Inspiring guest speakers
- ✓ Plenty of time to mingle, network and swap stories with fellow shedders
- ✓ Morning tea and lunch provided
- ✓ \$100 fuel vouchers for sheds travelling more than 100km
- ✓ Exciting raffles and door prizes

RSVP BY 1 OCTOBER



vmsa@vmsa.org.au



or call Jim Kane
0448 015 554

MORE INFORMATION OR RSVP ONLINE



www.vmsa.org.au/events/



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!



VICTORIAN MEN'S SHEDS

HELP US BUILD A FUTURE



STRONGER MEN'S SHEDS MEAN STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Victoria's men's sheds deliver enormous health benefits and a huge social contribution to members and communities across the state.

INSUFFICIENT SUPPORT FOR MEN'S SHEDS

Men's sheds have received the same amount of funding since 2012 but our network has tripled in size. Men's sheds are underfunded and under-resourced.

WHAT'S NEEDED

Men's sheds are calling for an increase in State Government funding from \$1m to \$3m per annum from 2027/28 with ongoing indexation.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Your support will help men's sheds grow and secure their future. Visit our website or contact your local men's shed to share your support on our e-postcard or put your name on a form.

SCAN HERE
TO SHOW
YOUR
SUPPORT



We are collecting your name for the purposes of supporting our campaign for increased government funding. In connection with the campaign, we intend to share your name with politicians, political parties, and candidates contesting the Victorian State Election in 2026. The list of names we collect may be published by men's sheds. By providing your name, you consent to your name being used for this advocacy campaign. We will store your information in accordance with the VMSEA privacy policy.

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VMSEA.ORG.AU



HELP US BUILD A FUTURE

VICTORIA'S SHEDS ARE ANSWERING THE CALL

The response to the VMSA's **Help Us Build a Future** campaign has been nothing short of extraordinary. Since launching, Victorians from across the state have been adding their names in support of our call to increase men's shed funding from \$1 million to \$3 million from 2026/27, and the momentum is building every single day.

We have now collected over 1,900 names of support from shed members and community supporters right across Victoria, and the number continues to grow.

Of those who have added their name, over 900 are shed members and close to 1,000 are community supporters. It is incredibly encouraging to see community supporters now outnumbering shed members, demonstrating that the campaign is resonating well beyond the shed walls and into the broader Victorian community.

Alongside the names we have also received so many meaningful messages of support from shedders and community members sharing what their local shed means to them and their community. The stories are incredibly moving and serve as a powerful reminder of why this campaign matters so much. Here are just a few:

"The shed has become far more than just a place to work on projects. It provides a welcoming, friendly and supportive environment where we feel valued, connected and encouraged." — Langwarrin Men's Shed member

"Men's sheds are so valuable to any community, giving so many men a sense of belonging and purpose that is essential for their mental health and wellbeing. This benefits the whole community." — St Andrews community supporters

"The funding for such an important and constructive project has been shamefully neglected. It is time to increase funding for such an important community space." — Diamond Creek community supporter

The sheds leading the charge

Some sheds have truly gone above and beyond in their efforts to gather support, and we want to take a moment to recognise them. The top sheds by names collected are:

- Broadford Men's Shed — 460+
- Ouyen Men's Shed — 210+
- Chelsea Men's Shed — 190+
- Lorne and District Men's Shed — 120+
- Rosebud and Districts Men's Shed — 90+
- Diamond Creek Men's Shed — 80+
- Akoonah Park Men's Shed — 65+
- Trafalgar Men's Shed — 40+
- Montrose Men's Shed — 30+
- Birchip Men's Shed — 30+

An enormous thank you to every shed and every person who has taken the time to collect and submit names. This kind of grassroots effort is exactly what gives the campaign its power.

How you can help

If your shed has not yet got involved there is still plenty of time. Every name counts. You can add your name directly online or download Show Your Support forms to collect names in person from your members, their families and your wider community.

All campaign materials including posters, social media kits, newsletter inserts and email templates are available to download at vmsa.org.au/help-us-build-a-future/

OUT AND ABOUT ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

The **Help Us Build a Future** campaign is well and truly in full swing, with shedders from across Victoria out and about in their communities collecting names of support. The images on this page capture just some of the incredible effort being put in by sheds right across the state. The VMSA is also distributing corflute signs to sheds, bringing them to network meetings and roadshows as we travel around Victoria. If your shed would like one, contact Jim Kane at vmsa@vmsa.org.au or call 0448 015 554 to find out when we will be in your region.



PAUL FROM OCEAN GROVE &
DISTRICT MEN'S SHED INC



OUYEN DISTRICT MEN'S SHED



MOUNT DUNEED
MEN'S SHED



TORQUAY MEN'S SHED



ST LEONARDS MEN'S SHED



HEYWOOD ROAD SHOW



AUGUST 14, 2026
08:30 AM – 02:00 PM



HEYWOOD COMMUNITY HALL
18-20 EDGAR STREET
HEYWOOD VIC 3304

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

vmsa@vmsa.org.au
0448 015 554

BY 10TH AUGUST

SCAN



EVENT SPONSORS



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



Beyond Bank
AUSTRALIA



A NEW CHAPTER FOR THE TANGAMBALANGA KIEWA MEN'S SHED

Submitted by Greg Porter, Secretary,
Tangambalanga Kiewa Men's Shed

The Tangam Kiewa Men's Shed, located in North East Victoria, is proud to be entering an exciting new chapter, with construction well underway on our new purpose built home at Coulston Park.

After a challenging period that saw us lose our previous home, securing a new site and reaching the construction stage has been a journey built on determination, resilience and an incredible amount of support from the men's shed community.

We would like to sincerely thank the Victorian Men's Shed Association and men's sheds across Victoria for the encouragement, guidance, advocacy and practical support provided throughout this journey. Your willingness to stand beside us, offer advice, share your experiences and champion our cause played a significant role in helping us secure a new home and make this project a reality.

The new facility will provide a modern, accessible and welcoming space where local men can come together to build friendships, learn new skills, work on community projects and support one another. More than just a workshop, our new shed will continue to be a place where conversations happen, connections are made and wellbeing is strengthened.

This project has also been made possible through the generous support of our funding partners, local businesses, volunteers and the wider community. Every contribution, whether through funding, donated materials, expertise or countless volunteer hours, has helped lay the foundations for our future.

As the building continues to take shape there is a real sense of excitement among our members. We look forward to opening the doors of our new home and welcoming both familiar faces and new members to experience everything the Tangam Kiewa Men's Shed has to offer.

On behalf of all our members, thank you to everyone who has supported us on this journey. The VMSA and the wider men's shed network truly demonstrate the spirit of mateship that defines our movement. We hope our new shed will stand as a lasting reminder of what can be achieved when communities work together.

We look forward to welcoming fellow shedders from across Victoria to Coulston Park once our new home is complete.



HAMILTON MEN'S SHED

FIGHTING FIRE ONE KNOCK AT A TIME

When the Hamilton Country Fire Authority came knocking at the Hamilton Men's Shed with an unusual request, Shed Secretary, James McCallum, did not hesitate to say yes. It helped that the CFA officer making the request was his son Paul.

The project? A set of knock-'em-downs for use at CFA open days and public demonstrations. For those who have not come across them before, knock-'em-downs are target structures shaped like houses on fire. Children use low pressure fire hoses to aim water at painted flames in the windows and doors, knocking them down and putting the fire out. It is a simple concept but a hugely popular one at community events, giving young people a hands on introduction to fire safety in a way that is genuinely fun and memorable.

James and fellow Shed Member, Ian Phillips, set to work constructing four houses from marine grade plywood. The windows are hinged at the bottom with magnets at the top, providing just enough resistance to make the activity engaging without frustrating the kids. And keeping it firmly in the family, Paul's mother painted the flames on each house, adding the perfect finishing touch.

The finished knock-'em-downs will be used by the Hamilton CFA and made available to other local brigades across the region, meaning many communities will get to enjoy the activity at future events.

A fun project, a great result and another example of a men's shed putting its skills quietly and generously to work for the community it calls home.



REPORT FROM THE **VICE CHAIR**

I am writing the report for this month as Trevor, our Chair, is taking a well-earned break and is currently overseas.

As mentioned in last month's Shed Talk, Jim Kane has returned to his previous role as VMSA Regional Coordinator. Jim has hit the ground running and is enjoying being back on the road, visiting men's sheds, connecting with shedders and supporting network events across Victoria.

With Jim returning to his previous role, we advertised for a new VMSA Executive Officer. There was strong interest in the position, and the selection committee interviewed several outstanding applicants before making its final decision.

We are pleased to announce that Michelle Bourke is our new Executive Officer. Michelle has tertiary qualifications in logistics and marketing and has more than 25 years' experience across not for profit, member-based and commercial organisations. She has the experience and is very well qualified for the role.

I met with Michelle and Jim at the VMSA Office on her first day and Max Finlayson, our Secretary, joined us via a phone call. Michelle was very enthusiastic and keen to get started. She will keep the Board on their toes, and I am sure VMSA members will notice a change.

Our Help Us Build a Future campaign is gathering pace and we have just over 1,900 names registered so far. Thank you to all the Sheds and members who have helped so far. Keep gathering the names of supporters.

We have a copy of the Curtin University report "An independent evaluation of the contribution of Men's Sheds to Victoria" and are just waiting on an Executive Summary before we release it. The report will become the cornerstone of our campaign. Thank you to all the Sheds that contributed via the questionnaires. The information gathered has made the report possible.

As we get closer to the State Elections to be held in November, we will start canvassing support from all sides of politics and increase our media coverage. You will be able to help by discussing our campaign with candidates seeking election in your local electorates.

Our Annual Forum and Annual General Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday 21st October and will be held at The Meadows in Broadmeadows again thanks to the generosity of Melbourne Greyhound Racing Association. We are currently putting together a program of speakers, and more information will be available soon.

GRAEME NEWMAN
VMSA Vice Chair



REPORT FROM THE **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

I am honoured to be starting as Executive Officer at the Victorian Men's Shed Association.

For me, this role is a full circle moment. On 16 July 2008, my father, through Keilor Rotary Club, helped establish the Wycheproof Men's Shed. As a family, we supported that journey, attending fundraisers in Wycheproof to help fund its establishment. Right up until he became ill last year, Dad remained a regular visitor to the town, always speaking highly of the benefits of Men's Sheds. He now lives with dementia, but I know he would be happy that I get to work with Shedders across the state on something he loved so deeply.

I have seen first-hand the benefits of Men's Sheds. They bring together men looking to connect, share experiences, learn together, and enhance their physical and mental wellbeing, while contributing to their communities.

This week I have been to see St Leonards, Ocean Grove and Hobsons Bay, and I was so impressed to see the activity and great work these sheds are doing. I'm looking forward to seeing more sheds in the coming weeks.

I want to thank the VMSA team and Board for the warm welcome I've received. I can't wait to meet you all, whether through shed visits across Victoria or at the upcoming Member Forum, which promises to be a wonderful day to connect with fellow Shedders and hear from some great speakers.

If your shed wants to see me, please reach out via email at executiveofficer@vmsa.org.au or call 0418 597 063

Here's to the road ahead, and to continuing the great work by the men's sheds which so many, including my dad, have believed in for so long.

MICHELLE BOURKE
VMSA Executive Officer



Wycheproof shed members outside the original shed.



A moment in history. Wycheproof Men's Shed celebrating their very first year as a shed back in 2009.



BALLAN MEN'S SHED

GOES TO BAT FOR LOCAL WILDLIFE

The Ballan Men's Shed has lent its skills to a fascinating local conservation project, partnering with the Moorabool Catchment Landcare Group to help protect and monitor the bat population in their region.

As the Landcare group puts it, the shed is happy to be a small but important part of this local project, and what a project it is.

The Moorabool Catchment Landcare Group has been working alongside Federation University to deploy ultrasonic acoustic monitors across the region to record and study local bat species. The monitors capture sounds at frequencies above 20,000Hz, well beyond the range of the human ear, allowing researchers to identify bat species and better understand what habitat conditions they rely on. Data collected will include the presence of hollow bearing trees, canopy health, canopy cover and fruit bearing trees, building up a rich dataset that Federation University students will be able to draw on for years to come.

This is where the Ballan Men's Shed comes in. The shedders have been busy producing bat boxes, which create instant habitat for bats who would otherwise rely on tree hollows to nest in. The catch? Tree hollows take around 80 years to form naturally. Bat boxes are a practical and immediate solution to a very real conservation challenge, and the shed has embraced the project wholeheartedly.

Bat boxes will be made available to local landholders in Spring, with monitoring set to begin in September once the warmer weather brings more bat activity to the region. It is a wonderful example of a men's shed using its practical skills to make a genuine contribution to the natural environment of the community it calls home. Well done to the shedders at Ballan Men's Shed!



YACKANDANDAH MEN'S SHED

TO HOST YACKANDANDAH WOMEN'S SHED



The Yackandandah Men's Shed was formally established in 2012 with support from Yackandandah Lions Club and after receiving several grants, they were able to establish a workshop and meeting room on the grounds of Yackandandah Health.

The Women's Shed began in April 2021 under the auspices of the Yackandandah Community Centre with access to their meeting room and to a private shed to accommodate their work while they continued to search for a permanent home. That changed when Men's Shed President, Graeme Neil, suggested that the two sheds could co-exist under one roof. They had found a home with wonderful neighbours.

The members of both sheds can share what they can, when they can, with gratitude and respect. Space is at a premium, and the men already seem to be bursting at the seams, yet they continue to make room for the women wherever they can.

Yackandandah can be proud that their sheds have embraced the opportunity to share space, skills and friendships, while retaining their individual identities, and are both looking forward to what lies ahead.

Chrissie Zerbst
Coordinator Yackandandah Women's Shed

Max Finlayson
Secretary, Yackandandah Men's Shed

UPCOMING

NETWORK MEETINGS



AUGUST

1

Cardinia Network

20 August

Cardinia Men's Shed

2

Yarra Ranges Network

21 August

Belgrave Men's Shed

3

Bendigo Network

25 August

Huntly Men's Shed



SEPTEMBER

4

Shepparton Network

1 September

Tallygaroopna Men's Shed



UPDATE

Wangaratta Road Show

Rescheduled

A new date will be advised.



WHY ATTEND?

- ✓ Share ideas and projects
- ✓ Learn about grants and opportunities
- ✓ Meet neighbouring sheds
- ✓ Hear the latest VMSA updates
- ✓ Strengthen local shed networks



FOR MORE INFORMATION

VMSA – Supporting
Sheds Across Victoria

www.vmsa.org.au



ALL SHEDS WELCOME

Come along, share ideas and help build
stronger shed networks across Victoria.

INVOICE UPDATE

MEMBER DUES

We wanted to let everyone know that we're currently working through our invoicing process and finalising the payment options available this year.

We expect to have this finalised shortly, with membership invoices to be issued in early August. Committee members will receive an email once invoices are available and ready for payment. Shed Member fees remain at \$55.00

In the meantime, we would appreciate sheds taking a few minutes to log in to the VMSA Member Portal and review their shed information. This helps ensure we have the most accurate and up-to-date contact, committee and shed details on record before invoices are issued. Alternatively, email us at vmsa@vmsa.org.au

To access the Member Portal, please refer to the login guide on the next page for step-by-step instructions.

Thank you for your patience and support. We'll keep you updated and let you know as soon as the invoicing process is finalised.



FIND YOUR LOCAL MEN'S SHED

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

www.vmsa.org.au



UPDATE YOUR MEN'S SHED DETAILS

≡ A Step-by-Step Guide ≡

Keep your men's shed information up to date by submitting changes through the VMSA Member Portal.

1

LOG IN TO THE MEMBER PORTAL

Go to:

<https://www.vmsa.org.au/login/>

Enter your email address and password, then click **Login**.



Forgot your password?

Reset it here: <https://www.vmsa.org.au/vmsalmi/?action=lostpassword>

Forgot your email address (username)? Please contact VMSA at vmsa@vmsa.org.au

2

GO TO "UPDATE YOUR MEN'S SHED DETAILS"

Once logged in, select **Update Your Men's Shed Details** from the Member Portal dashboard.

You will see two update options:



WEBSITE SITE UPDATE

Updates your shed's Find a Shed page on the VMSA website. Use this to change public information such as your shed description, meeting times, contact details and photos.



SHED INFORMATION

Updates your shed's information in the VMSA membership database. Use this to update committee contacts, membership details and other administrative information.

Welcome , to the VMSA Member Portal!

We're pleased to let you know that the new VMSA Member Portal—designed to make managing your membership easier and more secure—is now live and ready to use.

The portal is being released in two phases:

1. **Membership Dues Payment** – securely pay your annual VMSA membership dues online.
2. **Shed Information Management** – update and maintain your shed's contact and operational details (coming soon).

Phase 1 – Dues Payment Now Available

You can now make your dues payment by clicking "Shed Membership Renewals".



Shed Membership Renewals

[Membership Renewal](#)



Update Your Mens Shed Details

[Manage Account](#)

Membership Status

Active

Membership Period

July 1, 2024 - August 31, 2025

[Logout](#)

UPDATE YOUR MEN'S SHED DETAILS

Please update the information below.

Name of shed *

Social Inclusion & Wellbeing Men's Shed

Name of contact person *

John Smith

Email address *

john.smith@socialshed.org.au

Phone number

0412 345 678

Shed address *

3 Louisa Street, Croydon VIC 3136

3

SUBMIT YOUR CHANGES

Click **Submit** once you have completed the form.

You will receive a confirmation that your changes have been submitted for review.



Thank you!

Your update has been submitted.

It will be reviewed by the VMSA admin.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



REVIEW BY VMSA ADMIN

Your submitted changes will be reviewed by the VMSA administration team.



APPROVAL

Once approved, your changes will be made.



Please note: Changes are not applied immediately. All updates must be approved by the VMSA administration team before they are processed.



NEED ASSISTANCE?

If you have any questions or need support, please contact VMSA:



vmsa@vmsa.org.au



SHED SHOWCASE

VENUS BAY, TARWIN LOWER & DISTRICT MEN'S SHED INC

The shedders at Venus Bay Men's Shed have been busy completing an extension to their shed and have wasted no time appointing a new security guard to keep watch over proceedings. Meet Big Nick, the shed's formidable new guardian. We would not want to tangle with him either!



CLIFTON SPRINGS COMMUNITY MEN'S SHED

Life Member Ivan has crafted a stunning timber table that is a testament to the skill and care that goes into every project at the Clifton Springs Community Men's Shed. Measuring approximately 700mm x 600mm and available for sale at just \$80, it would make a beautiful addition to any home.

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



NYORA MEN'S SHED

The shedders at Nyora Men's Shed have been putting their skills to great use, crafting miniature rail carriages for the local rail trail. One of three being built by the shed, each carriage is a brilliant example of the creativity, craftsmanship and community spirit that makes the men's shed movement so special.

MERRI COMMUNITY MEN'S SHED

Thirty pens in one session is no small feat! Ian Beckett and Lionel Hart from the Merri Community Shed recently pulled off a marathon pen turning effort, crafting 30 beautifully finished pens from an impressive range of timbers including Camphor Laurel, Victorian Ash, American Oak, Cypress, Elm and Silky Oak. Each pen will be engraved and presented as gifts to important stakeholders by Shed President Dave. A great example of what skilled shedders can achieve when they put their minds to it.



SEBASTOPOL MEN'S SHED

Shed member Lyle has installed a Blue Tree at the Sebastopol Men's Shed, inspired by the Blue Tree Project and its simple but powerful message to check in on one another and start conversations about mental health. A meaningful initiative from a shed that understands the importance of connection and looking out for your mates. Well done to Lyle and the team.



SHED TO SHED

REPURPOSING PROGRAM

Quality equipment.
New purpose.
Supporting sheds
across Victoria

**Helping Sheds
help each other**
Reuse. Repurpose.
Keep our sheds
moving forward.

**AVAILABLE FROM
YAKANDANDAH MEN'S SHED
NO COST**



**TRITON ROUTER STAND
RSA 300**



SABER DUST EXTRACTOR

- Inlet diameter 2 x 100 mm
- Fan diameter 305 mm
- Weight 40 kg



CONTACT

Yackandandah Men's Shed
24 Isaac's Avenue
Yackandandah



mensshedyack@outlook.com



TOGETHER STRONGER SHEDS STRONGER COMMUNITIES



VMSA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



PRACTICAL SUPPORT

We provide practical advice, assistance, support and guidance for Victorian Men's Sheds.



REPRESENTATION AND ADVOCACY

We represent and advocate for the interests of your shed to government, business and community organisations.



PROMOTION

We assist with promoting your shed to the wider Victorian community.



FIELD VISITS

We provide face to face support for Victorian sheds including field visits.



ANNUAL FORUM AND AGM

You are invited to our annual VMSA Forum and AGM on **21st October**, which is fully catered and free of charge, including a \$100 travel voucher for all sheds located more than 100km from the venue at The Meadows Racetrack, Broadmeadows.



LOCAL AND REGIONAL NETWORK

We provide help with local and regional shed networks, including network visits and network establishment.



REGIONAL COORDINATOR

A Victorian based Regional Coordinator supports Victorian Men's Sheds with local health related resources and timely information on the National Shed Development Program Grants.



VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT GRANTS

We provide information and guidance regarding the annual Victorian State Government men's shed grants, with up to \$840,000 available for Victorian sheds.



NEWSLETTER AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Your shed receives a subscription to the VMSA newsletter and access to our social media page, keeping sheds up to date with information and news about shed activities across Victoria.



REGIONAL ROADSHOWS

We host Regional Roadshow Events for sheds across the state.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

We provide information on other available local grants, governance, shed promotion and community engagement.



PARTNERSHIPS AND EQUIPMENT

Enjoy the benefits of VMSA's partnerships with corporations and other organisations for the distribution of equipment and materials to sheds.



**STRONGER TOGETHER. SUPPORTING
SHEDS ACROSS VICTORIA.**

**BE PART OF A STRONG NETWORK THAT
SUPPORTS, ADVOCATES AND GROWS
MEN'S SHEDS ACROSS VICTORIA.**

**Victorian
Seniors
Festival
2026**



**CONNECT
CREATE
CELEBRATE**

1–31 October



2026 SENIORS FESTIVAL

GET YOUR SHED INVOLVED!

The 2026 Victorian Seniors Festival is coming and it is a great opportunity for men's sheds across Victoria to get involved, showcase their work and connect with their local communities.

This year's theme is Connect, Create, Celebrate, which could not be more fitting for the men's shed movement!

List your shed event for free

Submissions for the online event calendar are now open. If your shed is planning an open day, demonstration, exhibition or any other activity during the festival period, you can list it for free at seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/victorian-seniors-festival-event-submission. The calendar closes for submissions on Sunday 16 August at midnight, so get in early.

To help you get started, download the [stakeholder promotional toolkit](#) and the [guide to listing your event](#) to get started.

Expressions of interest for the Victorian Seniors Festival print guide are closing even sooner, on Sunday 7 June. Complete the EOI form here: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/jabAqShdRA>

Free travel for Seniors Card holders

Seniors Card holders can enjoy nine days of free public transport across Victoria from 3 to 11 October 2026, including all metropolitan services, V/Line train and coach services and selected regional bus services. This is a great opportunity to encourage members and visitors to travel to your shed events during the festival period.

Key dates:

Monday 25 May: [Stakeholder promotional toolkit](#) available

Monday 25 May: Online event calendar opens for submissions

Sunday 7 June: Expressions of interest for print guide listings close. Complete the EOI form here: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/jabAqShdRA>

Sunday 16 August, midnight: Online event calendar closes for submissions

Monday 17 August, 5:00pm: Deadline to request changes to submitted online event calendar events

Tuesday 1 September: Online event calendar and Victorian Seniors Festival launched for 2026

3 to 11 October 2026: Free travel period for Seniors Card holders



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!

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.

2026 SOCIAL HOUSING VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Recognising renters
making an outstanding
contribution to their
community



Nominations open 27 July
and close 25 September 2026

To enter go online
or call **8633 4357**
[www.housing.vic.gov.au/
social-housing-volunteer-awards](http://www.housing.vic.gov.au/social-housing-volunteer-awards)



CareAbout: Because *no one* should feel alone when seeking quality care.

For wherever you're at in your care journey, CareAbout is here to help you, **free of charge**, when it's time to:



Find a Home
Care Provider



Change Home
Care Providers



Explore Aged
Care Homes



Excellent

4.7



based on 6k+ reviews | **Trustpilot**

We're always here to CareAbout You

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.

With local knowledge and genuine personal care, your Aunty Grace Care Partner supports your independence every step of the way.



Aunty Grace ensures you get more from your home care with:

- Regular, reliable services
- Smarter Care Management
- Every incident reviewed by a clinical team
- We stay in touch – regular updates, clear communication, and community events!
- Need help? Our friendly support team is always there and ready to assist

Call us today **1300 010 801**
or visit us at **www.auntygrace.com.au**

**DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?
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
community!



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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*

CONFERENCE + EVENTS CENTRE

80 Northcorp Boulevard, Broadmeadows, Victoria
themeadowsevents.com.au | (03) 9355 5222



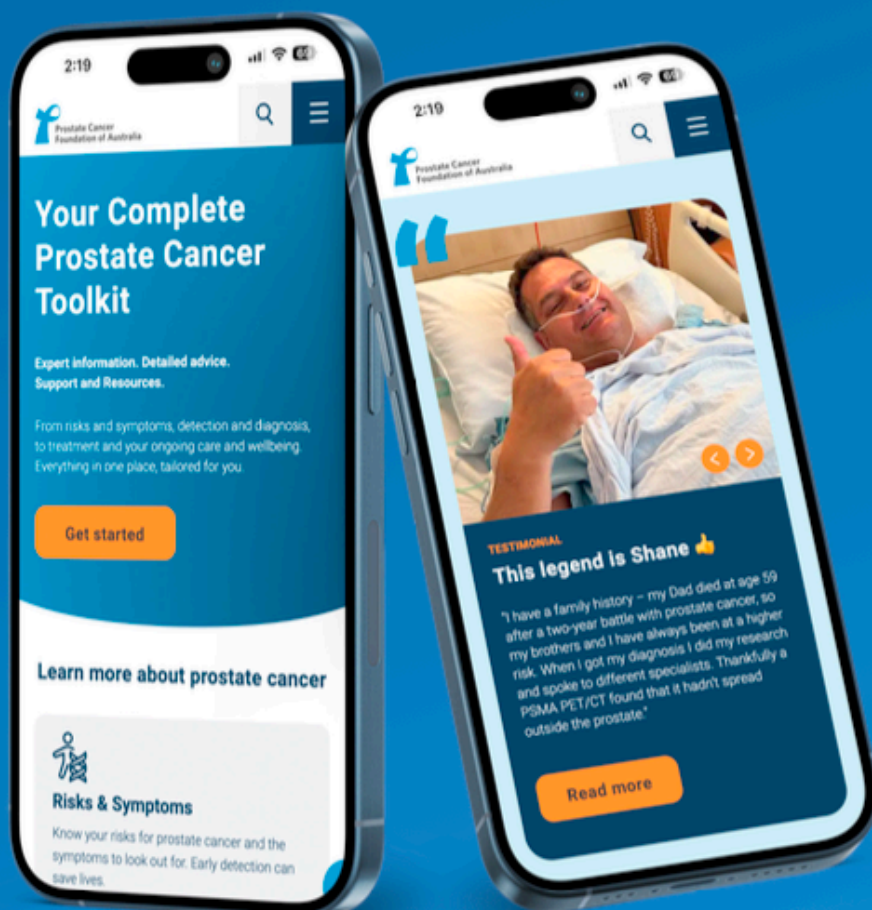
Prostate Cancer
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Your Complete Prostate Cancer Toolkit

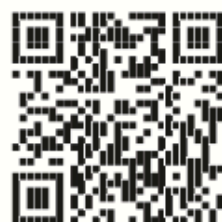
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☎ 1800 22 00 99



Scan the QR code
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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 **VMSA - 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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