

**HELP US BUILD A
FUTURE CAMPAIGN**

Statewide Forum & AGM Invitation

VMSA Annual Shed Awards

**Shed Week
Come Down For A Cuppa**



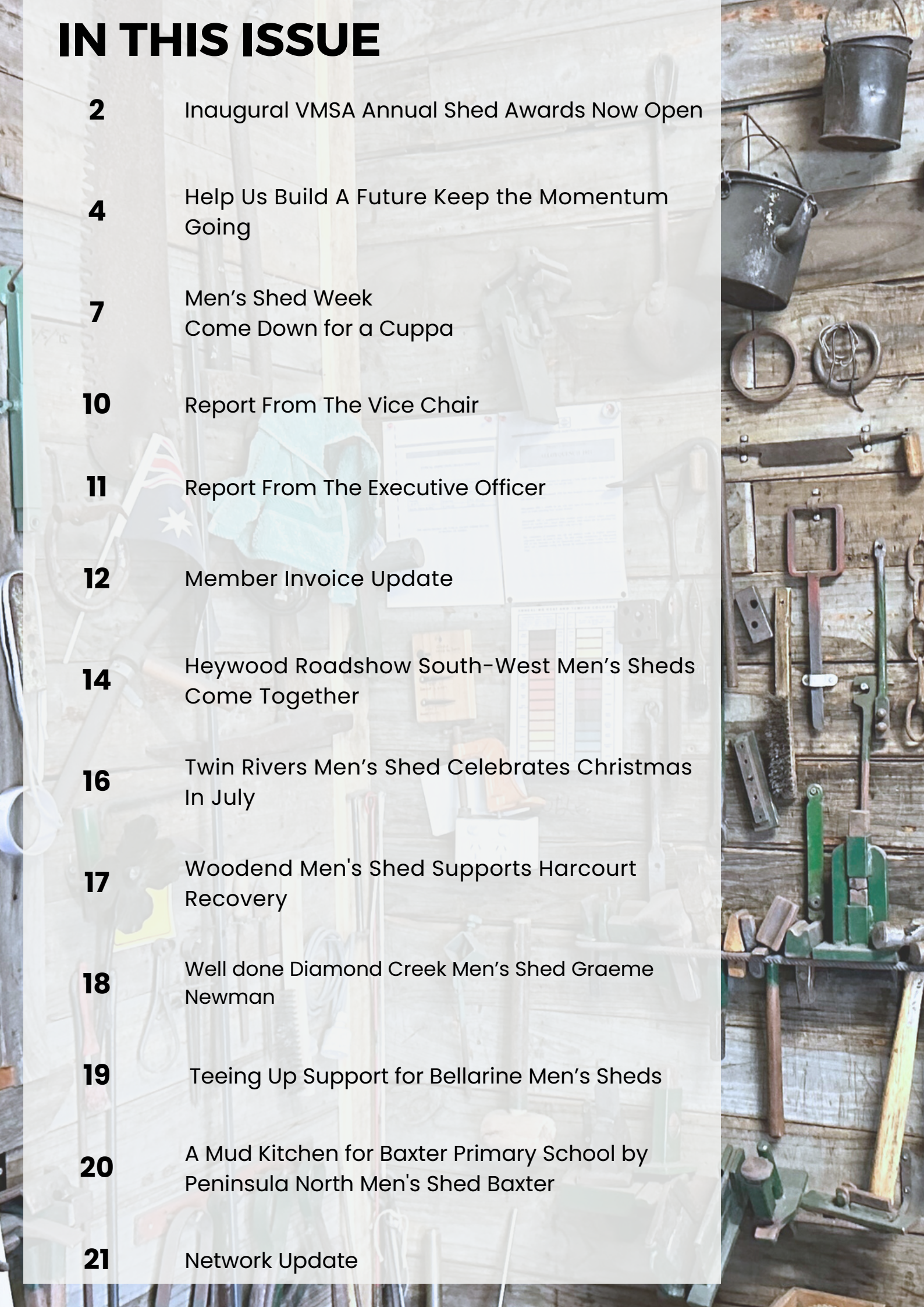
**VICTORIAN
MEN'S SHED
ASSOCIATION**

SHED TALK

AUGUST 2026

Issue 55

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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!

NOMINATIONS

Now Open

for the Inaugural

VMSA ANNUAL SHED AWARDS

The Victorian Men's Shed Association (VMSA) is delighted to announce that nominations are now open for the inaugural VMSA Annual Shed Awards.

These new annual awards celebrate the shedders, projects and men's sheds that make an outstanding contribution to the men's shed movement across Victoria. They recognise the dedication, innovation and community spirit that help our sheds thrive and make a positive difference in the lives of members and their local communities.

RECOGNISING THE BEST OF VICTORIA'S MEN'S SHEDS

The VMSA Annual Shed Awards shine a spotlight on the individuals and initiatives that embody the values of connection, inclusion, mateship and service.



NOMINATIONS CLOSE ON



30 SEPTEMBER



SHED MEMBER CHAMPION AWARD

This award recognises an exceptional individual member who has made a significant contribution to their shed and community through leadership, volunteering, mentoring or supporting fellow members.

Every shed has someone who consistently goes the extra mile. The Shed Member Champion Award is an opportunity to acknowledge their commitment and celebrate their impact.



INNOVATION AWARD

The Innovation Award recognises a shed, program or individual that has introduced a new idea, initiative or approach that has delivered meaningful results.

Whether it's a creative community project, a successful wellbeing program, an innovative partnership or a fresh way of engaging members, this award celebrates ideas that make a difference.

NOMINATIONS

Now Open

for the Inaugural

**VMSEA ANNUAL
SHED AWARDS**



NOMINATE TODAY

Nominations are open to all VMSEA members.

The Innovation Award may be self-nominated, while nominations for the Shed Member Champion Award must be submitted by another member.

Nominations close on 30 September.



SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION

👉 Nomination Form: [Click here](#)

We encourage sheds across Victoria to take the opportunity to recognise the outstanding shedders and initiatives within their communities.

A FAIR AND TRANSPARENT PROCESS

All nominations will be independently assessed against published criteria by a judging panel that includes VMSEA representatives and independent members. Conflicts of interest will be declared and managed to ensure a fair and transparent process.

Award recipients will be announced at the VMSEA Annual Awards Presentation in November, held in conjunction with the VMSEA AGM or Annual Conference.

CELEBRATE YOUR SHED'S SUCCESS

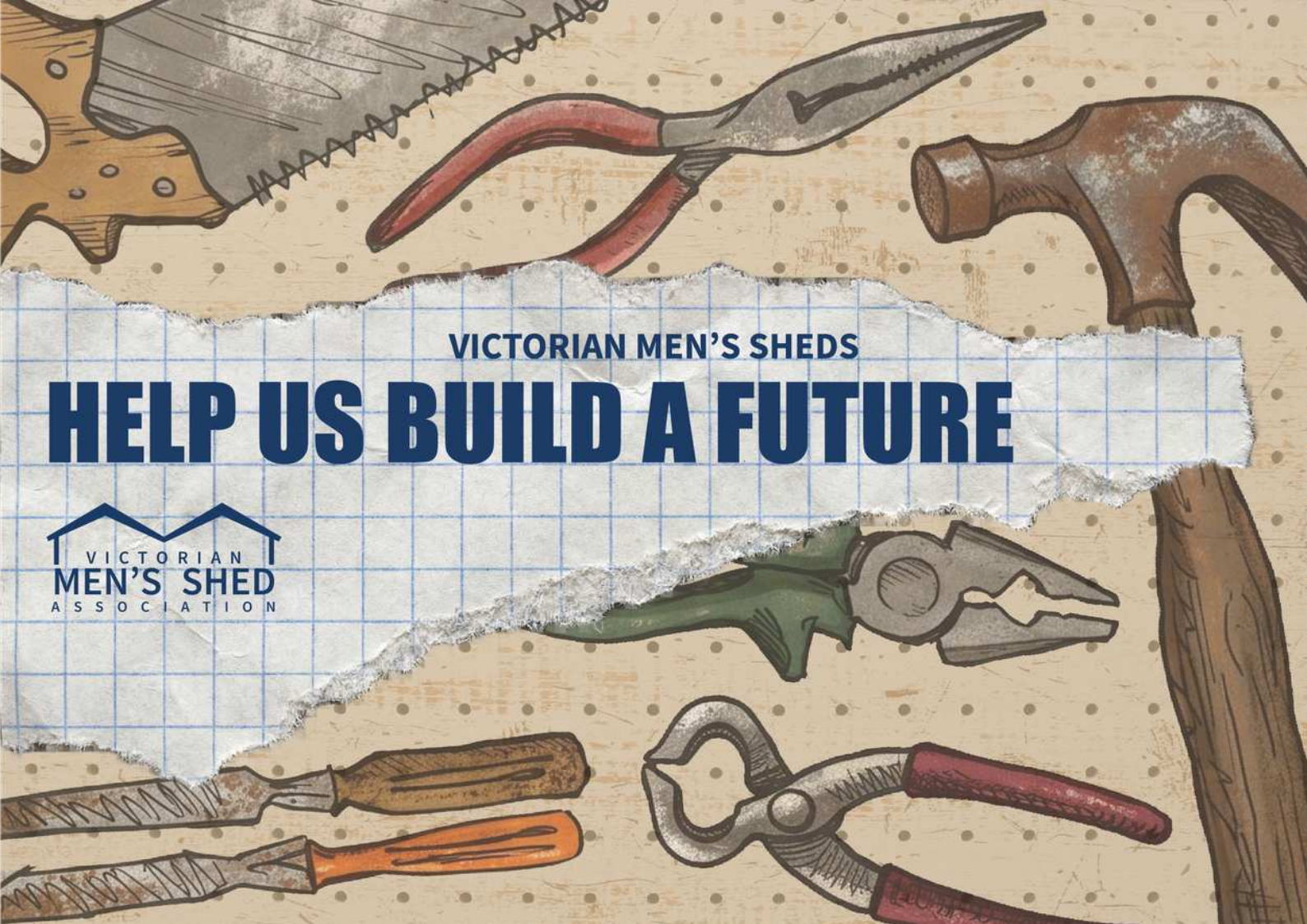
Across Victoria, men's sheds are changing lives through friendship, skills sharing, volunteering and community engagement. The VMSEA Annual Shed Awards provide an opportunity to recognise those achievements and share inspiring stories from across our network.

DON'T LET A DESERVING MEMBER, PROJECT OR SHED GO UNNOTICED.

Submit your nomination today and help us celebrate the champions and innovators who continue to strengthen the men's shed movement across Victoria.



**DOWNLOAD
NOMINATION
FORM HERE**



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

KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING:

Thank you doesn't quite cover it, but it's where we'll start.

To every shedder, family member, community supporter and local business who has added their name to Help Us Build a Future so far, thank you. Your support is making a real difference in the case we're building for increased funding for Men's Sheds across Victoria.

But we're not there yet, and we need your help to keep the momentum going.

Every signature strengthens our voice when we sit down with decision-makers and make the case for why Men's Sheds deserve greater investment. The more names we gather, the harder that case is to ignore.

Here's how you can help spread the word:

- **Talk to your community.** Reach out to family, friends and neighbours, anyone who might not know about the campaign yet, and ask them to add their name.
- **Put a poster up.** Local noticeboards, doctors' clinics, pharmacies, libraries and community centres are all great spots where people will see it.
- **Share our pinned post.** If you're on Facebook, head to our page and share the campaign post pinned at the top, it makes it easy for your friends and family to find and support the cause in just a click.

Why this matters

We've been overwhelmed by the messages of support coming through as part of this campaign. Here are just a few:

"What an amazing bunch of people and skills. Over the years the men's shed have been so important in delivering local community projects for the whole community. I also engaged them on a couple of projects as a small business owner. I've watched men from my community thrive in this program, giving them purpose and using their skills to build community."

"Keep up the good work! The community is grateful for your hard work. Members are grateful to have the space and the support of like minded individuals."

"My husband's mental health has been so improved since going to the shed, please help."
"It provides a place for men to get together, have a chat, build things if they want. It costs money to run a shed and it needs financial support to keep going."

"Please help, we do as much as we can with volunteers, but it takes a little money to keep things moving as well."

"Being alone, my shed has kept me going. Gives me a reason to get up every day."

"Best organisation to build support, trust, build or relearn skills. Increases socialisation and esteem, decreases isolation and depression. Men's Shed and all others are vital."

These messages of support are exactly why this campaign matters, and why we need as many Victorians as possible standing behind it.

Need more resources?

If your shed would like additional posters, corflutes or campaign materials, get in touch with VMSA and we'll get them sent your way.

Add your name and show your support today: www.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.



BENDIGO MEN'S SHED
TREASURER, KEVIN



MARONG MEN'S SHED



COLAC
MEN'S SHED



SIMPSON MEN'S SHED



GEELONG EAST MEN'S SHED



MEN'S SHED WEEK

7-13 SEPTEMBER

Come Down For A Cuppa.

Men's Sheds are places to connect, share skills, and support each other. **Everyone's welcome.**



FIND YOUR NEAREST SHED

Scan the QR code or visit vmsa.org.au to find a men's shed near you.



vmsa.org.au



Proudly supporting
men's sheds across Victoria



MEN'S SHED WEEK 2026

COME DOWN FOR A CUPPA

7 to 13 September 2026

Every year, thousands of men across Victoria find their way to a shed, not because someone convinced them to take up woodwork, but because someone put the kettle on and said "come and have a cuppa." That's what this Men's Shed Week is all about.

Just a cup of tea, a seat at the table, and a chance to see who you meet. For a lot of men, that one simple moment is where it all begins, a friendship, a new skill, a place to belong.

This Men's Shed Week, sheds across Victoria will be opening their doors, putting the urn on, and inviting their community in for a cuppa and a chat.

Bring a Mate for a Cuppa

Sheds are encouraged to nominate a day or two during the week to host a morning or afternoon tea. Members are invited to bring along a mate who hasn't visited a shed before, a simple way to introduce someone new to what a shed has to offer.

The Cuppa Tracker

As sheds host their cuppa through the week, they can check in with a photo on VMSEA's live Cuppa Tracker map. It's a great way to watch the momentum build across the state in real time, and gives everyone a reason to celebrate together.

Please send us your photos to vmsa@vmsa.org.au or tag us in your social media posts.

Low-effort shed activities

For sheds after a bit of extra fun during the week, try one of these:

- Bring Your Favourite Biscuit Day
- A shed-to-shed visit swap with a nearby shed
- A "Why I Come to the Shed" quote board

The Shed Biscuit

No cuppa is complete without something to go with it. This Men's Shed Week, we're sharing The Shed Biscuit, a simple recipe your shed can bake together ahead of your cuppa. It's an easy activity to do as a group, and gives you something warm and homemade to put on the table.

A great chance to build support

Men's Shed Week is also a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness of VMSEA's Help Us Build a Future campaign. With shedders, families and community members all gathering for a cuppa across the state, it's the perfect moment to invite a few more names of support for increased funding for Men's Sheds.

Keep an eye out for your full Come Down for a Cuppa toolkit, including posters, the recipe card and more, in the lead up to September.

SHED WEEK

7-13 SEPTEMBER

The Shed Biscuit

A simple, no-fuss biscuit any shed can bake together ahead of their **Come Down for A Cuppa** morning tea. Easy to double or triple for a crowd.



COME DOWN
FOR A CUPPA



INGREDIENTS

- 250 g butter, softened
- 1 cup caster sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups plain flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 pinch of salt
- 1 cup choc chips, sultanas or chopped nuts (whatever's in the pantry)



STEPS

- 1 Preheat and prep:** Preheat the oven to 180°C (160°C fan-forced) and line two baking trays with baking paper.
- 2 Cream butter and sugar:** Beat together 250 g butter, softened and 1 cup caster sugar until pale and fluffy, a few minutes with an electric mixer, or a good arm workout by hand.
- 3 Add egg and vanilla:** Mix in 1 large egg and 1 tsp vanilla extract until combined.
- 4 Add dry ingredients:** Sift in 2 cups plain flour, 1 tsp baking powder and 1 pinch of salt, then stir until just combined, don't overmix.
- 5 Fold in extras:** Fold through 1 cup choc chips, sultanas or chopped nuts (whatever's in the pantry).
- 6 Shape and space:** Roll tablespoons of mixture into balls, place on the trays, and flatten slightly. Leave a few centimetres between each, they'll spread.
- 7 Bake:** Bake until golden around the edges.
- 8 Cool and enjoy:** Leave on the tray for 5 minutes before moving to a wire rack. Serve with a strong cuppa and good company.



NOTES

Swap the choc chips/sultanas/nuts for whatever's on hand, this recipe is forgiving and easy to scale up for a bigger crowd.

REPORT FROM THE **VICE CHAIR**

Trevor, our Chair, will be home from his overseas break by the time this edition of Shed Talk is published.

Our “Help Us Build a Future” is continuing to gather pace. I have visited the Eltham, Whittlesea and Hurstbridge Sheds in the last week to deliver a campaign core flute and promote the campaign to their members. Our new Executive Officer, Michelle and Jim, our Regional Coordinator, have been out visiting Sheds and delivering core flutes.

It's worth emphasising that it is not only member names that should be registered, you should ask your family, friends and other associates if they are prepared to be registered supporters also.

With a State election being held on 28 November, and the government likely to go into caretaker mode in early November, we need to be ready to contact everyone who is putting their hand up as part of the election.

We now have the Curtin University report “An independent evaluation of the contribution of Men's Sheds to Victoria” and the Executive Summary. It will be delivered to relevant State Government Ministers first, before being made available to a wider audience, including Sheds.

Our Annual Forum and Annual General Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday 21st October and will be held at The Meadows in Broadmeadows again. We invite all Victorian Sheds to send two of their members to attend what is normally a very good day. We will have a range of interesting speakers and morning tea, and excellent lunch are provided free of charge. It's a great opportunity to network with members from other Sheds. You need to register by 1 October.

GRAEME NEWMAN
VMSA Vice Chair



REPORT FROM THE **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Hi everyone,

It has been a productive month for the VMSA, and I am pleased to share some updates.

Help Us Build a Future

I have been out with Jim distributing posters and marketing materials for our Help Us Build a Future campaign. If you haven't yet, please visit vmsa.org.au/help-us-build-a-future and add your name to our e-postcard. It takes only a moment and makes a genuine difference.

Please share this campaign with your family, friends, suppliers, and local community. The more signatures we gather, the stronger our voice becomes when advocating on your behalf.

New Ways to Hear From Us

We are refreshing how we communicate with you. We have launched a new Instagram page, and we are increasing content on LinkedIn and Facebook. There is valuable work happening in Sheds across the state, and we want it seen and recognised. Please follow these platforms and share your own stories and achievements so we can bring them to a wider audience.

A Simpler Way to Pay Your Invoice

We have introduced a new way to pay your invoice this year, offering a range of payment options. Information has already been sent to your committees, so check with your Treasurer or Secretary if you haven't seen it.

Stocktake at Dandenong

We have completed a full stocktake at our Dandenong office, and a number of items are now available to Sheds. Please refer to the list on page 24, and contact Jim if you're interested in any items.

Staying Connected

I continue to hear from many Shedders, and hope to meet more of you in the months ahead. Please feel welcome to contact me anytime on 0418 597 063 or executiveofficer@vmsa.org.au. I would value the opportunity to hear from you.

Thank you for your continued dedication to your Sheds.

Kind regards,

MICHELLE BOURKE
VMSA Executive Officer



INVOICES

READY FOR PAYMENT

As part of this year's membership renewals, VMSA is using an integrated invoicing and payment process. This process has been designed to make membership payments easier to manage and ensure payments are recorded accurately.

For instant payment via debit/credit card, you can click the Review and Pay button in the invoice email.

Member Portal

You can also pay your membership invoice and update your shed details, including committee details via the **Member Portal** on our [website](#).

Logging into the Member Portal

If you have not yet accessed your **Member Portal**, please refer to the attached guide for step-by-step instructions on how to log in. [Click here](#)

Paying Your Membership Invoice in the Portal

- Click on **Shed Membership Renewals**
- Choose your payment method, credit card or bank transfer

[Click here for a step by step guide on how to pay via the portal](#)

Important Information for Bank Transfer Payments

If your shed chooses to pay by bank transfer, please ensure that:

- Your **SHED NAME** is included as the payment reference/description. Please do not use your personal name, shed dues or any other reference, we will not be able to allocate the payment to your shed.
- A payment confirmation is emailed to vmsa@vmsa.org.au once payment has been made so we can allocate the payment.

These simple steps help us identify your payment and ensure your membership is processed without delay.

If you experience any difficulties accessing your **Member Portal** or have questions about your membership invoice, please contact the VMSA team at vmsa@vmsa.org.au.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



ARE YOUR SHED DETAILS UP TO DATE?

Check out your Shed page and make sure everything is current.

If not, take a moment to update it today!

www.vmsa.org.au



VMSA MEMBER PORTAL

HOW TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

You can now renew your Victorian Men's Shed Association membership online 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**.

2

FORGOT YOUR PASSWORD?

You can reset it here:

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



Enter your email address and follow the instructions sent to your inbox.



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

3

OPEN "SHED MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS"



After logging in to the Member Portal, click on **Shed Membership Renewals**.

The Membership Renewal page will display:

- Shed Name
- Membership Status
- Membership Expiry Date
- Annual Membership Fee

4

CHOOSE YOUR PAYMENT METHOD

You can choose one of the following payment methods:

OPTION 1 CREDIT CARD (RECOMMENDED)



Select **Credit Card** and enter your card details securely.

Click **Submit** to complete your membership renewal online.

OPTION 2 BANK TRANSFER



Select **Bank Transfer**.

The page will display the VMSA bank account details for payment.

When making your bank transfer, please include the invoice number or your shed name in the payment description to help us identify your payment.

After completing the transfer, please email your payment confirmation to vmsa@vmsa.org.au.

Payment Method
☐ Credit Card ☒ Bank Transfer

Please email your bank transfer confirmation to vmsa@vmsa.org.au

Please include the invoice number or shed name in the payment description.

SUBMIT

5

NEED ASSISTANCE?



If you experience any issues accessing the Member Portal or renewing your membership, please contact:



Victorian Men's Shed Association
Email: vmsa@vmsa.org.au



Thank you for your continued support of the Victorian Men's Shed Association.

HEYWOOD ROADSHOW

SOUTH-WEST MEN'S SHEDS COME TOGETHER

The Victorian Men's Shed Association's South-West Roadshow was held in Heywood on Friday 14 August, bringing together shedders, community organisations and supporters from across the region for a day of connection, learning and conversation.

Shedders from Heywood, Portland, Port Fairy, Cavendish, Hamilton, Camperdown, Warrnambool, Koroit, Terang, Nelson and Casterton men's sheds attended the event, highlighting the strength of the men's shed movement throughout Victoria's south-west.

The day began with a bacon and egg breakfast, prepared and served by the Heywood Lions Club, before attendees were welcomed by Jim, VMSA Regional Coordinator. Throughout the morning, shedders heard from a range of speakers, including Karen Stephens from Glenelg Shire Council, Ambulance Victoria and Leigh Parker from Heywood Rural Health. Total Dust Extraction also shared information with attendees, while peer educators from the Prostate Cancer Foundation were on hand at an information table to provide advice and resources.

Facilitated discussions gave shedders a chance to connect and learn from one another, covering community participation, membership promotion and the important role men's sheds play in supporting men's health, wellbeing and social connection.

The event also celebrated the achievements of local sheds through the presentation of the VMSA South-West Shed Community Awards, proudly sponsored by Bonney Energy. The awards recognise the dedication, innovation and community spirit that continue to strengthen the men's shed movement across the region.

Heywood Men's Shed Treasurer, Warren Finck, presented the awards, with Cavendish Men's Shed and Camperdown Men's Shed named this year's recipients.



HEYWOOD ROADSHOW

CONT.

Cavendish Men's Shed

Cavendish Men's Shed President, Graeme Hauesler, accepted the award on behalf of the shed.

The shed was recognised for its strong contribution to its local community, including assisting with jobs for Cavendish Primary School and the local kindergarten, building bird nesting boxes for Landcare, creating planter boxes for the P&A Society in Hamilton and making shields for local sheepdog trials.

Members also recycle timber to create items for the community and are known for providing a welcoming environment for members and visitors alike.

Camperdown Men's Shed

Camperdown Men's Shed Coordinator, John Dunn, accepted the award on behalf of the shed.

Camperdown was recognised as a welcoming and community-minded shed that actively connects with other sheds throughout the region.

Members recently helped celebrate the 100th birthday of fellow shedder Albert Beasley. Albert continues to enjoy being part of the shed and contributes by helping with sanding projects. The shed has also built bench seats for the Mount Leura Committee and the South Beach Committee at Lake Bullen Merri, demonstrating the practical contribution its members make within their local community.

Following lunch, shedders enjoyed entertainment from Jeff Mizzi, providing a relaxed atmosphere for networking and conversation.

The afternoon session focused on VMSSA's Help Us Build a Future campaign, with shedders sharing ideas on how to raise awareness of the positive impact men's sheds have in their local communities.

VMSSA extends its thanks to all shedders, presenters, sponsors, volunteers and supporters who contributed to the day.

A special thank you goes to Sandra, Terry and Warren from Heywood Men's Shed, who worked alongside VMSSA to help organise the Roadshow, the Heywood Lions Club for getting the day off to a great start with breakfast, and Bonney Energy for its valued sponsorship of the South-West Shed Community Awards.



TWIN RIVERS MEN'S SHED

CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS IN JULY

SUBMITTED BY KEITH BONE, SECRETARY, TWIN RIVERS MEN'S SHED



On Wednesday, 22 July, the members of the Twin Rivers Men's Shed held a Christmas in July lunch at their premises in Johnsonville to recognise that winter was half over.

Prior to lunch, members were serenaded by their in-house musicians, after which President Jim gave a brief speech to twenty-six members. They were then treated to a sumptuous, two-course lunch prepared by the resident culinary experts in the Shed's own kitchen. With the improvements Shed members have made for habitability during inclement weather, everyone enjoyed a longer-than-normal lunch before returning to their projects in the workshop.

Members of this Men's Shed come from many different backgrounds – painters, welders and sparkies, soldiers, sailors and airmen, managers, builders and farmers – and all enjoy the relaxed atmosphere that the Shed provides. With the wide range of skills available, the Shed has become something of a “go to” place for local community groups needing help.

While the lads were enjoying themselves, the ladies didn't miss out. They enjoyed a special lunch at the nearby Swan Reach Hotel.

There are a number of Men's Sheds throughout East Gippsland, and all are different. If you would like to enjoy informal companionship with other men and have some spare time, search them out and find one near where you are. You might well find a new interest in life!

WOODEND MEN'S SHED

SUPPORTS HARCOURT RECOVERY

In January 2026, following the horrific fires in Harcourt, Woodend Men's Shed was keen to help. The shed reached out to local MPs, Mary-Anne Thomas and Maree Edwards, for assistance connecting with the organisations coordinating recovery efforts on the ground.

From past experience with events in the Macedon Ranges, the shed knew birds and mammals are often heavily impacted by fires and floods, and with resources understandably directed towards residents and properties, support for fauna is rarely as readily available.

Thoughts turned to habitat boxes. Having previously provided over a hundred boxes to Macedon Ranges Council following the 2021 storms, and with a long history of supplying boxes throughout the Ranges, it was a natural place to start.

The project got underway once the shed was put in contact with Harcourt Valley Landcare. Following discussions between Vanessa Chiang, Landcare Coordinator, and Paul Muller, Shed Project Coordinator, it was agreed the shed would provide 50 habitat boxes, 10 each of Phascogale, Owl, Glider, Pardalote and Rosella, to help replace those lost in the fires and be placed throughout Harcourt in locations coordinated by Vanessa's team.

The team got straight to work. In keeping with the shed's motto of recycling wherever possible, all timber came from recycled pine salvaged from the 2021 storms, and each box was painted to ensure it would last for years to come.

While the boxes were being made, Paul and Vanessa discussed a different kind of support. The shed regularly receives donations of electric and hand tools, but ongoing donations inevitably lead to an oversupply. The committee decided to donate the excess to the Harcourt recovery effort. Vanessa took the offer to her committee and the Harcourt Progress Association, who are now setting up a tool library so residents can access tools without needing to buy them, a win-win for everyone involved.

In late April, Paul, Vice President and Project Coordinator, and Bill, Shed Secretary, delivered the boxes and tools to Harcourt, meeting John Baldock, his wife, and Ivan Gilbert, Chair of the Harcourt Progress Association. The devastation they saw was overwhelming, and the stories John and his wife shared about the day of the fires will stay with them forever. The courage and resilience of the Harcourt community is a testament to all that is good about being Australian.

Harcourt's recovery, and its fight for increased support, is far from over. If you're ever in a position to help, please do.



WELL DONE, DIAMOND CREEK'S MEN'S SHED

GRAEME NEWMAN!



A big congratulations to Graeme Newman, VMSA Board Member, President and member of Diamond Creek Men's Shed, who was nominated for Volunteer of the Year at the Nillumbik Community Awards.

Graeme was one of 10 nominees recognised for their contribution to the local community, a fantastic acknowledgement of the time, energy and commitment he gives to supporting others. While Graeme didn't take home the award on the night, being nominated alongside so many dedicated volunteers is an achievement worth celebrating.

Congratulations, Graeme, and thank you for everything you contribute to Diamond Creek Men's Shed, VMSA and the wider community.



FIND YOUR LOCAL MEN'S SHED

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

www.vmsa.org.au



TEEING UP SUPPORT

FOR BELLARINE MEN'S SHEDS

Men's sheds continue to grow in number and popularity across Australia, providing a place for men to connect, share skills, and support one another. That growth hasn't gone unnoticed on the Bellarine Peninsula, where the Portarlington Golf Club recently awarded twin grants to Clifton Springs Community Men's Shed and St Leonards Men's Shed. Each shed received \$1,700 through the Golf Club's Community Contribution Fund (CCF), both putting the funding towards much-needed workshop equipment.

For Clifton Springs, which has 48 men on its books, the grant supports ongoing community projects across the metal and wood workshops. Shed Secretary, Jeff Neale, described the shed as a place where men can gather to learn new skills and get out of the house, including men who have lost their partners, with experienced members keen to pass on knowledge to younger shedders.

St Leonards, meanwhile, is open three half-days a week and typically sees around 24 of its 47 members attend. Shed Secretary, Shane McManus, said there's no pressure to take part a particular way, members can join a community project, work on something of their own, or simply sit with a book and a coffee. Membership spans a wide range of trades and professions, including plumbers, architects, mechanics and even a doctor, who gives a quarterly health presentation.

St Leonards has also secured a separate council grant to help expand its premises, a goal that's taken several years given growing demand. Both sheds credited the Golf Club's ongoing support, including help with event hosting and administrative assistance that has saved money on equipment purchases.

The two grants were part of \$12,500 distributed by the 2026 CCF across seven successful applicants. Over the past six financial years, the Golf Club has provided more than \$180,000 in charitable support to the community, over \$60,000 of that through CCF grants alone. This year the club received a record 32 applications, totalling more than \$100,000 in requests. It's a great example of how local businesses can support men's sheds and the men who rely on them.



Image: From left, Jeff Neale and Stu Davies, of the Clifton Springs branch, join with St Leonards branch members Shane McManus and John Stevens to celebrate their CCF grants with Portarlington Golf Club's Jacklyn Nasuti.

Originally reported by Portarlington Golf Club. Read the full story [here](#).

A MUD KITCHEN FOR BAXTER PRIMARY SCHOOL

When the Principal of Baxter Primary School reached out with a request, the shedders at Peninsula North Men's Shed didn't hesitate to help.

The school was after a new piece of play equipment for the sandpit area used by its younger students, somewhere the kids could get hands-on, use their imagination, and enjoy a bit of outdoor, mess-friendly play. It was exactly the kind of project the shed loves getting involved in, a chance to put their skills to work for the benefit of the local community.

With a bit of imaginative design and some recycled timber the shed already had on hand, the team set about designing and building a brand new Mud Kitchen for the school. From concept to construction, the project brought together the shedders' woodworking know-how and a good dose of creativity, transforming leftover materials into something the children will enjoy for years to come.



It's a great reminder of what a men's shed can offer beyond its own four walls, using recycled materials, shared skills and a bit of good will to make a genuine difference for the youngest members of the community.

Well done to everyone at Peninsula North Men's Shed Baxter for another wonderful community project.

Photographed: John H, David B, David M and School Principal, Nick Schneider, with the new outdoor mud kitchen.

UPCOMING

NETWORK MEETINGS



SEPTEMBER

1

Shepparton Network

1 September

Tallygaroopna Men's Shed

2

East Gippsland Network

23 September

Bairnsdale Men's Shed



NOVEMBER

3

North East Network

17 November

Corowa Men's Shed



UPDATE

Wangaratta Road Show

Rescheduled

TBC 2027



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.

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

STANHOPE & DISTRICT MEN'S SHED

The shedders at Stanhope Men's Shed have been busy, meet Merv, the gnome they made from scrap metal and a lot of imagination. New members welcome, pop on in for a cuppa and see what all the fuss is about.



CAMPERDOWN MEN'S SHED

The shedders at Camperdown Men's Shed have been busy preparing an impressive collection of hand-crafted work for the Camperdown Show, all made with real skill and plenty of hours in the shed. All items will be for sale, a great way to raise funds while showing off some outstanding craftsmanship.



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



ROCHESTER MEN'S SHED

Nothing beats a good spread at morning tea, and the shedders at Rochester Men's Shed know how to do it right, with cake and dim sims on the menu this week. A great reminder that it's not just about the projects, it's about the company too.

NEWSTEAD MEN'S SHED

Must be a new trend, the shedders at Newstead Men's Shed have been busy building big, multi-storey nesting boxes, built to spec for a customer. A great example of the craftsmanship and problem-solving that comes out of the shed.



DROUIN MEN'S SHED

On 18 August each year, Australia commemorates Vietnam Veterans' Day, marking the anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan in 1966 and honouring the almost 60,000 Australians who served during the war. This year marked the 60th anniversary, and Drouin Men's Shed welcomed members of Drouin RSL for a shared breakfast of sausages, eggs and bacon, a fitting way to remember the sacrifices made by all who have served in our Armed Forces.



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
VMSA HEAD OFFICE**



ALL AVAILABLE FROM THE VMSA HEAD OFFICE

- 30 boxes of spray paint cans (6 per box) - pink, gold, glitter
- 2 pallets of assorted hooks.
- 5 boxes of supported underwear (20 per box)
- Half a box of safety goggles (20 packs)
- 8 boxes of mitre boxes (40 pieces per box)
- 4 boxes (50 pack) single pocket hole jig set.
- 4 boxes of drill, key stop key sets (100 per box)
- 2 boxes of dowel jointing kits. (100 per box)
- 12 boxes of dowel bags (100 pieces per box)
- 2.5 snap knife boxes. (X 100 per box)
- 16 boxes of dowel jigs (16. x 60)
- 15 cartons of assorted dowels
- 15 boxes of wood jointing biscuits
- 15 boxes of biscuits (150 per bag x 60 bags)
- Assorted individual boxes (mitre, dowel jigs, plug cutters)



CONTACT

173-175 Ordish Rd
Dandenong South 3175



vmsa@vmsa.org.au



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
HUME MEN'S SHED SUNBURY
NO COST**



**MAKITA 4130 185MM
CIRCULAR SAW**



**RYOBI HW-660 184MM
CIRCULAR SAW**



**AEG V/B2M/SB1-190 HAMMER
DRILL**



CONTACT

Hume Men's Shed Sunbury
158 Evans Street Sunbury



mensshedsunbury@gmail.com



Stephen on 0413143794



SHED TO SHED

REPURPOSING PROGRAM



**BLACK & DECKER 3/4HP
ROUTER**



BOSCH SCINTILLA JIGSAW



**GMC 1/3 SHEET ORBITAL
SANDER**



XU1 76MM WIDE BELT SANDER



UNBRANDED 1600W HEAT GUN



CONTACT

Hume Men's Shed Sunbury
158 Evans Street Sunbury



mensshedsunbury@gmail.com



Stephen on 0413143794



SHED TO SHED

REPURPOSING PROGRAM



BLACK & DECKER HEAT GUN



**RYOBI HS-35 1/3 SHEET
ORBITAL SANDER**



**GMC ES150 1/3 SHEET ORBITAL
SANDER**



BLACK & DECKER JIGSAW



**RYOBI HS-35 1/3 SHEET
ORBITAL SANDER**



CONTACT

Hume Men's Shed Sunbury
158 Evans Street Sunbury



mensshedsunbury@gmail.com



Stephen on 0413143794



SHED TO SHED

REPURPOSING PROGRAM



Hume Men's Shed Sunbury
Item 15: XU1 XOS-401 1/3 sheet orbital sander

**XU1 XOS-402 1/3 SHEET ORBITAL
SANDER**



Hume Men's Shed Sunbury
Item 17: XU1 XJS-350 jigsaw

XU1 XJS-350 JIGSAW



Hume Men's Shed Sunbury
Item 18: B&D 1mm drill

BLACK & DECKER 10MM DRILL



Hume Men's Shed Sunbury
Item: 16

**SHOP BUILT DRUM SANDER
240V 600MM WIDE TOP,
400MM WIDE POWER FED**



Hume Men's Shed Sunbury
Item 19: Iron Horse 1/2" drill

IRON HORSE 1/2" DRILL 2



CONTACT

Hume Men's Shed Sunbury
158 Evans Street Sunbury



mensshedsunbury@gmail.com



Stephen on 0413143794



SHED TO SHED

REPURPOSING PROGRAM



BOSCH P120SB DRILL



RYOBI 13MM DRILL



RYOBI HD10V DRILL



CONTACT

Hume Men's Shed Sunbury
158 Evans Street Sunbury



mensshedsunbury@gmail.com



Stephen on 0413143794



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.

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

IS YOUR SHED TAKING PART IN SENIORS FESTIVAL?

The 2026 Victorian Seniors Festival runs throughout October, and it's a fantastic opportunity for Men's Sheds across the state to get involved, showcase their work and connect with their local community.

Is your shed planning an open day, demonstration, exhibition or any other activity during the festival? We'd love to hear about it.

Send us the details and we'll help spread the word by advertising your event on our VMSA events page.

Email us at vmsa@vmsa.org.au with your event details, including the date, time, location and a short description of what's on, and we'll get it listed.



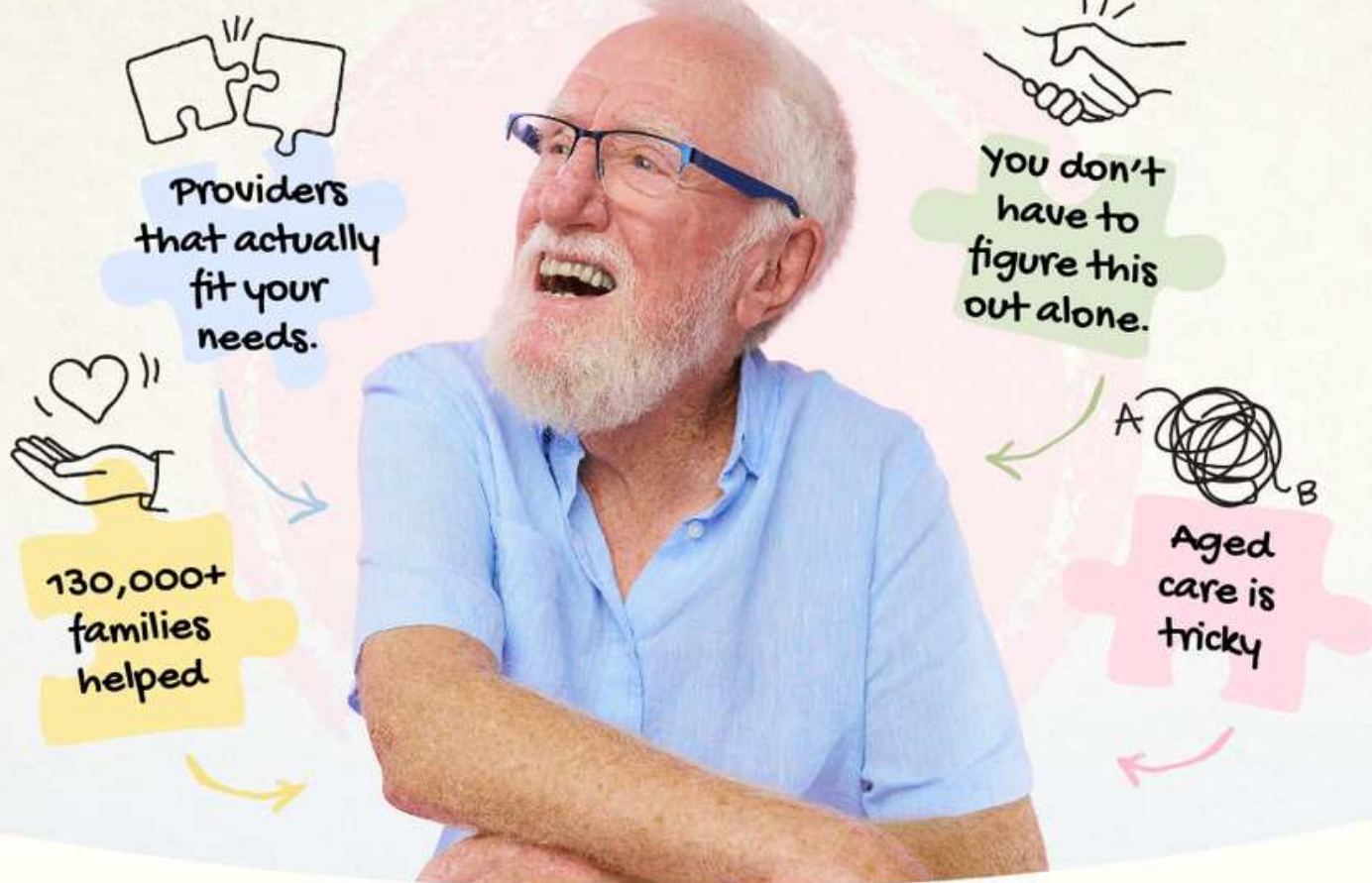
OH&S HUB

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.



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:



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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.

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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www.motobility.com.au

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



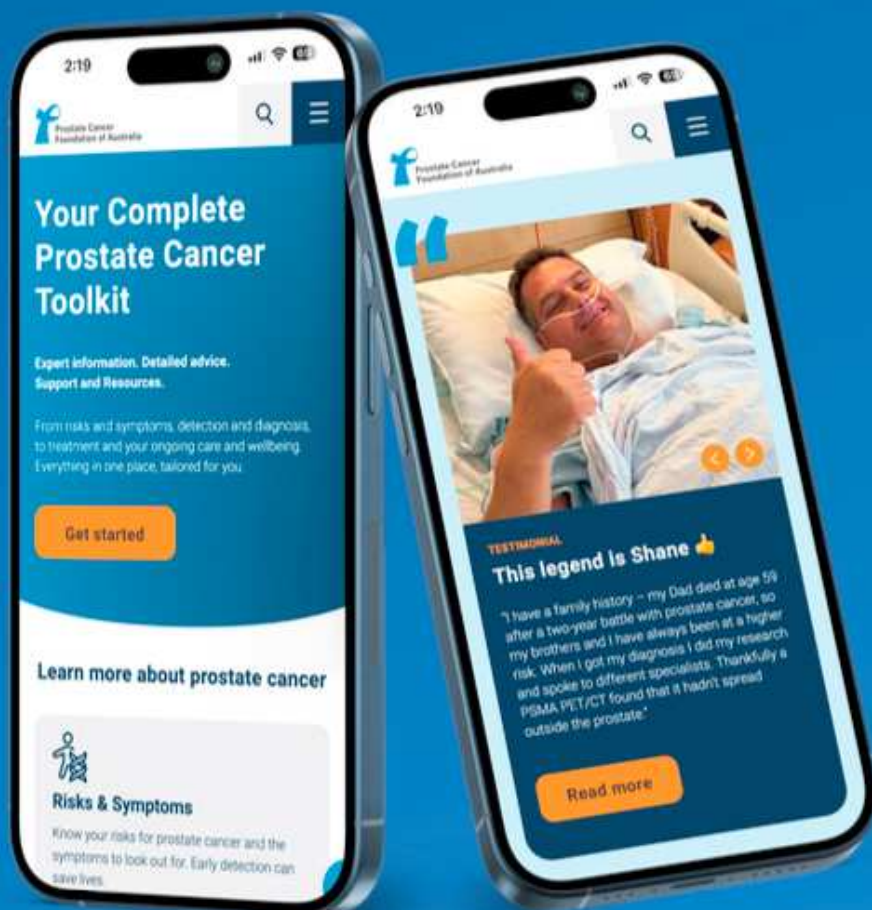
Prostate Cancer
Foundation of Australia

Your Complete Prostate Cancer Toolkit

Expert information. Detailed advice.
Support and resources all in one place,
tailored for you.

🔍 prostate.org.au

☎ 1800 22 00 99



Scan the QR code
to get the Toolkit



FOLLOW VMSA ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay connected with Men's Sheds across Victoria.



Keep up with the latest from VMSA

News, events, Shed stories and community initiatives - all in one place.
Follow VMSA and connect with the wider Men's Shed community.



FACEBOOK

Victorian Men's Shed Association

News, photos and stories from Sheds.

FOLLOW



INSTAGRAM

@victorianmensshedassociation

Follow VMSA's newest updates and highlights.

FOLLOW



LINKEDIN

Victorian Men's Shed Association

Updates from VMSA and the sector.

FOLLOW

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Facebook group: VMSA - Public Notices

JOIN HERE

Stay connected. Stay engaged. Be part of the VMSA community.

VMSA TEAM



MICHELLE BOURKE

Executive Officer

☎ 0418 597 063

✉ executiveofficer@vmsa.org.au



JIM KANE

Regional Coordinator

☎ 0448 015 554

✉ jim@vmsa.org.au



COURTNEY RODDA

Marketing

✉ courtney@vmsa.org.au

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✉ trevor@vmsa.org.au

☎ 0408 121 934



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✉ graeme@vmsa.org.au



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✉ max@vmsa.org.au



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✉ mick@vmsa.org.au



Marcelle Davis

Committee

✉ marcelle@vmsa.org.au



Russ Kellet

Committee

✉ russell@vmsa.org.au



Steve Jenkinson

Committee

✉ steve@vmsa.org.au



Chloe Keogh

Committee

✉ chloe@vmsa.org.au



Andrew Stefanetti

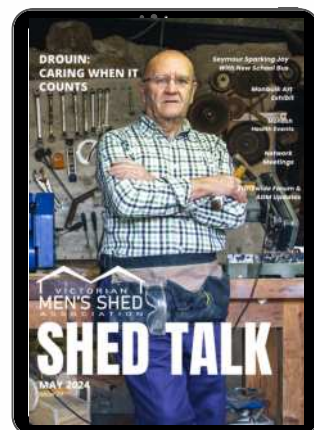
Committee

✉ andrew@vmsa.org.au

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SHED TALK

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VISIT OUR ONLINE EDITION

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

- Catch the latest shedders news
- See projects in the community
- Updates from VMSA



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

 Victorian Men's Shed Association

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The Victorian Men's Shed Association
173-175 Ordish Road
Dandenong South VIC 3175

 vmsa@vmsa.org.au

 vmsa.org.au

