



Australian Men's Shed Association

New South Wales

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

ZONE 8 -

NEWSLETTER - August 2016

Hi fellow shed members and shed supporters

As my last couple of monthly newsletters have not been posted until late in the month, and I have a few good excuse why this was the case, so I thought that this month I would try my hardest to write one as early as possible.

A New Shed on the Coast

Yes and just when I thought the Central Coast had become somewhat saturated with Men's Sheds a new one has opened in the Forresters Beach Retirement Village. I have a feeling this might be the work of Marty Leist who is now working in this industry and if so who better to help establish a facility for the residents.

It's always exciting to see new sheds opening and others expanding to accommodate the demand and I welcome this newest AMSA member to our Zone.

Using AMSA web

A couple of weeks ago I attended a meeting of sheds in the Hunter Zone and surprise was expressed when one shed heard that submissions for Round 13 of the National Shed Development Program had closed 3 days earlier as they had not seen it advertised. Liz McDonald, an AMSA staff member was present and within a week a "Guide to the AMSA website" was published and uploaded on the web.

If you are having difficulty navigating the new web please check out this guide which can be found in the News & Events section of the web.

It has come to both my and AMSA's attention that some shed executives are withholding user names and passwords to the Members Only Section of the web. Liz has made it very clear that the user name and password are assigned to the Men's Shed and not to an individual and that log in details are not restricted or controlled by a limited few. Any member of a shed should be allowed access to this information.

NSW Facebook Page

Finally the NSW Committee has moved with the times and now have our own facebook page. We in NSW have continued to keep our web page current and I wondered why the Shed Committees in other states had not been doing so. Well, that's because they were keeping members and the public up to date with facebook.

So now we have joined and count ourselves part of the community of sheds who have been using this form of communication for some time.

Check us out at [AMSA NSW Men's Shed Association](#) and get posting.

Shed Contacts

Thanks to the sheds who confirmed or updated their contact information, I appreciate your support. Some may be receiving this Newsletter for the first time as i have updated the information I've been given.

Now as we enter the AGM season it may come to pass that new management teams are appointed and shed contact details change. If this happens please let AMSA know and inform me as well.

Safety in the Shed

Accidents do happen but we all hope that they will be somewhere else and not in our shed. Duty of Care is the covering safety phrase we base our workshop operations on but this doesn't mean we allow anything to pass in our sheds. I know the idea that we can't teach old blokes new tricks and we hear many a time, "I've been doing this all my working life and know what I'm doing", that is until an accident occurs.

Please take extra care and ensure that induction programs, continuing safety discussions, training with specific machines take place and records are kept just in case.

Until then happy shedding

John Sharples

Secretary

Australian Men's Shed Association – NSW

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