



ZONE 8 -  
NEWSLETTER -

Australian Men's Shed Association

New South Wales

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

*July 2017*

Greetings One and All

It's July and half the year is behind us so those New Year Resolutions we made earlier must be bearing fruit by now, the waist measurements are getting smaller due to our exercise program and healthier eating, I wish, or are you like me just happy to sit back in front of the fire and enjoy a smooth red and some soft cheese and bickies before a heaty dinner.

**It's AGM time!**

As most sheds are Incorporated it's a requirement to hold an AGM each year within 7 months after the end of the previous financial year. But why wait? Seven months is a long time and this important meeting is certain to be forgotten if left too long.

I'm sure none of our sheds have gross receipts/total income exceeding \$250,000 or current assets for the financial year exceeding \$500,000. If you do then your financial statements must be audited and the documents lodged with the Fair Trading A12 Form with the Tier 1 section completed. For the rest the A12 form is simple to complete with the hardest part having to pay the fees when you lodge the documents.

The AGM can be a time when management committee positions change so if this is the case in your shed you need to advise AMSA and please send a copy to me. Failure to do so could lead to emails and other important information not arriving in your shed.

On Monday of this week I've visited the Zones newest shed, Gateway Valhalla Men's Shed at Chain Valley Bay for their first AGM and was very pleased to see 20 members attending and being part of a typical shed meeting with the usual banter and smart comments.

Then on Tuesday it was a trip up the valley on a beautiful sunny morning to the Aberdeen Shed for their AGM. While I had met many members during previous visits it was good to get to know those I had not met previously. I was given contact information for 2 additional members during the meeting so now there should be no trouble in ensuring information gets through to all members.

I recently had reason to request some information from a shed in South Australia and when I hadn't received a reply rang the shed contact to be told by a family member, "sorry but Dad died 6 weeks ago". A little embarrassing but no one had thought of updating the shed contact information. Please help keep your shed records current.

## **Safety**

This is of significant interest to me not only because I don't want to see shedders hurt but nor do I want any shed to have to live through the emotion of having to deal with something that may have been prevented from happening.

Does your shed have a Safety Policy that is understood by the members, is someone skilled in the use of machines and able to train others in their use, do you have a record for each machine for the training each member has and their approval to use them, is there someone in the shed every day it's open with a current First Aid Certificate, does your shed have designated Safety Officers and do you have a record of accidents that happen in the shed?

If not, and an accident were to occur where will you stand when asked about your Duty of Care? If a case were to end up in court, records of the incident can be subpoenaed years after an event and to expect it to be remembered with the clarity expected in a court of law is a very big ask. Better to be safe than sorry.

The AMSA website has a lot of information on shed safety with proforma examples to download.

## **The USA Men's Shed Association**

The USA website is now live having been started with the beginning of the formation of the USA's Men's shed Association.

The site is still in its infancy but more items will be added as time goes by. I wouldn't mind checking the sheds out but as I don't have any relatives in the US I probably wouldn't be eligible for a visa! It's a pity that the video gives the impression that Rotary were instrumental in starting men's sheds, well nothings perfect! Check out the site at:- <http://mensshedsintheusa.weebly.com/>

### **Super Cars are Coming to Newcastle**

**The inaugural Coates Hire Newcastle 500 is coming 24 – 26 November 2017 and your shed could be a part of history by designing the race winners' trophy!**

The winner will receive 2 x 3-Day Trackside tickets, a photo with the race winner and trophy on race day, plus an additional money-can't-buy Supercars experience.

With a little thought sheds should have this one in the bag! Get brainstorming, entries close 31 July at 11.00am.

Find out more at [theherald.com.au/story/4755687/coates-hire-newcastle-500-trophy-competition](http://theherald.com.au/story/4755687/coates-hire-newcastle-500-trophy-competition)

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Aberdeen Men's Shed, Bateau Bay Men's Shed, Branxton-Greta Men's Shed, Cessnock Men's Shed & Community Garden, Cooranbong Men's Shed, Denman and District Men's Shed, Erina Community Men's Shed, Gateway Valhalla Men's Shed, Gosford City Model Railroad Club, Gosford Community Men's Shed, Kincumber Men's Shed, Kurri Kurri Community Centre, Manno Men's Shed, Murrurundi Community Men's Shed, Muswellbrook Men's Shed, Peninsular Community Men's Shed, San Remo Community Men's Shed, South Lake Macquarie Community Men's Shed, Singleton Men's Shed, Terrigal Men's Shed, The Entrance Men's Shed, Umina Beach Men's Shed, Upper Hunter Men's Shed, Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed, Wyong Men's Shed