



Australian Men's Shed Association

New South Wales

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

ZONE 8 - NEWSLETTER - October 2017

Welcome Fellow Men's Shedders and Supporters

2017 Gold Coast AMSA Conference

This year's conference held on the Gold Coast over the weekend of the AFL and NRL Grand Finals was an outstanding success.

Following the less than overwhelming 2015 conference in Newcastle this year the program was directed at matters of interest to men in sheds. Newcastle contained a number of 'professional' health oriented speakers who held little interest for shedders. This year even speakers with a health bias were relevant to men in sheds. I even managed to attend a session on healthy eating and sampled 2 different chicken dishes directly before lunch.

The Conference Dinner was held in the Outback Spectacular auditorium and received resounding positive comments from all who attended.

It was good to catch up with shedders from Denman and Terrigal with the 'coasties' invited to address delegates during the "Shed Presentations – In the Shed" session on the second day. The Panel Session – Men's Shed Culture also saw Cessnock Sheds' President speaking on his sheds management practices and responding to questions from the floor.

This year AMSA reintroduced the National Men's Shed Awards with categories such as Shed of the Year, Best Garden, Most Innovative Fund Raising, Most Innovative Recycling Program and Most Innovative Shed Activity. Cessnock Men's Shed and Community Garden were voted the best in the garden section and the shed President was on hand to accept the trophy and certificate to celebrate with his members.

Like all conferences food plays an important part and one would have to have been very hard to please if they hadn't eaten their fill, and then more, and then needing to take belts out another notch!

The next Conference in 2019 will be held in South Australia so start saving your \$'s in anticipation of a great experience with like minded shedders.

Draft Constitution Comments

You will have received by now an email with information about the major changes to the proposed AMSA Constitution.

Please talk to your members about it, or at the least you sheds Management Committee and send your thoughts through to AMSA.

I provided a paragraph or two on the changes that I believe will impact on NSW Sheds but for those who wish to read deeper into the constitution and By-Laws this information is on the AMSA web and my previous email provides the necessary links to these papers.

It is my opinion that the proposed changes will give more power to sheds in the election of those seeking appointment to the AMSA Board and to positions on state committees. So now is the opportunity to have your say.

Contact Details

I continue to hear grumbles about never hearing from AMSA. On checking I find the contact details are incorrect but no one has informed AMSA. Or I find the previous contact person is no longer involved with the shed and the shed fails to pass on information or ask that names and contact details be updated.

It's up to sheds to keep their contact details accurate and even better to have a number of contacts listed. I receive an update every 3 months so please let me know when changes are made.

I will be speaking to Central Coast Sheds about the proposed changes to the AMSA Constitution on Tuesday October 10 at Bateau Bay shed from about 10.00 am and would like to see as many members from other sheds as possible

Happy Shedding

John Sharples

Secretary

Australian Men's Shed Association – NSW

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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