



Newsletter

JULY 2015

Her Excellency, The Honourable Linda Dessau AM Governor of Victoria is proud to be the Patron-in-Chief of the Victorian Men's Shed Association

Emailed to a Representative of every Men's Shed in Victoria.

Please print out a copy and distribute to members of your Shed.

In this Month's Newsletter:

AMSA NATIONAL CONFERENCE	Page 1
VMSA EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT	Page 2
QUEENS BIRTHDAY HONOURS	Page 3
VMSA PRESIDENT REPORT	Page 4/5
RUPANYUP & DISTRICT SHED	Page 6
VMSA GATHERING	Page 7
MORNINGTON PENINSULA CLUSTER	Page 8
OPENING OF BUNINYONG SHED	Page 9
EVENTS/KILMORE SHED	Page 10
VMSA FACEBOOK PAGE & QVM EXPO	Page 12
COMMITTEE CONTACTS	Page 13

SAVE THE DATE!

You're invited to the

6th National Australian Men's Shed

Association Conference

Saturday 17 October - Tuesday 20 October 2015

Newcastle/Hunter Region NSW

VMSA Executive Officer Report

Hi Shedders,

It has been a busy time within the VMSA and I have been spending a lot of time with sheds around the state. The VMSA State-wide Gathering hosted by the Monash Men's Shed was a sensation with 100 representatives from 30+ sheds enjoying an informative and interesting day.

The next VMSA meeting will be our AGM.

I was at the Northwest Metropolitan Cluster meeting and was able to assist a number of sheds with advice etc. The Strengthening Men's Sheds New Build Grants were finalised and submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services. I was asked to attend the Central Panel evaluation of these applications and I am very proud to say the applications were excellent and very professionally prepared. DHHS Minister Mikakos will be considering the Panel's recommendations and the announcement of the successful applicants will be made in due course.

This month I was pleased to attend the AGM of the Northern Men's Shed in Craigieburn. This is a smallish shed but the AGM was well organised and well supported by the Council and other interested parties. Congratulations to the incoming President, Tom Rolls and typical of Graeme Pendlebury the hardworking, outgoing President he stepped up to take on the role of Secretary.

The VMSA committee has number of subcommittees working on a variety of areas relevant to our members. We are currently working on the areas of Training, OH&S and Marketing and we would appreciate any feedback from sheds or individuals to assist these subcommittees.

On a personal note I would like to thank Stuart Marshall from Euroa who has recently stepped down from the VMSA committee he has always been a great support to me and I know he will continue to do great work in the shed movement.

I would also like to welcome Barry Watson from Heywood who has stepped up to fill in the vacancy on the VMSA committee. Barry is a tireless worker for sheds from Heywood in the western corner of Victoria.

Organisations who purport to provide "Volunteer Work for Dole" type placements are being paid handsomely to do so and you should have a clear process to deal with this issue in place. Please look at page 8 regarding an information session on Work for the Dole.

We are coming into the AGM season and I would like to thank the sheds who have been updating me with any changes to their committees contact details and email addresses so we can update our database.

Just a follow up reminder, the VMSA has been inundated by calls hoping to get individual sheds directly. We have found several websites have used our mobile as the default contact for **all** sheds. Unfortunately we are unable to change the entry on these sites. I know your shed secretaries are busy people but could we prevail upon you to go to the attached site and update your shed details.

<https://www.dosomethingnearyou.com.au>

Ric Blackburn

VMSA Executive Officer.



Queen's Birthday Honours



Chris & Kevin Svenson



Celebration Morning Tea in the Shed

The people of Paynesville were proud to learn that Chris and Kevin were recognised for their wonderful community work at the Paynesville Men's Shed and RSL. The VMSA was pleased to respond to the Vice Regal Awards committee when the nomination was made last year. This year both Chris and Kevin were made members of the Order of Australia Medal for their selfless work for their community and specifically for the Paynesville Men's Shed and the Paynesville RSL.

Many people do extraordinary things in the Men's Shed Movement and go unrecognised. It is always gratifying to see their work being acknowledged. Typically of Chris and Kevin they talk about the work of everyone in Paynesville and modestly share their achievement with their community.

Chris Svenson wrote, "We feel very honoured to receive these awards. It took us nearly 4 years to get our Shed off the ground, but from the day the slab was laid, people came from everywhere to help. We often comment that we've never had to ask people to do anything – we simply say something needs to be done, and it happens! Our awards really belong to everyone in the Shed – it has been such a team effort. We know that the Men's Shed has helped many men deal with the challenges that life sometimes brings. From our point of view, we watch and marvel at just how amazing this organisation is, and we know that the community agrees with us. It has been an absolute pleasure to be part of this very rewarding journey".



Monash Men's Shed and Indoor Aviation Men's Shed member Don Bladier showing off one of the delicate aircraft they build and fly.

VMSA Presidents Report

Changes to the VMSA Committee

The Victorian Men's Shed Association Committee wishes to advise the membership that at its last meeting held on 04/07/2015, it regretfully accepted the resignation of Committee Member and State Secretary Stuart Marshall from the Euroa Men's Shed.

In accordance with the requirements of our constitution, an election was held for the position of Secretary, and I am pleased to advise that Bruce Ward from the Ocean Grove Men's Shed has been appointed to the position of Secretary until our AGM in October.

The committee would like to thank Stuart for his time and effort during his term with the VMSA Committee and wish him well in his future endeavours, and with his work within the Euroa Men's Shed.



In dealing with the casual vacancy on the committee created by Stuart's resignation, the committee has appointed Mr Barry Watson from the Heywood Men's to fill the committee vacancy, and the remaining 15 month term of Stuart's appointment to the committee. Barry narrowly missed out on being appointed at the last AGM, and was the natural choice to this appointment.

In addition to being an active member of the Heywood Men's Shed, Barry also works very closely with the sheds in the South West Cluster that also includes a number of sheds in South Australia.

Barry bring the following experience to the VMSA and the State Committee.

Lecturer in Business/ Accounting Computing at various Universities around Melbourne.
Currently running a business as an Accounting & Information Technology Consultant/Trainer.



(L-R) Barry Watson, Phil Kelly & Heywood President Terry Swallow

VMSA Presidents Report cont.

Update on Test and Tag Insurance

At the Warrnambool Gathering a question was asked during the open forum “Is Test and Tagging covered under the AMSA Group Insurance Policy”?

Subsequent discussions with AMSA and the Insurance advisors have come back with **no** Test and Tagging is NOT covered under the AMSA Group Insurance Policy.

The reason being provided are that Tagging & Testing is more of an advice driven activity and would therefore likely have a claim related to Professional Indemnity: the failure to render professional advice or service, which is fully excluded by the Public & Products Liability policy under exclusion 7.18:

Tagging & Testing is a specialist service requiring certification and is therefore excluded by the Public & Products Liability policy (Statutory Certification). Further to this, where Tagging & Testing is done for a fee, there is a Professional Indemnity exposure that the Association Liability policy would not pick up as Tagging & Testing is seen as a trade.

It has also been confirmed that as the certification to perform Testing and Tagging is granted to an individual and not to a shed, any insurance would need to be provided by the individual as the shed is not able to provide insurance for a third party.

Based on this information the VMSA had contact with the Insurance advisors, to discuss what could be done to provide an Insurance coverage to cover this activity.

After discussions with a number of Insurers, the Insurance Advisors advised that a separate policy could be arranged, but would require the payment of a premium of approximately \$10,000 pa.

This was subsequently converted to for the policy to proceed there would need to be a minimum of 30 individual named in the policy and each would be charged a rate of \$350.00 per annum

A survey on survey monkey was set up for parties interested in taking up this policy to register their interest. To date there has been interest from 10 parties. This is well short of the 30 we needed for this policy to proceed. If your shed has not registered but are wanting to participate in this separate Insurance policy, please log on to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AMSAtestTag> and register your details.

Details on this were include in the VMSA Newsletters of March (page 6) and April (page 7).

If the number of individuals to be covered under this can get to 30 or above, we will be able to proceed with formalising a policy, if we cannot get the numbers to make this affordable, the sheds or the individuals will need to arrange their own insurance coverage for this activity.

We will keep you informed in the next newsletter.

Phillip Keily

Victorian Men's Shed Association

State President 2014 - 2015

RUPANYUP & DISTRICT MEN'S SHED



Hi Folks,

I thought it was time to give you an update on the progress of the Rupanyup & District Men's Shed.

I've included some progress photos, starting with a few of the prospective members turning the first sod, up until the current digging the foundations and laying the stone to weather proof the surrounds.

I'll endeavour to show you the progress photos as project progresses.



Adrian Tyler

Mobile: 0427855097

adrian.tyler@tylershrs.com.au

VMSA STATE-WIDE GATHERING



AMSA Patron & Adjunct Professor, Barry Golding

Barry Golding and VMSA President Phil Keily

The VMSA State-wide Gathering was held on Friday the 3rd of July at the Waverley RSL.

The gathering was facilitated by the Monash Men's Shed in particular the incomparable John Gillies and John Schwartzman. The Monash shed hosted the gathering with great efficiency and eye for detail. They negotiated long term parking near the RSL and provided a shuttle to the venue and the shed which is just down the road. Around 90 shed representatives from up to 30 sheds enjoy the presentations and especially the Open Floor Forum which is a feature of all VMSA gatherings.

The highlight of the day was easily Professor Barry Golding who has just announced the launch of his new book '**The Men's Shed Movement: the Company of Men**'. Barry through researching his definitive book has identified the Tongala Men's Shed as the first 'Men's Shed' and has undertaken to launch his book in Tongala on Monday 16 Nov, 1pm for a 1.30pm formal start at Tongala Men's Shed in Tongala. 'The Men's Shed Movement: *Bringing it all back home* Book Launch'



Shed representatives enjoying the presentations.

Mornington Peninsula Cluster

Gary Rogers reports:

Following some approaches by Sheds from the “old” Southern and Peninsula Men’s Shed Cluster I am resurrecting the Cluster but with a new and more “directional” focus.

The Cluster can resume because of the following:

- Chelsea Men’s Shed Inc. will be the Auspice for the Cluster, lending its Incorporation as a vehicle through which funding can be applied for.
- Admin support will be provided through the Chelsea Men’s Shed being a Host for a small Work for the Dole team of mature aged Centrelink Clients.
- Chelsea has the facilities in which the Cluster can base itself, and run forums, meetings, workshops and seminars.

In short the prime focus is to have regular two monthly meetings – moving between Member Sheds, or at Chelsea – at which a specific topic will be purpose of the day, and the Cluster Admin will seek out appropriate guest speakers who can attend to address the areas of concern that Sheds are having in regards to an issue.

- Wednesday July 29 **Work for the Dole**
 - A number of Sheds have been approached by Work for the Dole Providers looking for Sheds to be Hosts.
 - Being such comes with a set of responsibilities and accountabilities Sheds need to be aware of before they agree.
 - This Seminar will have a Panel of three representatives from WFTD organisations, plus Chelsea who have been involved in WFTD’s for over 10 years.
 - More details are to follow.
- September **AGM’s for Incorporated and Auspice Sheds.**
 - How do you change the Constitution?
 - What happens when you have lost your Secretary, Treasurer or President?
 - How do we call for nominees for Office Bearers?

To mention just a few.

As September and October are often “AGM” months it is opportune that Sheds are made aware of the obligations under the Incorporated Associations Act.

So the July get together will answer those questions and it is hoped we will have someone from Consumer Affairs there to answer them.
- November **Sponsors, Donors and Partners**

The focus of this get together will be hearing from our Shed colleagues of how they have gone about obtaining Sponsors etc.
- December **Xmas Party**

This get together will feature some wholesale and retailers who may be willing to provide us with some giveaways whilst promoting their brands.

Gary Rogers, BA (Monash), Cert IV Training and Education (PTEP), Cert IV Small Business Operations, Committee of Management Trainer (ACFE)

Secretary Southern and Peninsula Men’s Shed Cluster, Box 132 Peninsula Parklands, 249 High Street Hastings VIC 3915 Tel - 5979 8323 Mobile – 041 179 5940 Email – grass09@satlink.com.au

Opening of the Buninyong Men's Shed



(L) Buninyong Shed Foundation members President Russell Williams and Neville Wilson.

(R) Bob Forde, representing the Victorian Men's Sheds Association and President of the Beaufort Men's Shed.

BUNINYONG MEN'S SHED - HISTORY.

The original formation of the Buninyong Men's Shed started about 6 years ago with a chance meeting between two men during a walk along a popular track in Buninyong.

They were both in early retirement and hadn't seen each other for around 50 years so they decided to get together again and meet in each other's shed for woodworking, welding etc., and catch up for chats.

Neville Wilson was a retired farmer and Russell Williams was a retired building contractor.

As the result of a suggestion over a cup of coffee they decided they would like to get a Men's Shed going in Buninyong.

After speaking to other retirees in the town and inviting them to join the group, the numbers grew to around 15 and reached a stage when the shed at Neville's, which was the regular meeting spot, was becoming too small. It was suggested that we join the AMSA/VMSA and seek help in getting information on direction and funding to allow us to get our own dedicated Men's Shed.

With the generous support from Local Government, the City of Ballarat, Bendigo Bank and lots of help from local organisations in getting building permits, building materials and equipment we were able to commence putting up our own shed in 2013. The shed was completed in the middle of 2014 and is now the home of 35 members.

Looking back over it all it has been a very rewarding experience for Neville and Russell to see how a chance meeting resulted in the formation of a very important part of our town's social structure.

The VMSA was pleased to source a Defibrillator for the Buninyong Shed which was presented last year at our AGM

Upcoming Events

- **6th National Australian Men's Shed Association Conference.**

Saturday 17 October - Tuesday 20 October 2015.

- **'The Men's Shed Movement: *Bringing it all back home* Book Launch'**

Monday 16 Nov, 1pm for a 1.30pm formal start at Tongala Men's Shed in Tongala. 'The Men's Shed Movement: *Bringing it all back home* Book Launch'

- **VMSA Men's Shed Expo, Queen Victoria Market,**

Sunday 29th of November, 2015

Note: The VMSA is endeavouring to source funding to subsidise conference registrations for 1 representative per shed to attend the 6th National Australian Men's Shed Association Conference Saturday 17 October - Tuesday 20 October 2015.

Kilmore Shed



Photos of the miniature Police Cars that were rebuilt for the Victoria Police.

These cars are used for the Police to take to Shows, Hospitals, and various other places

All members of the Kilmore shed had an input in one way or another, but Harry and Charlie led the way.

Great Work in Kilmore!

VMSA Facebook Page

The VMSA has received a number of queries and requests to find an avenue that sheds can easily list & advertise surplus items they have that they wish to donate to other sheds, or to promote activities that the shed are involved in - such as market days, or fundraisers.

The VMSA has recently created and trialled a Facebook page, this is now available to all sheds and shedders to join, and to place your ads and info on.

Please note this is not the avenue if you wish to sell your surplus good, it is only if you want to donate the goods.

There are plenty of sites available such as eBay or Gumtree if you are looking to sell an item,

The Facebook page is VMSA - Public Notices, you can search for it or go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/376075325824722/>

Happy posting.

VMSA Queen Victoria Market Men's Shed Expo



After the success of the VMSA Men's Shed Expo at the Queen Victoria Market the VMSA is pleased to confirm the Expo will be held again on Sunday 29th of November, 2015.

This will give sheds from around Victoria plenty of planning and preparation time for the day.

Expressions of interest can be forwarded to me at vmsa@vmsa.org.au

Insurance and Membership Enquiries

AMSA / VMSA membership enquiries.

Please note all AMSA Insurance policies fell due on 01/03/2015, if your shed has not returned your survey or have not yet received an invoice for 2015 – 2016 please call or email AMSA Ph. 1300 550 009 or email amsa@mensshed.net

Future Newsletters

This Newsletter is being emailed to the Contact Person at each of the sheds on the VMSA database. We are limited in our ability to send the Newsletter to every shedder and so we ask that as the CONTACT PERSON for your shed please print and display the Newsletter.

If you have something to share with other sheds, write a short article (photos are handy) and send to the Executive Officer vmsa@vmsa.org.au



The VMSA acknowledges the assistance of the State Government of Victoria

Disclaimer

This newsletter is for general information only. The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of VMSA Committee. Reasonable measures have been taken to ensure that the material contained in this Newsletter is correct. However there is no responsibility for the accuracy or the completeness of the material.

LIST OF VMSA COMMITTEE CONTACTS:

OFFICE BEARERS

President	Phil Keily	pres@vmsa.org.au	Stamford Park Shed
Secretary	Bruce Ward	sec@vmsa.org.au	Ocean Grove & District Shed
Treasurer	Anthony Leigh	treas@vmsa.org.au	Keysman Shed
Vice President	Lindsay Oates	vice@vmsa.org.au	Mirboo Nth Shed

COMMITTEE

Rob Butler	r.butler@vmsa.org.au	Cobram Shed
Barbara Look	b.look@vmsa.org.au	Milpara Shed
Bob Forde	b.forde@vmsa.org.au	Beaufort Shed
Barry Watson	b.watson@vmsa.org.au	Heywood Shed
Geoff Witmitz	g.witmitz@vmsa.org.au	Horsham Shed