



Australian Men's Shed Association

New South Wales

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

ZONE 8 - NEWSLETTER - March 2016

Hello Shedders

Yes I know it's been a while and some might say thank goodness, but I'm back.

Following my last Newsletter the holiday season kept most of us active with other interests and then January was a very quiet time in most sheds and from AMSA. The AMSA staff all took extended holidays over this period because their leave entitlements were becoming excessive.

The two major activities to report on from February are the AMSA Board meeting and a meeting of the NSW Committee.

Board Meeting Report

Confidential documents relating to new membership by-laws were discussed and referred for further legal input as was a recommendation from lawyers that the Board of Management be restructured.

AMSA is waiting on information about some additional funding from the Federal Government but as in the past this will come with specific targets.

Shed growth is stabilizing and AMSA staff are now spending more time assisting with sustainability/insurance/disputes and grants questions where previously it was sheds asking the 'how do we set up' questions.

An International Men's Shed Association has been established, as there are enough sheds in other countries to make such an organization viable. Ireland has more sheds per head of population than Australia. They will be relying on the intellectual property of AMSA as they develop and AMSA will maintain a close association with this new group that is based in the UK.

NSW Committee Meeting

Zone Boundary Changes

The original Zone structure where NSW was divided into 12 Zones has been in operation since the first statewide meeting at Myuna Bay many years ago. Since then the number of NSW sheds has increased markedly and Zone boundaries have been adjusted to ensure sheds are placed in the most appropriate Zone. Each of the 313 registered sheds were plotted on google earth and Zone boundaries moved where necessary.

There will be no changes to our Zone #8.

Two new Zones are being added one being to divide the very large Sydney Zone into sheds north of the Sydney Harbour to the Hawkesbury and northern beaches and those south to St George and west to the mountains. The other Zone will circle the ACT then run south to the Victorian Border. Now all we have to do is find 2 willing Zone reps.

Shed Contact Details

With the new AMSA website comes a new way of sheds advising changes to the contact information they hold. If contact details need to be changed, the contact leaves the shed or the committee changes then sheds need to advise AMSA. If this is not done the old information remains and contact is broken.

I would still like to know when details change so that my contact with you is up to date and while AMSA only asks for 1 contact I would like to have up to 3 so that if the prime contact is unavailable the messages continue to be received and distributed.

BUT IT'S UP TO YOU!!!

Zone Elections

It's the policy of the NSW Committee that during years ending in an even number the Zone reps in the even numbered Zones need to again nominate for their position or stand down. So this year I'm up for re-election and in due course the Returning Officer will contact Sheds with Nomination Forms and how to vote instructions.

General Items

I would expect by now you would have received the March AMSA Newsletter. I'm pleased I put my Newsletter away overnight because the AMSA edition which arrived today is much more informative than mine, especially when it comes to matters of Insurance.

I'll leave you to read and distribute the AMSA newsletter so that your shed will not have an issue as described in Potential Treats to the Future of Men's Sheds, Threat #12.

Now as I finish I remind you that if I can be of assistance please don't hesitate to contact me, as many of you do, and I will do my best to answer you questions.

Regards

John Sharples

Secretary

Australian Men's Shed - NSW

Representing Zone 8 - Central Coast, Western & Upper Hunter

Email: sharplesj@bigpond.com

Tel: 0423147326

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, 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, Swansea & District Community Men's Shed, Terrigal Men's Shed, The Entrance Men's Shed, The Shed @ Lake Haven, Umina Beach Men's Shed, Upper Hunter Men's Shed, Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed, Wyong Men's Shed