



The

# Shedder



Australian  
Men's Shed  
Association  
SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

*" The Official Newsletter of the "Australian Men's Sheds Association " "*  
Patron in Chief His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC  
Patrons Professor Barry Golding, Professor John MacDonald

## FLOWERDALE MEN'S SHED CHOIR RECEIVE STANDING OVATION AT BELFAST CITY HALL



After 11 months of fundraising the old fashioned way through pub raffles, firewood cutting and donations, the guys and friends from the little township of Flowerdale have proved that "from little things, big things grow".

From what was merely an idea after appearing on stage at the Australian Men's Shed Association National Conference in Newcastle's Civic Theatre last year, the Shed Choir have been on a real journey. The path has taken them from singing Christmas Carols at Bollygum Park and Flowerdale Hall to singing ANZAC Eve at Melbourne's St. Paul's Cathedral to the other side of the world. Belfast City Hall was a magnificent venue for the Irish Men's Shed Association Celebration "Sheds without Borders".

The Flowerdale Shed Choir stole the show, wrapping up the celebration with a half hour performance that included a short DVD on where we had come from with a rendition of John Farnham's "You're the Voice" – the line "**How long can we look at each other, down the barrel of a gun**" particularly poignant for the gathering considering the Troubles that have been a so recent part of the history of the isle of Ireland.

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The Choir also sang Peter Allen's "I Still Call Australia Home", throwing in Waltzing Matilda and rounding off with "We'll Meet Again" with an encore joined by all in the Hall to a standing ovation.

The evening didn't end there- we were in the Isle of Ireland after all. The celebration moved to another venue for dinner and the men then sang with an Irish Men's Shed choir. As the evening continued, who will ever forget the entertainment and the reception received by our Michael Sier singing "Seven Nights" followed by "Danny Boy" by 83 year old Jack Carroll (our most senior shedder) that brought a tear to the eye.

The 8 men who travelled would like to express their deep gratitude to David Helmers, CEO of AMSA and the AMSA Board for assisting us to pay for our accommodation at a serviced apartment in Belfast for 4 nights. You have helped create an experience for the guys that will last a life time.

Thanks also to our Irish counterparts who shared great friendship and craic, and especially to Barry Sheridan, CEO of the Irish Men's Shed Association, who recognised the value of the effort of the Flowerdale Men's Shed Choir and hopes it will inspire all shedders of the Isle to take an idea and work together to make it happen. If a group of shedders can make it to the other side of the world, anything is possible. We've added another tool to the tool box and challenge all shedders to "TRUMP that!!"

Well done Flowerdale Men's Shed Choir, you've done us proud.

## **AMSA Insurance Program has gone International**

The Australian Men's Shed Association is very proud to announce that the AMSA Insurance Program, enjoyed by AMSA members for many years now, has been made available to the Sheds of Ireland and the UK.



Those international Sheds were looking at significant insurance cost increases this year. We therefore approached our insurance advisers for a solution. They were able to negotiate changes with our insurers which now allows those international Sheds to join our program. This in turn has the potential to save them many hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars along with being a bespoke program designed for Men's Sheds by those whom have worked with AMSA for many years. You may be asking, 'what does this mean for Australian Sheds?'

The growth in member numbers protected by the policies offered, gives Everest Risk Group greater leverage when negotiating our renewal terms and conditions with insurers for the upcoming year.

This can also assist with keeping costs the same; similar; or lower, than the expiring year and/or enhancing coverage benefits for all members.



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We can assure you, the member services offered to Men's Sheds here in Australia will not be affected by the additional subscription to the AMSA Insurance Program. Those international Sheds will continue to be run and supported out of their respective Head Offices, whether it be the UKMSA or IMSA. Everest Risk Group will manage their insurance related questions and claims.

It is heartening to see, what started out as a fledgling group in Australia all those years ago, truly does have international impact.

The AMSA Insurance Program now encompasses over 740 locations in Australia and continues to grow.

We look forward to the insights the international Men's Sheds can bring to the insurance program and are sure Everest Risk Group will look after them well.

**Unfortunately**, the number of burglaries being reported have continued unabated. With the Christmas Holidays coming up, we expect to see even more coming through.

It is **imperative** you do not consider your insurance policy as the first line of defence. As a Shed Committee you must ensure you are doing all you can in order to prevent a break in. We are currently working with Everest Risk Group to make available a practical guide to helping assist in preventing claims from occurring, which we believe will be out to members at renewal time next year.

**Remember:**

It is always best to secure your site before burglary occurs.

When you:

- Increase the effort required to break in
  - Increase the risk of being caught
  - Decrease the potential rewards to the offender
- the chances of a burglary reduce.





## **A Message from the Board Chairman**

There have been many articles/ papers written about the present AMSA Constitution providing commentary upon the proposed Constitution and Membership By-Laws.

Unfortunately most have been based on false premises, mis-interpretation of the documents, misrepresentation or have been prejudiced by bias towards particular points of view.

The need for review and change to the AMSA Constitution and Membership By-Laws was recognised and culminated in a Strategic Planning meeting held in 2014, involving all State members, including TMSA, although it had resigned from AMSA before that time.



This meeting was chaired by an independent consultant from the Associations Forum and arrived at the need for change including each of the following:

- Removal of invalid clauses from the AMSA Constitution. (AMSA a 'Company Limited by Guarantee' cannot have 'shareholders', hence that provision is invalid; likewise the provision 'deeming' Sheds to be members of the respective State organisation is invalid.)
- The need to improve representation from 'bottom up' to ensure more involvement and input from 'Shed members'.
- Codify the definition of a 'Men's Shed' to ensure consistency throughout the Shed movement.
- Achieve 'alignment' between AMSA and State organisations to ensure similar policies and practices were in place thus reducing areas for conflict and ensuring AMSA and the States presented a unified and consistent approach to governments, supporters and sponsor organisations.
- It was recognised that the individual Men's Sheds were the strength of the Men's Shed movement and that their independence, freedom and ability to interact within their own community of interest was paramount.

A Membership Sub-Committee was formed to follow up and develop proposals for consideration by the AMSA Board.

### **Zone Representatives**

All participants at the Strategic Planning meeting recommended the introduction of 'Zone Representatives' elected by a nominee from individual Sheds within each zone. These would be the backbone of the State organisations/ committees.

It was recognised that the management of this arrangement was a matter for each State and each State Director/ member was encouraged to implement this arrangement within their State. It is disappointing that this has not been implemented across all States in a timely fashion.



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### **National Men's Shed Committee**

The proposed Constitution includes the establishment of the 'National Men's Shed Committee' (NMSC) with representatives from each State that is a recognised member of AMSA. This Committee is expected to be well informed on current issues from within their State. It is expected that members on this Committee would also be the member representative of the State with voting rights at General Meetings.

The Shed nominees to the AMSA Board are appointed from the National Men's Shed Committee ensuring continuity and informed opinion on matters rising from individual Sheds through the States to the NMSC and onto the AMSA Board.

### **What is a Men's Shed?**

The definition of Men's Shed differs in some State 'rules / constitutions' to that contained in the AMSA By-Laws. In one case the State 'rule' allows for membership to include others that are not a Men's Shed.

The AMSA definition was reviewed and considered robust enough to not warrant any change. Adoption of the definition by the States is dependent upon each State accepting the Membership By-Law.

Much has been said about the Membership By-Laws, the reality is:

- There has been no change to the By-Law affecting Men' Sheds adopted on 3 June 2016. It is the same as that adopted in 2013.
- The By-Law affecting State organisations is similar to the 2013 By-Law, apart from some redrafting. One significant change is a clause requiring States to 'consult' with AMSA prior to seeking funds or sponsorships to ensure that there are no areas of conflict and maximum funding opportunities can be achieved.

Having reached substantial agreement within the Membership Committee, Gadens Lawyers came on board and undertook a review of our Constitution and By-Laws undertaken substantially on a pro-bono basis. The review was rigorous and recommended a more modern 'Sort Form' approach simplifying the Constitution as outlined in the 'Explanatory Memorandum'. Only minor redrafting changes were made to the Membership By-Laws.

The AMSA Board adopted the Membership By-Laws on 3 June 2016 consistent with its power under the current Constitution.

### **Special General Meeting**

The membership\* considered on 24th October 2016 whether to adopt the proposed Constitution and repeal the existing Constitution. This meeting had been scheduled with due notice and publication of the changes with a well documented Explanatory Memorandum. The motion was defeated—5 votes FOR (NSW, SA, TAS, ACT, NT) and 2 votes AGAINST (VIC, QLD). A 75% majority is required for any Special Resolution to succeed.

\*The membership being representatives of each State Association who are acting on behalf of and to voice opinion of Men's Shed within the State body.



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The consultation process has been criticised by many drawing comparisons with our national, State governments and people constituency that make up the electorate. Almost without exception these criticisms or commentary have avoided any positive proposals to implement how the consultation should take place.

As a Company Limited by Guarantee AMSA is required to have 'members' who have voting rights on a variety of defined issues including changes to the Constitution; note that these require 75% in favour as above. There is also the requirement to have a Board of Directors who is responsible for managing the affairs of the Company, including governance of the organisation and compliance with legislation e.g. WHS Act etc.

The range of powers of the Board is generally only restricted to exclude those matters outlined in the Constitution requiring determination by a General Meeting of the members.

ASIC and ACNC legislation requires reporting to the 'members'. The 'members' in AMSA are the State organisations each represented by one member with voting rights. This is the method by which AMSA has operated since the beginning. It is the State organisations that have the right to alter the Constitution.

Despite allegations by some that AMSA is not compliant with its reporting obligations to ASIC and ACNC all reports have been made and are current.

It was recognised that whilst the above 'satisfied' the requirements under ASIC and ACNC there was the need for improved consultation rising from the bottom up which offered the potential for improved decision making by taking into consideration the views of shedders, individual Men's Sheds and State organisations.

The structure proposed in the new Constitution allowed for this:

- Each Shed would nominate a Representative.
- Shed Representatives in a Zone would vote for one of their Representatives to be the Zone Representative.
- Zone Representatives were expected to be the members of the State organizations.
- Each State would nominate from their Executive a person to be the State Representative on the National Men's Shed Committee (NMSC)
- Four persons from the NMSC would be appointed to the AMSA Board
- The AMSA Board would be made up of the four Shed members appointed from the NMSC and 5 specialist Directors.

This representative form of democracy is similar to our government structure, involving Local, State and Federal Government. It has the potential for input from Sheds through to the Board and appears to be cost effective and capable of being supported financially within the available AMSA funds. It should be noted that Federal Government funds are limited to services required to be delivered under that agreement.



It is important to understand the difference between the role of a Director on the Board and the role of a 'member' on the NSMC. The Director on the Board must, as required by law, always act in the best interests of AMSA. On the other hand the 'Member' as a Representative of the State is free to act and make decisions to be in the best interest of the State; which may or may not coincide with the best interests of AMSA. This has not always been appreciated and resulted in some perceiving that they have a conflict of interest between both roles where they are both the Board Director and the State representative member. The structure proposed did not entirely remove this 'problem' but it did reduce the perceived conflict of interest

**West Australian Men's Shed Association** Historically, WAMSA has never agreed to work closely with AMSA, this is in direct conflict with the WAMSA 2014 Strategic plan <https://www.wamsa.org.au/WAMSA-Strategic-Business-Plan-2014.pdf>. This plan also identifies the AMSA as a risk to WAMSA.

- They have never, until recently, acknowledged that they are formally a member of AMSA
- They have refuted that they are bound by AMSA By- Laws
- They have refused to acknowledge AMSA copyright to documents and published these documents without any attribution to AMSA or other original authors
- They have established separate insurance arrangements through Jobs Australia which is more costly than AMSA insurance coverage but have indicated that it costs the same
- Whenever a change has been proposed they have refuted the need for change.
- They attended Board meetings and indicated only minimal change needed to the AMSA Membership By-Laws and then, following the meeting, distributed far and wide an inaccurate interpretation and misrepresentation of those By-Laws suggesting that there were considerable changes between the 2013 By- Laws and the revised By- Laws .
- They have declared that the Membership By-Laws are invalid and inconsistent with the AMSA Constitution.
- They promoted an alternate set of Membership By- Laws which:
  - Deleted reference to AMSA where they considered this to be supportive of the WAMSA position that: 'the State Organisation should be the 'peak body' of the Men's Shed movement and the ***State body be the sole representative and controlling authority for Men's Sheds in a State.***
  - WAMSA deleted in excess of 50 clauses and/ or sub clauses from the AMSA By-Laws without explanation as to why such deletions were considered necessary or appropriate.  
It should be noted that almost all of those clauses formed part of the 2013 Membership By-Laws and were considered relevant and essential for the good governance of AMSA.
- WAMSA have suggested and promoted the concept of certain States forming a breakaway National Men's Shed organisation.



Since the decision that WAMSA be expelled from AMSA they have embarked upon a campaign claiming that the process to dismiss them is invalid, that they were denied procedural fairness and or natural justice. AMSA refutes this and notes that no legal action has been initiated by WAMSA.

Instead WAMSA:

1. has joined with other disaffected individuals to actively promote the formation of a breakaway National Men's Shed organisation.
2. has accused the current AMSA Board of being corrupt without any explanation or supporting information and evidence.
3. claim to have the support of the Governor General, who, although he has been approached, has advised AMSA that it is not the intention of his office to intervene.
4. has also indicated that they intend to develop a Marketing Plan to persuade Sheds in WA to breakaway from AMSA.

**For AMSA it remains business as usual continuing to place Men's Sheds as its first priority in supporting and responding to the needs of the National Men's Shed Movement.**

Yours Sincerely  
Kevin Callinan  
AMSA Chairman

## Your Shed and GST

Hello to all Shedders out there. I'm Matt and one of my roles is to assist Sheds in their finance and compliance responsibilities. In each newsletter I will be writing some general advice that I hope will assist all in Shed land to ease the administrative burden and get back on the tools! One of the questions I have been receiving relates to the tricky little tax known as GST.

### Your Shed and GST

Goods and Services Tax (GST) is a tax of 10% on the sale of most goods and services consumed in Australia. Where a non-profit organisation is registered for GST, the price of most sales of goods and services will be inclusive of GST. i.e. Any price that an item is sold for will be deemed to have GST included in the price not added on top of it. Similarly, the organisation may be entitled to claim GST credits on the purchases it makes in carrying out its activities.

Ultimately the difference between GST on sales and GST on purchases is the amount you pay to the government or refund that you receive in return.







For example:

- *GST sales for the quarter was \$11,000. GST on these sales = \$1,000.*
- *GST purchases for the quarter was \$5,500. GST on these purchases = \$500*
- *GST on sales – GST on purchases = Payment due to the ATO*
- *\$1,000 - \$500 = \$500 payment due.*

### **Registering for GST**

If your Shed has a GST turnover of \$150,000 or greater per annum it must register for GST. Where your turnover is less than \$150,000 you can choose to register for GST.

As a general rule, an organisation that registers for GST must remain registered for at least 12 months even if the turnover drops below \$150,000.

Most GST is reported and paid quarterly, however if your turnover is small it can be an annual report and payment.

### **Benefits of registering**

The clear benefit of registering for GST is the ability to reduce the cost of your materials by 10%. It usually improves the overall financial reporting of an organisation.

This of course needs to be weighed up with the following.

### **Disadvantages of registering**

It will increase your administration and reporting to the government. Some of the complexities in the system include:

#### For purchases:

- Not every supplier you deal with will be registered for GST, so the Shed may not receive a full 10% saving on materials.
- There are some purchases that do not have GST at all, in particular those of a health, fresh food or education nature.
- Some purchases, particularly insurance or others that involve government stamp duty do not have GST of a straight 10%
- Purchases of goods greater than \$1,000 needs to include Shed information to be a proper tax invoice
- Some rents will have GST and some won't, depending on the nature of your rental agreement.

#### For sales:

- Many Sheds have a GST concession as part of the NFP status. This concession means that goods sold through raffles or fundraising do not have GST to be reported.
- Membership fees on the other hand will have GST and would need to be increased by 10% to receive the same amount of income that you currently receive.
- You must supply a tax invoice for sales that meet the requirements of the law that identifies the amount of GST and your Shed's ABN and would need to increase by 10% to receive the same amount of income that the Shed would be used to.



As you can see every transaction, either purchase or sale needs to be considered for its impact for GST. As an accountant I find it hard at times to stay across everything! I could only imagine as a volunteer Treasurer how challenging it would be to stay on top of it all!

### **Conclusion**

To me the disadvantages far outweigh the advantages of a voluntary registration. If you are flirting with the idea of a voluntary registration for GST I would recommend the following:

- Be certain that you are likely to receive a refund of GST over the course of the year
- Be certain that the total refund of GST is of a sufficient amount to cover the increased amount of admin and reporting that you are caught up doing
- Grab some external advice from a tax accountant or give me a call on 1300 550 009

## **Minister for Health and Aged Care Minister for Sport THE HON SUSSAN LEY MP MEDIA RELEASE**

### *Men's Sheds Support Men's Health Across Australia*

The Turnbull Government is investing in the promotion and support of men's health and well-being through today's announcement of funding towards nearly 100 Men's Sheds across the country.

Minister for Health and Aged Care, Sussan Ley today announced that 97 community Men's Sheds across Australia will share in \$400,000 in national funding.

Minister Ley said the Men's Shed programme was going from strength to strength and is providing support to Australian men in a way they feel comfortable with.

"Men's Sheds are a popular way for men to connect with their community—whether it's through a building project, a first aid workshop or a transition to retirement seminar," Minister Ley said.

"In Men's Sheds across the country there are any number of activities for men to take part in, which in turn, provides that important sense of belonging to a community, particularly for older men and men living in rural and remote areas.

"Men's Sheds are an important part of many Australian communities. They keep men active, contributing to their mental health and physical wellbeing."

Men's Shed grants support the purchase of tools, equipment, community projects, training, building maintenance and development, and health improvement activities.

The Australian Government has provided \$5.1 million (from 2016-17 to 2018-19) to the Australian Men's Sheds Association (AMSA) to provide support and resources to new and existing Men's Sheds and to manage the National Shed Development Programme.

Grants are competitive with priority given to Sheds in disadvantaged areas. Further rounds of funding will be available for Men's Sheds and details can be found at [www.mensshed.org](http://www.mensshed.org).



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## National Shed Development Programme Update

### Round Thirteen

Round Thirteen outcomes were announced on Monday 14 November 2016 and all applicants will be formally informed of these outcomes. A news bulletin has also been posted on the AMSA website [www.mensshed.org](http://www.mensshed.org).

#### Round 13 Statistical Data:

Total Applications Received	Total Amount Applied for	Total Shortlisted	Total Grants Awarded	Total Successful Sheds	Amount Funded ( GST ex. )
119	\$557,571.77	99	97	93	\$400,000

Category	Applied	Successful	Awarded
Category 1-Tools, Equipment, Community Projects & Training	69	58	\$194,316
Category 2 - Building Maintenance & Development	45	34	\$187,379
Category 3- Health Improvement Activities	5	5	\$ 18,305
Total	119	97	\$400,000

#### Statistical Data of State Based Applications- All Categories

State	Total applications	Total Successful
NSW	49	38
Vic	23	17
Qld	25	21
WA	9	9
SA	11	10
Tas	2	2
ACT	0	0
NT	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>97</b>

Total Applicant Organisations 101  
 AMSA Member 99  
 Non member 2





## Round Fourteen

Round 14 will open on **Monday 28 November** and close on **Friday 13 January 2017**.

This will provide applicants with 7 weeks in which to complete and lodge their application. AMSA is mindful of the Christmas/New Year break and is allocating this additional week to provide ample time for applicants to finalise their application. All documentation will be available on the AMSA website [www.mensshed.org](http://www.mensshed.org) on 28 November.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

In 2016 the NSDP underwent a comprehensive Evaluation- in response to the feedback from Men's Sheds, the AMSA and Department of Health, the final findings have recommended further changes that will be implemented from Round 14.

*What are those Changes?*

#### **The Application Form**

A major finding of the NSDP Evaluation highlighted the need to simplify the application process. The original three application forms based on Category have now been eliminated. A new template has been developed to enable applicants to include **all** requests across the three categories onto **ONE** Application Form.

#### **Maximum Funding**

Applicants can apply for a combination of items/services across the three categories to a **maximum of \$10,000**.

A range of examples of combined requests and budgets are contained within the Round 14 Guidelines.

## New resources to help charities report

The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) has released a series of screencasts to assist charities to complete their 2016 Annual Information Statements.

The screencasts are instructional videos that demonstrate how to fill out the 2016 Annual Information Statement online, which is a reporting requirement for all registered charities. ACNC Commissioner Susan Pascoe AM says the screencasts, which are part of the Annual Information Statement guide, are a welcome addition to the range of reporting tools and guidance already available. "The screencasts walk you through how to fill out the Annual Information Statement as you complete it online. They are a very useful tool. When used together with the checklist and the Annual Information Statement guide, people doing their reporting can feel confident that they have all the information they need to answer the questions correctly," Ms Pascoe said. The ACNC is urging charities to get ahead and submit their Annual Information Statements before their deadline. Charities that report using the standard July to June financial year are required to submit their 2016 Annual Information Statement before 31 January 2017. "For many charities, the lead up to the Christmas period is a busy one. It is often a peak fundraising time, as well as a peak activity time. "These charities may find it beneficial to complete their Annual Information Statements now, rather than doing it just before the deadline in January. Additionally, ACNC team members are able to respond to phone calls and emails for assistance more quickly outside of the key submission deadlines," Ms Pascoe added. The screencasts and all the ACNC's guidance for the 2016 Annual Information Statement is available online at [acnc.gov.au/2016AIS](http://acnc.gov.au/2016AIS)



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## Antibiotic Awareness Week – 14 to 20 November 2016



### Antibiotic Awareness Week

(14-20 November) is an annual, global event to raise awareness about the serious health issue of antibiotic resistance. The week encourages people around the world to use antibiotics responsibly.

#### **The issue**

The World Health Organization has declared antibiotic resistance to be one of the greatest threats to human health today. A recent UK report has also predicted that if things don't change, antibiotic resistance could lead to an extra 10 million deaths worldwide by the year 2050.

The reality is that antibiotics are losing their power, but the good news is that there are things we can do to stop antibiotic resistance from getting worse.

#### **What we can do to reduce antibiotic resistance**

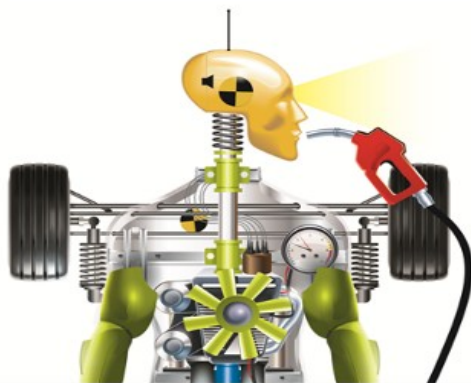
There are several things each and every one can do to reduce antibiotic resistance.

- Don't ask for antibiotics for viruses like colds or flu because they don't work.
- Only take antibiotics when they have been prescribed by your doctor and take them as directed.
- Practice good hygiene and wash your hands. This prevents spreading bacteria to others.

#### **Support Antibiotic Awareness Week**

Visit [nps.org.au/aaw2016](http://nps.org.au/aaw2016) and download our [campaign toolkit](#), which outlines all the ways you can support Antibiotic Awareness Week. You can also:

- Host an afternoon tea to inspire appropriate use of antibiotics. Use our downloadable [materials and resources](#) to decorate your space
- Submit a photo of your event on Twitter for the chance to [win a morning tea](#) for your organisation
- Start a conversation on social media (hashtag #AntibioticResistance and tag @NPSMedicineWise) or take part in the Global Twitter Chat on 18 November from 11:00am – 5:00pm AEDT
- [Take the pledge](#) and promise to do everything you can to reduce antibiotic resistance.



## WHEN WAS YOUR LAST SERVICE?

For Men's Health Information go to  
[www.malehealth.org.au](http://www.malehealth.org.au)



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## Murgon Men's Shed Qld

The Murgon Men's Shed Qld is renowned for its restoration of old equipment including a Buckboard, Sulky and Dray.

David Mollenhauer, who used his self taught skills in the complete rebuild of wagon wheels, provided a fascinating project for all the men not just to watch but also participate. Recently a 1940/42 tractor was donated by Mick Kapernick for a future project.



*Kilkivan Great Horse Ride German wagon and a horse dray towed by David Mollenhauer*

Now they have two railway carriages that were recently shifted next to the old Murgon Railway Station in Macalister Street where they will be restored. The 50-strong group, which uses the former Murgon Railway Station building as its headquarters, will use the carriages to expand the site into a feature railhead for the South Burnett Rail Trail.



*The first carriage, a wooden 1918 passenger car, came from Rockhampton followed by the steel freight carriage, which was transported from Gracemere*

In July 2014 former Deputy Premier Jeff Seeney announced \$2 million in funding for the project and the members began scouting around for old railway carriages that they could shift to Murgon. "As it turned out, finding the carriages was the easy part," Men's Shed spokesman Glen Vonhoff said. "A collector at Gracemere, Darren Standfast had bought an old steel carriage because he didn't want to see it turned into scrap and when he heard what we wanted to do he donated it to us. We were also able to purchase a wooden 1918 passenger carriage at auction in Rockhampton for \$200." But if acquiring the carriages was a simple exercise, moving them back to Murgon turned out to be a nightmare.

"After we'd secured the carriages we began to look at what it would cost to truck them to Murgon," Glen said. "When we got a quote for \$11,000 we almost fell off our chairs." It turned out the carriages would need to be lifted on and off the trucks by specialised cranes. However, Men's Shed members persisted in looking at other solutions, and after six months they found a carrier who had a special tilt-tray truck that could load and unload without the need of a crane. According to Glen Vonhoff, "Mick Saffiotti, a QR employee, worked tirelessly for 5 months to get the 2 carriages to Murgon Men's Shed at a very reduced price. He loves to save old carriages - without him, the Shed would not have been able to undertake the project".



The two carriages now sit beside Murgon Men's Shed on a small 70-metre section of the original railway track that has been preserved. Glen said the group was applying for a grant to cover the cost of materials involved in the restoration project, but members will be donating their own time and skills. The group are hopeful in completion by the time the Rail Trail is officially opened in March. "We have a few original seats from the passenger carriage that we also hope to restore, and we'd like to put railway memorabilia in both carriages when they're finished to add extra interest," he said. Glen agreed both carriages will need a lot of work, but is confident the group have the ability to turn in a first-rate job. "Our members have been restoring historic wooden wagons and we've done four or five of them now."



## An Important Message from AMSA on *Ransomware*

Ransomware is computer malware that installs covertly on a victim's computer, executes a cryptovirology attack that adversely affects it and demands a ransom payment to decrypt it or not publish it. Ransomware stops you from using your PC and it holds your PC or files for "ransom".

**Please Note:** We are hearing that some Men's Sheds or member's personal PC's have already been affected.

An Australian Government Message: <https://www.staysmartonline.gov.au/alert-service/fake-australia-post-and-agl-emails-used-to-spread-ransomware>

### **Fake Australia Post and AGL emails used to spread ransomware**

CERT Australia is warning that fake emails claiming to be from Australia Post and AGL are being used to spread ransomware to unsuspecting recipients. The emails are being used to infect computers with the TorrentLocker ransomware, which criminals use to extort payment from users by encrypting files on a computer system and demanding a ransom for the key to unlock the files.

The fake **AGL** email has the subject line 'Electricity usage' and a number up to eight digits long. The email incorporates two web links: anyone who clicks on either of these links risks infecting their computer with the TorrentLocker ransomware.

The fake **Australia Post** email has the subject line 'You have to update your shipping address' and claims that a 'mailman' has not delivered a parcel because the recipient was absent. The email includes a web link that claims to direct the email recipient to a web page where they can print a label. A second web link claims to direct the recipient to 'further information'- anyone who clicks on either of these links risks infecting their computer with the TorrentLocker ransomware.