



# **WAVERLEY COMMUNITY MEN'S SHED INC.**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 1 July 2017 - 30 June 2018**

Waverley Community Men's Shed was represented at the Australian Men's Shed Association's first 10 Years celebration hosted by Their Excellencies General Sir Peter and Lady Cosgrove at Admiralty House, Sydney



15 October 2018

## WAVERLEY COMMUNITY MEN'S SHED INC

### ANNUAL REPORT 2018

#### ROLE OF "THE SHED"

The Waverley Community Men's Shed (WCMS) is an incorporated body under the umbrella of the Australian Men's Shed Association (AMSA) – we are Shed No 751 of over 1000 Sheds in the Association. Our Shed is currently open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am to 3pm and we invite men to join with us to socialise and work alongside other men on various community and individual projects.

The aim of our Shed is to advance the health and well-being of our members by providing a safe and happy environment where men can, in the company of other men, socialise, use their creative skills (such as with woodwork), learn new skills, and learn about men's health and well-being.

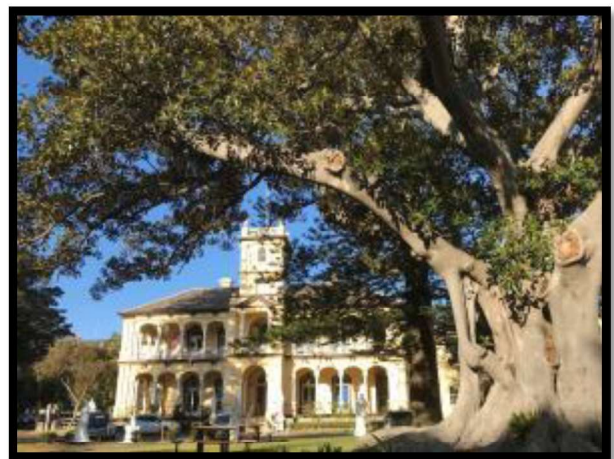
Our Shed seeks to address the issues of isolation, loneliness and depression which are faced by many men when they cease full-time employment or are looking for work by providing them with a space, tools, support and programs. We provide a support and referral service to members with health issues, directed towards meeting their physical, emotional, mental health and support for the human spirit.

The Shed is located on the grounds of War Memorial Hospital, a Uniting facility, and we are grateful to both organisations that encouraged the formation of our Men's Shed and provided the physical facilities for our use and development.

The Waverley Men's Shed



War Memorial Hospital's Heritage Vickery building and 120 year old Moreton Bay Fig tree.





## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Member,

For the third and final time (as I am required under the Shed's constitution to retire as President) I say with great pleasure that I can report on another year of successful operation and on-going delivery of our objectives to a growing membership base.

Firstly, I am happy to say that once again there were no significant injuries incurred in the Shed, an indication that despite potential risks, members were able to work together safely – a credit to all involved.

However, there are some things beyond our control and in this light, it is with great sadness that we note the passing of our fellow Shedder, Dennis Rudnick in September 2017. Our sincere condolences go to Dennis' family and friends. Thank you to Tom Wolf, our Men's Representative for his acknowledgement of Dennis further on in this Annual Report.

The fundamental purpose of the Shed, as we have said, is to promote good health and wellbeing of our members. This is mainly achieved through normal operations when men are able to work together, 'shoulder to shoulder', in a safe and friendly setting.

Further to this we seek to provide for our men information on specific health related issues. This year we had a very interesting workshop focussing on skin care as a means to wider self care and value. This was presented by Jeannette Singer-Goldberg, Grad Dip Counselling. We also welcomed back Australian Hearing to help us with the latest in hearing health and care, presented in a fun and informative way by Claire Byrne, Community Hearing Advisor.

Shed members are encouraged to attend the excellent health seminar programs organised by and located at the War Memorial Hospital.

Clif Munro and I were privileged to represent the WCMS in November 2017 at the Australian Men's Shed Association's tenth year anniversary hosted by His Excellency General Sir Peter Cosgrove and Lady Cosgrove at Admiralty House. It was a great

opportunity to pass on to Sir Peter our Shed's appreciation of his patronage of AMSA. Sir Peter indicated to me that Waverley is close to his heart as an old boy of Waverley College.

Another highlight of the year was the Shed's 5<sup>th</sup> year anniversary lunch at the Shed provided by members, when we had the good fortune of spending time with representatives of our loyal supporting organisations.

At the end of February 2018 we reported to AMSA that our Shed had 55 financial members, increasing from 46 the previous year. Members reside in just about equal numbers in the three local government areas of Woollahra, Waverley and Randwick. It is a firm policy of the Board to keep annual membership fees low, this year at \$45, most of this going to insurance.

Again, this year the Shed was open three days a week, Monday to Wednesday and it is our aim to open more days as more men are able to fill the role of Supervisor.

As you will see from the Treasurer's report our finances are in good order thanks largely to our Treasurer Rodger Jamieson, who is also instrumental in our grant applications. We are recognised as a charity by the Australian Charities Commission but not as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR). We continue our efforts to obtain DGR classification which would help greatly with receiving donations.

There are many people and organisations I would like to thank as highlighted further in this report.

My personal thanks here goes to the Board members of the WCMS for taking on the responsibilities involved and for your time freely given, including the monthly board meetings and officer duties. Also to the members, thank you for your participation and making it another successful year. The 'testimonial' on page 9 by Rodney Bassetti is a wonderful snapshot of members' life in the Shed.



## Community Projects

As part of our community involvement we completed many projects over the year for a variety of organisations and individuals. Work has ranged from simple but effective chair repairs to interesting special requests as shown below.

Toys for the very young made by Technical Team member David Brem



William Honeyball presenting activity board to St Vincent's Hospital for stroke patients, one of a number of projects this year for them



Spinning wheel repair



Our members were able to give something back to Woollahra Council by revitalising outdoor furniture for their Community Hall. Here are Fred and Ross carefully working on one of the 5 tables and 13 chairs



## Quoll boxes put into action

Peter Black was the project leader in 2017 for the making of 50 quoll boxes for Rewilding Australia and Taronga Zoo. This year we were delighted to see the boxes serve their purpose in enabling the transportation of quolls from Tasmania to the mainland for their re-habitation. Here we see the quolls being released from their comfortable boxes into Booderee National Park, NSW, after their journey.

Video of the quoll project can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PxzOaW9OzqY>





## Individual Member's Projects

The men of the Shed are involved in individual projects which are many and varied in nature. Here are just some of the items with their makers.

Uli Makulik making precision picture frames



Tom Wolf passing on his expertise in replica ship building.



Graham Ely French Polishing one of his daughter's dining suite chairs



Rodney Bassetti and 'Bremmy' proudly display one of the cabinet door panels Rodney made for his daughter as mentioned in his 'testimonial'



Rodney Goldberg bringing back to life his treasured grandfather clock



## Computers

The Shed has three computers that the men can use to search the web for woodworking designs and other project ideas. Services include Wi-Fi, a TPG land line and a fax/scanner/printer. Assistance can be given by the more computer literate members to those wanting to improve their computer skills.



## Celebrations

### Shed's 5<sup>th</sup> year anniversary

We celebrated the fifth birthday of the Shed in July 2018 with a lunch provided by members. We were delighted this year to have been joined by special guests from our supporting organisations I can say with confidence the food was tops, befitting the reputation of our in-house catering.

Ged Hyde, Executive Manager of the War Memorial Hospital flanked by the Shed's Peter Chapman and Rodger Jamieson



Waverley Councillor Dominic Wy Kanak and the new pedestal drill funded by a grant from Woollahra Council, with shedders Clif Munro and David Carr (see Grants, page 8)



Woollahra Councillors Nick Maxwell, Anthony Marano and Mary-Lou Jarvis, inspecting the timber storage shed with William; funded by a grant from Woollahra and Waverley Councils.



### AMSA's 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary

In November 2017 Clif Munro and I were invited to represent Waverley Community Men's Shed at AMSA's 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary function hosted by Their Excellencies Sir Peter and Lady Cosgrove at Admiralty House.

Sir Peter Cosgrove after delivering a short speech with Lady Cosgrove and AMSA officials.



Clif Munro (centre right) mixing with guests on the lawns of Admiralty House.





## Other Events

### Bunnings sausage sizzle

Once again in September, Bunnings Randwick generously provided their premises for us to hold a fundraising sausage sizzle. And once again many of our members gave up their time to help out. We are extremely thankful to Bunnings Randwick for enabling us to raise funds while at the same time to promote the Waverley Men's Shed. Bunnings have also been generous with gift vouchers and product donations to the Shed.

Here we see chefs Rodney Goldberg and Graham Ely with Fred Oertli serving up



### Health care workshops

One of the workshops this year was 'Men have skin too' presented by Counsellor Jeanette Singer-Goldberg. Its strong message was more than skin care, but a wider discussion about men's total self care, both physical and mental.

Jeanette with Shed members.



## Shed Management

Shed management comprises the 7 member Board, elected officers, day supervisors and sub-committees (from time to time).

Our Shed supervisors make up two groups - Administration and Technical. Admin supervisors look after the smooth running of the Shed when it is open, while the Technical Supervisors oversee the use of machines, tools and equipment with men's safety foremost in mind. These men give up their time where they could be working on their own projects to help manage the Shed. The Technical Team also provide training and certifying of men on the use of machines.

### Admin

#### Supervisors:

Peter Chapman  
Raymond Garfield  
Rodger Jamieson  
David Nathan  
Eliot Redelman  
Bob Williamson

### Technical

#### Supervisors:

Peter Black  
David Brem  
Garry Connor  
William Honeyball  
Alex McIntosh  
Clif Munro  
Tom Wolf

Although not part of the management team, our thanks go to all our members for the housekeeping and storage of the many hand tools, nails, screws and timber that are needed to run a successful Men's Shed. Your end of day clean-up of the Shed floors, kitchenette and garbage handling is much appreciated.

### Mark Moran Vacluse

As a result of the work done by Tom Wolf, we have a strong link to a new shed in our area, one that is part of Mark Moran's Group Living facility, Old South Head Road, Vacluse. We consider this an auxiliary of our shed as a way widening our effectiveness in the community.

Tom has been instrumental in establishing and manning this new men's shed which provides a meeting place for residents and men in the Community. Tom would love you to drop in for a coffee, any time during the week.



## Grants and Sponsorship

During the past financial year we have been supported by grants from Waverley and Woollahra Councils for which we are very thankful.

The **Waverley Council** grant for \$3,433 (incl GST) provided funds for a thicknesser which will provide a reliable, safe and accurate way to plane and reduce the thickness of timber, and also to have two of our technical supervisors trained up to do electrical testing and tagging for the Shed.

The grant from **Woollahra Council** for \$2,200 (inc GST) was to provide a Hare & Forbes Hafco Mill Drill Press to urgently replace the old one which after much use by many men has a bent shaft. This will enable the men to more easily change the speed of operation of the drill which will in turn help make work easier for the men learning and safer to operate the drill.

These grants will facilitate community and individual woodworking projects in the Men's Shed.

We are grateful for the sponsorship support from **War Memorial Hospital and Uniting** which helps to keep the Shed running.

## Our Thanks To

Without the help and financial support of other organisations and individuals the Shed would not be able to operate.

- **War Memorial Hospital**, its Executive Manager **Mr Ged Hyde**, and **management, reception, maintenance and gardening staff** for the great support.
- **Uniting**, for their support, grants and encouragement;
- **Waverley Council** for grants to continue develop and run the Shed; and for our waste collection service;
- **Woollahra Council** support and grants which help to develop and run the Shed, and improve Shed safety;
- **Church In the Market Place** for their support, encouragement and use of office equipment and photocopying;

- **Clovelly Community Bank®** Branch of Bendigo Bank for conducting our banking facility and continuing encouragement;
- **Bunnings Warehouse Randwick** for their donation of products and fundraising sausage sizzle on their premises;
- **Tender Gourmet Butchery**, Eastgate Bondi Junction (winner of many gourmet awards including world's best pork sausages) for their fundraising initiative for the Shed;
- The **many individual** donations in appreciation for work done by the shedders;
- Our auditor, **Peter Roebuck**, for his honorary audit of the Shed's accounts.

I have truly enjoyed my three years of Presidency of the WCMS, considering it an honour to represent such a worthwhile community service. I have seen first-hand how many men of the Eastern Suburbs have benefited, as well as those community groups and individuals who the Shed serves. It is a testament to the strong community mindedness of many, but in particular the people of Uniting and the War Memorial Hospital.

Peter Chapman  
President



## MEN'S REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

I am delighted, as the Men's Representative on the Committee of WCMS for the current year, to report that the number of members is on the increase, as is evidenced by the large numbers that attend on all 3 days the Shed is open (and the resultant shortage of work-space). But for the shortage of Supervisors who can commit to regular attendances on other days, opening the Shed either on Thursday or Saturday may need to be discussed.

The enthusiasm of the members in community projects and helping each other with personal projects is commendable, and the interaction between members during our compulsory meal break absolutely amazes me.

It is with great sorrow and sadness that we note the passing of our fellow Shedder, Dennis Rudnick in September 2017.

Many members have also suffered illness during the past year but fortunately they have recovered sufficiently to return to the Shed, and we keep monitoring our members' welfare along the way.

We have held a number of social activities; the Christmas (End of Year) Party as well as our 5th Anniversary Party were well attended by members and a great time was had by all. We have also entertained the spouses/partners of the members with 2 dinners at local Chinese restaurants, and these are great opportunities for those who allow us to attend the Shed to share in our camaraderie.

We are looking forward to another strong year of membership and Shed activities.

Tom Wolf  
Men's Representative

## LIFE AT THE SHED; A MEMBER'S PERSPECTIVE

'How long do you have to be in the shed to appreciate it? God knows. I must be coming up for 2 years and it has become a part of my life and routine.

Wednesday is a must at the Shed. As soon as I come across the park to the door, one of the chained

"inmates" standing near the front door yells, "Rodney is coming today, lock up the biscuits", and William says "Ah, bugger, I must have come the wrong day, Rodney is here" - That is when I know that I am loved and appreciated.

By then, I am in the door and aggressive, "Abusing and being abused as soon as I hit the place". I don't think quickly, Tom is onto me about not signing on, (I have been there 10 seconds) and Peter notices the coffee I hold, and wants to know whether I have put it on his card at the café or not. He then tells me he has volunteered me to attend his next dinner extravaganza etc, etc.

Nothing changes except the production line of seats for Roger's Kombi, or Bremmy's new driving gloves that I am sure he wears to bed, or his lathe constantly turning - Yak Yak. Or, David whittling a log of wood six feet long, in the kitchen, or Graham polishing yet another chair for his daughter - who needs 20 people at dinner anyway? Or William's latest 1920's Stanley plane or tool that he has been lovingly restoring all winter. You know the one - if you need a left-handed screwdriver for a right-handed screw, he has it. Or he can make it, or he will tell you how to use one of our new screwdrivers.

Then there are the exotic stories from Clif's and Peter Chappo's travels. - Or Fred on "the sex life of the Bees of Vaucluse" - all great tales for lunch. (we will not go there).

We do what more men should do, and that is talk a lot (truth or not, is not important). We play with the toys that the wonderful Waverley and Woollahra Councils give us and make amazingly beautiful "things" in timber, for our families and importantly, schools etc. Keeping them all happy by the constant produce of the Shed.

Personally I designed a cabinet; I bought the timber, Bremmy did the routing, William did the sawing, David whittled out the key hole, Graham went on French polishing a chair and did not help at all. Tom wanted to put a wheel on it (I declined) and Fred watched. And no one was more happy with this "Gem" than my daughter. So we all benefited. And that is the key - the Shed is a wonderful place, even if there were no wonderful tools there. I would recommend it to any man, but some people you cannot change.'

Rodney Bassetti  
Member

## CORPORATE INFORMATION

### Board of Management

President	Peter Chapman
Vice President	Tom Wolf
Treasurer	Rodger Jamieson
Secretary	David Brem
Men's Representative	Tom Wolf
Board Member	Peter Black
Board Member	William Honeyball
Board Member	Clif Munro

The following members of the Board and office bearers will be stepping down from the Board at the 2018 Annual General Meeting but will offer themselves for re-election:

- Tom Wolf
- Peter Black
- William Honeyball

### ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

Waverley Community Men's Shed Inc.  
War Memorial Hospital  
125 Birrell St Waverley NSW 2024  
T 02 9386 5998  
E [waverleyshed@gmail.com](mailto:waverleyshed@gmail.com)



## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE WAVERLEY COMMUNITY MEN'S SHED

The Shed's aim is to advance the health and well-being of our men by providing a safe and happy environment where they can, in the company of other men learn about men's health and well-being, pursue hobbies, pastimes and interests, learn new skills, and practise and pass on old skills and contribute to their families, friends, the Shed and their community.

The objectives of the Shed are to:

- (a) advance the health and well-being of our members by providing a safe and happy environment where men can, in the company of other men:
  - (i) learn about men's health and well-being
  - (ii) pursue hobbies, pastimes and interests
  - (iii) learn new skills, and practise and pass on old skills
  - (iv) contribute to their families, friends, the Shed and their community.
- (b) provide a support and referral service to men with health issues, directed towards meeting their physical, emotional, mental health, and spiritual needs
- (c) establish and run services and programs which will assist to advance men's health and wellbeing by encouraging and assisting men to gain access to relevant services and information available to them within the community
- (d) provide a place for men – especially those who have retired or are unemployed – to socialize, use their creative skills (such as with woodwork), learn new skills and mentor each other and younger men in the community
- (e) address the issues of isolation, loneliness and depression which are faced by many men when they cease full-time employment or are looking for work by providing them with a space, tools, support and programs
- (f) include such other activities as may be considered appropriate by members and providers of the services;
- (g) raise funds for the purposes of the Shed by any method approved by the Charitable Fundraising Act (NSW), 1991.