

President's message

I hope all members are well and keeping warm given the cold weather we are experiencing.

I have just split and stacked 3 tonnes of wood to ensure my ongoing comfort!



I want this opportunity to update you on the progress of our efforts to establish a Men's Shed on the site at the South Arm Oval. We are still engaged in dealing with the planning appeals process, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. It is hoped these matters will be resolved in the next few weeks and at the latest by mid August. It will be great to eventually reach the construction phase.

The support for the Shed continues to be most gratifying. Local fundraising efforts have been amazing and donations to our cause are still rolling in. Additionally gifts of tools and other items either for our use or fundraising keep coming. Our current problem is one of storage.

Recently Steve and I attended a meeting of representatives from a number of Southern based Sheds at the Claremont Men's Shed. Bec Thomas spoke to us about Men's Mental Health. She runs workshops on Mental Health First Aid which addresses issues such as identifying people who may be suffering depression, anxiety etc. and how to support them. Representatives from other sheds reinforced the need for such awareness and the benefits of Men's Sheds in this regard. This is a topic we will explore further down the track but in the meantime I encourage you to attend a session being put on by Rural Alive and Well on Thursday 22nd July (details below).



We have just passed 100 members! What a great level of support by our community. We are approaching the end of our year with our AGM in September. This means that we need to renew our financial status as members. We will be applying for additional funding and a strong membership is needed to reinforce our commitment to this project.

I ask you to continue supporting our Shed which I am convinced will be more than a 'pretty picture' by this time next year. Apart from financial membership you can support us by assisting in fund raising activities, suggesting and participating in workshops and attending Shed functions. Hopefully it won't be long before we are asking for help in the construction phase of our Shed. Please contact me if you have any ideas for Shed activities.

Robin

Our journey so far



Back in 2019 the idea was floated to establish a Men's Shed in South Arm. A community survey identified strong support from across the Peninsula and a community meeting was held. From this meeting a committee was formed – **in early 2020 the South Arm Peninsula Men's Shed Inc was born.** Memberships started to flow in, and our first event was a Member BBQ at Calverton oval in March 2020. Then... everything stopped because Covid-19 locked us all down for 3 months and winter followed close behind.

Spring arrived, the economy had opened up, and our fundraising started with a fun Quiz Night held at the RSL & Community Club. **In the 10 months that followed we've raised \$30,000** with wonderful support from local businesses A Touch of the Mo and MJs Hair Design running events and sponsorship from other local businesses (South Arm Shop, South Arm Pharmacy, Harmony Garden Centre and the RSL & Community Club).

More than a few Bunnings sausages cooked, market stalls run, three raffles, and monthly carpark marshalling for Harmony Market along with public donations have all contributed to our funds.

At our first AGM in September 2020 the members present (around 30) endorsed our building plans, and we proceeded to submit our DA to Clarence Council early in 2021, a process we are working through and expect to have finalised in the coming weeks.

Membership

Our membership has grown to 101 members, which is fantastic!

June 2021 sees the end of our Membership year and renewals are now due. The Committee has decided to keep membership subscription at \$10 per year in the hope that we retain the strong membership numbers we currently enjoy. **Strong membership is an important factor when it comes to applying for grant funding**, and we still need to secure additional grants funding to build our shed. Attached you will find your membership renewal notice and we hope you will continue to support the South Arm Peninsula Men's Shed Inc.



Funding update

Our current funding position includes \$30k cash in the bank, and a written promise of \$53k from the State Government, this means we have \$83k available so we are well on our way to obtaining the funds required to build a shed.

What we still need is one of the following to come online:

- Our grant application currently being considered by the federal Building Better Regions grant scheme,
- Our request for Clarence Council to make an allowance for our shed in their 2021-22 capital works budget,
- Our application to Tas Community Fund Community Infrastructure Grants due for submission in August.

We are getting closer to being in a position to start our build. The Council Development Application is progressing, and we are having great success with our fundraising efforts and several grant funding options still in play. There are still a few items that need to fall into place, but we are tracking well.

Positions vacant



Harmony Garden Centre in Lauderdale hold a Community Market on the first Saturday of each month. For many months now Men's Shed members have been volunteering their time to guide traffic into the carpark, ensuring smooth car operations. In return, Harmony Garden Centre make a monthly contribution to the Shed cause.



We need some extra help. Can you offer a few hours on a Saturday morning once a month? If so, we need you!

Please call Steve on 0419 339 415 or email mensshed@southarm.tas.au to discuss how you can help.

Coming event

Darren Clark from Rural Alive and Well is coming to South Arm to talk with us about Mental Health first aid. He will talk about his lived experience and why training is a key part to early intervention.

Please join Darren and your fellow Men's Shed members:
1pm, Thursday 22nd July
South Arm Community Centre.

As this is a CovidSafe event please **RSVP** to Steve by phone 0419 339 415 or email mensshed@southarm.tas.au before **Tuesday 20th July**.


MEN'S SHED
SOUTH ARM PENINSULA
MENTAL HEALTH
First Aid Presentation

- Would you be able to help someone experiencing a crisis?
- Mental Health First Aid is about asking the tough questions during tough times.
- Darren Clark will talk about his lived experiences and why training is the key part to early intervention when dealing with Mental Health issues.



1pm
Thur 22 July
@ South Arm
Community Centre

ENQUIRIES/ BOOK:
Steve Hinton, Secretary
0419 339 415
mensshed@southarm.tas.au

CovidSafe event
- PLEASE BOOK!