



NUTS & BOLTS

AMSA MEMBER BULLETIN



AUGUST 2018

Men's Shed Week 2018 – Celebrating Mateship

Men's Shed Week is our annual opportunity to collectively showcase Men's Sheds to the world.

This year between 24 September to 30 September we are celebrating "mateship".

One hundred years ago the end of WWI embedded the spirit of mateship into the fabric of Australian culture. A century later we're proud to recognise that this spirit still lives on in many ways across Men's Shed communities as shedders stand shoulder to shoulder around the world.

We encourage you to hold open days and celebrations at your shed to mark the special contributions Men's Sheds make in your lives and communities throughout the week.

This year our long-time partner, [Fair Dinkum Sheds](#), is supporting our Men's Shed Week activities.

Men's Sheds who register an event will receive a special event pack including Men's Shed Week posters and a \$100 prepaid VISA card to put towards event costs.

[Click here to download the Men's Shed Week 2018 Event Organiser's Guide from the AMSA website.](#)

The official opening of Men's Shed Week 2018 will be held at the AMSA 2017 Men's Shed of the Year, Menedshed Wagga Wagga (NSW), on Friday 21 September.



Australian Men's Shed Association
SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

Buy, sell, swap, advertise: The Men's Shed Trading Post

At AMSA, we often receive requests from sheds to share details about items to buy, swap and sell.

To help our members directly connect we have set up the Men's Shed Trading Post Facebook Group. This group is intended to provide the Men's Shed community with a platform to promote shed events and buy, swap and sell items. Sheds may also use this forum to call out for items they require.

This group is not a marketplace for the sale of items, event tickets or fundraising drives to profit the shed or an external organisation.

We have set out some simple guidelines to help shedders understand the usage of this group, which you can read in full on our website: [Men's Shed Trading Post](#).

You can request to join the Men's Shed Trading Post by visiting Facebook and searching for "Men's Shed Trading Post" or [click here](#).



AMSA Member Survey 2018

Member feedback is important to us because your input helps us continually improve our service to you. The AMSA Member Survey 2018 is now open.

The survey will take about 20 minutes to complete, and we ask that you take this time to complete all sections of the survey to give us a clear and comprehensive picture.

As we hope to collect a snapshot of your Shed, we recommend that the committee work through this survey together after having some general discussions with members to gauge their feedback. You will also need some information about your Shed on hand to complete the survey.

A Survey Monkey link has been sent to all members for you to complete. If you are unable to complete the survey online or would like a copy of the survey questions, please contact us.

The Member Survey will close on Wednesday 19 September 2018.

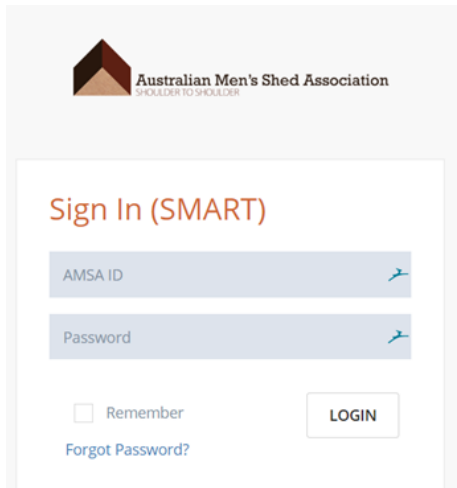
On completion of this year's AMSA Member Survey, members will be entered into the draw to win one of ten tool packs donated by Total Tools.



Member Survey Prize Pack valued at over \$1,700 thanks to Total Tools!

- 1 BOSCH GCM 12 GDL Professional Mitre Saw
- 1 BOSCH Drop Saw Stand GTA 3800 Professional
- 1 HAFCO WOOD MASTER Dust Extraction Unit 2hp





SMART 2.0 ready for testing

We are pleased to announce that the latest version of the Shed Management and Reporting Tool (SMART) is now ready for testing. We are looking for expressions of interest from Men's Sheds who can assist us with trialling the system and providing feedback and support for the new application.

This version of SMART is a web based application and as such will require a decent connection to the internet.

Any sheds using the original version of SMART can have their data imported into the new system.

Expressions of interest for the trial close Friday 31 August. To apply please email amsa@mensshed.net with the subject SMART Trial.

We thank you for your support and patience.

Grants & Funding

NSDP Round 17 & 18

The National Shed Development Programme Round 17 recommendations have been submitted to the Department of Health and as outlined in the Round 17 Guidelines, outcomes are scheduled to be announced on 31 August 2018 (*note: this date is subject to change*). We will email all applicants regarding notification of the outcomes as they are announced.

If NSDP Round 17 is announced on 31 August, Round 18 is scheduled to open on Monday 1 October 2018.

Volunteer Grants now open for application

The Australian Government is inviting applications via an open process to apply for funding to support volunteers under the Volunteer Grants Activity.

Volunteer Grants aim to support the efforts of Australia's volunteers by:

- providing small amounts of money that organisations and community groups can use to help their volunteers
- forming part of the Government's work to support the volunteers who help disadvantaged Australian communities and encourage inclusion of vulnerable people in community life.

Applications close at 2:00 pm AEST on 18 September 2018.

Visit communitygrants.gov.au/grants/volunteer-grants-2018 for information about eligibility and how to apply.

AMSA 2018 Annual General Meeting

The AMSA 2018 Annual General Meeting will be held in Newcastle (NSW) on Thursday 11 October, 2018. All sheds are invited to attend. The standard business of the AGM will be to:

1. Accept the previous minutes of the AGM
2. Accept the financial statements of the AMSA
3. Appoint the auditors for the next financial year
4. Approve the appointment Elected Directors for Victoria, Queensland & Western Australia

Further information and details on these resolutions will be provided to members in a formal notice by mail.

Men's Sheds supporting drought relief initiatives and requests

Over the past few weeks, AMSA has had a number of requests from Men's Sheds in drought affected areas of Australia, as well as Men's Sheds wanting to help. This is a reflection of the character of the Men's Shed movement and the people within it. One of AMSA's objectives is to support Men's Sheds and the communities in which they operate, so we have investigated and listened to many ways in which Men's Sheds could participate in the drought relief efforts - not only for farmers but for the communities that support and rely on them.

What can individual Men's Sheds do? Whatever and however your Men's Shed decides to help is up to you.

Shed Buddy Programme | A Men's Shed in a less affected area could partner with a Men's Shed in drought affected areas; through collaboration, they develop ways in which they can provide support to the community.

Maitland Men's Shed NSW is fundraising and has partnered with The Baradine Rusty Club (Men's Shed) NSW. They are working together (in partnership with the Bowling Club) to plan a community event and the men from Maitland will be going up on a bus. This no doubt will bring financial input into the Baradine community and demonstrate the mateship within Men's Sheds.

Terrigal Men's Shed NSW is collaborating with Narromine Men's Shed NSW. Some members from Terrigal are visiting with Narromine to discuss potential support and projects with the Narromine Men's Shed and they will also undertake a tour of the area and local farms.

If you would like to partner with a Buddy Men's Shed, please contact us on 1300 550 009 or amsa@mensshed.net.

Fundraising | Other Men's Sheds simply want to raise funds for communities e.g. buying bales of hay, pre-paid Visa cards. The best and easiest way you can contribute to this relief effort is to fundraise and make a donation to organisations that are structured to provide this assistance.

Preferred List Of Charities Undertaking Support

- Aussie Helpers
- Australian Red Cross
- Blazeaid
- Burrumbuttock Hay Runners
- Drought Angels
- Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal
- Lions Need for Feed
- Rural Aid/Buy a Bale

Check Out Charity Credentials | There is an easy way to check out the credentials of charities. It can be done by an online search for the body that regulates charities — the Australian Charities and Not For Profits Commission. There is also a phone centre if you have enquiries.

AMSA will keep you informed about what Men's Sheds are doing and news from Sheds in affected areas. We will post this information via our Facebook page and website. Please send your fundraising efforts, drought news and support information/initiatives to amsa@mensshed.net.

