

# Port Fairy Men's Shed Inc.

# NEWSLETTER

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PO Box 34 Port Fairy VIC 3284

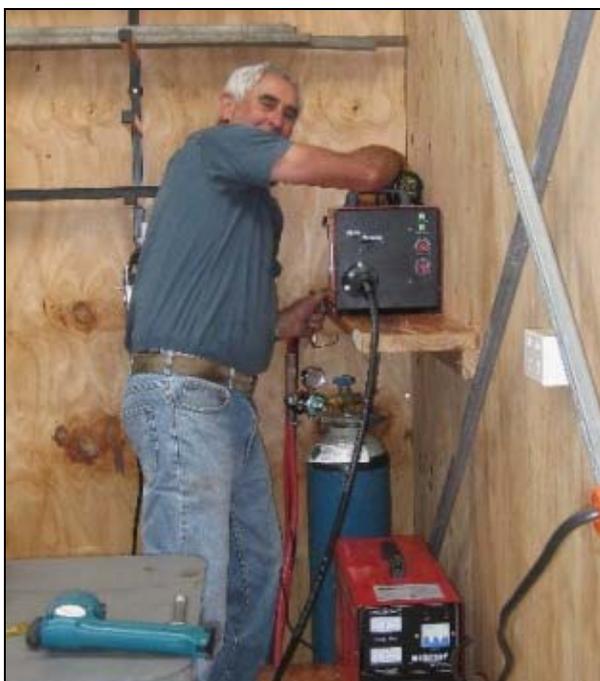
<http://members.aussiebroadband.com.au/pfmensshed/>

Affiliated with the Australian Men's Shed Association

## New President - Ewen Cameron

**Ewen Cameron** was confirmed and welcomed as the new President of the Port Fairy Men's Shed at the Annual General Meeting held Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July.

Ewen won the presidency after a ballot was held to choose between him and the other nominee, Ralph Leutton. The meeting, held in the Port Fairy Senior Citizens Club, was attended by 23 members and 4 guests.



*New President, Ewen Cameron. Hard at work in the Shed*

The Annual Report, Financial Statement for 2009/10 and the budget for the next 12-month period were adopted by the meeting. Importantly, a motion to amend the PFMS Rules – by expanding the number of Office Bearers – was also carried. On the down-side two Office Bearer positions were left unfilled but the new Committee is already working at filling these vacancies.

Retiring President, **Don Stephens**, took on a new role as Vice-President (Workspace Management). **Keith Bunge** and **Mick Wentworth** filled the two Ordinary Members of Committee.

In his report to the meeting, Don Stephens summarised what has been a big year in the life of the Shed and thanked all the members that contributed to its establishment as a valuable community facility at the Showgrounds.

New President Ewen outlined the men's shed vision as being about promoting good health for men and women. He recognised that the past 12 months had been about establishing the facility but that the next 12 months is about ensuring that we have an enjoyable and healthy environment at the Shed.

His ideas for the year include a men's health month, more training for members, establishing a variety of new projects and boosting membership. He takes over the presidency at a critical time as we strive to get the operational activities of the Shed established but has already demonstrated that he has the interest, vision and drive to take us to the next step. He is also prepared to get his sleeves rolled up and down to work as evidenced by the photo at left!

It is now up to Shed members to support Ewan and make positive contributions to the planned activities.

## A word from our new leader

I would like to thank those who nominated me for the Presidency of the Port Fairy Men's Shed. It was an honour to be given this responsibility. I look forward to the coming year as President, and I welcome any suggestions from current members regarding the functioning of The Men's Shed.

I will endeavour to act upon my vision for The Men's Shed as soon as possible. Unfortunately, I will be on holidays for the next month. When I return, my aim will be to establish a variety of activities which may attract new members and stimulate current ones.

The Men's Shed will be operating on Monday and Wednesday each week starting from 10am. I encourage you to come along and have a 'Cuppa' and at the same time enjoy the cosy atmosphere. The new air conditioner was a welcome addition to The Men's Shed which keeps it lovely and warm. The last Monthly Members BBQ was a great success. These will continue to be conducted monthly. I encourage current members to attend, and to also invite friends. The more the merrier. These Monthly BBQs offer men and women the opportunity to socialise and enjoy the many facilities at The Men's Shed.

Once again, I thank those who nominated me and I look forward to my time as President of The Men's Shed.

*Ewen Cameron*



We Serve

Auspiced by the Port Fairy-Belfast Lions Club

## Annual Report for 2009/10

The Annual Report for the past year was presented at the AGM. Copies can be picked up at the Shed or downloaded from the PFMS website at –

<http://members.aussiebroadband.com.au/pfmensshed/>

Follow the links on Home page for details on AGM and Annual Report.

## Shedders fight it out

It is with some pride that the Warrnambool *Standard* on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July featured two prominent members of the PFMS on its front page.

PFMS members, **Dan Tehan** and **Ralph Leutton** were part of the “**Wannon candidate’s public forum**” that was organised by *The Standard* as part of their focus on Wannon in the forthcoming Federal election.

*The Standard* reported that Dan and Ralph were adjudged to have been the best candidates on the night and declared joint winners in terms of public speaking skills, use of argument and logic, evidence of research, thinking on their feet and creative flair.

As much as a Men’s Shed should remain apolitical in its activities we are nevertheless proud that both men chose to become members of our Shed, and that they support the concept of men’s sheds in general and the good they can do for the community. We wish both Dan and Ralph the best of luck in their endeavours to gain a seat in the Parliament.

## Heating at the Shed

Former President, Don Stephens, wrote in our last Newsletter about heating in the Shed and it is pleasing to report that the air conditioner, funded by our DVA grant, has now been installed in the meeting room.

Focus has now switched to the workshop that badly needs some form of heating to take the edge off the winter chill. A number of options were under consideration including a wood fire, gas fire, overhead electric or gas radiators. Eventually, after seeking advice from Ken Brookes (*Brookes Timber & Hardware in Port Fairy*) it was decided to make use of the portable, gas-fired radiator that had been donated by the Anglican Church. Ken arranged for a gas bottle to trial the heaters and we agreed to use these for the remainder of the winter to gauge their effectiveness before pursuing any other solution. These may not heat the whole workshop fully but will at least take the edge off the chilly atmosphere at this time of year.

## Big screen TV installed

The DVA grant also provided funds for a TV in the Meeting Room for the use of members. A 46” Panasonic Plasma TV is now installed in the Meeting Room for use by members.

## Visit of Cobden and Timboon Shedders

Plans are underway to host a visit of both the Cobden Men’s Shed and the Timboon Men’s Shed on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> August. Cobden is a well established Shed whilst Timboon is in start-up mode and currently using temporary premises. They have just applied for a Men’s Shed grant from the Victorian Government so are effectively 12 months behind the PFMS in their endeavours to establish a Men’s Shed in their town.

It is proposed that we conduct our monthly BBQ on that day and use the opportunity to welcome our friends from other sheds in the region.

To this end you are encouraged to make every effort to attend on that Wednesday, help host our guests and show off our Shed.

For further details, contact Don Stephens on 5568-2153.

## Housekeeping Roster

Don Stephens is preparing a “**Housekeeping Roster**” to form a core group of members who are willing to assist with the day-to-day operations at the Shed. This might include being on a roster to open and close the Shed, a cleaning roster to make sure the toilet / meeting room area is kept in relatively clean condition as well as general tidying up around the workplace. If Don can get enough helpers to form a good-sized roster then the workload will be effectively shared and should not be too much of a burden on those that volunteer. Please contact Don (5568-2153) if you can help in this small way.

Don is also hoping to establish a **Projects Committee** that will assist him, as VP-Workplace Management, to coordinate the many projects we have on our books. Two or three willing helpers in this regard will help bring some focus and coordination to our workshop activities.

## Funding from the Port Fairy Police

As reported in earlier Newsletters, the Port Fairy Police Station made the PFMS its primary beneficiary when it conducted its Annual Charity Golf Day in March 2010.

Now that they have received income from the proceeds from raffles and auctions conducted on the day, they have generously provided \$7,000 towards the Shed which is earmarked to buy safety and other specialty equipment. The Port Fairy Men's Shed is grateful for their support and acknowledges the significant contribution they have made towards establishing a very worthwhile community facility.

## Vale Des Savory

It is with sadness that we report on the recent death of valued member, Des Savory. Des was a driving force behind our raffle last January and he will be very much missed by the both PFMS and the Lions Club.

