

# Port Fairy Men's Shed Inc.

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 08-2010  
September 2010



PO Box 34 Port Fairy VIC 3284    President: Ewen Cameron 5578-3284  
<http://members.aussiebroadband.com.au/pfmensshed/>

Affiliated with the Australian Men's Shed Association

## Update on Shed matters

Hi Shedders. Here is an update of Shed matters since the AGM.

You will be aware that we were unable to fill all of the Committee positions at the AGM, so we are presently operating without a Secretary or Treasurer. A meeting of the Committee of Management (COM) was held on 4<sup>th</sup> August attended by the four elected COM members and with the assistance of Graeme Smith as acting Secretary. A copy of the Minutes of this meeting is posted on the notice board in the Shed.

President, **Ewen Cameron** and Committee member, **Keith Bunge**, are presently overseas and return in mid-September as does the other Committee member, **Mick Wentworth**. This leaves past President and current VP, **Don Stephens**, holding the fort!

Fortunately, it can be reported that we have now received approval from the Department of Justice (Consumer Affairs Victoria) to amend our rules to allow an expansion of the Committee to nine persons - as was proposed and passed at the AGM. We are now in a position to call for further nominations for vacant positions:

1. Vice-President (Skills Development & OHS)
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Operations Manager (Projects & Planning)
5. Ordinary Member

As stated at the AGM, the following COM members retain their elected roles until the next AGM.

1. President (Ewen Cameron)
2. VP-Workspace Management (Don Stephens)
3. Social & Welfare Officer (Mick Wentworth)
4. Ordinary Member (Keith Bunge)

Obviously, it is critical to the smooth running of the Men's Shed that we have a full Committee ASAP so you are encouraged to nominate for a position. **A nomination form is at the end of the Newsletter.**

It is expected that the President will soon call a General Meeting of members to elect and/or confirm the appointment of newly nominated members of the COM.

## Highlights from the COM Meeting

We were really grateful for Graeme Smith helping us out with the Minutes, albeit on a once-off basis.

## Financial matters

The PFMS is in a sound position with approx. \$32,000 in hand thanks largely to retrieval of GST payments, the Folk Festival donation, the Police Charity Golf Day donation and the DVA Grant received for equipment.

New signatories are Ewen, Keith & Don but three may not be enough as two of the three are currently overseas and I am therefore the only one available. However, most bills have been covered before Ewen and Keith departed the country.

We have invested some of our surplus funds into interest bearing accounts with \$17,500 being invested in an Internet-based cash management account with the NAB and \$12,000 being placed in a term deposit account for 7 months.

Recent payments include \$1,600 for the Panasonic TV installed in the meeting room, \$400 for rental to the Show Society plus some miscellaneous accounts.

## Grants

We have recently applied for an Australian Men's Shed Association (AMSA) grant to assist with building a proposed storage annexe and for safety-related equipment. We are also considering a grant to the South West Community Foundation for OHS equipment.

## Business arising

On-going negotiations with the Show Society in regards to our lease and the MOU with the Lions Club on the sharing of the facility remain a high priority.

The COM is proceeding to install a keypad lock on the main entry door and external sensor lights to enhance security at the Shed.

## New Business

In addressing the need for additional storage space and creating a room for noisy equipment and the dust extraction unit, the following actions have been taken or considered.

1. The COM rejected a plan to just build a 3m x 3m shed for housing the dust extractor.
2. Keith Bunge tabled a plan and estimate for the building of a 16m x 4m storage shed on the western side of the current Shed at \$8,832 for materials and some labour (i.e. labour not carried out by Shed members) but excluding the cost of electrical, safety plumbing and lighting installations that will be required.



We Serve

Auspiced by the Port Fairy-Belfast Lions Club

It was agreed that this larger shed was the best long-term option. Consequently, an in-principle agreement was reached to proceed with getting detailed costs, drawing up plans, negotiating with the Shire building inspectors for permits and consultation with the land owners (Show Society) for approval to extend the Shed. These matters will be dealt with and referred back to a full COM and members for discussion and for decision on whether to proceed with the project.

In the interim, both Planning and Building permit applications have been lodged with the Moyne Shire Council. The Show Society had some questions about the extension and will make a decision at its September or October meeting. We are also mindful of the need to consider the current storage space we use at the Showgrounds, some of which will need to be cleared by Show Day on 1<sup>st</sup> November.

**Project requests**

Some of the Shedders have been tackling small projects despite the cold conditions. There are about 10 or 12 requests on hand and we will need to organise teams to tackle these projects like the construction kits for the Kid’s activity days and making billy-carts for Xmas/New Year’s events. Henry Toller-Bond and Roy Pollock have made steady progress on restoring (actually remaking) a wooden garden wheelbarrow to be used for decorative plants.

Robbie Blackmore, Gerry McCartin, John Lampard and Don Stephens, together with Shirley Dyson and Heather Templeton, have been making stands for displaying crocheted tea pot covers made by the ladies of Moyneyana House. Don, Gerry and Robbie have also been making artist easels for the Community House Art Group. Harry Bracegirdle and Ian Risbey have been working with the Moyne Shire Youth Councillors to carve out motifs and lacquer bollards that will form a feature on the East Beach.

Details and photos of some of our projects can be found on our website at -

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

**Social matters**

We had a successful visit and BBQ by the members of the Cobden and Timboon on 10<sup>th</sup> August saw us sharing ideas and showing some 30+ visitors our facility which they all thought was very good.

Mick Wentworth, Glenn Dowie and Roy Pollock have been quietly encouraging some of our older members to come and have a “cuppa” & biscuit in the Shed and to attend the occasional BBQs that have been started to enhance the social aspects of the Shed.

Socialising is an important part of what makes a Men’s Shed successful so if you want to attend any of the social sessions and need a ride to get there then please give Mick or Roy a call.

*Don Stephens (VP – Workspace Management)*

**Subscriptions**

Subs are now due for 2010/2011 which was set at \$10 for each member.

You can post your subs (cheques are to be made out to the Port Fairy Men’s Shed) to –

**Port Fairy Men’s Shed  
PO Box 34 Port Fairy 3284**

Alternatively, give your subs to Ewen, Don, Mick or Keith when you next visit the Shed.

Please note that we presently have 29 un-financial members from 2009/10 so some members may have to cover last year’s dues (also \$10) as well as paying the current year’s subs in order to be fully financial.

A list of financial members is posted in the Shed.

**Coming events**

1. Fire awareness training
2. Basic First Aid
3. Induction on the use of tools & equipment

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**PFMS - NOMINATION FORM**

I hereby nominate .....

.....

for the position of:

Vice-President (Skills Development & OHS)

Secretary

Treasurer

Operations Manager

Ordinary Member of Committee

Signed by:

Nominee: .....

Proposer: .....

Seconder: .....

*Send nomination to  
PFMS PO Box 34 Port Fairy 3284*

