



Australian Men's Shed Association

New South Wales

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

ZONE 8 - NEWSLETTER - October 2015

Welcome to this months Newsletter

The Walker from the West

Q. What does one do when one retires?

A. One decides to promote Men's Sheds by walking solo around Australia! So simple why haven't one of us thought of this before, perhaps we have, but you know what those in the West are like.

So Mike Pauly starting from Fremantle has been walking in a clockwise direction around our little island and has finally reached our Zone. As I write this Newsletter he is in Scone having crossed over the Paterson Range and into Murrurundi. On his journey he has been supported in so many ways by fellow shedders and this is no different now that he is in our area. Mike plans to arrive in Newcastle in time for the Conference so he is well on target to have a day or two to rest his blisters and take a well-earned rest.

I've heard Mike interviewed on the ABC program Macca All Over on a Sunday morning on a couple of occasions and each time it's a great promo for Men's Sheds. Mike also calls ahead when he is entering a town and arranges to speak to the local press or visit the radio station for a chat.

When he leaves Newcastle he will walk south to Melbourne than on to a circuit of Tasmania before heading home through South Australia and across the Nullarbor. Just a short stroll in the open air.

Thanks to all the sheds that have provided companionship, accommodation, a meal or support in helping Mike keep his cart on the road.

If any of you were thinking of a similar promotion then this one has been done so perhaps try for something different. Go to it!

Working with External Agencies

A number of sheds are being approached to open their doors to organizations set up to find work for men seeking employment and who need to 'build their hours' to show they have been meaningfully engaged. Some of these organizations are offering

considerable amounts of money to sheds that accept these men. The sums mentioned make the offers very inviting.

AMSA have developed a specific policy on this practice, which has been approved by their legal representatives.

If your shed is approached with an offer please check this policy before agreeing to anything. It may mean that by accepting money the shed has to comply with WorkCover standards. Would your shed meet these standards? Then there are the taxation, superannuation and leave implications.

Communication is Important

During the last week I was speaking with a long time shedder about the Newcastle Conference and was shocked to learn he had never heard about it. Given his shed was less than an hours drive from the venue this was very disappointing.

Communication is Important!!

Within the last month 20 Scholarships for \$500 each were made available for members who wanted to attend the Conference but found the registration too expensive. Only six applications were received before the closing date and 2 more arrived later. While it made decisions easy I wonder how many sheds even knew about the offer?

The Scholarship offer was emailed to 3592 sheds and individuals and given there are just under 1000 sheds in Australia the majority of emails were sent to individuals who had registered to join the AMSA mailing list. If you are not being kept informed by AMSA it's a simple task to register and receive the same information that is sent to your shed.

To Register to join the AMSA mail out simply open the AMSA website at and at the top of the home page there is a tab –“Join our Mail List”. All it takes is to add your name, email address and to indicate which group you are associated with and you will kept informed, it's so simple.

Can I suggest that if you are feeling left out then join the mailing list or keep asking your shed leaders if there is any news or look on the Notice Board.

For those attending the Conference in a couple of weeks please make grab me (gently) and have a chat. The NSW Committee have a stand arranged so we won't be at all difficult to find. Please call in and see us.

Now About the Idea of Walking Around Australia?

Not Up to it – then what about trying this in your shed for those looking for a project.

The next time someone asks "Now that you're retired, what do you do?" send them this.

http://www.youtube.com/embed/96l_UrTOZF0

Apart from that Happy Shedding

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Aberdeen Men's Shed, Bateau Bay Men's Shed, Branxton-Greta Men's Shed, Cessnock Men's Shed & Community Garden, Coorabong Men's Shed, Denman and District Men's Shed, Erina Community Men's Shed, Gosford City Model Railroad Club, Gosford Community Men's Shed, Kincumber Men's Shed, Kurri Kurri Community Centre, Manno Men's Shed, Murrurundi Community Men's Shed, Muswellbrook Men's Shed, Peninsular Community Men's Shed, San Remo Community Men's Shed, South Lake Macquarie Community Men's Shed, Singleton Men's Shed, Swansea & District Community Men's Shed, Terrigal Men's Shed, The Entrance Men's Shed, The Shed @ Lake Haven, Umina Beach Men's Shed, Upper Hunter Men's Shed, Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed, Wyong Men's Shed