

Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Committee of the Channel Men's Shed Inc, it gives me great pleasure to present this report to you on the occasion of our third Annual General Meeting.

The year in review has again seen a remarkable and continuing development of our "Shed". Membership numbers at the end of December 2014 stood at greater than one-hundred and fifty and your committee expects that this number will be maintained during 2015. We would hope that many members who have not been in a position to be regulars at the Shed may find time this year to become more active.

Your committee recognises that it is not possible for all members to be involved in many of our projects and activities but take this opportunity of reinforcing our objectives to undertake specific equipment mentoring for members during the first quarter of 2015 and on an ongoing basis. These skills exchange sessions will be posted on our website (www.channelmenshed.org.au). This will provide members to undertake training on particular equipment so as they will be accredited to work on such machinery at their own pace.

The Shed has continued its mentoring role for job seekers and whilst the Mission Australia arrangement ended in June 2014, we were fortunate that Max Employment took over this contract and continued to utilise the services of the Shed. We are again indebted to those Shed members who have given freely of their time on a regular basis to undertake the various skills training for the benefit of all parties.

Again, we remind all members that your own area of expertise would be welcomed in this Shed.

Our work with students from the Margate Primary School did not produce great results. Perhaps we were too ambitious in our thinking; however, we now realise that such an undertaking must be correctly managed and project based. We shall again discuss this matter with the school and look forward to again working with

the School in an endeavour to find a more satisfactory way in which to assist those students who have need for some additional “out of school” help and direction. During the year, Shed members assisted in the modification and made safe a donated boat used in the playground of the Margate Primary School. This addition to the playground is now widely used by the younger children.

Our Shed kitchen has seen increased usage with regular provision of Channel Men’s Shed soup prepared and donated fortnightly for Kingborough Helping Hands “Louis Van” in the Kingston area. In addition, the Shed has catered for a number of functions and dinners arranged for the Boronia Guide Leaders Trefoil. These functions have yielded income for the Shed as well as providing comfortable surroundings and great food for the diners.

The Shed kitchen also undertook a major project in assisting with the “Blokes Biggest BBQ” event in October at Kingston. This function raised over \$19,000 for prostate cancer research and the organisers paid a major thanks to those members of the Shed who gave their time to prepare and cook the food for over one-hundred and fifty hungry and thirsty men.

We are also delighted the Shed has also become “home” to a regular group of Monday ladies who meet in the lounge to share their craft skills over a light-hearted and enjoyable few hours.

The year in review has also seen a number of wonderful projects and activities undertaken in the Shed. Apart from members own projects, the Shed has provided skills and resources that have enabled the completion of the following community activities:

- Assistance with a “house make-over” for a local widow.
- Building of a wheel-chair ramp for a local riding for the disabled group
- Provided space for the local Lions Club to paint their art display boards
- Provided sponsorship for the local Lions Club “Street art competition”
- Conducted a “Healthy Salmon Cooking class” and luncheon at no cost for local Senior Citizens

- Assisted numerous local residents with small repairs to personal property
- Commenced restoration of the 1923 Willys Overland car donated to the Shed by Mr Robert Clifford.
- Assisted local LINC students in a literacy and numeracy programme to build a dinghy from recycled timber.

In addition to these specific projects and undertakings, the Shed continues to develop further skills bases and programmes which we expect will be further enhanced during the early months of 2015.

The construction of a members and community garden has been delayed pending the outcome of a Tasmanian Men's Shed Association/DPAC Grant application. We should know of our success or otherwise of this grant by the middle of June this year. Should we be successful, construction and development of this project would begin immediately.

Not only has the Channel Men's Shed Inc had a great year in activities and fellowship; we have also managed to again generate a positive bank balance. Shed activities, small engine repairs, our mentoring of job seekers, garage sales together with our annual raffle have contributed to a cash surplus for the year. We are extremely grateful to our ticket sellers who ensured that again, the raffle was "sold out" and to the generous sponsors who donated a great range of prizes.

The Shed budget for the 2015/16 was finalised and approved by the committee in December 2014. We believe that this budget/forecast provides a conservative approach to the operations, costs and income for the Shed for the 2015 year. Your committee review the finances of the Shed on a monthly basis comparing budget to actual results. The budget will be submitted to the AGM for members' endorsement as part of the treasurer's report.

The Channel Men's Shed Inc is proud of its achievements in the year just finished. Not only have members had the opportunity to get together in a warm, friendly and safe environment, to undertake their own projects or be involved in Shed projects, they have also enhanced the standing of the Shed in the Kingborough Community. This would not have been possible without the efforts of many regulars at the shed. May I take this opportunity on behalf of all Shed members in

thanking them for their exceptional efforts and commitments to the Shed for the benefit of many.

Finally, I would like to pay a personal thanks to my fellow committee members who have freely given their valuable time to ensure that the Shed is operated in a professional, viable and friendly manner. Your attention to all matters and details pertaining to the Shed have been very well considered, debated and acted upon in the best interest of our members and the wider community. Thank you again for your important and valued contributions.

Two committee members have decided to retire from the committee as of this Annual General Meeting. On behalf of all members I would like to sincerely thank both Dave Dungey and Rex Johnson for their outstanding contributions to the committee since its inception. You have both been part of “building” the Shed and seeing it grow from the hole in the ground. You will both be missed in our meetings but we are sure that we will still see you both regularly in the Shed.

Peter Shelley
President
February 25th 2015.