

Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Committee of the Channel Men's Shed Inc., it again gives me much pleasure in presenting this report to you at the time of our fourth Annual General Meeting.

The year ended 31 December 2015 has seen the continued development of our "Shed". Whilst membership appears to have stabilised at around one hundred and fifty financial members (almost the same as last year), we have continued to increase our activities and have certainly built on our reputation as a very valued community resource. This has been evidenced by our increasing involvement in community outreach projects, a list of which is attached for your information. Many of our Shed regulars have given very freely of their time to ensure that we have successfully undertaken this work. Again, we would hope and encourage those of you who have not had the available time to assist in this area of our activity may find time in 2016 to become involved. You will not only find these projects personally rewarding, but we feel sure that your involvement will create new friendships with other Shed members.

During 2015, we have undertaken two separate skills training programmes for members that have enabled many of you to develop skills on many of the varied pieces of equipment that we have available to Shed members. We shall again be undertaking these programmes during 2016 and again urge members to participate so that they may become accredited to utilise this machinery. In addition to the normal equipment available, we now also have equipment for lapidary enthusiasts and will be also conducting photography sessions. If you have a particular interest that you would like to see undertaken at the Shed, then let us know and we shall see what we may be able to do to assist.

Our work with mentoring Job Seekers under the Federal Governments Work for the Dole Scheme (WFD) has again proved very beneficial for both the WFD participants and for the Shed. We are again extremely grateful to those members who have given of their time on a regular weekly basis to provide mentoring and skills training for these men. We have witnessed the value of our involvement in this programme through seeing a number of the WFD participants move into full time employment as a result of the influence and direction our members have provided to them. At the time of this report, we are still in negotiation with the WFD providers in addressing a new twenty-six week contract that may again provide the mutual benefit which results from such an agreement. Such an agreement would comprise three different areas of skill requirement and would result in positive outcomes to the Shed. In the event that we are again successful with such a contract we shall be asking members to step up to assist on a regular basis in the supervision and training that will be required. We shall keep all members advised as this process develops.

Our Shed has continued to play an increasing role for other beneficiaries within the Kingborough Community .We have continued to provide soup on a fortnightly basis to Kingborough Helping Hands who undertake the distribution of food to the less fortunate of the district via their work with the "Louis Van". The Boronia Guide Leaders Trefoil has continued to hold their regular dinners at the Shed and again have provided ongoing financial support for the Shed as a result of

our involvement. The Monday Ladies Stitch and Share Group continue to use our facilities and in return have created a wonderful environment for many women in the community to share their skills for the benefit of others.

Our "health check" day at the Shed was another great day for members and partners. We were able to host a number of medical advisors who were able to undertake checks on hearing, blood pressure, diabetes and provide advice on prostate cancer checks. This day coincided with a Thursday barbeque day and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. A similar day is planned for the 2016 year.

The restoration of the 1923 Willys Overlander has continued well with a group of dedicated enthusiasts ensuring steady progress. The engine has now been fully restored and installed on the interim body of the car. No doubt 2016 will see a great deal of work undertaken on this project. As we get closer to the final body and upholstery needs, we shall be seeking those members with these special skills to join the Willys team.

We have also been delighted to have undertaken a "not for profit" project for the Kingston Sea Scouts in assisting with the renovation of their 1968 Fazackerley built clinker rowing/sailing training vessel the "Arunta". This project has perhaps taken longer than anticipated, but the end result will enable the life-span of this historic and wonderful vessel to be increased by another fifty years. A special thank-you to all of our Shed members who have contributed their labour and dedication to this project.

Your Committee has continued with our Shed policy of maximising available resources for use within the Shed for the benefit of all Shed members. The year in review has seen the rewards of two Tasmanian Men's Shed Association and Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) Grants. These successful grants enabled the purchase of the Digital Readout Devices now attached to the metal lathe and milling machines. We have also now had delivered a large drill press for the metal-work area and we are well under way with the Shed garden with the enclosure complete.

Now that the Kingborough Council have completed the car-park project, we shall be in a position to complete the garden project.

We have also applied for funding under the Federal Governments "Building Stronger Communities" programme. Our application lodged late last year is presently awaiting decision but we are confident that our funding grant request of some \$14,000.00 will be approved for the building of a mezzanine floor in the eastern end of the Shed. We expect to learn of the outcome of this application very shortly.

If approved, we shall be in a position to proceed with construction using our own member's skills and resources. This new floor area should permit additional space for a number of specific functions within the Shed that are presently limited due to space restrictions. Additional work benches for small woodworking projects, metal bending equipment, lapidary wheels etc and

sewing machines should all be able to have a home in this expanded shed facility and should therefore enable greater member participation.

During 2015, we have seen increased social activity take place in the Shed and our monthly barbeques continue to attract growing numbers of Shed members and partners. Our Christmas barbeque and function was great success with more than one hundred members, guests and invitees attending. Again it was a delight to have our Patron Mr. Donald Hazell MBE in attendance to draw our annual fund-raising raffle.

Communications with members of the CMS was a topic at an early 2015 committee meeting. It was agreed at this meeting that we would increase of efforts with this important aspect of membership and as a result, we have been more consistent with updating our website and regularly publishing a Shed newsletter. Both of these initiatives have generated positive feedback and we shall continue to pay strong attention to this necessary matter.

The Committee of the Channel Men's Shed Inc. has again adopted a cautious budget for the 2016 year. Whilst we have made provision for income from our Work for the Dole programme we may have to review our overall forecast should our planned contract not proceed. Such a decision will be taken by the new Committee following their election at the AGM.

Members will be pleased to learn that the Shed generated an operating surplus for the 2015 year. It should also be clearly understood that these funds include donations of cash, in-kind goods that have been sold on, fund-raising from raffles and social activities and from our Work for the Dole income stream and grants applied for and received. All of this funding has been generated through the efforts of many Shed members who have given freely of their time and resources in the spirit of building onto an already great community facility for the benefit of many others. On behalf of all members I would like to record my personal thanks to all associated with the hard yards that have gone into achieving this wonderful outcome for all Shed members.

Our Shed continues to maintain a very necessary role in the Kingborough Community and the Committee express our sincere and genuine thanks to all those within the community who have enabled us to achieve what we have. Your continued support gives us great confidence for the ongoing future development of the Shed and will certainly enable many of the initiatives already undertaken by us to be maintained long into the future.

To those newer members who may perhaps sometimes feel daunted by the "old-timers" at the Shed, please do not feel overshadowed. We were all new to the Shed and its members at some stage. The best way for you to feel comfortable, safe and a part of the Shed and its activities is to become involved. Many of us do not make anything in the Shed! We go there to do different things, meet new people and play a part in making the Shed happen for others. There is plenty of scope for your involvement in other aspects of the Shed. Please feel free to express your ideas and suggestions. We also reiterate that all Shed members are made feel welcome at any gathering of members of the Shed and particularly at monthly committee meetings.

As our Shed is about to celebrate our third birthday (April 27th 2013 was Opening Day), members new and old should feel that they a part of a great community activity, run by the members for the benefit of so many throughout the district. We have again achieved a great deal in a short time and given the strong and wide support for our Shed, we would expect to see the Channel Men's Shed Inc. continue to build on the very strong foundations already in place.

Thank you to all of Committee who have assisted during the year with the running and governance of the Shed. The committee have met monthly to ensure the optimum operations of the Shed. Their diligence and commitment has enabled the efficient and viable running of the Shed that has enhanced its continued success.

Three members of the Committee have chosen not to seek re-election at this AGM.

On behalf of all members, I would take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to founding member Colin Hocking, and members Chris Burrige and Derrick Conry for their valuable contributions. We shall all miss you from our monthly meetings but we know that we shall see them in the Shed as often as you are able.

Peter Shelley
President and on behalf of the
Channel Men's Shed Inc. Committee

February 24th 2016