



# News Channel



February 2017

## Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held in a few weeks on **22<sup>nd</sup> February, starting at 7:00 p.m.** The agenda has been sent to members with a copy of the nomination form for officer and committee positions.

By now you should have also received the proposed changes to the Rules of Association (Constitution). The current constitution is based on when the Shed was first established and now that we have been operating for a few years, there is a need to revise it to bring it into line with the current operations of the Shed. The changes are easily recognisable with explanatory notes to identify the reason for the change, except where a change has been explained beforehand.

Another important item of business at the AGM is the election of officers and committee members to continue the good work that is already happening. Every member is urged to consider what they can do for the Shed in terms of managing the affairs, rather than idly sitting back and expecting others to do it for you.

There are some people who have yet to pay their 2017 subscription and if you attend the AGM, just remember that you are not entitled to vote.

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**He who rejects change is the architect of decay.**

**The only human institution which rejects progress is the cemetery.**

Harold Wilson

### Future Events & Activities

In-House Computer Assistance	Music Appreciation Group	Thursday's Shed BBQ
From 10:00 a.m. on the 1st Friday of the month, Ross Thomas is available to assist members with comput-	Get in touch with Bruce Laffer for the 3rd Thursday of the month. Read the article on page 3 of this news-	The last Thursday of the month is 24th February. Members and partners are welcome to join this social
Committee Meeting	AGM	Ta Ann Visit
21st February - starting at 2:00 p.m.— attendance is open to any member wanting to know more	As above, it starts at 7:00 p.m. so be there before the start on time.	The date for the visit to Ta Ann is being revised and advised soon.

## Committee Meeting Briefs

### Financial Year

The Shed's financial year ended on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016. The Treasure has sent the records to the auditor and is awaiting their audit report, which will be submitted to the members attending the AGM on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

### 2017 Budget

The budget for 2017 was adopted by the Committee, showing a forecast and modest surplus of \$110 for the year. If previous years are to go by, then the actual surplus is likely to be somewhat higher.

### Australian Men's Sheds Association (AMSA)

Whilst it does not impact on our Shed (because we are not a member of AMSA), the saga of AMSA's dictatorial approach to the state associations continues unabated. The lack of impact also applies to the Tasmanian Men's Shed Association (TMSA) because it also is not a member of AMSA, but TMSA is involved in discussions with 3 other states (WA, Vic. & Qld) who are disenfranchised with AMSA and their actions of being exclusive (not inclusive) and closed (not open) to scrutiny.

### Kingborough Council Certificate

Peter Shelley received a certificate for his efforts in the establishment and operations of the Channel Men's Shed from the Kingborough Council. The certificate is the council's equivalent of Australia Day awards and Peter considers it is a certificate for the Shed and therefore, he has gifted it to the Shed.

Most members know that Peter was the prime force behind the Shed's existence and has been elected as its President since inception, but he has made no secret that he wants someone else to take over the role.

### Shed Membership

At the end of 2016, there were 196 members of the Shed, which represents a net increase of approximately 50 members from the end of 2015. Fifty five percent (55%) of last year's members have paid their subscription for 2017, leaving 45% yet to make their payment.

A few members have already confirmed their intent not to re-new and it is anticipated that the number will grow. It is however expected that new membership applications will be received and the overall membership number will settle at around 175.

One of the issues that is being addressed in the proposed changes to the constitution is to establish a time frame by which membership payment must be made, otherwise membership to the Shed will lapse. It has been an ongoing and open-ended battle to get members to pay their subscription and with the proposed change, it will establish clear guidelines on members' obligation to make their payment.

### Ta Ann Visit

The previously scheduled visit to Ta Ann is under revision. Peter Shelley will confirm the revised date and offer previously registered members the first choice to attend.

### Wine Talk & Tasting

John Rees of Nandroya Wines (in Margate) has offered to run a talk session on wines followed by some tasting in the near future. Plans are in their infancy, so when the day & time has been decided, members and their partners will be invited to attend.

### Kitchen Cleaning

With many thanks, a vote of appreciation was extended to Ivan & Pam Morrison for giving the kitchen a spring clean and removing food that had long expired. The appreciation was roundly endorsed with a bottle of white wine for Pam.

### Storm Water Relocation

Appreciation was also expressed for the work performed by Steve Huntley and Peter Norris in the relocation of the storm water piping at the rear of the Shed. Thanks also go to the other helpers on the day.

The work was in preparation for the planned purchase & installation of storage units in the form of sea containers.

### Donation Rates

It has been mentioned that the rates for use of the equipment need to be reviewed as they are considered to be too low. Two Committee members are going to consider the current rates and submit revised rates to the full Committee for their review, comment, amendment and ultimate approval.

At times there are still some members not properly paying their way when using the equipment and using it for what seems to be commercial purposes. It is not the intent that the Shed's equipment should be used for commercial purposes and members who do so will be asked to cease using the equipment and recompense the Shed at higher (but reasonable) rates.

### Active Ageing Discussion Group

The Council of the Aging (COTA) in Tasmania has been conducting community consultations to form an Active Ageing plan, to be released later this year, on behalf of the Tasmanian Government. Phase One of the consultations included asking focus groups across the state what they enjoy and what they find challenging about growing older in Tasmania. From these discussions, and data from surveys, COTA produced a Strategic Directions paper and Background paper that was provided to the Government at the end of last year.

They had about 20-25% response rate from men during Phase One – this included surveys and focus group participation. As a result, they would like to talk specifically to a group of men (such as the Channel Men's Shed) to find out whether they have the same issues that were raised in Phase One. While the consultation is focussed on issues for older people, they are happy to have people of any age come along. Everyone is ageing, and most people have had some experiences with parents or older people that they can tell them about.

An email will be sent to members soon about registering an interest to participate in the group.

## HERITAGE FARMING EXPO

One of our Shed Members is also an active member of the Hobart Vintage Machinery Society and asked for their up and coming expo to be made aware to Shed members.

**“Take a trip down memory lane”**

March 11th & 12th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

at 761 Richmond Road Cambridge



Hay baling, chaff cutting, ploughing, sheep shearing, log splitting, steam engines, wool spinning, draught horses, blacksmith

### Farmhouse & Workshop Displays

Animals & children's entertainment

**Plus more pre 1960 Heritage exhibits**

Admission \$10—under 12 years old is free

Hosted by: Hobart Vintage Machinery Society Inc.

Enquiries: Mal on 0428 294 139 and Jim on 0419 123 583

## Three Questions for an Engineer...



### Question # 1

How much does a house weigh?

### Question # 2

How much weight can a rural two - lane bridge hold???



### and... Question #3 ...

WOULD THIS BE COVERED BY HOME INSURANCE, CAR INSURANCE,  
OR, DOES IT COME UNDER ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE??