



# News Channel



May 2016

Channel Men's Shed Inc.  
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## Skills Training Programme

It was reported in the April "News Channel" that Gary Durrant had been communicating with mentors and trainers to put in place a programme for the training of members to improve your skills and knowledge.

The programme was completed, emailed to members and placed on our website on 26th May. Places are filling fast and at least one skill set will result in further sessions due to the demand.

If you want to know more about the training, contact Gary either by email: [garydurrant@skymesh.com.au](mailto:garydurrant@skymesh.com.au) or by telephone: 6267 4757. The website link to the programme is: [2016 Skills Memo and Programme](#)

In some cases, numbers will be limited due to the available space and the time required to perform the training. As usual – "first come best dressed" – so register for the programme as soon as you can and read all Gary's notes related to the programme.

**Be who you are and  
say what you feel,  
because those who  
mind don't matter a  
& those who matter  
don't mind.**

*Dr Seuss*

### Future Events & Activities

Canvas Training	Silver Smithing	Music Appreciation Group
15 June—Canvas making with Tom Davison	17 June—Basic silver smithing and gem cutting with Dave Weltman	23 June — 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you need more information, contact Bruce Laffer.
Committee Meeting	Monthly Shed BBQ	Ta Ann Visit
28 June - starting at 2:00 p.m., attendance is open to members	30 June — the last Thursday in the month is normal day for the Shed BBQ, starting around 3:30 p.m.	The Ta Ann visit will be arranged after the return of their representative.

## Kingston LINC Garden Seats

A request was received from the Kingston LINC to repair their garden seats. Reuben Sternberg inspected and repaired five (5) seats for them and it is clear they are very appreciative of his efforts. Reuben's report on the project with a few photographs follows.

*A total of five (5) benches were refurbished. Three benches required replacement due to the original wood was beyond repair caused by extensive dry rot. Benches 1 and 4 bench tops were still in good condition, despite of its age. They were refurbished at the shed and reinstalled. Bench 5 was partially worked on by some participants at the Adult Ed. However, it was poorly finished and the dry rot affected legs were not replaced. With the permission of Janet, I decided to replace the legs and refinish the bench top. Please refer to the photographs. All the benches were painted to protect it from the elements.*



Bench 5 BEFORE

Bench 5 AFTER

Subsequent to completion of the work, Peter Shelley received the following email from Janet Thorp (Manager of Kingston LINC), resulting on a very satisfied customer.

*Hello Peter*

*I would just like to let you know how pleased we all are with the wonderful job Reuben did refurbishing our old garden benches at Kingston LINC. He has done a brilliant job turning very old and weathered seats into magnificent benches. I am sure the staff and users of our facilities will be very pleased to have nice seats on which to sit.*

*Reuben's enthusiasm to do an excellent job is really appreciated, and he is a delight to work with. We really value our ongoing relationship with the Channel Men's Shed.*

*Please pass on our thanks and appreciation.*

*Kind regards*

**Janet Thorp**

Manager | Kingston LINC | LINC Tasmania

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The work and relationship expressed by Janet is further demonstration of the benefits of the "social outreach" being undertaken through the Shed.

## Garden Project

At a meeting of a few members, it was agreed on the following program for the Vegetable Garden.

### May

Continue with soil preparation by adding additional horse manure and cultivating the soil to minimise weed growth.

We intend that this will continue until late July. Agreed that the soil be kept fallow and no vegetable planting during this period.

### June/July

Agreed that we can gain a year by planting fruit trees during June/July.

As there is considerable interest in fruit trees we should prepare some soil outside the enclosure to allow us to dedicate additional space for a wider variety of trees.

Peter Shelley to speak with Duggans to see if they can assist with trees / cuttings.



### August

Plant a green crop.

### September / October

Dig in a green crop.

### October/November

Start planting summer crops.



Start a five year planner to allow us to record crops grown and to enable us to implement a rotation strategy.

The question was asked as to what we will do with the crops.

- ⇒ The produce will be the property of the Shed.
- ⇒ Crops grown will be available for use in the Shed kitchen (Kingborough Helping Hands etc.) or available to sell to Shed members at a competitive price.
- ⇒ It was agreed that we do have a ready-made market in the Shed membership.



### Thankyou from Kingborough Helping Hands

A letter of thanks has been received from the Kingborough Helping Hands, concerning repairs to one of the doors on their van. To bring about the repairs, the credits goes to Peter Shelley for organising it and to Rex Johnson who provided transport assistance. Signed by Edna Pennicott, part of the letter reads:

*The ongoing generosity and support is overwhelming and we are extremely appreciative of your support to Kingborough Helping Hands. This support ensures that our outreach work continues to be provided to those in need in the local community.*

## Grant Application Approved

An application for a new oven and cooktop was submitted to the Tasmanian Community Fund (TCF) as part of their round 32 grants. We recently received a letter from the TCF confirming full approval of the grant, amounting to \$3,495.



The new stove / cooktop will accommodate 20 litre cooking pots for our soup preparation for the local Louis' Van round run by the Kingborough mands more efficiently and provide a de-roasting.



Helping Hands. It will handle the decent sized oven (90cm) for baking and

Others who will benefit from this are the for their dinner functions at the Shed, when port to Guide Companies in and around ough.

Boronia Trefoil Guides Support Group they provide financial and other sup-Kingbor-

The Shed also hosts and caters "healthy cooking" events for senior citizens of the Kingborough area. Which is supported by donation of salmon by Huon Aquaculture.



Our contribution to the grant is the cost associated with the supply and installation of the power supply to the oven / cooktop and to an exhaust fan (also to be installed at the Shed's cost).



Mark 28<sup>th</sup> July in your calendar for the Shed's "Health Day", followed by the Shed BBQ.

Starting at 1:00 p.m., we will have medical practitioners from different fields providing advice and / or tests on various ailments / problems. The practitioners are:

- ◆ Kiah Wicks – hearing tests in their sound-proof bus by Australian Hearing
- ◆ Dr. Natasha Litjens – General Practitioner from Margate Clinic
- ◆ Josh Miller – an exercise physiologist from Healthy Training
- ◆ Heather Kennett – diabetes and health & well-being coach
- ◆ Karen Forster / Bernice James from Cancer Screening, Tasmanian Health Services
- ◆ Sonya & others— "Kingston LINC"ing up to health issues.

Bookings are required for the hearing tests and for those who attended last year, you'll be able to compare those results with this year's test.

## Rocking Horse Donation

As part of a previous “work for the dole” programme, three rocking horses were made under the guidance of CMS mentors.

One was used as a prize in our annual raffle drawn last December and at the request of Vicki Hocken (a member’s wife), the Committee agreed to provide one as a prize for her to raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House (RMH) in Hobart and the other be donated to the House for the use of children.

A letter was received from Penny Richardson, the Executive Officer of RMH, thanking the Shed for its contribution towards the well-being of seriously ill and children in Tasmania. Penny also identified the need and benefits for families to be together and close to a hospital when dealing with children’s illnesses and injuries.

Should anyone like further information on the RMH and its activities, please call 6215 9200 or visit their website: [www.rmch.org.au](http://www.rmch.org.au)



### Mobile Phone Etiquette

After a tiring day, a commuter settled down in his seat and closed his eyes. As the train rolled out of the station, a woman sitting next to him pulled out her mobile phone.

She started talking in a loud voice: "Hi sweetheart. It's Sue. I'm on the train".

"Yes, I know it's the six thirty and not the four thirty, but I had a long meeting. No, honey, not with that Kevin from the accounting office. It was with the boss. No sweetheart, you're the only one in my life. Yes, I'm sure, cross my heart!"

Fifteen minutes later, she was still talking loudly. When the man sitting next to her had enough, he leaned over and said into the phone, "Sue, hang up the phone and come back to bed."

Sue doesn't use her mobile phone in public any longer!!!



### Member's Profile

**Name:** Roger Walker

**Birthplace:** England

**Family:** Wife; 2 children; 5 grandchildren

**Places where you have lived:** London, Sevenoaks & Kent in United Kingdom; Tamworth, Springwood & Beecroft in New South Wales; Bonnet Hill in Tasmania

**Educational background:** Standard primary education; Gravesend Art School 1960 /1962

**Career progression:** Apprentice jeweller at Hatton Garden, London between 1962 and 1967. Came to Australia in 1969 and in 1970, started my own workshop in Sydney. My son took over the business in 2001 when I retired to Tasmania.

**Has anyone influenced you in your life / career and if so, why?**

My Boss in Hatton Garden (Dan Denbin) who said: "Got to work hard boy to get anywhere."

**What the Shed means to you?**

Having worked nearly all my life in a very insular trade where I was in control, it has been an enjoyable challenge learning to relate to and work with others.

**What are your favourite sports and hobbies?**

Restoring old stuff; fly fishing and photography.

## HAVA CUPPA AT THE SHED

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 10:30AM

If you are a member who is looking for somewhere to congregate, find someone to talk to, fellowship, activity, support and interaction other than workshop activities, then join in each Tuesday and Thursday for some coffee, tea, biscuits or a bacon sandwich if you are peckish, for a mere \$2 contribution.



This is not an "event", but rather as a place to "hang out" and spin some stories.

Want to know more about it, then send you queries / comments to Peter Alexis either on his by mobile: 0417487488 or to his email

[emailments@gmail.com](mailto:emailments@gmail.com).



## COMMITTEE MEETING BRIEFS

### Committee Positions

The vacant Committee Member position has been filled by Graeme Nichols and Peter Norris has taken on responsibility for the website / IT portfolio.

### Disabled Access

Our shed is recorded with the Tasmanian Men's Shed Association as being accessible for disabled persons. The walkway, from the concrete apron in front of the roller doors to the shed's main door, needs to be kept free and accessible at all times to permit access for disabled members and visitors. This means keeping the walkway clear of equipment and vehicles.

### Margate's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Bruce Weller confirmed the Shed's involvement in the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Margate is limited to the Shed having an open day and hosting the Hobart Vintage Machinery exhibit outdoors and providing parking attendants in hi-vis vests. The date is 25th June 2016 and volunteers are requested to show visitors around the Shed and act as parking attendants.

### Grants

- ◆ TMSA / DPAC Round 2 Acquittal – Garden and Digital Read Outs

Work is complete and the acquittal has been issued to the Dept. of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC).

- ◆ TMSA / DPAC Round 3 Acquittal – Geared Drill

The drill has been installed for some time now and we only await the acquittal form from DPAC for completion of this grant.

- ◆ TMSA / DPAC Round 4 Application – Chairs

The outcome of our application for new chairs should be known soon.

- ◆ Stronger Communities Programme (SCP) – Mezzanine Level

The grant funds for the new mezzanine floor have been received (but not the GST portion) and the ordering of materials is under way. A notice to start work is to be submitted to the council and a works programme needs to be prepared to show the sequence of the work.

This project was identified as forming part of our involvement with "work for the dole" clients, however we have yet to receive an offer from any of the 3 local organisations. All being well, we shall know more in late June. If nothing eventuates, then we will need members to "tool up" and assist with the construction work.

### Future Grant Considerations

Discussion has been held about applying to upgrade our desk-top computer system and adding some hand-held devices. The desk-top system is a hand-me-down from when "The Mercury" closed its operations in the city. Details are being worked on to decide the equipment required for short and long term needs.

It has been suggested that future development of the Shed could include a partially enclosed area on the eastern end of the Shed with a skillion roof, where the BBQ's could be used and also provide an area for painting work.

### Equipment

Some donated items are being checked for use within the Shed. If they are not worthy of repair, they may be sold on Gumtree on an as-is basis.

The sliding mitre saw needs work as it has a ball bearing problem, preventing its proper use.

A linisher has been repaired and will be used in the metalwork area.

Bruce Weller is reviewing the asset register and taking photos of equipment to support insurance claims, should any arise.

### **Monthly BBQ's**

The mix and number attending the regular monthly BBQ's remains good. These are an excellent avenue for new members to mix and get to know other members. It contributes towards fellowship not only amongst members, but also with and amongst members' partners.

### **Dust & Fume Extraction Systems**

The preparation work for the concrete slab at the rear of the building for the dust extraction system has yet to start. This needs to be done soon to coincide with concrete for the garden shed.

### **External Paving**

You may have noticed the pallets loaded with paving blocks in front of the Shed. These were donated by the Kingborough Council and are to be installed around the front of the building. A busy bee is sure to be called upon members for this work.

### **Air Conditioner in Training Room**

A floor mounted, reverse cycle air conditioner was donated by Bruce Weller to the Shed. It will be installed in the Training Room however some building work is required for external ventilation before it can be used.

We're sure the Stitch & Share ladies will welcome it after installation is complete.

### **Willys Car**

Work on the car continues, primarily with the radiator and distributor at this point. It was identified that the english wheel has been very beneficial in the fabrication and repair of the body work.

### **DPIPWE OBP Transport Boxes**

The second lot of transport boxes for the Dept. Primary Industry, Parks, Wildlife and Environment were completed, collected and paid.

### **CWA Pergola**

Some time ago a request was received from the Kingston branch of the Country Women's Association to repair a pergola at their Snug house. Heiko spent a lot of time inspecting, quantifying and pricing up the work, but we have yet to receive a response to our submission.

### **Potential Project - Kayaks**

An approach to members about their involvement in building a few kayaks has resulted in 6 members registering an interest. This is on hold at the moment pending other work / activities within the Shed.

### **Membership**

There is a steady stream of membership applications, with a total of 24 new members so far this year. However, we have also had quite a few not renewing their membership for various reasons, so the overall number of members has not changed much since last year (still around 165).

The new application form now includes a statement that membership is not open to males who are less than 18 years of age, The constitution will also be amended to reflect this, as well as other changes resulting from a complete review of it, and be presented to the members at the next AGM.