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## RUTHERGLEN MEN'S SHED

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**NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2019**

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William Street, Rutherglen (behind Indigo North Health)

President: Ern Walder:

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Secretary/Treasurer: Ted Shanks: email - [tedshanks@gmail.com](mailto:tedshanks@gmail.com)

Mobile: 0417 588 810

Opening Times: Tuesday 8am – 12 noon

Thursday 8am – 1pm Lunch available

*NEW MEMBERS MOST WELCOME*

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### New Shed Report

Construction has started!

A lot has happened since our last newsletter at Christmas. The site has been levelled, trees removed and the police station fence and gates have been restored.

As we write, the slab has been poured and the frame is going up. Also, the retaining wall and associated drainage is under construction. Connections to water and electricity have been enabled. All shedders have been actively involved over the last month in preparing the site and surrounds. A photographic timeline below shows the progress being made.

### **FEBRUARY – Fence & Gate Installation**



**Projects Update:**

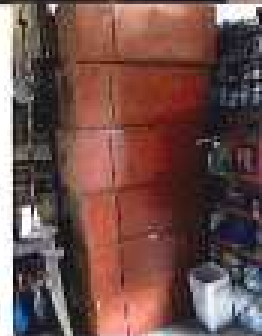
**APEX Noticeboard** – project is now completed. Well done to Ken, Ted, Alastair, Brett & Moss.



**Lockers** – project completed by Len & Steve. A total of 12 PPE lockers have been built ready for installation in the new shed.



**Container** – our newly acquired shipping container is receiving some TLC from Alastair by removing rust and Ken has now painted the exterior – looking good! It will eventually be located behind the kindergarten alongside the Police Station fence.



**Lake King seats** – this project has now been completed with 3 new wooden seats placed along the walking track around the lake (soon to be wetlands)

**Birds & Hearts** - we have been requested to make some birds and heart wooden shapes which Moss is painstakingly manufacturing. Brett and Alastair are abling assisting with the finishing touches.



#### Murray/Hume Cluster Meeting:

A cluster meeting was held at Wodonga Men's Shed on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Attendees were Ern, Steve J, Alastair and Brett. We were all very envious of the shed and equipment Wodonga possess. Representatives from AMSA and VMSA addressed the meeting. We were advised that donations to the Men's Shed will be tax deductible from 2020.

All clubs gave a brief summary on their current activities/issues at their respective sheds. Several sheds reported that selling kindling is an effective fundraiser. Ern provided the meeting with an update on our new shed. He was also very effective in getting the jack-hammer diverted from a raffle prize to our shed based on our current needs. This has turned out to be a very valuable possession as it has had a lot of use recently at the new shed site aiding the removal of rock-hard soil.

#### Donations:

We have received a very substantial donation from the **Ken & Leigh Jasper Foundation**. This vital donation will go a long way to enabling us to fit out the shed to meet our immediate needs. Other donations have been received from community members and businesses either through the GoFundMe page or directly to Indigo North Health. We have also received some donations in kind or discounts for labour and materials.

Many thanks go to the following for their financial donation:

Irene Cracknell  
Barry & Jenny Mann  
Libby Dean  
Hargraves Ambrose  
McQuillan Family Trust

Kilara Group  
David Black  
Bron Westbrook  
RSL

#### Material & Labour donations

Baxters Concrete  
Gascon Earthmoving (site levelling)  
Matt Wicks (electrician)

Mitre 10 hardware (timber)  
Paul McQuade (plumber)  
Benny Colwell (electrician)

We have also received some equipment donations from local resident **Maggie Lawson** – vice, drill press, grinder, and 2 welding tables. These are now stored in our container.

**Julie Graham**, another local, has donated painting equipment such as brushes, trays and rollers. A valuable addition to our painting supplies.

#### **New Member Introduction:**

Alastair Shanks is our latest new member. Alastair has lived in Rutherglen since 1979 and has worked with Gordon Mackinlay, Deluxe Coaches (Wangaratta) and was employed by Uncle Tobys (Rutherglen) as the R&D Pilot Plant technician until 2016. More recently he worked for Trevor Smith and then retired from full time work in 2018. He did his apprenticeship as a motor diesel mechanic in Melbourne. He brings welding, metal work, mechanical and general practical skills to the shed. He has already demonstrated a capacity to work hard and get things done and has been of great assistance at our new shed site. Alastair is married to Dirkje and they have 2 sons – Adam who lives in LA and Robbie who lives in Wahgunyah.



He is the younger brother of secretary/treasurer Ted. Welcome to the Rutherglen Shed Alastair.

**Repair Café and SkillShare** – this new initiative for Rutherglen is currently being rolled out to the community and the first session was held on April 13<sup>th</sup> at St. Stephens Hall. The Men's Shed and the Repair Café have some common goals and will work closely now and into the future. It is planned that the Repair Café will eventually be located within our new shed once complete. We will then be able to offer minor repair services to people that don't have access to woodworking or metalworking tools or skills. This will complement the Repair Café skills of sewing and bicycle repairs. This is an exciting new initiative for Rutherglen and the Men's Shed is pleased to be able to support and provide hands-on assistance to the Repair Café.