

The Official Shed Opening

The Melbourne Mens Shed was formally opened on September 7th, some 18 months after grants from the City of Melbourne and the State Government were announced by the Lord Mayor Robert Doyle and the then Minister for Health, Mary Wooldridge. The Minister for Families and Children, the Hon Jenny Mikakos MP, and the Lord Mayor jointly unveiled the commemorative plaque. The Chairman, Alan Seale, acknowledged the generous financial support from both state and local government. that made redevelopment of the premises at Federation Square and the new equipment it now houses possible.

The Chairman also acknowledged the contribution of others; Bunnings have donated shelving and tools, Carbatec have discounted the purchase prices of woodworking machinery, Chef's Hat gave us a good deal on kitchen equipment, and Woods Bagot contributed architectural design work. On top of that, Shed volunteers put in some 430 hours of their own time.

The Minister and Lord Mayor were presented with a memento of our fine toy making skills;



The Second Annual General Meeting

The second AGM for the Shed was held after the official opening. The Chairman welcomed the members and simply reflected on the comments already made during the opening. The annual accounts were accepted and elections were held for committee members to replace those retiring. The new committee members for 2015- 2016 are;

Trish Allen

Ray Brett

Lance Collins

Murray Hohnen

Greg Moran

Doug Robertson

Alan Seale

Andrew Stefanetti

Roger Thornton

Members partners did a magnificent job providing morning tea, coffee, scones and jam etc for the crowd of 40 or so that joined in.



Office Bearers

At the first meeting of the new Committee the following officers were elected;

Vice Chairman; Andrew Stefanetti

Secretary; Murray Hohnen

Treasurer; Greg Moran

Membership Secretary; Doug Robertson

There were no nominations for the Chair so under the Shed constitution, the existing Chairman, Alan Seale, remains until a replacement is elected.

Interest Groups

Also at its first meeting the committee resolved that each activity hub be managed by a small interest group, each with a leader as follows;

Workshop; Alan Seale

IT Area; Andrew Stefanetti

Kitchen; Ray Brett

Activities scheduling; Trish Allen

Each of these leaders will be seeking members to join in running the programs for their area, talking to members about what they would like to see planned, etc. The committee believes this is a much more inclusive way of involving members in running the shed and developing its programs.

Its Movember Already!

This year's Movember challenge has a focus on older men and features a MOVE physical activity challenge. The MMS team has signed up for a second year running. Ray's Heart Foundation walking group is doing their MOVING bit and new members are joining up. Our Movember team this year features an intergenerational contingent led by 27 year old NAB banker Mangan Hassan. Please donate to support men's health.



Extended Opening Hours

In response to a recent survey of members, the shed is now open on Tuesdays as the second weekly opening day with the emphasis being on workshop activities. And we will be soon opening on a Wednesday evening to accommodate working members. This has been made possible by members volunteering to become additional Shed Coordinators

As a bit of an experiment, we are opening the shed once a month on every second Saturday afternoon from 1pm to 4pm and if the response to weekend openings is positive, we will be seeking more volunteers so that we can open on more weekend days.

Alan Seale
Chairman



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