

Noosa Men's Shed Newsletter

December 2023



Web: noosa-mens-shed.org.au

Facebook: [NoosaMensShed](https://www.facebook.com/NoosaMensShed)

Member of: [Australian Men's Shed Association](#) and [Queensland Men's Shed Association](#)

(Registered Charity DGR) No: IA42131 ABN 77607461787

President's Christmas Message

Dear Members,

I'd like to kick off by apologising for the absence of newsletters over the past 6 months or so. No excuses, but we are technically still running the Shed without a secretary. Wayne has stepped up to the plate and between the two of us, we are doing three jobs, hence no time for newsletter. If there are any members who feel they can help the management team in some way, please put your hand up and come and have a chat.

So, this will be the last newsletter for 2023 and I thank Wayne and Paul for their sterling efforts in compiling it.

Well, another year is fast coming to an end and what a year it has been!

Our Shed will always be about our members, our wellbeing and to help building a better and happier tomorrow for all of us. I sincerely hope our members are finding the Shed to be a safe landing space where they can be themselves and engage with others for meaningful and lasting relationships.

Sadly, for various valid reasons, several members didn't renew their memberships for the 2023/24 financial year.

Membership numbers went down initially, however there has been a steady increase in new members and we now have just under 200 members in the register. It is a privilege to have strong membership as many other sheds are struggling to survive due to dwindling numbers. . . . /2

President:	Chris Blignaut
VP	Stefan Prystupa
VP	Frank Schoonderbeek
<u>Secretary:</u>	Wayne Carlson
Treasurer:	Wayne Carlson
<u>Contacts:</u>	
Membership:	Jim Barrass
Long Shed:	Keith Rolton
Wood Shed:	Tony Sievers Ian Broadfoot
Metal Shed:	John Berghauser Conrad Becker
Cobbers' Shed:	Vern Johnston Frank Matus
Art Studio:	Martin Taylor
Hobbies & VK4NMS:	Jim Finlay Laurie Kelly
Gardens:	Mike Nixon Gavin Menkens
The Hip Replacements:	Rob Dugdale
Honey Bees:	Frank Olmos
Aquaponics:	Mark Powell
Hydroponics:	Cliff Willis
Exercise Class:	Owen Curtis
Sausage Sizzle	Tom Gittings
Builders	VP Stefan Prystupa
Website:	John O'Halloran



The Shed is in a sound financial state and the rationalisation of membership fees to \$120 annually has been a great success. Over the first 5 months of this financial year, we have spent circa \$27,000 on new equipment and covering operating expenses. We are well placed to cover our biggest annual expense, which is insurance, due in February 2024. In addition to membership fees, the Shed also generates income through the various sheds who consistently do pieces of work and projects for the folks outside the Shed.

The annual sale day was a great event, not only from an income perspective, but also having the opportunity to engage with our wider community.

At this point I'll take a minute to thank our diligent and enthusiastic band of volunteers who, under the able and inspiring leadership of Tom, Wayne, and Big Pete, generate income by continuously stepping up and doing the hard yards at sporting events and Bunnings BBQs. Great job and much appreciated!

We always need volunteers, so if you can do so, please consider joining in.

I want to thank the Shed's management committee members, Stefan, Frank, and Wayne for their outstanding efforts since being voted in at the AGM in August 2023. They work tirelessly for the benefit of the Shed and its members and as I mentioned previously, the Shed's management committee is one member short which makes their efforts just so much more impressive.

I will not be able to do my job without their loyalty and support, so I personally say a BIG thank you!

Next year, 2024, is the Shed's tenth anniversary and it is as strong and vibrant as the day it opened for the first time. Plans to celebrate the occasion have kicked off and we anticipate great festivities to both celebrate our success but also say thank out sponsors and patrons and to those who came before us and created something very special. When I look at management committees, leaders and members who were involved in establishing, building, and running the Noosa Men's Shed since 2014, I truly believe we are standing on the shoulders of giants, enabling us to continue to grow and be successful. I am excited for the future and hope you are also, because without each and every one of you we won't be the organisation we are.

We are fast approaching Christmas and New Year, and it makes me fantasise about families being together, swapping gifts, swimming, hot beach days, cold prawns and lamb on the barbie, chilled Pinot Noir and watching cricket. It is then when I realise how lucky and blessed, we are to live in this amazing shire, state, and country! . . . /3

However, we do spare a thought for those who are less privileged, alone or in ill health and we keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

The Shed will close on 22 December 2023 and re-open on 2 January 2024. Whilst mainstream activities will be closed, members are welcome to visit with friends, to water the gardens and show off the Shed.

Lastly, I wish you and your families a happy and blessed Christmas and a joyous and prosperous 2024!

Chris B



The first Christmas celebrated by Noosa Men's Shed outside the old Water Testing Laboratory being used as the Office and Training Room - 12 December 2014.



Important Dates & Events



Vaccinated against:

- Pneumonia?
- Shingles?
- Flu?
- Covid?

If not, see your doctor.

**Safety Is a Choice
You Make.**

Hats: Please remember to wear a hat when outside in the sun.

Sat, 9 Dec	NMS Christmas Party	Start: 12 noon. BYO drinks & Chairs. Book at the Office by 30 November.
Mon, 1 Jan	Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Noosa	Co-ord by Tom Gittings
Mon, 5 Feb	Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Noosa	Co-ord by Tom Gittings
Mon, 4 Mar	Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Noosa	Co-ord by Tom Gittings

Message from the Secretary

It is a little hard to believe but we are already well into the second quarter of our 2023/24 Men's Shed Year.

Christmas Lunch - An integral part of the Festive Season at Noosa Men's Shed is the annual Shed Christmas Lunch to be held this year on Saturday, 9th December from 12.00 noon. Bookings to hand indicate this is a very popular event. By the time this newsletter goes to print you may well be too late if you have not already registered. You can be assured of a hearty meal and a great afternoon with "The Hip Replacements" again limbering up on the lawn to provide some entertainment. There will also be some not before seen entertainment - stay tuned.

Fire Safety Plan - As mentioned in our last newsletter this is a focus for the current committee and the project being driven by Vice President Frank Schoonderbeek in consultation with fire safety industry experts is well advanced. You will have noted some Emergency Action Guide Flowcharts strategically placed around the Shed buildings and some subtle messages have been rolled out to change parking habits. (Thank you for your cooperation)

Management Committee have undertaken training, and the next stage is to spread appropriate to Responsible Officers in each Shed. We will then be conducting a full Shed Compound emergency drill. These drills will then be built into our Safety Plan on a regular basis.

Open Day - The open day coinciding with Referendum Voting Day presented us with excellent weather and we welcomed a steady stream of repeat and new visitors to the Shed. The positive feedback from the community is always rewarding. The day was a success both from a sales/fundraising point of view but also from the exposure to the community and the new members signed up at and as a result of the Open Day. A big thank you to all who contributed to the preparation and manning of sites on the day.

10 Year Anniversary - As mentioned in our last Newsletter preliminary planning is under way for some events to herald and celebrate our 10th anniversary. Previously we advised this would occur in April when the first meetings were held but we have determined that the events will now be planned around the actual Incorporation date of the Noosa Men's Shed Inc. 11th July 2014. We have been engaging the assistance of some of our early founding Members to pull together some of our history. Their assistance is greatly appreciated. Stay tuned.

Fundraising & Volunteers - A big thank you as always to our regular team of volunteers who attend on the first Monday monthly to feed the masses at the **Bunnings BBQ**. A special thanks to Tom Gittings as the coordinator. The October BBQ, being on a public holiday was a great success, and certainly kept the workers on the run.

An interesting upcoming BBQ will be on New Years Day. Hopefully not too many people (volunteers) will celebrate too hard on New Years eve to work and not too many customers will celebrate too long and hard and not be out and about at Bunnings to buy their DIY and general hardware needs and the sausages & drinks on offer.

Noosa Tri. We had a great team of volunteers for this event where we manned the marquee to complete Team Registrations. Again, a big thanks to our regular volunteers for these events and a special mention to a number of first-time volunteers. We trust you enjoyed the experience and will be back again for future similar events.

These are very important fundraising events for the financial wellbeing of Noosa Men's Shed.

New Equipment - Since our last newsletter we have seen considerable new equipment brought into the Shed.

We were very fortunate to receive a valuable donation of a Stop Saw and Bench now installed in the **Wood Shed**. A new sander has been purchased and installed, a sliding compound mitre saw replacing a decommissioned damaged unit and a box jig, bench & router are all additions in the **Wood Shed**.

A new dust extraction unit installed in the **Cobbers Shed**.

At the **Honey Shed** there is a shiny new bit of stainless-steel gear to enhance the honey extraction process prior to bottling.

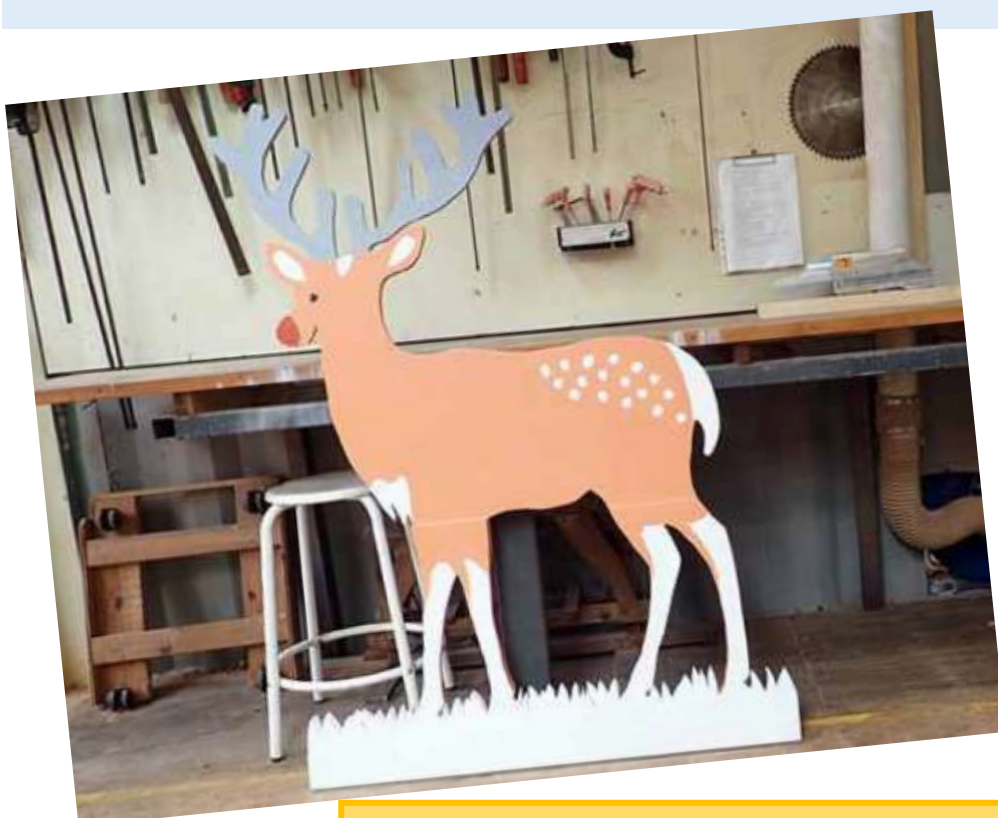
Office - 2 new laptops have been purchased and installed. What a step up this has been combined with the installation of a 5G modem for our WiFi. I am sure next year we will be knocked over in the rush for volunteers to take up the roles of Secretary, Treasurer and President with this new gear in place.

Grounds - Hardly fitting the category of new equipment but the lawn area has been top dressed. What a difference! I am sure all members and visitors to the Shed have noticed the additional growth and the deep green of the lawn (if not the smell in first couple of weeks). Thank you to the many members who jumped in with shovels and rakes to spread the load of top dressing.

Management Committee have a couple of formal proposals to hand that will if approved introduce some new technology and activities to the Shed. More details will be provided once the full assessment and review of these proposals is completed and should they proceed. We wish to thank the Shed Coordinators for embracing the process of formal funding requests with detail. It is a learning process for all but a complete proposal in detail is helpful in the approval process.

Membership - Membership numbers continue to rebuild steadily and at date of writing are now at 198.

Wayne



Santa's reindeer has already visited the Wood Shed—Thanks to Ian D and Jim the Painter.

Wood Workers - if you would like more elbow room to work, try coming to the Shed on a **Wednesday or Friday morning.**

[Next Newsletter:](#)

Due out in two month's time. Any notices for inclusion in it, please forward to Secretary.



Brian, David, Rob, Peter & David talking about their EV experience.



Phil getting ready to play Santa.



Ian B the Mower Man.



Carved by Matty with his chainsaw.



Gavin, Kevin & Tom working the Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings, Noosa.

**The Key To Safety
Is in Your Hands.**

The choices are yours to make at the Noosa Men's Shed:

Woodwork, Metalwork, Building, Art, Electronics & Computers, Leatherwork, Gardening, Bee-keeping, Native Bees, Exercise Class, Amateur Radio, Band, Aquaponics, Hydroponics, + Kitchen Humour.

Shed Opening Hours

Christmas - **CLOSED 22 Dec - 1 Jan**

Monday	08:00 - 1130	Cobbers' Shed
	08:00 - 09:00	Exercise Class
Tuesday	07:30 - 08:30	Exercise Class
	08:00 - 12:00	All Activities
Wednesday	08:00 - 09:00	Exercise Class
	08:00 - 11:30	Wood Shed* Cobbers' Shed
Thursday	07:30—08:30	Exercise Class
	08:00 - 12:00	All Activities
	1:30 - 3:30	Shed Band
Friday		Wood Shed *
	08:00 – 11:30	Cobbers' Shed
Saturday		Gardening & Coffee
	08:00 - 10:00	Cobbers' Shed

* Lots of elbow room on these two days.



“Out - of - hours” Attendance

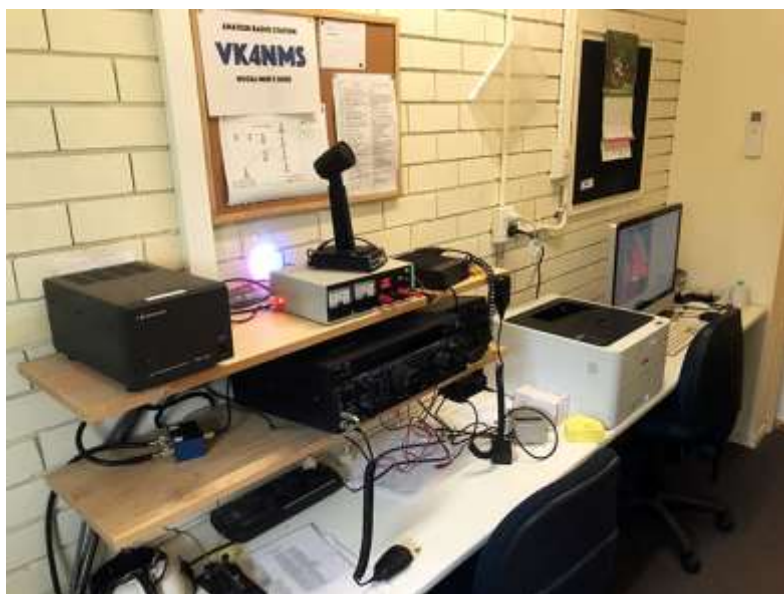
Please remember the Shed safety policy on “out-of-hours attendance”.

No attendance outside normal hours unless:

- **F**or a good reason,
- **F**amily know where you are,
- **Y**ou have a mobile phone, and.
- **N**o powered tools to be operated unless in the company of another worker, (one of whom must be a Shed leader).
- **I**nsurance **P**olicy: one solo member in Shed only for admin/cleaning duties .

Frail members should never be in the Shed alone for any reason.

Whilst mainstream activities will be closed 22 December until 1 January, members are welcome to visit with friends, to water the gardens and show off the Shed.



Amateur Radio Station VK4NMS in the Hobby Shed.

Missing Gear

Sometimes tools & items go missing, preventing others from using them.

Please put items back in the original spot after use.

Safety. All the Shed 's new equipment requires members to be versed in its operation. Please ensure that you have been through the induction process for the equipment as needed. **If you have the slightest doubt about your accreditation to use the tool, please ask your Shed leader.**

REMEMBER YOUR SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND OUR CONCERN.



Laying around like lizards during the regular Exercise Class in the Health & Activity Shed.



Frank M, Vern, VP Frank S and Dan telling true stories in the Cobbers' Shed.



Useful Information:

Below is a link to some "**Dad Jokes**" that are actually so bad, they make people laugh. (AKA "**Tom Jokes**"):

<https://thoughtcatalog.com/january-nelson/2018/06/dad-jokes/>

If you think there is some really useful information out there that may be of interest to our members through the newsletter, could you please send the URL link details to **Peter Magarry** at pmaga@ozemail.com.au who will coordinate the column content for the newsletter.



Looking toward the Office & Wood Shed sites nine years ago in November 2014.

Justice of the Peace

Shed members should be aware that our web master **John O'Halloran** is also a JP (Qld) who is happy to provide that service to members when he is at the Shed on Tuesday AM.

If there are other JPs in the Shed willing to help, please see John O'H who will coordinate it.



Cliff, VP Frank and Bill at morning tea outside the Long Shed.

The electrical safety "**Test & Tag**" program for the Shed is maintained by **David Kumeta** and **Michel Vogeli**. Two points arising from this:

Some of the tags may lose their adhesiveness and separate from the appliance. If found, please return the tag to David as each tag can identify the particular appliance and be re-fixed.

When new equipment is introduced to the Shed, please ask David or Michel to "**Test & Tag**" it first.



David Kumeta

Michel Vogeli



Mike the Gardener.

The Electricians' Shed almost at "lock-up" stage.

(FIVE years ago).

20 December 2018.



A busy Leather Shop in the Hobby Shed .



Ian D and Owen C discussing a design problem in the Wood Shed.