

# President's Report 2019/20



I concluded my 2018/19 report with "Here's looking forward to smooth sailing into 2019/20" and indeed it started out that way.

At last year's AGM, I had the honour of inducting our first Life Members, that being Garry Pettit and Ian Lupson. The Shed recognised Garry as

the founding father of the shed and also the first President. Ian was recognised as the driving force behind the shed and also the Sheds second President.

The Shed also got a lot of promotion with regards to Men's Sheds and Men's Health. The first was a Victorian State Government initiative involving a series of videos on Seniors Life Course Planning, and the second was a segment on CH7 "House of Wellness" program initiated by Rod Jackson based on Men's Sheds and mental health. I also did a couple of radio interviews with Gerard Mansour, the Commissioner for Senior Victorians.

Our Xmas get together was, once again, very successful and full credit must go to Nat Perri for all the hard work he put into it. Nat has also been behind all our grant applications. Thanks Nat.

Our new extension was successfully upgraded from "Storage" to "Workshop" thanks to Ian Lupson, Kevin Swaffield, Peter Wilkinson, and Dieter Jankovic who formed a subcommittee to see it through. We were then able to make some other changes including getting rid of the toilet in the meeting room and creating a coffee / tea area. Thanks to Dale Wilkes and Kevin Wood for their able assistance.

Then came Covid-19. What a major disruption to our lives with the shed being closed down for nearly ten weeks. However, with the concept of a phone tree and keeping up with each other, I believe we ended up all the better for it. Each committee member had ten+ people to contact on a weekly basis and I think we all found it to be a rewarding process. I know that the shedders I rang appreciated the calls.

All committee members have worked really hard this year. Stan Rasa has kept a firm hand on finances, we are in a good strong financial position and Stan keeps us all honest. Peter Wilkinson as always has been busy with projects etc and has been ably assisted by Peter Hobbs (who also took on welfare). Ian Lupson and Dieter Jankovic for their tip runs (although sometimes I think they bring back as much as they take there). Kevin Swaffield and Rod Jackson for their OH&S endeavours.

To the committee as a whole, thank you for your support and valuable assistance over the last year. However, I would like to make a special thanks to two people. Firstly, Milton Oliver. Milton, thank you for your mateship and mentoring. You taught me not to get too emotional about certain things and not to give oxygen away. Secondly, Albert Achterberg. Albert, I don't believe I could ask for a better secretary. You have always been supportive and making recommendations which I have found to be most reassuring. With you and Stan staying in your positions Ted should be able to enjoy his time as President.

In closing I'd like to thank you all for giving me the honour of being your president for the last two years. I hope I have met your expectations. I congratulate Ted on taking over the reins. I wish him well and offer my support in any way I can.

Mike Newman  
President 2018-20