



**MEN'S
SHEDS
OF WA**



2021
ANNUAL REPORT

OUR PATRONS

- The Honourable Kim Beazley AC
- Keith Wilson AM, Vice Patron

OPERATIONAL TEAM

James Wild, Chief Executive Officer

Jaxon Ashley, Senior Project Officer

Bill Johnstone, Senior Shed Advisor

Bob Coventry, Veterans Officer

Richard Mcallister, Chaplain

Rebecca Herbener, Executive Assistant

OUR BOARD

Our Board is made up of six board members voted in by sheds and up to three specialist board members.

Shed Nominated, Members

Trevor Taylor, President

Trevor Gorey, Vice President

Fred Brondsema, Board Member

Richard Porter, Board Member

Reg Tipple, Board Member

Harry White, Board Member

Russell Candy, Board Member

Recruited Members

Michael Woodhouse, Board Member

David McMullen, Secretary

Miles Protter, Treasurer

Blanche Coyle, Board Member

Men's Sheds of WA operates on the traditional lands of the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation. We recognise their continuing connection to land, sea, community and culture, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

ABOUT US

The first WA men's sheds conference was held in 2009 leading to the establishment of Men's Sheds of WA (formerly WA Men's Sheds Association) in 2010.

Men's Sheds of WA become an incorporated body on 5 July 2010 to support 23 operational men's sheds and approximately 40 sheds in various stages of development.

From small seeds... There are now over 180 sheds located throughout WA, from Kalgoorlie to Christmas Island and Kununurra to Esperance. We provide support to them on issues of governance, fundraising, memberships, tax, and working with local councils and shires to develop relationships within their communities.

We are a non-profit charity, funded by the Department of Communities, Department of Health and Lotterywest. We are governed by a board of both elected and appointed members and managed by a small operations team.

We are passionate about assisting WA men's sheds to improve the health and wellbeing of members and, in turn, their communities.

VISION

*That all men are able to join a men's shed.
Enhance their wellbeing, enrich their lives
and the lives of people in their community.*

MISSION

*To realise the benefits to men's health
and wellbeing by building a sustainable
community of men's sheds.*

FROM THE CEO

I believe men's sheds play an integral role in the mental and physical wellbeing of men in WA. I know the impact sheds have on members is life-changing and often lifesaving. When I took on this role it was my mission to make sure that every man in WA knew of their local men's shed and the positive difference their shed could have on their life.

Over the last 18 months, especially after the World Health Organisation characterised COVID-19 as a pandemic, its arrival in Australia and the consequential health measures, my team has focussed on further engaging with WA men's sheds and strengthening relationships with members and key stakeholders.

We are working to extend the community knowledge of men's sheds through attendance at events and expos and building our social media presence. This report covers our financial report for 2020/21 and our activities since my appointment as CEO in November 2019.

We are always just a phone call or email away for our members. During COVID-19 lockdowns we held regular online catch ups with different guest speakers and encouraged members to join our new Facebook community group. We appreciate that some of our members are not thrilled by needing to embrace digital methods

to keep in touch with us and each other. We know that while more seniors are becoming proficient in technology, they still prefer a yarn over a cup of tea; so, when it was safe to do so, we held two state-wide shed workshops hosted by different men's sheds throughout the state.

The immediate future for Men's Sheds of WA is promising, we have secured funding from Lotterywest to run a two-year small grants program for the men's sheds community and received funding from the Federal Department of Health for additional wellbeing and health support of regional men's sheds.

I hope you enjoy reading our report and I encourage you to find your local shed and drop in for a cuppa. From new friends to new hobbies, you never know what you will find in your local men's shed. Maybe I'll run into you there one of these days.

Stay well and in the spirit of men's sheds lets work hard to look after each other.



James Wild

Men's Sheds of WA CEO

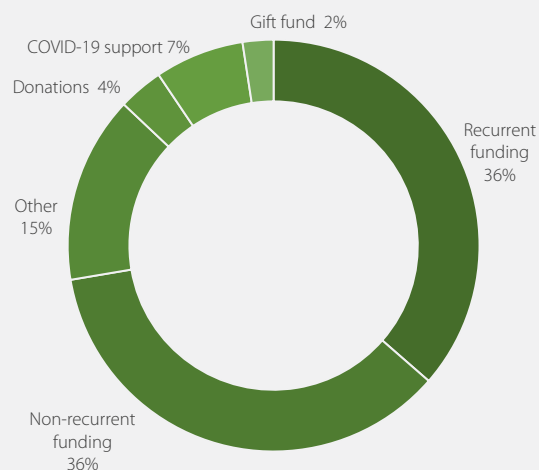
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

At the beginning of 2020 we undertook a detailed audit of our accounts and we moved from a cash accounting system to accrual accounting, allowing us to better report our financial position at board meetings, facilitating more informed management decisions. While this set us up for improved reporting going forward it did highlight areas for improvement.

Our financial result for 2020/21 was supported by the Federal Government COVID-19 stimulus package and a reduction of operating expenses during lock down periods. During lockdown we waived membership fees but invited sheds to make donations. Most sheds paid their annual membership fee as a donation resulting in a healthier financial position. As at 30 June 2021 we have:

- \$159,000 unallocated funds carried over into 2021/22.
- Expended almost 92% of our Department of Communities funding. \$12,000 will be carried over.
- Underspent our Lotterywest funding by \$36,555 with remaining funds carried over.



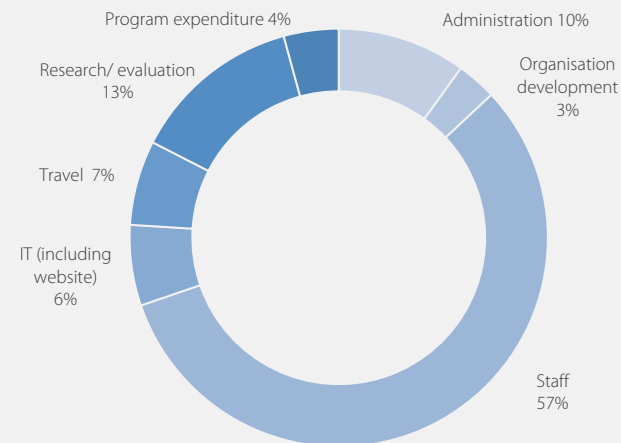


INCOME

Recurrent funding	\$150,626
Non-recurrent funding	\$148,559
Other	\$60,774
Donations	\$14,623
COVID-19 support	\$29,000
Gift fund	\$10,000
	\$413,582

Total income for the financial year was \$413,582.

Government grants/funding (85% of income) remains the primary source of revenue. Membership fees were waived during this period to support WA sheds during COVID-19 lockdown periods.



EXPENDITURE

Administration	\$33,388
Organisation development	\$10,356
Staff	\$190,575
IT (including website)	\$20,949
Travel	\$22,015
Research/evaluation	\$44,400
Program expenditure	\$14,250
	\$335,933

Total expenditure for the financial year was \$335,933.

At 57% of costs, staff remain the largest expenditure.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

2024 STRATEGIC PLAN

During Men's Health Week 2020 we sought feedback from sheds on our draft Strategic Plan 2024 and published our new plan in September 2020.

Our plan guides how we want to achieve our goals through to 2024. We decided on four key priority areas that will guide our operations throughout the life of the plan:

- Wellbeing and health
- Community
- Organisation
- Representation

These priorities are supported by goals that will prioritise our efforts.

15 NEW FIRST AIDERS

15 shedders* updated their first aid certificates when we facilitated **St John Ambulance HLTAID003 Provide first aid** training sessions in Joondalup, Bassendean and Fremantle in November 2020.

**Members of men's sheds are affectionately referred to as shedders*

NEW WEBSITE

We launched a new website to make it easier for us to support sheds and their activities.

The new website has a user-friendly, easy to navigate fresh look for visitors and will help people connect with their local men's shed and learn more about what we do.

The Men's Sheds of WA logo and corporate colours were reviewed as part of this process.

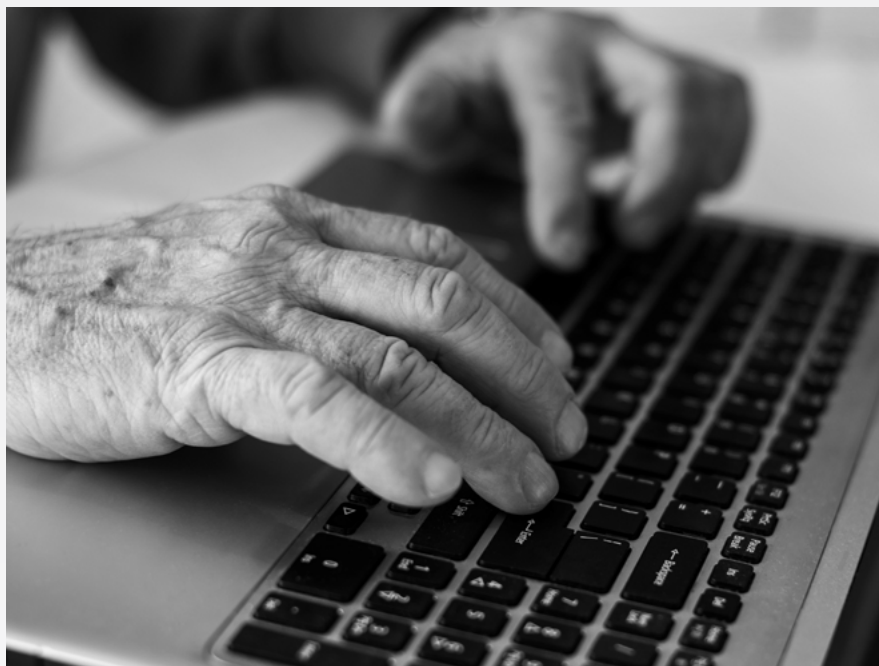
IDENTIFYING WHAT MAKES A SUCCESSFUL MEN'S SHED

We know the value of men's sheds but there's currently limited evidence and research to support this. In 2020 we initiated phase 1 of a 3-phase Curtin University project aimed to identify factors that may impact on the success of social groups (using men's sheds as an example).

Phase 1 included a review of academic and secondary literature to identify indicators of successful voluntary community groups. Phases 2 and 3 will use these indicators to help us understand 'what makes a thriving shed'. This process will include surveying sheds and interviewing shed members.

28 DIGITAL MENTORS IN SHEDS

From the Digital Nation Australia 2021 report: 80% of people over 65 years of age find it difficult to keep up with technology changes and confidence in digital skills decreases as length of retirement increases.



In partnership with Linkwest, the Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association and the Country Women's Association of WA in October 2020 we applied to the Federal Government's Good Things Foundations' Be Connected program (a program which helps get seniors connected online). The partnership was successful in applying for a \$100,000 grant to train over 100 'digital mentors' across Western Australia.

Each agency appointed a lead mentor who was responsible for running training days to upskill over 100 members of our different member groups to become digital mentors within their networks.

Throughout the program the four agencies ran 15 training sessions, and we are delighted that from those training sessions, 28 shedders have taken on the role of digital mentors in their sheds.

These digital mentors will be able to provide members of their community with advice and support in understanding and navigating the online world. This will help people to stay connected with family and friends, by using tools like social media platforms, keeping up with events and accessing services and resources.

SHEDDERS' PLEDGE

The shedders' pledge is a shared commitment from shedders stating that they will conduct themselves in a positive and productive manner in work, discussion and debate. It acknowledges that all members of a shed must be there with good intentions and committed to working in the best interest of fellow members for their combined health and wellbeing.

It came about when members wanted an informal code of conduct to support their internal governance that briefly summarises the expectations of members in the sheds.

We issued the draft pledge for consultation within sheds and received feedback from 15 shedders.

When we launched the final pledge, we held a competition to see which shed could be most creative in displaying the pledge in their shed. The competition was won by Albany Men's Shed with their version of the pledge designed and constructed into a seven-metre sign on the outside their building.



MARKETING AND PROMOTION

We currently have 623 email subscribers. Our subscribers are key contacts within WA men's sheds and we share news sheds need to know such as grant opportunities, COVID-19 updates, membership information etc. We sent 79 general news emails to our mailing list throughout the year.

Throughout 2020/21 we published eight newsletters, aimed at directly supporting sheds.

Since we created our public Facebook page on 10 January 2020 we have 163 page likes and 221 followers. We also created a closed community Facebook group to help shedders through the state connect to each other. There is currently 534 members in our community group.

In November 2020 we created an Instagram account. We've published 21 posts and have 307 followers.

We commissioned a series of promotional men's sheds videos that talk about the different values and aspects of men's sheds and why they are so valuable to the community.

- About men's sheds
- Why join a shed
- Sheds are for listening
- Sheds are for all of us
- Not just woodwork
- Sheds are for helping

The videos were published on our YouTube channel and promoted through social media.

Throughout Men's Health Week 2021 (June 14-20) we ran our first television advert on GWN7 promoting men's sheds.

ZONE MEETINGS

Zone meetings are facilitated by Men's Sheds of WA and held by host sheds in different geographical regions throughout WA.

The meetings are also an essential forum for Men's Sheds of WA to seek feedback, pass on information and to crowdsource project ideas and offer support from our office.

The Zone meetings were partly funded by the Road Safety Commission. The meetings, featuring guest speakers attracted 381 participants across WA.

2020 ROUND

11 March	CY O'Connor Men's Shed (Kalgoorlie)
15 September*	Northampton Men's Shed
29 September	Wickepin Men's Shed
30 September	Katanning Men's Shed
2 October	Manji Men's Shed (Manjimup)
5 October	Toodyay Men's Shed
7 October	Ellenbrook & District Men's Shed
9 October	Gosnells Community Men's Shed
12 October	Cockburn Community Men's Shed
14 October	Online

**COVID-19 restrictions and concerns for member's health caused a delay in the original schedule from March to September*

2021 ROUND

4 May	Dongara Men in Sheds
6 May	Wongan - Ballidu & District Men's Shed
10 May	Bruce Rock Men's Shed
12 May	Cranbrook Community Men's Shed
14 May	Nannup Men's Shed
17 May	Showgrounds Community Men's Shed
19 May	Fremantle Men's Community Shed
20 May	Kalamunda Men's Shed
24 May	Esperance Men in Sheds
26 May	Online

Thank you to our guest speakers:

- Anglicare WA
- Rotary Club of Como (Buddy Benches program)
- Foodbank WA
- Hearing Australia
- Kevin Bird, Nannup Wooden Clock Maker
- Miles Protter, The Listening Shed
- Regional Men's Health Initiative
- RoadWise
- Rural West
- Services Australia
- Songfest (ShedSong project)
- St Johns Ambulance WA

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE'S VIRTUAL TRANSITIONAL SEMINARS

Men's Sheds of WA were regular stall holders at the Australian Defence Force's in-person ADF Member and Family Transition Seminars which provides members and their families with a broad range of information to support their transition to civilian life. When in-person events were canceled due to COVID-19 the ADF built an online environment where they hold monthly virtual seminars.

Men's Sheds of WA is a stall holder at their virtual transition seminars. Their first event was held on 29 April 2021 and occur monthly. Three online transitional events were held between April and June 2021 with 615 registered attendees. Our booth received 25 interactions (chats, web links etc) during these events.

HAVE A GO DAY 2020

Men's Sheds of WA was a stall holder at the Seniors Recreation Council of Western Australia Have a Go Day 2020.

Have a Go Day is an annual event run in November by the Seniors Recreation Council of Western Australia (SRCWA) aimed for people over-55 to learn about and have a go at different activities.

INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY 2020

To celebrate International Men's Day 2020, we grabbed a bunch of 30 or so of our mates and went to the movies for a special Men's Sheds of WA screening of Rams (a 2020 Australian comedy-drama film starring Sam Neill and Michael Caton which was adapted by Western Australian screenwriter Jules Duncan and filmed in Mount Barker).

MEN'S HEALTH WEEKS 2020 AND 2021

During Men's Health Week 2020 and 2021, our team were invited to speak to agencies to spread the word about men's sheds and how they can be a tool to support men in the community and promote men's wellbeing.

2020 Water Corporation

PFIZER

Men's Health Connected online summit event

2021 Department of Premier and Cabinet

MEMBERSHIP

The men's shed movement continues to grow throughout WA. We welcomed six new men's sheds as members from December 2019 to 30 June 2021:

- Peel Community Men's Shed
- VisAbility WA
- Donnybrook Community Workshop
- Broomhill Men's Shed
- Mawarnkarra Men's Shed at Roebourne
- Canning Community Computer Club

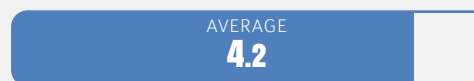


SHED SATISFACTION SURVEY 2020/21

For the first time in 2021 we asked our members to complete an anonymous satisfaction survey to seek feedback on services received from Men's Sheds of WA for the financial year ending June 2021. Members were asked to rate aspects of our performance using a five star scale rating (with 1 star = low satisfaction and 5 stars = high satisfaction). 81 members responded to the shed satisfaction survey and the results are as follows:

Question 1

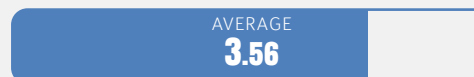
How would you rate the support provided to you by Men's Sheds of WA?



Question 2

How would you rate Men's Sheds of WA contribution to the following areas?

Helping sheds to build knowledge, organisational skills and governance.



Helping sheds to join resources, expertise or efforts with other sheds and/or other groups or individuals.

AVERAGE
3.43

Helping sheds to understand information on community issues or needs.

AVERAGE
3.42

Helping sheds to understand what is happening in government.

AVERAGE
3.29

Standing up for sheds' priorities and concerns. Promoting shed's achievements and influencing decision-making, policy, practice and resource allocation.

AVERAGE
3.71

The results have provided valuable feedback and indicated areas that we are already working on improving for the next financial year. We will administer this survey each year to measure the effectiveness of the changes we've made.

SHEDTAKE 2020

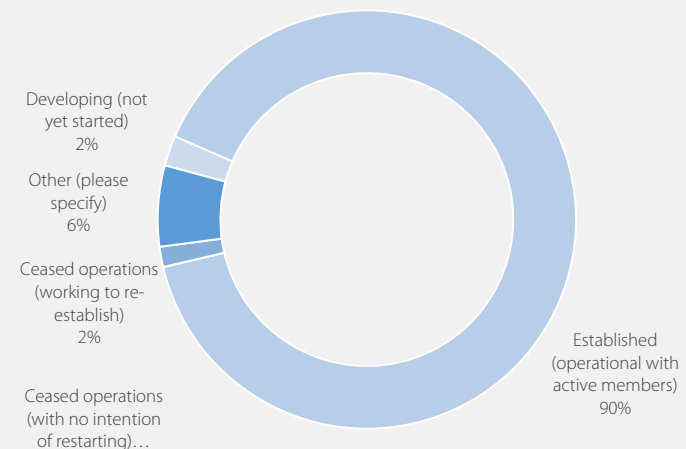
As a new operational team, and with COVID-19 restrictions in place we needed to find an alternative way of getting to know our members. ShedTake 2020 was developed to get some collective knowledge of sheds operational status.

The survey consisted of 39 questions ranging from administrative matters such as contact information and insurance information. The survey also asked about the responder's satisfaction with governance and health matters in their sheds and attendance information such as costs, time opens and membership capacity.

We received 122 responses to the survey that have helped inform our strategic plan 2024, annual work plans and alternate COVID-19 work plans.

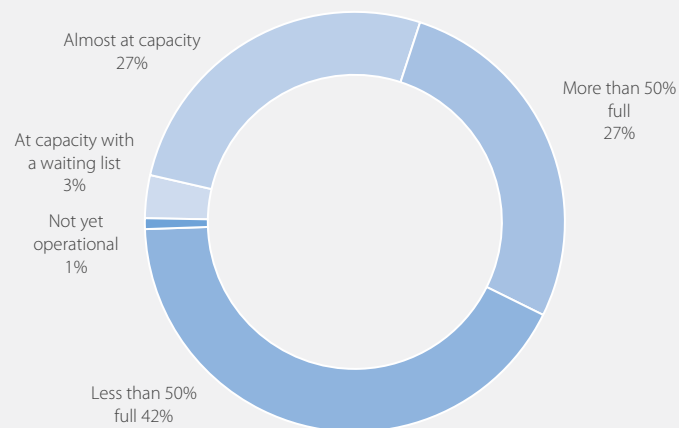
Question 1

What is the operational status of your Shed?



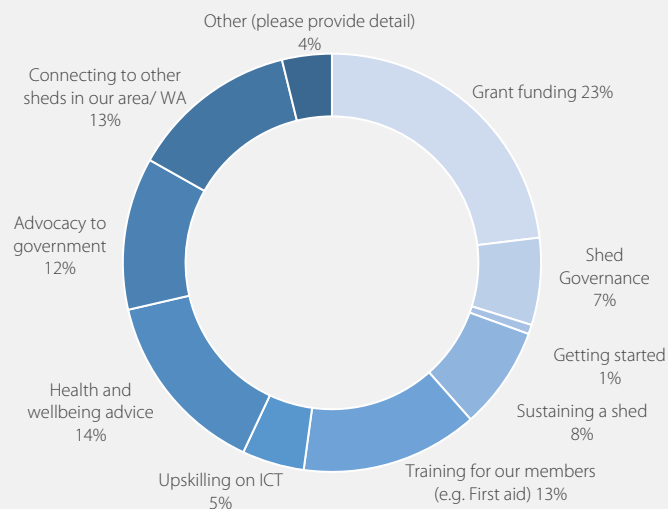
Question 2

What is the status of membership in your shed?



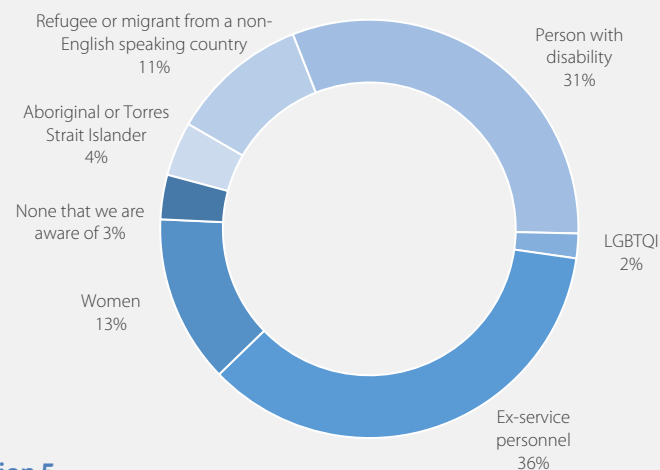
Question 3

What areas of support are most important to your shed?



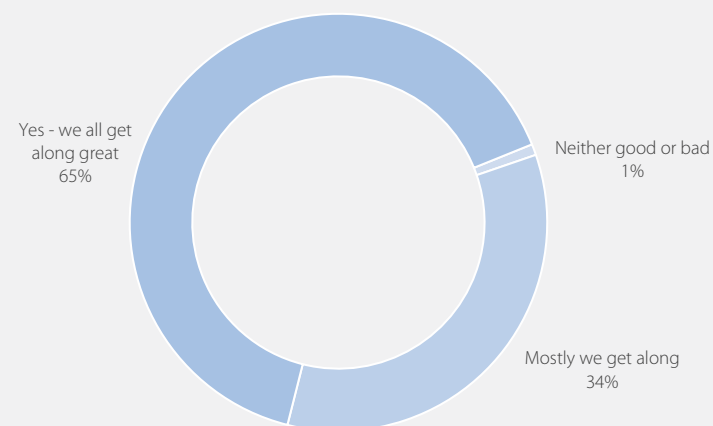
Question 4

Does your Shed have members from the following groups?



Question 5

Is your shed a happy shed?



*The questionnaire provided two additional choices “No – always some conflict” and “Occasionally we have problems” that were not selected by any of the recipients.

MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

BOARD SKILLS AUDIT

All board members and staff completed a comprehensive skills audit in July 2020 to identify strengths and gaps in our organisation. This work shaped the recruitment process for our appointed board members, ensuring that our board has a wide range of skills. To complement the existing strengths and capabilities of our board and to ensure good succession planning for current board members, priority was given to the following skills, experience and qualifications:

- health and wellbeing (promotion/ research/ funding)
- local government knowledge/ experience
- legal (not for profit sector)
- finance (including Treasurer/ finance sub-committee lead)
- training and education.

BOARD MEMBER RECRUITMENT

In August 2020 we advertised for three specialist board members to join our team. We received 18 very strong applications to join our board, demonstrating the level of interest in men's sheds in our state and in our organisation as a peak body for WA.

In November 2020 we welcomed Blanche Coyle, Miles Protter and David McMullen, to help us continue to build the men's shed movement.

Blanche Coyle has been involved in the hearing health sector for over 10 years with a focus on reducing noise-induced hearing loss due to occupational and recreational exposure. Blanche also has significant experience in education and advocacy work.

Miles Protter is a facilitator, trainer and mentor with a strong interest in the health and wellbeing of men with experience in business, finance, training and education.

David McMullen is a practicing solicitor with many not-for-profit clients (particularly in the aged care and retirement living sector), where he assists with a variety of commercial and regulatory matters. David's legal practice has a strong governance focus.

BOARD MEETINGS

During the 2020/21 financial year there were 10 board meetings, attendance was recorded as follows:

	ELIGIBLE	ATTENDED
Trevor Taylor	10	9
Trevor Gorey	7	6
David McMullen	7	7
Miles Protter	7	5
Fred Brondsema	10	10
Richard Porter	10	9
Blanche Coyle	7	6
Reg Tipple	10	9
Harry White	10	7
Michael Woodhouse (on leave)	2	0
Russell Candy	3	3

At the meeting of 12 August 2020 the board decided to reduce the number of planned meetings held a year from 12 to six.

BOARD COMMITTEES

To support the activities of Men's Sheds of WA, our Board established two sub-committees.

Finance Committee: to ensure the financial management of the Men's Sheds of WA is conducted in a professional and prudential manner to safeguard the financial assets and viability of Men's Sheds of WA.

- Miles Protter, Treasurer
- Trevor Gorey, Vice President
- James Wild, CEO

Governance Committee: to address governance aspects of Men's Sheds of WA and help us reach our full potential.

- Blanche Coyle, Board Member
- Trevor Gorey, Vice President
- James Wild, CEO

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

We held our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Friday 23 October 2020. This was the first Men's Sheds of WA AGM for CEO, James Wild.

For long-standing Board Member, Russell Candy (Manjimup Men's Shed), this was his last AGM after serving six years on the board.

As well as the business of the day of approving the financial statements and voting on board member nominations our President, Trevor Taylor talked about our achievements and challenges for the financial year and the active projects underway for 2020/21.

Approximately 50 people including Men's Sheds of WA board members and staff attended the AGM.

Two board member vacancies were filled at the AGM. We welcomed new Board Member Trevor Gorey (Mosman Park Men's Shed and Showgrounds Community Men's Shed) and re-elected Board Member Harry White (Denmark Men's Shed).

TRAINING

In April 2020 all board members and staff undertook the Foundations of Governance training (presented by Stuart Reid of WACOSS).

In 2020/21 our CEO completed a Diploma of Governance provided by the Institute of Community Directors.



COVID-19 SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS

Like everyone else, our work was impacted by COVID-19.

CEO James Wild joined the Peaks COVID-19 Coordination group. Working alongside Western Australian Council of Social Service (WACOSS), community sector peak bodies and executives from key government agencies. The group met weekly to share expertise, coordinate efforts and communicate information and guidance through to members of Men's Sheds of WA.

We adapted our existing work plan into a COVID-19 work plan which focussed on supporting sheds through COVID-19 lockdowns – ensuring they could remain in contact with their members, especially those who may become isolated without access to the sheds, ensure their shed would remain financially viable in the event of an extended lockdown, find alternative means to meet with shed committee members (as our operational team had 100% staff turnover at the end of 2019) and generally engage with our members.

We issued information sheets to sheds on how to set up phone trees and how to establish Zoom/WhatsApp groups.

- We developed templates of COVID-19 safety plans and other COVID-19 resources to share with sheds.
- Our Chaplain created a series of videos to support members mental health.

- Between 16 April and 14 August 2020, we hosted regular online meetings for shedders to attend with different guest speakers:

Event	Presenter	Sessions	Participants
The Listening Shed	Miles Protter	10	94
Online afternoon tea with CEO	Men's Sheds of WA	7	49
Food Sensations	Foodbank WA	3	22
Accessing grants to teach tech literacy and accessing resources to get computers to isolated individuals	Linkwest	1	10
Pandemic ALERT! Reflections on global public health and community response	Dr Marc Tennant	1	13
The Regional Men's Health Initiative	Terry Melrose	1	6
Hearing services and COVID-19: Flattening the loneliness curve	Lions Hearing	1	4
Understanding dust and dust removal in men's sheds	Dr Bob Loss	1	10
Bowel Health	Cancer Council	1	3

- We encouraged sheds to jump onto our newly created Facebook community page to stay connected with each other.

- We shared 24 COVID-19 email bulletins with our members to ensure they were up to date with government advice and requirements.

We continue to issue email bulletins to all sheds when the status in WA changes, advising of shutdowns and safety and health precautions.

80 RESPONSES TO OUR COVID-19 SURVEY

When COVID-19 impacted WA in 2020, our operational team were still new. To understand how sheds were managing throughout the crisis we circulated a brief survey to determine the status of sheds and shedders. We received 80 responses to our survey.

Overall, responses indicated that sheds managed well with 60% of respondents reporting that their shed continued some form of operation. Sheds maintained communication with their members mainly through providing email updates. Over 60% of sheds that responded indicated that the loss of sale income during lockdown periods had been a financial challenge.

Men's Sheds of WA provided a range of support information to sheds. Respondents found our email updates and COVID-19 templates the most helpful. They also reported using our Facebook community notice board and participated in online events.

LOOKING AHEAD

Throughout 2021/22 we are focussing on the following developments to achieve our strategic priorities:

- Men's Sheds of WA biennial state conference. Originally scheduled to take place in October 2020, the conference has been postponed and rescheduled to November 2021. With the theme of Inclusive Thriving Sheds, our conference will be an opportunity for sheds to consider how they can continue to develop and position themselves as essential community hubs as well as an essential tool for men's wellbeing, into the future.
 - Further improvements to our website with a new 'find a shed' feature to help people connect with their local shed.
 - Launch our two-year small grants program for sheds (supported by Lotterywest), aimed at increasing participation and volunteering in sheds.
 - Recruit a Health Coordinator to the Men's Sheds of WA team.
- In our ShedTake 2020 survey we asked the question: Does your shed have a Wellbeing and Health Officer (or person that performs a similar role)? 104 responders answered the question with the result showing the number of sheds who do not have a wellbeing and health officer slightly outnumbering the sheds that do.

We also asked responders to rate your shed's access to wellbeing and health information and resources. The majority of the 104 responses to the question are satisfied with the access to health and wellbeing information provided by their shed.

The role will help men's sheds to connect with local health services and promote events aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of men across WA. This role will be instrumental in increasing the number of volunteer Wellbeing and Health Officers in WA sheds.

- Commence phase 2 of the research project with Curtin University. This will involve a macro-level analysis of different men's sheds and will help us to understand the factors that make a successful shed.

THANK YOU

We want to say thank you to our funders, the Department of Communities, Department of Health (Commonwealth) and Lotterywest for your ongoing support.

Thank you also to the Road Safety Commission who funded our statewide zone meetings through their grants program.

We also acknowledge and appreciate the support of local governments and shires throughout WA who support the sheds in their area.

Last but by no means least, we must also thank our members. We wouldn't be here without you.

