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# The Australian Men's Shed Association

Since the Manly conference 2007

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Australian Men's Shed  
Association

"Men don't talk face to face they talk shoulder  
to shoulder"

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# What is AMSA's Aims

- The Aims of the Association
  - To freely share “Information between sheds”
  - To Represent sheds as a collective group
  - To assist new sheds develop
  - To Provide ongoing support to existing sheds
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# AMSA Working Committee

- A working committee was Established to establish the Association
  - Consisting of NSW, Ted Donnelly, Ruth van Herk. QLD Graham Curnow, VIC Ron Mitchell, Gary Green, TAS John Waters and WA Bill Johnston.
  - The committee last formally met in Canberra to compile a work plan
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# HOW DID AMSA OBTAIN FUNDING

- The Lake Macquarie Shed Project (The Shed @ Windale) was operating on a Grant through FaHCSIA
  - This was rolled over in 2007 by the Minister
  - An application was made by the Auspicing Agent Catholic Care Newcastle for an extension of funds to establish AMSA
  - An extra \$50,000 was allocated for this purpose
  - A MOU was entered into with the aim of creating AMSA to become a self sufficient independent Association
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# Since The Manly Conference AMSA Has

- Achieved some incredible results
  - AMSA is now the largest male based representative Association in the Nation
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# The AMSA Workload

- Through the establishment of the 1300 number and emails AMSA receives and responds to over 100 inquiries per week
  - These range from General inquiries, to how to set up a shed, through to a number of men seeking personal support.
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# The AMSA Workload

- Through the distribution of the “How to set up a shed Manual” written by Ruth and Ted, (over 200 distributed)
  - Plans of Management for sheds
  - Freely sharing other information on shed administration becoming a information distribution network
  - An estimated total of a minimum of a \$5million saving to the Federal and State governments in Human resources time
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# AMSA Achievements

- AMSA was one of only a few select Peak Organisations invited to participate in the National Round Table Meetings on the Development of the First National Men's Health Policy (Parliament House, Canberra)
  - Provided a submission to the Senate Select Committee on Men's Health
  - Provided evidence at senate select committee hearing
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# AMSA Achievements

- Conducted dozens of media interviews  
Nationally and Internationally
  - Circulated the AMSA newsletter
  - AMSA is the entry point to the national shed network
  - AMSA has also developed important relationships with corporate and business partners
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All of this on \$50k and 18  
months of hard work

**BUT WE NEED MORE  
FUNDING TO CONTINUE**

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# But AMSA is more

- It is your association
  - Representing your shed
  - This could not have been achieved as individual sheds
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# The Future

- AMSA has campaigned for
  - For easier funding for sheds
  - Further funding for the association and state branches to continue our work
  - Establish cooperative affiliations
  - Improve the quality of life for all men
  - Set up international affiliations
  - Improve shed support services with key role positions
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# The Australian Men's Shed Association



- Is Now Your Association

