

Kushed Bulletin

Issued by: Ku-ring-gai Community Workshop 'The Shed' Inc.

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The Shed is Now Closed for the Christmas Break

After a busy day on Thursday, cleaning The Shed and it's equipment, disposing of unwanted timber and metal and oiling the machines in the Metal Working Area, The Shed is now closed for the Christmas break.

We will reopen on Monday the 13th of January

We welcome everyone back at that time, for what we hope will be a busy, productive and rewarding 2025, with lots of camaraderie and fellowship

Clean Up and Clean Out day

Our first day back at The Shed on **Monday the 13th** will a Clean Up and Clean Out day. Everyone is invited to attend and pitch in, to ensure our Shed is ready for the new year.

Outcomes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM was held on the 6th of December and the general consensus is that we are in good shape financially and membership wise

The new office bearers are:

Brian Killin – President
Mal Cocks – Vice President
Martin Suthers – Vice President
Andrew Killen – Treasurer
Mark Champion – Secretary
Max Eliot - Committee Member
Martin Buddery - Committee Member
Bruce Donnelly - Committee Member
Ray McKay - Committee Member
Michael Leviton - Committee Member
Bruce Donnelley - Committee Member

David Chadwick - Committee Member

Jerry Hoy - Committee Member

Presidents Report

Ku-ring-gai Community Workshop "the Shed"

Presidents Report AGM 2024

We have enjoyed another wonderful year at the Shed and I would like to firstly acknowledge the members who contributed so much during the year.

Mal Cox has been a tower of strength and a terrific support for me throughout the year. He covered for me without hesitation when I was not available and has led many projects, not the least of which has been a program of optimising our space utilisation.

Gerry Hoy put his hand up to manage the rostering of coordinators and first aiders and has done a terrific job.

Our backroom team of Ray, Andrew, Rob and Tony can easily go unnoticed. Their administration of our membership and financial affairs is a very important foundation for our Shed and they do a marvelous job of it.

Our committee members have dealt with a range range of issues to ensure the smooth running of the Shed and our planning for the next three years.

There are those that many members would not notice such as Max managing our assets as well as leading the cooking group.

Martin Buddery has taken responsibility for our accreditation program and it is now flourishing. Every committee member has provided wise counsel on a number of issues and I thank them for their efforts and support.

Of course the Shed cannot operate without the commitment and support of our daily coordinators and first aiders. They keep everyone safe and provide support and assistance to members. They are on site early, opening up and preparing the Shed for the day ahead and are then last to leave as they close up. They are the operational backbone of our Shed and we thank them for their commitment.

And last but certainly not least I wish to acknowledge the effort and commitment of Kevin Jeffress and the bee box team. Kevin, Stephen, Ric, Dion, Stuart, and Bruce work hard all day on building the native bee boxes that underpin the financial viability of our Shed. Their efforts have allowed us to make substantial investments in new equipment for the Shed this year, including a new digitally controlled woodturning lathe, a special thicknesser for soft timbers, a new V nailer for picture frames, a premium quality router table, and soon a new metalwork lathe. This is in addition to multiple smaller purchases throughout the year. It also makes us proud to be financially independent and able to contribute to others.

We recorded a record \$37,199 income from the efforts of our bee box group which provided us with a \$17,823 surplus for the year to date. This has set us up in a strong financial position with over \$41,000 in the bank to support our

ongoing operations.

Our plans for 2025 include the development of a structured skills training program for members. We have yet to determine the content, the class sizes that we can accommodate and the schedule. This will take a lot of work to prepare and is a three year program of development. Team leaders have already been recruited for a number of the programs.

To set your expectations I will note that this will also require participants to undertake some study and preparation for each course. You will not be spoon fed. Participation will require your commitment. The materials will be provided.

The welding team is well on the way with their program and they are getting great support from TAFE.

The initial training programs will be:

- Woodturning- we now have two identical digitally controlled lathes that will allow us to have several people in each session.
- Routers – This includes the use of the table routers and the various hand held routers.
- Dovetail and Finger Joint Jigs – We have both the Gifkins Jig for smaller projects such as box making and the larger Leigh jig for furniture making.
- Sharpening and the Tormek system. This includes subsets such as knife sharpening, garden tools and planes and chisels which will be separate groups.

Metalwork lathe – Our new metalwork lathe should be ready in the New Year with significantly enhanced features over our existing lathe.

Picture Framing- We have a complete set of equipment and members are encouraged to be accredited and use it.

A fundamental of our Shed is the one third protocol.

- A third of your time for personal projects
- A third of your time for Shed operation and projects
- A third of your time for community projects

The Put Your Hand Up program provides a basis for members to participate in the Shed operation and maintenance. Each member who puts their hand up for just one task is a great benefit for the Shed. My first task when I joined the Shed was to blow off the leaves around the Shed each week. I still have that job.

There will be a set of these tasks on the board when we resume. Please put your hand up for at least one.

Our community projects faltered during Covid and we are looking to rebuild. Our only community project at present is the new window bookshelves for Lifeline at Lindfield. We are looking to undertake more such activities to benefit our community and we will be seeking your support.

I have personally had a challenging year and this has emphasised for me how important the mateship and mutual support that the Shed provides us in our lives.

I encourage all of you to maintain your participation, share your challenges with trusted mates and offer your support to your fellow members.

I thank all of you for the great support I have enjoyed this past year.

Brian Killin

President

Annual General Meeting and Christmas Party - Friday 9th December





After The Annual General Meeting was completed in record time, we sat back to enjoy a sumptuous three course meal, prepared by the Cooking Group under the watchful eye of Idris Chandler

Our Valiant Bee Box Boys

Our Bee Box Team have been working hard again this year, producing lots of homes for native bees, and providing The Shed with much needed funds.

To celebrate the 5000th bee box, we sent in a submission for the AMSA Innovative Fundraising Activity Award, announced at the AMSA National Conference in September.

Our submission is [here](#). It was ultimately unsuccessful

The winning entry was the Jurien Bay Community Men's Shed for their unique "Rest in Reef" project, which offers people a unique way to remember loved ones.

"Rest in Reef" is an artificial reef on the West Australian coast, made using reef balls with a deceased person's ashes blended into a special grade of concrete. As part of the package, the Shed offers a memorial service on the beach from where the friends and relatives can watch the boat deliver the reef ball for incorporation into the reef.

The Jurien Bay Shed is the only organisation or business in Australia authorised to offer this service, and receives enquiries from all parts of Australia. The project has an estimated lifespan of at least 20 years, with approval for 100 more Rest in Reef balls to extend the artificial reef over the next three years.

Anyone For Chess?



Ben Hur wanted to make a gift of a unique Chess set.

Ben did the fine woodwork and our resident 3D printing specialist, Mark Resticcia, did the engraving.

Surely an instant family heirloom!



Made in Australia and distributed all over the world, for the love of Shedding.

Jump in and buckle up for an episode packed with interesting conversations.

Listen to the Podcast [Here](#)

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