



# The Rockhampton Men's Shed Inc.

Registered Charity with ACNC  
Dedicated Gift Recipient Status

A Member  
The Australian Men's Shed  
Association



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A Member of the  
Rockhampton Region VOAD  
(Volunteer Organisation in Active  
Disaster)

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25<sup>th</sup> June 2021

## MEDIA RELEASE

Four years ago the Rockhampton Men's Shed Inc embarked on a Project which would be of immense benefit to our Rockhampton and surrounds Community.

The Project consisted of 3 sheds (quite large in area 9x24 ea). The plan is they will be used as follows:

- a) Shed No 1 - Will become the woodwork and metalwork shed and Men's Shed and be the main source of income for the Association
- b) Shed No 2 - Will have an area of approximately ½ its size put aside for our Women's Auxiliary to carry out arts and crafts. Also in this shed will be a small gym, a First-Aid Room, an office and storage. Also space will be allocated for VOAD (Volunteer Organisation in Active Disaster) Training if and when required.
- c) Shed No 3 - Will be our Community Centre, where those who attend do not wish to participate in Projects going on in Sheds 1 and 2 can sit and have a cuppa and a chat, sit and read an interesting book from our library, play cards or other games or at certain times enjoy a singsong or a movie. This building will also be available as a Hub for use in disasters if and when required by the VOAD.

Thanks to The Iwasaki Foundation, Hopkins Brothers and the Cave Quarries (who believed in what we are trying to achieve for our Community), our first shed was erected approximately eighteen months ago. Unfortunately, we are not permitted to operate from the shed at the moment due to the non-connection of the utilities – however, we are working our way through this issue and should have this sorted in the near future. Our second shed has been ordered and it is hoped the erection will not be held up due to lack of building materials. The slab is already down and everything is ready for the shed to be put in place. A quote is being prepared for the third shed and funding/grant will be applied for as soon as we have all of the details, as we have been told by the supplier that there is a large increase expected on 1 September.

The Rockhampton Men's Shed Inc Members are determined that no matter what obstacles are placed in our way the Project will be completed.. Too much is at stake. Too many people within our Community need help. Social Isolation is running rampant, domestic violence is raising its ugly head again and getting out of control, men and women are being

made redundant before their retirement age and are confused as to how they would fill in their days and how they are going to survive—and are feeling lost. Mental health issues are beginning to become apparent through depression and anxiety and on top of all of this, the Corona Virus Pandemic has decided to drop in on our daily lives – changing our daily routines in order to keep us all safe.

The above is a brief outline of where the project is at currently. However, now is the time **when you, the Community, can play your part and help us to complete it all and allow the Complex to be available for everyone to enjoy.**

Set out below is what we would like from you and the role you can play in helping your Community:

***Businesses who wish to continue to help*** – donations of any of the following – materials, sand, concrete, labour, pipes, non-slip pavers, flooring, lights, smoke alarms, toilet suites, wash basins, electrical leads and anything else you think would be beneficial to complete this Project.

***Money donations*** (approximately we would need to raise (including finance for the third shed) round the \$370K mark. It could be considerably less with donations of any of the above. **We are a Charity recognised by the Tax Office and as a Dedicated Gift Recipient (DGR) any donations over \$2 are Tax Deductible.** Also any money received as donations is spent in our local Community

***Members of the Community*** – when the time is right for moving equipment, volunteers to help move equipment from our old shed to the new sheds and generally help in whatever way that you can to “make it all come together”. Ladies can also help our Auxiliary to set up the Arts and Crafts Section and provide our volunteers with water, coffee, tea and cakes and sandwiches at break times.

The sooner we complete this Project as a Community the sooner those who need somewhere to go and are seeking help will be able to come and enjoy what is on offer for them. Opening the Complex will also help to reduce the social isolation, anxiety and depression those less fortunate than ourselves are suffering within our Community.

**The Men’s Shed motto is “SHOULDER TO SHOULDER” – so let’s all get together to help one another.**



***Should you wish to email for enquiries: [rockymensshed@gmail.com](mailto:rockymensshed@gmail.com)***  
***For further information about our Organisation please visit our website: [www.rockhamptonmensshed.org.au](http://www.rockhamptonmensshed.org.au) or contact the writer Marion Lawler, Secretary/Treasurer on 0477221121 for further information regarding the Project.***