

Rosefield Community Shed

Annual Report -2018



Summary

The 2018 calendar year proved to be a quite a challenging but ultimately very rewarding year. The search for a new home found us working hard with the management team of the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society (RAHS) negotiating an agreement for our tenancy at the Adelaide Showground Farmyard Nursery. I would like to sincerely thank John Rothwell and his team for their generosity and ultimate confidence in allowing us to be new tenants at the Showgrounds at a peppercorn fee for an indefinite period.

I would also like to thank Julie Gunn and Muriel Kirkby for working with us to help make our transition to the Showgrounds as smooth as possible. A special thank you for donating the equipment that was surplus to DHS requirements to the Shed and for transferring that equipment from Highgate Park to the Showgrounds for us.

Our new facility was officially opened by the Honourable Mr David Pasoni, Minister for Industry and Skills, on 30th November 2018. The event was well attended by at least 80 people. Mr John Rothwell, CEO of RAHS also addressed this gathering.



The Official Opening

The most significant project undertaken this year was to clean out and prepare the area at the southern end of the Farmyard Nursery (FYN) to be ready on time to become a suitable site to host our meetings and morning teas when we moved to our new home. A special thank you, to Warren Scarman and Ross Butler for doing the bulk of this work and to all the other members who helped with the painting and preparation of this area.



The transformation of our meeting room area.

The last workshop at Highgate Park was held on September 26th, 2018 and our first official workshop in the FYN commenced on October 16th 2018. Attendance at the new facility has been high and there were twelve new members join in the first three weeks of operation. This was largely due to a short segment and interview aired by ABC radio promoting Rosefield Community Shed.



The focus for 2018 was all about finding and securing a new home. The focus in 2019 will be making sure we are 'Show Ready' well before the Adelaide Show commences 30th August 2019. A condition of our tenancy is that we vacate the facility at showtime and allow time immediately before and after the show for RAHS to set up and then clean up after the show. Although this will provide several challenges, it forces us to look closely at what we accumulate and carefully plan our layouts to help expedite this annual evacuation.

Other plans for 2019 include working with youth, introducing new activities such as lead lighting and culinary literacy, hosting some AMSA or AMSA SA events at the Showgrounds and introducing regular social events such as lunch time BBQ's in the Bull Bar.

People

Our membership base continued to expand both in numbers and geographic spread this year. We now have members as far north as North Haven and to the south, Happy Valley. As a community shed, we have very few restrictions on our conditions of membership. This has given us a quite a diverse group of members ranging in age from 20 to 84 with two female members and a good mix of talents.

Although we have younger members, most of our members are getting on and several have had serious health issues this year. We are aware of this and encourage our members to have regular health checks. John Carrangis continues to contact and visit members who are unable to attend through sickness which is an integral part of our support system.

Grants

Mary Crawford and Graham Ellender continued to work hard submitting grants this year. Unfortunately, we were only successful in winning a partial grant of \$3,200 from Unley Council for tools and equipment to run a program for students of Concordia College. We were informed that our demographic & Socio-Economic status was the primary reason for not being successful in winning the AMSA grant which is funded by the Federal Government.

We were hopeful of being successful in getting a substantial grant from the SA Government through the Department of Human Services to upgrade our meeting area to include upgrading the existing concrete floor, ceiling and air-conditioning. Rosefield Community Shed will continue to submit for grants and look for other avenues for future funding and sponsorship.

Projects

We continue to support community groups, schools, church groups and other organisations wherever possible. This year we have undertaken projects for Phoenix Industries, Parkside Primary School, St Ignatius Parish, Rosefield Uniting Church and conducted a working bee for a disabled Unley resident.

This year has also seen an increase in the complexity of some of projects undertaken. The balance bikes being a prime example. We also continue to look for opportunities to undertake projects that can generate revenue. Projects that fall into this category include planter boxes, French rolling pins, bird boxes and bird feeders.

Our Adelaide Show entry for Gardens in Small Spaces in conjunction with Mitre 10 was once again a winner.



Balance Bike and Adelaide Show entry

Other Achievements

We have started to work on activities that help to promote and raise public awareness of our Shed. This year we published our first two newsletters and produced a flyer for distribution within local communities. We have registered our own domain name and designed and published a new dynamic website rosefieldcs.org.au. A short segment and interview conducted on ABC radio resulted in four new members joining the Shed.

On the social side, we have continued to visit other Sheds, including Sheds at Kingscote, Eudunda, Burra, Mt Pleasant, Mt Barker, and Willaston. We have also attended several musters organised by AMSA SA and will be hosting an AMSA SA committee meeting in the Woodcutters venue at the Showground in January 2019. We plan to work more closely with AMSA and AMSA SA in the coming years to host more events thanks to the generosity of RAHS for allowing us to use their facilities and to take advantage of our central location. Our Christmas break-up this year was held in the Bull Bar at the Showground. This is a wonderful facility to host social functions and we plan to use it more often for BBQ lunches in 2019.

In June a shipping container was purchased in preparation for our move to the Showgrounds. This container is located in south eastern corner the Rosefield Uniting Church Carpark Highgate and is used as a temporary storage for our timber. This proved to be a fortuitous decision as we received a substantial donation of timber from Boral

Norwood soon afterwards and would have had nowhere to store it without the container. The original plan was to relocate the container to the Showgrounds for storage of equipment and timber during show time. As we were unsuccessful with the AMSA grant to purchase additional containers for storage we have been forced to investigate other alternatives to accommodate our showtime storage requirements. Our current plans are to sell the container when we set up alternative storage at the Showground.

The other significant purchase this year was timber, shelving and woodworking accessories purchased through Gray's Online auctions. We were fortunate enough to spot this sale of goods from a closed down furniture factory in Rosewater that sold for a mere fraction of new cost.

We wish to acknowledge the Rosefield Uniting Church who auspice the shed in many administrative roles including insurance and account keeping. We also wish to acknowledge Boral Timber Norwood for their generous donation and admin staff of David Pasoni's office and Adelaide Showground office?)

Gerhard Ganser on behalf of
Rosefield Community Shed
Management Committee
29th January 2019