

**From:** "RHB-Down-Pri" <smtpservice@svc.nsw.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thu, 03 Jun 2021 14:59:01 +1000  
**To:** "Info" <Info@svc.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** 20210603 - Request - Land to Build Mens Shed - Tumbarumba Mens Shed Inc  
**Attachments:** 03062021145901-0001.pdf

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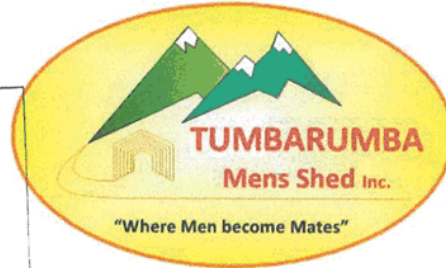
**TUMBARUMBA MENS SHED Inc.**

87 The Parade  
 Tumbarumba NSW 2653  
 Email: tumbashed@mail.com  
 Post: PO Box 347 Tumbarumba NSW 2653  
 ABN: 71966492684  
 Dated: 30/05/2021

To:  
 Snowy Valleys Council  
 76 Capper St, Tumut, NSW 2720

Attn: Matthew Hyde  
 CC: Bruce Wright  
 Glen McGrath

SNOWY VALLEYS COUNCIL RECEIVED 03 JUN 2021 Tumut Office DOC ID: ..... BOX ID: ..... Notes:
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Dear Matthew,

I am writing to you requesting your assistance to secure a suitable piece of land in Tumbarumba on which the Tumbarumba Mens Shed Inc can build a new, "fit for purpose" shed.

The primary driver has been that since the bushfires in January of 2020, active membership has increased fourfold.

Of many factors, the most significant has been those men seeking relief and mateship in the aftermath of the bush fires and others who have joined in order to directly contribute in a meaningful way, to the recovery of the community and beyond.

Even from the commencement of the COVID restrictions in March of 2020, and continuing on to the present day, membership has continued to grow at a far quicker rate than our most optimistic projections.

The number of members showing up to contribute to community projects, particularly larger ones such as those we undertook on the rail trail, has been unprecedented. This has been more than double the likely increase we projected when we put together our 3 year business plan which had membership as one of the goals.

In August of 2020 the Mens Shed committee, (which includes an accredited workplace safety advisor), undertook a full review of the existing building in the Tumbarumba Showground precinct that we have occupied since raising the funds to have it erected in 2011.

Having a building of a fixed size footprint, a continuing growth in active membership, and the acquisition of some additional machinery, led to the obvious conclusion that sooner rather than later, we would be pushing the bounds of prudent workplace safety standards.

Even capping membership at current levels, and allowing for a natural attrition, would not be sufficient and an extension to the shed would be required.

Towards the end of 2020, we met with Mr Glen McGrath and Mr Justin Epps on site for an informal preliminary discussion with a view to extending the present building and SVC's likely requirements.

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Tumbarumba Mens Shed Inc is a registered charity, has tax deductability status for donations and is member of the Australian Mens Shed Association, which is supported by the Australian Government Department of Health Department

Since then, we have pursued a multiplicity of options for a building extension but were unable to find a solution that would meet the requirements of Snowy Valleys Council, the aesthetic expectations of the community, and provide the additional space necessary for us to meet our obligations.

With a roadway on the Northern end, heritage trees immediately adjacent to both the Easterly and Western sides of the building, and a public toilet block immediately at the Southern end, finding a viable plan whilst working within these constraints has proven insurmountable.

Consequently the next logical step has been to commence investigations towards a fresh "greenfield" build with the first step being to find an appropriate site.

With the showground area effectively centred on sporting and entertainment events, we believe that it would better serve all parties, particularly other showground occupiers and users, if any new build it was to be located away from this precinct.

An eventual relocation of the Mens Shed away from the showground would open up an opportunity for the council to redeploy the building, either for its own purposes, or for other sporting or community groups to take up occupation of the existing building.

The challenge faced with this approach is, whilst there are opportunities for us to secure grants from various sources to erect a new building, the likelihood of securing funds for the purchase of suitable land in the immediate future would be at best, unlikely.

Some discussions with various parties has indicated that the Snowy Valleys Council administers and maintains some other vacant, unallocated Crown Land sites within Tumbarumba, and it is feasible that one of these may be made available to the Mens Shed.

It is thought that the parcel of land behind the new car park at the Figures St Rail Trail site, (Lot 5 of DP844044), is one that potentially may be made available, should the Snowy Valleys Council provide support and approval.

Current zoning for this land is "Recreational", a category in which Mens Sheds are fully compliant.

A particular advantage of this site lays in the Mens Shed, Rail Trail Committee and Historical Society, continuing to work further to expand the user experience and facilities of the Rail Trail. Consequently the immediate proximity of this land to the start of the Rail Trail would certainly be beneficial.

Additionally, the Tumbarumba Mens Shed would also take on the obligation of maintaining any land we occupied.

We hope you can see your way clear to support our request for Crown Land to be made available to the Tumbarumba Mens Shed, and to assist us meeting any requirements the Snowy Valleys Council may have to make this possible.



Thanks and regards - Ron Sommer  
(President – Tumbarumba Mens Shed Inc)  
Mobile: 0438002740

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