

POTTSVILLE and DISTRICT MEN'S SHED Inc.

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The Hon. Paul Toole, MP
Member of the Legislative Assembly
Member for Bathurst
Minister for Lands and Forestry, and Minister for Racing
52 Martin Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister,

As Minister for Lands and Forestry, we are contacting you regarding our search of a permanent home for the members of the Pottsville and District Men's Shed.

At present, we are setting up a new shed in Pottsville on a local sports field. You may remember you visited the site in June 2017 with our local member Geoff Provest. On this occasion, we were able to inform you of our situation. After originally contacting Geoff Provest in January 2014 and in consultation with Crown Lands we were not able to identify any suitable available Crown Land for the placement of a shed for us. With the assistance of the Tweed Shire Council we identified nine crown land sites around Pottsville. However, these were found to be not suitable or unavailable.

The Tweed Shire Council offered us a five-year licence to build and operate our shed from the sports field. We took this offer up and the licence was signed on the 16th March 2017. Shed members and members of the immediate and wider community are very happy with the location of the Men's Shed on the sports field.

We are now again writing to you as Minister for Lands and Forestry, with reference to the Crown Lands Act, the MOU with AMSA & NSW Men's Sheds. A document put out by the AMSA in March 2016, now sets out the best course of action for a shed to secure Crown reserve (Land). The first point is to identify potential sites. As we have not been able to identify any potential new sites, since our previous investigations in 2014 and 2015, would Crown Lands be able to update us on any Crown reserve where the situation may have changed, so that we could proceed with a business Case as per the AMSA / DPI MoU to be submitted to the local DPI.

Your Sincerely
Michael Ryan
President of Pottsville and District Men's Shed
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