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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**18 April 2024**

**Claremont Showground Men’s Shed Has Taken Off**

***Claremont Mayor Jock Barker welcomed at the Showground Men’s Shed for a special morning tea to unveil a new shade sail funded by a Town of Claremont Community grant.***

The visit offered Mayor Barker an opportunity to find out more about the thriving community initiative focused on facilitating the social interaction of local men to optimise their physical and emotional wellbeing. Mayor Barker had a chance to check out some of the activities on offer at the Shed from woodworking to bee keeping, photography, wine appreciation and even a flight simulation.

Since opening in February 2020, the Showground Shed has provided a welcoming, safe space for members to enjoy and flourish, nurturing a sense of community and combating social isolation amongst its 295 members.

**Stewart Forbes, President of the Showgrounds Men’s Shed, said:** “Here at the Showgrounds Men’s Shed we are all about health, welfare, and happiness. The Shed offers our members purpose and support in a pressure free environment, and it is a great outlet for men young and old to come together. We couldn’t do what we do without our supporters, and we would like to thank the Town of Town of Claremont for their community grant which has allowed us to further improve our garden area with a shade sail, opening even more opportunity for our member and community events”.

**Jock Barker, Mayor of the Town of Claremont, said:** “The Men’s Shed is a fantastic asset for the gentlemen within our community and a worthy recipient of the Town’s Claremont Community Funding program. I would very much encourage those interested in joining to take a visit and see the many interesting programs they have on offer”.

**Robyn Sermon, CEO of the Royal Agricultural Society of WA (RASWA), said:** “As the custodians of the Showgrounds, RASWA has an obligation and a responsibility to utilise the grounds to its best advantage. Housing initiatives like the Men’s Shed here at the Claremont Showground allows us to deliver on that commitment, whilst strengthening our links with our community. The mutual relationship we have built with the Men’s Shed members has so many benefits – not least the fantastic scones they bake! It is fantastic to see the investment the Men’s Shed members have in the facilities here at the Claremont Showground and we are delighted to see the Men’s Shed continuing to grow”.

The Showgrounds Community Men's Shed provides opportunities for members to work on their own projects, join a team working on Shed activities and tasks, or just share time, recreation, and fellowship with other members.

The Shed is in Claremont Showgrounds at Gate 8 on Ashton Ave and is open Monday to Saturday from 8.30am - 4.30pm and Sunday 12.00pm - 4.30pm.

For more information, or to become a member visit [msclaremont.tidyhq.com](https://msclaremont.tidyhq.com/)

**ENDS**

**Images:** PLEASE SEE EMAIL ATTACHMENTS

**About the Showgrounds Men’s Shed**

The Aim of the Showgrounds Community Men’s Shed is to optimise member's physical and emotional wellbeing. Our Objective is to facilitate the social interaction of men through providing a welcoming, safe space for members to enjoy and flourish. To facilitate our Mission the Showgrounds Community Men’s Shed engages with the community to undertake activities in a constructive way to optimise member’s physical and emotional wellbeing.

More information: [msclaremont.tidyhq.com](https://msclaremont.tidyhq.com/)

**About the Royal Agricultural Society of WA**

The Royal Agricultural Society of WA (RASWA) is a member-based not-for-profit organisation dedicated to promoting the value and achievements of rural WA and the State’s primary industries. Since 1903, the 191-year-old organisation has been based at the Claremont Showgrounds — a 29ha site located in the heart of the western suburbs, and a much-loved community asset, best known as the home of the annual Perth Royal Show.   
  
More information: [raswa.org.au](http://www.raswa.org.au/)

**About the Claremont Showground**

The Claremont Showground is WA’s biggest multi-purpose event venue sitting on over 32 acres of land with a range of competitively priced, bookable indoor and outdoor venues to hire in the suburb of Claremont. Located less than 10km from Perth CBD, the land was reserved in 1902 as a new showground to replace the Guildford Showgrounds and has been facilitating Australian community and corporate events for over 100 years!

More information: [claremontshowground.com.au](https://claremontshowground.com.au/)