

Grafton U3A Inc.

(University of the Third Age)

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"Sharing our knowledge, skills and experience in a friendly, convivial way"

21st September 2015



Memorandum of Understanding

Between

Grafton U3A Inc. & Grafton U3A Men's Shed

PREAMBLE: Grafton University of the Third Age was incorporated in 2002 and quickly grew to a popular and effective organisation which provided a wide range of activities and interest to an ever increasing number of senior members of our community.

The interest groups and classes developed covered such diverse activities as Table Tennis to Tai Chi, Language Classes and Music Appreciation, Shakespeare to History, Mahjong and Board Games to mention a few.

The Men's Shed is one of these interest groups under the banner of Grafton U3A Inc. whose membership presently is over 300 and growing. It is a member of NSW U3A Network and through that is associated with an Australia wide movement with close ties to the worldwide U3A movement established in Paris in 1972.

As an incorporated body, Grafton U3A has an executive and management committee controlling all aspects of the organisation.

MEN'S SHED: In 2005 some members conceived the idea of a Men's Shed and set about developing the concept.

Generosity of Ron Skinner, the owner of the Grafton Brewery Complex provided space and 4 members set about the task of converting that space into the initial premises equipped with tools and machinery that was donated, lent and purchased as funds started to flow. In 2009 the new owners of the industrial site, Les and Jan McGill made further space available and with the assistance of NSW Government Building Better Community's Grant of \$35000 a marked improvement in the facility was achieved and the new era swiftly established what is widely recognised as an outstanding Men's Shed.

It should be recognised that many of the Shed Members are involved in the wider U3A activities also.

President: Maree Burrows

Vice President: David Abrahams

Phone: 0266421640

Phone: 02 66422540

Secretary: Carole Cairns

Treasurer: Bruce Carle

Phone: 0266424615

Phone: 0409225536

STRUCTURE: At this stage a Lease of the Brewery Premises was entered into between the owners and Grafton U3A Inc. for a fixed sum with the proviso that no rent was payable whilst ever the area was occupied by the Lessee. The lease offers protection for both parties in any circumstance.

Because of the busy nature of cash flow with the Men' Shed, a separate bank account was established (same Bank as Grafton U3A) and financial management is autonomous. Monthly updates of these records are made to the U3A financial records presented to the Committee meetings.

U3A pays for Liability & Business Insurance and the Men's Shed pays for Electricity, Registration and Insurance for the truck & trailer and any accounts pertaining to its operation. Shed members pay \$1 per attendance at the Shed to U3A. Other interest groups and classes attendees pay various amounts to U3A depending on their location, rent etc.

ASSETS: The Shed possesses a truck and trailer, very considerable tools and machinery and designated funds which have been accumulated through the contribution of the Members. The Financial structure is defined in U3A reports adopted by the Committee.

MANAGEMENT: Founders of the Shed, Frank Heppell (Leader), Warren Moss (Treasurer), David Abrahams and Don Jackson manage the operation including decisions re donations to organisations (such as Hospitals etc.), purchase of new machinery, tools etc.

SUMMARY: There is a recognition that Grafton U3A Inc. and Grafton U3A Men's Shed are mutually and satisfactorily beneficial to each other with all arrangements in place and this unique association is sure to continue indefinitely.

MEMORANDUM

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WAS ADOPTED BY GRAFTON U3A INC. COMMITTEE ON MONDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2015

SIGNED.....*Maree Burrows*.....PRESIDENT

MAREE BURROWS

SIGNED.....*Carole Cairns*.....SECRETARY

CAROLE CAIRNS

WITNESS.....*David Abrahams*.....PUBLIC OFFICER

DAVID ABRAHAMS

President: Maree Burrows

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