

DVMS Shares Australian Men's Shed Association

National Shed Awards

AMSA's National Shed Awards give the Men's Shed community an opportunity to recognise the outstanding work of Men's Sheds around Australia. Supported by AMSA's major partner [Fair Dinkum Builds](#), the Awards look for Sheds and efforts of all sizes to celebrate the simple greatness of Men's Sheds from all over the country.

In 2026, the Awards fell under four categories with winners announced at the 11th AMSA National Men's Shed Gathering held in Brisbane.

The Green Shed

Dingley Village Men's Shed VIC

Dingley Village Men's Shed has transformed thousands of discarded plastic milk bottles into durable community products such as garden stakes, benches and planter boxes. Through ingenuity and persistence, members designed and built their own recycling machinery, proving that practical innovation can turn waste into long-lasting resources.



This award was shared with the Nepean Men's Shed in N.S.W

AMSA Delivers our Award direct to our Shed



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OK, but who was on hand to accept it??



L – R Hon. Mark Dreyfus KC MP, President Peter O’Leary, David Taylor & Marty Leist (AMSA)
That’s Robert O’Brien in the background

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Who else was there???

At left is Liz Thomas a Director of Dingley Village Bendigo Bank and manager of the Farmer's Market with AMSAs' Marty Leist

At right is Wayne McPherson, Kel Burgess, Liz and Emma Eckhardt – Bendigo Bank



The boys from the bank enjoying the fruits of our labour



David, Peter and Marty recording a podcast for the AMSA



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So, what did we win the Award for ??

Helping ourselves and our community !!



Recycling used plastic milk bottles into usable, durable everyday items like garden furniture, bench seats, garden stakes, planter boxes and more.....



Lots of trialing and testing took place before we got it right. Along with some expert advice it finally all came good

All too soon it was time to say “Good Bye” to Marty and the AMSA along with our special guests :- Hon. Mark Dreyfus KC MP, Wayne McPherson, Emma Eckhardt and the boys from the bank and last but not least Liz Thomas, Director of the Dingley Village Bendigo bank and manager of the Farmer’s Market

Thank You to our members and all who made this occasion possible.

It was a pity that Kevin Strahan, Ken Groves and other members who regularly help out with our recycling projects were not able to be with us on the day