

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE

Thursday 23 October 2025

PORTLAND MEN'S SHED POWERS AHEAD WITH ELECTRICAL UPGRADE

The Portland Men's Shed has received a \$2,500 grant from the United Way Glenelg Lewis Court Fund to support a much-needed upgrade to its electrical system. The works included installing new lighting, power outlets, and an upgraded switchboard to improve safety and functionality for members.

The project addressed long-standing issues with overloaded circuits and reliance on extension cords, creating a safer environment and enabling more members to work simultaneously on different projects. With improved lighting and power access, members can now better use the expanded shed facilities, supporting a wide range of community activities.

President of the Portland Men's Shed, John Smith, said the funding had made a real difference,

"This upgrade was essential for the safety and efficiency of our shed. Our members can now work in a safer environment with better facilities. It means we can continue to provide practical help to our community, from small repairs for older residents to projects that bring people together."

The Portland Men's Shed supports over 40 members directly, while indirectly benefiting many more through volunteer projects, furniture repairs, and community support. The shed also provides a welcoming space for men at risk of social isolation, along with opportunities for other community groups to meet and share activities.

United Way Glenelg Executive Officer, Nicole Carr, highlighted the importance of supporting local facilities that foster connection.

"The Men's Shed is about more than tools and timber, it's about mateship, wellbeing and giving back to the community. This project ensures members can work in a safe and inclusive space, and we're proud that the Lewis Court Fund could help make it happen."

The electrical upgrade was completed in July 2025 with works carried out by local contractors. The Portland Men's Shed acknowledges the contribution of United Way Glenelg and the Lewis Court Fund in ensuring the sustainability and safety of its facilities for years to come.

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