



**VELUX BRINGS LIGHT
TO MEN'S SHED...**





WHAT IS A
MEN'S SHED?

DARKNESS TURNS TO LIGHT...

Located just six kilometres from the CBD, Hawthorn is one of Melbourne's most affluent suburbs. But it's not immune to social problems. One such problem is spreading fast across the nation..

SOCIAL ISOLATION

"Social isolation among elderly males is a significant problem here in Hawthorn," said Robert Hogan, chairman of the Hawthorn Men's Shed Committee. "We had a Men's Shed already but the building was hopelessly inadequate. The Rotary Club of Glenferrie and Uniting AgeWell joined forces to raise funds for a new facility."

VELUX MADE A HUGE DIFFERENCE

"Thanks to generous sponsors the plans soon took shape. One of the first ideas the designer brought up was VELUX skylights. I'm glad she did. Looking at the shed today, I couldn't imagine it without VELUX."

GROWING NUMBER OF USERS

"It's still early days but the word is getting out and the amount of users is growing steadily. Some come as individuals, some in a group. One of our groups is a stroke survivor group that comes in once a week. The shed is fast becoming a close-knit community where everybody looks out for each other."



*"I couldn't imagine the shed without VELUX,"
said Robert Hogan*



*Robert Hogan, chairman of the
Hawthorn Men's Shed Committee*



A Men's Shed is a community version of the typical Aussie shed in the backyard. The users gather to work on their projects and/or to have a yarn and a cuppa.

HEALTH BENEFITS

Men's Sheds are not-for-profit organisations aimed at improving men's health and quality of life. The sheds promote social interaction to reduce depression related illness in men of all ages.

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

Apart from the benefits for the individual users and the healthcare system, Men's Sheds contribute to the wider community. The work carried out often benefits schools, charities and other community groups.

AN AUSTRALIAN IDEA

The idea originated in Australia in the mid-1990s and there are now over 900 Men's Sheds across the country. The number is growing fast and Men's Sheds are emerging in New Zealand, Asia and Europe – Ireland has almost 100.

WHAT IS A MEN'S SHED?



A ROOM FULL
OF LIGHT...





The VELUX skylights create plenty of natural light

VELUX MAKES THE ROOM...

Without the Rotary Club of Glenferrie, there would be no new Hawthorn Men's Shed. Members Don Moore (engineering & project management) and Kim Andrews (design) each played an important role in turning the idea into reality...

GOOD LIGHT ESSENTIAL

"Plenty of light was a must from the beginning," said Kim. "Most of the users are elderly and their eyesight is not what it used to be. They're working with potentially dangerous tools so good light is essential. VELUX skylights create wonderful natural light – depression busting and free of charge – so they were an integral part of my design."

VENTILATION

"Ventilation is another free gift from the VELUX skylights. Too hot? Open the skylights and let the breeze in. Sawdust in the air? Open the skylights and let it out. The skylights create a great indoor climate year-round."

SPACE CREATORS

"Without the skylights we would need vertical windows which would take up valuable wall space," said Don. "But the VELUX skylights create space in more sense than one – they make you feel like you're part of the outside. I think the room would be claustrophobic without the skylights."

ENERGY SAVINGS

"Energy efficiency is another big advantage of the VELUX skylights," continued Don. "Some are openable which means we can get a good breeze through the room and rarely need the air conditioning. On sunny days the artificial lights remain off, the users much prefer natural light."

LONG HISTORY WITH VELUX

"As a designer I've used VELUX skylights on many occasions, I even have them in my own office," said Kim. "VELUX skylights look fantastic and are extremely well engineered. Their thermal properties are without equal and I know they just work. Never had a leak."



Engineer and project manager Don Moore, Don Moore & Associates



Designer Kim Andrews, McNamara & Andrews



Nine large VELUX skylights – three openable – make you feel like you're part of the outside



Thanks to VELUX, there's plenty of wall space in the shed

Paul Fullerton is a regular user of the Hawthorn Men's Shed



THE USERS LOVE IT...

Paul Fullerton has been a regular user of the Hawthorn Men's Shed for a couple of years. He's excited with the new building...

FANTASTIC LIGHT

"It's a terrific facility, the light is fantastic and it's never freezing cold or hot like it used to be. I love the skylights. Natural light is so good – no shadows, just even light which makes it much better to work by. If I were designing houses they would all have skylights...why pay for light and ventilation if you can get it for free?"

STROKE SURVIVOR

"I'm part of a stroke survivor group and the Men's Shed is one of our regular meeting places. We make woodwork for ourselves, our families or for the community. One of our projects was equipment for rehab hospitals, trying to repay what the hospitals did for us."

VOLUNTEERS LIKE IT TOO

Charlie Mifsud has been a volunteer at the Hawthorn Men's Shed for more than three years. "The old shed was basically a patio, partly open to the elements. The new building is a huge step for us and the skylights are my favourite feature."

BLOWN AWAY

"I was blown away when I first saw the skylights. I couldn't believe it...amazing with all the light they create. Without the skylights, artificial light would be on all the time. And I'm not sure what we would do about the sawdust. Now we just open the skylights and away it goes."



Users and volunteers love the natural light



Volunteer Charlie Mifsud was blown away by the VELUX skylights



Seen from the outside, the Hawthorn Men's Shed is little more than that – a shed. But the moment you walk in, it takes on a new dimension. Much of the roof space consists of VELUX skylights and the space and light they create has to be seen to be believed. Take a look inside...

VELUX®

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