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MEDIA RELEASE

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Community Men's Shed for Gosford

Coast Shelter Executive Officer, Laurie Maher, announced Coast Shelter's commitment to providing a Community Men's Shed for the Gosford community.

With the assistance of Gosford City Council, the new Gosford City Rotary Club and the Central Coast Hotels Association, the new Community Men's Shed should be up and running within twelve months Maher said.

Men's sheds have been established throughout Australia, with each having its own particular character and although there is quite a wonderful Men's Shed at Kincumber, Gosford itself is very much in need of such a facility.

There's nothing new about men getting together to talk, share ideas, solve problems and make things, Maher said and the same opportunity should be offered to women.

With the growth in the numbers of people living in apartments and the disappearance of the back-yard shed, it is important that our communities have somewhere for those who would like to do something in their 'Shed' Maher said.

If we can base our "Community Shed" on the very successful Kincumber Men's Shed, Gosford will be all the better for it.

Activities in the sheds are many and varied and include woodwork, metalwork, restoration of furniture and old cars, as well as pre-fab houses for disaster areas etc.

"Membership is just as diverse" Maher said. They come from all backgrounds ethnic and social mixes, bringing their unique cultures to enliven the atmosphere at the Shed.

The common theme is about giving people a place to meet and making them feel useful and allow them to contribute to their communities while they learn new skills and make friends.

Community Men's Shed's are being recognised throughout Australia as building blocks of the social capital of communities and as viable places which fulfill the needs of members of our communities and provide relaxed happy creative spaces where members can enjoy themselves Maher concluded.

**For further details on contact Laurie Maher on
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