

Belconnen Community Men's Shed 2025 AGM- Minutes

Time	Item	Presenter
0900	Breakfast BBQ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanks to Ian R and Yusef for running BBQ 	Ian R
1100	Welcome and introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting started at 11:00 	Gordon
1105	Attendees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alan Marshall, Barry Cook, Chris Loveless, Chris Lowe, Claudio Ellero, Colin Lyons, Dave McArthur, David Gorell, Gaz Lake, Geoff Malone, Geoff McClatchey, Gerry Andrew, Gordon Cooper, Greg Abbott, Hayden Cook, Ian MacPherson, Ian Ruecroft, Joe Orefice, John Colquhoun, John Polkinghorne, Jon Struss, Mano Georgopoulos, Michael de Looper, Paul Cunningham, Paul Cunningham, Petter Tomaska, Sean Costello, Shamsul Miyan, Terry Sanders, Tim Carlton, Tom Brimson, Tony Holmes, Yusuf Kamara Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Bevan 	Tom
1106	Confirmation of 2024 AGM Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes have been available from last meeting All agreed to minutes being approved 	Tom
1108	Matters arising from 2024 Minutes	Tom
	Comments from Phil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church continues to seek to serve the community with support from other members of the community The Church is 'so pleased' with the shed and its support of men, and in particular their mental health Thank you on behalf of the church 	Phil
1110	Committee Member Reports Committee members presented their reports attached as Attachment A and made a few additional comments noted below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> President [Gordon] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proud of supporting members and men's mental health Out network of contacts is able to reach out and support people Secretary [Tom] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stable and dedicated committee members Treasurer [Michael] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledged James as Treasurer for most of last year Health financial position Operations Manager [John C] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanks for members helping out with community work IT Officer [Mano] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members appreciated the verses Property Officer [Tony] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine maintenance New CD printer and plasma cutter 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Willing to consider purchase of new tools requested by members • Web Manager [Dave] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continuing to keep website up to date • Membership Officer [Tim] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Great attendance from members • Safety Officer [Ian] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Not many things going wrong ○ Reminder for members to maintain vigilance on matters of safety • Sales [Barry] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Things going well thanks to community support • Newsletter editor [Tom] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seeking contributions from members to content 	
11:30	Committee positions declared vacant by adjudicator	
11:31	<p>Nominations and voting for committee positions nominated by Gordon Cooper and Seconded by Phil Waugh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gordon Cooper • Vice President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mike Bevan • Secretary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tom Brimson • Treasurer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Michael de Looper • Operations Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ John Colquhoun • Property Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tony Holmes • IT Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mano Georgopoulos • Deputy / Understudy IT Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sean Costello • Web Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ David Gorell • Safety Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ian McPherson • Membership Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tim Carlton • Deputy / Understudy Membership Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Claudio Ellero • Newsletter editor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tom Brimson • Reorganisation Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ian Ruecroft • Committee members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Joe Orefice ○ John Polkinghorne ○ Terry Sanders 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chris Lowe • Bell Ringer ○ Joe and Yusuf 	
11:35	Positions confirmed by adjudicator	
11:37	Meeting closed	

ATTACHMENT A

BELCONNEN COMMUNITY MENS SHED 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



5 July 2025

2025 BCMS PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am grateful for the BCMS Committee and all members who together have enabled us to work through and enjoy another successful year with many highlights and events.

The harmony and very positive atmosphere of the shed have continued, and any tensions or misunderstandings quickly resolved.

We have experienced much generosity towards the shed with two significant \$1,000 donations.

- Focused Blokes support group continues to meet about every 6 weeks, and we are continually surprised with the openness and vulnerability of attendees as they share their stories and the resulting positive change. No man is left walking alone. Attendance averages around 10 men per meeting.
- Visits from Local Federal Member Dr Andrew Leigh, Senator Katy Gallagher, Senator David Pocock, and our ACT Health Minister Racheal Stephen-Smith all with a focus on seeking help for our Mental health needs.
- First visit from ANU Research School Leader, an ANU medical student, and a Clinical Psychologist to commence a research project to enable us to better understand and identify the needs within our community.
- The Saturday afternoon Ladies attendance as Associate members started with a rush and has now settled in with 3-4 regular attendees plus our own men.

Thank you to James Hurnall, our past Treasurer and Michael De Looper our new Treasurer and to Iven Laufer for your long involvement in the shed and on the Committee.

Thank you.

Gordon Cooper

President BCMS

2025 BCMS Secretary's report

The following summary captures Shed committee activity for year 2024-2025

- Nine committee meetings were held at BCMS during 2024-2025
 - plus one meeting held via email.
- A very good attendance record was achieved, and both Tom and Gordon really appreciate the dedication of our committee members.
- The committee also dealt with
 - changes to the financial management system,
 - changes to the sheds authorised members to conduct banking and
 - a couple of shed disciplinary considerations.
- Our duty officers and operations manager looked after about 5,000 visitations by our members and visitors to our shed for the year.
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The following table shows committee members attendance at each of the committee meetings.

It has been pleasing to see that more committee members being able to attend since moving our normal meeting from Wednesdays to Saturdays in 2023.

Table 1 Attendance at Committee meetings

Member	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Feb	Feb #2	Mar	April	May	Tot
Gordon Cooper	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	y	y	y	9
Iven Lauffer	Y			Y			Y				2
Tom Brimson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	y	y	y	10
James Hurnall		Y		Y		Y	Y	y	y		6
John Colquhoun	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	y	y	y	9
Tony Holmes	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	y	y	y	9
Ian Mcpherson	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	y	y	y	9
David Gorell	Y	Y	Y			Y	Y	y	y	y	8
Mano Georgopoulos	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	y	y	y	9
Tim Carlton	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	y	y	y	8
John Polkingham	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	y	y	y	9
Claudio Ellero	Y	Y	Y		Y		Y	y	y		7
Terry Sanders	Y		Y		Y	Y	Y				5
Ian Ruecroft				Y	Y	Y	Y	y	y	y	7
Michael De Looper						Y	Y		y	Y	4
Attending	12	11	10	10	8	10	15	12	13	11	

Notes:

1. A special committee meeting was held via email in February to consider changes to the authorised persons to become signatories to the BCMS bank account.
2. Michael De Looper replaced James from April 2025 as treasurer.
3. Iven has apologised but been unable to attend since November due to personal circumstances

4. 8 members attended nine or more meetings during the year. A very impressive attendance record.

Many thanks to Mano who has assisted Tom, due to his profound hearing loss, by helping with the minutes.

Tom Brimson

Secretary BCMS

2025 BCMS Treasurers Report

Opening and closing balance – 2024–25

- The opening balance (1 July 2024) was \$9,667.65 • The closing balance (24 June 2025) was \$11,734.49.

Income and Expenditure – 1 July 2024 to 24 June 2025

Income	2024–25
Membership subscriptions	\$7,600.00
Repairs	\$215.00
Sales and Donations	\$11,862.20
Sale of Tools	\$724.50
Morning Tea	\$2,372.00
Northside Shed Night hire	\$201.85
Functions	\$320.00
Miscellaneous	509.84
TOTAL INCOME	\$23,805.39

Expenditure	2024–25
Consumables	\$66.70
Materials	\$4,172.46
Machine/Tools	\$4,003.52
Morning Tea/BBQ/Functions	\$1,301.01
Kitchen Supplies	\$356.29
Square fees	\$234.89
Shed utilities	\$3,027.31
Insurance	\$5,025.00
Miscellaneous	\$3,551.37
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$21,738.55

Surplus/(Deficit)	\$2,066.84
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Comments

Major income items during 2024–25:

- Two generous donations of \$1,000 (Harry's Autocare and anonymous online)
- Page Shops event (\$763) and Home Affairs Sausage Sizzle (\$738)

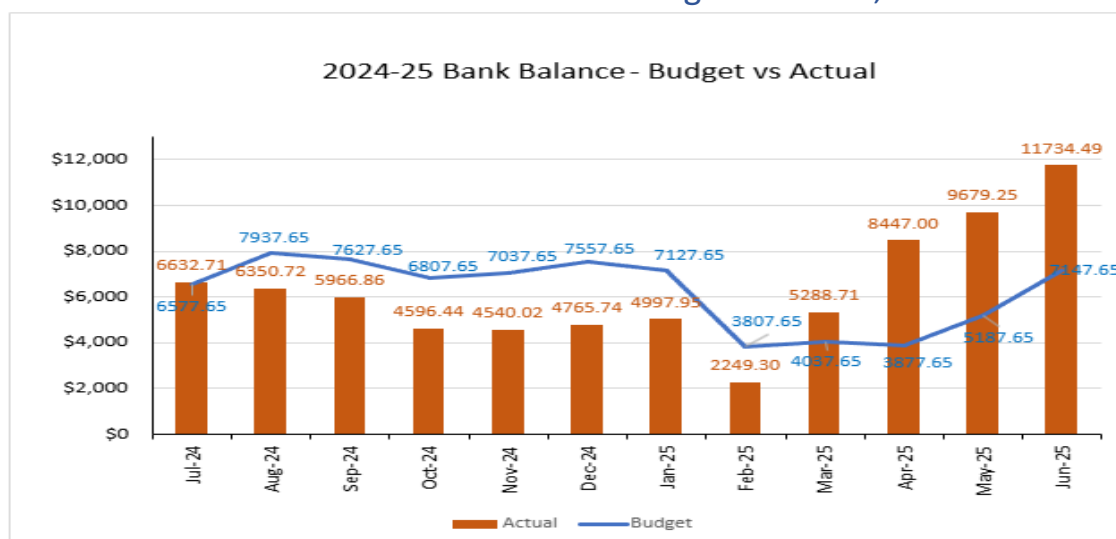
Major expenditure items during 2024–25:

- AMSA insurance (\$3,990) and Building/Contents insurance (\$1,035)
- Duncan's Plumbing (\$1,512) and
- 3D printer (\$1,354)

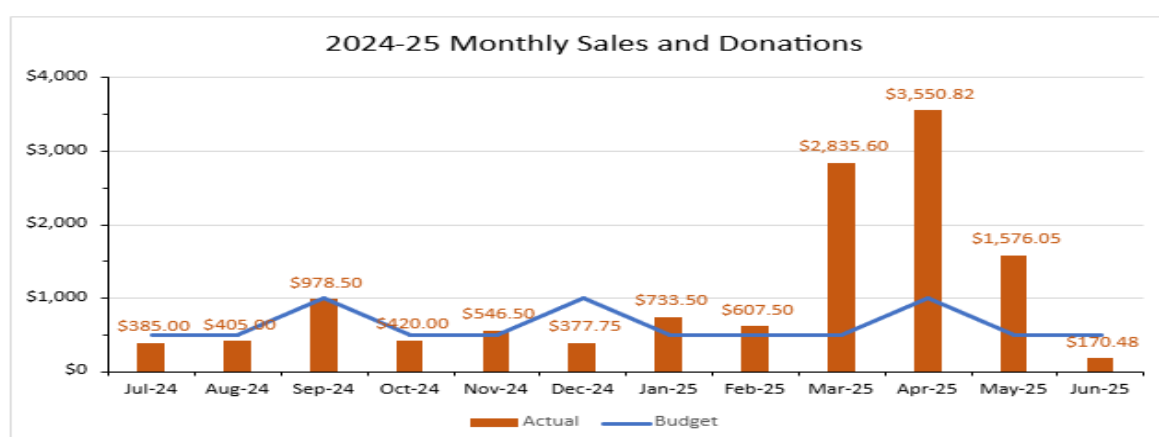
Attachments:

1. 2024–25 Bank Balance – Budget vs Actual, as at 24 June 2025
2. 2024–25 Sales & Donations – Budget vs Actual, as at 24 June 2025
3. BCMS 2024–25 Income and Expenditure Statement

Attachment 1: 2024–25 Bank Balance – Budget vs Actual, as at 24 June 2025



Attachment 2: Sales & Donations – Budget vs Actual, as at 24 June 2025



Attachment 3: BCMS 2024–25 Income and Expenditure Statement

BCMS Income and Expenditure Statement

July 2024 to 24 June 2025

INCOME

Subscriptions	\$7,600.00
Sales/ Donations	\$11,862.20
Sale of Tools	\$724.50
Morning Tea	\$2,372.00

Northside Shed Night Hire	\$201.85
Functions	\$320.00
Shed	\$-
Miscellaneous	\$509.84
Other income	\$
TOTAL INCOME	\$23,805.39

EXPENDITURE

Petty Cash /Consumables	\$66.70
Materials	\$4,172.46
Machine / Tools	\$4,003.52
Morning Tea / BBQ / Functions	\$1,301.01
Kitchen Supplies	\$356.29
Square Fees	\$234.89
Shed Utilities	\$3,027.31
Insurance	\$5,025.00
Projects	\$-
Other expenditure	\$3,551.37
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$21,738.55

Surplus/(Deficit) \$2,066.84

Michael De Looper

Treasurer

2025 BCMS Operations Manager

- We have had another great year.
 - We continue to undertake community-based jobs, in which members are happy to be involved.
 - My personal thanks go out to all those members who have helped with shed operations in particular the committee members and Duty Officers who all are very willing to put themselves out to keep the shed operating effectively.
 - The member accreditation documents have been reviewed and some minor changes made to improve safety. Most notably is the instruction to retract the table saw down after use and lower the band saw guide.
 - Duty Officers are reminding members that if they are unsure of the operation of any of the Shed tools, assistance or guidance must be requested from other members, committee members or Duty Officer of the day before they attempt to operate the tools.
1. Some of the shed jobs completed this year include.
 - a) Community projects, two street libraries as well as storage lockers for the kindergarten have been completed.
 - b) Gordon built a Bain Marie.
 - c) The manufacture of Possum boxes continues.
 - d) The manufacture of Bread Boards continues led by Barry
 - e) David led production of around 500 crosses, most of them have ended up at the hospitals,
 - i) Around 100 wooden hearts, for those who are not religious,
 - ii) 40 wooden wombats for the Wombats play group, and
 - iii) Toys for Calvary
 2. The job registration system has been simplified and is working
 - it is important for Duty Officers to remind members to register their jobs:
 - a requirement for our insurance,
 - members need to close out all completed jobs to avoid the system becoming overloaded with expired job sheets.

John Colquhoun

Operations Manager

IT Managers Report

In the Shed, not too long ago,
Our systems were scattered, a bit touch-and-go.
But this year we paused, took stock of the lot,
And pulled things together, now streamlined and taut!

We packed up our files, both big ones and small,
And moved them to Microsoft-yes, one and all!
Now they're safe in the cloud, not lost in a drawer,
You can find what you need, no digging no more!

Emails got smarter, the spam ran away,
Our inboxes cleaner by night and by day.
No more odd messages clogging the line,
Just Shed business flowing, efficient and fine.

And look! In the corner, what do we see?
A shiny new computer, as fast as can be!
It hums and it clicks and it prints things in 3D,
A marvellous gift for our tech-hungry spree!

So here's to the Shed and the smart work we do,
With systems now solid and running like new.
We're building, we're growing, with tools that are prime,
And having some fun... one byte at a time!

Mano Georgopoulos

IT Manager

BCMS Property Officers Report 2025

Several tools have required repair this year including

- Welder
- Planer
- Jointer
- Band Saws
- Plasma Cutter
- Thicknesser
- Water Stone (split)
- Metal work belt sander
- Thicknesser cutter heads replaced
- AED machine –replaced batteries and shock pads

A maintenance Record book has been established, to document repairs and their cause.

Courses and accreditation have been organised for all the recent new tool acquisitions (plasma cutter, 3 d printer etc).

New tools purchased during the year include:

- 3D printer
- Plasma cutter (16 accredited members)
- Bench grinder with polishing wheels to be placed outside.
- multimeter that can measure capacitance

- wire strippers
- crimp tool

Future maintenance needs

-
- Test and tag machine has been certified. This must be done annually, and costs ~\$256.
- AED machine requires replacement batteries and pads at 24 month – Cost around \$300.00

Tony Holmes

Property Officer

Webmaster Report 2025

Our website has had a busy year

- There were 7126 views of pages on our website
- 2177 unique users to our website and 3200 sessions on our website

The website has included

- Updating the web pages with information and photographs.
- A link to Gordon's talk with John Paul Young's AMSA Podcasts
- Advertised events at Shed.

David Gorell

Webmaster

Membership Report

I'm a statistician, so this report is going to be very number heavy.

Shed Membership

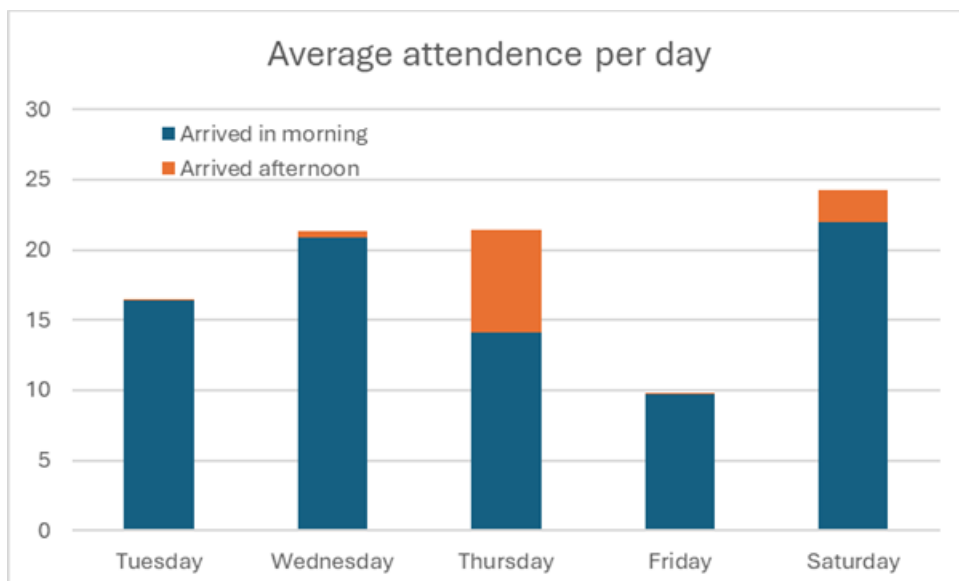
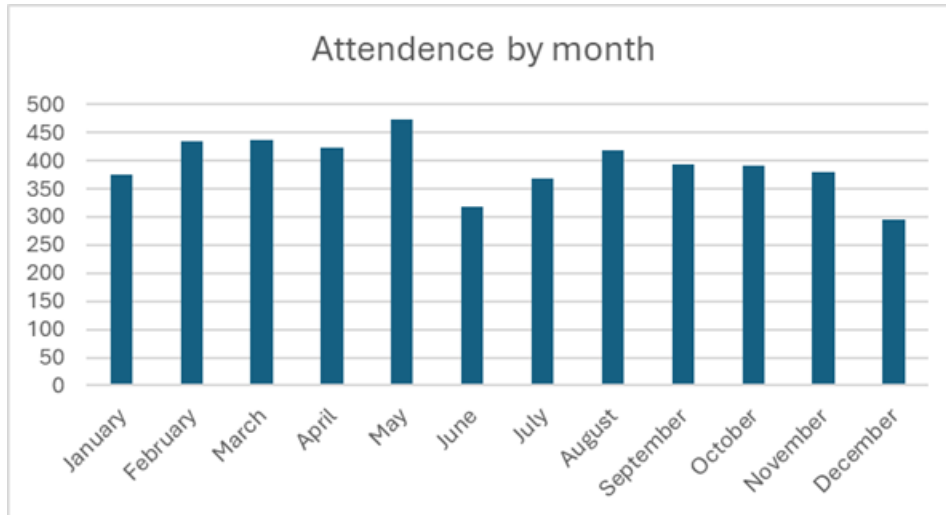
- Our headline statistic is that our shed has 167 members.
 - This includes 16 Shed night members, and
 - 20 associate members, and
 - 131 standard members. I was going to call them 'normal members', but that is a stretch for some of us.
- The 130 standard members include
 - 83 ongoing members, and
 - 48 new members, who first joined in 2024-25. But we have reasonably stable numbers
 - lost 45 members who didn't renew this year.
 - Shed Night membership started this year, and
 - associate membership virtually starting this year (we had a brief trial in 2023-24), so these categories represent a net growth of 24 in our overall numbers.
- About 70% of our members live in Belconnen,
- Gungahlin (13%) and
- North Canberra (9%) having significant representation.
- But we also have members from nearby New South Wales, and South Canberra.
- Within Belconnen,
 - Page is obviously the largest single suburb of our membership base (12 members),
 - Dunlop, Latham, Evatt, Holt and Melba all have more than 8 members each.

Attendance.

- We had 4700 people check in across the year.

- an average of 28 visits per member.

There is some variation in attendance across the year and across the week.



- 20 members who did not attend the shed at all.
 - includes some members who have been active in the past, and continue to support the shed, and presumably some members who don't know how our check in system works.
- Of our 110 attending standard members,
 - 30 blokes attended at least 50 times, and
 - 13 attended at least 100 times within the year.
 - This is a testament to the huge impact we have on some blokes' lives, and how central the shed is to the social life of some of our members. But is also a testament to the huge effort that some blokes put into the shed that makes it such an incredible place for the rest of us.

I'll finish up by naming our top attendees. Well done and thank you for your contribution.

- Gaz Lake 200
- Tony Smith 190
- Ian MacPherson 182
- Tony Holmes 182

Tim Carlton

Membership secretary.

Safety Officers Report

It has been a busy year with the increase in membership.

- I believe that our systems, training and accreditation procedures have kept up safe with very few incidents this year, the majority of which were minor, but we could improve the following.
 - Many members do not shut drawers after opening them.
 - The dust extraction system is only turned on about 50% of the time
 - Corded power tools are not being rewound correctly and turned off at the tool prior to being put away. This leaves the power cord dangling and can cause the tool to fall from the shelves, get caught with removing other tools or can lead to the tool being activated upon having power turned on
 - The table saw blade is on occasion not returned below deck level,
 - the guard is also often in the raised position whilst the saw is in operation.

Thank you to those members (Committee and non-Committee) who keep an eagle eye on what is going on around them and advise members of a safer or better way of using the equipment.

Ian MacPherson

BCMS Safety Officer

BCMS Community Day Sales

- Chopping board sales experienced high demand met by bigger, brighter, better display at Page Community Day
- New products of toy planes and cars, 3D printed vases and containers, returning boomerangs called "wonder" (if it will come back) were a great success
- Many thanks to our volunteers to man the free BBQ supplied by Duncans

Barry Cook

Cutting-board maker extraordinaire.

Newsletter

- 11 Newsletters were dispatched during the year
 - Generally, the first Sunday after our committee meeting
- Up to 315 recipients for each newsletter
 - Includes 166 members
- Gordon's Good Gossip well received.
- Very few other contributions received

Tom Brimson

Editor

BCMS Newsletter