

'Stories from the Shed': About copyright

We have information from people in the Shed who have been down the copyright road that:

1. If you create the story, you own the copyright. You can transfer it or sell it to another entity. In our '*Stories from the Shed*' case, the originators, being each of our individual story-tellers, will retain the copyright. The Men's Shed is funding the project for charitable and community purposes and ownership would not be permitted.
2. We understand that, when anyone uses copyrighted material as part of their story, they need to acknowledge source, and if required under Australia's *Copyright Act 1968* legislation and amendments, have the permission of the copyright owner to use the material. Generally material from before 1955 is treated differently to any material from that time forward.
3. When a document is published on-line, it is relatively simple for a reader to copy text. An example of this may be when family members use a Story-tellers story to create further family stories, or when students and educators use copied text as part of educational activities. It is a requirement that the person using text in this way acknowledge source. Hence, the requirement for academic texts and assignments to have proper reference and bibliographic details. It may be that schools would appreciate the opportunity to use '*Stories from the Shed*' as a source as part of their programs. To do this, they need to know, in a simple and responsive way, the conditions under which they have permission to do so.
4. The cover page on '*Stories from the Shed*' publications has a statement about copyright, and generally this allows open-access if not for commercial use, unless the author specifies otherwise, in which case the statement should be amended to reflect any restrictions.
5. The '*Stories from the Shed*' copyright statement shows that any requests for permission to use copyrighted material should be made through MGMS. This should then allow such requests to be passed to the copyright owner for consideration. If you are a '*Stories from the Shed*' story-teller, it may be prudent to let others know of your conditions of permission in the event you cannot be contacted regarding such requests for any reason.