



Celebrating 20 years



In the world we know today, people move around from job to job, with the average length of time in a role being 3 years and four months*.

So, it's something special to find someone celebrating 20 years with the same company.

On 1 July 2017, Stephen Hudson celebrated 20 years with ShedBoss – quite an achievement in this day and age.

Stephen started with ShedBoss on 1 July 1997 in a Project Manager Sales role, a role he still holds today.

We asked Stephen about his 20 years in the building industry.

Why have you stayed in the role for twenty years?

From the outset, the first ten years were about growth and there were always things going on with new customers coming on board with more and more complex jobs. Basically, those years really flew by.

The second ten years was less reactive and we have focused on putting more time and effort understanding our customer needs, what is important to them and really tailoring our shed building to their specific requirements.

This has involved a lot more consultation with our customers and we now see people coming to us with a storage or space issue and relying on us to solve that for them. That has probably been the biggest change, that people see us as experts in shed design and problem solvers, rather than simply building four walls and a roof.

My business card has read Project Manager Sales for the twenty years, but the function of the role has developed and it has been good to grow with the demands of the business.

What changes have you seen over the years?

There certainly have been a number of changes over the years

The residential housing market has had an impact on the broader building industry. As people are exploring better efficiencies for their houses, we have adjusted to align with that. Using non-traditional products to build sheds, such as insulated Hebel and insulated panels.

We are also seeing more variety in the types of sheds people are looking for; there has been a definite shift away from conventional brick veneer building styles. Matching a steel building to brick veneer houses certainly has had its challenges over the years, but it's much easier now as the use of horizontal colorbond has taken off in house building. With the variety and range of building materials available it has become easier, and more affordable, for people to match their sheds to their house style.

What have you enjoyed most about your role?

Oh, that's easy. It is being able to see the sheds well after completion and seeing them being used.

When you get to see a shed chock-a-block with people's bits and pieces, see them being used as workshops or playrooms and really being part of people's homes and lives. I know we have done a great job in designing a shed to really meet the needs of those customers.

I had a chap in recently who built with us 18 years ago. He has come back for an additional shed to be added to his home. He had memories of a great experience with us, and after 18 years sought us out again to build another shed.

I've bumped into people down the street who we built a shed for, and they have sold their house and moved on. It's amazing how often they have expressed how popular the shed was in the sale process and how it had an influence on the decision for the new home owners to buy it.

I love how much having a shed can have a positive experience on people's lives.

What will the next 20 years bring?

I'm part of the furniture now and I'm not looking for the trolley to wheel me out, so I have no plans of retirement.

There's always something to challenge me, I never stop learning, and the industry continues to evolve. I like to stay up to date with new technology and industry trends and I love what I do. I want to continue putting all that knowledge I've gained into making sure our customers end up with the shed of their dreams.

Working for Andrea and Max has been a great experience and I wouldn't be in the position I am now without their assistance and guidance. Plus, the whole team here are just great. We function really well together and get the best out of each other. We all have our area of expertise, and together we build great sheds that our customers love. Why would I want to retire?

What do Andrea and Max say?

Andrea and Max Grimmond are the Directors of ShedBoss Albury and Ultimate Alfresco.

We are so proud of Stephen and our whole team at ShedBoss.

Our aim is to create an environment where people feel safe to contribute, feel heard and rewarded. Stephen has certainly contributed to the business over the years and, as a long-term team member with a solid knowledge base of the organisation, has provided stability in a complex and rapidly changing business climate.

Stephen has provided mentoring for new team members over the years and is a valuable support system for them. He is a key member of our team and we can't imagine ShedBoss without him.

We are looking forward to celebrating Stephen's achievement with a dinner in his honour on 1st September."

If you need a shed, feel free to contact Stephen at Shedboss

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* Source: <http://mccrindle.com.au/the-mccrindle-blog/job-mobility-in-australia>