



Newsletter No 12

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Welcome to the Gladstone Men's Shed Newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep all interested parties informed of the progress being made by the committee which would otherwise remain behind the scenes and progress in the shed itself. Please forward this newsletter on to anyone who you think might be interested. Please feel free to give any feed back you feel necessary to menshed4680@hotmail.com

Shed Opening Times: The shed will be open two days a week. **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8am to 12 Noon.**

Car Parking: Please don't park in the Hotel or QRI car parks and leave the lane way for lifeline employees and the marked car parks for the businesses. It's going to mean a bit of a walk for us but it's important that we keep friendly with the neighbours. Thanks.

Shed Committee meetings: Shed General committee meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. **The next meeting will be in the shed at 4.30pm on the 6th August.**

Shed attire: is available at the shed including shirts and caps. If you want a Men's Shed Shirt ask Ron or Dave, try one on for size. Caps are \$10 each multi-fit.

The Shed Widows: Have some shirts of their own, something that they can wear when we have an event that the ladies can attend at the Men's Shed activities. Just ask.

Committee News:

As you are aware we (Mark & Sue Robinson) are moving to Bundaberg. My new job is to drive the Tilt Train and other passenger services with Queensland Rail. My start date is early October but we have much to do before then. That will mean I have to resign from my position as President.

Our Secretary Ron Robertson and his missus Sandra have also made plans to change their lifestyle by moving to the Over 50's Resort at Palm Lakes, Bargara. Therefore Ron's position as Secretary will also need to be filled.

We are calling for financial members to express their interest in taking on one of these positions.

We hope that at the next General Meeting of the committee on the 6th of August, these positions will be appointed, at least until the next AGM which will be held early next year.

The new Shed:

Gerry Graham and I (mostly Gerry) have been working with the Council, Mc Nee North Surveyors and Neil Jessop from OPUS on finalisation of the realignment of the Blocks (ROL)

of land at Moura Crescent. This is the first stage towards the Gladstone Men's Shed holding a lease on our own land there. These first steps will allow us to get to the stage of having a lease on the property by around Christmas.

The detailed steps are as follows;

- Mc Nee North to submit ROL to Council. Approval time up to 3 months.

- Seek Council approval to relocate sewer pipe – Council meeting 2 July. (realignment will be inside Lot 16 along the boundary with Lot 14.

Latest building floor plan from Opus has a 3m offset from this boundary)

- Mc Nee North to submit ROL to Dept of Main Roads, for approval of ROL adjoining Railway property.

- Mc Nee North to submit survey plan to Council for sealing. Approximate Council time 2-3 weeks.

- GRC to issue draft lease to Men's Shed.

- Mc Nee North to submit ROL / Survey Plan to Dept of Natural Resources and Mines (NRM) for approval of title. NRM time 5-10 days.

- GRC to issue final lease to Men's Shed.

- During the above process Men's Shed will develop a building design, and discuss timing of Development Application (DA) with Neil J at Opus.

While the ROL process goes on (until the end of this year) we can be looking at design and supply options for the new shed (based on the Opus layout) and

seeking funding to cover the \$33,000+ for Development Application (DA) and Building Application (BA) which would probably now start in early 2014. We can also get a building sub committee up and running in that time.

Shed Happenings: Ron Jackson.



During the last 10 months, the Shed has made 360 items for C4C community projects.

These went to 26 childcare centres and kindergartens in the Gladstone region.

We also remodelled 9 easels for the Tannum State School – these couldn't be used as they kept collapsing so we made a few alterations including fitting a shelf and attaching

Colourbond sheeting so they could be used as a whiteboard too. These were very appreciated by the staff who sent us a Certificate of Appreciation and we also received some nice thank-you cards from the kids.

Other Certificates of Appreciation have been received from GAPDL for our support and participation at the 2013 National Playgroup Week at PCYC and one from Tannum Sands Community Childcare Centre for the storage shelves and boxes that we made for them.

In May, apart from 15 items for C4C, we made 11 possum boxes and 10 glider boxes for the Gladstone & District Wildlife Carers Assn.

We also made the compost bin for RioTinto/QAL that was displayed and raffled at the recent Ecofest.



In the last month we have made 450 small posts for the Tondoon Gardens and fitted some wooden plates & metal plaques (supplied by Gladstone Regional Council) to many of them. The Gardens is celebrating its 25th anniversary later this year and the posts and plaques are being used to identify the trees there.

Paul Howkins from St. Johns Ambulance came to The Shed to give us a talk about first-aid and resuscitation. He brought a defibrillator and explained how it works.

We had a very enjoyable social day at Tom's property. The Shed Widows provided some goodies for morning tea and lunch while the blokes did a good job with the barbecue.

We won't mention the missing sausages!! As usual Tom was a top host and made us all very welcome.

Fund Raising and Awareness

Fund raising and awareness initiatives will be an ongoing process in our association. It's the same with most community organisations. We are self funded and therefore developing partnerships and raising funds are required to pay for our programs. Please don't leave it to the same few members. Helping out can be both rewarding and fun.



The Gladstone Men's Shed has been successful in its application for funding from the fifth round of the QGC Sustainable Communities Fund.

This is our share in the \$283,481 is being provided to seven community-based projects in Gladstone from the fund established by the developer of the Queensland Curtis LNG Project.

"To date QGC has provided more than \$4.1 million to 126 projects through the fund. By its conclusion in late 2014, up to \$6 million will have been provided."

Secretary Ron Robertson said the \$42,563.64 grant would help purchase machinery to prepare donated recycled timber for the projects the group's volunteers complete for the many kindergartens and child care centres in Gladstone.



We have been successful with our application for funds from the Ergon Energy Community Fund. We have been awarded a grant to carry out an Electrical Power Upgrade on the switch board at the shed.



Community Safety is a high priority for Ergon Energy, as powerlines and their associated infrastructure form part our everyday lives, but if these poles/wires/pillars are inadvertently contacted very

dangerous situations and serious injuries or a fatality could result, the Ergon Energy Community safety team can help with information and electrical safety advice. They can be contacted on 1300 736 349



This year Rio Tinto Alcan and QAL came together to host a stall at Ecofest. They commissioned the Men's Shed to construct a compost bin made out of a recycled 44 gallon drum and a step-by-step guide for how people can make one of them at home. The idea of this was to encourage people to make use of objects that may otherwise go to landfill. The benefit for the Men's Shed was that they would auction the compost bin at the Ecofest sponsors night, with all proceeds going back to the Shed. They would also promote the great work of the Shed on the professionally designed step-by-step guide. The total money collected from the compost bin auction at Ecofest was \$166!! It was very popular.

Community Partnerships:

During the course of setting up the shed we have been encouraged by the contact and support of other government and community groups. It's our aim to foster these contacts into partnerships with the Men's shed. In developing these partnerships we hope that there will be a two way exchange of information and services that will benefit both parties.

Don Glasby donated a trailer that he no longer needed to the Men's Shed. A space for it has been provided for it by dismantling the clothes line outside. Having a trailer always handy will allow anyone visiting the shed to take the trailer to the dump and help Ron, Dave, and Ray immensely. Lots of their spare time is taken up with taking rubbish to the dump. Local businessman Darren Whelan of Mechanical Engineers Australia (MEA) took on the job of repairing the trailer. Darren put an apprentice on the project and he did a wonderful job! Not only did he do the panel beating and painting, the trailer was fitted with a removable cage new, tail lights, repositioned the spare tyre, and fitted a new jockey wheel.

Mechanical Engineers Australia is a privately owned and operated Queensland based Company, operating since 2004 with strong ties to customers in the mining and resources, power generation, mineral processing and gas/petroleum industries.

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