



Newsletter Nov 2011

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Welcome to our second newsletter from the Gladstone Men's Shed Committee. 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. Please forward this newsletter on to anyone who you think might be interested. Please feel free to give any feedback you feel necessary to the committee or myself at mrkr0880@tpg.com.au
Thanks, Mark Robinson.



Progress on the setting up of the Gladstone Men's Shed is moving along well. The management committee continues to hold meetings weekly as the list of work continues to grow.

On the 19th of November we held a meeting at the Uniting Care Community Centre specifically to obtain a motion from the members to apply for incorporation of our association.

An incorporated association receives recognition as a legal entity separate from its members. Once incorporated an association has all the powers of an individual and is legally able to do things in its own name. Incorporation also provides relatively inexpensive protection for members against being personally responsible for the association's debts and liabilities. We work under the Associations Incorporations Act's "Model Rules" which were adopted by the members at the public meeting held at shed 19.

Don Glasby opened the meeting and welcomed the members and thanked them for attending the special general meeting. Don then advised the meeting that due to health reasons he had to resign as President of the Gladstone Men's Shed. Don advised the meeting that the Management Committee had accepted his resignation and that Mark Robinson had been officially appointed as President. Don would be able to take the role as one of the Vice Presidents. The attendees were all in favour of Mark's appointment and welcomed his appointment by acclamation.

Ian Earnshaw our Treasurer opened a discussion on membership fees. Ian explained to the members that the Committee wanted to set a fee for membership that was not

a barrier to any interested member of the community. At this point it is proposed to use this income to pay for some essential expenses, such as Insurance, Rent and setup costs etc. ***The committee recognise that there will be a requirement to acquire many other items as the organisation starts to engage in activities and grows including kitchen items, telephone connections, computer connections, shed facilities, tools, materials and many other items. The committee envisage that in the shorter term most items and funds would be provided by donation in kind and cash and through grants. In the longer term these sources would be supplemented by income generated by service and goods provision***

Ian explained that from a financial accountability point of view to be able to accept donations and grants we needed to be incorporated. Once incorporated, we plan to apply for an ABN number, it is likely we will register for GST. We will also most likely apply for the status of Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) as a not for profit association providing support within the community. If successful this will allow the receipts we issue for donations to be used by the donor as a tax deduction

Insurance will be our main expense at this stage. Insurance had been organized by Don through a scheme developed within the Australian Men's Shed Association. With such a large membership base costs are kept low and it equated to \$14 per member annually. This cost did not include welding charges. The committee had decided not to worry about welding whilst we were temporarily situated at 25 Off Street. Ian explained that the members had to be financial to be able to vote on the Gladstone Men's Shed becoming incorporated.

Ian suggested that the membership fee be an annual amount of \$24 which made conversion to pro-rata payments much easier as it equated to \$2 a month. A discussion was held and some of the members thought that this was a generous offer. Ian reiterated that the cost needed to be affordable. A donation box will be kept in the Shed and members who want to donate extra for work done or pay a couple of dollars for tea etc. then that could be accepted. Any members who wanted to donate extra amounts to the Shed would be given a receipt and all donations would be gratefully accepted. All in attendance were quite comfortable with the annual fee of \$24.

Ian moved a motion that the membership fee for the Gladstone Men's Shed be \$24 annually, \$2 per month. Tom Stewardson Seconded. All in favour

Don Glasby then spoke about the Incorporation. Don explained that in the most part our association uses the "Model Rules" which have been developed by the government and allow for a few changes to the Constitution to suit our specific requirements. Our honorary solicitor Mr Barry Ross examined our proposed rules and was quite happy with the model and suggested that we forward the completed item to the relevant authority as soon as the meeting had voted on the application for Incorporation.

There were no questions for Don and the members were quite happy with the work that the Management Team had produced. Don requested that the Gladstone Men's Shed Association apply for Incorporation.

"Our honorary solicitor, Mr Barry Ross, commended the Committee on the use of the model rules that the department are comfortable with"

Noel Bowley moved the motion to apply for incorporation and it was seconded by Mark Munro. All in favour.

Most members were now ready to join in. It was decided that someone would be at the shed on Thursday mornings between 0900 hrs and 1200hrs anyone who was interested would be welcome.

Tom said that he would always have plenty of jobs for the members to work on.

Tom said that his impressions of the Men's Shed were that it was to be a place where men could drop in and have a chat and a cuppa. They did not have to work on any projects if they didn't want to. Should members want to work on a project then that would also be catered for. This way the Shed would evolve and everyone would benefit.

Also at this meeting future plans were discussed. The committee still has a lot more work to do. Including developing a "Business Plan" model. We need to discuss what we require to be in our "Mission Statement" and also our "Collective Vision" which will set out where we want the Gladstone Men's Shed to be in the future. This will help us all focus on where we are and where we want to be. Besides that, a Work Place Health and Safety plan needs to be addressed and Shed Co-ordinator role discussed.

All members agreed that there were a lot more decisions to be made but were glad to see the Shed moving forward and they were all invited to the next general meeting on the First Tuesday of every month. The next meeting would be at the Uniting Care Community Centre 25 Off Street on Tuesday 6th December 2011 at 1630hrs.



On Tuesday 15th November the National Seniors Australia had their general meeting at the Gladstone Golf Club. Don Glasby from Gladstone Men's Shed attended to discuss Men's Shed Information. Don said there were a lot of interested men and that all of his promotional material was snapped up. Don gave the Seniors members an update on what has happened to date where we are at the moment and our plans for the future.



BBQ Lunch at The Men's Shed 30th Movember

The Gladstone Men's shed are proud to support Richard Geesu and his events organised for Movember.

As Men's health is a family concern wives and partners are encouraged to attend.

We will be hosting an event at the shed in Off Street

- 11:45am Start
- BBQ is Served
- Introduction from The Men's Shed Committee
- Richard Geesu to talk about Movember past events & 2011 results.
- Queensland Health Men's Health Team Lani Clements & Leisa Lowry will talk about Prostate Cancer
- Queensland Health Adult Mental Health Service Iain Wheatley & Stanley Mtengezanwa will speak on Men's Depression
- Men's Shed update.

The team would appreciate that if you are able to attend this event could you please advise us for catering purposes.



Australian Men's Shed Association
SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

Special News Bulletin: Bipartisan Support for Mens Sheds & Mens Sheds at CHOGM

It has been a historic week for Mens Sheds.

On Friday the 28th of October as part of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting partners program, AMSA patron Mr Tim Mathieson hosted a luncheon for delegates that focused on Mens Sheds and Mens Health.

The Lunch was held at the Maritime Museum in Fremantle, with delegates in attendance being addressed by Mr Mathieson, Dr Rob Walters and Julian Krieg.

With many Mens Sheds now operating in Commonwealth countries the event was well attended.

This was a unique opportunity to highlight the achievements of Mens Sheds at this level; the day generated much media interest and left a lasting impression on the delegates to take home.

Parliament House, Canberra on the 31st of October also became an historic occasion with the first meeting of the bipartisan "Friends of Mens Sheds" group. The day was organised by Mark Coulton, Federal Member for Parkes and Chris Hayes Federal Member for Fowler, a large number of federal members attended the meeting and Minister Warren Snowdon gave an overview of the Male Health Policy and Mens Sheds.

The session was well received by the Parliamentary Members attending with most having a number of sheds within their electorate, A second and much larger event is in planning for early next year, where all sheds will be invited to attend and a large display will be erected on the front lawns of Parliament House. We will keep you informed on this event as planning develops and we find a suitable date.

As part of the new AMSA website to be launched later this month, we have established our very own Mens Shed channel on Youtube.

The channel will be dedicated to everything Sheds, and to help us in posting as much information as possible we are inviting all sheds to send us any video that may be suitable. This can include anything from media clips, demonstrations or special features that you may have.

These can be sent to us via email amsa@mensshed.net or by post to AMSA

PO Box 68
Windale, NSW
2306

We look forward to receiving your videos and being able to share them with others.

And finally the Men's shed team would like to acknowledge and thank the following

- The Uniting Care Community for allowing us to use their facility and their continuing support of our project;
- Ian North Plumbing for availing himself to help with some plumbing jobs at the temporary shed at a moment's notice;
- Gibbs Garden Centre for the donation of soil for our garden;
- All Rotary clubs for their financial support and contributions;
- Andrea from Gladstone Regional Council for all of her continued help and support to the Gladstone Men's Shed.