

## Whyalla Men's Shed Newsletter April 2014

April certainly has not been the time to fool around (pardon the pun) with the moves taking place at William Street.

### New members

- Robert Schmidt

### Promotional materials

- The Westland Shopping Centre management have given us the opportunity to promote the WMS by utilising the community booth once a month. This will ensure the shed is under the gaze of all who pass through the centre. Promoting the sheds activities and hopefully raise some much needed finance from the sale of produce that we manufacture. The first one will be **April 17<sup>th</sup>** from 9 to 5 approx. Members visiting the booth will give the organising members a break as well as letting the public know that we are active in the town.
- We had to supply a short youtube clip for one of the grants for which we have been shortlisted; it's worth a look at <http://youtu.be/7fr6o-iHIV4> , now we have our fingers crossed. Thanks to Chloe and Brady who filmed, edited and re-edited, then submitted it on our behalf.

### Repairs to allow us to fully utilise the old Church

- All internal plumbing has been completed and thanks to NJ & T McMullen Pty Ltd for their generous donation to fulfil the job within the submitted quotation price although the time frame extended from the original due to the tree root problem.
- The disabled toilet is installed with the tiling complete and now Neil (and helpers) are moving on to the kitchen.
- **The power is on!!** The restoration of the power and lighting is underway and the volunteers continue to perform the work which will enable the operation of equipment when finalised. We have hot water, fridge and stove connected and the lights should be this month.
- Security screens are nearly there.
- External doors are now secured with the metalwork area door to be completed in the near future.
- The windows panes are nearly fully restored to prevent the rain (hopefully) and wind to be diverted outside.



- Painting of window frames is progressing with the externals, doors, etc. targeted next.
- Pricing is being investigated for the materials and labour to replace the damaged ceilings in the foyer and kitchen areas

## Management Committee meetings

### **STOP PRESS!!!!**

- Following much discussion and thought we have decided to have the official opening of the Whyalla Men's Shed Inc. on Wednesday June 11<sup>th</sup> 2014. We know that all will not be ready; some large tools and equipment will not have been installed due to lack of finance and approval from the grant applications that won't be finalised. **BUT** we have the enthusiasm of the members, the will to perform and we should have a function to celebrate and promote Men's Health Week.
- The request to the WCC has had a positive response to provide a pathway connecting the footpath to the shed entry and to prune some overhanging branches.
- We have seven refurbished computers available for sale to Shed members at the very reasonable price of \$50. Please contact Kevin should you wish to purchase or place your order for the next batch. Includes central processing Unit, monitor & keyboard and mouse with a Vista software licence.

## Fundraising

- Previous in the Newsletter you would have seen that we are at the Westland shopping centre to promote and sell items to assist with paying the bills. We need a committee to develop a strategy to fundraise ensuring our ongoing financial sustainability. Any member who has the skills in this area please come forward that the Shed can utilise these skills please.
- **Bob's BBQs**
  - The following dates have been allocated to the WMS, Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June, 27<sup>th</sup> July, 24<sup>th</sup> August, 12<sup>th</sup> October, and 28<sup>th</sup> December. To ensure the load is shared around I will prepare a roster for your evaluation and if you can't make it would you find another shedder to replace you please? Should you not wish to be a part of this activity please let me know? We only require three shedders maximum to assist on these days.
- Paul Hopkins research project. We have a visitor from the UK who is researching the reasons why men go to sheds etc. and why it's benefiting their health. Paul will conduct some informal chats with members, completely voluntary and form a focus group to discuss the findings, starting April 14<sup>th</sup> 2014.

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## Shed Activities

- Donated tools are being sorted, and sharpened (thanks Bill)
- Desk for shed member manufactured (at Gary's workshop)
- Items being prepared for sale to the general community at Westland's.

- Items earmarked for action to complete the Disabled toilet (mirror, handrails, shelves, emergency light, etc.)
- Paul Hopkins from the University is conducting a research project into the reasons Men's Shed are successful?

**The next meeting will be held at the UniSA Research Meeting room on May 15th at 5.00pm.**

When you consider that we started this exercise in November 2013 the progress is amazing, thanks to all who have contributed especially those members of the management committee.

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