

## ***Whyalla Men's Shed Newsletter November 2013***

Good morning to all,

I must apologise for the break in sending Newsletters for August, September & October but life has been rather hectic since I returned from the US & Canada trip.

### **Management Committee Meetings:**

The steering committee met during August, September and October and the business arising is as listed below.

### **New members:**

Since the last newsletter we have welcomed 3 new financial members to the WMS:

- David McOmish
- Russell King
- John Visi

### **Shed days:**

- Shed members continue to meet regularly each Wednesday and Thursday at the Life Without Barriers premises 1-3 Knight Street, Whyalla Norrie. Each week we are seeing one or two new faces attend these gatherings.
- Interspersed between tea, coffee and biscuits, passing social commentary on politics, local and international events and generally solving the problems of Whyalla and the world in general (can't leave these things to politicians), the members have been having fun making serving trays, toy trucks and other small items and learning a few new skills along the way. There has been lively debate on how items should be finished and about plans for future projects; all good fun provided no-one is in a hurry for things! Come along and join the fun. It's a \$2:00 donation on the day.

### **Knight Street Car Park**

- This coming Wednesday Nov 6<sup>th</sup>, we are meeting at 8.30am to install the new car park fencing supplied by Council in consideration of the Life Without Barriers allowing use of their shed for these meetings. Many helpers are needed on the day. It's a 09:00 start and a warm day is forecast, so bring a hat, some sunscreen & fly repellent and water or similar. Also gloves, a mash hammer, a spade or shovel and crowbar if you have one. Please come for even a few hours, the more the merrier to lighten the load on everyone, so we can finish early afternoon.

### **Lease**

Hooray, we have a lease that both we and the lessor is happy with and that should be signed during the week of November 4<sup>th</sup> 2013. We are very grateful for the collaboration of the Monarch Pharmacies' Group and in particular the full support of John Cagney during this process. So start

putting aside your Wednesday's and Thursday's as we start planning our working bees to get the old church ready for occupation.

## Grants

Grant writing is a time consuming but necessary activity for not-for-profit organisations such as ours. Brian, Chloe and Gary have been busy in recent months applying for any grants for which the WMS seems to fit the criteria – community development, community support, healthy communities and so on. Well, you win some and you lose some but unless you buy a ticket you've no chance.

### *Grants, successful –*

- **Whyalla City Council** – \$500: – for shed launch
- **Whyalla City Council** – \$2,000 – towards construction of a disabled toilet at the 'church' (full cost \$12,500)
- **FaHCSIA** (Department of Social Services) – \$5,000 for a range of basic infrastructure items for the new site. Many thanks to Whyalla Lions Club for sponsoring this grant submission.
- **Bagshaw Property Development** – \$20,000 for structural and material refurbishment of the premises (plumbing, electrical, pest control, roofing etc)

### *Grants, unsuccessful –*

- Community Benefit SA grant
- Forsyth Uniting Communities Grant
- Australia Post Our Neighbourhood Community Grants
- BGC Sponsorship Expression of Interest

### *Grants, pending –*

- \$8,000 application to the 6<sup>th</sup> funding round AMSA grants

## Fundraising BBQs

Both our fundraising BBQ's at Bob's Mitre 10 (Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, Oct 6<sup>th</sup>) were successful and raised some funds as well community awareness about the WMS. Many thanks to Gary Misan, Terry Brown, Ken Godden, Malcolm Roberts, Bob Mellville, Jules Melder and Nick Harris for their efforts on the day. Our next timeslot is on Sun Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2013. Come along with family and friends and buy a sausage to support the WMS.

## Shed visits

- Port Augusta Men's Shed

The WMS was represented at the Community Shed Support Network Forum in Port Augusta by four committee members which was a good opportunity to network with other Shed's throughout the state.

## Whyalla Pride In The Park

- The WMS had a promotional tent at the Whyalla Pride Week family day held in Civic Park. Peter Medicott sold his first fire truck toy and orders were taken for several cutting boards. Five local men asked for their name to be added to the mailing list.

### Collaborations

- *Whyalla TAFE*  
B Marshall and G Misan approached the Whyalla TAFE College to enquire whether TAFE engineering or other students might be interested in assisting with selected projects in the Men's Shed (e.g. welding, fabrication). TAFE officers met with Brian and Gary to discuss possibilities and we await their deliberations.
- *Complete Personnel*  
Following a recent article in the Whyalla News we were approached by Complete Personnel in Whyalla to discuss the possibility of the WMS offering project opportunities for Work for the Dole recipients, in particular the refurbishment of the church building and surrounds. These discussions have been positive and we look forward to working with staff from Complete Personnel in the near future.

### Charitable status

The WMS is now registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission.

*Brian Marshall*

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