

POTTSVILLE and DISTRICT MEN'S SHED

NEWSLETTER 1 24.01.2014

What a tremendous community spirit there is in Pottsville, Cabarita and the surrounding district. In a few short months and with the support of a number of very capable men in our community, the Pottsville & District Men's Shed project has gone from being announced as a project in Pottsville markets in November 2013 to an organisation with 54 men who have indicated their interest in joining in January 2014.

In December an introductory meeting was held at the Pottsville Sports club where the concept of a men's shed was presented. The idea was quickly adopted by the 35 men who attended and the project was born. At a subsequent meeting a week later seven committees were formed, Building and Grounds, Shed Programs, Venue, Finance, Promotion & Shed Membership, Tools, Equipment & Materials and Policy and Procedures committees.

Over the following four weeks, which included Christmas, the committees who could, began working on the briefs that they were given. Michael Ryan, spokesman of the venue committee arranged meetings with the Mayor Barry Longland and local State MLA Geoff Provest to discuss a site for the shed in or around Pottsville. Both these meetings have been held with a promise of support from local and state governments. A site for the men's shed has been identified but needs to be confirmed by the lands department as it is on Commonwealth land.

Ron Haggart, the spokesman of the Policy and Procedures committee has researched the best way forward for the project with the constitution, insurance, incorporation submissions and many other essential policy and procedural documents and programs to get the administration of the shed and shed business on a stable footing.

Noel Mather, spokesman for the Tools, Equipment and Materials committee has secured a large donation of tools and equipment which is being bought down from Brisbane soon and needs to be stored somewhere in Pottsville. We are looking for a storage facility to store any donations we receive. If you can help us with this or know of a place to store this material please contact Noel on 6676 3328. Also if you have quality tools and equipment that you would like to donate to the men's shed please give Noel a call. With your donation we will take what you give us, go through it, separate the tools that we can use from those we cannot, tools that are no longer able to be used will be discarded and those which can still be used, but not by us will be offered for sale at a shed fund raising garage sale.

Ian Cooper, spokesman of the Promotion and Shed Membership committee has created a webpage which will be up and running very soon now that a name for the Project has been finalised. This site will contain all information about our men's shed and when finished, we will provide the address for you to access the site.

The finance committee spokesman, Tim Whitfield will be looking after the shed's finances but not fund raising. We are looking for three people with past fund raising experience, preferred but not essential, to get the shed's finances into a healthy state and keep them

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there. If you are able to help with this activity please contact Ron, the sheds secretary, on 6676 0109 and leave your details with him.

At the first management committee meeting which was held on Wednesday the 22nd of January 2014, the following office bearers were proposed and these nominations will be presented to a special general meeting in the 11th of February, with a number of other proposals, for ratification by the members. I encourage all who can attend, whether you have been to a previous men's shed meeting or not to be at the TriCare Retirement Community Hastings Point Club rooms at 6.00pm on Tuesday the 11th February 2014.

The nominations are;

President:	Allan May
Vice President	Michael Ryan
Treasurer:	Tim Whitfield
Secretary:	Ron Haggart
Committee members:	Leighton Meredith
	Ian Cooper
	Noel Mather

The special general meeting agenda is attached to this first newsletter for your information.

I am looking forward to a large attendance at this meeting and the opportunity of providing you with all the information on what has been achieved up to date and what is planned for the future.

The following are short reports from the spokesmen of the subcommittees.

Venue Committee Report 22/01/2014

Following meetings with the Tweed Shire Mayor, Barry Longland and Geoff Provest , NSW State Member of the Legislative Assembly, we have been able to identify a possible site in Pottsville. We are now preparing documentation and raising funds so that we can apply for the use of this site. First we need to be incorporated and a member of the Australian Men's Shed Association (AMSA) as the NSW Crown Lands has a Memorandum of Understanding with the AMSA for the use of Crown Lands for Men's Sheds. We are pleased to say that both Barry Longland and Geoff Provest are very supportive of our endeavours.

A concept plan has been produced to see if the site will allow for expansion in the future. I am pleased to report that this is the case. We are now in the process of preparing preliminary site and shed plans. We will keep you posted as this process continues.

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Promotion and Shed Membership Committee Report 29/01/2014

As a current committee of one (anyone else interested in joining me?) I have been working on a prototype for the PADMS web-site which will be posted on the Internet after we have been incorporated. In the meantime, our new Facebook page can be accessed at <https://www.facebook.com/pottsvilleanddistrictmensshed> and I have come up with twelve possible logo designs to be shown and voted on at the Special General Meeting on Feb 11th. These designs can be viewed prior to the meeting on the Facebook page.

Policies and Procedures Report 29/01/2014

We have prepared a detailed list of all the registrations, processes, policies, insurances and procedures needed to incorporate and register including ASIC, NSW Fair Trading and the Australian Mens Shed Association (AMSA).

We are currently awaiting approval for our trading name (ABR) and business registration (ABN) and once this is received we then can register our incorporated association with NSW Fair Trading and other registrations including not for profit (NFP), ATO and so on.