

CURLEW CAPERS



The newsletter of:
Pottsville and District Men's Shed Inc



**Pottsville and District
Men's Shed Inc**

**P R O M O T I N G M E N ' S
H E A L T H O N T H E
N S W T W E E D C O A S T**

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CALENDAR

JApril 25. Anzac Day ceremony - setting up

April 27. Drinks Potty Tavern

TBA. Golf Day Chinderah

May 11. General Meeting

May 25. Dinner Sports Club

June. 8. General Meeting

June. 29. Drinks Sports Club

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2016-17

Michael Ryan
Peter Ruhanen
John Wells
Leighton Meredith
Mal Stapleton
Craig Buttfield
Jim Hutchings

GREEN LIGHT FOR BLACK ROCKS (From the Tweed Daily News):

COUNCILLORS GIVE MEN'S SHED THE GREEN LIGHT

Tweed Shire Councillors have given approval to the Pottsville & District Men's Shed to set up shop at Black Rocks sports field ending months of heated and divisive debate.

The vote made before a packed gallery filled with koala activists and supporters of the Men's Shed was passed by 4:3 with councillors Warren Polglase, James Owen and Pryce Allsop supporting Labor Cr Reece Byrnes' motion to grant the licence.

The motion gives the Men's Shed a five-year temporary licence to set up a demountable shed at the Black Rocks sports field.

It was granted despite attempts by Mayor Katie Milne and Deputy Mayor Chris Cherry to defer the vote to allow more time to find an alternative site, which would not impact on koalas as feared by environmentalists.

A relieved P&DMS president Michael Ryan said after the vote he was pleased with the outcome.

"Hopefully we can progress in a reasonable time, get this signed off and start construction and allow the community to come together. We are certainly hoping to put this behind us and move forward. We stand by our integrity as an organisation that the action we took was proper. It has been reviewed by the Australian Men's Shed and their solicitors so that we can just move forward now."



Support for Black Rocks at Council Meeting

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Shedders,

On the 16th March 2017, the Tweed Shire Councillors supported our application for the five-year licence to operate on Black Rocks Sports Field. We received the signed licence on Wednesday the 5th April and work commenced on site on Monday the 10th of April 2017. The concrete slab was poured on Easter Tuesday the 18th. This was a great moment in the life of our small shed.

This has been a great achievement for all our members past and present. The support the shed has received from the Pottsville community has been absolutely fantastic. I wish to thank all the community members who have rallied behind the shed, organised and participated in photo shoots, made and displayed signs of support, walked and rode in the convoy of support to Black Rocks and all the letters of support to the editors of the local and state newspapers. It is this community support that has encouraged the P&DMS committee members to keep forging ahead with our plans for the Black Rocks Site.

I also want to thank Geoff Provest, our State Member of Parliament, for his constant support and encouragement. Geoff has supported our applications to the NSW Community Building Programme. It is through this NSW Government programme that we have received the necessary funds to build our shed at Black Rocks. I also wish to thank Geoff's wonderful office staff who have been very supportive and helpful....

..... at all times.

Barry Longland, the Tweeds Former Councillor and Mayor, was and is a great supporter of the Men's Shed for Pottsville and District. Barry supported us whole heartedly in our application for the Black Rocks site which put him at odds with some very vocal and disruptive activists. We thank Barry for his constant support and remind him that he will always be welcome at the P&DMS.

But Barry could not do it alone and it was with the support of Councillors Warren Polglase, Carolyn Byrne and Phil Youngbutt that our Development Application was approved. This was then followed by the approval of the Licence supported by Councillors Warren Polglase, James Owen, Pryce Allsop and Reece Byrnes. Through all this Troy Green and his council staff have been supportive and very professional in their handling of our applications.

As we move forward with our building programme we look forward to the continued support of our Government representatives; Geoff Provest State, Justine Elliot Federal, Tweed Shire Councillors and the Pottsville Community.

Michael Ryan - President



We Have A Slab!

THANKS FOR SUPPORT

The committee and members are indebted to those who have given so much support to this move. The ladies who attended the council meeting in support of the motion were a most encouraging sight for the 16 P&DMS members present, particularly in face of sometimes virulent opposition.

The P&DMS gives thanks to Penny Hocking for speaking at the council meeting on the importance of retaining the Black Rocks sports field for the community. Also thanks to Renae Bevan who was responsible for organising an impromptu photo shoot of concerned Pottsville residents at Black Rocks, which attracted a crowd of around 100 which led to the February 17th convoy from Pottsville Beach Public School to Black Rocks attracting another large group of residents.

Thanks also go to First National Real Estate Pottsville who donated \$200 towards the many support signs that were produced and to the many Pottsville businesses and residents who displayed them. It was hard to find a shop that didn't display these signs!

The council decision also means that those who signed our petition, 2500+ in all will not be disappointed and a big thanks to them too.

As reported previously we have received \$35,000 towards completing the shed and the internal fit out. This is on top of the \$37,000 from the 2015 grant and we are grateful to Geoff Provest and the NSW Government.

Last of all a big thank you to our President, Michael Ryan for leading the shed through this most difficult time. We recognise the time he has expended, his articulation of our cause, his persistence and his dignity in the face of much opposition.



Tweed Daily News Announcement



OTHER NEWS

THE FLOOD

Tweed Shire has experienced the worst floods for many years. Our thoughts are with those who have been so badly affected. Thanks go to efforts from individual shedders for their support in providing flood relief for many victims, many of whom have lost everything.

RECORD BROKEN

We welcome five new members since the last issue of Curlew Capers, bringing the membership to a record 43. They are Brendan Menagh, Don Haslem, Chris Wilson, Lex Cush and Owen Paxton. Their profiles will appear in the next issue.

MORE MEMBER POTTED PROFILES

ROBIN BARRASS. Born in the UK in the fishing port of Grimsby. Robin started his working life as an electrical apprentice and went on to achieve an engineering degree before emigrating to Australia in 1966. After working in Bunbury WA and Gladstone Qld, Robin moved to Sydney where he worked in managerial roles with a US based company. After 5 years with the company in Indonesia Robin returned to Sydney and took on a sales marketing role. 5 years later he transferred to be based in Singapore where he worked in various Asian countries. After remarrying 16 years ago, Robin tried his hand at electrical contracting and moved to a new role in South Korea. On return to Qld Robin and his wife purchased a farm at Beaudesert but after a short while took up management rights on North Stradbroke Island for 10 years. They have now happily retired to Cabarita. Editor's note - how exhausting!

CRAIG "Pappy" BUTTFIELD was born in Adelaide and lived in his dad's pub ("Angus Park") in Nuriootpa, Barossa Valley until he was 6. The family then moved to Victoria where Craig completed year 12 and commenced a career in the Federal Public Service. After managing a busy Social Security Office in Preston for a few years, Craig and his wife Jill and three daughters moved to the Gold Coast in 1986 and he was offered various Federal Public Service positions. The family decided they liked the Gold Coast and Craig took up a position of Commonwealth Rehab Service Manager Gold Coast region. In Melbourne Craig had been involved in Aussie Rules and Cricket clubs and soon after arriving in Qld served on the committee (later a secretary) of Palm Beach Currumbin AFL club. He also had a stint as a director of the Sports Club. In 1996 Craig left the CRS and in 1997 commenced work with Qld Police as communications officer dispatching police to various situations and taking calls for the public including 000. The family moved to Pottsville in 2009 and Craig retired from Qld Police in 2012. Craig and Jill now have 9 grandchildren.

MORE NEWS

Thanks to Ian Cooper for his work in assembling the Curlew Capers since its inception. Ian hasn't been well and we wish him all the best.

An enjoyable morning was organised by Craig visiting Phil Flynn's home to view his model train display. 8 shedders were treated to a range of moving trains, ranging from C36 steam locomotives to more modern diesels. Phil has constructed a model of the NSW town of Boorowa in the 1940's and the detail is amazing. Many thanks to Craig and Phil.

Mal, Leighton, Michael and Craig (thanks for driving us, Craig!) attended the Zone 12 meeting of AMSA in February at Casino. They were most impressed at the size and equipment of the Casino shed with 120 members.

The response to the Working with Children certification has been encouraging with only a small number now outstanding. We're still be operating at the school for a while, so to those who haven't completed this please do so ASAP. A weekly contribution to our morning tea expenses would also be appreciated.

John Smith entered the over 60's division in the Kingscliff Triathlon comprising a 1k swim, 20k bike ride and finishing with a 5k run. The ambulance service were alerted! JOHN CAME 3RD in a field of 50 against mostly much younger opposition. Well done John!

Thanks go to the Cheese Board lady's contribution of cakes and scones for our morning teas and to Trevor and Craig, whose culinary skills never cease to amaze. They are the best sausage rolls and pasties. We hope that this will encourage repeat performances!



FUNNIES

Shed conversation between unnamed Shedder and Mal a couple of weeks ago:

Shedder: "Are you going to do the plumbing for the new shed?"

Mal: "No."

Shedder: "Why not?"

Mal: "Because I'm an electrician!"

Lions Test Tickets.

Hey, a great offer. If anyone can take it up Let me know!!! This may be of interest to some of you. A friend of mine has two tickets in a corporate box for the final Lions Test in Auckland on 8th July. He paid \$1000 each, (including food & beverage) but he didn't realise when he bought them months ago that it was going to be the same day as his wedding. If you are interested, he is looking for someone to take his place! It's at the All Saints Church Palmerston North at 2.30pm Sat July 8th. The bride's name is Nicole - she's 5'8", about 57 kg, quite pretty, has her own income and is a really good cook! She'll be the one in the white dress!

The editor was in Melbourne some years ago on business and at the end of an arduous day went with his state manager to a well known Footscray pub. There was present what was obviously a rowdy group of locals. When ordering another round their leader yelled at the barman, "Hey donkey, another round!". This went on until they got up and left. The editor, sympathetically, said to the barman, "I couldn't help overhearing how rude that loudmouth was to you, repeatedly calling you a donkey."

The barman replied, "I know; heehaw, heehaw, heehaw, he always calls me that!"

An Irishman in a TV quiz show was asked the following question! "Can you give the first names of the following three 20th century statesmen: Kennedy, Churchill and Gandhi?"

Irishman: "Oi've never heard of the first two, but the t'ird one would be Goosey Goosey!"

Editor - I trust this doesn't infringe Section 18c!

SHED PROJECTS

TOYS. The Chinderah Child Care Centre presented around 20 wooden toys for repair and repainting. John Smith has been leading a group completing this project.

John commented that the toys were not so much damaged by rough handling but rather they were not made the way the toys were we played with 100 years ago!

OFFICE TABLE RENOVATION for Leighton's son has kept several shedders busy.

A WHEELCHAIR RAMP was built for a Black Rocks lady.

PIANO STOOL. Fred Weymer is in the process of doing a complete renovation of a 100+ year-old piano stool with a rotating seat for St Marks Church at Burringbar. This is a real work of finesse and love. Many thanks Fred.

A BENCH SEAT is being produced as a prototype for shedders to copy.

In addition to these, shedders have undertaken a whole raft of personal bits and pieces.

FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES

THE POTTSVILLE ENDURO on 25th February was a good money earner and thanks go to the 12 shedders who volunteered as Marshalls.

BUNNINGS - P&DMS is in the draw for a sausage sizzle in the July/September period. This was a great income earner for us in January and helped fill in a Saturday for 20+ shedders!

POTTSVILLE MARKETS - The call for more volunteers for the fortnightly market days has been answered. There are now 12 shedders who have responded, resulting in each member being rostered only twice in a 6 month period. Thank you to Craig for organising this roster.

SPONSORS

The members of P&DMS would like to thank these companies for their continued support of our Shed:

Pottsville Self Storage
Pottsville Beach Public School
Beachside Church Pottsville
Stocklands Property Group
Pottsville Beach Sports Club
Pottsville Tavern
Splendour in the Grass
QSM Sports Tweed Coast Enduro & Kingscliff Triathlon
Tweed Valley Jet Sprint Club (V8 Superboats)
National Australia Bank



Pottsville Self Storage

Pottsville Self Storage is conveniently located to provide secure, cost-effective storage for Pottsville clients. Based in Pottsville, we are easily accessible to Murwillumbah and Ocean Shores residents. Accessible 7 days a week, with drive-up units, we can securely store your car, furniture, office equipment and more. Call us for a quote.

Pottsville Self Storage is a member of:

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