

# POTTSVILLE and DISTRICT MEN'S SHED Inc.

ABN 21 150 644 108

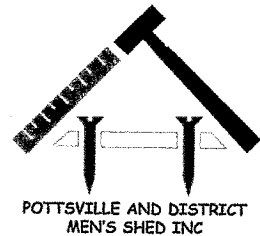
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20<sup>th</sup> August 2015

## AGM Presidents Report

We are now halfway through our second year of operation and well ahead of even our most optimistic predictions. This is evidence of the tremendous support we have received from Pottsville and Tweed community and business groups and the Tweed Shire Council.

The Men's Shed movement in Australia which has spread overseas to NZ, Ireland and Canada, is seeing enormous growth and receiving unbelievable support wherever the term 'Men's Shed' is mentioned. Men and women from all walks of life are benefiting from the formation of a men's shed in their community. Just in our area we now have four established sheds, ten on the Gold Coast and the room and need for many more. These are places where men can get together around projects, enjoy some mateship while having a cupper and a BBQ and talk men's things, like it was during their working life. They go home relaxed and satisfied to enjoy the company of their families. They are also able to share skills they have learned and pass them on as well as learn new ones. The undergirding philosophy is to assist with men's health issues, a subject that men usually shy away from until it is too late. By doing this, men's sheds are also supporting families by helping to relieve some of the stresses we experience as we age graciously. It also provides us with the opportunity to give something back to our communities and gain the satisfaction of knowing that Pottsville is a better place because we are here.

Since my last AGM report our finances have increased from three figures to five thanks to the commitment and hard work of our members and the generosity of AMSA, government and business donations information of which can be found in our treasurer's report.

We owe many thanks to the Principal of the Pottsville Primary School who has generously gifted us with the use of an unused demountable building which is in the process of being converted into a men's shed. This will be used as a temporary shed until our shed at Black Rocks sports field is ready to be occupied. Until we relocate, we will be working from this wonderful location and will do our very best to be useful tenants of the building. We have been able to show our appreciation to the school by constructing a gazebo, putting a roof on the school entrance and making and installing outdoor tables and chairs for the children's use. Noel Mather, who has been the driving force behind many of these projects, is also using his teaching skill and instructing some of the older boys in the use of hand tools to construct some bird boxes. This is one of the ways that we can sow back into the community.

Due to the ongoing support of the majority of the Tweed Shire Councillors, tremendous progress has been made to securing a longer term site for our shed. Even though this is still a temporary location, five years, it will give us time to find a permanent site. The council has produced a development application for the site and had it independently evaluated. This has removed the burden of this process from us which has allowed us to get on with the job of making P&DMS a reality. The application is now ready to be submitted to council for their appraisal and approval. Hopefully in twelve to eighteen months we will be relocated to Black Rocks oval.



Again we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our community with the donation of tools, equipment, materials, a container and even a trailer. St Laurence's College in Brisbane have generously made and donated four work benches along with numerous hand tools which have all been put to good use. Along with this equipment we have been given table saws, scroll saws, band saws, pedestal drills and through fund raising have purchased a bench grinder, drop saw, safety equipment and the list goes on.

The 6X4 trailer which, thanks to Ed and Peter has been repaired, rebuilt and now registered for use. To have the ability to move things around has been a great benefit to the shed. The concept of a men's shed has galvanised the community behind this project for which we say a heartfelt thank you.

Being involved in the men's shed is not just work and commitment but a lot of enjoyment also. Personally I have met and made friends with a number of men who I would possibly never have met if it had not been for our shed. I and others would possibly never have taken the opportunity to go to power boat racing at round mountain which I thoroughly enjoyed and done other things that were done through the shed. Everyone who is involved in the shed has their own story to tell of experiences never had before the sheds existence and we are yet to get past our second year. Life is too short not to enjoy all that it has to offer and shed involvement is providing the opportunities to do just that.

There have been many opportunities to show our appreciation for the communities support and listed below are some of the opportunities we have taken and there are still many more to come.

- School projects at the Pottsville Primary School
- School projects for the new Catholic Primary School
- Support for the Pottsville Communicare, the Pottsville community pantry
- Making planter boxes for the Bupa home
- Boomerang project for the Cabarita & Bogangar Residents Ass.
- Repairing push go-carts for the Bogangar School
- Assisting at the Tweed Coast Enduro event
- Renovating some chairs for a Pottsville resident
- Assisting with setting up at the Pottsville markets when required
- Helping with the setup and clean up at the last ANZAC celebrations
- Repairing bench seating for the Pottsville Tennis Ass, and
- Being available to support our community.

This is my second and final AGM report as I will not be seeking re-election as president. Also moving from the committee are Noel Mather and Tim Whitfield our present treasurer. We would all like to express our sincere appreciation for Noel and Tim's input into the development of the shed and look forward to working with them in a more relaxed environment. I am confident that the new committee will take P&DMS to greater heights under the able leadership of Michael Ryan, our present secretary. Our new committee is as listed.

President:	Michael Ryan
Vice President:	Peter Roger
Secretary:	Craig Buttfild
Treasurer:	Leighton Meredith
Committee members:	John Wells, Mal Stapleton & Gordon Benson

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## POTTSVILLE and DISTRICT MEN'S SHED Inc.



The Pottsville and District Men's Shed is certainly Open for Business. Membership is available to whoever would like to join and participate in our present activities and assist us to work towards expanding the shed activities. Applications can be made through our new secretary, Craig Buttfield or by coming to the shed on Wednesdays and Thursdays at the primary school between 9.30 and 2.30. Please come through the southern carpark to the last building and not through the school.

We are fortunate to have many supporters in our community and these include.....

- Pottsville Primary School
- Tweed Shire Council
- Hutchison Builders
- Beachside Church Pottsville
- Shackell Transport
- Pottsville Self-Storage
- Bupa Age Care Pottsville
- Stockland's
- Bunnings Hardware
- The Professionals Real Estate
- National Australia Bank
- St Laurence's School Brisbane
- Salvation Army
- IGA Pottsville
- Australian Men's Shed Association AMSA
- Splendour in the Grass committee
- Tweed Coast Enduro
- Hardy Family & the local V8 Superboat Committee

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## **APPENDIX TO AGM REPORT**

### **Programs/Tools/Equipment AGM Report**

PADMS extends our gratitude and thanks to the Pottsville Primary School and its Administration – Principal Ms Deb McKinnon and Deputy Steve Dean – for their generosity in providing us with the use of the demountable classroom which we are currently calling home. Without it we would be struggling to maintain the enthusiasm and drive necessary to establish a viable and respected organisation. In return, we have completed a number of projects for the school – study and play tables for younger students, a covered shelter shed, the roofing and refurbishment of the school entrance, and recently the introduction of basic woodworking for a select group of students. These students are being supervised by one of the teaching staff, Mr Paul Kahl, who is giving up his lesson preparation time to assist us.



We are in the process of making up working drawings and materials lists for movable study tables for the new Catholic Primary School, and will be starting on these very shortly, as well as having discussions with the local kindergarten about some work they need to have done. Shed members have refurbished and repaired a number of Push Carts for the Bogangar School, and we are aware that they have further projects that they would like us to look at.

Thanks are due to the Shed Members who have assisted with all of the above. I know that your efforts are greatly appreciated by the schools, and more particularly by the parents of the kids. There is no better way of spreading the word about the Shed and its benefit to the community, as well as our members.

### **Tools and Equipment:**

We continue to receive donations of tools and equipment, such as Circular Saws, Band Saws, Wood Turning Lathes, Metal Turning Lathes and a huge variety of miscellaneous power and hand tools. Some of these will end up being surplus to requirements, and we will be offering them to our members or to other Sheds. Everyone is aware of the donation of Work Benches, Dining Table, Chairs, Stools etc., that we are using in the Shed. We are getting to the stage where over supply will start to become a problem!

Again, I wish to express my many thanks to all our members who have contributed to getting the Shed to its current status. We can only get bigger and better!

Noel Mather

### **Buildings / Venue: AGM report**

We are looking forward to the Tweed Shire Council approving the Development Application for a Men's Shed at Black Rocks Sports Field. This will enable us to plan the construction of a purpose built facility for our members.

We are presently in a surplus demountable classroom within the Pottsville Beach Public School. We are very fortunate to be offered this building on an interim basis. However the school has major building plans in process and our tenure is very short term.

The new facility at Black Rocks Sports Field will be a slab on ground shed which will allow ease of access to all men attending the shed. This is something that is not possible at present as the demountable classroom has a raised floor with five steps to navigate. The Black Rocks facility will also have a designated meeting and activity room, an arts and crafts room as well as a workshop area.

Michael Ryan