



MORPETH MEN'S SHED INC. (MMS)

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Secretaries Report

The last two months have seen a great deal of 'behind-the-scenes' activities, foremost of which are:

A preliminary meeting with Maitland Council city planners re our intentions for a new shed on the Ray Lawler Reserve.

The progression of our claim on the NSW State Government for a Crown Land plot at Ray Lawler Reserve. Meetings have been held with:

- I. Robyn Parker MP, (our petition for action regarding our 'Promised Land' was handed to Robyn),
- II. Briony Sneddon of the Maitland Mercury, and
- III. An informal briefing on progress for Kelly Tranter (Solicitor and past guest speaker at MMS)

The lodgement of a grant application for about \$150,000 with the State Government Building Partnership Program covering lock-up stage costs for our proposed shed at the Ray Lawler Reserve. The formal transfer/commitment of the land, before the 31st October 2011, is a pre-requisite to our grant application being finalised.

(A meeting of the building sub-committee will be discussed with Trevor Richards to consider progress to date and plans to canvas potential sponsors for pledges of material/financial support.)

A briefing session with Liz McDonald from AMSA re the history and (non) progress of

our claim for a 'Promised Land' at the Ray Lawler Reserve. Our CBPP grant application was also discussed.

The progression of a proposal to rent a Maitland Council owned, double garage, storage shed. Regarding the 'Peppercorn' rental of a double garage storage shed from Maitland Council, the committee determined that this should proceed conditional to the Uniting Church formally advising their PLI and contents insurance coverage for the premises to the satisfaction of the Maitland Council (Refer Deed of Licence, as amended, Para 4.3. Additionally, options for our securing more storage will be investigated.

Enquiries with architects re DA related heritage issues for our proposed new shed.

Enquiries with Fair dinkum Sheds for a suitable design and cost estimate.

The efforts during recent weeks include Trevor Richards progressing building plans, amendments and options for our proposed new shed.

Peter Rees is assisting with the revision of the storage shed licence agreement with MCC.

The MMS would be far less organised or advanced without the willing efforts of shedders like Trevor and Peter.

The assistance of Liz McDonald from AMSA is also recognised in assisting with the preparation of our Community Partnership Program grant

application.

On another note, our trip to Manly was a fantastic success. Thirteen members travelled by train to Sydney and then to Manly by ferry. After a couple of light refreshments we had lunch and then completed the return trip getting home about 6PM

Secretary

Presidents Report

Firstly I would like to welcome those new members who have joined recently and I hope you get lot of enjoyment out of being a shed member. A steady flow of new members is happening every month.

The last 2 months have been very eventful with **Hunter Irrigation and Water Solutions** setting up and running a raffle of a water pump and equipment as the prize to assist the Shed.

It is very pleasing to see another local business trying to help the shed in raising money.

A meeting was set up to meet the Member for Maitland Robyn Parker MP on 23rd September to chase up the land that had been promised to the shed in March. On arrival at the MPs Office we were informed that a letter had been sent from the Hon Katrina Hodgkinson Minister for Primary Industry advising the Shed that the Crown Lands Division had been instructed to finalise its investigation and if possible give the matter some priority. This was good news to us owing to the

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Office Bearers

President: Keith Angel

Vice Pres: Ken Aber

Secretary: Paul Lindeman

Treasurer: Bob Walker

For Sale.

Minor Bird Traps - \$75.00.

Saving of the Day

'Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you're a mile away and you have their shoes.'

Dates Of Interest

- *There are no significant events on the horizon but if you have any ideas for day excursion please talk to Keith Corcoran.*

Minutes of Committee Meetings and Treasurers Reports are available to members on request.

length of time from our first discussions. sort it out.

The Shed has engaged the services of a Heritage Architect to assist with the design of our proposed new shed for when the land is approved.

On Saturday the 1st October correspondence came through advising that the Shed had been successful in obtaining the Volunteers grant from the Federal Government of \$4,217.00 for sundry equipment: - Workshop tools and trolley, Metal cut off saw, Metal pipe bender, 90litre Air compressor and Metal bar bender. All the mentioned equipment will be very useful. This grant has now been credited to our bank.

I would like those members who are available to assist with the selling of raffle tickets at short notice if they could advise Ivan with their details and contact numbers so if anyone rostered is unable to work on their rostered day so they can be contacted.

Well over half the tickets have been sold so far which is very pleasing.

The last 2 guest speakers have been very interesting concerning buildings for children in Africa and Police work in the Forensic Division.

Our Shed Christmas get together will be held on Friday 16th December 2011 the venue will be advised when arrangements are complete. After this the shed will be closed til after the New Year and resuming on Friday 13th January 2012.

The Shed has been looking for an extra storage area for the storing of timber etc. And at this time it is very positive that we may have a double garage on offer.

I have been speaking to our Secretary who is currently on holiday in England and very thing is going to plan. They have been enjoying some very mild weather with UK having some very hot weather for September.

Keith Angel
President

Computer Representative Report

After a very slow start we are now up and running and I hope that those involved are picking up some hand tips and appreciating their computers even more. If you have any computer problems or need assistance with your programs let me know and we will try to

A recent survey carried out by the MMS found that the majority of members were interested in three areas. The first is improving basic computer skills such as understanding Windows 7, basic filing and filing pictures, burning DVD's and setting up new computers. Secondly, a great deal of interest was shown in learning more about a range of programs such as MS Word, Excel and Power Point. The third area was on-line activities, I am still looking at our options regarding wireless internet. Hopefully when the new Optus tower is up and running we will receive better reception in the hall making wireless Internet a viable option.

I am still interested in upgrading our desktop computers to Windows 7 but some members prefer XP so maybe we may leave one or two computers with the old operating system for some time.

The MMS has purchased an All-in-One Turntable & Cassette to USB/SD Converter so any member interested in copying records or cassettes bring them along and we will show you how to copy them. Make sure you bring a USB or SD card.

Pete F

News from the Shed

The temporary carport for the metal-work shed has been passed by the Committee. Materials are being collected and we need to get it up before the heat of summer comes.

Our campfire toasters have been a hit selling 10 so far and more on order. We will require more handles for this project so we need assistance from our wood turners to turn the handles and even teach other interested members how to produce these handles.

A number of other jobs have been completed, these include fitting a cooktop for an elderly lady in Morpeth, chairs reglued and screwed for two MMS members and have started more whirly birds etc.

Jobs on the horizon and yet to be approved are refurbishing a trailer, manufacture a school table for a Metford school, serving trays for a Nursing Home, manufacture curtain pelmets, letter box and refurbish a storage cabinet.

I encourage you to keep up the good work and remember SAFETY is the highest priority.

Ray

Christmas Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets are selling well and if you require another book please see Ivan.

Tickets sales at Morpeth has been a huge success and the roster set up by Ivan has been working well.

If you are unable to meet your rostered date please try to organise a swap with another member. If this is not successful ring Ivan on 49346154 so a other arrangements can be made.

A Bit Of Light Humor

A burglar breaks into a house. He sees a CD player that he wants so he takes it. Then he hears a voice "JESUS is watching you". He looks around with his flashlight wandering "What The HELL Was That?". He spots some \$ on a table and takes it.....Once again he hears a voice " JESUS is watching you". He hides in a corner trying to find where the voice came from. He spots a bird-cage with a parrot in it! He goes over and asks " Was that your voice?". It said "YES". He then says "What's your name?". It says "MOSES". The burglar says " What kind of person names his bird Moses??" The parrot replies "THE SAME PERSON THAT NAMES HIS ROTWEILER "JESUS".