

Whyalla Men's Shed Newsletter March 2014

The past four weeks have certainly seen some changes at William Street, with many members continuing the great work and more joining them. We now have filled four skips with rubbish which the Council have supplied and removed for us which is a godsend due to our meagre finances, thanks to Migelle Hiscock of WCC.

New Members

- Neil Jones, who has become the tiler of the disabled toilet and has done a great job, thanks Neil
- Denis Stephenson
- Mark Telfer
- Alan Main

Promotional materials

- The banner is flying at William Street and also helps to promote WMS when the BBQ's are held at Bob's fundraising BBQ's
- Bucket hats, aprons and shirts are available so please see Chloe should you require any merchandise.
- We have a website www.whyllamensshed.org.au and we also have an email address: admin@whyllamensshed.org.au
- The Westland Shopping Centre management have allocated the 17th April as a day that we can use the community booth to promote ourselves and sell some products that we have manufactured. Ken is having a ball with this initiative so I am sure it will be a success. There will be a couple more working bees at Gary's place on Sunday's to make a few more items for sale. See Ken if you are interested in coming along.

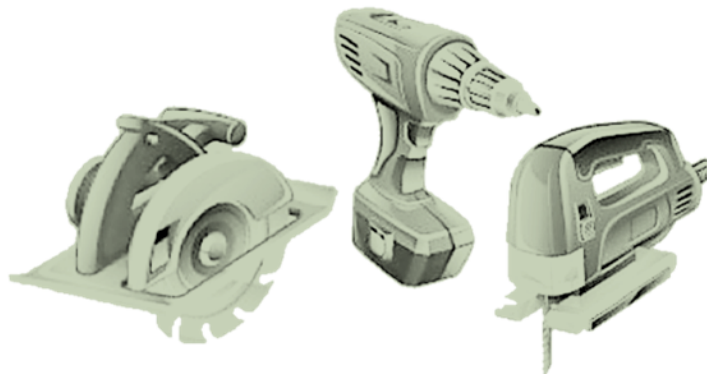
Membership numbers

We are growing with around 31 financial members with regular enquiries coming at the Shed. Remember that if you not financial **you are not covered by our AMSA Insurances and cannot do any work or use tools in the shed.**

Shed Opening Times

The group that are doing the cleanup and installation of fixtures and fittings have been meeting additional days so we have increased the opening days and hours to accommodate the majority wishes to the following:

- Monday to Thursday 10.00am to 1.00pm and some Saturday mornings 10.00 am to 12.00 midday
- Call in for a cuppa and a chat or you can get your hands dirty while assisting to get the shed operational.



- Donated tool cabinets are attached to the walls for tidy storage

Repairs to allow us to fully utilise the old Church

- Plumbing, we now know what tree roots look like when they invade sewer pipes, after much digging the problem was unearthed and cleared. The pipes had to be replaced due to the roots and we are now able to flush all units. We are waiting for the disabled pan and basin to be finished. Water is on, kitchen sink and hot water service installed.
- Electrics, finally underway as we are on to our third electrician so we are probably three to four weeks away from being fully powered up. Thanks to John, Rogert for the way that you have worked to assist with the installations.
- Security Screens are nearly complete
- External doors being repaired or replaced
- Glass is currently being replaced
- Two wooden workbenches have been manufactured, thanks Kevin, Bob and Wayne,
- Some windows and frames have been painted , Thanks Malcolm

Opening of Port Pirie Men's Shed

We had seven members plus Paul Hoskin (from the from the UK visiting Gary at UniSA) attend this new shed opening which is in conjunction with Uniting Care Wesley for a great facility. They have around 20 members and have a good workshop. The addition to the grounds of Conference facilities, workplace training, office space and commercial kitchen certainly will provide some much needed publicity for the group. Many ideas were placed in notebooks and you will see some of those ideas being used in the WMS.

Management Committee meeting

- The February and March meetings were well attended with discussion regarding a fundraising strategy to ensure sustainability of the shed. Ticket squares, Westland Shopping Centre raffle, Fishy Fringe stall, Tanderra/Whyalla Show, were discussed with the result being we should have a fundraising committee, to be advised next meeting.
- A cleaning roster to be introduced when facilities are connected.
- The First Aid Training grant has been utilised with Kevin, Bob and Malcolm now accredited following the course completion. Congratulations gents, great commitment.
- The Carols in the Park committee found our Shed worthy of a \$1000 donation from the community funds raised at the free event. We thank them for recognising our community group.
- A request to provide a pathway to the Shed which will allow easier wheelchair access has been placed with WCC
- Men's Health Week promotion and/or involvement to be considered in due course
- Community grants application submitted for a range of woodwork and metal work tools; fingers crossed that we get this one; should know by mid-May.
-