



NUMURKAH MEN'S SHED PROJECT

A COMMUNITY RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Men's Shed Project progressing well

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Numurkah Men's Shed Project Newsletter.

The project to establish a Men's Shed has been under way since late 2007, and this newsletter outlines progress to date, and plans for the future.

Firstly, many thanks to all those who responded to the survey in February-March. The response of over 100 returns was very positive, with overwhelming support and many offers of involvement and contribution. The evidence will be of great assistance in applications for funding and assistance, as well as identifying the types of activities preferred.

Survey feedback

99% want a men's shed
57% want to help

Top 3 ideas:

- Woodwork, furniture repairs
- Gardening
- Welding/Metal Work



The push to establish a Men's Shed had been considered several years ago, and was taken on by the Rotary Club of Numurkah in 2006/7 as a Community Project. Much of the research of the earlier work has been invaluable, as has the advice and experience of those involved.

Setting up a Men's Shed needs the support of the general community, and the working group aims to represent many of the key organisations. As the project becomes clearer, it is intended to involve other

groups and individuals to take an active role in the programs and general organisation, with a management committee to advise on major issues such as fund raising.

The working group has met on several occasions to clarify the purpose of the Men's Shed (and to agree that in the longer term, it is not just for men only!)

A number of potential sites have been reviewed, and the group will shortly meet with Shire representatives for advice and assistance on a proposed site within the township.

The criteria includes:

- A central location
- Adequate size and space
- Suitable toilet and kitchen facilities (now or later)
- Access to power, water
- Capable of development

Keep tuned for further information.

A Men's Shed? - what and why

The Men's Shed movement is here, and it's thriving.

There's nothing new about men getting together in their own space to talk, share skills, swap ideas, solve problems or just discuss life in general—it's been happening from the beginning of time.

What is new is that men, particularly retired men, by

attending a Men's Shed, find new identity and meaning in life. Especially to vast numbers of older, unemployed, job-redundant, "downsized", isolated, depressed as well as those happily retired active, creative, enthusiastic men.

Men's Sheds are fast being recognized as vital, viable places to fulfill these needs

and provide relaxed, happy creative spaces for men to enjoy.

Donations

We are currently accepting cash donations to support the purchase of a suitable site.

Contact Pat O'Brien

Volume 1, Issue 1

April 2008

Representatives:

ROTARY CLUB

Pat O'Brien
Alby Barton
Geoff Holmes

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Neil Stott

MOIRA HEALTH CARE ALLIANCE

Donna Richards

MORA SHIRE

Cr Frank Malcolm

CFA/YOUTH CLUB

Paul Rees

LIONS CLUB

Frank Baines
Bruce Stone
Des Ginnane

SENIOR CITIZENS

Ian Price

SECONDARY COLLEGE

Gary Phillips

CONTACTS:

Pat O'Brien 5862 2368

Neil Stott 5862 0566

Ian Price 5862 2608