

KALAMUNDA MEN'S SHED INC.

NEWSLETTER



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Joint foundation sponsors: The Rotary Club of Kalamunda and the Forrestfield Community Bank.

Proudly supported by the Shire of Kalamunda.

Once again this has been a busy month for KMS with a number of visitors to the Shed and many of our members involved in producing goods for the upcoming Quiz night.

June General Meeting

This was very successful with Ron Bates from the Forrestfield Community bank giving us some ideas. The Bank has been a major sponsor of the Kalamunda Men's Shed. Ron spoke generally on the need for quality financial advice in this rapidly changing economic environment. It is a deeply personal activity and individual needs and aspirations must receive full consideration in any planning. Many seniors are "asset rich but income poor" and quality advice may adjust this to a more manageable balance.

Sharryn visits the Shed

Our local member for Hasluck, Sharryn Jackson MP visited the Shed on 20 July. Sharryn spent time with the members who were present and she was impressed with the activity and quality of goods made in the Shed. She is a wonderful advocate for Men's Sheds in general, and KMS in particular. During the visit she announced that KMS was to receive a Volunteer's grant from the Federal Government to the amount of \$3559. Eddie van Rijnswood made an application to the Commonwealth a few months ago for the grant, which detailed a list of equipment needed for the Shed. Well done Eddie on a successful result.



Sharryn receiving a "handcrafted" gift from KMS

Dates to Remember

Friday 23 July at 2pm. General meeting with Pat Hallahan as the guest speaker talking about the "History of Kalamunda". Sausage sizzle to follow.

Friday 30 July at 7pm. KMS Quiz night at the Lesmurdie Club. Drinks on sale, bring nibbles.

Friday 20 August at 2:15pm. AGM and First Birthday celebrations in the Town Square Hall, Burt St Kalamunda.

Friday 24 September at 2pm. General meeting with Trenton Jones talking about Prostate Cancer.

Visit to the Shed by Mort Shearer

It was a cold and wet morning when Mort Shearer, the National President of the Australian Men's Sheds Association (AMSA) visited our Shed on Thursday 8 July. Mort took time from his busy schedule to meet with us and to update us on deliberations at the National level. Mort was accompanied by John Bryant from Bicton Shed and Ash Moon from Stirling Community Shed.

Mort was in WA to officiate at the inaugural WA Men's Shed General Meeting held at the Hilton Park bowling Club in Beaconsfield.

Mort was impressed with the progress KMS has made in the short time we have been up and operating, and was also impressed with the number of initiatives we have in place. He gave us an update on insurance issues. Insurance can now be purchased as part of an AMSA membership. Your committee will pursue this with vigour as it is likely to provide savings to members.

On the national front, AMSA has been given a Commonwealth grant of \$3m over three years to run the association. Twenty-five percent of this money will be given to sheds, especially those in needy areas, for equipment. The remaining funds will be spent on setting up the National office to include a full time CEO, a Marketing Manager and a Health Services Manager. As

a result of this initiative we can expect significant help and advice to flow down to sheds like us.



Mort talking to Chris, Barry and Desmond

KMS future development

As reported in an earlier edition of the Newsletter, there are a number of changes occurring within the town site of Kalamunda which are likely to have a bearing on the future of KMS.

In an attempt to determine the future direction of KMS, a meeting was held with representatives from the Shire on 23 June. Darren von Bergheim, Darren Jones and Steve McKay were in attendance. KMS was represented by Elton Brown and Richard Gates.

With the vacating of the old Shire building by the WA Police, the Shire is inviting a commercial operator into the building who will retain the heritage value of the facility, bring the building up to contemporary standards, and also provide an income stream to the Shire. In addition to this development, the Shire is about to embark on a study of community needs in the Shire to which the KMS will be invited to provide input.

As a result of these two factors, the Shire is not keen to embark upon any substantial development within our area such as auspicing a Metalwork Shed for the KMS. However the good news is that, subject to the results of the Community Needs Study, the Shire would be prepared to support funding by Lotterywest of a purpose built facility probably in another location, to satisfy KMS needs. This however will take some time as it is not expected that the Community Needs Study will be completed for nine months. In the meantime we need to work with the Shire and plan for modest and relocatable facilities which we can enjoy over the next five years or so. We also understand that a commercial operator in the old Shire building would not compromise the operation of the KMS, although a fence separating the two facilities would be required.

To move these matters forward, your committee has submitted a proposal to the Shire along the following lines:

- Provision of a 6.5m extension to the front of the Shed (this is already the subject of a generous donation from a local supplier)
- Seek a community grant from a third party to provide lighting etc to the extension
- Seek Shire approval to include the "Corner Sheds" within our lease.
- Provision of an annexe on the southern side of the Shed
- Lease some of the blacksmithing and metalworking equipment currently available from the Shire, for use in the expanded facilities.

We will keep you posted of developments either at the regular general meetings or via the Newsletter. However please do not hesitate to contact anyone on the committee if you have any questions.

West Australian Men's Shed Association (WAMSA)

The inaugural meeting of the WAMSA was held on 9 July. The meeting was attended by over 100 delegates representing the 23 existing or 40 "under construction" sheds in WA. Eight people were elected to the WAMSA Committee and it is pleasing to report that our man Jim Chantry is on the committee. At the executive meeting which followed on 14 July, Jim was further elected as the Secretary of WAMSA. Well done Jim!

Foothills Shed Public Meeting

With the support of the Shire of Kalamunda, Forrestfield Bowling Club and initiated by Cr Noreen Townsend, a meeting was held on 13 July. The meeting was well attended by KMS with 11 members there to give support. KMS gave an outline of how we started and a few tips to assist new starters.

A small committee was formed to examine the possibility of starting a Foothills Men's Shed and we will continue to support its formation with Ron Waddy (our Outreach Director) on the steering committee.

Other Visitors

As a result of the publicity given to KMS during Men's Health Week when Chairman Richard was interviewed by 6PR, a number of groups have visited the Shed over these last few weeks. These groups included, Handicapped Woodworkers, ACE and Activ Support.

As previously arranged, a group of men from the Peter Anderton Centre also visited the Shed, and were assisted to finish projects by KMS members. A big thankyou to those who stayed back to help with this initiative.

Rotary Markets The markets are on again on 7 August and volunteers for parking are required for this fundraising effort.

www.kalamamensshed.org.au