

Sunnybank District Community Men's Shed Inc.

Website : www.sunnybankshed.org

Men in sheds, building communities, working shoulder to shoulder.

Newsletter : February 2014

MEET MICHELLE.

I was fortunate this month to be able to have a chat with Michelle, the Activities Organiser for Bunnings at Rocklea. Michelle's job, together with Kevin her Co-organizer partner, is to get involved with the community in the Rocklea area (which includes Sunnybank). She is a busy person with her shop duties and could spend all her time there, but is expected to spend up to 3 of her 5 days each week in the community.

Sometimes she is a volunteer, helping out a group in some way, sometimes as an advisor on a problem that has arisen in a group.

Occasionally she is able to be a provider, suggesting to say—a BBQ supplier—that a certain group needs a BBQ and could they help. She does have a small budget each month, and is able to provide requested goods to certain groups based on need. She has already allocated us to run 6 BBQ's at Rocklea this year and these should greatly benefit us financially. She tells me that the Rocklea store alone in the last 6 month period has injected over \$ 70,000 into the community through their BBQ program.

At least once a year, Michelle & Kevin, together with their fellow Activities Organisers from surrounding Bunnings stores, tackle one BIG community event. Sometimes going to a group—say a community garden—and spend the day on weeding and maintenance. The Activities Organisers sometimes pool all their monthly budgets to purchase something of importance to a needy community group. She is involved in the DIY—Do It Yourself—workshops at the store and we may become involved in these also if invited. We hope to get to know her well during this year, and look forward to working with someone as community minded as Michelle.

FROM THE EDITORS DESK: It seem to be taking forever to get the Development Application passed. However, in a very precise piece of correspondence from Ian Holst to the committee, he draws out the time frame involved in the DA process, and where we are at the present time. The first point made was that it took the shed just over a full year to agree to the terms of the lease offered by the Uniting Church to the SDCMS. Although, with the best of intentions of getting the best conditions possible for the shed's future, we ended up signing almost what we were presented with at the start — in August 2012— a lease for one year initially with no value added exceptions, then renewable.

The DA process started soon after this and it was common knowledge that this type of process usually takes about 6 months.

Ian was able to get a commitment from the town planning people to reduce this to 3 months if possible. At the present time, an acoustic testing process is taking place and when completed, will be attached to the DA, and the application should be nearly ready to lodge. The testing will be done by Roger Hawkins, a Church member and a Senior Engineer with the Acoustic firm, Palmer Acoustics. He will be doing the testing voluntarily as a favour to the shed, only charging for the use of the instruments plus an overhead fee for the firm. It should all be completed in a 14 day period. We know we have the support of all the local Council members and State members also, so if the process could be speeded up, they would be right behind us. It seems to be taking a long-time, but in reality it is proceeding through the various stages and will be completed soon.

Contacts : Des Broom - Chairman Ph. 3345 2876 . Michael Langham - Treasurer Ph. 3272 8085
Secretary –Maurice Millsom –Ph. 3272 4045 Ian Turner—Shed Manager Ph. 0448 045 438

Location : Hillcrest St, Sunnybank Hills— Adjacent to Sunnybank Uniting Church parking area.

Postal Address : Unit 5 ,62 Pinelands Road, Sunnybank Hills. QLD. 4109

This shed is the initiative of the Sunnybank RSL Sub Branch and the Sunnybank Uniting Church.



ROCKLEA





At our Open day in November, we were asked to make a special device to rest on one's knees and hold a book. This enabled the book to be read without getting tired arms and also eliminated any shaking or movement of the hands. Brian developed this stand and showed us how it would work. It could also be adapted for a tablet or similar items. Graeme also designed a similar stand so our customer will have a choice when she comes to the shed to pick up her order.

"There is no passion to be found playing small, in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living"
Nelson Mandela.



Noel is checking the construction of the shade house. It was donated to the shed and will be put to good use when the Community Garden becomes a reality. A lot of preparation is going on in the area where the gardens will be located, such as erecting this shade house and preparing composting areas.

Noel would appreciate any old garden tools or items similar to this shade house, or an old garden shed (no longer in use) to be donated for the proposed garden.

He would especially appreciate one or two wheel barrows. Above ground garden beds are planned, to limit the amount of bending over needed to tend them, but they are a long way off at this early stage.



However, some tree lopping and mulching was carried out on the Church area near the shed, and we scored two truck loads of much. This, together with 2 truck loads of soil that was donated and delivered is helping create the foundation for the Community Garden

Some good advice –from 800BC– on show as part of the Afghanistan Display at the Queensland Museum .

As a Child - Learn good manners.

As a Young Man - learn to control your passions.

In middle age - Be just

In old age - Give good advice

Then Die — Without regret.



from Michael - on right- who is heading off soon on a touring holiday till Easter.

The shed resembled a chair factory as the production of these small high chairs swung in gear. Some have already been delivered to Carrington House, another 4 will be delivered before the end of the month.

Jack- on left, learning the ropes



On Friday 24th, we moved all the timber stored in a small temporary spot and it involved a lot of heavy lifting. A large pipe frame was then moved into place. After much welding, metal



cutting and stabilising, all the material plus some previously not under cover was stacked in it's new home. The roof is all that is needed now to complete the operation. It was one of the biggest activities the shed has undertaken in recent time, involving all the men present at the shed on the day. When the work was finished, a well earned tea break was enjoyed by all.

Dates for 2014.

Guest speaker for last Friday in February: 28th Feb...

Jane Peel —Brisbane Digital Hub Co-ordinator.

Library Services—Brisbane City Council.

She will tell us about all the courses that are run by the HUB concerning all things Digital.

Bunning's B-B-Q's.

Saturday 8th February :

Sat. 26th April:

Sunday 8th June

Sunday 3rd August :

Saturday 11th October:

Sun. 28th December.

Committee Meetings (3rd Friday)

21st February

21st March

Easter Friday 18th April - Suggest Wed. 16th. April

Friday 16th May

20th June

Shed B-B-Q's – last Friday each month.

This SBDCMS Inc. Newsletter is compiled by David Pitt, Publicity Officer for the Shed. Contact at d.pitt@optusnet.com.au

Australian Men's Shed Assoc. website is www.mensshed.org