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**K i n g s t o n**  
**M e n ' s S h e d**  
14 Gormley Drive, Kingston

### Newsletter No 14, November-December 2013

**Regular Activities:** Kingston Men's Shed is open Monday - Thursday from 9am to 12.30pm. Tuesdays are set aside for members of various retirement villages in our Kingborough Council area to visit and participate. This does not exclude members from attending and interacting with our elderly citizens, perhaps lending a hand with one of their projects, or just enjoying a coffee and chat.

The Primary School mentoring programme continues throughout the term.

**News from The Shed:** At long last work on construction of the main shed has begun! I'm sure there are some big smiles on the dials of those who, after some frustration over lack of funding, satisfying council requirements, followed by delay with the excavation work partly due to inclement weather, council having to reschedule its work priorities, and just when the concrete work would proceed, can finally breathe a sigh of relief! Our much-needed grant was finally approved and, while it wasn't quite as much as we had hoped for, will go a long way to achieving our goal. Kingborough Council also came to our assistance with site preparation and certain fees.



4<sup>th</sup> October 2013

"All quiet on the Western Front!"

Enter a bulldozer and a truck

Several of you would know that this project has been on the drawing board for some time, and with membership having grown, the additional space will be most welcome - not to mention that additional equipment which has been taking up much-needed space in one particular member's garage, will finally be relocated to its new home.



12.25pm on 4<sup>th</sup> October



8.06am on 26<sup>th</sup> October

It wasn't easy, as rain threatened to wash everything away, mud caked boots and shoes, and tempers were slightly frayed at times until a layer of heavy gravel was laid, and peace reigned once more!



5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Nov.: Drainage had to be allowed for, and boxing of the foundation prior to the concrete being poured.

11<sup>th</sup> Nov.: There were concerns the contractor dealing with the concrete might not be available - spring rain was impacting on him too.

A few dedicated members chose to do night patrol of the work site as a deterrent to uninvited visitors! It was mentioned that they tucked into a couple of pizzas, with one member feeling the heat due to a check up on his diabetes scheduled shortly!

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2013, the rain cleared temporarily, enabling the foundation (concrete supplied by Hazell Bros. at a generous discount) to be poured. On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November the boxing was removed. A group got together on Monday 25<sup>th</sup>, creating a temporary heavy-duty gravel path allowing everyone to access The Shed with clean feet! And two taxis were able to deliver their clients virtually to the door by driving onto the now solid foundation. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December, sunshine allowed a hard-working group to lay ag-drain and blue metal round the parameters of the foundation to assist drainage of water from the embankment.

The next phase (construction of the shed extension) scheduled to commence on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> December was put back (bloody rain!) and it appears delivery of materials will commence on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>, with (fingers crossed) construction to begin the following day! With some luck (and the weather) the basic structure **might** be ready before Christmas!!??? Anyone want to play Santa?

#### **Fundraising:** an on-going activity



Members (like Dave & Kevin) braved the elements selling tickets for our Christmas raffle outside Coles, Kingston on 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Others sold to friends and family. All up around \$800 was raised. Members produce chopping boards, bowls, clocks, tables and other items

to sell and use for raffle prizes, small community projects such as garden beds and



sale of unwanted items taking up space in The Shed. As a result of past efforts, some \$4500 has been set aside towards costs for the extension.



Some of the prizes for this year's Christmas raffle made by members (page 3 & 4).

Library collection: books and journals relating to woodwork, wood-turning, spindle turning and tools have been catalogued and are now available from our library.

Members can borrow for a period of one month at no cost. If any of you have any technical material which you would like to donate to the collection, it would be most appreciated.

**A reminder to members that books currently out on loan should be returned to the collection before the Christmas break.**

**Up-coming Events:** At this stage no special activities have been arranged for the coming year and, due to work still to be done to finish the new extension, there will be plenty to keep everyone busy.

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank those who contributed to the newsletter with photographs of Shed activities, and provided a "Member Profile", and hope that other members will be encouraged to participate in 2014. If you have any articles or photos you would like to publish via the newsletter they can be emailed to me [e.black@bigpond.com.au](mailto:e.black@bigpond.com.au)

The year is certainly coming to a close very quickly. The Shed will be closed for the Festive Season from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December re-opening for business on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

*Editor:* Very Best Wishes to you and your families for the Festive Season, and may it be a safe, happy and healthy one for you all. To those on the sick list - **get well soon!**

Your Committee is made up of the following members: Arnold Krieg, Dave Ellis, Denis Newman, Dennis O'Flynn, Mike Jackson, Fenn Oost, Bob Davis & Evelyn Black.



*"Dave's Gnomes"*



With the slab in place, construction of the shed commenced a few days later than expected. Nevertheless, we are hopeful of reaching "lock-up" stage before Christmas.

For further progress see the latest photos page 6.



Materials delivered 12<sup>th</sup> with preparation work beginning 13<sup>th</sup> December



Work re-commenced 16<sup>th</sup> December

