

# Port Fairy Men's Shed Inc.

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 4-2010  
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Secretary: Harry Bracegirdle, 19, Dyson St. Port Fairy 3284 (5568-2601)  
<http://members.aussiebroadband.com.au/pfmensshed/>

Affiliated with the Australian Men's Shed Association

## President's Report

### ATTENTION ALL SHED MEMBERS

**Do you have 1 hour free on Saturday 24th April/ 9.30am – 10.30am? - SHED INDUCTION (see below)**

Hi Shedders,

Now we have got past the euphoria of a very successful shed opening, we need to get on with some very necessary actions, to activate the shed on a working footing.

On Wednesday 14th April a small number of members walked through the shed with **Margaret Dwyer**, an Occupational Health and Safety consultant, to determine what was necessary to bring the shed up to speed to provide a safe working place for all users.

We discussed such issues as signage, training re safety issues, OH&S, first aid, fire awareness and security. People cannot expect to just walk into the shed without some awareness of the above issues and training and safe use of the many different pieces of workshop equipment. Margaret suggested that for a start we could have a 1 hour induction process for all shed members. She is free to provide this induction next **Saturday, 24th April at 9.30am.**

I would urge all members to try and take advantage of this opportunity to be inducted and registered as having participated. I am sorry for the short notice, on ANZAC weekend, but this was the only time Margaret had available.

The Leadership Team (COM and Operational Committee) will be responsible for further inductions. NOBODY can work in the shed unless inducted; it is a simple awareness process.

We can have a 'cuppa and biscuit' while it's on or just after the event.

I have not mentioned the issue of personal accident insurance. While the shed construction phase occurred we used a sign on sign off register as a Lions Project so that members were covered. Harry has now arranged our own Membership Personal Accident Insurance. It will still require everyone who enters the shed for work, craft or computer tuition to sign on and off to avoid voiding their personal accident insurance.

**Carrying out these processes means that there should be no issues with Worksafe Victoria.**

## OPERATIONAL SUB-COMMITTEE

At the general meeting the following people agreed to participate in the ongoing practical management of the shed.

**Dennis Lemke, Leo Dalton, Garry Finnegan, Ewan Cameron.** Others already on the COM are Don, Harry, Keith, Mick, Peter Fawns, and John Ellard.

Sub Committees are:-

- i. Social Networking
- ii. Supervision of Safety/Rosters/Security
- iii. Skill Development and Training
- iv. Projects Management

The success of The Shed will depend on the willingness of members to take responsibility for these areas of operation.

If you have an interest please register with Don or Harry so that a meeting of interested parties can determine each sub-committee role and who can slot in to best advantage of each sub-committee.

## CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY

I believe we are very close to sign off for this documentation.

- i. A check on plumbing and septic disposal plus hand-rails in the disabled toilet
- ii. Electrical certificate obtained
- iii. Fire protection, EXIT signs in place
- iv. OH&S issues covered.

## WORKING DAY & TIMES

Harry has drafted a proposed time table for discussion at the next Committee meeting – this will include times for **Broadband for Seniors** tuition. Some of this will be determined by availability of people to open/close and secure the shed.

It's been said before, but I can't really say it often enough. You have all 'bent your backs' to get to the Grand opening by **Jaala Pulford MP**. The Standard gave us an excellent write up to back up the Moyne Gazette feature.

Lastly, do you realise July means the AGM is nearly upon us? Some of us are feeling 'enough is enough' and are hoping some new blood will emerge at election time. **GIVE IT SOME SERIOUS THOUGHT.**

THANK YOU

President Don



We Serve

Auspiced by the Port Fairy-Belfast Lions Club

## Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony for the Port Fairy Men's Shed was held on 9th April 2010. Despite the inclement weather, with rain causing a change of plans and forcing the ceremony to be held indoors, some 140 people jammed into the Shed for the occasion.

Port Fairy Men's Shed **President, Don Stephens**, welcomed all guests, many of whom traveled great distances to join us on this special occasion. Don gave a history of the development of the Shed and thanked many of the supporters and sponsors who have provided critical financial and general support to ensure the Shed was constructed. He expressed his pleasure at finally being able to open the facility which he explained was a \$150,000 project.



Jaala Pulford and guests listen to President Don's address

Don then introduced **Jaala Pulford MP**, Member of the Victorian Legislative Council, who was representing the Minister for Senior Victorians - the **Hon. Lisa Neville MP** at the ceremony. Following her address to the guests, Jaala Pulford then officially opened the Port Fairy Men's Shed and did the honour of cutting the ceremonial ribbon.



The ceremonial ribbon cutting

Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, the CEO of the Moyne Shire Council, **Mr. Brett Stonestreet**, was invited to formally open the **Broadband for Seniors Internet Kiosk** that was now an integral part of the Men's Shed and was the basis for the Broadband for Seniors program that was also launched on the day. Mr. Stonestreet highlighted the value of having such a

valuable facility in the community and a free program that specifically targets senior Australians with the aim of improving their skills in the use of the Internet enabling them to keep pace with the modern communication era.

The guests then enjoyed a light lunch that was prepared by the **Yambuk Hospital Auxiliary**. All visitors took the opportunity to view the Shed and equipment and to mingle informally with other guests.

The Committee of Management was thrilled with the success of the event and pleased that many favourable comments were received about the facility.



Jaala Pulford enjoys her gift of a box of "rusty tools" chocolates

## Broadband for Seniors Program

**Do you want to learn basic computing plus how to use the Internet and send emails?**

**If so, book in for your free tuition now.** The BFS Kiosk is now open for classes with the proposed times of operation listed below. This is a self-paced learning program that will typically take each participant 3 x 90 minute sessions to complete.

Day	8am – 10am	10am – 12pm	2pm – 4pm
Monday	Closed	Available	Available
Tuesday	Available	Available	Available
Wednesday	Closed	Available	Available
Thursday	Available	Available	Closed
Friday	Closed	Available	Available

### Notes:

1. Bookings are essential. Maximum of two persons can be taught at any one time.
2. Tuition classes are subject to change depending on availability of tutors and the facility
3. Please advise the Coordinator if you have booked and decide to cancel your session.
4. Seniors who have completed basic tuition are welcome to use the kiosk at any time provided that the facility is open and is not being used for formal tuition classes at the time.

### Information & Bookings

**Harry Bracegirdle** (BFS Coordinator) Tel: 5568-2601.  
harry.bracegirdle@bigpond.com



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