



Crocodilus

Rotary Club of Katherine

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Feb / March 2015

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

It's been a quiet month for the Rotary Club of Katherine. The Park has seen the activities of the JobFind Construction crew who have continued to produce concrete pavers. The lads have also been working on laying the pavers at the Step Out house that will enable the inhabitants to have an outside entertaining area.

And they have been working on an extension for the workshop. This will double the capacity of our workshop and we are hoping that we will be able to start Katherine's first Men's Shed – see article on the Men's Shed on page 2.

We have been approached by the National Trust to do some maintenance work at the Railway Station.

We have also been in negotiation with the David Liddiard Group who want to run a Pre Youth Enterprise Scheme.

Park News

Clyde Fenton School will be using the Park on April 2nd. YMCA has the Park booked for a laser tag activity in April

Editor contact details:

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Upcoming Meetings:

April: Tuesday 7th & Monday 20th

May: Tuesday 5th & Monday 18th

Mothers Day

Perk the Park Thank You Day



Rotary Family Fun Park

Saturday May 9th 6 – 9pm

Entertainment: Moonshadow

Dancing, singalongs

Lots of activities for the kids

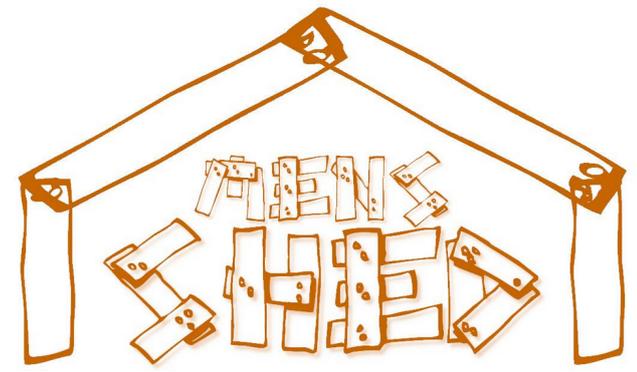
\$2 entry; lots of food; raffle; door prizes

see poster at the end

Mother's day is a wonderful time to for each of us to take a moment and honor motherhood. Motherhood is not merely defined by the bearing and raising of children but is rather a statement regarding the divine nature of women. All women, whether or not they bear children, can fulfill the role of mothers. The work they do should also be remembered as we celebrate Mother's Day.

Katherine Community Men's Shed

Would you support the establishment of a Men's Shed?



Katherine Rotary Club has a fantastic facility in the Fun Park that is not really utilised to its full potential. Our construction crew are extending the workshop and we have been discussing the possibility of starting a Community Men's Shed. Our open letter to the community is reproduced below. We would appreciate any support because it is only with support that we can apply for grants to purchase the equipment to furnish the shed.

A men's shed will give men in the Katherine area the opportunity to get together, share their problems and provide a focus for their skills. Older men, retired or unemployed, younger men, indigenous and non-indigenous are more disadvantaged in remote locations than in other parts of Australia. A recent study found that most men's key health concerns were loneliness, boredom, social isolation, loss of self-esteem, purpose and identity. Another study found that stronger friendship networks decreased mortality rates (The Australian Longitudinal Study on Ageing).



Compared with women, Australian men suffer poorer health outcomes on almost every measure of health status including self-report of health status where men are less likely than women to report themselves to be in excellent or good health

These are some of the identified problems in men's health :

- Isolation, loneliness and depression are now looming as major men's health issues.
- Last year in Australia, there were 10 million consultations on mental health, alone.
- The health system is straining to cope.
- There is an inability of health services to engage men who are ignoring their health issues.
- There is little evidence of health services addressing the 'Baby Boomers' crisis.
- There is insufficient attention being paid to preventative activities.
- The gap in Indigenous health is too big and needs urgent attention



The establishment of a men's shed could be used as a vehicle for health promotion activities, We have already been talking to the alcohol and drugs and mental health specialists to plan training opportunities. But more than that, the Shed could help Katherine men regain a sense of purpose in life, improve their self-esteem and address the issues described above. They would be able to use the space, the equipment and the shared experiences of the participants to build items that are needed by the community, by the special school and other

disadvantaged people in the region. AlltoolsNT have supplied a quote for equipping a shed

However, before we proceed too far down this path, we are seeking community support. **Would you support our initiative?**

If you do think that this could be a great project for both Rotary and the men of Katherine, would you please contact us – letter or email would be fantastic.

If the support is forthcoming we intend to hold a public meeting to make known our intentions and gather further widespread community support. Then we can move forward with a business plan and apply for grants to purchase the equipment.

We have been in contact with the Australian Men's Shed movement.



PERKERS of the PARK – Thank you

Chris Dixon	Cheryl
Christina	Toni Tapp Coutts
Doris Bayliss	Maurice McKinnon
Shelley	Shaun Ford
Dani Ford	Solar Living Homes
Robin Shepherd	Jenny Mackie
Katie Gianoncelli	Caroline Lindsay
Bev Patterson	Fay Miller
Lydia & Stephen Rees	Duana Job
John & Chrissy Zelle	LJM Owen
Jeffrey Usher	Kate Peake
Pamela Dixon	Jodie Locke
Rab & Christine Sutherland	Gabriel & Loralie Profitt
Charmaine Roth	Rosita Avenell
Alison & Andrew Wilson	Gavin Bell
Ray White	Crowhurst Engineering
Pfennigs Autos	Cheryl
Renez Lamon	Katherine Smash Repairs
Gary Beaumont	Exposure Photographics
Sandra Reimer	Roamin_round_signs
Michael & Di Wyatt	Faulkner Family
Car Parts NT	Graham & Shirley Hunter
Arthur J Gallagher	

Park News

The JobFind Construction crew under Bob Mackie and Jason Hall are doing an excellent job in extending our shed. This will become the basis for future training ventures and will hopefully become the venue for a possible Men's Shed/G Wiz community space.

This month has seen the removal of the giant snakes and ladders game to a new location, the erection of steel supports, the preparation of a roof and the installation of said roof and the team is currently making and laying a concrete pad.



Pedal cars

Our thanks to our new sponsors of the steel framed pedal cars. These are now ready for operation:



Wooden heirloom pedal cars

As you would expect from a car that will last a lifetime, these are more complicated to make. We are hoping we will soon have more help with working out the technicalities of these wonderful cars. We have started the manufacture of the Model A van (10 have been sponsored) using exterior grade ply.

We have had offers of support from Col Beach, Crowhurst Engineering and John Zelley.

And perhaps the new initiative with the David Liddiard Group may prove beneficial in helping people start a small business in pedal cars.



These will eventually end up like this:



Rotary in Katherine

All members of the Rotary Club of Katherine extend a warm welcome to you.

Belonging to a worthwhile organisation, which enables us to serve the community locally and internationally and build friendships amongst our members, is a privilege which all members of the Rotary Club of Katherine value.

Our Club was chartered in 1977 and has continued to be involved in many exciting and rewarding projects.

Our major fundraising efforts include the Katherine Races, Territory Day, WOW Conference, Katherine Show and the Triple Zero Show. The jewel in our crown is the Rotary Family Fun Park near Clyde Fenton School.

As a Rotarian, our fellow members accept that each of us will serve diligently in our club, our vocation and in the cause of international understanding, goodwill and peace. In return Rotary offers rich rewards of friendship and fulfillment to those who offer their own friendship and service.

We meet on the first and third Monday of each month (unless that Monday falls on a public holiday, in which case we meet the next day – Tuesday). We meet at Knotts Crossing Resort at 730pm. We have guest speakers and everyone is welcome to come along.

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Mothers Day Celebration



Saturday May 9th 5 – 10 pm

Live Band: Moonshadow

www.moonshadow.net.au



At the Rotary Family FunPark Entry \$2

Lots of (supervised) activities for the kids:

Mini golf, chess, snakes and ladders, pirate ship and fort; water bomb fight, jumping castle, pedal cars, craft table for kids

Prizes for the fastest circuit using pedal cars,

Food aplenty: BBQ sausages, steak sandwiches, donuts, mango crushies

Stalls of various descriptions

Prizes: Draw for Perkies; Door prize; Dance competition prizes

So come on Katherinites, come and show your appreciation to all mothers

