



Speech by

DESLEY SCOTT

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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MAKE-AND-DO SHED, KINGSTON

Mrs DESLEY SCOTT (Woodridge—ALP) (7.25 p.m.): There is something about a man and his shed. Secret men's business? Maybe so. But in a bygone area, men all over this land retreated to their backyard shed to do car maintenance, maybe a bit of carpentry, work on a mower or pursue a hobby. The backyard shed is no longer an obligatory landmark down the back next to the chook pen, and I think many men have really lost something very valuable. In my electorate, a new facility is buzzing with activity. It is known as the make-and-do shed or the MAD project. The concept was born out of a discussion between two gentlemen, Jock Dingley and Mick Bird, at a meeting of the Kingston community renewal reference group early in 2001. They dreamt of having a community work shed where they could share not only tools and facilities but also yarns and stories. They had some questions, so they came to see my predecessor, Mike Kaiser, to ask: is it a good idea? Is it feasible? How would we go about it? Mike agreed that the answer to the first two questions was an emphatic yes and referred them on to Ms Kerry Holtz, head of the regional managers forum in Logan. They then brought Paul Ainsworth, community renewal facilitator, into the circle and a funding submission was developed and presented to both the Woodridge and Kingston community renewal reference groups.

Ms Stone interjected.

Mrs DESLEY SCOTT: They did. The MAD group became incorporated in July 2001 and the combined funding of \$57,000 became available in August. By this time an ideal shed had been located. They set about the fit-out, with all the benches and tables made by the members. Machinery was purchased along with saws, planers, lathes, sanders, drills and various other hand and power tools. Some electrical work was required to increase the capacity of the wiring.

In September 2001, the first group of woodworkers and lovers of wood crafts gathered excitedly to christen their new facility. They now have 45 members and are growing as more and more community members—men and women—hear of this wonderful hub of activity. Some of their members have left their home workshops for the extra ingredient offered by Jock and Mick's MAD shed. Here they offer mateship, a special place where they can find friendship and support and join what is a wonderful network in the communities of Woodridge and Kingston.

This project has received recognition in one of our state government publications. They are now mounting displays of their beautiful work at Woodridge Plaza, Logan Hyperdome and Grand Plaza at Browns Plains. At present, they open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings and Tuesday evening. As news of this wonderful facility spreads, I can see more and more of our community becoming interested, and the hours will require extension. I commend Jock and Mick for such an innovative place, where friendships will be made and creativity fostered.
