

YASS VALLEY MEN'S SHED

NEWSLETTER NO 20 OF 2011



THE MEN'S SHED MINI MESSENGER

NO 10

MONDAY 17 OCTOBER 2011

PATRON: COUNCILLOR NIC CARMODY, MAYOR OF YASS VALLEY

Headline News for this Week

Yass Valley Community Centre (YVCC)

The Council's S.355 Committee that advises the Council on the management of the YVCC, Chaired by Allan McGrath and having Len McGuigan and David Hale as Men's Shed representatives met last Tuesday and I understand the following issues were agreed:

The Committee (and Council Representatives in attendance) were very impressed with the state of the refurbishments and efforts of the Men's Shed in making the venue fit for purpose and ready for use;

Only some relatively minor completion of some electrical work and a required change in the "purpose" of the building (requiring the processing of a Development Application) are now standing the way of the venue being opened for public community use. We don't have a proposed date for that yet;

THE GOOD NEWS though, is that the venue has been approved for use for our Health Seminars on Thursday(s) 1 and 8 December – see more info, below); and

The Council will send its Gardens staff along to clean up and rejuvenate the garden beds between the forecourt and the road. My understanding is that this might include removing dead plants, provision of new mulch and perhaps some new plantings.

General News

Workshop News

We had the first of two YVMS workshop orientation days last [Saturday 15th October](#) and it was a great success. Roger Holgate and Len McGuigan gave a detailed and comprehensive tour of the workshop and explained the uses and constraints on the use of all the major items of machinery. About 10 Shed members attended and the feedback was very good.

This familiarisation will be presented, again, by Roger and Len this coming [Thursday 20th October](#) at 3pm for those unable to make it on last Saturday (or those who might like to hear the information again).

The purpose of this exercise is to show members just what tools and equipment we have managed to acquire at this stage, where the tools are stored and to familiarise members with their correct usage, designed to prevent personal accidents, health risks, and damage to tools and machinery.

While we are still very much in the process of setting up the workshop, there are some dangerous procedures coming to notice and a lot of incorrect usage of tools.

We also intend to organise demonstrations by people who are experts in their field in the future.

One of the reasons for these orientation days is that we have noted that most Men's Sheds have an accreditation system that controls the use of equipment to those members who have undertaken a familiarisation course on the machines that they wish to use. We are not quite at that stage in the Yass Valley Men's Shed at this point, but we have experienced some damage to equipment that can only have been caused by members using the equipment in a way that is not intended or beyond the equipment's performance capability.

If these orientation workshops are not successful and we do not see a reduction in damage and excessive wear and tear, then we may be forced to get more bureaucratic than we would like and impose some kind of accreditation process on users. This is not our preferred outcome – but we need to be conscious of both our duty of care for the safety of our members and the care and longevity of our expensive machinery.

Climate Change Talk at the Soldiers Club

“The Critical Decade: Climate Science, Risks, and Responses”

a free public lecture by

Will Steffen

Director, ANU Climate Change Institute

Friday 21st October 2011

5:00 – 6:30 pm

Yass Soldiers Club

86 Meehan Street, Yass (just off Comur Street)

Prof. Will Steffen is an exciting and accomplished international speaker who is at the forefront of climate research and serves on the Prime Minister's Multi-Party Climate Change Committee as well as the Government's Climate Commission. His lecture will describe what is now happening to the Earth's climate and what we can expect next. He will assess the impacts on rural communities in Australia. The event will be a marvellous opportunity to find out what the latest science has to say, to consider what response options we have, air your concerns, and get your questions answered.

Everyone is welcome

supported by the Yass Branch, NSW Farmers Association

The Yass Men's Shed Health Seminar Program

Thursday 1 December 7.30pm.

Looking into the Mirror 1 - Self-identity, self-esteem and looking after yourself

Thursday 8 December 7.30pm

Looking into the Mirror 2 - Managing the pressures of living, anger management and staying relevant

Both seminars (the second of which flows directly from the first) will be presented in the style of a "fireside chat" with the opportunity for the audience to engage, ask questions and take part in the conversation.

The presenters are two local highly qualified practitioners in psychology and counselling (and members of the Men's Shed) who have over 50 years relevant and focussed experience between them.

- Richard Rowan RFD, BA Psychology and BA (Hons) Psychophysiology and Organisational Psychology, MAPS. Richard is a Registered Psychologist and Member of the Australian Psychological Society with in excess of 30 years' experience in a variety of psychological areas. He is the consultant psychologist at Yass District Psychology Practice.
- Peter Hurley Master of Social Science (Counselling), Graduate Diploma in Counselling, Bachelor of Arts. Peter has worked for 20 years in related areas and currently works as a Generalist Counsellor, Community Health Centre, Dept of Health (NSW), Southern Local Health Service in Yass.

These Seminars are intended for the benefit of all community members in the Yass Valley. Everyone will be most welcome to attend. Members of community groups may wish to bring a number of their members.

The Yass Lions Club will organise a sausage sizzle (at a modest cost) starting at 6pm on both evenings if you prefer not to organise meals before such an event.

If you wish to attend, please make your reservations as follows:

- Email: secretary@yassmensshed.org.au (preferred mode of contact)
- Phone: 6226 4120 (please use this mode if you don't have access to email)

If you decide on the day that you would like to attend, then that will not be a major problem (providing we don't have a sellout earlier and "there is no room at the Inn" on the night(s) in question). We need numbers that booking will provide so we can plan seating, and adequate provision of refreshments. So your bookings would be most appreciated.

Watch this space for info on:

- Organising a car or cars to go to the upcoming Bowls Day organised by the Boorowa Men's Shed – date to be notified later.

Mini Messenger off line for a couple of weeks

I will be away from 20 October until 24 November (inclusive). So, unless someone volunteers to take over this little task, your weekly news from the Shed will have a rest and you won't have to stand around waiting for it to hit your email in box.

I hope you will feel the pain of this loss of information and news about happenings at the Shed and will be all waiting with great anticipation for the next Messenger late in November or early December. **Try not to forget the Health Seminars on 1 December and 8 December!!**

Mini Messenger Conundrum

If a person with multiple personalities threatens to kill himself, is this a hostage situation?

Birthdays for the next 4 weeks

22/10: David Hale, Luke Laundess and Dennis Wicklander; 23/10: Al Phemister; 24/10: Wayne Stuart; 29/10 Warren Dickson; 13/11: Len McGuigan; 14/11: Bill Dalton & Howard Hollingsworth; 15/11: Con Novitski & Chris McHarg; 21/11 Leslie Yeaman; 25/11: Geoff Kell; 28/11: Roger Lawrence.

Shed Opening Times

Tuesday – 11am to 2pm

Thursday – 2pm to when the last one leaves – sometimes (especially now that the weather is improving) includes a BBQ at dinner time.

Saturday – Noon to when the last one leaves (usually between 3 and 4pm)

At all other times, if you are passing and see the doors open, please feel welcome and free to call in!

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Wayne Stuart

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