



# THE MEN'S SHED MINI MESSENGER

NO 3 FOR 2012

WEDNESDAY 18/1/2012

PATRON: COUNCILLOR NIC CARMODY, MAYOR OF YASS VALLEY

## **STOP PRESS**

### **Visit by Members of the Goulburn Men's Shed – Friday 20 January**

I contacted all members last week with news that a number of members of the Goulburn Men's Shed will be visiting us this coming Friday. It seems they will arrive around 10.30 in the morning.

The response so far has been most encouraging and the list of our own members who have indicated that they will attend includes:

**John Woodin, Ray Hill (hopeful), Wayne Stuart, Richard Rowan, Roger Holgate, Peter Hurley, Reg Moebus, John Wolstencroft (hopeful), Richard Saxby, Ray Armour, Ron Barton, John D'Arx, David Hale .....** (if I have forgotten anyone, my apologies)

We will be having a BBQ lunch (and it won't be just sausages!!) to show these Goulburn blokes that we really know how to live, so if you are at a loose end, why not come as well.

## **Headline News for this Week**

### **Other Risks faced by Men's Sheds**

In addition to the recent security upgrade prompted, in part, by the break in next door, another real risk has come to notice this week – and again, it is something all members who attend the Shed need to be very conscious of. Here is an extract from the most recent Melba Men's Shed Newsletter – you can see the whole Newsletter each week if you log on to this website: <http://melbashed.com>. Our thanks to the Melba Shed for making this important information available via their Newsletter.



Members of the Orbost Men's Shed are devastated that a fire tore through their building on Sunday night 8 January 2012 causing an estimated \$100,000 worth of damage and destroying all of the men's woodwork projects.

The Melba Shed received an email about the fire from our friend, Tom Davis who wrote:

"While we were officially on vacation we had a fire in our Shed last Sunday. About \$100,000.00 worth of damage has been done. **The fire started in a router which was used that Sunday and not switched off.** It started in that machine and spread along the electricity cabling burning out our electrical distribution system and setting fire to a canite false roof.

That burned with great intensity toasting everything on top of benches in the routing room and the computer room. The computers melted, and are but blobs of plastic and a metal frame that still stands. The computer gear under the benches survived unscathed - we hope.

A lot of work in progress made by the shedders was incinerated. Some computers and tools on loan to the shed were melted and destroyed. Orbost Regional Health has claimed ownership of such gear so that one claim can be submitted.

Because the fire in the false roof burned with such intensity, there is a reasonable doubt if the steel roof will have to be written off because it has probably lost its rust proof glaze. Structural Engineers have been engaged by OREH to advise. The Shed is not opening for business this coming week. Instead plans are under way to visit neighbouring sheds to keep the team together and help console those who lost some treasured possessions.

We recently obtained some gear as an outcome of a successful Volunteers Grant. Those computers and the NAS Drive were taken home over the holidays and were saved. The Reverse cycle air conditioning lost its electrical connections. Some other gear was not delivered and thus not lost.

We are setting up an equipment data base to write off what's lost and repair what is repairable, and have a listing of what survived it all.

Immediate plans are to get a generator into the dining room kitchen, which is a separate area from the main shed, and get that up and running ASAP. We are meeting weekly at ORH's Board Room for lunch and a report back process each Wednesday until such time as the dining room/kitchen can be gotten up to speed. ORH are planning to bring in industrial cleaners to clean up the mess with heavy equipment. We have had offers from other sheds to come and help but fortunately ORH has decided to fund the recovery and use the opportunity for shed redesign to create more effective room.

All the best for 2012 to your shedder team.  
Tom Davis for the Orbost Men'Shed team  
[tda27022@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tda27022@bigpond.net.au)

I am sure YVMS Members join with me in sending good wishes to the Orbost Shed for a speedy recovery and the re-establishment of a place for blokes that meets their needs. I have sent an Email of concern and support from all of the Membership of the Yass Valley Men's Shed to Tom Davis of the Orbost Men's Shed and have received a note back from them in reply. It seems that many Sheds from all around Australia have heard the sad news and have offered support and sympathy – the Men's Shed Movement is pretty good, I reckon.

**I also think this incident should give us the message that we need to be very careful with electricity and ensure all machines are switched off and disconnected from the power supply when we finish using them.**

### **Possible Grant from the Murdock Family**

Reg Moebus (our Treasurer) has received a notice indicating that we could be the recipients of a grant from the Lansdowne Foundation (which, amongst other things, is established by the Murdock Family to assist rural and

regional entities such as Men's Sheds). There are still one or two procedural and red tape hoops to jump through before the grant is confirmed.

The grant, if it arrives, will be for \$5,295 and is provided in response to our nominating a number of areas in which we have sought funding, including the following list related to needs we have identified in the Shed itself:

Building	Cost \$
Storage racks for timber	\$1000
Central work table	\$550
Safety switch and heavy duty wiring for Metal Lathe	\$250
3 wheel trolley for heavy items	\$150
Pump for outside tanks	\$395
Increase in tank capacity (5000 gallons/22,500 litres?)	\$2590
Polypipe to extend to gardens	\$180
Plumbing fittings for gardens	\$80
Complete plumbing into sink (and to waste) in workshop	\$250
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,295</b>

This is great news and I have no hesitation in voting for **Reg as Shed Hero for January 2012!**

If the grant is confirmed, we will keep you informed of progress with doing the

## General News

### Possible trips to regional Men's Sheds

I mentioned last week that we have a plan to undertake a number of day trips to visit some of the Sheds in our own region during the coming year and will let you know when those plans firm up.

We have had a new member nominated (Ron Barton) who tells us he is a fully licensed bus driver – so all we need now is a bus!

If you would like to register an interest in such excursions (and haven't already done so), let me know.

You may have other ideas for ways to pass idle and lethargic days – send in your ideas and we'll see if there is interest enough for us to organise some of them.

## Members activities

Last week, I included a photo of how the garden is flourishing. In case you are thinking that might be all that is going on at the Shed, have a look at this photo:



The hardwood Breadboards and Coasters have been made by Allan Carey and are available for sale if you need something like this – or are looking for that elusive present for someone special. The breadboards are priced at \$40 each and the Coasters (set of 6) \$18. They are well worth those prices I assure you (I've snaffled one set of coasters for myself before they all go!).

The bowls have been turned by a couple of our members (Roger Holgate and John Woodin – and perhaps someone else as well – but I don't have that info right now). And Roger has made the serviette (or if you are snooty – napkin) holder from recycled hardwood fence palings.

Another of our members, Graham McLeod, has been working on a nest of three tables for quite a while now. He is at the point of sanding and finishing them, so when they get to a point where he is happy, I will get a photo of his work for you to enjoy. Come along and do your own thing – there is much to recommend it.

## Joke of the Week ....

One day, in Biblical world, long after the great flood waters had died down, God calls down to Noah and says, "Noah me old china, I want you to make me a new Ark".

Noah replies, "No probs God, me old Supreme Being, anything you want, after all - you're the guv'... "

But God interrupts, "Ah, but there's a catch. This time Noah, I want not just a couple of decks, . . I want 20 decks one on top of the other".

"20 DECKS!", screams Noah. "Well, OK Big Man, whatever you say. Should I fill it up with all the animals just like last time?"

"Yep, that's right, well . . sort of right . . this time I want you to fill it up with fish", God answers.

"Fish?", queries Noah "Yep, fish . . . well, to make it more specific Noah, I want Koi carp - wall to wall, floor to ceiling - Koi Carp!"

Noah looks to the skies. "OK... God, my old mucker, let me get this right, you want a New Ark?"

"Check".

"With 20 decks, one on top of the other?".

"Check".

"And you want it full of Carp?".

"Check"

"Why?" asks the perplexed Noah, who was slowly getting increasingly worried about either the sanity of God or his own hearing...

"Dunno", says God....

...

"I just fancied a Multi-Storey Carp Ark".

## Birthdays for the next 4 weeks

18/1 Bradley Foxlewin (happy birthday for today, Bradley); 20/1 Rod Therkelsen; 24/1 Bob Small, 19/2: Ron McGrath and Ron Barton. Happy Birthday Chaps!!!

## Shed Opening Times

Tuesday – 9am to Noon

Thursday – 2pm to when the last one leaves – sometimes (if there is interest) 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!

## Current YVMS contacts and "Code Holders" (should you wish to access the Shed out of normal hours):

John Woodin (President)	6226 4485	– <a href="mailto:jwoo3@bigpond.com">jwoo3@bigpond.com</a>
Ray Hill (Vice President)	6226 3344	- <a href="mailto:rayhill01@dodo.com.au">rayhill01@dodo.com.au</a>
Wayne Stuart (Secretary)	0419 292 022	– <a href="mailto:wayne@stuartoz.com">wayne@stuartoz.com</a>
Reg Moebus (Treasurer)	6227 3238	– <a href="mailto:wargeila@ozemail.com.au">wargeila@ozemail.com.au</a>
Roger Holgate	6226 1664	– <a href="mailto:roger42@dodo.com.au">roger42@dodo.com.au</a>
David Hale	6226 4227	– <a href="mailto:haled3@optunsn.net.au">haled3@optunsn.net.au</a>

## Members' requests

This is a new idea prompted by a note I received last week. The idea is that if you have a request that you think other members might be able to help with, we can advertise it for you here. Give it a go – it's cheaper than advertising in the Trib and we have lots of blokes with interesting skills out there. This is NOT, however, an

opportunity for you to get your car serviced, roof replaced, a personality transplant or hip replacement on the cheap!

- No. 1 of 2012: Peter Hurley has a Sansui R7 amplifier (made in about 1986) that suddenly does not work. He would like to have it repaired but does not know any repairers locally. It has been a great machine. So, if anyone knows a repairer, he would be glad to hear. A free Shadows CD to the one who knows. Contact Peter on [peter.hurley@velocitynet.com.au](mailto:peter.hurley@velocitynet.com.au) or let me know and I will pass on the info to Peter – perhaps you can do it for him?

Any other requests to insert in this space???

## General Invitation

If you would like to see any additional information in the Messenger or have any suggestions or contributions to make, please feel free to contact me

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*Wayne Stuart*

Secretary, Yass Valley Men's Shed

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<http://yassmensshed.org.au>