



# THE MEN'S SHED MINI MESSENGER

PATRON: COUNCILLOR NIC CARMODY, MAYOR OF YASS VALLEY

MESSENGER NO 8 FOR 2012

WEDNESDAY 7 MARCH 2012

## Important dates for your Diary

17 - 18 March (Sat/Sun)	Yass Show (talk to Ray Hill - 6226 3344 - if you can volunteer to work on the Gates)
22 March (Thursday)	Shed Open House (2-5pm) – Seniors Week
23 March (Friday)	Visit to Goulburn Men's Shed (see item below)
29 March (Wednesday)	Yass Friendship Group Visit to our Shed
26 April (Thursday)	YVMS Annual General Meeting (see item below)

## Headlines for this Week (see stories below)

- **AGM reminder and call for nominations for the Committee**
- **Seniors Week**
- **Visit by the Yass Friendship Group**
- **Trip to Goulburn Men's Shed**
- **Sale of items made or produced at the Shed**

## AGM reminder and call for nominations for the Committee

The Annual General Meeting of the Men's Shed will be held on Thursday 29 April at 5.30. The meeting should be quite short as we will not be having a Committee meeting on this occasion and the AGM process is pretty brief these days.

It is an important meeting though, and as many members who can attend should try to be there to help us steer the Shed into and through the next year.

The most important item on the Agenda will be the election of a new Committee (if you have been unhappy with the current Committee, now is your chance to make some changes!)

The Current Committee is:

- ❖ John Woodin – President
- ❖ Ray Hill – Vice President

- ❖ Reg Moebus – Treasurer
- ❖ Wayne Stuart – Secretary
- ❖ Roger Holgate – Member and Workshop Manager
- ❖ Dara Madden – Member and Grants Coordinator
- ❖ Ron Doyle – Member
- ❖ Duncan McGregor – Member

All Committee places will be vacated (under our Constitutional arrangements) and a new Committee needs to be elected. Under our rules, any member who has held an executive position on the Committee for two years cannot be re-elected to that position. This is to ensure we get new blood and new ideas happening to keep the Shed a vibrant and developing entity. Of course, if there are no new nominations and if outgoing members are willing to renominate, then they may be re-elected.

However, it is essential (in my view) that we have a regular changeover of Committee members so that we can get new ideas for how the Shed should operate and evolve, to spread the load and responsibility a little and perhaps, even give those who have helped the Shed get to its current position, a rest so they can enjoy the Shed until they get itchy to engage in its management again.

You will find a form attached to this Messenger for nominating Committee members and also a Proxy Form to sign and submit if you cannot attend the meeting, but have a particular issue on which you wish to have your voice heard.

Please take these issues seriously – the future of the Shed depends on your continued support and that is very important at AGM time.

A draft Agenda for the AGM will be developed and published in the Messenger in the near future.

## Seniors Week

Seniors Week in Yass will be celebrated from Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> of March. The Council (and no doubt other organisations) are planning a number of events and activities for the week.

The Shed has been invited to have an “Open House” afternoon and we have agreed to do this from 2pm to 5pm on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March (our normal opening times). We intend to serve refreshments during the afternoon – so this is a chance to get refreshed, yourself!

All members are warmly urged to come along to greet our visitors and to, perhaps, convince a number of them that being a member of the Yass Valley Men’s Shed is something very worthwhile for them.

## Visit by the Yass Friendship Group

The Yass Friendship Group will be visiting the Shed for the first of its regular visits for 2012 on Wednesday 28 March starting between 9.30 and 10 am. These visits are always a lot of fun for them and for us and very worthwhile as well.

We will need to prepare some activities to help entertain them, so if anyone has some good ideas for something new, come along, get involved and help us out.

## Visit to Goulburn Men’s Shed

Members are invited to come along on a visit to the Goulburn Men’s Shed planned to take place on Friday 23 March.

We already have 7 bookings and up to four cars have been promised (capacity 16 passengers – including drivers).

The plan is to meet at the Yass Valley Men's Shed at 9am on that day (Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>) and leave for Goulburn at around 9.15am.

We don't have full details of what Goulburn will provide, but expect morning tea with the possibility of lunch (we did a BBQ when they visited us).

If you would like to join this group, please let me know and I'll put your name on the list.

We would anticipate getting back to Yass by to mid afternoon.

Contact me if you wish to join us!

## Sale of items made or produced at the Shed



A number of our members are getting into the production of a number of items (at this stage, mostly wooden items and many more, now, than you see in the photo).

We are starting to run out of storage space for these things at the Shed, so it is time to put them into the wider marketplace in Yass. We will shortly be having talks with the Information Centre and with the Craft Shop in the Liberty Theatre Centre to see what arrangements can be made to market our wares (and in the process to raise a little cash so this activity can continue at no cost to the members).

Stand by for more news on this front as we further develop our links in the Yass Valley community.

## General News

### Garden produce



Our garden is now starting to run down – so if you would like to try some produce from the alluvial river flats at the Men's Shed, you had better be quick.

The corn now seems to be finished but we are still seeing squash, cucumbers and pumpkins filling our display case. Come along, have a browse and help us keep this produce turning over. It is such a shame of any of it has to be thrown out because it can't find a home.

## Workshop and Safety News

At the recent Committee meeting it was decided that we need to institute some more formal arrangements concerning familiarisation training for our machinery and accreditation of members – particularly those who wish to use the more dangerous and expensive equipment. Following the two familiarisation presentations delivered by Len McGuigan and Roger Holgate, there has been a marked improvement in the way machines are being used and cared for – however, some damage and unusual wear and tear is still happening.

The Committee is most concerned and aware that we have two duties of care to the membership:

- A duty to ensure that safety of our members is paramount (there are also OH&S laws that we must abide by or we are breaking the laws of the land); and
- A duty to protect the assets of the Shed for the use of all members and to keep unnecessary expense in repairs and maintenance to an absolute minimum.

Roger Holgate, Len McGuigan and Ray Hill are currently reviewing our current arrangements and working on a training/familiarisation and accreditation program for all members who wish to use our machines and this will be promulgated as soon as it is decided, tested and ready for use. In the meantime, if you wish to use any machines, this is OK, but if you have a concern that you might not be fully trained or a bit tentative, just ask and one of our members who is proficient will be more than willing to provide instruction and advice.

## **Cake Joke (thanks to Peter Hurley for this one: ie don't blame me!) .....**

A fellow is walking down the Mall one Saturday morning with a piece of cake sticking out of his ear. As usual, due to ear phones, dark sun glasses & general 'I don't want to look at anyone', no one notices this fellow walking down the Mall one Saturday morning with a piece of cake sticking out of his ear.

All, except for - of course - that one person who is 'streety' & who notices everything.

At first he ignored but, being curious, turned & followed the fellow who was walking down the Mall one Saturday morning with a piece of cake sticking out of his ear.

To cut the long story short, tension arose out of his curiosity & the young person quickened his pace to catch up to the fellow who was walking down the Mall one Saturday morning with a piece of cake sticking out of his ear. The crescendo rose exponentially, the sweat began to form in the palms of his hands, his body shook, his eyes flashed, his nervousness palpitated (which only usually happens to the heart) as he closed the gap, as he reached out to the shoulder of the fellow who was walking down the Mall one Saturday morning with a piece of cake sticking out of his ear.

Wet palm grasped dry shoulder of the fellow who was walking down the Mall one Saturday morning with a piece of cake sticking out of his ear &, with 'maximus reactiveness', turned to confront the young person who, with untrammelled loss of verbal control, burst out to the fellow who was walking down the Mall one Saturday morning with a piece of cake sticking out of his ear, "do you realise that you have a piece of cake sticking out of your ear"?

To which the fellow who was walking down the Mall one Saturday morning with a piece of cake sticking out of his ear responded, "Hey! What's that! You will have to speak up, I am a trifle deaf".

## **Members' requests for help**

The idea behind this section of the Messenger 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!

### **Challenge No. 2 of 2012:**

Alex Tewes has posed a challenge for members. He would like us to help him build an "Argentine Grill" – see photo.

The dimensions of the grill itself are 1500mm x 900mm and the grill has a device which allows it to be raised and lowered above the fire box.

If anyone who has metal working skills (principally welding, I suspect) can help Alex with this project, he has promised a generous donation to the Shed (he will also purchase and provide all necessary materials).

Let me know if you wish to accept this challenge and we will get it going.

**Still no takers for this challenge have contacted me – come on, live a little!**



Any other requests to insert in this space??? Let me know.

## 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

## News of Members

Ron Doyle (an active member and also a member of the Shed Committee) has been unwell and is currently in Linton having a rest. I understand he might appreciate a visit if anyone can make it.

Richard Saxby's youngest brother died during the week. I am sure we all send Richard our warmest regards and sincere condolences. Don't forget you have lots of mates here Richard! I have promised Richard on behalf of all members that we will be thinking of him this coming Thursday when his brother's funeral will be held.

## Birthdays around this time

2/3: Kenneth Burden and Bill Goode;

4/3: Bob Evans;

5/3: Edward Jessop;

**7/3 (ie today!!): John D'Arx, John Edwards and Bill Findley**

9/3: Ray Armour;

10/3: Dale Carmody;

12/3 Peter Hurley;

13/3 William Grace and David Hingston;

16/3: Murray Goldfinch and Daryn Wright;

17/3: Ron Doyle.

Happy Birthday Chaps!!! (Little known fact No. #2,183 about the YVMS: if you are having a birthday and you don't attend the Shed on that day, we will eat all of your cake without you!)

## 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>
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