



# THE MEN'S SHED MINI MESSENGER

PATRON: COUNCILLOR NIC CARMODY, MAYOR OF YASS VALLEY

MESSENGER NO 11 FOR 2012

SUNDAY 1 APRIL 2012

## Important dates for your Diary

15 April (Sunday) <b>next month</b>	Bowning Community Garage/Craft Sale (see item below)
26 April (Thursday) <b>next month</b>	YVMS Annual General Meeting (see item below)

## Headlines for this Week (see stories below)

- **Shed Member strikes it rich!**
- **\*\*YVCC News\*\***
- **Visit by the Yass Friendship Group**
- **Men's Shed Hero of the Week**

### Shed Member strikes it rich

A low-key and seldom seen member dropped by the Shed during the week to borrow a few books from our collection (donated from time to time by people on their way to the Tip but who think we are a bit closer to town and they could save a couple of kms on the round trip and also save on tip fees).

Said member (who wants to remain anonymous – for obvious reasons) when looking through the books, found a NSW Lotteries ticket which had obviously been used by the former book owner as a place-marker in the book and who had then forgotten where he/she had put it.

Notwithstanding that the ticket seemed to be a few years old, the finder went to the local Newsagency to see if the ticket had won anything or to find out how to get this information. Apparently the Newsagency can scan the ticket and the result was a most welcome minor prize of \$5,350 now, or soon to be, residing happily in the pocket of that member.



It pays to come to the Shed – who knows what might happen to YOU!

## **\*\*YVCC News\*\***

Following the Trib's front page news concerning delays in the approval of the DA for the YVCC and followed by some other commentary in the Trib (including a hard hitting editorial and also a letter submitted by your Secretary), apparently Council discussed the issue at its March meeting on Wednesday night.

Prior to that meeting and with the support of the Shed Committee, Len McGuigan and Wayne Stuart met at the Council Offices with David Rowe (General Manager) and Paul De Szell (Planning Director – responsible for DA approvals) in an attempt to discover the issues behind the delay and if that delay looks likely to be protracted, then to see if there is a way in which the Shed could be granted access to the YVCC for Shed purposes pending finalisation of the DA. This would allow some additional activities to be carried out in both the existing Shed and also in the YVCC.

Our thinking was that if the current YVCC premises could be (for the time being – ie only for the period until a DA is approved so that Centre could be used as a fully fledged and legal community centre) authorised by the Council to be used as an extension to the current Shed premises for Shed related activity, then the following benefits might accrue:

- ✓ It will ensure that the Centre is actively used and therefore will deteriorate no further – but will likely continue to be improved and maintained within the parameters already discussed/agreed by the S355 Committee;
- ✓ This, in turn, will have a beneficial spin off in that the members of the Shed who have put in a great deal of work, so far, will feel rewarded and valued and will therefore be more keen to push on with further improvements, maintenance etc;
- ✓ You will recall that the Council has generously provided \$850 for the purchase of 10 Swiss Exercise Balls and 10 Exercise mats, so that the Shed can conduct health and fitness classes for Shed members and the Community in the YVCC building – but which is a Shed activity (along the lines of our Health Seminars – already having been presented in that venue). If the Shed could have access to the YVCC, then that purpose and benefit to members and family etc could be initiated and we could then sign off on the Council's requirements that we report back within 12 months that we have purchased those items and have initiated that program;
- ✓ Our members are seeking to implement more activities at the Shed and space into which we can expand to do those things is now at a premium in the original Shed. If we could have access to the YVCC as part of the Shed premises, then we could move the meeting room into the YVCC and utilise the existing meeting room in the Shed for other workshop and related activities. We see an emerging (organic?) need to expand our activity to accommodate new members who are keen to come, but for whom we don't have programs and no room in which to implement them; and
- ✓ Seven of our members visited the Goulburn Men's Shed last Friday week and came away with a lot of ideas about how to better use our facilities and new programs to undertake. One example is that the Federal Government has a grants program under which they provide computers for Seniors (the idea being that instruction is one on one (not a large class in which seniors might feel a little overwhelmed when younger and more savvy students learn quickly). The YVCC is a much better venue for such a program (it has an appropriate small room in which the computers could be set up and secured, and also there is a phone line in that small room in the YVCC (but no line in the Shed).

Len and I put these arguments to David and Paul at our meeting and it was agreed that we would meet again at the Shed on Friday morning to continue the discussion on site. At that meeting, John Woodin (President) was added to our nominated team of Len and Wayne and Councillor Nic Carmody (Mayor and Patron of the Shed) attended together with David Rowe and Paul De Szell.

We gave them a detailed tour of both venues and discussed the issues and constraints on getting a final DA approval – it appears there could be a number of issues about which we had no prior understanding (eg the possible need for fire walls being one) – and which could add considerably more expense to achieving a successful DA approval.

**HOWEVER** at the end of the meeting, we did get one significant break-through:

The Council has given us approval to use the YVCC as an extension to Shed premises (but not as a community centre) with immediate effect until the ultimate fate and use of the Centre is resolved.

For the time-being, we are authorised to use the old restaurant room, the kitchen and the front long hallway. The other rooms, at this stage, have only been offered to us to use for storage purposes.

This means that we can now consider appropriate ways of maximising the use of the current Shed and to determine what we might do in the YVCC building. Certainly we can now, without any further approvals from the Council, conduct activities such as the proposed exercise classes in the YVCC (stand by for info and dates/times etc) and additional activities that members may wish to carry out in the YVCC.

If any members wish to make suggestions for activities that we can now add to our list and focussing on the authorised YVCC rooms, please let me know.

We will spend the time between now and the AGM thinking about the implications of this from the point of view of management issues and responsibilities for the Shed (eg do we need to let our insurers know that our buildings have been extended, etc). We will also consider if it is necessary to have a formal discussion and decision taken by the Shed Members (not just the Committee) on what we are prepared to do and what is outside the current Shed mandate and expectation of members. At this point, I think this might need to be an issue for the Agenda at the AGM on 29 April.

Watch this space for emerging news and activity in the Shed proper and the Shed Annexe (YVCC) as it is developed and commenced.

## Visit by the Yass Friendship Group

The Yass Friendship Group visited the Shed for the first of its regular visits for 2012 last Wednesday.

It was a miserable day (raining and quite cool – so, no cricket this time) but that did not affect these people who know how to enjoy themselves.

Roger Holgate had prepared for the visit by cutting out wooden egg, chicken and bunny shapes for the group to paint and to get them in the mood for Easter. They had a lot of fun as you will see from the photographs below:



We will let you know when the Friendship Group is planning their next visit so as many Shed members as possible can come and enjoy the visit too.

## YVMS Hero of the Week

The bloke who found the lottery ticket and is going to buy me a coffee if I do not blab!

## General News

### AGM reminder and nominations for the Committee

A reminder that the Annual General Meeting of the Men's Shed will be held on Thursday 26 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.

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!)

Currently we have nominations from John Woodin, Len McGuigan (nominated for President), Roger Holgate (Workshop Manager), Reg Moebus (Treasurer), Dara Madden (Grants Coordinator), Ron Doyle and Wayne Stuart (Secretary). Our Constitution states that the Committee will comprise seven members – we now have seven nominations – but if you wish to nominate, please do (forms are available next to the sign-in book at the Shed).

A draft Agenda for the AGM will be developed, circulated to members during this coming week and published in the Messenger next time.

## YVMS Website

I am slowly adding things to the Website – this week links to Beyond Blue and the Prostate Health sites as well as the Australian Men's Shed Association (AMSA) and Melba and Goulburn websites. I will look out for more links – any suggestions? I have also contacted AMSA and asked them to include our site as a link on their site.

The site can be found by clicking on this link: [www.yassmensshed.org.au](http://www.yassmensshed.org.au)

## Community Garage/Craft Day Sale – Bowning

I have been asked to invite any members and their families and friends who might be interested in having a site at the upcoming event in Bowning to **contact Cecile Felderhoff of Bowning Lions Club on 6227 6456** to book a site/table.

The arrangements are:

- The event will take place from 10am until 2pm on Sunday 15 April, 2012 (ie the Sunday after Easter);
- All sites are free (it would be good if you could make a small donation to Bowning Lions Club if you have a successful day);
- The event will take place on the verandahs of the Bowning Pub (close to refreshments?);
- Bring your own tables, chairs (and stuff to sell) etc

I have gone out on a limb and booked a table/place for the Men's Shed so we can display and sell some of our woodwork output of recent times. It might also give us an opportunity to sign up a few new members. I would like someone (or two) to volunteer to man the table – any takers?

## Another husband joke

A woman's husband had been slipping in and out of a coma for several months, yet she had stayed by his bedside every single day.

One day, when he came to, he motioned for her to come nearer.

As she sat by him, he whispered, eyes full of tears,

"You know what? You have been with me all through the bad times.

"When I got fired, you were there to support me.

"When my business failed, you were there.

"When I got shot, you were by my side.

"When we lost the house, you stayed right here.

"When my health started failing, you were still by my side.

"You know what?"

"What dear?" she asked gently, smiling as her heart began to fill with warmth.

"I think you're bad luck."

## 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

I hear that Ron Doyle may not be well again. I have no other details at this point other than that he is currently in Canberra Private Hospital having tests.

## Birthdays around this time

17/3: Ron Doyle.  
22/3: John Muscatt  
26/3: Rick Williams  
27/3: Allan McGrath  
1/4: Bill Dowling  
9/4: Alistair McGregor  
10/4: Ken Reidy  
11/4: Roger Holgate  
13/4: Brian Millett

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>
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*Wayne Stuart*

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