



# THE MEN'S SHED MINI MESSENGER

PATRON: COUNCILLOR NIC CARMODY, MAYOR OF YASS VALLEY

MESSENGER NO 15 FOR 2012

SATURDAY 28 APRIL 2012

If you want to see previous editions of the Messenger, you can find them all on the YVMS Website at this address  
(just click on it): <http://yassmensshed.org.au/newsletter-archive>

## Important dates for your Diary

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 26 April (Thursday) | YVMS Annual General Meeting (see item below) |
|---------------------|--|

## Headlines for this Week (see stories below)

- YVMS AGM (Thursday 26 April)
- Men's Shed Hero of the Week
- Visit to the National Museum

## YVMS AGM

We had a most successful (and set a new world record) AGM on Thursday night – attended by 21 members (almost 30% of our total membership).

- ❖ It was successful in that the meetings went very smoothly with no matters of contention raised or difficulties encountered.
- ❖ It was world-record-breaking in that both the general membership and AGM meetings, together, only took 23 minutes from start to finish.

The main outcome of the meetings is that we now have a new Committee elected for the next 12 months at the Shed:

- Len McGuigan – President
- Ron Doyle – Vice President
- Reg Moebus – Treasurer
- Wayne Stuart – Secretary
- Roger Holgate (Workshop Manager)
- Dara Madden – (Grants Coordinator)
- John Woodin – Member

The election was conducted by Councillor (and Shed member) Allan McGrath who acted as Returning Officer. Both the outgoing and incoming Committees were congratulated by the meetings.

The Shed's Auditor, Ms Anna Shannon of Goodradigbee Bookkeeping, provided a glowing report on the Shed's finances for the last 12 months and also made a most generous donation to the Shed of \$100 which was accompanied by a note as follows:

*Dear Members of the Yass Valley Men's Shed*

*Congratulations on another successful year.*

*Thank you for allowing me to review the Yass Valley Men's Shed books once again. I am pleased to be able to assist your worthy organisation.*

*You will be pleased to know the books are in fine shape.*

*I also enclose a donation to the Men's Shed to be used however you see fit.*

*Yours Sincerely*

*Anna Shannon.*

Geoff Kell the Manager of Carey's Caves at Wee Jasper also presented a donation of \$145 to the Shed. This money was collected specifically for the Men's Shed from visitors to the Caves over Easter.

We will be sending both of these generous donors a sincere letter of thanks.

At the end of the meetings, we had a marvellous BBQ and most members stuck around for the event. Stand by for news of a possible BBQ extravaganza evening that is being talked about and planned for an evening very soon! This won't be your simple sausages and bread option – but something more worthy of a gastronomic adventure that could well become a standing arrangement designed to attract regular and occasional members who don't find much to do at the Shed at the moment.

## **YVMS Hero of the Week**

### **This week's HERO is John Woodin.**

In fact, John has been more than a bit of a hero for the past two years during which he has been President of our Shed.

Lots of reasons for this, but the most prominent in my mind are:

- ✓ He has consolidated the Shed's position in the Yass Valley Community and brought us to a point where, if the Shed had to close for any reason, it would be seriously missed, not only by its members, but also by the wider Yass Valley Community;
- ✓ He has led the Shed's fight and the Shed's involvement in the actual physical conversion of the old BP Roadhouse to a point where it can be used as a Community Centre and also as an annexe to our existing facilities, thus allowing us to expand our operations by making more space available for workshop activity in the existing Shed;
- ✓ He has been the main organiser and promoter of our Car Boot Sales and last year improved that event by inviting the 1<sup>st</sup> Yass Scouts Group to share the day with us which, in turn, ensured many more stalls and a bigger passing through of potential buyers;

- ✓ He has presided over and provided great support to all of our Health Seminar program events;
- ✓ He has promoted and organised a number of visits to and from other Sheds which have opened us up to other ideas and improvements we can make; and
- ✓ He is a thoroughly nice bloke and even though he is a Pom, he doesn't whinge like one!

**Well done John, we the members of the Yass Valley Men's Shed salute you!**

## Visit to the National Museum of Australia's back rooms to look at old cars, etc!!

As mentioned in the Messenger last week and followed up by another email this week, the visit to the National Museum is now looking like a goer.

I have had a number of responses to my request for those interested to let me know. Unfortunately, however, many of those (both verbal and by email) have not nominated a day (or days) of the week that would suit.

Given that even if this was the case, it is most unlikely that everyone would choose the same day, I now propose to tell Terry Hunt of the Murrumbateman Shed that we have a lot of interest, but not everyone is able to come on the same weekday – so perhaps it might be better to organise a day with the Museum and the curator who will show us around, and then let you know to see who can make it, and confirm your booking to attend on that day.

Stand by for more news on this event.

## General News

### Challenge for the artistically inclined

Judy Pinder (Blake Swadling's mother and a musician of renown internationally, nationally and locally) approached me at the Bowring event last Sunday with the news that a new musical event "The Turning Wave Festival" will be coming to Yass later in the Year (perhaps in September). The event will include a judging of the best overall performance by a Bush Poet at the gathering and two kinds of trophy are required:

1. A large one that will become a perpetual trophy and which will be inscribed on an annual basis with the name of the annual winner; and
2. A smaller trophy that will be awarded to the winner each year and which will be carried off by the winner to place in their personal trophy cabinet.

So, the challenge is for the design and production of both of these trophies (perhaps the annual one could change each year or the same trophy design could be made and presented on each occasion?)

So far we have two ideas submitted:

- A large unfinished burl mounted on an unfinished timber base (having a bark surface); or
- An old, battered and blackened billy can mounted on a metal tripod

If any members fancy their skills and inspiration as a trophy designer/maker, let me know so we can show Judy our ideas.

## Early Notice of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations in Goulburn

I have received the following note for distribution to members:



'The Kennel'  
Cnr Park and Blackshaw Roads  
GOULBURN NSW 2580  
Telephone: (02)4822-9541  
Email: [goulburnms11@gmail.com](mailto:goulburnms11@gmail.com)  
'Teaching old dogs new tricks'

4<sup>th</sup> April 2012

To fellow shedders.  
From Ian Marsh Secretary Goulburn Men's Shed Inc.  
Re: Goulburn's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Men, the Goulburn Men's Shed Inc would like to invite your shed to visit our shed & help Goulburn celebrate its birthday.

The birthday celebration will be in March 2013. The days nominated for sheds will be Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> & Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>, opening times will be 9.30am to 3.00pm we will provide lunch.

We are hoping sheds will visit to display or demonstrate what you do.

The space provided for each shed will be 3mtrs x 3mtrs, depending on the number of sheds who agree to come.

Those sheds who are interested in attending should notify the Secretary by the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012.

Also please advise your members should they be visiting or holidaying in and around Goulburn, they are most welcome to call in.

Regards  
Ian Marsh  
Secretary.

## Valmar Services providing volunteer assistance at the Shed

Llewyn Dowling and two of his offsidiers from Valmar Services (Hilton and Daniel) visited the Shed on Saturday and have offered to do occasional clean ups and tidying jobs if we have any.

Already they have collected all of the rubble that was lying on the ground next to the garden on the YVCC end of the patch and have removed it (to the tip, I presume). They will be back to collect and remove the builders' rubbish etc that was generated by the recent refurbishment of the YVCC. This is dangerous stuff as it has broken glass and sharp edged metal in the pile. The Council had intended to remove this material, but it is wise to remove it and the risk it poses as soon as possible.

The Shed is very grateful to Llewyn, Hilton and Daniel (and to Valmar Services) for their very kind offer and efforts.

## YVMS Website

Have a surf – enjoy yourselves! [www.yassmensshed.org.au](http://www.yassmensshed.org.au)

***Tools to acquire with the Minister's \$10,000 Grant? (and their uses, for those who are a little unfamiliar with boys' toys – thanks to Brian Millett & Geoff Kell for this one)***

**DRILL PRESS:** A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, denting the freshly-painted project which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.

**WIRE WHEEL:** Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, 'Oh shit!'

**SKIL SAW:** A portable cutting tool used to make studs too short.

**PLIERS:** Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.

**BELT SANDER:** An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.

**HACKSAW:** One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle... It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

**WISE-GRIPS:** Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

**OXYACETYLENE TORCH:** Used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub out of which you want to remove a bearing race.

**TABLE SAW:** A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity.

**HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK:** Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

**BAND SAW:** A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to cut good aluminium sheet into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the trash can after you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge.

**TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST:** A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.

**PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER:** Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids or for opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads

**FLAT-TIP SCREWDRIVER:** A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws and butchering your palms.

**PRY BAR:** A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

**HOSE CUTTER:** A tool used to make hoses too short.

**HAMMER:** Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent the object we are trying to hit. It is especially valuable at being able to find the EXACT location of the thumb or index finger of the other hand.

**UTILITY KNIFE:** Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works

particularly well on contents such as seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines, refund checks, and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while in use.

SON-OF-A-BITCH TOOL: (A personal favourite!) Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the garage while yelling 'Son of a BITCH!' at the top of your lungs. It is also, most often, the next tool that you will need.

CRAMPS: Never have these in a workshop! They can be very painful (especially if caused by "off" shell fish you ate last night) and can distract you while using dangerous machines.

## 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

## Birthdays around this time

13/4: Brian Millett  
26/4: Blake Swadling  
29/4: Graham Davis  
1/5: Dr Raja Ahluwalia  
2/5: Ron Coleman  
4/5: Ron Rouston  
6/5: Eric Sunnocks  
13/5: Philip O'Brien and Philip Walsh

Happy Birthdays 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              | 6226 4485    | <a href="mailto:jwoo3@bigpond.com">jwoo3@bigpond.com</a>             |
| Ray Hill                 | 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">haled3@optunsn.net</a>           |

w

*Wayne Stuart*

Secretary, Yass Valley Men's Shed

0419 292 022

[secretary@yassmensshed.org.au](mailto:secretary@yassmensshed.org.au)

<http://yassmensshed.org.au>