



THE MEN'S SHED MINI MESSENGER

PATRON: COUNCILLOR NIC CARMODY, MAYOR OF YASS VALLEY

MESSENGER NO 25 FOR 2012

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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>

Well, the Carbon Price has been in place for a week now and I have the following observations to make:

- ❖ The world does seem to have cooled somewhat – either that or we have been invaded by brass monkeys! - (only skeptics would now assert, with no evidence, that this tax would not lower the temperature!) – ie Tony was wrong!
- ❖ The world has not ended, businesses have not closed in droves and global warming seems to have been reversed – ie Tony was wrong!
- ❖ Doing this (ie introducing a carbon tax) broke an election promise – ie Julia was wrong
- ❖ Mentioning anything about politics in this newsletter goes against YVMS policy – ie Secretary is wrong!

My apologies to all. (I am waiting for the reactions).

Important dates for your Diary

24 July (Tuesday) time tba

Visit to the National Museum of Australia's Mitchell Annexe to view the behind the scenes exhibit preparation and refurbishment operation – see item below

26 July (Thursday) 7pm

Next YVMS Seminar – on **Pensions, Planning and Community Banking** – will be preceded by a BBQ kicking off at about 5.30pm. Full details below. **Please give me your acceptances if you wish to come – most important!**

Welcome to new Members

This week we have had an application for membership by **John Daley** – his application has been approved by a majority of Committee members – welcome to the Yass Valley Men's Shed, John!

Don't forget, now that it is July, Membership Payments are due.

The good news is that we have already had advance payments from 50 of our 82 members (ie over 60% of current members) are financial for 2012/13, some even for years beyond that).

Under our Rules, all **members remain financial until the end of July** at which time, we have to remove any such member from our list of current members.

Please take the time to renew your membership if you haven't done so yet – or, at minimum, let me know that you intend to renew (if this is, in fact, your intention), and I will keep you on the list as an “iou” member.

Headlines for this Week (see stories below)

- **New Machines – demonstrations, accreditation etc**
- **Other Shed News for this Week**
- **Upcoming Pensions, Planning and Community Banking Forum at the Shed Annexe**
- **Hero of the Week**

New Machines – demonstrations, accreditation etc

Demo of metal bending gear last Tuesday



Al Phemister provided a detailed and very interesting demonstration of the mysteries and marvels of the MetalCraft equipment (see photos) to some 15 members last Tuesday morning. From the feedback I received it seems there are a lot of people very interested in having a go at how their creative and inventive skills are.

Al showed that this equipment is pretty straight forward and, beyond a safety issue which he explained, not too much instruction is required to feel happy about accrediting interested users.

The plan is to have some stocks of metal for training and practice as metal is not cheap and we need to institute a practice where users bring their own metal if they wish to use the machines on a regular basis, particularly, for personal projects.

Of course, any items produced for sale will be funded from Shed funds.

Accreditation arrangements

The Committee has approved a new Policy and Procedure for training and accreditation of users of our more risky equipment. I am sending copies to all members with email in the next short while.

The basics are that you will now find a clip-board with a number of forms hanging in Jack's Workshop under the accreditation notice, which you can indicate your training/accreditation requirements.

If you wish to be trained and accredited to use any of our machinery, please place your name on this list and indicate in the second column the machine(s) you would like to be authorised to use. One of our accreditors will talk with you to arrange the relevant training to suit you both.

Please remember that all of the new items of equipment (and many of our existing ones) are quite advanced and require a certain level of understanding and skill for them to be used safely and effectively.

Other Shed News for this Week

Annexe update

Len McGuigan (aka “Squeaky Wheel Len”) has finally had a breakthrough with his constant whingeing and carping, and the non-working air conditioner in the Annexe main room has been diagnosed as having a faulty motor which will be replaced (hopefully before the “Retirement Income and Centrelink Forum” on Thursday 26 July)

Another donation

I reported last week that we have been granted 60 litres of Cabots Stain which John Woodin had kindly volunteered to collect for us from Canberra last Monday.

The Stain was offered by Cabots to all Men’s Sheds (something in the order of \$1million value) and on a rough estimate, I reckon 60 litres of quality Cabots stains might be worth in the order of \$1,000 value if we had to buy it in the shops.

The latest news is that the delivery effort was bit much for the organisers and the supplies will now not arrive at distribution points until the end of July. Never fear though, we will ensure that we get ours!

Security lighting

Movement activated sensor security spotlights have been installed (by the Council). Now we have light at the back of the Shed and behind the Annexe as well as at the front covering most of the hard stand in front of the Shed and the Annexe.

Many thanks to the Council for making this important improvement.

David Hale has advised me that he has ventured out on one of our really cold (carbon free) night this last week and has reported that both sets of lights respond to movement and light the place up like the opening ceremony at the London Olympics.

Exercise classes

I have had a good response to my call for interested members to attend on a Tuesday afternoon (2-3pm) so that Mark Ritchard (the Physiotherapist at Yass Valley Physiotherapy – across the road from Woolworths and a valued Shed supporter and donor) can introduce the kinds of exercise classes we could run and to assess the needs of those interested in participating etc.

At this stage, the classes would concentrate on improving such things as balance and core strength, and would involve a number of gentle exercises and activity using the Swiss balls and exercise floor mats that we have. Once established, the classes would run for approximately one hour (2pm until 3pm on Tuesdays).

I have asked Mark to pick a Tuesday on which to have the first meeting. I will let you know when that is (it won’t be the Tuesday 24th when we are off to the National Museum Annexe (see below)). Stand by.



If you would like to join us for this exercise evaluation first meeting, let me know and I’ll add you to our current list.

Garden suggestion

It has been suggested that we could use some corrugated tanks (aluminium or iron) in cut down form, to build some above ground gardens for the coming season. I think this is a great idea – we have a number of members who like to

garden but find getting down and dirty is to their liking – but the getting down part is a challenge. We have toyed with the idea of sleepers and other solutions – so far to no avail.

If anyone has any such tanks or knows of anyone wanting to get rid of such tanks, I am sure we can find the means to collect, cut, install safely and start to get them ready for the Spring.

Let me know.

Pensions, Planning and Community Banking Forum at the Shed Annexe

Interest is quite slow at this stage. Don't forget to let me know if you wish to reserve a seat at this free and most important Forum.

The First Seminar for 2012 is on “Pensions, Planning & Community Banking” with the following components:-

- 💰 Real Community Banking – Chris Evans, Branch Manager, Bendigo Bank Jamison, ACT (about 15 minutes on Planning and Pensions)
- 💰 Financial Planning for the Future – Deborah Waddell, Financial Planner Bendigo Bank, ACT/NSW (about 30mins)
- 💰 Pensions & Entitlements – Glenn Klein, Financial information Services, Centrelink, ACT (about 30mins)

The Seminar will be held in the Men's Shed Annexe starting at 7pm on Thursday 26 July and will be preceded by a BBQ hosted by the Yass Masonic Lodge (many thanks to them!) starting at 5.30pm.

As usual, this Seminar is for all members of the Yass Valley Community and we have started publicising widely in the next several weeks. Listen for the dulcet tones of Richard Rowan (Yass' answer to Larry Olivier) advertising the event on YassFM.

We expect that the talking part of the Seminar will last about 1 hour and 15 minutes and there will be time for questions and discussions.

This is an important part of everyone's retirement planning – so it should be most interesting and very worthwhile (tell your friends).

This Seminar was given at the Murrumbateman Men's Shed last year and it was, from all accounts, a very good one to attend.

We will need to do planning for this Seminar, so, if you intend to come, **could you let me know by return email please** and we will make sure that you're accommodated on the night.

YVMS Hero of the Week

Al Phemister for demonstrating that the Shed can provide an outlet for inventive, artistic and creative members – **AND** that there are pursuits other than woodworking and gardening that could provide a distraction for the Men of Yass Valley.

Thanks for the very enlightening and challenging demo Al – I think you will have a number of blokes wanting more detailed instruction!

Other Stuff

Don't forget!

Reward Points at Home Hardware

Don't forget that you can help us a lot by giving the Shed your points when you make a purchase at Home Hardware. Just ask the cashier to allocate the loyalty points to the Yass Valley Men's Shed.

Think about it and help us out – please.

Visit to the National Museum of Australia's back rooms to look at old cars, etc!! Tuesday 24 July

We now have a date. **Tuesday 24 July in the afternoon**. David Hale has offered (thanks David) to see if we can perhaps use the Andalini bus if it available – otherwise we will have to use a fleet of members cars (although parking is apparently an issue and we will need to put as many people in as few cars as possible – we also need members to offer cars for the trip).

Current situation:

Confirmed from the original list of nominations: John Woodin, [Ken Reidy, Bob Fisher, Greg Snape, Chris Coates, Kerry Thompson – one car], Ron McMullen, Wayne Stuart

Members from the original list of nominations who have not yet confirmed are: Len McGuigan, Reg Moebus, Al Phemister, Jack Phemister, Richard Rowan, Ron Doyle, Roger Lawrence, Bob Frank +1, Ron Barton

New/additional nominations: Bill Findley, Dara Madden, Cameron Madden, Brian Millett

If I have missed anyone, please let me know.

I will try to get all nominations accepted for the tour – but if we are restricted to a specific number – apparently there are members of the Murrumbateman and Hall Sheds also listed to attend), then those who have come onto the list last will have to wait for the next event.

I have been asked to confirm names and numbers early in the week – so get your confirmations to me or we will have to go without you.

YVMS Website

Have a surf – enjoy yourselves! www.yassmensshed.org.au

Why Aussie women are not attracted to Irish men

It's Saint Patrick's day and an armed hooded robber bursts into the Bank of Ireland and forces the tellers to load a sack full of cash. On his way out the door with the loot one brave Irish customer grabs the hood and pulls it off revealing the robber's face.

The robber shoots the man without hesitation.

He then looks around the bank to see if anyone else has seen him. One of the tellers is looking straight at him and the robber walks over and calmly shoots him dead.

Everyone by now is very scared and looking down at the floor.

"Did anyone else see my face?" screams the robber.

There is a few moments of silence then one elderly Irish gent, looking down, tentatively raises his hand and says,

"I think me wife here may have caught a glimpse."

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

22/6: Wayne Mann

1/7: Jason Söderblom

5/7: Richard Saxby, David Villanti, Richard Rowan

7/7: Charlie Linabury, Colin Statham

11/7: John McClung

18/7: Stan Walsh

20/7: Graham McLeod

25/7: Jack Phemister

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):

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