



THE MEN'S SHED MINI MESSENGER

PATRON: COUNCILLOR NIC CARMODY, MAYOR OF YASS VALLEY

MESSENGER NO 29 FOR 2012

SUNDAY 5 AUGUST 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

Thursday 30 August, Noon

BBQ lunch at the Shed (see more info in "Other Shed News" below).

Every Tuesday, 2 to 3pm

YVMS Exercise class – concentrating on flexibility, balance and feeling good.

Every First Wednesday of the Month – next one is Wednesday 5th September

Morning Tea at the Shed – No work or workshop noise to distract from good conversation, coffee, tea and cake.

Headlines for this Week (see stories below)

- Exercise Classes at the Shed
- YVMS Annexe – front page of the Tribune on Friday – Secretary's comment
- Other Shed News for this Week
- Hero of the Week

Welcome to new Members

Two new members this week, [Chris Butt](#) and [Ross Hutton](#).

Welcome to you both!

Now that it is August, our Rules state that those who have not renewed their memberships become unfinancial and are removed from the active membership list. Notwithstanding this, our Financial membership stands at 73 (a very good outcome – at this time last year we only had 40 of the then 75 members who had renewed).

Any members who have not renewed and wish to do so – drop by the Shed when we are open and we will gladly take your money. Alternatively, drop me a quick email with a promise to pay and I will reinstate you on the list with an "iou" reference in the financial status column.

Exercise Classes at the Shed

Exercise classes at the Shed have settled into a good and entertaining arrangement. We had ten members attend last Tuesday and are hoping to see other members and some members of the community also come to see if the program can help them.

Mark Ritchard is taking special care to ensure that the program is suited to each person that attends – so don't think it is a competition or that your needs and abilities will be ignored or not recognised and addressed.

2-3pm every Tuesday in the Shed Annexe.

YVMS Annexe – front page of the Tribune on Friday – Secretary's comment

I note that the Trib has published a largely negative report about progress with the approval and opening of the proposed Yass Community Centre in the old BP Service Centre. We have explicit approval from the Council to use the Centre as an Annexe to the Shed pending that approval and opening.

For the sake of balance in the reporting and to provide members with the current factual situation, I provide the following information. Shed members should have the full story – not just those quotes and slant that makes a good “negative” story which the media like (just watch and listen to radio, TV and newspaper treatment of our Olympians who are doing their best for their nation):

The Trib Reporter came to the Shed last Tuesday and interviewed me (amongst others, obviously) – my comments must have been too positive as they are mostly unreported. Here they are:

1. The Council has done great things for Yass and the Yass Valley Community on this site:
 - They have made the Men's Shed building available for no cost and have allowed us to get on with our thing with no interference or constant surveillance;
 - They agreed with our proposal for a Community Centre and have invested some considerable funds in improvements and repairs to the building as well as a full day's clean up of the gardens, tree pruning etc along the street frontage (and they have let us do much of the work ourselves to suit our own needs without interference);
 - They have simply followed legislated rules (imposed by the NSW Govt – not by themselves) in following the Development Application route for change of purpose (which clearly is necessary if the centre changes purpose from a service station to a community centre);
2. I was asked if I thought the process was taking too long, to which I responded that it did seem to be quite protracted, but, importantly, the Council (both elected and Administration) had agreed that to the extent that the Shed could include the Community in the use of the facility, then they supported that approach: consider these community advantages we have had so far in the BP Centre:
 - Three community forums (Depression - 2011, Self Esteem & Anger Management - 2011 and Retirement Planning - 2012);
 - 4 Car boot sales (admittedly on the forecourt – but certainly using a significant footprint of the site – and this year, potentially, using the Centre itself);
 - Exercise classes for the Shed and Community (some sign-ups for next week are not Men's Shed members); and
 - Any groups in the community who wish to use the centre and who have members who are also Men's Shed members (eg Photography, U3A Artists, Car Club, YassFM, Valmar, the Yass Friendship Group and the Yass Garden Club – all of whom have members who are also Shed members) can all access the Centre if they wish by virtue of the Shed's access to the Centre.
3. Concerning the comment about “perceived favouritism”, I make these observations:

- The Shed was invited to nominate two members to the S.355 Committee (other groups were invited to nominate one member);
- To my mind, this reflects the commitment promised in the submission to Council and preparedness by Shed members to roll up their sleeves and do the work – no other group (apart from the Photography Group – also Shed members) has offered to help or been engaged in any work or discussion concerning how to proceed in the clean-up, renovations or ongoing maintenance that has been required in the last 18 months;
- On my rough calculations, Shed members (including the Photography Group represented by Alex Tewes, also a Shed member) have invested more than 200 man hours to this upgrading – other groups: nil;
- Therefore, allowing the Shed to use the Annexe is simply good management on the part of Council – it allows the desired Community access and use in the interim – where is the favouritism in that?

It is my strong view that this centre is already working as a valuable and significant community access asset. Any Community Group which has members who are also Shed members can access the Annexe for their purposes and activity.

I hope those who criticise don't frustrate "the good" (ie a silver or bronze medal) by wanting to achieve "the perfect" (gold medal) which is not as easily achieved – or without much more effort and commitment.

Note: This comment is mine alone and is in no way to be read as an official or formal Shed response to the item in the Trib. I have not sought or received approval or comment on this comment from any member of the Committee or other Shed Members. WS)

Other Shed News for this Week

Cabots' stain arrives

You might recall that some time ago, we responded to an invitation from Cabots to register our interest for a donation of a series of Cabots stains. It was reported that Cabots was donating some \$1m of superseded and excess-to-requirements stains to Men's Sheds throughout Australia.

John Woodin has been keeping tabs on the status of the delivery and hightailed it to Belconnen on Wednesday to collect our share of that donation as soon as it had arrived.

As you can see it is a very generous amount with lots of variety in colours and finishes.

If you need some stain – shop with us first – our prices will amaze you!



Furniture for sale

A couple of members recently liberated some fine old furniture from a county house and it is waiting for a new home in the Shed Annexe. One item – a chest of drawers) has already found its new home. If you need:

- A 1020mm diameter round dining table standing some 710mm high;
- A carved and inlaid (and slightly damaged – but perfectly usable) "what-not"; or
- An intricately carved single narrow back chair; – we have just the items for you

Come along and have a look. Pricing will be competitive

Joe Morrissey's Chesterfield



Joe is currently beavering away recovering his wonderful old Chesterfield.

Unfortunately, Joe has some trouble working out that the job is not quite finished yet and seems to spend a lot of his time lounging around on it, instead of getting on with the job.

You can also tell from this picture that Joe does not seem to have his feet firmly planted on the ground when it comes to this job.

He has asked me to seek (on his behalf) some help from any members who might have experience in stuffing Chesterfields (or upholstering generally) and who might be prepared to have a conversation with him and provide any advice in how best to progress and finalise this job.

If anyone can help, either give Joe a call 0412 258 300 or email him joe.morrissey49@gmail.com to discuss problems and solutions and perhaps to make an appointment to contemplate and coordinate cooperation - or - let me know and I will put you both in touch.

30 August – Noon – BBQ lunch at the Shed

Chris Evans and Anne O'Leary (Bendigo Bank) and some members of the Murrumbateman Shed are coming to meet any of our members who wish to attend with a view to learning a bit more about our Shed and, perhaps, to provide any follow up info after our Retirement planning Forum a couple of weeks ago.

Following a couple of hours at our Shed, they will then go back to the Murrumbateman Shed to have a similar catch up (but no BBQ!) with members who attended the seminar that they provided in Murrumbateman last year.

This will be a good opportunity to:

- Get any further info you may need or have missed at our recent event;
- Meet some members of the Murrumbateman Shed and show them our Shed is better; and
- Have a BBQ lunch (Chef Rowan and I are in the throes of planning something special – unless we are challenged by another pair of blokes who would like to show us how it is actually done!)

Write this appointment in your diaries – NOW!

YVMS Hero of the Week

This is going to come as a surprise to members, I think.

Our hero this week – who is more than a 1000km from Yass as I write, is **Roger Holgate**.

He is currently caravanning in Queensland and sent this photo and comment:



HUSBAND

DAY CARE CENTRE

Need time to relax? Need time to Yourself?
Want to go shopping?

Leave your husband with US! We will look
after him for you.

**ONLY COST – YOU PAY FOR HIS
DRINKS!!!!!!**

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

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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