



THE MEN'S SHED MESSENGER

CO-PATRONS:

COUNCILLOR ROWENA ABBEY; MAYOR OF YASS VALLEY & NIC CARMODY; INAUGURAL PATRON AND FORMER MAYOR OF YASS VALLEY



MESSANGER NO 18 FOR 2013
SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2013

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>

A suggestion was made a couple of weeks ago that the photo of the old Yass Railway Bridge was not the best view of Yass to use as a header to the Messenger (not my view as it happens, I think the old Railway Bridge is an iconic landmark of Yass).

However and notwithstanding, at serious risk to life and limb, your intrepid and death-defying Secretary dashed into the middle of the road on the approaches to the road bridge and got the shot above before being smeared all over Comur Street by the first BTriple to visit our roundabouts. I am not sure it is the best or most iconic view of Yass or most appropriate to promote the YVMS – so, get yourselves out there, take some photos and send them in – the winner will grace the header of future Messengers – you will be famous!

Important regular events @ the Shed

Every Monday – 6-7pm	Shed Show on Yass FM (100.3) This coming Monday you will have to tune in to hear the mystery solved for this week.
Every Tuesday, 9-10am	S&M – not telling you what this is – you will just have to come along!
Every Tuesday, 2 to 3pm	YVMS Exercise class – concentrating on flexibility, balance and feeling good.
Every First Wednesday of the Month, 10 to 11.30am	Morning Tea at the Shed – No workshop noise to distract from good conversation, coffee, tea and cake. Next one is Wednesday 2nd October

Calendar of upcoming events at the Shed (or elsewhere)

Put these dates in your diary –you will **NOT** want to miss these!

Regional Men's Sheds Bowls Day – Yass Bowling Club – Bowls Day deferred to a date to be announced.

It has been reported to us that a major organiser and important member of the southern region Shed movement (Len Wallace) died in the last week or so, and as a mark of respect, the Bowls Day has been postponed to a date to

be organised and I will announce it to you when that date is arranged (one prerequisite being that the Yass Bowling Club has a morning free for that purpose).

Next YVMS Health Seminar – Alzheimer’s – Thursday 31 October

This is early notice, but it is always good to get your diary noted early with an important item such as this one. We will have a speaker from Alzheimer’s Australia to talk to us about:

- How to recognise the early signs;
- What help you can get and how to help yourself;
- Myths and facts etc

We will (hopefully) have the Yass Masons on board to provide their great BBQ options for dinner – so you don’t have to worry about cooking that night.

More later.

Let me know if you want to organise an event – or if you want me advertise an event, and IT WILL BE DONE!

News Review

Briefly.....

Monday 2 September – Working Bee at David Hale’s place to spread mulch

A very successful 1½ hours of mulch moving at David’s was over before we knew it, thanks to about 8 blokes showing up to help. David and Deb provided welcome refreshments at the end of the effort and I don’t think anyone actually considered that they had been working at all. Richard Maxwell was obviously a bit challenged by the size of the pile and feigned some flimsy excuse about being needed elsewhere – but the rest of us stood up like real men and coped!

I wonder if you can tell me the answer to this question? Can you tell who (in the photograph↓) is demonstrating the skill and expertise of a Council Worker (you need to examine both body language and the condition of his wheelbarrow).



David has asked me to post this note from him in the Messenger:

I didn't get a chance to personally thank the "shedders" who provided an hour of their time on Monday to "move the mountain" Can you include my thanks in the next Messenger.

Thanks to everyone involved, particularly Richard who saw a need, took action and planned things so well that he didn't have to be there.

*Cheers
David*

Wednesday 4 September – First Wednesday Morning Tea at the Shed – 10 to 11.30am

Phil O'Brien (having been deserted by Len McGuigan on this occasion) rose to it magnificently by showing up with the tasty offerings you see opposite.

Have a go at the three level savoury and sweet slice he provided (in addition to the chocolate coated marshmallows and the double choc shortbread bikkies →!! Rowan's pre-eminence is seriously under threat now!

Phil has assured me that he now has the bit firmly between his teeth and we can expect more taste sensations at future First Wednesdays and, to this end, he is already looking through his cupboards for more items that are past their use-by date.



Monday 9 September – Full Irish Breakfast with the Gunning Guys (in Gunning)



I have great pleasure in consciously and with no conscience whatever, torturing all members who missed the opportunity to travel with 7 YVMS members and 2 honorary female members on the day to Gunning last Monday to join the Gunning blokes in a "Full Irish Breakfast", cooked with panache by Tony Gough with the keen and expert support of Garry Flaherty.

The breakfast consisted of steak, sausages, bacon, fried eggs and taties and your choice of condiments (sauce, pickles etc).

Then.... we finished up with two dessert options, an apple and cinnamon slice and a peppermint slice (also prepared by Tony).

If you don't take advantage of these opportunities when they come around, I have no option but to consider you more than a little soft in the head!

Computers at the Shed

Rob Barker has donated three computers with screens, keyboards and mice to the Shed. This is a most generous donation and is much appreciated. We have been hoping for some funding to allow us to set these computers up so they can become a community resource (in the YVCC) so people who would like to learn can do so comfortably and without any pressure.

If you know of any funding programs that would provide us with that necessary funding to help with set up, and purchase of licenses, Internet solutions etc, it would be good if you would take this on as a project and help us help the local community.

Big Planting job at the Shed



←Last Tuesday the VALMAR members (Daniel, James, James, Lachie, Llewyn and Mark):

- dug 25 holes,
- planted 25 Viburnum screening plants,
- put 25 rabbit-rejecting plastic protectors around the plants, and
- watered them in

Now all we have to do is water them occasionally and wait for them to flourish and grow to provide an effective and attractive screen for the 40 foot

containers when (and if) we get them (we are relying on grant funding for them).

In any case, this planting will, over time, improve the visual attractiveness of the Shed grounds.

Finally, we have nearly all of the items purchased with Kay and Terry Lemon's \$1,000 donation

It has taken a while to settle on the items that were top of our list and then to get them – but we now are nearly there.

The Items already purchased are →:

UNI-MIG Stick Welder
St John's Workshop First Aid Kit
Ryobi One+ mini/portable compressor
Ryobi One+ Multi-Tool
2 x Ryobi One+ 4 Amp Lithium Ion Batteries
Haron set of 3 (6, 8 & 10mm) drill bits
Haron Dowelling Jig

Items on back order are:

2 x Craftwright metal work supports
Craftwright set of 13 multi-tool saw blades

Once again, we express the gratitude of the Men's Shed to the Lemons for their ongoing and very generous support.



Quick Committee Meeting – Saturday 14 September

The Committee and a number of other members met to discuss three issues:

1. The need to update our Insurance to ensure we are properly and effectively covered for the following Risks:

Public Liability; Fire and theft; Members cover (for injuries etc members might suffer while volunteering at the Shed or elsewhere); and Association risk (should the Committee make a decision that could result in some kind of exposure of Shed members).

It was decided to take out insurance provided by the Australian Men's Shed Association (AMSA) and which will cost \$25.50 per member.

2. There was also a discussion on the benefits or otherwise of taking a more involved role with AMSA, the NSW Men's Shed Association and/or the Southern Regional Men's Shed Alliance. After some discussion it was agreed that we continue to monitor these organisations and their activities but we see no advantage in adding more bureaucracy at the present time.

3. The question of applying for grants was also discussed. The upshot of this discussion is that we still have a couple of applications in the mix and there are now other possibilities currently offering the Shed any worthwhile or realistic benefits. The view that we only apply for grants to meet our real needs was restated and reconfirmed.

BlazeAid project – equipment boxes.

We have accepted the task of building 6 equipment boxes to be used by the BlazeAid organisation to effectively store and transport their "wakka packers" (a tow stroke motorised star picket driver + essential spares and associated tools). Len McGuigan, David Staines and Joe Morrissey have made a great start on this project, having cut all the materials into the necessary components and already, Len has assembled three boxes.

We have had a "hurry up" request from the organisers of this project during the week following the early start of the fire season in the Blue Mountains and at some 60 odd other locations across NSW and QLD. It seems likely that the BlazeAid effort might need to kick off earlier this year than was planned.

If anyone (who has relevant skills) can help with any of the remaining tasks, please contact Len, David or Joe for a briefing on what remains to be done and help us out please. This is a worthwhile project and will make you feel really good later in the summer when you can appreciate that your efforts might be helping someone seriously in need.

Cooma Cottage fence restoration project.

Rick Williams has advised that funding for this project has now come through and that the materials for the fence will be purchased and delivered in the next month or two. The Shed has been invited to do much of the fence building work – primarily the painting and fixing of the pickets (some 500 of them) to the fence railings. All of this work will be done on site at Cooma Cottage. The benefit for the Shed is that we will be paid \$2,500 if we do that job and do it well.

So far, in response to my call for volunteers to help – I have had total silence.

I will let you know when the project is likely to start – perhaps you are all waiting for that information before committing?.

Yass Rotary will fund the construction of two billy carts for use by members of the public in the billy cart derby at the Yass Arts Trail weekend in November. We have collected bikes and old wheelie bins for the first billy cart – The VALMAR boys have started on this project – expect photos soon!

Workshop Tool Care update.

We have had a couple of episodes recently of damage to Shed tools. Please ask for assistance if you are not sure how to use any particular piece of equipment – it can get pricey for us to be fixing tools – possibly preventing us

updating and acquiring more. It can also render tools unusable until they are fixed, thus limiting (for other members) the use and convenience of the Shed facilities.

If you happen to damage a tool, please report the damage so we can fix it – you will NOT be harassed. It is annoying, though, when a tool is needed and we find that has been mysteriously broken – consider your fellow members, please.

Tuesday afternoon Exercise Classes – 2-3pm



You, too, can do stuff like this (and look this good while doing it!)

COME JOIN US!! We usually have about a 50/50 men/women contingent.

Membership News

I have now closed off the Membership Register – those members who remain unfinancial have now been removed from the Register (although you can be immediately reinstated when you become financial again!)

As a result of this “Spring Clean” of the Register, our membership (at the time of writing) is 82. We have a couple of Membership Application forms out there – so we will build again towards the magic 90 quite soon I think.

You will also find that the YVMS website now has a Membership Application form that can be downloaded and printed should someone ask you the question.

GST(goods and services trading) OR ***Lost and Found**** - **[contact Richard Rowan](#)**

*(I was **LOST** in my mess but I **FOUND** a solution at the Shed)

This is a section of the newsletter where members can avail themselves of the great knowledge pool within the shed. Secondly it is also a place where members can get rid of stuff or seek stuff. New items added this week are in **red type**.

Help needed or available

From Richard Rowan. Members, in order that I may finish the 2 Doll's Houses before the current recipients have their own children...as has often been the idle but directed comments in the Shed for the last 18 months...!!! (If you don't have a thick skin...don't come to the Shed and take on a project which you cannot finish within a month!!!)

Well I need some old...unwanted 'House and Garden " or similar magazines.....Please drop them on the R2 & Valmar work table.....That is the big long table just inside the door.....I do note that other people currently believe that it is

for general storage but this is not really the case. Anything left on the long table may be used in the Doll's House construction!!!!

R2 (Doll's House designer !!)

David Staines has two walkie-talkies that are currently inoperable. These are his personal backup communication devices for landing aircraft on Australian ships as well as other usages. David seeks somebody with electronic knowledge to have a look at his walkie-talkies and give him an opinion as to their ability to be fixed.

This is a rare opportunity for a member of the Shed with skills in electronics to make a valuable contribution to the security of Australia. It is problematic but not realistic that David may be called at any time to assist in air-traffic control aboard an Australian Naval vessel. As they say in the classics "old sea dogs never die, they just sleep in the corner until kicked back into life".

Assistance in this matter would be greatly appreciated by David. If you can help, please contact David as follows:
Email: yccc@dodo.com.au or Phone: 0408 340 040

Richard Maxwell is looking for volunteers to nominate to help people in the town who might want small jobs done at their homes. We are thinking along the lines of changing tap washers, fixing a broken step or railing etc. It is important to underline here, that we are not a job centre or a handyman operation. We also need to be very careful not to be taking work away from Yass small business people who are in the handyman game. If you are interested in this possibility, please contact Richard Maxwell cherex@bigpond.net.au, or 0416 022 416 and he will do any necessary organising of jobs etc.

Required

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Please come and collect

We have had quite an amount of timber of varying kinds and sizes donated in recent times. If you have that small job to do but haven't got the right materials, we may have them and at a very competitive price (a gold coin or two depending on how much you need/take).

Wanted

??

For Sale

Joe Morrissey has the following item FOR SALE

Homelite 14inch chainsaw. It has been used for less than 10 hours. Included is a chain sharpener and an almost full container of chain and bar oil. Retail price \$180 for the chainsaw alone. The lot for \$110. **Contact Joe on 0412 258 300**

Don't forget (with Spring finally here!) that **Ben Scanes** will sell you all the sheep poo you can possibly need or want for a modest fee per bag (three bag sizes available). If you would like to take advantage of this offer, phone this number: **0409 819 324**, talk to Ben's mother (Veronica) and make the arrangements that suit you both (they deliver).

Howard the Horticulturist is Back in Business

At this stage we have seeds for sweet corn and golden pod snow peas. Howard tells me he will have a range of tomatoes in the very near future, so watch the garden produce bar in the main room at the Shed.

All proceeds are ploughed (boom boom!) back into Shed garden related projects, supplies etc.



YVMS Shedde Shoppe

We have a good selection of stuff for sale (things made by members and some other donated things like tables (both dining and computer), a bike, an “Abs Cruncher” exercise machine, and lots of other things – you never know, but we might just have what you want! Contact me if you want more info.

Even if you don’t need anything from the shop, come along and buy something – we need the funds (and we’d like to get rid of some stuff so we can replace it with other stuff)!

We still have lots of vinyl records too!

Other

If anyone is interested there are still a couple of small projects at the shed waiting for someone to take them on – and more are coming in all the time – help us out – we don’t like to ring people to tell them their job has not been done due to no volunteer accepting the challenge.

Richard (R2) Rowan is managing this column on behalf of all Shed members. The way it works is that you give Richard the info – I will publish it here with your contact details, and hordes of Shed members will then contact you (and both of you will be happy).

Richard can be contacted on 6226 6839, 0429 980 337 or richard.rowan@ozemail.com.au.

Playing with words - Anagrams

Original Word	Morphs into....
PRESBYTERIAN	BEST IN PRAYER
ASTRONOMER	MOON STARER
DESPERATION	A ROPE ENDS IT
THE EYES	THEY SEE
GEORGE BUSH	HE BUGS GORE
THE MORSE CODE	HERE COME DOTS
DORMITORY	DIRTY ROOM
SLOT MACHINES	CASH LOST IN ME
ELECTION RESULTS	LIES - LET'S RECOUNT
SNOOZE ALARMS	ALAS ! NO MORE Z'S
TWELVE PLUS ONE	ELEVEN PLUS TWO
MOTHER-IN-LAW	WOMAN HITLER

Don't forget!

S&M at the Shed 9-10am on Tuesdays

– if you don't come, you will never know what your mates are up to..... And DON'T try to find out by asking a member who does attend on Tuesdays – they will not tell you , you will just have to come. Support your Shed, we are trying our best to make it interesting for you.

Exercise Classes at the Shed – Tuesdays 2-3pm

Classes will be held this coming Tuesday - \$5 per session. We are now saving the \$5 contributions and when we get enough in the kitty, the Exercise Class will be going to Thyme to Taste for a classy afternoon nosh-up following the Class. Join up now, you have only better health and better eating to look forward to!

Reward Points at Home Hardware

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”. A number of members have made this a regular practice and we have benefited to the extent that we can use the funds to replenish consumables (glues, screws, sand papers etc etc from time to time) – so it IS worth it.

Think about it and help us out – please.

YVMS Website

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

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

22/8: David Todd
29/8: Tom Kelly
14/9: Rob Barker

17/9: Duncan Waugh
26/9: Garry Flaherty

Happy Birthdays Chaps!!!

Shed Opening Times and opening volunteers

Tuesdays – 9am to noon Full Shed Activity YVMS	Tuesdays 2 - 3pm Exercise Classes YVCC	1st Wednesday 10 – 11.30am <u>Coffee & Conversation</u> YVMS	Thursdays 2 – 5pm Full Shed Activity YVMS	Saturdays noon to 4pm Full Shed Activity YVMS
Richard Rowan 6226 6839	Wayne Stuart 0419 292 022	Len McGuigan 6226 1549 Phil O'Brien 6226 2168	Joe Morrissey 0412 258 300 Richard Saxby 0408 802 411	No-one is booked to do this at present. Hopefully one of our regulars will manage to attend each Saturday so the Shed opens. No guarantees!

At all other times, if you are passing and see the doors open, please feel welcome and free to call in!

We like to have at least two volunteers for opening/closing duties to help share the load. If you can help by nominating to open/close the Shed (either on one of the regular days – or you would like the Shed to open at some other time and you are prepared to do the honours), please let me know and we'll make the arrangements.

Some of the current YVMS contacts and “Code Holders” (should you wish to access the Shed out of normal hours):

Ray Hill	6226 3344	rayhill01@dodo.com.au
Wayne Stuart	0419 292 022	wayne@stuartoz.com
Reg Moebus	6227 3238	wargeila@bigpond.com
Roger Holgate	6226 1664	roger42@dodo.com.au
Dave Staines	0408 340 040	yccc@dodo.com.au

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Wayne Stuart

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