



THE MEN'S SHED MESSENGER

CO-PATRONS:

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



BC Canada



Brother
Sheds



NSW Australia

MESSENGER NO 9 FOR 2014
SUNDAY 4 MAY 2014

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> - go back and dig out some YVMS history.

The Yass Valley Men's Shed is very grateful for the generous support of the following entities:

Yass Valley Council, The NSW Coalition Government, NSW Local Member Minister Katrina Hodgkinson, the Lansdowne Foundation,

Yass Rotary Club, Yass Freemasons, Yass Lions Club, Goodradigbee Bookkeeping, Southern Cable Services, Yass Valley Physiotherapy, Yass Valley First Aid Training, Yass & District Printing, The Yass Tribune, YassFM, KidsBlitz, Steve Bugden Plumbing, IGA, Woolworths, Touie Smith Jnr.

Please let me know if you think the list is missing an important sponsor/supporter.

For information on Shed Opening Times, regular events and contacts: please click on this link

<http://yassmensshed.org.au/>

Download a Membership Form if you know someone who would like to join our Shed. Click on this link <http://yassmensshed.org.au/wp-content/uploads/YVMS-Membership-Application-Form.pdf> and print the form for them.

Calendar of upcoming events at the Shed (or elsewhere)

Every Thursday Night - YassFM Mens' Shed personalities' interviews – listen in on Thursdays 6-7pm to the Richard Maxwell Drive Show when he will interview an ever changing list of Shed members who will talk about their former working lives, their music interests and also their take on our Shed. Don't miss it!

News Review

The YVMS Annual General Meeting

There were two main outcomes on the night:

1. The election of anew Committee; and
2. The review of membership fees for the coming year.

The New Committee elected on the night is:

1. David Staines (President) 6226 2620 / 0408 340 040; yccc@dodo.com.au (home) david.staines1@defence.gov.au (work) it is wise to address any communications to David to both addresses as he might not see your email immediately otherwise.
2. Richard Rowan (Vice President) 6226 6839 / 0478 598 593; richard.rowan@ozemail.com.au
3. Rob Cameron (Treasurer) 6226 1794 / 0404 844 231; r24cameron@gmail.com
4. Wayne Stuart (Secretary) 0419 292 022; secretary@yassmensshed.org.au
5. Chris Brown (member) 6226 5518; chrisbrown@tcs.act.edu.au
6. Reg Moebus (member) 6227 3238 / 0419 018 762; wargeila@bigpond.com
7. Joe Morrissey (member) 0412 258 300; joe.morrissey49@gmail.com

Brian Millett (Public Officer) 6226 3514 / 0409 723 715; bmillett@u030.aone.net.au

Membership Fee Rise. The Membership meeting held at the end of the AGM decided to increase the annual membership fee from \$20 to \$25 and to remove the 3 and 5 year membership fee options. This change is effective immediately, has been thought necessary because of increasing insurance costs (charged at \$25 per member annually) and is designed to ensure we cover the major part of those costs from membership fees. Any members who already have paid for next year or years into the future on the previous multiple year arrangements will not pay the new fee until their current paid membership term expires and they need to renew their membership.

Vote of appreciation for our Honorary Auditor

After receiving the report of the Treasurer, which had been audited by our Honorary Auditor, Anna Shannon of Goodradigbee Bookkeeping, and having also heard that she had donated \$150 to the Men's Shed, the AGM meeting decided we should try to show our appreciation on some tangible and significant way.

The meeting agreed that the Secretary write a letter of thanks and appreciation to Anna and also that we would send with it, the three tulips Roger Holgate has managed to win from some otherwise inconspicuous pieces of rough wood lying around the place➔.

That will happen during this coming week.



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The New President, David Staines, has laid out part of his vision for the Shed over the next 12 months. He is very keen to keep the Shed operating on the same arrangements as previously (ie the Shed is NOT a job centre and no members who arrive will be targeted for jobs or asked to do things they are not interested in doing. However, he is keen to explore ways in which we might improve our ability to increase our money earning capability. To that end, he has called a "Planning Meeting" for next Saturday (10 May) and hopes lots of members will attend to discuss the issues, bring their ideas and perhaps put their hands up to help with some of the initiatives that might flow from that discussion. The Agenda for that meeting is provided below.

Once the Minutes of the AGM meetings are approved by the members who attended the meeting, they will be made available to all members for their information.

Planning Meeting.

The new President is very keen to kick off his Presidency by having a planning meeting to which the Committee and all members are invited and which is designed to set some targets and explore some new possibilities for the coming year.

The meeting will be held at 2pm at the Shed on Saturday 10 May.

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

Opening/welcome

Present

Acceptance of the Agenda

Apologies

General Business – planning for 2013/14:-

- General management philosophy;
- Communications (Internal/external);
- Social activities;
 - Bus tours;
 - local points of interest
 - day trips to adjacent sheds
 - entertainment venues;
 - Dinners/Lunches/Picnics/BBQ's;
- Seminar program;
- Workshop/other wish list;
- Container fitout and commissioning project co ordination;
- Future car boot sales;
- Finances - generation of income;
- Garden Updates
- Other (talk about YOUR ideas/suggestions).

Any Other Business

Next Meeting.

[Editor's Note: Unfortunately I have to be out of town next Saturday and won't be able to do the Minute Secretary thing. If anyone could help out, I know David Staines would be most grateful and I would not be suffering so much guilt. Please David know (preferably in advance) if you can help. Ws]

ANZAC Day (Friday 25 April).

Richard Rowan and David Staines marched and placed a wreath made by members of the Shed at the Cenotaph in Comur Street on behalf of the Shed at the 11am Service.

Many thanks to the wreath makers and also to David and Richard for representing us so well

This is what the wreath looks like on the Cenotaph →



Car Boot Sale at the Shed

Was a great success – and added to the aborted event couple of weeks ago, it seems to have helped the Shed's coffers quite a bit. I have no final news on the actual net income for the Shed at this stage. Similarly, I don't have info on who won the raffle prizes. I was away on the day, so I am now trying to catch up again. I will try to report these things next time.

Many thanks to all those who have put in a lot of work – especially Len McGuigan and Rob Cameron. It would not have happened without them! Updated publicity, posters, Trib and YassFM announcements have all been organised, so there should be lots of interest from locals.

Many thanks also to the U3A with whom we have shared the organisation and costs.

If you have any observations or suggestions to help improve next time around, don't be shy – we like positive criticism!

Pulling our weight in the Community

Jerrawa Show: On Easter Monday, Richard Rowan and Wayne Stuart performed gate duty all day on the gates at the Jerrawa Show. We think there may be a donation of around \$250 coming to the Shed for that effort. At this stage, we have not had any payment for the efforts of Richard Rowan and Brian Millett who did gate duty at the Yass Show – now some considerable time ago. If anyone knows who to nudge, could you nudge them for us please?

Conference on Suicide Prevention: We (the Shed) have been invited to present two workshops (one morning and one afternoon) at an upcoming conference in Canberra on Men's Suicide Prevention to be held at the Southern Cross Club on Wednesday 11 June.

The organisers (a local agency called MensLink – www.menslink.org.au) have invited a number of organisations to make presentations to groups of health professionals to help them to understand what services and opportunities there are in the community to assist men at risk of suicide and what experiences there might be that these professionals could use to help in their work with such at-risk individuals. The invitation has come to us because the organisers have heard of "the great reputation of Yass Men's Shed" (their words).

Three members (David Staines, Richard Rowan and Wayne Stuart) have volunteered to develop and present two 75 minute workshops for this conference with the following three basic features (this is our thinking at this stage):

- What are Men's Sheds, what do they do and, in specific terms, what does our Shed do (David Staines);
- Professional analysis related to the fact that Sheds do not aim to be counselling services or similar, but they do provide environments and coincidental psychological help to at-risk individuals (Richard Rowan); and
- Some specific anecdotes and case studies/examples based on our own experience of 6 years (Wayne Stuart).

We will keep you informed on this project.

Containers at the Shed

Nothing to report this time.

However two things should occur soon:

1. Allan Cary is organising a training event with the Yass Town Fire Brigade and the Police to use their heavy lifting equipment to move the container that could not be properly located onto its piers safely and securely; and
2. One of Davis Staines' ambitions is for a small group to take on the responsibility of planning and implementing the fitout and commissioning of the two containers. One aspect of this will probably be a trip to Junee and/or Temora to see how they have approached this task as we understand they use containers pretty much as we intend to. Watch this space.

Tuesday Exercise Classes

Some of the Exercise Class contingent (perhaps a small majority) have decided that they prefer returning to the original afternoon time – 2 to 3pm to be followed by a pleasant coffee and chat opportunity at Thyme To Taste for those who have the time and the inclination. Certainly, during the colder weather, this will become the standard Tuesday class time until further notice.

Some other members of the class cannot make it in the afternoon – so in an attempt to meet their preference for a morning class (11am to 12noon) we will also be running a class at that time as well. There is air conditioning in the exercise room – so it won't be cold.



So we now have 2 classes on Tuesdays:

- **11am to noon; and**
- **2-3pm**



The classes are not onerous or difficult. They are designed to improve core strength and balance and if you ask any of the current people who attend, I think you find that they all report they feel much better for going to the class.

It is good (for friendship, interaction and to make the effort worthwhile), for a minimum 5 or 6 people to come to these classes – so you are all invited to come to whichever one you prefer (if you are really keen you could come to both of them!). We can accommodate up to 14 people at each session.

The cost is \$5 per session.

It is also important to know that **these classes are not just for Shed members or just for men.** At present we probably have a 50/50 representation of both men and women come to the classes.

Tell and invite your friends – they will all be made welcome!

We hope to see lots of you at one or other of the morning or afternoon events.

The contributions made by members of the Exercise group each week (\$5 per person per session) are being saved in the YVMS Good Deeds Fund for use when we would like to help out, but our normal resources don't cover the extra cost. In recent times this fund would have been helpful for the BlazeAid cooking efforts, to offset some of the BlazeAid boxes costs the Shed absorbed and other good things we do that stretch the budget.

Membership News

- Membership has hit 101 financial members – our latest member being John Bracken (sequential no 167 respectively). Welcome and congratulations John.
- Early notice that membership dues become due again on 1 July – but we are happy to help you beat the rush around that time and will take your early payment very happily if you so wish. The membership fee has now gone up to \$25 (if you think this is a bit much, I have been advised that it is about 9.6 cents per week or the price of a coffee in one of the better coffee shops).
- Garry Flaherty's mother passed away last Wednesday. The whole Shed brotherhood wishes you and your brother well, Garry at this very sad time for you both.

Congratulations, Commiserations & Informations

Important Notice for all Members. It is **essential** for ALL members to sign the attendance book every time they attend at the SHED – this is especially important when members go to the Shed out of hours. We have had a recent spate of:

- Lights/power left on (this often results in the urn boiling dry and the safety switch engaging – still dangerous, we don't want or need a fire!);
- Tool cupboards doors wide open and tools left lying around – the most recent being a grinder – please tidy up when you finish!; and
- People who attend out of hours leaving the place in a mess – sawdust, metal bits everywhere etc etc. please tidy up when you finish!

It is also important for insurance reasons for us to know who has been in the place.

Please try very hard to accommodate this need – when you signed up, you undertook to abide by the Rules of the Shed – this is one of the more important Rules!

Games/Recreation at the Shed or in the YVCC

Over the years we have gathered together a number of recreational assets that are not being used – possibly because not too many of you know about these things. They include:

- **A ¾ size Billiards/pool table, balls, cues etc;**
- **A full size table tennis table and balls (bring your own bats);**
- **A 7-sided Card Table that is about to be finished and if needed we will keep it, otherwise it might attract a very good price on EBay;**
- **Dart Board and darts; and probably a few things I have forgotten.**

The Shed is NOT a job centre – it is a place to go to enjoy yourselves and if games are your thing, why not organise a competition, or just a social get together for those purposes? I have recently been asked by one of our new members if anyone at the Shed would like to play Chess on a semi regular basis. A few years ago we had a regular Friday afternoon cards event but it failed when one of the members moved on and there were no longer enough people to fill the necessary seats.

I am about to organise a white board on the wall in the front room to the right hand side of the door that opens into the workshop and will set it up so you can put your name down if you are interested in hooking up with any members who might also be interested in your particular game of choice.

Also, don't be shy, if you would like to introduce a game that we can play in the buildings or in the grounds, why don't we organise it? Some suggestions/ideas might include: Bocce (followed by pizza)? Horseshoes (followed by sausage rolls)? Croquet (followed by cucumber sandwiches)? Badminton (Shuttlecock) (followed by pies and mushy peas)? – the list is endless and we have lots of space. Maybe there is a game you might like to suggest/help organise that would be ideal?

There are currently 18 half days in every week when the Shed is silent and unused (+ the 3 half days that we are already there) – surely that is enough flexibility for some more social activity to be introduced – but we need some new blood and organisers to get it going.

Start writing on that white board!

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) – NB new items this week in **red** type.

If you would like to advertise anything: eg, ask for help, seek advice, offer a skill or anything else you can think of that might benefit you or other members, contact Richard **on 6226 6839, 0429 980 337 or richard.rowan@ozemail.com.au**.

Wanted

A set of drums to suit teenage boy. Preferably in “good” to “as new” condition. If you have a set sitting in your garage, let me know and money could change hands.

For sale etc

Leon Garry (Binalong) has two water beds (one King size, one Queen size – both complete with bladders and both having fitted drawers under. They are both in very good condition and he would like to hear from anyone who might have a use for them (either as beds or as raw materials for some other purpose – apparently the timbers are generous and of very good quality). If this appeals to you (either for Shed or private purposes), please call Leon 6227 4355 and talk to him. I get the feeling that he wants them gone.

We have lot of “good stuff” at the Shed. Come along, have a look and haggle/negotiate with us – we do great deals! For the right price we will even part with stuff we think we might need! Don't wait for the Car Boot Sale – it might be gone by then!

Business(es) run by members that you might like to know about and support

Llewyn Dowling has set up a yard-tidying and rubbish removal business. Llewyn is reliable, courteous, efficient and does what he says he will do when he says he will do it. His quotes, too, are realistic and good value. Llewyn holds Police Check clearances. **Give Llewyn a call on 0498 120 985** – tell your friends too. I have had some very good feedback from two Yass residents who saw the advert in the Messenger and engaged Llewyn. Both clients are very satisfied and pleased with Llewyn's work.

Llewyn is also a collector and is **prepared to pay** for any things you might have that are taking up space or that you no longer need. He collects Old and Antique items including: Enamel signs, motor oil bottles, cow bells, camp ovens, petrol bowsers, old tins, traps and old cordial bottles. If you have any old stuff that fits any of these categories or something you think might interest Llewyn, give him a call – he is happy to come, have a look and make you an offer. Llewyn's phone number is **0498 120 985**.

David Todd provides a full garden service (mowing, weeding, weed spraying, edging, pressure washing, clean up jobs, rubbish removal). To do these jobs he has a Bobcat 42' zero turn mower, Honda push mower, Stihl brushcutter, Stihl chainsaws, Honda blower, pole saw, rotary hoe, Honda Spitwater high pressure water blaster/cleaner. **(David will donate to the Shed \$5 per hour when his service is used by Shed members!)** Call David on 0499 055 219 and don't forget to tell him you are a Shed Members so the Shed will get his generous donation!

If any Shed members would like to advertise their business in the Messenger and have their expertise made known to members, let me know. Try to keep the entry to Name, brief description and contact details please.

Don't forget!

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). Think about it and help us out – please. **It IS worth it.**

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

10/4: Ken Reidy

11/4: Roger Holgate

13/4: Brian Millett

26/4: Blake Swadling

1/5: Raja Ahluwalia

2/5: Ron Coleman

4/5: Ron Rouston

7/5: Tony Gough

8/5: John Corson

11/5: David Rowe, John Jones

13/5: Phil O'Brien, Philip Walsh

15/5: Alf Atkin;

16/5: Nate Harvey-Cox

17/5: Sandy Butt

Happy Birthdays, Chaps!!! (don't forget, significant others are real people too – we are happy to wish them "happy birthday" if you give me the details – this includes Canadians!)

w

Wayne Stuart

Secretary, Yass Valley Men's Shed

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