

**CO-PATRONS:**

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



**In This Issue**

- Editorial
- Shed Membership Renewal time
- Visit to Wagga Shed
- Planning re our latest \$10,000 NSW Govt Grant
- Upcoming events and plans
  - **First Wednesday Morning Tea - this coming Wednesday - 1 July 2015** - more info and events below
  - Shed training and demonstration opportunities
- Recent activities, announcements, achievements and celebrations
  - Projects on the boil

**SHED COMMITTEE**

- President: Dave Staines
- Vice President: Richard Rowan
- Treasurer: Ruben Larzabal
- Membership Secretary: Reg Moebus
- Shed IT Manager: Chris Brown
- Policy and Procedures Secretary: Joe Morrissey

***Editorial – from the Cave***

Following your very helpful and, in some cases, quite detailed, suggestions following my experimentation with the Messenger revamp last time, I have effected some more changes. Let me know if any of you still have issues after looking over this edition. Improvement is good, but only if it works.

In case you are wondering why this Messenger is coming out a couple of days early, it is so you will get your reminder of the First Wednesday Morning Tea - next Wednesday 1 July - 10 to 11.30am.

Don't forget that your membership subscriptions for 2015/16 are now due. More on this below. Help us out here and keep our numbers up. If you don't pay by 31 July, under our Rules, your membership will become unfinancial.

**We currently don't have a Secretary for the Shed. This is NOT an onerous role, but it is important in making sure we stay can manage a viable Shed. If you appreciate the Shed and look at your emails at least once a day, please put your hand up (talk to me and I'll help where I can) - we need YOU**



***Shed Membership Renewal time***

Shed membership subscriptions are due on 1 July, and if not paid by 31 July, you will then be unfinancial resulting in your name tag being removed from the board at the Shed. There are two ways to pay:

**Cash/cheque** given to one of the Committee members or by posting in our letterbox at the Shed; or

**EFT** - The procedure for you to follow if you wish to use the EFT option is as follows:

1. Log on to your bank account and select the "payments" or "transfers" option.
2. Fill in the details of the account into which you wish to transfer these funds, as follows:
  - a. Name of Bank: Bendigo Bank (Boorowa)
  - b. Name of account: YVMS
  - c. BSB: 633-108
  - d. A/c No. 1530 73226
  - e. Amount: \$25.00

3. Where you are requested to state the purpose of the payment (so we know what the payment is for and who it is from) can you provide information in the following format please: "W Smith Subs". Substitute your name for "W Smith" (this is important so we know who has paid!!).

4. Finally (and most important) can you then send an email to Reg Moebus (Membership Secretary - wargeila@bigpond.com or phone him on 0419 018 762) advising that you have made the transfer. He will then issue a receipt which will be placed under your name tag on the board at the Shed.

## Visit to the Wagga Shed

A phalanx (7 in fact) YVMS Members motored to Wagga on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June to help them celebrate the official opening of their new facilities, the previous shed having been destroyed by fire almost 3 years ago. We finally determined that the fire was caused by mice in the air conditioning unit (no fears for us then - what's air conditioning?)

Wagga has a population of some 55,000 and the Shed has membership of 140 - so on a population basis, we are doing much better:

- Yass population = 7,000: YVMS 105 = 1.5%
- Wagga population = 55,000, Shed 140 = 0.25%

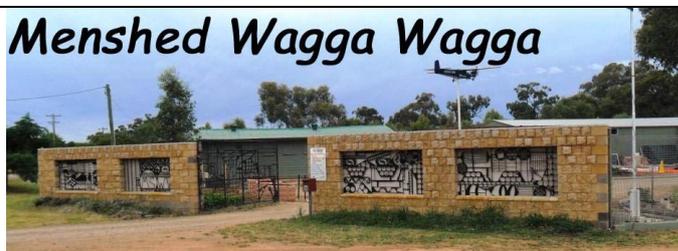
The Wagga Shed would need a membership of 1,375 to have the same membership ratio to population as the Yass Shed.

However the much larger business community there has been very supportive in helping rebuild their Shed and it has to be seen to be believed. They have dedicated very large workshops as well as a kitchen, large meeting room, TV room and library and a large computer training room. They also have a large area surrounding their Shed including quite extensive gardens. They also have quite a range of activities that we are still to implement (provided that there is interest).

I am not jealous simply because all I could see was a major effort required for cleaning and maintenance in an extensive and widespread venue - not something our membership wants or takes very seriously. Also, they are open every day of the week except for Sundays - I cannot see us having members willing to be there that often. They also seem to be a bit more bureaucratic - they have a Committee/Membership meeting once each month.

They have a lot of good ideas some of which will slowly appear at our Shed in due course. We were also able to help them with solutions to some issues we have already solved. It looks like a good relationship with another Shed is building for us.

We hope to host some of their members in the not too distant future.



Gateway to the very impressive complex



A sign at the entrance to the Wagga Shed - a great idea!



Two Presidents chatting in the super Computer room



Only part of the very extensive workshops

## Planning re our latest \$10,000 NSW Govt Grant

The paperwork for our latest \$10,000 Grant from the NSW Coalition Government (courtesy the sterling efforts of Dara Madden, David White and the Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP) has borne fruit and a \$10,000 payment arrived in our Bank account during this last week. You will all, no doubt, be thrilled to hear that the BIG cheque presented to us recently by Katrina has now been framed (thanks Len) and is hanging in the front room next to its twin from last year. Incidentally, there is a new online competitor for the Trib in Yass known as “Scoop Yass Valley”. The item we had in last month’s Messenger has been provided to both the Trib and ScoopYV and it appears here <http://www.scoopyassvalley.com.au/news/10000-for-yass-mens-shed/> if you would like to revisit it - and perhaps look over other items of news.

Planning to spend the grant money looks like this (currently):

\$7,000 has been provided for us to replace the metal lathe which is not as good as it might be for the uses we foresee for it. The plan is to purchase an upgraded item with some additional features and also some additional tools and items to make it more useful for users.

It is also likely that we will have some funds remaining with which to purchase allied and enhanced tools and other metal shop facilities. These options have been investigated and, following formal approval by the Committee, initial orders have been placed with a supplier. Additional decisions for complementary resources will need to await Roger’s return from Queensland.

\$3,000 has been earmarked for the development of a series of above ground garden beds which can be used by local community gardeners who have a disability or mobility problems. The plan is to build a series of “wicking beds” (the prime feature of these beds is that they seriously reduce the amount of water needed to produce the same output).

During our visit to Wagga we saw one solution to this challenge using old truck mudguards (Wagga Shed has offered for us to collect as many of these as we need - they get them for free and so will we) - see the photos opposite for a bit of an idea of what they could look like.

The beds will be located and have hard surface paths installed to make access and use of the beds as easy as possible. Water for the gardens will be harvested on site in rainwater tanks.

Should funds permit, it is also planned to build a good sized and efficient glass house in which to get the vegetable gardens off to an early start each year.



One possibility↑



Above ground beds ↑↓as seen at the Wagga Shed



## Upcoming events and plans

### Social events

**Wednesday 1 July - First Wednesday Morning Tea - 10 to 11.30am.** Len and Phil please take note. Back to normal this month, no workshop noise and lots of conversation, cake and companionship.

**Tuesday 14 July, 10am, the VALMAR boys will host us to Morning Tea at the Shed.** This is by way of a “thank you” for the help they get every Tuesday. I need to advise Danielle at VALMAR of likely numbers, so please tell me if you intend to attend the morning tea.

**Wednesday 5 August - First Wednesday Morning Tea - 10 to 11.30am.** R2 will be on the job because we are expecting a visit from our Federal MP, Angus Taylor →. Come along and enjoy some Pastry with our Pollie!!.

NB: one of our rules at the Shed is no angst related to religion, politics etc. This will be a purely social visit during which we hope to inform our local Member of our existence and to help him get an appreciation of our Shed - no two Sheds are alike.



### Shed Training and demonstration opportunities

The following opportunities are available for interested members. If you are interested, it is up to you to contact the “teacher/presenter” and make your own mutually acceptable arrangements. If you need contact details for any of these generous members, let me know and I will put you in touch:

Ruben Larzabal - lead light (aka stained glass) (Thursday afternoons, already underway);

Jack Child - wine making.

Roger Holgate can show you a wide range of woodworking skills and techniques. Roger is also available to demonstrate and instruct on basic welding skills. He is also very conscious of safety - so you will get not only some new skills, but will be taught the very best safety as well;

Roger Holgate and Tom van Leeuwen are interested (if you are) in organising a beer brewing group.

Joe Morrissey and Graeme Fountain are keen bee keepers and honey producers. Why not take up this very rewarding hobby;

Chris and Joey Brown are the Shed IT gurus and are developing a training program for community members to learn and/or improve their computer skills (one on one). Saturdays between 2 and 4pm - but only by appointment. Each lesson will cost the student \$2 for a half hour. If you (or someone you know) would like to take advantage of this training let me know and I will put you in touch with Chris or Joey.

Richard Rowan (R2) - cooking for pleasure or just to stay alive;

Tony “Lowie” Lowe is a highly skilled and qualified welder and metal worker. He has agreed to take on responsibility for the Metal Shop and is already instructing on a wide range of metal working activity;

Alex Tewes. Runs the Yass Photography Club meets for about 2 hours at the Yass Valley Community Centre [next to the Men's Shed] on the first Thursday of every month (except January) at 7.30pm (no cost). Let Alex know if you'd like to join or have any questions, and he looks forward to seeing you at the next meeting!

Al Phemister is a successful metal sculptor who has work in a number of overseas countries in Europe, Asia and the North Americas as well as widely distributed across Australia. Al will be pleased to show anyone interested how to start and progress.

Joe Morrissey is developing a range of Shed seminars, social activities and outings for the remainder of 2015. Stand by for more on this shortly.

Wayne Stuart can (only just) play guitar. Ask if you'd like to learn if you have a talent in this area.

**If any members would like to volunteer to show off and share their special talents for the benefit of others - let me know and I will add you to this list of good things to learn how to do.**

Temporary Australian?



Here is a photo taken by one of our members last week.

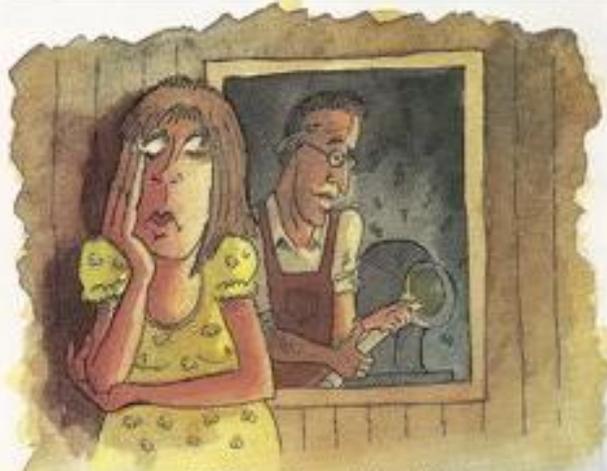
We think it is R2 (Richard Rowan) road testing (boom boom!) his new hi-vis ALDI workwear.

We all think you should stick to cooking R2!

Many thanks to Wade Bottorff (Canada) for this photo of R2.

\*\*\*

This one, courtesy of Roger Holgate →



**A Woodturning Ode**

*There once was a woodturner Fred  
Who spent most of his time in the shed,  
His wife begged and pleaded  
Some attention she needed  
But to his lathe Fred preferred to be wed.*

*Then one day his wife, name of Maud  
Got tired of being ignored  
She dismantled the bed  
Carried it out to the shed  
'Now sleep here as well,' Maudie roared.*

*But practice makes perfect they say  
And one unforgettable day  
At the Woodworker Show  
Well, what do you know  
Old Fred won a prize with his tray.*

*Now Maudie was proud and amazed  
'Oh Freddie, you're clever!' she praised,  
'As you get such pleasure  
from this form of leisure  
I'll join in this woodturning craze.'*

*Thought Fred, as he smiled with delight,  
No more nagging my hobby will blight,  
As together we turn  
My only concern  
Is who's cooking supper tonight?*

*Recent activities, announcements, achievements and celebrations*

**Workshop and Garden update**

Roger has taken a 6 week break and is caravanning somewhere in the inland between Yass and Townsville (via Lightning Ridge and Emerald). Therefore there is no update this month and we will have to do without him again next month unless he tells us about workshops and gardens en route. Save up all your jobs and requests for assistance and advice and hit him hard as soon as he returns so he is never game to go away again!

**Yass Valley Iconic Views for this edition**



## Are these boys having fun??



This is a timely reminder that we have a regular Tuesday morning activity at the Shed when VALMAR Shed members come along and undertake their own projects.

← Here we have Kaine Hodgkins very happy with and proud of his just completed and painted letterbox. This will make the postie in Binalong a much happier visitor to the Hodgkins' address.

And here → we have James Demestre working on his tool box. James spent a good hour (perhaps more) on this sanding task on a recent Tuesday and spent the whole time singing while doing it. This was an amazing experience for all members who were there that day. James has a great singing voice and we all felt we had experienced a free concert. I wonder if he does requests?



## Adverts, Updates and Reminders:

### Shed taxi service - waiting for your call!

**Taxi drivers:** Chris Brown in the Rossi Street (West) area and en route to and from the Shed from there on Saturdays. Wayne Stuart pretty much anytime.

If anyone needs a ride to and/or from the Shed you can also contact one of these drivers direct.

### 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.**

### Tuesday Exercise Classes - Len McGuigan (coordinator)



YVCC (next door to the Shed)



**Class time: 2-3pm.** The classes are designed to improve core strength and balance and the cost is \$5 per session. Please note, if you have a health problem, you should mention it before you start the program - perhaps consult your doctor or physio?

**Everyone in the Yass Valley is welcome** Tell and invite your friends - it is good for you and for them too!

See you in *The David Hale Room* at the Yass Valley Community Centre.

**Note from the organiser:** "The Exercise Group is running along smoothly, it even has some MEN coming along now, even with people being away on hols, numbers are good. We are going out for lunch as a group shortly. It would be good if more men thought of their health and came along, it is fun and not hard." **Len**

## Membership News

Membership has fallen to 105 with the recent death of one of our early members, Ron Rouston. Two Shed members attended Ron's funeral on Wednesday 10 June.

Ron was a very skilled metal worker and was seen using our metal lathe on several occasions. He will be missed.



## Wanted - a glass fronted, lockable display case

Peter Roberts has volunteered to manage the Shed Shop and would like to set it up in a display case so we can put it back in the YVCC and possibly sell some of the output of our talented members. Please let me know if you have a display case we can have. Many thanks

## General Invitation - help me out

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

### June:

1/6: Dave Staines  
6/6: Charles Turner  
9/6: Bob Nash  
15/6: Doug Holston  
16/6: Ron McMullen  
18/6: Alex Noakes

### July:

5/7: Richard Saxby, David Villanti, Richard Rowan  
7/7: Colin Statham, Edgar Mongan  
11/7: John McClung  
17/7: Merv Wright  
18/7: Stn Walsh, Mark Ritchard  
25/7: Jack Phemister  
27/7: Charlie Royall  
28/7: John Woodin  
29/7: Cameron Madden

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!)

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

BarkerHarle (Consulting Engineers), Bendigo Bank (Boorowa), Bunnings (Belconnen), Home Hardware (Yass), IGA (Yass), KidsBlitz, the Lansdowne Foundation, Long Paddock IT Services, Miller's Pharmacy, NSW Coalition Government, NSW Member for Cootamundra, the Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP, Robertson Landscape Supplies, Southern Cable Services, Steve Bugden Plumbing, Tank's Bakery, Touie Smith Jnr, Yass & District Printing, Yass Fire Brigade, YassFM, Yass Freemasons, Yass Lions Club, Yass Pharmacy, Yass Rotary Club, Yass Valley Council, Yass Valley First Aid Training, Yass Valley Physiotherapy, The Yass Tribune, Woolworths (Yass). 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.

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.

Wayne Stuart (Messenger Editor), 0419 292 022 [wayne@stuartoz.com](mailto:wayne@stuartoz.com), <http://yassmensshed.org.au>