



YVMS MATTERS

(aka "The Messenger")

No 2 of 2016

April 2016

Date: 1/4/16

YVMS Motto:

"Minimal bureaucracy
Maximum fun!"

CO-PATRONS:

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



In This Issue

- Editorial
- What has happened since the last Messenger? (p2)
- Calendar of upcoming events (p4)
- Upcoming AGM (p4)
- Winner of the 2016 Primary School Composition Competition (p5)
- General info and other stuff (p5)

Quote for meditating upon:

"The more things change, the more they stay the same"
(proverb)

Shed Committee

President: Dave Staines 0408 340 040

Vice President: Richard (R2) Rowan

Secretary: Jack Child 0419 444 535

Treasurer: Ruben Larzabal

Manager IT: Nicholas Londey

Policies/Seminars: Joe Morrissey

Other elected members (I am not sure of their status or currency) Chris Brown and Reg Moebus

Editorial – from the Cave

Well, I'm back!! I have noticed that not much news has gone to members since November last year (almost 5 months) and I have decided this is not a good thing and that there is something I can and should do about it.

I think this month's quote (see above) is not only true, but goes to show that even firmly held views and strong intentions can change. So I am back – I hope most of you are not too likely to go out and do yourselves a nasty self inflicted injury on the basis of this news.

Alex had undertaken, late last year, to issue the Messengers for the foreseeable future, but the foreseeable part was a bit short lived for him and he finds himself, for very good reasons, unable to deliver on that good intention. Thanks to Alex for the excellent effort he made. Two comments about him withdrawing, though:

1. You will once again have to put up with my jokes. Bad luck Alex, no-one to blame but yourself; and
2. I am not man enough to assemble a professional and classy newsletter like the one Alex provided – the options were: no newsletter or one that is not up to his standard. On the other hand, as my dear old Dad used to say: "Son, if a job's worth doing, it's worth doing badly if that's the best you can do."

I intend to put Messengers out on a monthly basis again, and the main effort will be directed at keeping you all informed about what is happening at the Shed and, more importantly, what is coming up, in plenty of time for you to make any arrangements you might need to make: to be there, to be far away, or to ignore me altogether. But you will not be able to say "I didn't know"!

On my own behalf, may I invite all members to become more engaged in Shed matters – events, planning and working bees. You will see from some news later in this issue that there is a lot of fun and engagement to be had. Good ideas are always good and engagement by the members is always helpful. Also if you have news or want to make an announcement via the Messenger, just let me know. Variety in this newsletter is important and necessary.

Because it's been a while, this Messenger might be a bit longer than usual – make yourself a second cup of coffee!

What has happened since the last Messenger?

Quite a lot has occurred in the last couple of months – so I'll try to keep; these entries reasonably brief.

Old Linton Makeover (early February)

The Shed was invited to help with the Old Linton makeover which we declined. However, we did agree to make a new sign to match the style of the makeover and which is now hanging above the gate at the entrance to the property.

Part of the sign making process was filmed by the Foxtel TV program: "Selling Houses Australia". We will be receiving a DVD of that program after the show has gone to air on 20 and 27 April.

See *Calendar of Coming Events*, below, for details of a video showing of this program at the Shed.



Before



After

Workshop News (This is a copy of a note sent out recently by Roger Holgate)

Top marks go to Ron McMullen for his initiative in preparing and printing up simplified manuals for the new Metal Lathe and Milling Machine. These are much easier to follow, particularly the manual for the Mill which is much larger print, therefore easier to read.

Equal top marks to Bob Frank who generously supplied the material and fabricated covers for the new machinery.

On Tuesday 2nd February Russel Mills was kind enough to visit the shed and impart some of his machining knowledge and experience to a small group of us and advise on what accessories he thought we might need initially to get the lathe and milling machine up and running. This assistance combined with the input from David Coonan has been very welcomed in assisting me on what we should purchase with the limited funds available. Thanks guys.

Following on from this an accessory order was put to Hare and Forbes for a quote, the quote was a little less than I had thought so that gave us the ability to order a couple of extras. The order was delivered to us on 24th February and the accessories have been stored with the appropriate machines.

A special thanks also to Jack Child who has made a valuable donation of machine shop accessories.

There is now lots to be done to get the metal shop up to scratch, so my intention is to run a couple of introductory sessions during March showing the new equipment and putting forward my ideas.

Thanks also go Clarrie Schlunke for his initiative in tidying up the woodturning areas. A big improvement in organisation and visual appearance.

As a final note, thank you to all who have assisted in any way with the clean up in and around the shed and to all who have given their support and assistance to us with the garage sale which has been a great success.

Roger Holgate; Workshop Manager YVMS
rholgate3@gmail.com

Garage Sale

We had a very successful Garage sale at the Shed on Saturday 27 February. The event was organised by Roger Holgate who also arranged three clean up and organising Saturdays in advance of the event to be sure that we had good things to sell and to leave us after the event with a clean slate for the rest of 2016.

The sale was a great success bringing in over \$2,000. Added to that was another lunch prepared by Chef Extraordinaire Richard R2 Rowan. Words cannot describe the food – you really should come when he is in full flight – there is no better restaurant in Yass or within a day's drive!

Stroke Seminar at the Shed

A very informative and valuable seminar was given at the Shed on Thursday 25 February. The presenter was a young woman Ambassador for the Stroke Foundation who had, herself, suffered a stroke at the age of 19. The event was not well attended and the presenter has agreed, I understand, to come back later in the year (perhaps during National Stroke Week which occurs from 12 to 18 September). Watch this space.

Disabled Gardens

John Whiteley has been hard at work organising and building 8 “wicking” gardens for disabled Yass Valley Community members who might like to use the above ground beds as gardens in which to grow their own plants.

Each of the garden beds are made by recycling and connecting “used” Semi-Trailer plastic mudguards which have been generously donated to the Shed by the members of the Wagga Wagga Men’s Shed from their large collection.

There were a couple of working bees held during the later weeks in March during which the bulk of the work was done.

Especially pleasing is that a number of our VALMAR members were a big help on this project (see photo later in this issue).

The photos → show the three stages of the building of these water saving gardens and the fourth shows how the garden layout will look.

A formal “ribbon cutting” has been organised by the President and will be conducted on Wednesday 13 April at 10am by Mayor Rowena Abbey.

If anyone is interested in obtaining some of these mudguards for your own place together with a set of instructions on how to install your own water saving “wicking” beds, John Whitely has written a set of “Instructions for Dummies” and you can negotiate with a member of the Committee to purchase the mudguards you might need (\$10 a set of two for Members and \$20 a set of two for non members).

Completing this work will allow the Shed to acquit the \$10,000 NSW Coalition Govt Grant obtained for us by the Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP.



Jerrawa Show Gates – manned again

Once again this year we were invited by the Jerrawa Show Society to man the gates for them on Easter Monday.

Richard Rowan (R2), Tony Warren (T3) and Wayne Stuart did the honours again. This event is a money earner for the Shed. The picture → shows Tony and Richard “Bailing up” poor unsuspecting Jerrawa Show goers. We managed to collect some \$2,800 from them at the gates. Not bad given that the entry fees are very modest indeed. A more fulsome report appears on p5.



Revamp of meeting space at the Shed

A team of energetic members led by Bob Nash and Joe Morrissey have undertaken a major revamp of the front room at the Shed. The intention is to maximise the uses of the social space and also to make it a bit more comfortable in the colder weather.

A 2.4m wall has been built and the external walls will be lined and insulated. All in all, a very great improvement.



Our Supporters thanked

For a number of years, we have acknowledged our supporters on our website and in the Messenger (you will find the list in this edition on page 7).



We have also had an ugly blank front wall facing the car park looking for a purpose in life. That wall now has a large (4.8m x 1.2m) permanent notice board entitled “YVMS Thanks our Generous Supporters” and all of our donors and supporters are listed on that board. With any luck, other supporters might get the hint and donate or support us with in-kind donations.

Calendar of upcoming events at the Shed (or elsewhere)

Wednesday 6 April – First Wednesday Morning Tea – sponsored by Tanks Bakery – 10am to 11.30.

Wednesday 13 April – 10AM – official ribbon cutting to declare open the new disabled community gardens behind the Community Centre. Mayor Rowena Abbey to do the honours. I think the choice of this timing is so that the Yass Friendship Group (who are now headquartered in the YVCC and meet there on Wednesdays) will be one of the significant user groups of this new facility and will be on site on the day for the opening.

Thursday 14 April – 4pm – A 45 minute A.L.E.R.T workshop will be delivered by the OzHelp Foundation and is a workplace based early intervention, suicide prevention and social capacity building program. It is built on a vision to enhance the resilience of workers, and strengthen the influence and support of leaders, within industry and community groups. With some luck, this event might be the first formal/social use of our newly reconfigured meeting room.

I understand this workshop was offered at the Soldiers Club some weeks go and was not well attended. It may be the intention of the Shed Committee to throw this event open to the wider Yass Community and if so, then perhaps the YVCC room will be needed.

Saturday 23 April – Shed AGM. Don't forget to nominate for a position on the Committee (all places are vacated annually and I hear a number of current members feel they have done their bit and need a rest). Nomination forms are on sign-in table inside the newly expanded front room.

The Shed is a very successful part of Yass' social and informal support fabric. As such it needs to be supported by its members and from time to time, new blood and new skills are needed for “renewal”. Please consider if you can serve and help to keep the place going and growing. It can be a very rewarding experience for committed members.

TBA – Video @ The Shed: showing of Foxtel program “Selling houses Australia” in which the Old Linton Makeover and the Shed's involvement in the making of the new front gate sign is featured. This will be, if not the first “social” event in the newly reconfigured meeting room in the Shed, then one of the very early ones. There will be cake!

My Day at the mens Men's Shed

By Wayne Stuart (age 69½)

I was very excited on Tuesday the 22nd of March, because I got up really early to have an exciting day at the Yass Valley Men's Shed.

After breakfast I set off so I could be there when they ~~openned opined~~ opened at 9 o'clock.

I helped put out the big Men's Shed sign and when i got back into the Shed there were all kinds of things happening.

The ~~frist~~ first thing I saw was a lot of men building a great big wall that will make the place much warmer when the winter comes. I wanted to help but I kept getting in the way and a big bloke kept ~~treading~~ treading on me.

I then went out the back and a lot of other men were making raised gardens for disabled people in our community. I helped there for a little while.

There was a strange man putting up signs on the front wall. He frightened me a bit, so I didn't offer to help him!

There was a lot of noise (a lot of it was loud shouting!) and I saw this nice man walking around with ear muffs on to help preserve his hearing. I think he was very smart. I tried to speak to him, but I don't think he could hear me.

It was a great day and we all returned home ~~tired~~ tired but happy.

The end.



Musings from the Jerrawa horse show

Easter Monday morning while most of you were tucked up in your little warm cots, three members of the shed (Wayne, Tall Thin Tony (T3) and R2) travel to the Jerrawa annual horse show for gate duty. This has been an annual event for the last four years and generally brings the shed a donation of \$200 or more. So to events of the day:

Most inconsiderate Horsey Person: the person at the gate with horse float in tow prior to 6 AM.

Most pretentious horsey person: turned up with his Mercedes-Benz semi-trailer and two horses.

Most disappointing event: only two trains all day. But we did get a toot!!!!

Most disturbing event: the need to call the RSPCA as some riders had failed miserably to undertake the necessary Weight Watchers course thus putting the horse under severe load.

Cooking Note: a modern SUV diesel engine does not generate enough heat to adequately heat and cook ham and cheese croissants.

Show judging dispute: we spotted a beautiful silver and grey horse. We all agreed that this horse was the winner and therefore there was no need for any further judging. The show judge was not impressed with our rationale.

Entrance fee: Adults \$7 and children \$3..... Request from client attending..."Do you have EFTPOS!!!!"



Most Embarrassing moment: R2 calling Pru Goward..."Sue" and being corrected!!!

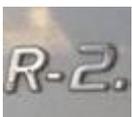
Things out of hand: Car at gate two adults, three kids and three dogs. So \$14 the adults, \$9 dollars for the kids and \$15 for the dogs!! Total \$38...do you a deal mate \$35 the lot.....Good to see some people still enjoy a joke!! We settled on \$14...don't tell anyone. (Lovely sheep dogs).

Quickest visitor: The man with the prize Merino looking for another ribbon...no sheep at show as it is a HORSE show...stayed 5 minutes if that.

Worst gate entry: Young male "L" driver ...stalled car 3 times at the gate...It was automatic!!!

True love???: Young female turns up at about 8.30am with 2 horses. She parks trailer and commences to groom and prepare the horses. At about 10.45 boyfriend arrives in Ute fully kitted and spurred. She helped him onto the horse and off he went to compete!!!

Well that's about it for this year. It's a good day out so you might want to think about for next year.



Richard Rowan

General info and other stuff

Membership News

Membership currently stands at 84. Current memberships will need to be renewed from 1 July – so get in early and beat the rush. Only \$25.

In case you have been missing my “how men and women are different” lessons...



Roger’s latest idea on a necessary and regularly updated “to do” list for the Shed

Here is a draft suggestion from Roger Holgate on improving communications about things that need doing at the Shed:

1	TO DO LIST				
2	Wednesday, 30 March 2016				
3	Due Today: 0	Click a drop down arrow, such as Assigned To or Priority, to Filter or Sort your To Do List items.			
4	Overdue: 0	The background image and tips do not print.			
5	Done	Description	Due Date	Priority	Assigned to
6	Double-click Done column when task is complete.	Check tank strainers	5th April 2016	High	
7		check kitchen water filter	5th April 2016	High	
8		Check leaves in gutters and blow out	5th April 2016	High	
9		Consider alternatives for metalcraft		Medium	Bob Roger Joe etc
10		Finish small benches metal shop		High	Roger
11		Finish mill & lathe tool organising		High	Roger
12		Extra tool boards for metal shop		High	Roger
13		Board for helmets etc in metal shop		Medium	Roger
14		Mowing	16th March 2016	High	Tony Bruce
15		Make recognition board for front	14th March 2016	High	Wayne
16		Reorganize front room	20th March 2016	High	Bob Joe etc
17	Done	Put aarbaae out	10th March	High	

I’m not quite sure how Roger wants to run this. I have just made a screen shot of a draft proposal he has circulated. If anyone has a good idea how to manage a readily accessible listing of jobs on the go and things needing to be done, I am sure Shed Management wants to hear from YOU! It would be good if we could combine both an easily accessible online diary and also a hard copy listing updated regularly on a notice board at the Shed. Any ideas?

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 – 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

Tuesday Exercise Classes



2-3pm on Tuesdays

The classes are not onerous or difficult. They are designed to improve core strength and balance and the cost is \$5 per session.

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!

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



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 either in the Shed or in the Community.

Birthdays around this time

MARCH

7/3: John D'Arx, Bill Findley, Tony Warren

9/3: Ray Armour

10: Tony Lowe

12/3: Peter Hurley

13/3: William Grace

15/3: James Demestre

17/3: Ron Doyle

25/3: Graham Fountain

26/3: Rick Williams

27/3: Allan McGrath

APRIL

9/4: Alistair McGregor

10/4: Ken Reidy

11/4: Roger Holgate

13/4: Brian Millett

26/4: Blake Swadling

27/4: Trevor Clunne

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).

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

(in alphabetical order):

BarkerHarle (Consulting Engineers), Bunnings (Belconnen), Goodradigbee Bookkeeping, Home Hardware (Yass), IGA (Yass), KidsBlitz, the Lansdowne Foundation, NSW Coalition Government, NSW Local Member Minister Katrina Hodgkinson, Southern Cable Services, Steve Bugden Plumbing, Touie Smith Jnr, Yass & District Printing, Yass Fire Brigade, YassFM, Yass Freemasons, Yass Lions Club, 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://www.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.

Wayne Stuart 0419 292 022