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YVMS MATTERS

(aka "The Messenger")

No 1 of 2017

February 2017

Date: 1/2/17

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



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Quote for meditating upon:

" When mosquito land on testicle, you learn to solve serious problem without violence"
- Confucius

Shed Committee

President: Bob Nash 0418 691 423

Vice President: Roger Holgate 0428 509 242

Secretary: Jack Child 0419 444 535

Treasurer: Sam Noor

Manager IT: Nicholas Londey

Member: Tony Warren

Messenger/Membership: Wayne Stuart (0419 292 022)

Public Officer: Brian Millett

Editorial – from the Cave - Wayne Stuart

Chasps,

I thought I'd startle all of you by changing the colour scheme for this year and if you look very closely, you might find a couple of other small changes/improvements(?) I have been fiddling with over the break.

First things first - **our opening times are changing**. Following consultation with regularly attending members, it has been decided to align the opening times on Thursdays and Saturdays to make it easier to remember, but also to improve convenience for members. Tuesday times remain the same.

Shed opening times from Thursday 2 February 2017 will now be:

- **Thursdays AND Saturdays 1.30pm to 4.30pm**
- **Tuesdays: 9am to noon.**

Welcome to 2017! already one twelfth of it is behind us. We must be having fun, because time is going so fast.

With that last thought in mind, can I ask members to start thinking about our need to keep the place running smoothly and effectively for the next year? In April (only 2 months from now) we will be having our Annual General Meeting. Under our /constitution, all Committee positions are automatically vacated and nominations can be made by members for any position. Some existing members may wish to retire gracefully, others may consider that they wish to serve again for another 12 months.

I would like to invite all members to consider serving on the Committee in some capacity. We constantly need new blood to keep the place vigorous and moving forward - and new ideas for improvements to the place. Give it some serious thought. The Yass Valley Men's Shed is TOO IMPORTANT for it to languish or fail for the lack of some members willing to help manage it. I can assure you that you will feel it is worthwhile. Find a current Committee Member and ask the hard questions!



WS Editor

Message from the President - Bob Nash

Unfortunately there is no message from the President this month, Chasps.

I know he is very busy selling, buying and moving house at the moment. Finding time to pen a note for this little diversion is probably something he just does not have at the moment.

By the way, Bob, we wish you well in that challenge, and look forward to hearing the war stories!

Message from the Workshop Manager - Roger Holgate

Welcome back to the Shed for 2017, new ideas, new tool accreditation system, new tool borrowing arrangements etc., some of the new ideas still to be finalised, and implemented.

Thank you to the 20% of members who showed interest in our "Workshop Walk Around" sessions in which the main endeavour was to show interested members just what we have and where it is all kept, along with a few general workshop hints. I trust that you all received some benefit from this, you will all remember at least something, by which we can help each other.

Our new router table and Triton router arrived and was assembled over the Xmas break, we are just waiting to finish off the dust extraction set up before putting the unit to use and begin training. It is our plan to fit an older router which we have to the existing table then offering the old Triton Mk3 Work Centre for sale as a complete unit, thus keeping the reasonably new double insulated Maktec router as our workshop freehand plunge unit. Many thanks to John Backhouse for the donation of a saw top for the Triton Mk3, this replaces the top which mysteriously went missing some time back.

We will begin our equipment re-education and training early in February beginning with table saws, explaining operating features then demonstrating full usage and safety precautions with emphasis on potentially dangerous kickbacks and an introduction to our new feather boards. Stand by for an announcement shortly. In the meantime I would suggest that workshop users "Google" "Table Saw Kickback" and have a look at a few web sites and YouTube movies for a full understanding of the subject.

Finally, as you have all been notified, we are expecting a visit by Katrina Hodgkinson on Tuesday 7th February so can I please ask for a joint effort to have the workshop, and in particular the metal shop, "spick and span" for the occasion.

Regards to all,

Roger Holgate (aka R~~X~~1) - Vice President and Workshop Manager



What has happened since the last Messenger?

Things that happened during December and January:

New Accreditation System for Shed machines and equipment is now operating



*** Important safety notice ***

Equipment accreditation:

Due to a recent "near miss" and a spate of damage and equipment failures the YVMS Committee, having regard to its Duty of Care obligations, especially the need to protect our members (including insurance risks if any injury were to occur) and the need to protect and preserve our Assets for all members, has changed the policy concerning equipment accreditation. From 1 January 2017, only members with the following accreditations will be allowed to use the equipment falling within the following categories:

In the Wood Workshop (W) and the Metal Workshop (M) the following categories of accreditation will apply until further notice:

There will be no specific accreditation for non-powered hand tools.

- **W1 and M1** = full access to all machines and equipment
- **W2 and M2** = all battery operated or electric hand held tools (saws, sanders, grinders, drills etc)
- **W3 and M3** = fixed wood and metal cutting machines, pedestal drills, drop saws, table saws, fixed sanders etc
- **W4 and M4** = lathes and milling machines
- **W5** = other major equipment (thicknesser, table router etc)
- **M5** = welders and future other acquisitions (plasma cutters etc etc)

All equipment will be clearly marked with its relevant category and Members accredited will have an equivalent endorsement on their name tag. No member will be permitted to use any item of equipment for which he does not hold YVMS accreditation.

If you want to get accreditation, talk to Roger Holgate, the Workshop Manager

By Order: YVMS Committee, December 2016

The Committee also decided, in conjunction with the change in Accreditation Policy, to also change the access code - this was more as an ongoing need to keep tabs on security - some members move on or decide they no longer need or want access rights. Let a member of the Committee know if you would like to have access rights - there are some strings attached!

New Bank Account to be opened

The Committee has decided to open a new sub account to be known as "Projects" in which any funds in excess of \$2,500 will be held. Donations that are given to the Shed for specific purposes such as the recent IGA (\$2,270.63) and the YVMS Exercise Group (\$400) will be automatically paid into the new projects account. The Shed regularly has projects on the drawing board and this will allow more accurate and transparent planning, management and monitoring of the capacity to fund projects and to deliver them.

This new account, when finalised, will have some \$4,800 in it and current projects on our planning board include the installation of a patio door behind the roller door to improve amenity, improve comfort on hot or cold days and reduce wind and rubbish blowing into the Shed; building of a small shed on the back wall of the wood workshop to house the air cleaner machine and our paint supplies; and the BIG project, to install a roof over the two containers and reaching back to the west wall of the Shed. One of our members has offered to privately and anonymously donate \$2,000 towards this roofing project.

Okanagan Shed sends us gifts

Just before Christmas we got a bit excited when GB (aka Gary Bozek) one of the members of the Okanagan Men's Shed (our "brother Shed" in Canada), contacted us hoping to visit our Shed should his itinerary in Australia permit. As it happened, the itinerary did not work in a way that allowed a visit to Yass.

However, we received a parcel a short time later in which a couple of very nice gifts were given to our Shed.

Below you will find two photos, one of Roger and Grant modelling aprons with the Okanagan motif upon them. You will also see a photo of Grant sporting one of the many lapel pins of the Canadian Maple Leaf flag. We have lots of those pins if you would like one for yourself - you DON'T have to wear them in your ear!!

Many thanks to GB and the Okanagan members for this terrific gift. You can be sure those aprons will get a good workout in our kitchen!



Calendar of upcoming events at the Shed (or elsewhere)

Wednesday 1 Feb - First Wednesday Morning Tea – is cancelled for February

But don't despair!! we have a better offer for you.....

Tuesday 7 February - The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson is our honoured guest

Our long time and serious supporter, the Hon Katrina Hodgkinson will be visiting the Shed around 11am on Tuesday 7 February - so we have moved the morning tea to that day for this month only.

Dave Staines tells me that Tanks will be closed on that day (apparently they have annual holidays too!) but, as always, our champion Chef 3☆R2 has stepped up and will provide morning tea for anyone who would like to come on the day.

The reason for Katrina's visit is to show her what we have done with the most recent \$10,000 grant she organised for us from the NSW Coalition Government. Accordingly we will be showing her the new machines in the Metal Shop and asking her to "cut the ribbon" on those machines.

We will also be showing her the Disabled Access Gardens funded from that Grant. When they were finished those gardens were handed over to the Yass Friendship Group and Home Living Support (ie they are not a Shed asset for care and maintenance). With the long Christmas layoff and the very hot and dry weather, those gardens have been badly neglected and are in a very poor condition (plants-wise). I have contacted the Home Living Support people and they have asked us if we could do a bit of work to improve the look by doing a couple of plantings, perhaps (pansies, a mix of herbs etc?). In my view we don't need to do it in all beds, just a couple to show what the potential is.

If anyone would like to do this we would be very grateful. I am sure the Shed could spring for the purchase of some plants. All we need then is a good half hour and some blokes with planting prowess. Any takers....? Please....?

Saturday 25 February, 2pm - first Shed Info Exchange for 2017

This is YOUR chance to tell us what you would like to see us doing in 2017. It is also an opportunity for Shed management to let you know what we have been doing and what comes next. Be there - it could be very interesting.

General info and other stuff

Membership News

Our membership has continued to improve. Since the last monthly Messenger issued on 1 December last year, we have signed up two members during December (Rob Sims and Ben Harvey) and another new member in January, (Tim Gee). Please go out of your way to give them a BIG welcome when you meet them.

Scuttlebut

Very Serious and most important Scuttlebut item for February



Exercise for good

BY TOBY VUE

AS ITS 'good deeds' bank account gets full, the Yass Valley Men's Shed exercise group donates it to selected charities. For Christmas, the group donated \$400 each to Yass Vinnies Shop and Can Assist on Friday, December 16.

Len McGuigan, coordinator of the exercise group, said each participant donates \$5 per exercise class.

"We let it grow enough to then give it to someone. We try to keep it local, but we have given it to help tsunamis, to earthquake relief campaigns," he said.

The classes - opened to anyone - improve members' holistic health, including flexibility and mental well-being.

"The group has been the longest running activity at the Men's Shed, and it's going beautifully. We've turned into a bunch of friends - the social aspect is very important," Mr McGuigan said.

Geoff Frost, Can Assist president and Men's Shed member, said Can Assist appreciated the financial support.

"We fit the bill of their criteria because we provide funds to patients in the Yass Valley region, or to people who interact very closely with the region," he said.

Mr Frost said 97 cents in the dollar go to cancer patients while the other three are for administration expenses. More information about the exercise program:

- Every Tuesday: 2-3pm at Yass Community Health Centre (143 Meehan Street)
- President: 0418 691 423
- Email: president@yassmensshed.org.au

CHRISTMAS HELP: Len McGuigan (second from left) from the Men's Shed exercise program donates to Therese Yates, Geoff Frost and Jean Frost. Photo: Toby Vue

As the above extract from the Yass Trib states, the YVMS Exercise Group has donated \$400 to St Vincent de Paul and \$400 to Yass Can Assist. I should also mention that the Exercise Group also donated another \$400 to the Shed to assist with the purchase of the new and very sexy router table and router.

I think we all owe Len McGuigan and the Exercise Group a great vote of congratulations and thanks for their ongoing generosity and support of worthwhile causes in the Yass Valley.

Scuttlebut 2

One of our members has come across this clothes peg made from a single length of plastic coated wire (with some tensile strength, I suspect, to maintain a degree of shape and springiness in order to work effectively over time).

If anyone is interested in making such things, we think we could add them to the once a month efforts of Roger Holgate, Clarrie Schlunke, Allan Carey and Peter Roberts selling Shed output at the Rotary Markets and perhaps make a couple of bucks for the Shed.



I have had a look online, but cannot find a jig or other hints about how to make them, although I am sure that info is there somewhere. Apparently this one was made by a member of the Temora Shed. Perhaps, we could visit them or at least contact them for the info.

But first we need an interested member or two to accept the challenge. We can show you this example at the Shed.

Any takers?

Scuttlebut 3 - The Shed is NOT a job centre - and here's the proof!!

The 2017 World Championship 8 Ball Pool Competition is well underway at the Shed with the first two of the scheduled 53 games already out of the way.

Very excitingly, the scores are currently locked at one game all - the long term contest between world champions Chris Nadal and Grant Federer continues at the Yass Men's Shed. Here is part of the riveting action from game #2↓



Scuttlebut 4 - Hero of the Months (December and January)

The extremely large and very well paid team at Messenger HQ has unanimously voted to elect **ME!!** as the hero of the month this time. What could I do but graciously accept? - it IS a democracy and they all voted unanimously!

The award was granted mainly because I have manfully constrained myself mightily and tried really hard to leave you all alone for most of the time during December and January. It has not been easy and don't expect it to last!

JANUARY

4/1: Rob Connell
5/1: Bruce Skillin
6/1: Robert McGregor
7/1: Graham McIntosh
11/1: John Backhouse
12/1: Geoff Frost
16/1: Noel Lymbery
18/1: Bradley Foxlewin
24/1: Bob Small
25/1: Frank Grace
28/1: Jack Child

FEBRUARY

2/2: Anthony Lowe
9/2: Stephe Jitts, Tony Johnstone
10/2: Warwick Sainsbery
18/2: Rob Simms
19/2: Ron McGrath, Ron Barton
21/2: Lachlan Brodrick
22/2: Jim Wickham, Des Hore
28/2: Geoff Atkinson, Dave Lynne

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).

Shed Opening Times - Please note changed opening and closing times on Thursdays and Saturdays!

- **Tuesdays: 9am to noon.** On Tuesdays we have the VALMAR contingent attend and they enjoy the mentoring that Shed members are able to give – especially help with their projects. There is always something warm to eat on Tuesday mornings, too.
- **Thursdays: 1.30pm to 4.30pm** – normal activity (ie anything anyone wants to do – workshop, coffee and chat, garden, joke telling, etc etc)
- **Saturdays: 1.30pm to 4.30pm.** – activity same as Thursdays
- **First Wednesday of each month:** 10am to 11.30am, we have “First Wednesday Morning Tea” which is a time at the Shed for simply social-only time. No workshop activity or noise to interrupt the chat. This is a very good time to meet like minded members and to find those with whom you might have a lot in common. Tank of Tank’s Bakery fame (also a member) provides cakes and pastries, gratis, for this event.
- **Second Saturday of each month** we have a BBQ **starting at noon** at which our tame in-house 3 Star chef, Richard (R2) Rowan does the cheffing honours.
- **Last Saturday of the Month (generally around 2pm)** – an informal Info Exchange that allows members to interact with the Committee and vice versa – discussing issues and keeping everyone up to date.

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



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.

The Yass Valley Men's Shed is very grateful for the generous support of the following entities (in alphabetical order):

BarkerHarle (Consulting Engineers), Chris Beck Tree Removal, 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 Outdoor Power Centre, 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.

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 up some YVMS archaeology.

Wayne Stuart 0419 292 022