



Shed Torque

The Official Newsletter of the Mount Beauty & District Men's Shed

Issue No. 11 — March 2023



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G'Day!

G'Day fellow MB&D Shedders and welcome to the March 2023 edition of Shed Torque. Unfortunately, due to various commitments, there won't be a "Committee Corner" for this edition so you will all have to wait with baited breath for the April edition for the next news from the Committee.

I'm hoping that the various news items and photos will be able to keep you informed with current happenings. Anyway, let's get on with our newsletter....

As most of us who regularly travel to Albury/Wodonga and back on the Kiewa Valley Hwy will attest, the quality of our highway leaves a lot to be desired. Significant damage to the road has occurred due to a number of factors, heavy rainfall and transport movements being the most significant. The work being done to remove earth from the Bogong landslide has meant a great increase in heavy traffic along the highway which, in turn, has exacerbated the existing damage to the road.

VicRoads answer to "road repair" is to place signs along the damaged sections warning drivers to slow down. You have the choice of driving through the damaged sections, risking damage to your vehicle, or moving across the road to avoid them, more often than not, over double lines.

Not saying the potholes are deep but



Hold on Jackthe
VicRoads are on their way .

No, not an Ark.

The boat is part of the resilience movement in the valley and will be used to ferry citizens in the valley when the floods arrive or tours around the pondage.

We also need an ark to be built by the wood working group to hold everyone safely.



1. **Birthday boys for March** — Congratulations to: *Mal Darwent (OBE)*, *Peter Panozzo*, *Neil Tappe*, *Peter Donnan* and *Vaclav Marcak* on celebrating a birthday in March. *Mal* has been awarded his OBE i.e. Over Bloody Eighty.
2. **Mt Bogong Conquestathon Women's Trophy** — *Irvin Beeston* made both the perpetual and individual winners trophies out of wood. See photo in this Shed Torque. There were 195 participants in this event.
3. **Dick's boat repairs** — Barry Hinson and our president have had a few issues with this ongoing repair job. Cannot mention them here but ask them when they are in a good mood.
4. **Extractor Shed recladding and insulating** — *Phil Armitage* has just about completed this project which he has done single handily. Phil is a very capable handyman. Thanks Phil.
5. **Henry Ziemnicki** — Our vice president has been laid up for just on four weeks now. The rumour has it that he will 'appear' at the Shed soon. Henry has been doing it tough with an operation on his back in Melbourne last week. The boys wish you all the best with your rehab.
6. **Rod Hyde** — All the best with your rehab following a medical procedure.
7. **Pallet Furniture Making Project** — Our woodworking guru *Warwick Mitchell* is currently constructing some planter boxes that he will use as demonstration models with the group. Others have been busily dismantling pallets using our new pallet pry bar manufactured by *Les Bevan* and our newly purchased nail removing gun (it's a beauty!).
8. **CNC Router** (stands for *Computer Numerical Control*) — CNC programming software creates program codes and instructions used to run a machine tool controlled by a computer. A small Shed sub-committee is investigating the purchase of a CNC Router 'Kit' that members can put together to make up the Unit. This is not a cheap item of equipment so our treasurer *Peter Donnan* is investigating some grant opportunities.
9. **Monthly BBQ** – Friday 14th April starting at 11:30 am for a sit down lunch at 12 noon. Cost is \$7.00. Please bring a friend and introduce them to the other Shed members.
10. **Forge Construction** — the metalwork department (*Les Bevan* & *Mal Darwent*) are in the process of constructing a Forge that can be used for blacksmithing type work.
11. **Deer Guards for the Clover Arboretum** — Recently *Peter Donnan* and *Paul L'Huillier*, *Mark Ghirardello* and *Justin Grealy* installed five deer guards at the Clover Arboretum that had been manufactured by the Men's Shed. A total of 18 deer guards have been supplied for this project over the last 4.5 years. Members who built the guards over this time have been: *Barry Hinson*, *Les Bevan*, *Mal Darwent*, *Reg Hollonds* and *Dick Puttyfoot*.
12. **Storage Container** — The Shed has been investigating a location to place a 20' Storage Container to give us more storage options. We should know the outcome of this soon.

OBE's

It was great to see three of our members, Reg, Vinnie and Les finally receive their OBE awards (Over Bloody Eighty). Who believes Les was really born in 1922?



Henry Ziemnicki

Our vice president has been laid up for just on four weeks now. *Henry* has been doing it tough with an operation on his back in Melbourne last week. He managed an appearance at the Shed for a cuppa on Tuesday 28th. The boys wish you all the best with your rehab.

**Shoutout to everyone who can still
remember their childhood phone
number but can't remember the
password they created yesterday.**

© I Might Be Funny

You are my people.

Ride-On's Galore.

Whilst the NHC's ride-on mower is STILL out of action, The Shed has had to source an alternative. The first arrival, a sweet little orange thing, was delivered by our President as a generous donation. As previously stated, it needed a flat tyre to be repaired which took our engineering experts some time to fix with much profanity and head scratching.

Fortunately, this was soon replaced with another "you beaut" unit which was much larger and with zero turn capacity. It's up and cutting as all it needed was a new cutting blade sourced by *Reg* at a very reasonable price and some minor adjustments. *Noel and Reg* are running training courses for its operation for a very reasonable cost.



The Necklace

A lady walks into Tiffany & Co, looks around, spots a beautiful diamond necklace and walks over to inspect it. As she bends over to look more closely at it, she unexpectedly farts.

Very embarrassed she looks around nervously to see if anyone noticed her little whoops and prays that a salesman wasn't anywhere near.

As she turns around, her worst nightmare materialises in the form of a salesman standing right behind her, good-looking as well.

Cool as a cucumber, he displays all the qualities one would expect in a store like Tiffany's.

He politely greets the lady with "good day madam, how may we help you today?"

Blushing and uncomfortable, but still hoping the salesman somehow missed her little incident, she asks, "Sir, what is the price of this lovely necklace?"

He answers, "Madam if you farted just looking at it, imagine what's going to happen when I tell you the price."

Work



Work around The Shed. Warwick, Derek, Reg, John D. Mal and Les.



Pallet Furniture Making Project

Our woodworking guru *Warwick Mitchell* is currently constructing some planter boxes that he will use as demonstration models with the group. Others have been busily dismantling pallets using our new pallet pry bar manufactured by *Les Bevan*.

CNC Router

(stands for *Computer Numerical Control*) — CNC programming software creates program codes and instructions used to run a machine tool controlled by a computer. A small Shed sub-committee is investigating the purchase of a CNC Router 'Kit' that members can put together to make up the Unit. This is not a cheap item of equipment so our treasurer *Peter Donnan* is investigating some grant opportunities.

Monthly BBQ

Friday 21st April starting at 10:30 am with a presentation talk given by Maureen Piera from the CFA then a sit down lunch at 12 noon. Cost is \$7.00. Please bring a friend and introduce them to the other Shed members.

Forge Construction

The metalwork department (*Les Bevan & Mal Darwent*) are in the process of constructing a Forge that can be used for blacksmithing type work.



Firewood Kindling – A Long Story

Yes, preparations for producing MB&DMS Kindling has begun! I believe Operation Desert Storm took less organising time to get underway than it's taking to prepare our kindling.

The Kindling splitter has been serviced in readiness, refer previous issue. A source of timber has been found which led to a couple of visits to a property at 141 Kiewa Valley Hwy. Plenty of weather boards but we had to get them off the house. I was soon in awe of the destructive tendencies of some of our members, using pry-bars, hammers as well as long lengths of water pipe to knock off the boards.



As we only had 6x4 trailers, a number of the boards had to be trimmed to fit, initially by stomping on them to snap them. After blood was spilt, the second visit saw a battery powered chain saw (*Dicks*) used to cut to length. Much safer!

Since then, two battery powered circular saws have been purchased for just such a situation.



The timber was stacked and ready for the next task, removal of all nails, as apparently our circular saw does not like them. A *pneumatic nail punch* was purchased and soon grabbed by *Paul L'H* who gleefully commenced removing nails.



It was then decided that timber pallets also made good kindling and planter boxes so, after watching a video on how to make a pallet dismantler, Les disappeared into the workshop and walked out a few hours later with "The Tool" and he and Paul L'H were soon pulling pallets apart.

The timber is ready for cutting, splitting and bagging so now we need volunteers. No experience necessary, our on the job training program is very thorough.

Vinnies Trophies

Our own Vinnie had been tasked with creating some trophies for the 2023 Conquestathon. Below are the nearly completed items with the happy prize holder and the completed item. There were 195 participants in this event.



Perpetual Trophy



Individual Trophy



Ladies winner local **Tory T** (2hrs:31min – new record by 6min). Best man (2hr 3min)
Male record is 1hr 57min (Andrew Kromar)
 — There were 203 entries (some did not start) with 176 finishers —

Shed Cladding & More.

Phil Armitage has just about completed this project which he has done single handed. Phil is a very capable handyman. It looks like he's going to make some curtains for our Shed windows too. Thanks *Phil*. 😊



Deer Guards for the Clover Arboretum

Recently *Peter D and Paul L'H, Mark Ghirardello and Justin Grealy* installed five deer guards at the Clover Arboretum that had been manufactured by the Men's Shed. A total of 18 deer guards have been supplied for this project over the last 4.5 years. Members who built the guards over this time have been: *Barry H, Les B, Mal D, Reg H and Dick P.*



Storage Container

The Shed has been investigating a location to place a 20' Storage Container to give us more storage options. We should know the outcome of this as soon as we hear from the Secondary School.

SURVIVAL TIP:

If you get lost
in the woods
start talking
about politics
and someone
will show up
to argue with
you.



**MOST PEOPLE
DON'T THINK I'M
AS OLD AS I AM
UNTIL THEY HEAR
ME STAND UP**

Remember When.....

It has changed a bit hasn't it?



OMC.

The Shed was thinking of starting our own motorcycle club. We thought this would be an appropriate title as we already have a few qualified applicants..



Basic Electric Car Conversion Kit and Recipe Corner.



Shed Happenings.

We wish *Rod H.* a speedy recovery from his recent heart "procedure" at St. Vincent's Private Hospital in Melbourne. He says he's feeling OK so long as he stays stress free. Not being allowed to drive for a while and relying on Kerrie to drive him everywhere may not help.



As one can see, no expense was spared for *Mal D's* birthday celebrations at The Shed recently. Happy birthday mate! Another member of the OBE group.



Editors Last Word

Well, that brings an end to the March edition of our newsletter. A big thank you once again to Paul L'H for his **"Off Cuts"** contributions which keeps our newsletter current and to Henry Z for his humour.

Remember, any contributions that you wish to provide or suggestions that you have are gratefully received.

Cheers All, Mark H.

Last Word

COMMANDMENTS FOR SENIORS

#1 - Talk to yourself. There are times you need expert advice.

#2 - Style are the clothes that still fit.

#3 - You don't need anger management. You need people to stop annoying you.

#4 - Your people skills are just fine. It's your tolerance for idiots that needs work.

#5 - The biggest lie you tell yourself is, I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it.

#6 - On time is when you get there.

#7 - Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it sure does muffle the sound.

#8 - It would be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, then come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller.

#9 - Lately, you've noticed people your age are so much older than you.

#10 - Growing old should have taken longer.

#11 - Aging has slowed you down, but it hasn't shut you up.

#12 - You still haven't learned to act your age and hope you never will.