



Tool Box News



Drouin Men's Shed Inc.
A0060048C
ABN 96 513 547 265
17 McGlone Rd, DROUIN
(inside Drouin Golf Club Grounds)

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web: www.drouinmensshed.com.au
email: drouinmensshed@dcsi.net.au
Ph: 0409 974 999
PO Box 782, DROUIN 3818



***** OPEN MONDAY TO THURSDAY 9.00AM TIL 12.00 NOON *****

Executive

Brian Williams
President
0407 846 281

Peter Juers
Secretary
0457 578 683
Office
Correspondence

Keith Stevens
Vice President
New member
induction
0428 349 758

David Mudge
Treasurer
Financials
Web page
0469 748 657

Committee

Kevin Coates
Metal shop
0428 398 867

Neville Byrne
Excursions
First aid
0439 377 707

Peter Gribben
Media Manager
0417 056 838

Werner Lochki
Kitchen
Fire warden
Safety officer
0424 919 995

Dennis Auld
Markets
BBQs
0414 818 688

FROM OUR EDITOR

Hello Shedders,

On a recent trip to Melbourne (the first in over two years) I had a stop off at the Shrine of Remembrance. A very moving testimonial built in the 1930s honouring those who served in World war I and well worth a visit. Granite from the original Tynong quarry was used in its construction. With Anzac Day occurring on Monday 25th April, Neville Byrne gave me some material on Harry Murray—Australia's most decorated soldier, so I thought it might be an appropriate time to include some Anzac material.

I'm sure we all wish John and Norma Crosby our best wishes as they move on to a new chapter in their lives. John has devoted an immense amount of time to the Shed, especially in his organizing of books for VicRail and immensely successful raffles—raising a considerable sum of money for the Shed.

I'm sure that most of you will know of a Justice of the Peace (J.P.) but if you need one to validate copies of documents, it's useful to know that if you need one, there is a Document Signing Station at Warragul Library. It is staffed by a JP from 10am to 2pm, Monday to Friday. Currently you have to use the rear entrance to get into the Library—not Victoria Street.

Our stalls at the Drouin Market and Bunnings BBQ are going well, but Dennis Auld is always grateful to have more volunteers.

Once again, big thanks to Neville Byrne and Andy Dyka, both of whom are major contributors to this newsletter and the Shed Facebook page. Neville supplied the vast majority of the photos in this newsletter.

Keep well

Peter Gribben

From the Editor

Please note that the following dates and events for May are subject to change. If any changes occur we will try to keep you up to date via email and the FaceBook page—failing that, the whiteboard near sign-on desk.

Cheers,

Peter Gribben

drouinmensshed@dcsi.net.au

ozgribbo@gmail.com

May 2022

Day	Date/Month	Event
Tuesday	2nd May	Meeting and sausage sizzle
Wednesday	4th May	Music group
Tuesday	9th May	Meeting and sausage sizzle
Wednesday	11th May	Photography Group
Tuesday	17th May	Meeting and sausage sizzle
Wednesday	18th May	Music group. Cluster Muster—Drouin
Thursday	19th May	Trivia Quiz
Friday	20th May	DMS Committee meeting
Tuesday	24th May	Meeting and sausage sizzle
Wednesday	25th May	Photography Group
Thursday	26th May	Computer Day
Tuesday	31st May	Meeting and sausage sizzle

ACOUSTIC UNPLUGGED

Many of our Music Group are regular performers at “Acoustic Unplugged” which meets at The Warragul Senior Citizens club (Corner of Mason and Barkly Streets) on the second Friday of each month at 7.30pm. The next few meetings are:

April 8th/May 13th/June 10th/August 12th.

Check out their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Warragulunplugged/>



Why is April 25th special to Australians?

On the morning of 25 April 1915, the Anzacs set out to capture the Gallipoli peninsula in order to open the Dardanelles to the allied navies. The objective was to capture Constantinople (now Istanbul in Turkey), the capital of the Ottoman Empire, and an ally of Germany.

The Anzacs landed on Gallipoli and met fierce resistance from the Ottoman Turkish defenders. Their plan to knock Turkey out of the war quickly became a stalemate, and the campaign dragged on for eight months.

At the end of 1915, the allied forces were evacuated. Both sides suffered heavy casualties and endured great hardships. Over 8,000 Australian soldiers were killed. News of the landing on Gallipoli and the events that followed had a profound impact on Australians at home. The 25th of April soon became the day on which Australians remember the sacrifice of those who had died in the war.

The Anzacs were courageous and although the Gallipoli campaign failed in its military objectives, the Australian and New Zealand actions during the campaign left us all a powerful legacy.

Simpson and his donkey

On my visit to the Shrine of Remembrance I saw a statue of “Simpson and his donkey” - picture above. Twenty-two years old, English-born and a trade union activist, John Simpson Kirkpatrick was an unlikely figure to become a national hero. Having deserted from the merchant navy in 1910, he tramped around Australia and worked in a variety of jobs. He enlisted in the AIF, expecting this would give him the chance to get back to England; instead, Private Simpson found himself at ANZAC Cove on 25 April 1915, and was killed less than four weeks later.

Instructed to recover and help the wounded he undertook this work enthusiastically. Famously, he used a small donkey to carry men down from the front line, often exposing himself to fire. The bravery of this “man with the donkey” soon became the most prominent symbol of Australian courage and tenacity on Gallipoli. Although Simpson carried no arms and remains an enigmatic figure, the nature of his sacrifice made a vital contribution to the story of ANZAC.

The story resonated with me as my Grandfather served also served in WWI, but in France. He was a Methodist and a conscientious objector, but was an unarmed stretcher –bearer on the front lines. He survived the ordeal and was mentioned in dispatches for his brave service under fire. Like most of his comrades he was very reluctant to talk about his experiences.

HARRY MURRY'S MEDALS:

VC

DSO and Bar

DSM

1914-15 Star

War Medal

Victory Medal

War Medal 1939-45

Australian Service Medal 1939-45

King George VI Coronation Medal

Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Medal

Croix De Guerr

CMG



Harry Murray was the most highly decorated of all the millions of infantrymen who served in the armies of Great Britain and its empire in World War 1. He remains the most highly decorated Australian soldier ever.

Murray's ancestors, who included convicts, were early settlers of northern Tasmania. In 1908, Murray was forced to leave the struggling family farm, and sought work in Western Australia. At the outbreak of war in 1914, he was cutting railway sleepers in the karri forests of the south west, when he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) as private soldier in the 16th Battalion. At the end of the war, in 1918 he commanded a machine gun battalion as a lieutenant colonel and had been awarded six decorations, including the coveted Victoria Cross.

Apart from normal Training with his unit, Murray never undertook any training course either in his machine gun specialisation or for promotion to any rank. He was not well educated in a formal sense but was extremely well read. The record suggests a man who was supremely physically fit, intellectually adaptable, sober in his personal habits and always dedicated to the task in hand.

Known admirably throughout the AIF as "Mad Harry" because of his fearlessness in patrols in No-Mans-Land and his ferocity in hand to hand fighting, Murray was far from mad. He planned attacks and trained his men with great care and always sought to avoid casualties.

After the war, Murray led a secluded life on sheep stations in the Queensland bush. He rarely attended Anzac Day services or unit reunions, avoided publicity and protected his privacy.

He was a man as well as a soldier. He would talk to anybody, whether you were a private or a colonel, it didn't matter. He was just one of the boys. When we were on the march, even on a route march, the commanding officer of each company had a horse to ride. But Murray would never ride a horse. He'd always put someone else on it, somebody who was half-lame with foot trouble or crook in the legs. Murray would always walk. He always thought of his men.

Jack King, A Company, 13th Battalion.

Galloping Gourmet: The Club Hotel

Wednesday 23rd March was another of our successful Galloping Gourmet lunches, this time we were at the Club Hotel in Warragul. It was a very special day with Shed stalwart John Crosby and his wife Norma moving from Drouin to the Big Smoke to be close to their daughters. Hope the girls take extra special care of you guys. John has been instrumental in the success of the Shed. Who will ever forget the banter that used to take place between Shed President Jimbo and Grumplestiltskin at the weekly President's address to the members. Those days were the weekly highlight for so many of us. It was actually due to John that I am a proud member. He was selling raffle tickets a few years back outside Woolworths that we chatted and he got me to go along, so thanks so much John. You will be missed more than you could know and we wish you both improved health and happiness in your move.

Neville Byrne.

Jimbo Hunt, Geoff Cole, Brian Williams, John Crosby, Norma Crosby



John and his DMS clock



Jimbo Hunt, John Crosby, Brian Williams

What's been on



The Trivia Quiz continues to go from strength to strength. First was new member Rob Wingrave (middle), with joint second place going to Peter Gribben (left) and Gary Champness (right)

As per usual, sterling performances from Mick Nicholls (Questions) and Gordon Shaw (Music).

Don't forget, entry is free and there is prize money on offer.

Kindling A while back I was in Beechworth and noticed their Men's Shed was selling kindling—one outlet being outside the local IGA store. The possibility of selling kindling to raise funds for the Shed was brought before the Committee, which agreed to look into the possibilities. The first practical step was to make a wood splitter. The Mark I version (shown right) has been fabricated by Phil Hutchinson. Any ideas about how we should go about producing and selling kindling would be appreciated.



While the finer points of water divining are being shown by John Cheeseman to Trevor Blood, David Mudge and Brian Williams, Kevin Coates takes a more direct approach.



At Bunnings' BBQ in March. Keith Stevens, Jim Surace, Tony Lord and Arend Ligt started then Neville Byrne, Dennis Auld, Phil Hutchinson, Andy Dyka and Peter Gribben completed the afternoon. Jim Angel also lent a hand and Kevin Coates (not shown) was the cook for most of the day—a heroic effort!

Fankhausers's Apples

The latest excursion was to Fankhauser's Orchard on Wednesday 9th March. A return visit, but nevertheless a very interesting and informative visit—in the open air to minimise any chances of Covid infections. A mixture of hand-picking (mainly workers from Vanuatu) and some sophisticated Italian machinery showed us how a quality product could be picked and packed..



If you want more information, check out their web site at:

<http://www.fankhauserapples.com.au/>

What's new



Our new banner was given an airing at the March Drouin market. It certainly makes the stall stand out. Our members deserve our appreciation—they get there very early to ensure a prime position.



The construction of the front door awning was finished March 29th, by our new member Rob Saville with the help of Stuart holding the side panels. This will certainly help to weather-proof the front entrance.



Computer Seminars for 2022

We will be offering seminars this year (hopefully one per month, until November on topics of interest to Shed Members. The seminars will be held on **Thursdays each month**. Some topics may require more than one session. The dates are: **28/4, 26/5, 23/6, 28/7, 25/8, 22/9, 27/10, 24/11**

For SOME seminars, it is advantageous if you have a laptop computer, tablet or smartphone that you can bring. A limited number of desktop computers will be available for members when they are required. *Of course, you can just come along and participate in the seminar without a hardware device!* Sharing a computer for the day is also possible.

To make these sessions possible, we surveyed what you would like to learn about computers and technology. A short list of topics has been created from members' survey responses. If you missed the chance to complete a survey, just get a copy of the form from the Computer Room and fill it in. If you can't get to the Shed, email Andy Dyka (email below) and I'll send you a copy.

Partners/Spouses are welcome to attend. You may wish to take the survey form home and look it over together.

Here's the short list so far based on the number of surveys completed (subject to change to fit into the calendar)

What is a **smartphone** and how do they work? Should you have one?

- Sending/receiving photos to and from friends and relatives via email.
- Transferring photos from your phone to a computer or tablet.
- What's this fear of Facebook? – it's not so evil! How to join and enjoy the content.
- Spreadsheets (MS Excel or Libre Office) Are they of any use to you?
- Fact-checking of things people send you in emails – are they true or not?
- Free online news, educational and music services – how to access them.
- Backing up your files – at home or online. Using flash drives, USB hard drives, Google and Microsoft free online storage *** **most popular topic in the survey**
- Photo books – what are they and how can you make one?
- eBay, Gumtree, Facebook Marketplace - buying and selling safely online.
- 3D printing - what is it and how does it work?
- Converting printed photos or 35mm slides to electronic/digital versions.
- Microsoft Word ADVANCED - Headings, Headers and Footers, Special characters, split windows and Outline view.
- PowerPoint presentations. How to create effective slideshows for a group.

Questions? Talk to Keith Stevens or Andy Dyka (andy@warpax.com)

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