



# Tool Box News



Drouin Men's Shed Inc.  
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17 McGlone Rd, DROUIN  
(inside Drouin Golf Club Grounds)

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

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## *FROM OUR EDITOR*

Hello Shedders,

Things are definitely getting busier, but I won't use the phrase "getting back to normal", as we still need to be mindful of Covid.

We have so many members with interesting backgrounds and I have lost count of the times I have been fascinated by a "true-life" yarn spun in the Canteen. However, it has been a little difficult persuading these people to put their stories down on paper. One stalwart who has done this is Alan Cook, who has given us a taste of his early school days and first experiences of employment. I think we can all relate to many aspects of Allan's story. I just hope others can be persuaded by this example to give us a glimpse of their own unique stories.

A "shout out" to George Peden who, after moving to Sale, has returned to Radio. He is now on Radio East Gippsland

[Radio East Gippsland 90.7 & 105.5 FM | R.E.G FM \(regfm.com.au\)](http://Radio East Gippsland 90.7 & 105.5 FM | R.E.G FM (regfm.com.au))

We are dependent on grants to keep afloat, especially in the purchase of capital items. David Mudge has played a pivotal role in successfully gaining these grants and we are all indebted to his efforts. Three of our latest grants are shown in this newsletter.

We have had an influx of books, CDs and DVDs—keep an eye and ear open for news on these.

Keep well

*Peter Gribben*

From the Editor

Please note that the following dates and events for June are subject to change. In general we have:

- A muster and sausage sizzle every Tuesday with extended opening hours
- Photography group or Music group on alternate Wednesdays
- Trivia and Music Quiz the third Thursday of each month
- "Gallopig Gourmet" on the ??? Wednesday of each month

**June 2022**

Day	Date/Month	Event
Wednesday	1st June	Music group
Tuesday	7th June	Muster and sausage sizzle
Wednesday	8th June	Photography group: Visit to Walhalla
Tuesday	14th June	Muster and sausage sizzle
Wednesday	15th June	Music group
Thursday	16th June	Quiz: Music and trivia
Friday	17th June	Committee meeting
Saturday	18th June	Drouin Market
Tuesday	21st June	Muster and sausage sizzle
Wednesday	22nd June	Music group
Thursday	23rd June	Computer group
Tuesday	28th June	Muster and sausage sizzle
Wednesday	29th June	Photography group

**Berwick Woodworkers present:**

**Annual Open Weekend**

**Woodworking display and Expo**

**Fri 8th July 5pm to 8pm**

**Sat 9th and Sun 10th July 9am to 5pm**

**The Old Cheese factory**

**34, Homestead Rd, Berwick**

## Progress on grants

Issue # 34, June 2022

On Tuesday 17th May David Mudge attended the Drouin Football Clubrooms for the presentation to recipients of this years round of Grant Funding by Drouin and District Community Bank (Bendigo Bank). Our successful application was for \$3454 to install reverse cycle air-conditioning in the office and computer rooms.

There were a number of community groups from the district that received part of the \$60k plus that was available.

The Drouin and District Community Bank (Bendigo Bank) has contributed approximately \$6.9 million in funds to the local district and we recommend that we all support this as the only bank still operating in Drouin. Our thanks go to the bank for their welcome support



David Mudge (Drouin Men's Shed and Katy Slater (Bendigo Bank)

On Thursday 28th April Brian Williams took the DMS ute to the Downtowner to thank them for their donation of

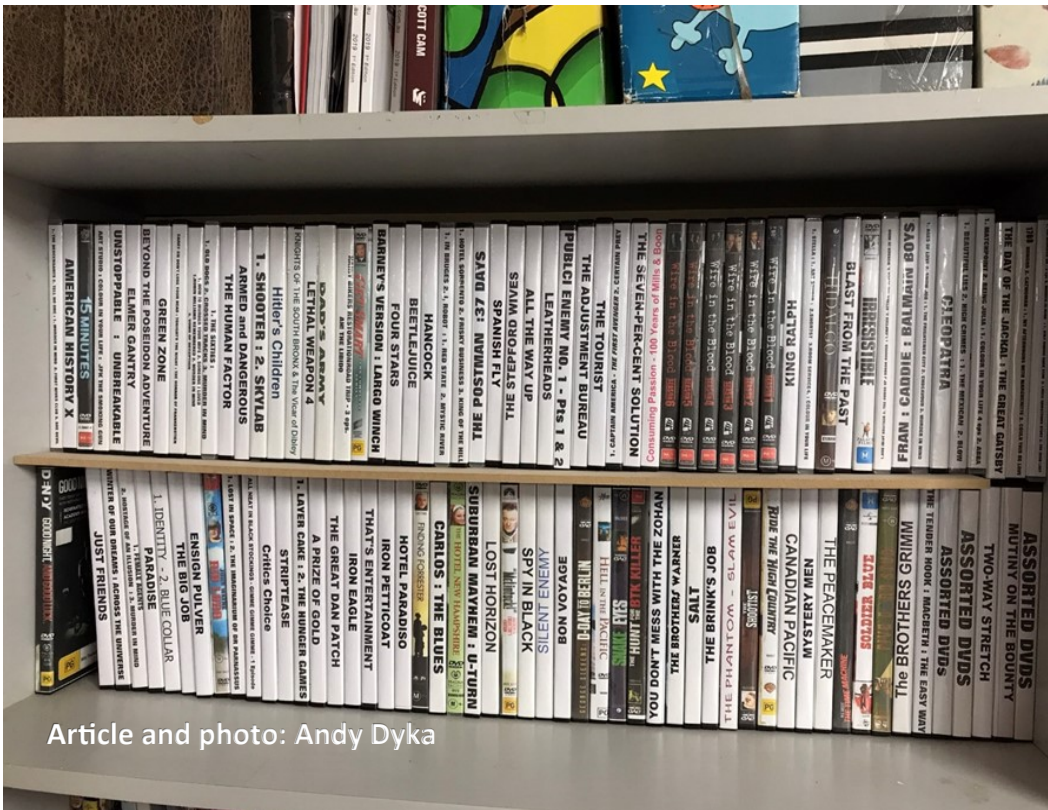
\$10 000, which enabled us to purchase this vehicle. All will agree that this has been a valuable addition to the Club's assets and has helped in pickups, deliveries and BBQs. Also shown is the General Manager of the Downtowner, Jenny Smith



Russell Broadbent our local Federal MP, who represents the Division of Monash of the House of Representatives, visited our Shed on Wednesday, 27th April. He inspected the Shed's new ride on mower which was bought with a grant of \$4409. Brian Williams (Drouin Men's Shed President) thanked Mr. Broadbent for his help in gaining this sum from the 2021 – 2021 "Volunteer Grants Program." The purchase of this mower has greatly improved the appearance of the grass around the Shed. Mr Broadbent's visit coincided with a meeting of the Shed's Photography Group, and there were quite a few snaps taken of the presentation. Thanks to Neville Byrne for this photo.



**Winter is coming. Can't stop it.** One solution is to stock up on DVDs of your favourite movies. The Shed has a huge collection of oldies and goodies. Many that you won't even find on Netflix!



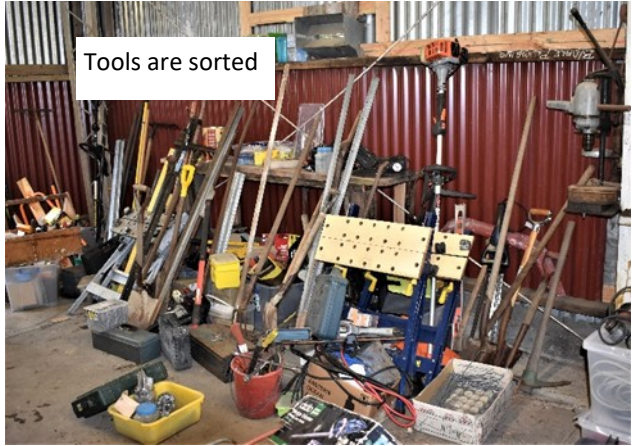
For a low fee of \$1 per DVD, you can easily fill up lots of cold evenings. All we ask is that you drop the gold coin(s) in the box and return your platters within two weeks. We operate on the honour system. If you zoom in on the photos you can see some of the titles. Better yet - have a close look the next time you're in the kitchen.

Article and photo: Andy Dyka

**Tools for Gippsland project.** Kevin Roberts was the driving force behind this Rotary project locally. DMS collected a bunch of tools to contribute to it, so we thought you might be interested in how things turned out.



Sheds arrive



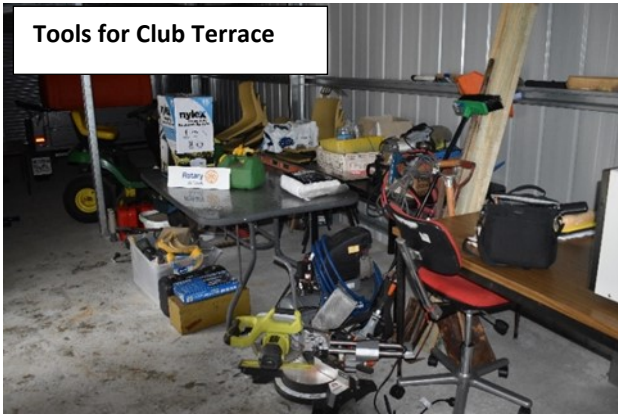
Tools are sorted



Shelving arrives



Tools in Goongerah Shed



Tools for Club Terrace



Goongerah - preparing a shed



Tamboon - it just takes a little effort !!

## Men's Shed Cluster Muster in Drouin



Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May saw 68 representatives of 18 Gippsland Men's Sheds belonging to the West and South Gippsland Clusters. Membership numbers of these sheds ranges from the low teens to over 100. Attendants were encouraged to wear "Crazy Hats" – prizes being on offer. David Mudge (West Gippsland Facilitator) and Barbara Look (South Gippsland Facilitator) opened the proceedings with Brian Williams (President of Drouin Men's Shed) also welcoming all of those present. A preview of a

video featuring chats with members of various sheds on financial matters was also shown. This video is being produced by DMS stalwarts Keith Stevens (Video), Gordon Shaw (sound) and David Mudge (Commentary)

Cameron Thompson (Victorian Men's Shed Association) described his role with the VMSA. Sanne Oostermeier (University of Melbourne) outlined some mental health courses available and also gave us some useful insights on suicide prevention. Men's Sheds, like most voluntary organisations, depend on a great extent on donations and government grants. Kellie Bertrand (Advisor Community Engagement Inner Gippsland Area) helped us greatly with understanding of how to apply for the various funds available. Advance notice was given of a "Twilight Market" to be held at Old Gippstown.

Each of the Sheds present had a member come forward and give a brief talk on how their sheds were progressing. Despite having suffered lockdowns and other Covid-related problems, all the speakers were upbeat and had something positive to relate. Numbers of members in most cases were rising to pre-Covid levels, new projects were being started and engagement with local communities remained high. There seems to be a pent-up demand from the public for lots of little jobs. Not surprisingly the issue of finances was raised several times; many sheds relying on markets, BBQs and the sale of firewood to augment their income. Most people agreed that they picked up a few ideas they could take back and utilise in the own Sheds.

After a very nice lunch of soup, sandwiches and a healthy apple, the "monster raffle" which featured a wide range of tools was held. No one went home empty handed- everyone was given a wooden money box and various handicraft items. Our thanks go out to all who organised the event and Drouin Golf Club for being such wonderful hosts.

**Cluster Muster 18th May 2022**



From top left clockwise:  
Andy Dyka and Tony Lord,  
Brian Williams, Kellie  
Bertrand, Stuart Palmer  
and Trevor Blood, and  
David Mudge and Barbara  
Look



**Shedder's Stories.** Here's the first in a series (hopefully). Allan Cook has shared some of his early memories with us. I hope others can be encouraged to follow suit.

### FINDING MY FIRST JOB!

I was born in West Gippsland Hospital, Warragul, 1949. I grew up on Telegraph Road, Rokeby, half way between Main North Road and Bloomfield Road. I rode a bike on a dirt road over a rise, down a long hill with bends, up another hill and down some more, for 2 miles. Then turned right onto sealed Main North Road down to Rokeby. Go past the 'Market', past the Hall, tennis court, an old house (the Schoolmaster's house) to the school. The school was pulled down long ago (a new house frame is there now). Then, after 6 years, I caught a bus at Telegraph/Main North Rds. junction, to Warragul Tech. The Tech was the newly abandoned High School - a wooden hulk. The new High was where the High is now. There were 143 kids in Year 1. I was in 1B. There was another Allan Cook in 1B. Allan was moved to 1E. The hulk was pulled down the next year, and new buildings constructed. I did 5 years there. I went to Caulfield Tech and did 3 years there to get a Diploma of Civil Engineering. By mid-November, I began working carting in baled hay between going to job interviews. I carted hay into stacks, into sheds and barns, off trailers and various sized trucks. Then, I drove down to the Koo Wee Rup Swamp and started picking up spuds. I started at 25 bags a day, but steadily improved. I reached 80 bags 4 times. 80 bags is 'gun picker'. Spuds ended. I had gone to about 40 interviews - NOTHING.

I had saved a kitty. One day in late May, I packed my old Hillman Minx and I headed off. I had heard that there was work in West Australia ! - I had never been to west Victoria. I drove through Melbourne, and then Geelong. I slept in the car somewhere near Camperdown. It was frosty and a koala grunted all night. I climbed up the volcano outside Warnabool, and then had a look at the village. I then had a look at several of Narracoorte Caves. I wandered through Adelaide, Port Pirie, Whyalla, to Ceduna. At Penong, about 10 Aborigines ran out in front of me trying to stop me - drove through them. I ran into dirt road then, and set out across the Nullabor. BULLDUST !

White powder on the surface anything from 6 inches to 18 inches deep. See a bus or truck coming from any direction, pull over, let them go by, and allow the dust to clear. At the Border the seal was found. Down the escarpment at Eucla, and turn West - straight road. Near sunset I pulled onto a track and a rest site. I found some sticks and made a fire, cooked something and boiled water for coffee. Dark. A vehicle turned off the road and came into my camp. Two young blokes in a new 4-wheel drive - all new gear. They cooked tea. Next day we headed off together. Before Cocklebiddy they stopped. I got into their vehicle and we crawled down a track to the edge of the plateau, then down an escarpment to sand dunes. These were not of sand, but of ground-up limestone. The 'sand' was like talcum powder. Back at the highway, they drove off. The trees returned before Frazier Range. I got into Norseman about 5.30pm. I found the caravan park. I had a shower to get off 5 days of Nullabor dust. I was towelling off when I heard someone enter the shower block. He entered the cubicle next door. A voice said ". are you staying here ." "No" He asked ". where have you come from ?" "Across the Nullabor" ". Are looking for a job ?" he said ". come round to the Construction Camp about 8.30am tomorrow ." Here I am standing naked and am offered a job without seeing the other person.

I became the junior engineer on the upgrade of the Esperance to Widgimooltha (near Kalgoorlie) Railway Line

Alan Cook





## What's been happening "Shedder of the Month"

Gary Champness (left) was awarded the inaugural "Shedder of the Month" award. This has been in recognition of his always being willing to assist in a multitude of tasks. You will see Gary assisting with the Sausage Sizzle every Tuesday. In addition he is a keen competitor in the monthly Trivia Quiz. In addition to a certificate Gary was presented with a \$20 Bunnings Voucher. Well done Gary!



Photos by Neville Byrne

### Caution: Videographers at work! (Above)

Keith Stephens, Gordon Shaw and David Mudge have resumed their project featuring several Sheds dealing with financial matters.

### Dick Van Leeuwen's Presentation (Right)

Dick gave us a very interesting insight into industrial practices in general and his own business experiences. A real eye-opener for most of us. Thankyou Dick.



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COUNTRY CLUB

Est. 1907



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