



Dingley Village Men's Shed Inc.

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MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER



Troy Gerdes, Maintenance Manager at RFBI Armidale Masonic Village recently penned a heartfelt poem in response to the recent bushfire crisis and ongoing drought. As well as being part of the RFBI family, Troy is a farmer and member of the Rural Fire Service, and so the poem he wrote conveys the deep emotion and suffering that many Australians are experiencing during this difficult time.

What he thought as sharing a few words with his family and friends became an overnight sensation. His poem was originally shared on Facebook and has since have gone viral with 82,500 shares, more than 8,000 comments and has have attracted two radio interviews with ABC and an interview with and Prime 7 News.

Here is the poem that has touched many hearts from RFBI's very own, Troy Gerdes:

*I love a sunburnt country, a land of sweeping plains, But I've gotta tell ya mate, I like it better when it rains.
The countryside is dying and there's no end in sight, And just to rub salt in the wounds, the bush has caught alight.
The landscape is on fire from Brisbane to the Gong, And everybody's asking "where the hell did we go wrong?"
But we can get through this one if we help each other out, Take care of your neighbour, that's what Aussies are about.
The rain is going to fall again, the good times will return, But living in Australian means at times it's going to burn.
So if you need a helping hand, just give a mate a call, We're all here to help you out and catch you when you fall.
The RFS, the SES, the Firies and Police, All put their lives upon the line to help to keep the peace.
So hats off to these heroes and thanks for all you do, And I hope that when this is over we can make it up to you!*

A quotation from a panel member on the ABC program Q&A 3/2/2020 in reference to climate change.

"Keep your mind open but not so open that your brains fall out."

DINGLEY VILLAGE MEN'S SHED MEMBER NOBLE (BILL) DAVID AWARDED KINGSTON'S AUSTRALIA DAY CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINEE AWARD 2020



Bill was one of five Kingston residents presented with Australia Day Citizen of the Year Nominee Awards for their invaluable voluntary service over the years to the City of Kingston community. The Australia Day Citizen of the year award is the highest award given in Kingston.

Bill was nominated for his contributions to the following organizations which not only benefited the City of Kingston community but often, also other Melbourne metropolitan areas, Victorian and Australia wide communities. Bill was the founder and President of the Victorian Road Accident Support Association (VRASA) for approximately six years. Based in Kingston VRASA provided a wide range of services to Victorians injured in transport accidents.

These services included counselling, legal, medical and Transport Accident Commission (TAC) information via telephone, email and support group meetings in Kingston, other metropolitan areas and some Victorian regional cities. Bill also met with the TAC CEO's and management and Victorian Premiers and Ministers, lobbying and advocating for changes to the TAC processes to improve services and processes for those injured in transport accidents, especially those sustaining severe injuries requiring life time support from the TAC. Bill also met with the Commissioner of The Victorian Multicultural Commission to highlight the plight of migrants and refugees overwhelmed and lost within the TAC system. Bill's work resulted in an investigative report by the Commissioner and change to some TAC processes.

Bill was a committee member for the development of Kingston Council's book "Blended Voices" which provided an insight to the experiences of migrants and refugees, now Kingston residents, living in Clayton South and Westall.

Bill was a Director on the Board of Arthritis Victoria for a nine years tenure. At the end of his tenure Bill was made a Life Board Member. Bill worked to provide medical information, establishment of support groups throughout Victoria, Fundraising, etc. Again, to ensure migrant and refugee arthritis patients accessed all services, Bill promoted the development of brochures and flyers in different languages.

Bill was a Committee Member of the New Hope Foundation for several years. During this time Bill assisted migrant and refugee youths to integrate into their new communities via sport and education programs.

Bill was a committee member of Kingston Council's Access and Equity Committee for a number of years. One of the Committee's major achievements was the planning and development of the Clarinda Community Centre comprising the Clarinda Library, Community Groups meeting rooms and Health facilities. Another successful project was the establishment of the Globe to Globe Festival.

For several years Bill was a Director on the Board of St Anthony's Coptic Orthodox Primary and Secondary Schools.

For over five years Bill was a committee member of the Australian Woodturning Exhibition providing the Kingston and broader communities with the opportunity to experience the premier woodturning exhibition of Australia, attracting exhibits from across Australia and New Zealand.

Bill was a committee member of the Southern Health Community Advisory Committee servicing Monash, Dandenong, and Casey Hospitals. The Committee assisted in the development of the new Maternity section in Pakenham and improved signage in all hospitals amongst other achievements.

Bill was a Committee member of Road Safety Outer South East (ROSE). The Committee comprised representatives from Victoria Police, Dandenong and Casey Councils and members of the Community. The Committee's goal was to reduce road accidents by implementing improved safety measures including improved road signage. Bill promoted the impounding, confiscation and crushing of vehicles by serious offenders and this concept has since been introduced.

Bill, as a representative of the Arabic speaking community, was a special programs committee member of the Migrant Resource Centre (MRC), Dandenong. The association strived to assist migrant and refugee families through the provision of information which would assist in their settlement. One significant achievement was the translation of a comprehensive Dementia brochure into an Arabic language acceptable to all Arabic speaking people.

Bill achieved his certificate in Occupational Health and Safety when Operations Manager at Chirnside Park Shopping Centre. The OH & S certificate is awarded to recipients who are trained in emergency evacuation procedures for bomb threats and other emergencies. Bill now volunteers at DVMS as an OH & S Officer and wood turning instructor.

What's been happening



On Friday Feb 28th we were entertained by one half of the Howie Brothers. Some interesting antic notes and a few songs made a pleasant morning. If you want more you may be interested in joining one of his USA tours - Vaughan will give you details.

NEWS AROUND THE KINGSTON CLUSTER SHEDS - FEBRUARY 2020

This article has been supplied by Robert O'Brien

Robert O'Brien, Ken Brown and Graeme Chalmers attended a cluster meeting at Bentmoor Shed and the following details may be of interest to you in knowing what's happening at the sheds in the Kingston area.

It is good to see that all the sheds are making progress, getting more known and better accepted in the community and now kicking a few goals.

At our Dingley Shed with the new extension to workshop happening, let's hope we too can get more members into the workshop for bigger and better projects and restore our self satisfaction and pride in being a member of a great shed.

CHELSEA MEN'S SHED

Chelsea is slowly growing now with 34 members.

With new ideas of opening on Saturday mornings for anyone in the public to attend, they are getting a very good response from father and son, grandfather and grandchildren, husband and partners dropping in for a look around and a chat. The shed has on offer a cuppa and an egg and bacon roll for refreshment.

They are also getting interest from ladies to run courses on how to use hand tools and if they get sufficient interest will reopen the shed on Mondays for the ladies only day.

Tuesday's the shed is open to disability groups that operate their own programs.

The normal shed days are Wednesdays, Thursdays and now opening Fridays from 9:00am – 1:00pm

KINGSTON MEN'S SHED

The shed now has 30 members with an average of 8 – 12 members attending every opening day.

They like all of us have a space issue and have removed a lot of unwanted timber and streamlined their machinery requirements and tidied up making much more room.

They have surveyed the members to find they want a walking group and they need someone that has engineering, welding experience that can teach a few members that are interested in this area, but have no experience.

They are also proposing a garden plot to be built in the limited area they have available.

MORDIALLOC MEN'S SHED

Their membership is 35 and is getting more interest now that they have become incorporated.

They have a very small workshop with only 6 members using it and have realized that they need a bit more space to work and a new stop saw to improve the facilities.

Most members are social members who enjoy the shed and facilities it offers.

They are supporting two families of children with extra study support, which has been most beneficial.

They have been asked to head up start a community garden, which will be under their control.

BENTMOOR MEN'S SHED

The membership has grown to 130 now the fire problem is behind them.

Their members stayed united even though they didn't have a workshop for many months and has since grown.

They have reorganized the shed to make more room get rid of excess rubbish and have taken on new projects and crafts.

They have appointed two members as part time employees. One as the Shed Manager and the other as Program Coordinator and this seems to be working quite well

They were donated a flat pack Kids Cubby house which they are erecting to a completed state where they then intend to raffle it off at the end of the year.

They have also picked up a Mirror dinghy, which they are also restoring with other members.

They are making Street Library cupboards for and selling them for \$180.00 with orders flowing in for more.

They are building a mobile display cabinet for Bosch.

The Coordinator is running craft classes with pottery on offer at the present time and are getting up to eight members three days a week attending.

They have, like most sheds been requested to make native animal, bird and bee boxes for the fire areas from a University and when they get more details would like all the sheds to assist them as it will be a large quantity of boxes required. They are discussing the final requirements with the Glen Eira council for their new premises and hopefully will move into new facilities with more space in the near future.

Have you noticed



That the catering department have some new cooks.

That the raised garden beds are being constructed but the gardeners are nowhere to be seen.



That once one person parks where they are not ment to be that others follow just like sheep. **This area is not our allotted carpark** - do the right thing or the Rangers will enforce the rules upon everyone.



What's new in the workshop

OH&S. Ken Brown and Bill David have been authorised by the committee to assist Jack de Zoete to monitor and uphold OH&S practices at the DVMS.



Please take note - these are not approved "safety" footwear for the shed workshop.

You must wear **enclosed shoes** whilst in the workshop.



What's coming up

BUNNINGS BBQ - we have been allocated Saturday **March 7th** for our turn at hosting the Bunnings BBQ. This is one of biggest fund raising activities so please donate some of your time on the day. See the roster form on the notice board.

Football Tipping Contest - you need to be registered by March 13th. See Denis for details.

Golf competition - Round 1 will be held on March 19th, Round 2 - June 11th, Round 3 - Sept 10th and Round 4 - Nov 19th. Check the notice board for full details.

Lexington Gardens tour - March 25th. We need at least 20 members or friends of members to attend this activity and DVMS receive \$500 for participating - the easiest fund raiser we could ever wish for so please support it.

Farmers Market car parking Saturday March 21st.

Shrine Tour - Thursday 23rd April.

Bush fire appeal



The photos and text were sent from Kerith, the lady who has been collecting the tools donated by DVMS members on behalf of fire victims.

The tools were delivered to Kerith at Mt Eliza by Kamahl Gattas, Greg Pullen and Brian Esmonde. Thanks to all of you.

Message 1:

Hello everyone

Peter and I have just returned from Kiah/ Wonboyn. Left Saturday morning with the Budget van full of over one and half tons of tools ... and a 25' caravan towed by a truck donated by VW.

Returned Sunday and bought our fourth caravan on Monday... which like the 25' van, was bought entirely through donations.

So... after speaking to the people up in Kiah and Wonboyn , we'd like to say thank you for all those wonderful tools that you've donated ☐.

But..... we still are desperately in need of the following still.

Generators, Chainsaws, Fencing tools, Wire spinners, Wire cutters, Pliers, Axes, Power leads, Power saws, Electric drills complete with twist drills, Hoses, Heavy rakes(not leaf rakes), Hammers, screwdrivers, etc.

If any of your members have any of the above, please ask them to drop them into

11 Ravenscourt Cres,

Mt Eliza.

Thanks again

Kerith ☐

I'll send a couple of photos separately as you may wish to show your members.

Message 2: The bushfire devastation starts around Orbost and continued for the 200+ kms to Kiah.... where it continues on and on and on..... heartbreaking!

Message 3: Hi again. In my text to you all yesterday, I forgot to mention "welders". . One of the large ones previously donated, went to a sculptor who'd lost all his tools of trade in the fire... he was ecstatic !!!

Keep up the good work please.... your donations are bringing a smile to many faces!

Kerith ☐

Birthday wishes to:

| Member # | First Name | Last Name | Day |
|------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| 16 | Bruce | Simons | 1 |
| 237 | John | Pearce | 1 |
| 295 | John (Jack) | Sunter | 1 |
| 44 | Graeme | Chalmers | 2 |
| 269 | Daryl | Sullivan | 3 |
| 12 | Jim | Gentle | 5 |
| 115 | Dean | Barth | 5 |
| 85 | Charles | Spiteri | 7 |
| 261 | Kevin | Thomas | 8 |
| 8 | Vaughan | Gibson | 11 |
| 161 | Brian | Esmonde | 14 |
| 107 | Ken | Nicholson | 16 |
| 278 | Josef | Vogl | 18 |
| 259 | Michael | Gosney | 19 |
| 235 | Victor | Soto | 22 |
| 106 | Snow | Peterson | 23 |
| 214 | Bill | David | 23 |
| 57 | Paul | Weatherall | 24 |
| 67 | Eddy | Shillong | 25 |
| 228 | Chris | Barnard | 27 |
| 152 | Tony | Brown | 31 |
| 202 | Graham | Walker | 31 |

Congratulations to Jose on becoming an OBE



Instead of a sign that says 'do not disturb' I need one that says 'already disturbed proceed with caution'



"I couldn't be bothered hunting, so I just grabbed some 'McDonalds'..."



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