



Dingley Village Men's Shed Inc.

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DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

You can fight it as hard as you like but the 25th of December is going to be Christmas Day again just like all the previous years - just chill out and make the best of it - it won't last as long as our first or even the second lockdown.



Slowly, slowly goes progress. As we now come through to the other side of the COVID pandemic, most of us are luckily saying "*that didn't hurt a bit*". Provided that you are not one the 800 or so that died nor one of the tens of thousands that have been infected.



You might even be one the many that didn't even need to get tested. But we must remember that nothing has changed - the virus is still with us and to date we do not have a cure although a vaccine is getting closer. The South Australia situation reminds us all to be ever vigilant, it's still out there waiting to pounce.

We still need to remain vigilant and keep our distance from each other so when the shed does get back into full swing, there will be no hand shaking and especially no kissing. Masks are to be worn and COVID rules strictly followed.

Remembrance Day



Armistice Day (known as Remembrance Day) is on 11 November. The day World War One ended in 1918. It is remembered at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month with one minute silence to remember the people who have died in wars. It is a time to acknowledge the courage and sacrifice of those who served their country and appreciate the peace they fought hard to achieve.

The Flanders Poppy has been used since 1921 in Australia. They commemorate Australian soldiers who died in war. The RSL sells them to raise funds and they are laid at war memorials on the

11 November and 25 April (Anzac Day). They were often seen on the Western Front during World War One. Our member, Kevin Thomas arranged through Rotary to present a very simple ceremony of wreath laying and the playing of the last post at the Dingley Village Cenotaph, Marcus Road.



Lest We Forget Ann Kilby (2/11/2020)

As we approach Remembrance Day 2020 we know that, as was ANZAC Day 2020, it will be commemorated in quite a different way to years past. However, despite the restrictions that we currently live with, it is important that we still take time out to reflect and give thanks.

November 11, 1918 was such an important day for the world for on that day at 11 am the Armistice was signed and what was known as the Great War, ended.

This war had such a profound effect on so many, my family included, and as a tribute to all who served and sacrificed for the good of their country I would like to briefly share the story of one of those soldiers; one who is very special to me.

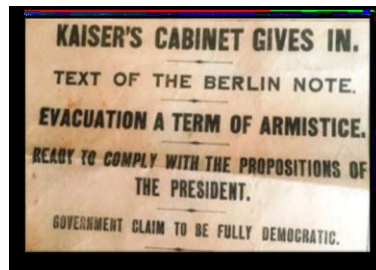
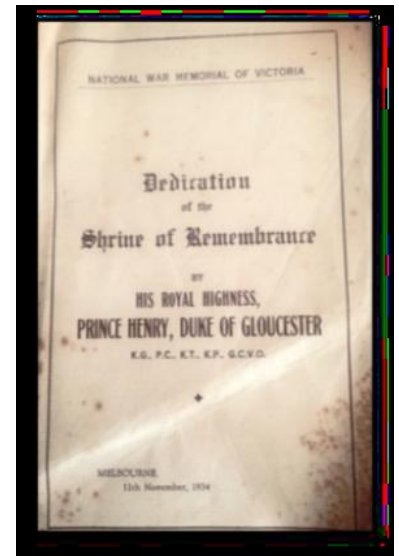


Alexander Robert Learmonth (my paternal grandfather) at the age of 19, enlisted on the 15/8/1914 in the 1st Division of the 1st AIF. At number 919 he was among the very first to sign up. He served at Gallipoli and was then sent to the Western Front where he was involved in many battles in France and Belgium. As the war was winding down he left The Continent on October 13, 1918 and started making his way back to Australia arriving in December 1918 and was discharged the following February to return to his former employer to complete his apprenticeship. Alec married my grandmother Alice in 1921 and they had four sons, the second one being my father. This gentle man, dearly loved by all of us, never spoke of the horror of those 1532 days overseas preferring to live his life simply until his passing at age 79. I can't imagine his distress (although I have heard it was great) when his two eldest sons signed up for another war two decades later.

My family was fortunate in that my father and his brother also returned safely; other families were not so fortunate. As we approach 11/11/2020 we honour them all.

My grandfather had a small case in which was placed all of his war mementos. This case has been passed down to me and as I try to collate and record the collection for future generations I have come across a copy of the Continental Edition of the London Daily Mail dated October 13, 1918, the day Grandpa left The Continent. The articles make interesting reading and the younger members of the family are fascinated with the emotive language of the day. Of particular interest and relevance to today is the article about 'The Influenza' (see separate article). I have included a few snapshots from this very fragile newspaper and also the Order of Service for the Dedication of the Shrine of Remembrance, 11th November, 1934. I'm sure many other families would have similar treasures and they may like to share them with us another time.

As we approach November 11, 2020 we remember all those who have given so much in so many wars. ***Lest We Forget.***



Today we were finally able to present **Bryan Welbourne** or Digger as we know him with a gift of appreciation that we have had for several years waiting for him to retire. But once again he is now back working in the Parks and the helicopter refuelling truck for another season, so we thought we would give it to him now. He was thrilled with the sign and is going to hang it inside his house and not in his shed. Digger is a keen train hobbyist with a couple of trains that he regular runs at the Traralgon Railway.

He has been a tremendous asset to the Park, a wealth of information and has assisted us greatly in the shed, since our conception. He has made many friends with members of the shed and we hope he doesn't retire too soon in the future.

Best regards,
Robert O'Brien





A young girl chats with Santa at a safe distance on the beach.

(Supplied: Meredith Bauer)

The fridge is a clear example that what matters is on the inside.

What's new in the workshop

McConnell Dowell & Decmill (Constructors of the Mordialloc Freeway) have recently given us, the Dingley Village Men's Shed, funds to manufacture and install two Bird Hides around the wetland in Braeside Park. A design using plastic rainwater tanks modified for the purpose was agreed to meet all the requirements necessary by Parks and all going well should proceed later this year or early next year, with completion before the bypass road is completed in April.

With a joint effort from the Bypass contractors, Parks, DVMS and Friends of the Park, all united in one project we should make something very practical and a valuable asset to the park and community. Drawings will be posted in the shed for your perusal and shed members can volunteer to join in and be a part of this project once we get started.

Best regards, Robert O'Brien

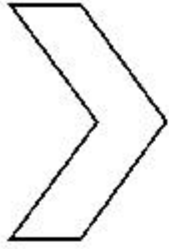
This only happens when it rains.

The heavy rainfall on the night of the 22 November (55mm in Braeside Park) have overflowed our box gutter in the Amenities shed and consequently we now have a major leakage that has damaged our false ceiling and has created a problem that is going to require quite some time and expense to repair it.



As we have had many members complain about the new extension workshop being a skillion roof structure and not a higher gable type which requires a box gutter and frequent cleaning you now know why as this structure was constructed as it did not suffer any leaks, the stormwater helped to fill our rainwater tank and any ground water flowed away from the shed via the swale drain.

Best regards,
Robert O'Brien



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Therapist: Your wife says you never buy her flowers - is that true?

Him: To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers!

It's been a blessing being at home with the wife these last 12 weeks.

We've caught up on everything I've done wrong in the last 15 years!

Birthday wishes to:

Member #	First Name	Last Name	Day
88	John	Bach	2
91	Derek	Johnson	4
263	Greg	Dack	5
72	Ern	Hutchings	6
89	Brian	Delaney	9
167	Gerard	Marion	9
260	John	Alford	10
273	Kevin	Walsh	10
298	Clinton	Canterford	10
158	John	Walters	12
98	Nick	Oklobdzija	13
267	Geoff	Lawson	14
286	John	Bailey	17
220	Ian	Jacobsen	19
33	John	Spragg	24
270	Jim	Mitchell	24
290	Mervyn	Head	26
34	Gary	Bolton	27



Come fly with me:

This is the latest update from Yuen Yoon on the construction of his model aeroplane. Here's what it looks like after all the work.

Specifications:

Wingspan - 45 inches

Weight. - about 3 lbs

Engine. - 3.2 cc(.19 cu.in)

Well done Yuen, it's a credit to your workmanship.





I am afraid that the camera group have overlooked this issue for a photographic report so when that happens, the best that the editor can do is make one up.

"This featured print clearly shows the delineation and the lines of the model and the tripod with the stiletto heels reflecting the ground points. The camera itself is poorly placed and shows no consideration for the replacement of photographic film / plates."

*"In the next photograph, the camera has been removed and the **exposure** settings become imperative, alas the negative was damaged in the processing and you will need to use your imagination of the result".*

Warning:

If no report is received next month from the art group, they will have the same treatment with a guaranteed result for more exposing of their art.

Dingley Village Community Bank Branch

Merry Christmas

From all of us at Dingley Village Community Bank Branch, best wishes for the holiday season and thank you for your loyalty and support.

Drop into your nearest branch at 11/79 Centre Dandenong Road, Dingley Village or phone 9551 6111.

 **Bendigo Bank**

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FUNNY - THOSE IRISH

Patrick O'Hara was leaving Port Aeran, Ireland for London for the first time away from his village.

The evening before he left a neighbour called in and asked him if he was going to London and would he do their family a favour.

"Yes" said Patrick, "What is it?"

"Well" said the man, "My old Auntie Brenda Dunne's daughter, Nelly, left for London five years ago, and the poor old mother hasn't heard from her since then. As you are going to London would you look her up - she is living somewhere in WC1 and tell her to write to her poor old mother?"

"Certainly" said Pat, "I'll give her the message".

Pat duly arrived in London and as he was walking down the road he came to a stairway leading down to a basement with WC written next to it, so Pat trotted down the stairway and there was a row of doors - No. 1 was right in front of him.

Pat knocked on the door to No. 1 and a lady's voice answered "Hello".

Pat shouted "Are you Nelly Dunne?" "Yes" said the voice "But I've no paper!"

"That's no excuse for not writing to your Mother!" said Pat.

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
TO YOU ALL



AND A
VERY
HAPPY
NEW
YEAR



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