

## **Hall Men's Shed**

### **2021 – 2022 Foreman's Annual Report**

The year started well with a sausage sizzle for our BBQ in July and our AGM at the end of July. In August we had a talk by Greg Flowers on Myna bird traps and although we haven't done anything about making traps, it is a possible activity for us in the future as the Mynas will always be around. Preliminary work also started on the proposed pizza oven beside the cottage. Then at the end of August we were in Covid lockdown and we stopped operating for a few months.

Even so, while we were in lockdown, two of our members, Bill Pearson and Dennis Greenwood made good use of their permitted time outdoors each day to keep progressing the work on the Pizza Oven. Their work continued until they were able to commission the oven and it has proved to be a real asset to the Hall community.

Between late August and mid October not much happened accepting some individuals doing their project work. In mid October we carefully started our Thursday meetings employing the ACT Government Covid check in app. We were up and running again and we were planning the Christmas Party and our next major project.....building nesting boxes for the Greater Glider possums in conjunction with the Yass Valley Men's Shed for a project being run by the ANU.

Our Christmas Party was a great success. It was again held at the Gold Creek Station with Eat Your Words Catering providing the food. We had 75 attendees and all enjoyed the food and the ability to get together again after another lockdown.

In November we started work on the Greater Glider nesting boxes. We bought the marine ply and started the process of cutting it into suitable pieces to be distributed between us and Yass Valley Men's Shed. Yass Valley assisted with this operation and took away cut material enough for their 45 boxes. Work on our 45 boxes resumed on 13<sup>th</sup> January and was completed ahead of time before the end of January. In February there was a visit by several of us to the Yass Valley Men's Shed and it was a great success and well catered for. I for one was impressed by their setup. We have resolved to invited YVMS to our shed in October to return the favour.

Also in February, we had a small crew go to Kingsley Southwell's farm on Brooklands road to help him pull down an old shed and stack timber in piles in readiness for his auction in late March.

In early March our BBQ was instead a Pizza Day, making use of the newly commissioned community oven. It was a great success and we reckon there will be more Pizza days in the future.

Also in March was the National Sheep Dog Trials and several Men's Shed members helped on the gates. We will be helping again next year.

During March, Alan Boyd completed a wonderful project in converting an old pianola into a useful desk for the client. Several members assisted Alan in the work to provide the end result.

Another important project the shed has taken on is to deliver the Rural Fringe newsletter to farm addresses in the 2618 postcode. So far we have delivered the newsletter in February, April and June. We anticipate this will be an ongoing commitment where we deliver the newsletter every two months into the future. Mind you, each two month's delivery nets the shed \$100. This adds to our income for each year and allows us to do more in the community.

One of the biggest projects for the year is the renewing of the timbers to the footbridge across the creek at the Showgrounds. This work has been lead by Graham Smith and several others have been helping. We are still working on it and we anticipate work to be complete by the next markets in August.

In the meantime and throughout the year, Brian Charge and his terrific helpers have been making toys and other items for the preschoolers in Hall. It is wonderful to see the interaction between Brian and his crew and the young kids at the preschool. Every now and then the preschoolers and their teachers attend the shed with lovely handwritten cards and scones, jam and cream to thanks us for our efforts. We all enjoy that.

We hope to continue some community work next year and we will work out which projects we, as a shed can contribute to.

Our membership has grown this year and at the end of the financial year we were 75 strong.

Doug Anstess, Foreman

