

Volume 29 Issue 209

**MEETINGS: 7.30 PM
THIRD WEDNESDAY
OF THE MONTH
IN CLUB SHED AT
MONT De LANCEY
71 Wellington Road
WANDIN NORTH**



December 2021

**YARRA VALLEY
MACHINERY
PRESERVATION
SOCIETY
INCORPORATED**
BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

YVMPS NEWS



Last December we were coming out of lock down and looking forward to the freedom of 2021 with a clear road ahead. Sadly that was not to be.

What about 2022? Lets hope with the wonder of modern medicine and **'The Job'** we can all enjoy a greater degree of freedom and get back to the things that make life worth living.

ALL WELCOME Christmas Break Up

Pizzas & Sweets
Wednesday 15th December
Club Shed Mt De Lancey 7.30 /8PM
Please bring a sweet to share.



Christmas Spirit

It was just before Christmas and the magistrate was in a happy mood. He asked the prisoner who was in the dock, 'What are you charged with?'

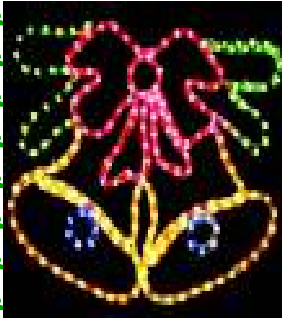


The prisoner replied, 'Doing my Christmas shopping too early.'

'That's no crime', said the magistrate. 'Just how early were you doing this shopping?'

'Before the shop opened', answered the prisoner.

Editorial



Looking back over 2021, I think we would all agree, it has been a year like no other.

Niel's sister turned 80 in July, guests were invited, and her fellow Fiddler' Green residents were quizzed as to favorite foods. The winner, hands down was lamb cutlets, which we are still waiting to eat, as of course the event was cancelled. The guests are still having a great time discussing the event (and the lamb cutlets) and it still will not be held until mid January.

I don't know about your grandchildren, but ours have all grown so tall during lockdown, and while no one may turn into world class doctors or such, there will be a rush of cooks and chefs in the coming years. We have seen photographs of wonderful creations and heard about great things to make and do and places to ride bikes. The only part of school which was missed were the friends!

The edition of this magazine which stands out for me, was when Niel asked about the activities which members were undertaking during lockdown, and the flurry of replies with stories of great ingenuity and tasks done. I was reminded of the story of the Shepherds moving to Benalla with their two container trucks today when they sent their new address. Perhaps they have actually unloaded the trucks and can now concern themselves with things like addresses!

Having got through this rather unusual year it will be good to return to normal in 2022, so we look forward to many reports of rallies, inventions, and whatever else takes your fancy.

Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year, from Niel and Heather.



We welcome a new member

Philip (Phil) Beveridge of Wonga Park

We trust that you will also enjoy the Commerardry shared by our members.



Our Member of the Month is **Michael Christopher Scott JACOMBS**

I was born in Harrow, London. With my father being a British Army gunnery instructor we had a very transient life, moving every six months. In my twelve years of primary and secondary schooling I went to at least twelve different schools in twelve different UK, counties, few of which I now remember. The longest period spent in one place was just over four years in Hull, Yorkshire (ee by gum lad) and that is now what I would consider to have been my "home".

My father retired from the Army in 1958 and migrated to Australia along with my mother and brother, a decision that they and I have never regretted.

I commenced my tertiary education at the RMIT and finally graduated with a post graduate degree in Medical Science, working firstly at Prince Henry's Hospital and then PANCH before finishing at The Northern Hospital in Epping. After an early retirement I started my Home Handyman business from which I got a great deal of pleasure for five years and wished I had done it sooner.

I am married to Lindsay and we live in Mont Albert. We have eight grandchildren – all girls – which says something about my feminine side!

My interests are broad and as a result we have a fairly sustainably connected house. Clocks are another fascination; however this one has nearly driven me insane trying to get them all to chime at the same time. With sustainability in mind, I installed solar panels, solar hot water, rain water collection, grey water recycling and double glazed windows in our house twenty years ago. Do you remember "The Good Life" on television? Well that has been replicated with our suburban garden, so we are nearly self sufficient with a prolific fruit and vegetable garden and free range chickens. The front garden is an all show cottage style with 30+ roses, multiple irises, tulips, camellias and azaleas...

Even though I have been a bit of a petrol head I bought a Nissan Leaf battery only Vehicle (EV) five years ago and found them brilliant to drive. I could now not go back to a fossil fueled car.

Another interest is sport, and I played squash for over fifty years and have just taken up Table Tennis after a gap of twenty five years. I am also a passionate follower of football - that is the real round ball game not aerial ping pong – with Manchester United and Melbourne City being "my" teams. **Genealogy** has occupied me for over thirty years and continues to fascinate me with the Sherlock Holmes sleuthing this research entails. I am eternally grateful for the Internet which has made this all much easier. **Cooking** is something I have only lately taken up as it appeals to the scientist in me. You should try my chocolate brownies (ask Niel Brain) I have been **learning French** for some years and can now say Bonjour with a French accent.

I love technology – both old and new, old machinery. computers and electronics in general. This led me to attend many Steam Rallies, but it was only when I visited the Draft Horse Festival at Mont de Lancy a couple of years ago, and found the folk at the YVMPS very friendly – that I decided to join the club. It also spurred me to think about restoring a **Sundial stationary engine** that had been sitting in my garage for over twenty years. It is now sitting in Jim Bennett's shed being restored.

It's hard to choose **the greatest event in my life**, as many could qualify but, besides marrying my wife, probably for raw emotion it was the elation I felt in winning a championship in squash. Small beer I know but one can only wonder at the emotion one would get in winning something like the AFL or an Olympic event!

What annoys me most? Dogmatic, inflexible, inconsiderate people who charge on without rationally evaluating the alternatives or the impact on other people



CONGRATULATIONS

The photo shows **Our George Smith**, born 17 January 1936 receiving a life time membership award from president Stuart Bennett at our November club meeting, the first since six months of lock down. George has been a faithful member for many years, always putting on a great display of four or more engines at each rally. As recently as June of this year, at the age of 85 we saw George with the help of a grandson, display three Moffat Virtue engines at Don Wright's Open Day in Yea.

Another favorite type of engine that he often showed were Sundials. Two examples of his work in restoration are pictured below. To the right is the fine trophy which was awarded to George by the Historic Commercial Vehicle Club for Best Stationary Engine 1999. A red Sundial (pictured below) 1923 2HP which was driving the 32volt Generator (check out the Trophy now on display in our Club Room). Towards the end of 2013 we began the building of a permanent home for YVMPS, and since it's opening to the public George has been on duty most days. So much so that the place is sometimes referred to as "GEORGE'S SHED"



Well earned congratulations from all club members.



Clearance Sale

George Findlay is finally hanging up his Crank Handles and is offering the following engines for sale.



McDonald SPI. \$1200. Red R&T. \$300. Green Moffat Virtue \$300.
Trailer 6x4 with winch (needs lights) \$100. R&T with pump. \$300.
Southern Cross 1942. \$300. Phone 9723 2656 Mob 0407 529 005
Pick up from Croydon Hills Victoria 3136

Y.V.M.P.S. MERCHANDISE

Available at meetings and Rallies

Patches, Badges, Coffee Mugs, \$5. Peak Cap \$10.00 Fridge Magnet, \$1.00 Pen, \$1.00
Club Shirts \$35.00 Windcheater \$40.00
See Don Butcher



COMING EVENTS

Hand Tool Preservation Association of Australia Inc. (HTPAA) a not for profit Org hosts the:

ANTIQUÉ & COLLECTABLE HAND TOOL MARKET on **SUNDAY 12th December 2021**

At: **National Steam Centre**
1200 Ferntree Gully Rd Scoresby Vic 3179.
Google Maps -37.90510000057442, 145.2141320844168

Fifty + Tables of Collectable & User Hand Tools
Vendors: Over 20 individual members of HTPAA
Outdoor Venue. Light Refreshments Available

COVID SAFE practices must be adhered to

9.00 am to 2.30 pm Entry: \$5.00

Ample Parking at the Venue. Access by Road - Ferntree Gully Rd and Eastlink Freeway runs past the venue.

Enquiries: George 0406 687 980 or
Gil 0412 406 960
email toolsales@htpaa.org.au

Membership Fees

Once only Joining	\$5.00
Insurance & NHMA levee	\$20.00
Annual membership	\$30.00 (plus ins.)
Associate (Wife)	\$10.00 (plus ins.)
Junior/ student (10-18yrs)	\$7.00 (plus ins.)

BUY, SELL & SWAP.

Have a look at the previous page
Bargain priced engines

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COMPOUND FENCING.
BE SURE TO USE
THE GATE!**

We recommend & use



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The newsletter will be produced bi-monthly and posted, one copy per member household. A SUBS DUE stamp will appear on the June issue. If payment is not received, the August issue will also be stamped. Without payment you will not receive further newsletters. If you require an extra copy, are not receiving the newsletter or your address has changed, inform the Editor.

Your Committee will not enter into any debate through the newsletter on the 'politics' or general running of the Society, as such matters are for general meetings.

The Editor of the YVMPS Inc. newsletter welcomes freelance contributions of a high standard. Articles may be on CD, memory stick, typed or clearly handwritten on one side of the paper only with the authors name and title of the article on each numbered page.

Whilst the Editor will exercise due care, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omissions and retains the right to edit articles as needed.

The Society and its elected representatives accept no responsibility for the accuracy of statements or opinions expressed by freelance contributors.

Copy deadline: Any item for publication must be in the Editors possession no later than the monthly meeting prior to the month of issue. Issue Months, Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct., Dec.

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