

COMMITTEE NEWS

Your Committee, thanks to the video conferencing app *FreeConferenceCall.com*, has been meeting during the COVID-19 lock-down. Couple of bits of interest this month.

- *We have formalised our arrangement with Relationships Australia... you may recall that they were instrumental in our very successful Suicide Prevention presentation at the Bowls Club. We shall see more from them once we re-open.*
- *Work is continuing on the airlock entry and we have acquired a replacement for the plastic/aluminium tables saw which we hope to have installed before the grand re-opening*
- *We are coming up to the final days for membership renewal and, at the date of writing, we have gained a net 19 members since this time last year. A good result for a Shed a long-established as our own.*

While we are on the subject of staying in contact, what applications do you guys use to stay in contact with the family or grand-kids? Your editor uses *Whats-App* and has Sunday Family Dinner with *Zoom* – both work OK but are there better ways to stay in contact?

Worth following through on this one as we look to be in for a fair bit longer.

BLAZE-AID SUPPORT

Lyndley C., heard on ABC Australia all Over a call for jackets and coats for the volunteer backpackers doing Blaze Aid relief fencing. He tells us he has a heap of jackets and coats they used for farm visitors. They are going to pass them on to Blaze Aid. If Channel Men's Shed members had a surplus coat or jacket to donate Lyndley could include them in our consignment.

We could arrange handover at an agreed time – Friday May 1 at 1.00 PM – and in the Shed car-park so that we are sticking to social distancing guidelines.

Contact Lyndley on 0409 871 276 for more information.

MYSTERY TOOL

We had a number of answers and thanks to all who responded (Terry, Eric at the date of writing) but James F., has kindly provided the full explanation. Most interesting is, of course, the fact that in this day and age of internationalism the tool was not more widely marketed.

It is as James says a Crox Tool



Thank you for your newsletter

Here is the answer. They are common in NZ.

https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bunnings.co.nz%2Fking-stanway-swaging-crox-tool-19mm_p0482455&psig=AOvVaw1FrPSV_MqNoND5rL9TrirN&ust=1587781165370000&

source=images&cd=vfe&ved=2ahUKEwiX3oH0__oAhUPK7cAHRaPD18Qr4kDegUIARDjAQ>

The following from DPaC

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP COVID-19 CRISIS

Tasmanians are being urged to register to volunteer as part of a coordinated response to COVID-19 to deliver a range of essential services in Tasmanian communities.

As part of our Economic and Support Package, the Tasmanian Government provided \$130,000 to mobilise volunteers through EVCREW (emergency volunteers crew), as well as engagement with local councils.

So far another 300 volunteers have responded to the call to mobilise Tasmania's very own volunteer army for the pandemic response, on top of more than 12,000 emergency volunteers who had already registered to respond to natural disasters.

Volunteers can be tasked with delivering a range of essential services such as community transport, meal delivery, social connection, and shopping. They may also help with food packaging, shopping, dropping off food and medical supplies.

Importantly, as a volunteer you will be briefed on ways to protect your health and safety while working in this environment.

With many of Tasmania's volunteers over 65 years old and much more vulnerable to the virus, we need more volunteers to put their hand up to ensure Tasmanians get the help they need during the pandemic.

COVID-19 is presenting challenges we have never had to deal with before, but overwhelmingly Tasmanians have taken the responsibility of physical distancing seriously, which is allowing us all to work together through this.

On behalf of the Tasmanian Government I'd like to express my gratitude for the rapid response and hard work that many community sector organisations and their volunteers have delivered to support our entire community, especially those who would have found this situation far tougher without it.

Tasmanians who now wish to volunteer can register for EVCREW at

<https://www.volunteeringtas.org.au/for-volunteers/emergency-volunteering/>

ORANGE BELLIED PARROT

An update from DPIPWE for all our members and particularly for those who got involved in the nesting box construction is a *great result for the critically endangered Orange-bellied Parrot this breeding season!*

Twenty-three birds returned to Melaleuca last spring for the breeding season. Twenty nests were recorded, resulting in 37 wild-born fledglings from a mix of wild-born and captive-bred parents.

The purpose-built 5 Mile Beach captive breeding facility produced 105 fledglings in its first full breeding season to help supplement the wild population and prevent the species from becoming extinct.

Pictured, courtesy of DPIPWE some of our boxes in the top left hand corner.



And I reckon that we supplied the planer shavings the parrots are scatching around in – apparently it helps the captive bred birds learn to find food in the wild.