

Issued by: Ku-ring-gai Community Workshop 'The Shed' Inc. Date: 17 December 2021

Vale Tony Varrall

Our Vice-President Tony Varrall OAM passed away on the 15th of December.

Tony epitomised what it meant to be a Shedder. His commitment to the Shed and particularly to his Tuesday team meant that these were always the busiest and most productive days as Tony organised his team and their projects.

He always had a clear view of what should be done and a commitment to getting it completed.

Tony was a person with a dedication to others. In 2017 he was awarded an Order of Australia for his work for people with a disability.

His long service for the Ku-ring-gai Community Workshop "The Shed" included roles as co-President, Vice President and as a long time Coordinator and Committee Member.

Whilst he was constrained to a wheelchair for many years after an accident, he saw no limitations to his commitment or engagement with the activities he was involved with.

A great smile and a wicked sense of humour complemented a clear statement of his views and intent

He approached all his challenges with courage and a positive attitude. He was a great mate always willing to support and assist others.

Tony was 66 years young

He will be greatly missed by all.

Brian Killin - President, on behalf of all our members

A Funeral Service will be held on

Tuesday the 21st of December in the Palm Chapel at 12:15 Macquarie Park Cemetery and Crematorium Cnr Delhi and Plassey Roads North Ryde NSW 2113

Some Memories

How very very sad. Such a great bloke who has faced a lot of hardship in his life. He was always ready to drop everything to help anyone who needed it. He will indeed be hugely missed by the Tuesday team.

Chris Drake

It is deeply saddening to hear, he was a kind man and a dear friend! He had a positive impact on my life!

Taras Wansbrough

An extraordinary man, to be there always to help, support and advise. He will be missed by all.

Bruce Donnelly

Tony and I go back to 1988 so my thoughts are too many to express now. A great loss. What a great mate he has been.

Malcolm Bailey

Just a little story that I recall about Tony and his driving habits. You might think with his disability he might just consider driving with a little more care for his own preservation or for those travelling with him. Not to mention his vehicle. I am sure he was a very good driver but sometimes would like to show what the van was capable of.

We picked up a rather large cherry tree log, in the van which was not restrained in the back of the vehicle. At one point we went around a corner at some speed and the stump moved. In fact it crashed rather heavily into the inside wall of the van. Tony didn't stop, as he wanted to get back for his morning coffee but quickly asked me to verify that the side of the van was still intact without a hole being caused and that we still had the log in one piece which he thought would be a lovely pierce for the woodturners to enjoy using. Rob Lander

The very first time I encountered Tony at the Shed he was power drilling a hole in a piece of wood lying across his lap. I said he would drill a hole in his leg! "How would I know" was his reply. David Wood

There was an almost universal groan one Tuesday morning tea when Tony announced he was "Going to teach us how to use a screwdriver"

What followed was a masterclass in types of screws, drill settings and proper techniques Every time I see his shelf of carefully tagged and arranged screw bits, I think of how much I learned that day Mark Champion











And last, but certainly not least, a video made for Rivers Shoes (we are not sure why and when), showing Tony at his humble and irreverent best

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