

NEWSLETTER – August 2024

From the Chair

No. 153

Talofa lava

Thank you to all the members who attended this year's AGM and to those who worked behind the scenes to ensure the meeting ran smoothly. As it was, I only had to threaten to use the wooden mallet once!!!!

Congratulations to our two new life members Murray Cardie and Peter Rendall. Both Murray and Peter have each made outstanding contributions to the life and development of our Shed and are worthy recipients of the honour.



Murray Cardie, Peter Rendall receiving their life member certificates.

Nigel Clough, a previous life member eventually receiving his certificate.

I extend a warm welcome to 2 new Committee members Ian Henshaw and Frank Easton. Both Ian and Frank have held senior Management and Leadership roles in both the Private and Government sector before retiring from full time employment. Thanks for 'stepping up' guys.

Raising our membership subscription this year was not taken lightly by your Committee. After listening to the comments from the floor I was left with the impression that everyone agreed that the reason for the increase was fully understood, and the motion passed without dissent.

My immediate focus over the next month is to implement the new Management and Governance structure to lead our Shed in future. A diagram of that structure was in the last newsletter.

Once the committee has decided who will lead the Centres of Responsibility, that person will assemble a team to manage the streams of work/activity for that Centre. I ask you all to support them in whatever way you can if you are approached – “many hands make light work.”

As a team we continue to demonstrate to the community, our family, friends and ourselves for that matter there is nothing we can't achieve when we work together.

There is a proverb in Samoa that when translated says – “The path to leadership is through service.”

Soifua

Tony

Upcoming events

Just a memory jog of what Menzshed Activities are happening in the foreseeable future.
Make sure you have them in your own Diary.

Event	Date	Where	Comment
Recurring Events			
Committee Meetings	4 July 2024	@the Shed	10.30am
Sharpening tools	Last Thursday of Month	@the Shed - regular event	By Gordon and Ray  
Electric watch battery replacement	Second Tuesday of the Month	@the Shed – regular event	Mick Mc will be bringing his wristwatch tools to replace batteries for a small charge 
Fresh Scones	Last Thursday of Month and whenever there is a birthday shout or any other excuse!	@the Shed – fairly regular event	Hans and his apprentices will be producing superb scones fresh from the oven, or for anyone's birthday shout 

Contact Details

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Help Needed with Street Appeal

Annual Street Appeal for the Children's Hospital is on **Saturday 5th October**, and with collectors needed across the wider Wellington region, including Kapiti; we'd gratefully appreciate the assistance of the Menzshed membership.

If members can spare 2 hours to collect, they can sign up to their preferred time and location at <https://signup.com/go/WCHStreetAppeal>

Liz Gibson Communication and Events Manager - Wellington Hospitals Foundation

Around the Shed



Nearly there. Wheelchair access path ...final stage . Peter H has a well earned rest whilst Gerald T takes on some shovelling!



Bryan J is delighted with his top-class restoration of the Toy Chest by Dennis G and others



Before and after of box shelves made by Kevin A



Noel T, Grant P and Jim F making their Christmas toys



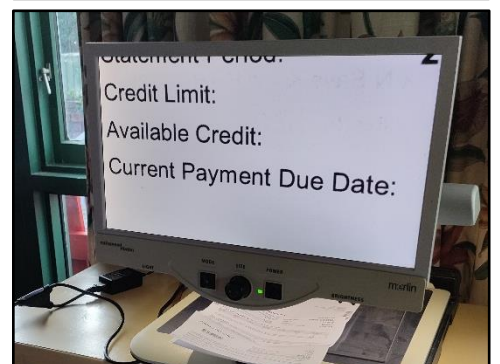
Dave W announcing the winners of the most outstanding Hawaiian shirt competition.



Derek C was asked to repair a chair with a broken back. Further inspection showed it had several old stress fractures which had to be fixed before it could be finally fixed



John C made a table for a lady who had difficulty seeing. He made the table, fixed beading to the edges, attached castors, painted it and set it up in her home



MENZSHED EVENTS

Hold lo sienta; that's sorry - I am In Spain, Weta Motel research!...

NOW firstly a big thank you to all those who braved the Spanish weather on the 15th Aug and "came" out for the International Hawaiian Shirt Day @ The Shed.

Seems most of you misread the poster and came as chickens. This was great for Dennis G; who was able to make the winning entry of 2 lei's from the loose feathers.

Now other brave winners included Flashy Robbie Mc, Fruity Barry T, & Floral Cliff Watling. Judges admired the brave a front of John R who described his woolen checked shirt as a Southland Hawaiian Shirt. Sony John try again next year....

So in October and in particular Thursday 17th; I know your love of dressing Down YES it's WEAR SOMETHING GAUDY DAY....

This means come as you are Day... or Surprise the Judges and wear something GAUDY GAUDY GAUDY... and SEE IF we can be Bothered giving out Champagne as prizes.

*Oh, did I say all contestants are entered in a Free BBQ lunch...
YEAH.*

Will there be a cost for Others? Well yes, the Accountants getting a Headache right now which is why lam announcing this from a cellar in Oporto. Will worry about later.

Posters out soon for those who read Spanish.



*The entertainment organiser,
David W*

HALLOWEEN OCTOBER 31ST

The Baker Crew are getting their Big Black Cookbooks out and hope to create a special Blood Red Scone for Us. Hoo Hoo Hoo & All

*Oh Special Note itS also for all you JOKERS; **KNOCK KNOCK JOKES DAY!!!!!!!***

SO ALL YOU JOKERS; Lets have your BEST Knock knock Jokes'

Write them down on a Sheet of paper and Pop them in the JOKE BOX which will be out there somewhere sometime after October 17th..

*"Knock Knock." "Who's There?"
"Your wife I need the Loo!"*

Dave Waddilove should be back soon....

The Alternative to Jokes at the Morning meeting

It has been decided that due to dissatisfaction with the quality of the meeting jokes there will be communal renditions of the 'Lure of the Shed' song as set out below. Those people who interrupt the meeting will be required to sing a solo chorus!

There will be a rehearsal next meeting before scones are available

Song: The Lure of the Shed

Chorus

There's nothing quite like it the lure of our SHED,
You are welcome, there's so much to do.
We've got hammers and nails, but it's people, the glue,
'Tis why we're stuck here, don't want to shoot through,
Yes, we're stuck here, don't want to shoot through.

When the shed door is open, the magic can start,
with some furniture broken, we can take it apart,
like a Surgeon in a theatre, our hands will be guided,
repairs often better than new.

Chorus.

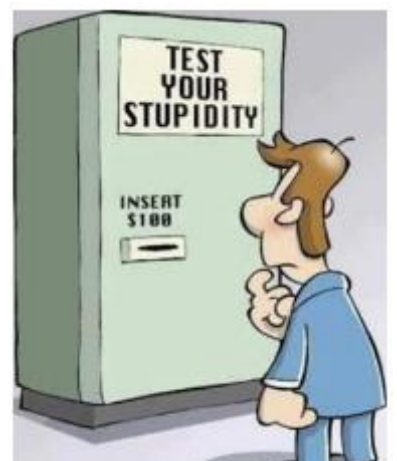
In the Family, when there's trouble, our problems are shared,
there are shoulders to lean on, We are brothers and friends,
In an age where there is conflict,
We know what to do, to mend all the hurt and the pain.

Chorus.

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*Nigel
Clough &
Nigel Bruce,
both
Menzshed
founder
members*





Peter H resting after forming the path, we couldn't find him after the concrete was poured!



*Got this delivery in the nick of time. Running out of firewood.
You know what they say. "No smoke without pallets"!*



*The joint MENZSHED / LIONS Project
We caught our first stoat!*



Murray C & Peter H constantly working on the shed

Current score: Rats 12 Stoats 2

Menzshed Jokes	
She stood before me, trembling. "I'm yours," she gasped, "You can do whatever you want with me."	"I'm a very naughty girl," she said, biting her lip. "I need to be punished."
So I took her to Mitre 10	So I invited my mum to stay for the weekend.
She knelt before me and tugged gently at first, then harder until finally, it came. I moaned with pleasure.	"Are you sure you can take the pain?" she demanded, brandishing stilettos. "I think so," I gulped.
Now for the other boot.	"Here we go, then," she said, and showed me the receipt.

Radio Interview for Cancer Korero

Mandy from the Kapiti Cancer Society and Nikki from Access Radio interviewed Derek K and Alf C from the shed, broadcast 8 July last. I encourage you to listen to it at the link below so that you become conscious of the need to treat possible signs or symptoms of cancer, in yourself or in family members with seriousness and urgency.

Derek had significant bowel cancer back in 1992 when major surgery resulted in total and successful removal of my tumour along with quite a large section of bowel. He is fortunate to have recently celebrated my anniversary as a 32-year survivor of cancer so felt well placed to contribute to the programme.

Alf had an entirely different perspective having supported sufferers in his family.

[Link to Radio interview.](#)

When you click on the link the computer will ask that you confirm you want to connect to a web address, accept it and a dark screen with white icons should result. Click on the white triangle to hear the interview. There is some lead in music.



Three dimensional dinosaur jigsaw made by Alan F and Ken. The original, dark brown, was broken and had to be repaired.

The pieces were used as templates to make a new one.



The Real Deal -----WETA MOTELS...

Alas yes, it's Winter, however business has been quiet down our end of the shed.

*Our team has been working though some good untreated blocks; approx. 50, which should give us some spare as a buffer leading into summer **SALES**.*

Chief Butt Kicker Foreman Tony W is or still suffering from a collapsed lung; which some of the Boys have taken advantage of this and been slacking off. OOPS may be guilty myself of that as one sits on the Play de la Atunara somewhere in Spain! Oh it's just West & North of Foxton..?

In my defence, this trip was planned for 2021/22. But due to the C word and lack of airlines it is happening now. Which is why this is coming from Spain; no rest for the Weta Crew..... Oh! just knocked over die sangria in the sand!

Now back in your world, costs are skyrocketing, why even 1st class on the train here has shot up - alas Weta Motels sales have stalled. Weta's are living rough no motels for the poor creatures.

So, no sales mean no monies for the Shed. We need new money streams; new ideals for funds... Come on Guy 's we need new projects for monies...

Now I know you have been burning the midnight oil thinking on this as I've seen your power bills - so ideas Guys please.

Those Firewood Guys have been out in the weather even some Thursdays, cutting flashing & bagging things that don't move. Earning monies the Good Boys.

Rumor has it the Gardeners, remember them? Well seems they have been hibernating due to the Wharfie showers; that's more than 5 spits of rain on a sheet of newspaper. Well, seems in the back corner of PB workshop reading 'Wood Chip Burner Catalogues' and playing with wooden toys... It was a sad sight that alas I came across them testing "their toys" on the floor; Graham pushing a tractor, making funny noises, followed by Nigel thinking he was a train. Anyway, with some warmer weather they could break out any time needing directions back to their garden.

Now they have taken off the nice backwards jacket and placed me on the sand and told me to relax, I will. But I'll be back Sheddies!.... Meanwhile how about a WETA Motel for your neighbour, yeah go it's early Christmas.

Estau Com sede, Anussa Onde e'acade banho ?



Dave P with an unusual challenge, his wife wanted a frame for some Omaru stone and he decided to make it out of old moss covered fence posts. This is what it eventually looked like – he got brownie points!



Roger C was set a challenge. A client had shipped a carved door head from Germany and it got broken into about 20 pieces whilst in the shipping container. It had obviously been broken and mended previously however Roger managed to glue it back together including Ashley F carving a new angel's wing. It was mounted on a backboard and sealed with weatherproof paint as it was to be mounted on a garden fence.



Earlier broken part repairs

The Birth of Menzshed?

A recent read of Billy Connolly's early life growing up in the working-class Glasgow and his apprenticeship at the Clyde shipyards described what could be the start of the Menzshed concept.

Post war, the ship building industry in Scotland faced strong competition from overseas, and the industry was running at a loss. Initially the Heath Government propped the industry up, however, when Margaret Thatcher came to power, she put an end to that support and the industry started to fall apart. Thousands of men were made redundant. Faced with no jobs, many took to drink and unfortunately many only lasted 18 months from being laid off.

Faced with no job, no future and no purpose in life. Missing being around other men, not being able to talk men's talk, women and sex, football and politics. And not being able to make things with his hands, which he had done all his working life.

In an effort to put some purpose back in their lives, groups of men would get together to support each other. It brought them together to, not only chat, but to make weird and wonderful things, using the skills that had been part of their working life. Keeping them out of the pubs and away from the bookies. These groups made these men feel useful again, and more likely add a few more years to their lives.

Although Menzshed Associations in the UK were not established until 2013, the aims and objectives remain the same as when groups of men got together during those dark days of high unemployment, for the purpose of supporting each other and providing a purpose in life.

There are now over 1100 Menzshed Associations in the UK covering Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

As one of the lucky ones who escaped those dark days, Billy, has provided support and endorsement to the Menzshed Associations, especially Scotland.

Billy on visiting Dalbeattie Menzshed, near Dumfries noted one interesting project. The production of "Dispatchers". A "Dispatcher" is a trap for Grey Squirrels. Imported Grey Squirrels harbour disease that was proving fatal to the native Red Squirrel. A project dear to our hearts here in our rodent traps. Bird and Squirrel feeders are also a common project.

Men's Shed are now in over twelve countries around the world. MenzShed New Zealand which was formed in 2008

Pastor interrupts sermon to ask 3 men in the front row: "What would you want your loved ones to say as they are looking down at you in your coffin?"

Tom: That I was a good husband and father.

Bill: That I lived a good life of kindness to others.

Dan: "Look. He's moving!"



Our new 'choke' arc welder – it was built in 1976 and still works

Click on this link!

I had positive feedback on the article in last month's newsletter on links to YouTube videos. Here are some more links I found interesting.

If you find any gems on the Internet, please share them and I will put them up here, (if appropriate)! Below is an explanation on how to get the link to a YouTube video you may have to press Ctrl as you click on the blue text. It doesn't work on a printout!

- **The Secret lives of Machines**

- In 1988 the BBC produced 'The Secret lives of Machines' series demonstrating how different machine were invented, how they worked and why they went wrong. It covered a range of machines from the photocopier to vacuum cleaners to engines. The video quality is not that good but the programs were and still are a wonderful way of finding out how things work. Here's one to try out, there are lots of them on different machines.



- [The Secret lives of Photocopiers](#)

- **The Secret lives of Components**

Tim Hunkin who made the above Secret Lives of Machines later made the Secret lives of Components, and Arcade Machines. Here's one of his series about Glue. Well worth watching. There are lots of similar fascinating videos in this series.



[The Secret Lives of Components – Glue](#)

- **Just Have a Think**

This channel seeks to understand the issues that face our civilisation in the 21st Century and focusses on the potential solutions that will save as many lives as possible and hopefully bring about a greater level of equality in the world.



[Solid State Batteries – are they finally happening?](#)

If you like any of the above videos and want to see more from a particular developer, click on the Subscribe button, (under the YouTube), screen it will link you to all their videos.

The YouTube algorithm will give you links to more similar videos.

How to get the link to a YouTube video.

Right click anywhere on the video screen, while it is playing, and a black box like this should open up. Left click on the second item, "Copy video URL", and you should be able to paste the result into an email.

It should look something like this "https://youtu.be/xX31J9cBR2o". This is the link. Send it to me at Currier.Roger@Gmail.com. I will check it out and put it in the newsletter if suitable.

Murray Cardie's Pohutukawa keeps on giving! By Ian Barbour

When Murray cut down a twelve-metre high fifty-year-old Pohutukawa tree on his property some eight years ago little did he know what the tree would yield.

Initially the woodshed full of nicely cut up logs for the fire was a very satisfying sight. However, as the years passed Murray got to thinking this Pohutukawa, grown on his property, deserved a better future and needed to be treasured.

Now this is where the Kapiti Menzshed comes into the story.

Murray has been a member of Kapiti Menzshed for ten years and has tirelessly led the building team for all that time. Firstly, building the storage shed at the entrance to our site, then the cafeteria offices and toilets and finally the new Peter Blackler workshop. So, Murray can be excused for not thinking too much about his treasured Pohutukawa wood during those very busy ten years.

Getting up one morning recently Murray gathered up some of his Pohutukawa logs from his woodshed to take to the MenZ shed to see what use they could be put to by the enthusiastic shed men.

The logs were quickly snapped up and have yielded many projects. An example being the trophy stand for this year's ANZAC day memorabilia and more recently some interesting spinning and weaving components for one of our clients.

Christina Challies, a local very talented spinning and weaving craftswoman approached the Menzshed to make some weaving spindles. They say good news travels fast and other work from Christina's associates soon turned up for the Menzshed team to complete. Hand spinning spindles became the order of the day with several being completed.

So, the union was complete with Murrays Pohutukawa being put to very good use in making these yarn turning spindles, a satisfied client, and happy Menzshed men.

To our surprise Christina produced this outstanding photo of the spindle we made for her from Murray's wood which inspired me to share this wee journey and this amazing photograph.

Thanks, Murray, for the Pohutukawa, thanks Christina for the interesting projects you have brought to our shed and thanks to my Menzshed mate Brian Bradley and others.

Very satisfying good fun projects.



Original log on the lathe



Partly turned log



Spinning Spindle with yarn

Mentors needed



Make a big impact in a child's life, become a volunteer mentor.

Being you is the only skill you need

Volunteers need to:

- Have one hour free each week to spend with your mentee
- Have access to transportation
- Be reliable and consistent
- Be willing to commit twelve months to a match
- Be 18 years or older



Do you
have a spare
hour each
week?



022 424 3791



Lynda@bbbs.nz



www.bbbs.org.nz/wellington

***Get in touch if you want
to know more about
becoming a mentor***



**Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Wellington**

Tāwhiri Teira

[Type here]

The Menzshed by David Coplon

There is a Menzshed in Waikanae
Down there in Rangihiora Street
It's a place where like-minded blokes
Like to gather and meet

Peter Blackler was the founder
The Council own the land
What started from a garage
Is now something just grand

Tony is the Chairperson
The leader of the band
But he is going to retire
So who will lead the clan?

John is the Secretary / Treasurer
He computerised the books
Now he doesn't have to peck and scratch
Like a brood of chooks

And of course, there's the committee
Good men straight and true
Who keep the shed functioning
For the likes of me and you

Chris likes to welcome visitors
At times there are quite a few
And with his broad accent
He explains just what we do

Alan can spin a good story
That will make you laugh
The best one he told
Was about the monkey and giraffe

And when it's your birthday
Hans some scones will bake
And if you are very good
You might get some cake

Now there's a group of cyclists
Who ride to there and back
On a Wednesday you will hear them
Hooning along the track

A group manufacture firewood
And sell it at the gate
It's just by the bag full
Doesn't matter about the weight

Grant gets to mow the lawn
He does them as they need it
Then he will find a paper
Sit down and read it

Geoff and crew make lots of traps
So they are called the Trappers
But if things go wrong
We'll change that name to flappers

There are lots of community projects
That the guys like to complete
And the end result is satisfaction
For everything is so neat

So if you want some company
And enjoy men doing what men do
Come along and join us
It will be the right place for you

More Menzshed jokes	
"Punish me!" she cried. "Make me suffer like only a real man can!" "Very well," I replied, leaving the toilet seat up.	Peter asked his granddaughter to pass him the newspaper. "Oh, come on, Grandpa," she said. "Nobody reads print anymore. Here, just use my laptop." He shrugged. The fly on the workbench never saw it coming.
My wife is pregnant, so my doctor asked if I had ever been present at a childbirth before. I replied, "Yes just once." The doctor asked, "What was it like?" I said, "Dark, then suddenly very bright!"	A doctor was in the middle of giving a man a colonoscopy when his patient asked if he could do him a favour. After a nervous beat, the doctor said "Depends. What's the favour?" "Could you write a note for my wife saying you took a look but didn't find my head up there?"

Plus a special mention of support of our MenzShed Kapiti backers, local businesses, supporters, and sponsors.



A Roof Over Our Heads



Supply of toilet &
Plumbing Items



Serious Site Earthworks



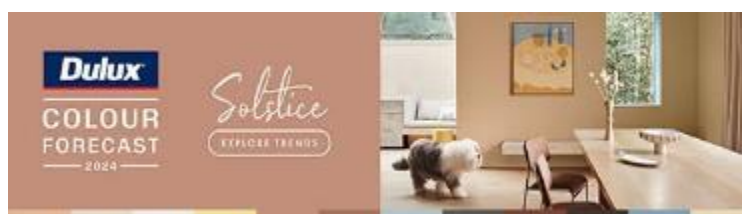
A Heatpump For Our Comfort



Waikanae Charter
Club Community Grant



Electrical Apprentice Manpower



*We receive 10 litres of Cabots stains annually from
Dulux*



Printing Our Brochures



Driving The Website



Stair tread edges and
trim

Plus that ongoing support for our projects and community activities



Boys Toys and Just Stuff for Community Projects

Remember these magnificent people when you plan your next special project