

## **BEFORE ANY BIG FANFARES WE NEED SOME FEEDBACK**

We have a small committee from our Shed designing and preparing a case to present to the KCDC for us to create our own MenzShed and community facility.



Masterton's Henley Mens Shed is a purpose built shed with more than 300 square metres of fantastic facilities which should help our members decide what we need to set about including for ourselves. So for something different, I have been in touch with the organiser at the Henley Mens Shed in Masterton to see if they might welcome a busload of people from over this side of the hill.

They have offered to host us from about 10am on a Tuesday (date to be decided) talking with us and showing us around before providing a buffet lunch about noon. Since Hood Aerodrome is on our way home and has an amazing collection of vintage aircraft, I felt it might be appropriate to include a visit there after lunch as we head home.

Can you let me know if you would be interested in a day trip to Masterton arriving at their Mens Shed at about 10am to spend time with their members and check out their place plus the Vintage Aviator and similar. I am looking for a group of 30 to 40 people so that a bus becomes feasible and aiming for about \$30 for the day including the Hood Aerodrome visit.

Can you email me at [nclough@paradise.net.nz](mailto:nclough@paradise.net.nz) as either yes or no or telephone Peter Blackler on 904 3323 or Charles Lloyd on 904 1640 (I will be away for a week or so). Thanks!

## **NOW IT'S WAY PAST TIME FOR SOME BIG NEWS FANFARES**

This might be a longer than normal newsletter because there has been so much happening since the Christmas break ended and we got started again with preparing things for the Waikanae Sports day.



If you didn't visit us at our Waikanae Sports Day stand in February, you might like to know what a great success it was.

We had an excellent display of things we had been working on and some samples of work in hand for fundraising and the community. Through this display we had requests for all sorts of things and as a result we have delivered 4 firewood sawhorses that fold up

and pack away, a Weta Motel to Northland, another raised garden for a disabled home has been delivered and we are working on more to a suit a range of more able bodied people too.

## A PRIVATE WORKSHOP CLEAROUT

As a result of a plea to one of our members for help to sort out some workshop machinery, a group of members made a big effort for a beach resident. We purchased some very nice equipment for the shed from the lady concerned, sorted and packed things for the family and we delivered many items to special interest groups. She also donated some excellent tools and materials to our workshop.



If you are looking for a nice Dyco table saw there is one available for a reasonable offer. It has a 1.5 HP motor and is in nice condition.

And there is a Holytek Bandsaw in near new condition also for a reasonable offer.



She also has a lovely slab of Kauri that would be perfect for a special kitchen or something very special.

It is 9 foot long by 3 foot wide by 2 inches thick and has been stored in a dry workshop for more than 25 years. This is something very special



so if you know someone who might have the perfect job for this please let Terry Cox (905 1608) or myself (when I get back in a few weeks) know.

## WAIKANAĒ COMMUNITY BOARD GRANT

Late last year our committee made an application to the Waikanae Community Board for some funding toward the cost of a suitable dust extractor to suck up the shavings from our thicknessers, planers, benchesaws etc. The application was held in abeyance while considering whether the Kapiti MenzShed was likely to move to a different area. KCDC staff advised the Board that our shed would not be moving in the near future so our application for \$950 was granted. This is magic and will become an important project to get under way as we head into winter and the need to work more inside the small shed space.

## SUSTAINABLE GARDEN SHOW SIGN EASELS

The Sustainable Garden Show coordinator asked if we might be able to make them some easels for signage at the show (just held) in Paraparaumu. Ian, John and a large team of experts set about producing a design specific to the purpose and a sample. The organising group were most enthusiastic about what was offered and they requested a total of 7 for the show. You may have seen some there.



## LETTER BOXES

My expensive home letterbox had been getting a bit sad for several years. Seems the manufacturer didn't use treated plywood and it had a fairly short use-by date. So I made a new one and immediately got requests from people passing by to say they were also in need of a replacement. Denis has taken up the challenge and has produced a batch of about 4 for sale. One has already been installed and in return we have been paid plus received a very useful B&D Scorpion saw.

## WORKSHOP AND MATERIALS REORGANISATION

Eddie, Alan, uncle Tom cobly and all have been hard at work making some sense of the space and tools in the main workshop. Amazing as it might seem we can now first of all find things without a major search and second we can actually use the workbenches to work on projects. This is a major breakthrough and thank goodness it's been achieved before the wet weather drives us indoors for more than a cup of tea.

## DONATED 6" BUZZER

I had a telephone call a week or so ago from a bloke to ask if we might be interested in an old but good buzzer. So far we have always accepted things on offer on the basis that if we can't use it then another MenzShed can. Several days later the bloke dropped it off outside the workshop and covered it with a plastic sheet on his way to work.

We have dismantled the borer ridden base after taking careful measurements and photographs of the original base but in the not too distant future this will become a very useful item in our workshop. This a a beautiful old cast iron Lectrik brand which will clean up beautifully. This buzzer will be particularly useful because much of the material we use is recycled timber from a wide range of sources.



## A TOILET FOR THE SHED

The BIG NEWSFLASH OF THE WEEK is that after some encouraging noises from KCDC staff, our excellent man John made a few calls this past week looking at portable toilet options that might be available as at least a temporary measure.

**HOORAY!!!! TRUMPETS!!!! FANFARES!!!! BELLS!!!! WHISTLES!!!**

HomeCreators, a building company in Paraparaumu offered us a spare portable toilet building for as long as we need it. Kapiti businesses have been amazing to MenzShed. We owe so much to their support. In return we will do what we can for them. It's now on site and waiting to be connected to the sewer pipes already installed. Photographs soon and maybe a celebratory ribbon cutting ceremony. (We might have to have a draw to see who gets the honour to christen the loo). By the way, it's to be called JOHN in recognition of the man who was driven by regular need to solve this problem.

PS We still need the OK from the Lex Bartlett to connect this up but from his past support I am anticipating his approval as a temporary solution to a pressing need.

## **A PURPOSE BUILT SHED PROPOSAL UNDER DEVELOPMENT**

A group of 3 of our very capable members are presently developing a proposal to develop the present Waikanae Beach site as a community initiative serving a variety of community needs including our own. The concept is basically a Council / Community partnership with MenzShed Kapiti starting the development with workshop facilities plus amenities that are common to other groups and that can be shared given the right organisation. We are only a few weeks into this but things are developing quite well. I'll do my best to keep you in touch as important milestones are achieved.

## **APPLIANCE AND SPECIAL TOOL LOANS**

Our MenzShed is gradually accumulating a number of useful tools and garden maintenance items that can be borrowed by financial members for a small nominal cost. Things like electric hedge trimmers, an electric chainsaw, a line trimmer for keeping the grass in control, crimp tools for plastic waterpipe, a bender for copper waterpipe and the list is constantly increasing.

Note the small cost is essential to cover costs like chain sharpening, line replacement etc, etc.

## **STORAGE SHED ISSUES**

As we make our main indoor workshop more spacious and safe, the storage area that KCDC released for us to use, becomes more and more jammed full. So very soon we will need to hold a working bee to empty out everything in the storage shed, build some much better timber storage racks and then return to the store only the good items we are going to keep and use. This will be a big job and some real hard decisions will need to be made. It will take a person with real focus and determination to make this happen. Let's hope Doug is that person.

## **NAENAE MENZSHED CELEBRATION**

On 29 February the Naenae Mens Shed Celebrated the completion of the concrete pad to build their new TotalSpan shed on. A delegation of about 6 of our guys attended and enjoyed catching up with another group of blokes like our own. Their progress is a little ahead of us forced by the loss of their old workshop. The Hutt Valley District Council have supported them well with excellent land near the main shopping area and a significant grant to help them along. We have a BBQ to donate to them when they are ready and I am hopeful they will join us in the visit to Masterton to make up the numbers to fill a bus.

If we haven't seen you for a while I look forward to seeing you all at our MenzShed very soon.

**The place - KCDC Depot behind 24 Rangihiroa Street, Waikanae Beach.  
Every Tuesday and Thursday, 10am until 12.30pm or whenever we finish**

Cheers everyone

Nigel Clough, Chairman, MenzShed Kapiti - 904 2932

Peter - 904 3323 Charles - 904 1640 John - 902 4108