

Well March is done and dusted and we are a quarter of the way through 2018.

A fairly full month, even if Peter B and Nigel swanned off for some or all of the month. And we survived!

It was meant to be a busy month and the ANZAC Crosses did not arrive in the first week of the month as expected. Do we love deadlines? More about that later.

1. Waikanae School

John M and Terry have resumed their great effort in working with several pupils at the school and guiding them through a range of woodworking tasks or projects.

They are keen to have a number of small projects prepared and ready for their Thursday afternoon sessions. Any ideas and precut projects would be appreciated.

John was focused on the shaping a parrot which was their project with a coping saw at the end of the term.

Missed the photo opportunities at the school in March but will visit the school to get evidence of their good work now term 2 has started.



2. Whareroa Caravan

The caravan is complete and painted on the outside. Fred and Brian are in the process of completing the door and window fittings and constructing the table and benches.

All this to provide some comfort on one of the Whareroa walks!

3. DVD Rack for a local retirement village

The Village was so impressed with the first DVD rack that they ordered another one. Ron McN completed the rack and delivered it. Good work Ron.

Ron delivered the new shelves to the Retirement Village Cinema and positioned the shelves next to the set we supplied earlier. He said "They have a large DVD library!"



4. Chair made from Millard Stand seating



Derek continues to rebuild this masterpiece but he has experienced some delay as he got involved in the ANZAC Crosses.



5. Tool Sharpening

Ray Y has continued his great work maintaining our range of chisels and planes and is happy to sharpen any that turn up.

Gordon McG was seen sharpening a hand mower. Bit of a challenge as he worked his way through the rust and grass cuttings to work his magic.

6. ANZAC Crosses

At the start of the month before the cross components had arrived John R, Ian G and Bruce J had begun the construction of the 36 storage boxes needed to store the finished crosses.

Stress started to build as the components did not arrive. How were we going to grind the 7200 pin ends and then complete the cross assembly for ANZAC day?



Finally the components arrived and the great news was that the pins had already been inserted.



In three weeks a swarm of Menzshedders went through the assembly and sorting the crosses into alphabetical order. At times the swarm amounted to 16 or 18 people and the crosses were ready for pickup on Saturday 7th April.

An excellent team effort guys.



7. Letterboxes for a local Retirement Village



Murray K, Derek and David are in the throes of assembling 40 of these after pre-cutting the components. A steady job which has had a few issues with the prototype.



8. Trailer Cage

The engineers Terry Ray W and Ron are constructing a cage for the recently refurbished trailer to hold the firewood cut by Charlie and his team. Funny – they are building this in wood!!!

And the engineers are noticeable by their absence in these photos!!



9. Community Donations

A number of workshop downsizing/closures have resulted in our assisting in the clearing of tools/wood/materials. These result from deliveries to our site or where we collect them.

All such donations are much appreciated and provide some of the materials and equipment which we use in our work in the community.

10. Electric Mower

John H repaired this donated electric mower. After repair it was handed over to a happy member in return for a generous donation.

Hard to get a photo of these sparkies – they are gone in a flash!! (An old saying goes, “One flash and you’re ash.”)



11. Tool Bags for Fiji

In late November we supplied a local church with six tool bags. They went to Savu Savu in December as reported in the January Newsletter. They have kindly supplied with a video which covered their time and shows some of the work they did in helping the residents repair their village after Cyclone Winston.

Here is the link to the video as promised:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_aOG_EVTmA&feature=youtu.be

12. Rat traps

And still they are being produced. A very popular item in the Community and with the hot summer and warm Autumn we can expect plenty of rodents raising their heads in the cool down to Winter. Thanks to the team who have worked on this over the last few months.



13. Shade House



The green fingered guys in the gardening team have completed the Shade House and the propagation table and are heavily into preparing plants for now and the spring. Sometimes I think there is some planning going on here!!

An impressive facility to support our garden.

14. Bus for Onslow Child Care



John P has been leading this project – a replacement for one which had been used by the kids for a number of years. It has been retired at the same time as the Wellington trolley buses!!



15. Bikes for Otaki School



John M delivered several of our surplus bikes to the school late last year and they have refurbished them and are now enjoying riding them on the School track. Some impressive repairs and a group of very happy pupils.

Sorry about the quality my scanner is out of action and the photo of the laminated photo isn't too good. See attached for the comments from the Principal of the school.

16. Penguin Nests



After an initial delivery of these for the penguins in Raumati a couple of years ago the Kapiti Biodiversity Group ordered another 20 of these. The women who collected them were very happy with their quality as they stowed them into a convoy of cars.

Well done Mark.

It was raining when these were collected – hence the drip on the lens!!!



17. Shed Mooovers Inc,

After an urgent request, a team of Peter B, Cliff, Derek & Barry did a superb job in re-erecting this shed for a Lindale resident. Another satisfied customer!

18. Boat for Grandkids

Graham has managed to complete the foils for this monohull and is preparing for the America's Cup. We were fortunate to get a glimpse of the foils!!! The first

report on this was in the November newsletter.



19. Nigel's Recent South Island Travels (His report)

One important visit I had to make was to check that our old mate Dennis, who moved to Greymouth, had made the migration a success. Not only is he settled in his new home, he is a box of fluffy ducks about the place. Views all the way to Australia from his lounge windows and lots of shed alterations to fit his collection of boy's dreams. Of course to earn the brownie points to do that he has lots of garden landscaping to satisfy his wife's plans too.

Dennis has a message. Watch out because one day he will walk in the gate with a plate of his shortbread and biscuits. (Can you believe it, he misses us lot.)



Also when travelling, I like to search out things a bit unusual or ideas that might come in useful one day. One early stop was Geraldine where many will remember I have previously kept an eye on a Citroen Lite 15 stored in a shed close to the main highway between Geraldine and Fairlie. This I first noted in the mid 1990s when I passed through regularly. Then I began to think, "This could be a MenzShed restoration project."

Sorry to report that the shed has gone and the Citroen is now a stripped down body among the long grass. But never fear I found an even better replacement if the nostalgia runs too deep.



This Model T is proudly on display outside the old Otira Hotel. A place I always wanted to visit but was always too busy getting from point A to point B. Now this place not only has memories like old vehicles, it also has 4 poster beds and leather sitting room furniture. Amazing place to visit. The T is complete and just needs some TLC.

But now the inspirational moment. As everyone at the shed knows, Peter B just can't resist a good boat restoration job. At Te Kinga (Lake Brunner) did I find one to make Peter B a happy man. Even better still is that the boat has a very appropriate name.



It has rot. It has rust. It has lichen like you can't imagine.

Thanks Nigel for this contribution. I am sure Peter B will appreciate your identifying his next project.

Cheers

Peter & Nigel

And a special mention of very important MenzShed Kapiti backers; local business supporters and sponsors is on the next page -



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Mens Shed
Waikanae

Kia ora Men

The pupils of Otaki School would like to thank you for the donation of bikes which Mr Masson bought up to our school.

We are going to make a bike track on our field next year and it will be cool riding the bikes around there at lunchtime.

Many of us do not have our own bikes so this is a neat opportunity for us.

Thanks again.

Ngā mihi

Chris Derbidge
Principal