

May done and dusted, and we move on.

As usual a reasonable amount of activity, attendance topping 50 on one day and we will review three projects which were completed in May but which had been worked on over the last twelve months or so.

So let's look at the action from May.

1. Life Flight Trust Collection

On the 4th of May a team of Sheddies were out collecting at Paraparaumu and Waikanae S Railway Station for the Life Flight Trust- an important support system for the Kapiti. We never know when we may require their assistance. Thanks to those who were involved.

2. Waikanae Estuary Care

This group who are committed to the development of the Waikanae River Estuary and its importance as a wildlife sanctuary opened their new nursery on the Paraparaumu side of the river.



Thanks to those Sheddies who attended and support the display of Conservation type equipment we have developed both for pest eradication and bird nests. Great to hear there were some sales of rat traps.

3. Menzshed Garden



It has been quiet for our Garden team of late but they have been working away reaping the late harvest of vegetables, sowing winter crops and generally bedding the garden down for winter. As well as a bit of site clearing.

It shows us less green fingered ones that a gardener's job is never finished.

4. Onslow Day Care Transport

Not only is Wellington City Council changing its buses but so is Onslow Day Care. Their bus for many years is being retired and being replaced by a locally manufactured one.

John P and Brett P have been working steadily installing the engine and headlight- an impressive job guys. So much so that the rest of the bus is under wraps!!.



5. Visit from Waikanae School

After working with some pupils at Waikanae School by John M and Terry in particular it was wonderful to have a visit from the students and show them what happens at Menzshed. Sorry the photos of this have disappeared into the ether.

6. Firewood

After a period where Charlie had worked quietly on the supply of firewood and clearing the offcuts of wood at the back of the site it was great to see the operation relocated back by bay B and to see others working with Charlie. A great effort to maintain a supply of cut firewood for local residents.



7. Site Clearance of Scrap metal.



As we move towards the expansion of our buildings on the Rangihiroa site Ray N and Graeme has been working to breakdown all such metal – old trailers,



bikes, and other metal which has accumulated on the site.



8. Kakariki Nest

The prototype is complete and ready for DoC to trial on a site in Wellington. We look forward to hearing the outcome of the trial. Ray worked his magic to complete the fittings for the nest.

9. Letter boxes

Murray K and the team continue with the production line. These should be finished soon.



10. Gecko Cutouts

After a quiet time since December the production of these got underway with 150 of these to complete for various lizard enthusiast environmental groups. 50 of these were collected during the month. Thanks to Skip, Ian P and Peter R with some help from others for this. A consensus among this team is that a computer controlled machine would make this a simpler task. By the look of the photo maybe it is already



happening!

Mmmmm! Maybe not.

11. Marine Hut at QEII Park

The team who built this last year were at a loss without a hut to build so they went to QEII Park and constructed a ramp to enable people to see into the hut. The trustees had created a display representing life in the huts in World War II.

Peter B reported the Trust were most complimentary in their comments when the display was opened.

See attachment A for photos of the ramps and a review of the total project.

12. Seed Tumbler

This has been with Kapiti Biodiversity since January as their alchemists worked their magic developing the technique and recipe to create seed balls.

Paul F reports they now have the recipe and process under control and are producing the seed balls. Plans for the future include taking the tumbler to school visits as a means of creating interest in planting trees in the Kapiti area.

See Attachment B for a summary of the Tumbler's development.

13. Whareroa Caravan

The official opening was on 3rd June and the transformation of the caravan on site with the deck and mural made on impressive sight. The publicity about this in the local papers created a large amount of interest and the Menzshed participation in the refurbishment was well acknowledged.

See Attachment C for the caravan's trip for our Rangihiroa site to Whareroa and the on-site transformation.



14. Work seats for the Menzshed

Thanks to Skip for constructing two stools for some of us to sit at our workplace. It makes a difference for those for whom standing is a problem.

15. Development of the Menzshed Site in Rangihiroa St Waikanae

Well the tempo on this development is increasing thanks in the main to the efforts of Peter B. He has done an excellent job in steering the project to date through the planning, design and consent processes. A daunting process - thanks Peter.

Now it is up the rest of us to help with the fund raising and construction.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the ongoing success of Menzshed Kapiti. Lets look forward to the activities of the site development, our ongoing Community projects and the expected conservation projects – bird nests will be needed for the spring – Kaka, Kakariki, Blue duck, Penguins and the rodent traps to ensure the birds have a chance.

All the best for June.

PeterR

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