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NEWSLETTER – December 2020 No. 133

Back to Normal or Life at Level 1

Well, as normal as the MenzShed will ever be!

We still must use the Covid app to record where we have been to and are supposed to keep a safe distance between each other – some hope of that! Still our wives appreciate how much we have suffered because of the absence of male company – or is it that they are so happy we are away from under their feet for a few hours?

Events like this will of course be familiar to shed members but will, no doubt, cause puzzlement to wives and family. 'Just what do those men get up to?' Here's Cliff just after his baptismal ceremony!



Forthcoming events for your diary

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

Further details will be added as they become available

Event	Date	Where	Comment
MenzShed BBQ	Sat 12 th Dec	@ the Shed	12 noon
Committee Meeting	Thurs 17 th Dec	@the shed	12.30
Paraparaumu Beach Market	Sat 19 th Dec	McLean St Paraparaumu	Santa and Sleigh
MenzShed closure	Tues 22 th Dec	@the shed	Clean-up for Christmas.
MenzShed 2021	Tues 7 th Jan	@the Shed	Yes the New Year starts!!
Amenities Block Opening	Early in the New Year		Watch this space!!

Supporting our members - Tony. A. Chairman

One of the aims of MenzShed is to support the health and wellbeing of men.

Since the AGM I have met with John and we discussed some ways to improve the way our Shed supports its members.

We have established a small 'support coordinating group' to ensure that there is

- Consistent ongoing support when a member providing the support can't for any reason.
- Better coordination of support.
- The Shed committee is made of aware of any issues requiring their attention
- A point of contact for members
- Keeping some basic records

Members of this group are John Orr, Terry Twomey and myself

Supporting our colleagues is something we should all be involved in.

If you notice that colleague has been absent for a while and there was no mention that he was going to be away for whatever reason. The simplest thing is to make contact and check in.

If there is a problem and you are able to support the member then please do and keep the support coordination group informed. If you can't then please let the support coordination group or a committee member know.

Another way we can look after colleagues who for one reason or other are less abled is to involve them in activities. To that end if you or your team has a task, activity or project that someone who is less able could assist with, then get them involved.

Thrive Chiropractic donates \$1000 to our Shed

Dr's Iain Guest and his wife Kelly are the owners of the of the practice. They, along with Dr's Brandon Lerch, Jack Madden and other staff ran various 'Movember' fund raising activities during the month of November. The fundraiser was to raise awareness of men's health and at the same time raise money for MenzShed Kapiti.

On their 2 visits to the Shed Iain and Brandon saw and heard first hand from the members how much the Shed contributes to the overall health and wellbeing of men.



Our thanks go to Iain, Kelly and their team for their efforts.

Potential Shed members from the Waikanae School

This is the Thank You card we got from three pupils at Waikanae School who had been attending the

carpentry class run by the Shed. They had learned some essential skills, especially the ones relating to repairing and patching their mistakes. There was a spelling mistake inside the card, but it had been covered over with a carefully glued on patch – they had learned something!

The boys made toolboxes, weta motels, salad tongs and Christmas trees to take home. They have now moved on to main school.

In the past the MenzShed provided tools, vices, and benches for the pupils.





Mark K, Terry T and Roger C have been attending school on Thursday afternoons providing guidance and assistance to these potential shed members – only 60 or so years to wait!

Ross Collins Remembered

Ross Collin passed away a month or so ago. Ross led a colourful life and was our father Christmas for many years. He was also a life member of our Shed. Here are some pictures that may remind you of his involvement in the shed. We will miss you Ross, rest in peace.



Kiwi Ingenuity at Work

An example of Derek C's kiwi ingenuity in action was observed very recently. To simplify cleaning up a rusty steel rod which I assume must be part of one of his garden furniture restoration jobs he just made up his own system of "things".



The old Black and Decker drill it is held by blocks of wood, nails and clamps at one end a block with a hole at the other.



A bit of a wobble to contend with much easier than a full manual cleaning.

Other Goings On



Tony W, David W & George Y with the completed Christmas tree and tie stand



Kevin H testing to see if the fabric suits

Fundraising trip to Shoreline to see RAMs



Tony A & Trevor M – they clean up well!!



Roger C in full dress uniform with the bench seat he restored



Gordon M & Nigel C similarly attired

Bonfire Night 28 November (delayed from 7 Nov) (a pyro Nigel contribution)

After leaping many weather and family event hurdles, it all happened on the Saturday evening, 28 November. MenzShed Kapiti's pyromaniacs were let loose. The crowd was a bit light but the enthusiasm and pleasure was not in short supply.

These images are for those who took part to relive a few moments and for those not there make a mental note to be ready for a great relaxing outdoor evening next year.



Dave P and Mike E spent all year piling up MenzShed non-recyclable materials to create an impressive pyre.

Our "Guy" was missing because Barry had problems finding a volunteer "dummy".

Starting the fire was an honour given to a grandson who got so much pleasure out of doing all the things he normally has to leave to grandad.

Away she goes and very quickly it becomes a real bonfire



The night was young, and we were all in a happy place.

No worries. No problems. No pressure. Happy chaps (and a chapette).

Just enjoying the pleasure in the warm glow until the roar of flames subsided to a pleasant afterglow and it was firework time.













About 11pm the fireworks were gone; the fire was a large glowing mass of embers and the late evening cuppa was calling so it was home-time.

A magic evening spent with good mates thanks to the special efforts of Dave P and Mike E in particular. Roll on 2021.



How's this for a work of art created by one of our members. A real gem. It is an original and cannot be repeated. Offers are

It is especially designed as a dual function

Indoor Market Day at Waikanae

Sunday 22 Nov was Indoor Market Day at Waikanae which we regularly support and which rewarded us with significant building funds last year.

The first stage is helping the organising team of Steff, Rach and Nicola with installing their signs back in October.

This year's install crew were Tony A, Cliff D, Rach, Steff, Peter B and Nigel. The chapettes



always shout us a real cup of coffee from Streetwise as we finish the last one at Otaki.

Then the main stage is to support the event with a MenzShed display.

We managed to attract all sorts of attention through Peter B's Lister engine having a minor misfire every now and then. The 12 gauge gunshot noise was something that couldn't be ignored.

Peter B's restored old Fordson tractor is an attraction in its own right. More than a couple of young boys went home with enormous smiles after their tractor experience.

Lots of interest and we even sold a few items to make a buck for the building fund.

Then after it was all over, to put the final icing on the cake, the young ladies made a very generous donation to our building fund.



A great bunch to work with and a community event well worth making the effort.



Construction Progress

This shot is a moment in time during the morning briefing on 25 Nov. The vehicles help to give a picture of the pace at the shed and the building images cover the current workshops plus the stage of the new amenities block on the day



Midlife Village Visit



Then 18 Nov was the day Midlife Village from Palmerston North paid a special visit to see our MenzShed and see what we do and where we ".do what men do..."

His was their annual surprise day trip.

They thoroughly enjoyed their time looking around.

The Garden and its Gardeners

The garden is currently bursting with flowers and vegetables. The vegetables are available to members and our surplus will go to the food bank





MenzShed Kapiti Makes Santa Real

So it starts with an elf prepared for the first Santa Sleigh job for the year. This year on 7 November it kicked off with delivering Santa to his grotto at Kena Kena school.

A fully decked out Peter B is a sight to be remembered and is proof Peter Elf and with Father Christmas exists.

This Elf really has done a lot of work for the children of Paraparaumu and Waikanae and the Children love rides on Santa's sleigh





The Christmas Barbeque

For once the weather turned out magnificent and about 70 people turned up to the barbeque. Many men even brought there wives, who had an enjoyable time inspecting what their partners had been doing twice a week since the end of Lockdown.







Barry L offering sweets around but the quality had to be extensively tested by Alan M. Somehow noone remembers getting any!













A special mention of important MenzShed Kapiti backers, local business, supporters and sponsors



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