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NEWSLETTER – June 2021
No. 135

AT LAST, IT'S FINISHED!

The Amenities building is finished, well nearly, it has been formally opened by the mayor and is now in use for morning teas and meetings. Peter Blackler is still doing odds & sods to make it perfect but in our eyes it's pretty good. Congratulations and thanks to all those involved in the process, it really makes our Shed very special.

Now all we have to do is Phase 2, the Workshop, so get your tools out, there's some demolition to do!



Amenities Building opening ceremony.



You never know, our scrap collection could solve all our problems and we could sit back and just let a contractor do the job for us.

You must have something at home that will fit the bill, old candlesticks, gold tooth fillings, unwanted jewellery – some things that no one will miss!

All contributions gratefully received.

Someone is living in hope!

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 |
|------------------------------|---|------------|--|
| Committee Meeting | 8 th July | @ the Shed | |
| Men's Wellbeing Month | June | everywhere | |
| Cancer Society | 8 th July | @ the Shed | This is about men's Wellbeing A short presentation. |
| Kapiti Hearing | 29 th July | @ the Shed | This is about men's Wellbeing A short presentation |
| | | | |
| Otago Medical Students visit | 24 th August | @ the Shed | Pick up from Waikamae School at 10am - tbc |
| | | | |
| Kapiti Strawberry Festival | 20 th Nov | | Details tbc |
| | | | |
| Committee Meetings | 19 th Aug, 30 th Sept, 11 th Nov, 16 th Dec | | |

Message from the Chairman

5 June 2021 will surely go down in MenzShed Kapiti's story as a milestone. The opening of the MenzShed Kapiti Centre was a proud moment for all of us. Thank you to all our members past and present who contributed to the building and fundraising of this great facility.

A special thank you to Peter B for his drive and passion to see the project completed, to Murray C for his craftsmanship and skill building it and to Alan W for his skill and expertise for the electrical work. July in contrast looks to be demolition month. Again, thanks to all those who have pulled up their sleeves, emptied sheds B and C, sorted out the rubbish and stored the good stuff, so those sheds can be demolished.

A special mention this month to the team led by Trevor Mc who have transformed 'up the back' from an overgrown wasteland dumping ground to what is now one of, if not 'the' most organised spaces we have. Fantastic work team thanks.

I don't know about you, but I feel a great vibe at our Shed at the moment. Everyone is pitching in and lending a hand to do whatever needs doing. It's that attitude that will get us through the next phase of building our workshop, organising better storage of our tools equipment and supplies and in turn freeing up more usable workspace.

Tony A

What are you blowing on?

I have a bee in my bonnet about paper tissues. It came to a head the other day at the gym where my trainer was blowing his nose on men sized tissues and then putting them in a waste bin – he was only getting one blow on a tissue, what a waste!

I used to use tissues and save them for reuse by keeping them in my pockets, only to find the tissues becoming a shrivelled whitish caterpillar full of holes with barely a space to put my nose, or a hard marble if I hadn't cleaned out my jeans before they went in the wash. I certainly couldn't get more than two satisfactory blows out of them and, if I had a good sneeze, they were beyond recovery! The marbles were only useful for blocking a nostril! I think using paper tissues is not green and a waste of trees and processing.

At the MenzShed I discovered a commercial box of men sized wipes intended for workshop use. They were fabric based and the one I took, for cleaning a tool, gave me multiple blows and even my mightiest sneeze would not penetrate.

These tissues are intended for wiping up messes and oil stains, but they are great as handkerchiefs giving more blows, wipes, and sniffles for your money and of course they are great for wiping dip sticks, dealing with oil spills and cleaning paint brushes.

It didn't take me long to get used to the smell of turpentine as I blew – and it didn't half clean out my tubes! I do recommend them for men – not for women who somehow seem to be able to preserve their tissues in a secret compartment about their body.

I can't recommend you use the Shed as a source of tissues, but they can't be beaten if want to have a proper blow without leaving a deposit of you know what on your hands,

I recommend these commercial ones but get fabric ones not paper. They come in large sizes and large boxes so there's little danger of the wife pinching them! It's also greener.



Please help with Flu Tracking

We need more participants all over New Zealand to help us track flu and other viruses like COVID-19.

Please click on the link to participate or ask 2 friends or colleagues to join us by forwarding this link:
<https://www.flutracking.net/join/NZ/inv65>

All that's required is completion of a simple online survey that takes less than 15 seconds each week during flu season can tell us so much. In return you'll receive a weekly report and a map of influenza-like illness to keep track of where the flu is!

Thanks for your time and support.

Flutracking New Zealand
<https://www.flutracking.net>
nzmoh_flutracking@health.govt.nz

Public Health Group
Population Health and Prevention
Ministry of Health

First Morning Tea in the New Building.

Even before the Amenities building had been opened it was informally christened by holding our first morning tea, just to try it out! Here are some memories of the 'proper' opening.

As you can see, nothing changes!



First come first served.



Alan M trying to remember the morning's joke.



No more tea under the canopy.

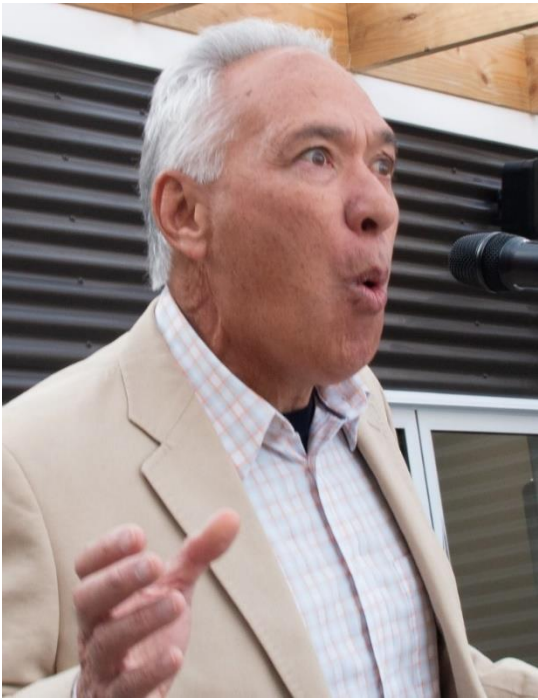


Tony A exaggerating his potential a little..

Memories of the Official Opening.

The 5th June opening ceremony of the Amenities building by the mayor was celebrated in the usual Menzshed way! Here are some more informal recollections.





Menzshed Help Kapiti Volunteers

At the beginning of May, Volunteer Kapiti asked us to assist them in renovating an unused classroom. This had to be done urgently as they needed to vacate their current offices at Kapiti Community Centre Building due to water tightness issues by the end of the month.

We sent one of our “trouble shooters” Kevin A up to find out what was involved and got him to report back. He presented this brief verbal report. “Well it is like this we have to strip the whole bloody place, all the chalkboards and fittings to be removed and the gib board wall lining replaced”.

The walls were lined with cork board which had to be removed, it was glued in place so left a mess on the wall, we scraped off as much as we could, got it flush and gibbed over the lot. Of course, this meant that the walls had to be stopped and finished ready for painting.

A lot of shelving which had to be sanded down and painted with a sealer, ‘123’ which stops glossy paint from peeling off. We were helped to do this by people from Volunteer Kapiti.

There were noise restrictions because almost next door was the Driving Licence test room so we could only use our noisy tools, sanders, and drills at certain times.



Kevin and Jim at final finishing

Kevin A ably assisted by Jim F and Peter M completed the job ahead of what Kevin would call “a % %# \$ & # \$ & tight time frame” Great job well done guys.

In an email to our Chair Susan Ansell the Manager of Volunteer Kapiti wrote

“We have been so grateful to Kevin and the MenzShed every time we walk into our new office. They have done an amazing job. I really do not think the last month would have been possible without them!”

To Vaccinate or not to Vaccinate

The following statement in a recent paper article *"I'm a teen, where's my vaccine"* raised some concern in one of the members that we mature residents may be left behind in the priority of getting a Covid vaccine.

So, he decided to develop his own slogan to help the public focus on our plight and his suggestions are listed below:

- Call a cab, we are off for our jab!
- To keep oldies pristine. we need our vaccine!
- For old men to stay hot, we need our shot!

but his ultimate choice was:

- We don't want to get sick, where's our prick!

Think you can do better, then send your idea to the publisher and we will print them in the next edition.

Thanks for help with the Parkinson's collection.

A quick note of whole-hearted thanks to Menzshed members who helped with the Parkinson's Kapiti/Horowhenua Street Day Collection on Friday. We were lucky with the weather which contributed to what was a very successful day for us.

We are very pleased to report that over the Kapiti/Horowhenua area we raised \$5,990.70 in cash donations - over \$6,000 when we count the donations made by phone using the QR code.

This is a significant increase on what we collected last year. It will help us maintain our free Parkinson's nurse service which is so important to helping people in our district living with a chronic neurological condition - particularly at a time when there can be a lengthy wait to see a doctor.



Many thanks again for helping us.

Kevin Ramshaw

Kapiti/Horowhenua Parkinson's Action Group

Roger Palmer and the recorder **quartet**, Dulcis Tibia, have another concert this year, similar to last year's concert.

It will be held at the
Waikanae Presbyterian Church Hall,
Ngaio Road, Waikanae

3:00 pm, Saturday 10 July 2021

Entry by donation

The concert will have a wide variety of classical music including composers such as Bach, Handel, and some other baroque composers, along with beautiful, and some quirky, 20th century music.

Dulcis Tibia have recorders from contrabass - a **2m high** instrument - to the familiar descant ones.

Many Thanks

Many thanks to Bruce Murdoch for inspecting our firefighting equipment. Bruce is a useful contact if you need your equipment checked and as a source of firefighting equipment at 25% off to Menzshed members.



ALL FIRE SAFETY
THE FIRE PROTECTION EXPERTS

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Converting 8mm film to digital

Barry I has a problem can you help, here's his message:

"Gentleman. I know it is a long shot, but you never know your luck. I own about 2,000 feet of regular 8mm home movie film from the 1950s/60s. Whilst I also own an 8mm projector I am very keen to get the film converted to a digital format before the old celluloid deteriorates with time. To have it done professionally will cost almost a thousand dollars.

There are machines that you can buy that claim they can do the same but they are also expensive. Has anyone here got one of those machines that they could hire or loan to me? I doubt that it would take more than a day or two to convert the lot. I'm loath to buy a machine that I will use just once. Any advice and guidance on this matter would be appreciated."

Barry try clicking on [this link](#) – Roger C

By the way I have access to a photo slide to digital converter for a donation. If you would like to have a go let me know – takes some computing experience! – Roger C

Menzshed assists at Kapakapanui School.

Kapakapanui School asked if the shed could help some pupils with some building projects. Jim W and John O went along on what turned out to be the coldest wettest day of the year so far. Despite this Jim helped them build a bicycle jump whilst John helped them build bird houses. Thanks Peter R for organising it.



The very happy and proud, cold wet team of pupils that showed Jim how to build a bicycle jump.

An Obituary printed in the London Times.

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years.

No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- Knowing when to come in out of the rain;
- Why the early bird gets the worm;
- Life isn't always fair;
- And maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realise that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. "She spilled a little in her lap and was promptly awarded a huge settlement."

Common Sense was preceded in death,

- by his parents, Truth and Trust,
- by his wife, Discretion,
- by his daughter, Responsibility,
- and by his son, Reason.

He is survived by his 5 stepchildren;

- I Know My Rights
- I Want It Now
- Someone Else Is to Blame
- I'm A Victim
- Pay me for Doing Nothing

Pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing

Not many attended his funeral because so few realised he was gone. - If you still remember him!

Progress with the Workshop

There's been a lot going on in preparation for the construction of the Workshop. For several months teams have been clearing out sheds this is how we are going...



Before we started



As it is now

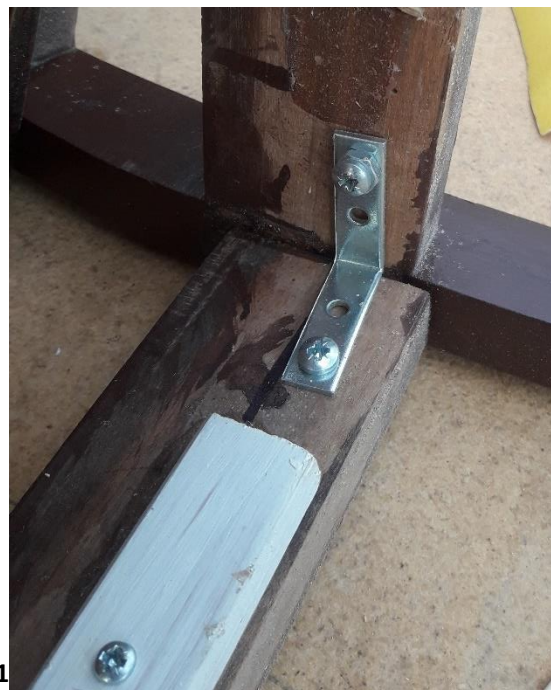
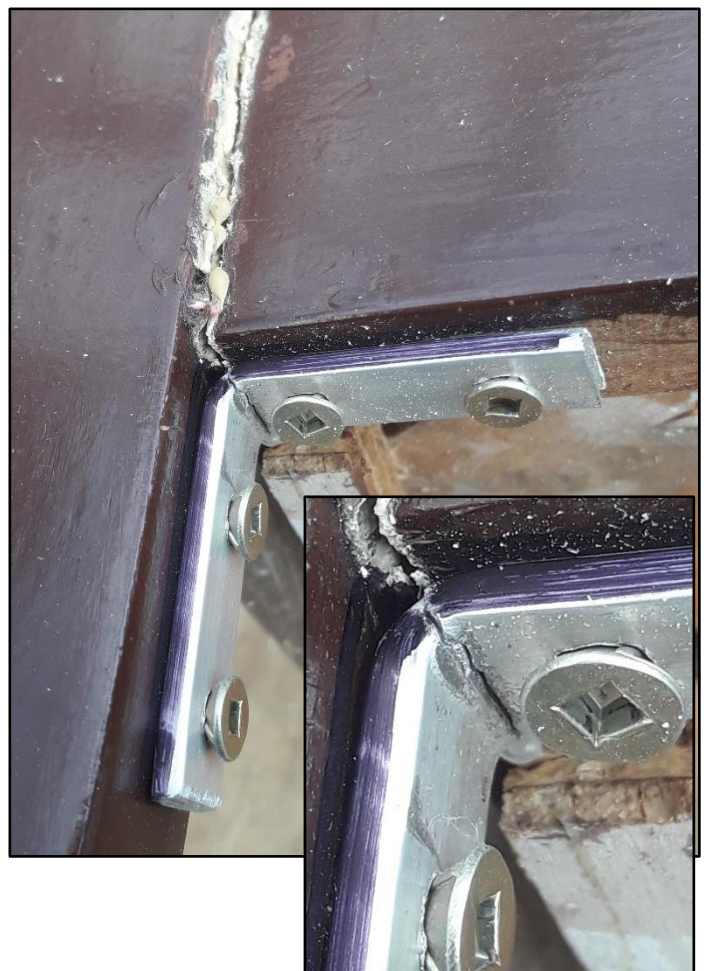
The doors are now off, flashings removed, and the roof coverings and timber will soon be removed. Then it's a call to Goodmans and there it isn't.



Chair Mending

We were given a set of six chairs for us to mend and give to the community. After close examination it was decided the chairs were too far gone and only suitable for firewood. Keith H removed the brass studs fixing the fabric and the chairs disappeared around the corner to the firewood gang.

It was obvious that many amateur attempts had been made to repair the chairs in the past and it was not worthwhile, all the joints were loose and some of the repairs were – lets say ‘memorable’.





Directions Menzshed style to you know where!



In the relocating of the contents of the sheds there has been criticism or even arguments as to what we save and what we throw out or what goes in the metal scrap bin –

Here's an item that was saved and found a new home and look at what the outcome was - a win-win situation for another MenzShed!



End of an era, the old sign removed from the store



Pupils from the Waikanae School with the weta motels and spoons they made with Mark K, Noel T and Roger C.

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



Amenity Electrical Items



A Heatpump For Our Comfort



Waikanae Charter Club Community Grant



Electrical Apprentice Manpower

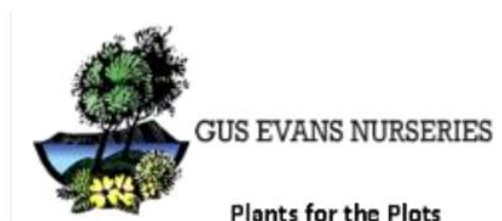
Plus that ongoing support for our projects and community activities



Printing Our Brochures



Driving The Website



Plants for the Plots & Community Projects



Boys Toys and Just Stuff for Community Projects

Remember these magnificent people when you plan your next special project