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NEWSLETTER - April 2021 No. 134

NEW PROCTOLOGY SERVICE



The Kapiti MenzShed is pleased to announce that we now have an in-house proctology service. Without the need for appointment, you can now be tested at will.

Peter is now equipped for a full examination giving you the options of using grease from the metalwork shop, coffee grounds or CRC as lubricant.

You know it pays to join the shed all you need to do is to bend over and enjoy yourself.

OUR EXCELLENT REPUTATION - WE ALL CONTRIBUTE.

On 30 March Peter B and I attended a meeting of the Waikanae Community Board in support of our application for funding to fit out of our new amenities block. The one standout experience for me was that while we were in effect competing with other organisations for funding and at least 2 other organisations acknowledged the support that MenzShed Kapiti had given to them. The acknowledgement, words of gratitude and support from those organisations in the moment was priceless and would have registered with the members of the board, I am sure.

It was obvious that Peter B is well known and respected by members of the board who in turn were aware of the community work we do. All of this, including a well-prepared application by Cliff D played a part in us securing a substantial portion of the available funding.

All that said, the rest of us played a role as well. The work each of us does supporting community groups and individuals who seek our help all goes to enhancing the excellent reputation we have with the Kapiti community. Well done team!

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.

Event	Date	Where	Comment
Visit by Levin men's shed	Thur 6 May	@ the Shed	Time to be announced
Committee meeting	Tues 27 April		

AMENITIES BLOCK PROGRESS

The walls and ceilings are painted, electrical fittings installed, veranda seats made.

We are waiting for kitchen fittings to arrive, then there is final plumbing to connect them up, lay carpet tiles and vinyl, then final clean-up.

Anticipated completion is end of May. Then party, party, before we start Stage 3!



Once a week usually on a Wednesday (but changeable) a group from the Shed meet and go for coffee somewhere. To get there we either cycle or walk. If you can't or don't want to cycle or walk you can drive and meet us for coffee as other members have done in the past.

Today we walked the escarpment track (photo attached) and had coffee at one of our favorite haunts in Paekakariki. The fresh air, company and coffee are a great way to spend a morning.

If you are interested in joining us have a talk to Mark K, Noel T or Tony A.





KAPITI MENS SHED ON FACEBOOK

The shed is now on Facebook.

It is kept up to date and administered by Roger Palmer.

To keep in touch with shed happening search for Kapiti Menzshed in Facebook and ask to join. Roger will gladly approve you.

It allows you to see more pictures, to upload pictures and generally keep in touch if you are away and need a 'fix'.

PUBLIC PERCEPTION, PARTICIPATION AND PROJECTS

"I just thought you were a few guys in a garage, not this big group and with so much activity - it's mind blowing" is the common response from first time visitors.

As we focus on only doing stuff at our shed and not in people's homes, they come down our drive looking for someone to fix a broken or worn part or create something original. The variety of projects we get is endless and while we can't take on all requests, we are usually able to accommodate most.

Our members get a kick out of doing projects for charity groups, children's organisations and environmental items for Doc. They enjoy restoration of that special piece of favourite furniture or fitting for a senior citizen, and it earns us high praise. We also promote members bringing their own project to the shed to earn brownie points on the home front.

Knife and tool sharpening is continuously on offer as is the firewood from the group disposing of surplus wood. These keep selected groups very busy as does the garden project with produce going to the food bank.

Keeping track of those projects is an exercise on its own as members are encouraged to write the item in the project book AND tie a tag to the item containing contact details. It's not fool proof as males aren't always the most tidy of workers and just leaving it laying about till next time seems to be a male trait! I do know there are panic times as we hunt for the lost item while the client waits. We have lost some small items, but I can't rule out it's the result of an over-zealous cleanup although I doubt it.

In 2020 we completed 74 documented projects and to date the number is 26 so all in all you can say we make a considerable contribution to the local community and I can't see the number slowing down in the future.

Alan M

SOURCE OF NATIVE TIMBERS

I spotted this ad in the local paper, it sounded interesting, so we went along to have a look. It is a small sawmill specializing in native timbers, totara, rimu, macrocarpa etc, not a big commercial setup, just nice and friendly. It is located about 10 minutes up the Akatarawa Road.

We had a bit of a problem finding it, I didn't see a sign board outside the gate, and had to be brave and go down the drive. Well worth going along.

I took some photos of their wood store and they are on the next page. Beneath the image are links to the images on the web so, assuming you are reading this on your computer, you can **Ctrl Click** on the link and view the pictures in detail.

There are all sizes of timber, well stored, just right for your next project.



SOURCE OF NATIVE TIMBERS Ctd



Link to picture:

https://1drv.ms/u/s!Aj5jRYrzpNI_gcIVdmqwHujVYbGBwQ?e=6bvq3P



Link to picture:

https://ldrv.ms/u/s!Aj5jRYrzpNI_gcIUHeh14Z3ov4RzYw?e=h6IVoQ



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THIEVES STEAL THE FOOD STOCKS FROM KAPITI FOODBANK

Thieves stole many months' supply of food stocks from the Kapiti foodbank in Paraparaumu. The community came together and helped to replenish the stocks. One kind family donated \$10,000 and the MenzShed gathered food and vegetables for their donation.

We understand the police did catch the thieves but much of the food had already been sold off.





Kerry Lovell, Co-ordinator for the Kapiti Foodbank Tony A and Roger C delivered the MenzShed's donations.

MENZSHED OPEN DAY

On Saturday the 20^{th of} March we had our Open Day. Well, it was more of a garage sale, but it did bring in some new members. An amazing amount of surplus tools and equipment appeared from the containers and sheds to our delight much of it sold. We were 'invaded' by the public looking for bargains and did we have some bargains for them! Here are some pictures of the sale in case you missed it.

We made just over \$4,500



Roger P searching for a bargain.



Chad W getting the price up!



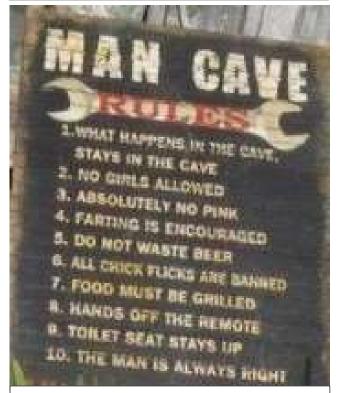
Even the motorbike went – not to her though!



Everything was for sale



Unfortunately our model bench table sold by accident.



Somehow this didn't sell!



This guy bought so much stuff. Hope he donates it next year!



Name your price and it's yours

GIVING BACK

The nuts and bolts of men's health: MenzShed Kāpiti

It may be a damp, cloudy Tuesday morning but MenzShed Kāpiti is teeming with activity.

The 'rat pack' is down one end of the Waikanae-based shed, building pest traps – lately they've been building stoat tunnels for the Department of Conservation. Another team are refurbishing a bench. Santa's sleigh sits out the front – built here and now parked after a hectic round of local Christmas events. Outside a prosperous vegetable garden grows produce for the local Foodbank

Project convenor Alan Muxlow whistles up the troops to outline the projects on today - between 40 and 60 members turn up to these sessions. There's work to be done on the new Cancer Society Support Centre building in Kāpiti, which the guys helped prepare for opening. There are hands needed building a new amenity block for their own MenzShed site. Jokes abound before they get started too.

"We're all about the health and well-being of the members," says treasurer Peter Blackler.

"We provide somewhere for them to come that's non-threatening, where they can have a laugh and be with like-minded guys. For men who might have lost their partners, MenzShed can provide important companionship," he says. A band has even formed from amongst the group – The Shedmen.

Kāpiti is one of 118 such sheds nationwide, with 18 more in development.

The organisation appeals to those who may have downsized their workshops, those interested in sharing their skills, or just keen to learn. Last year the Kāpiti group alone put in 12,500 hours of work - most of which went into community projects, Blacker says.

Foundation member Nigel Clough kicked the Kāpiti group off in 2010 and is particularly proud of work they have done with local children, introducing those that might not consider academic learning their thing to the world of tools and building.

"They arrive scared, quiet little people and they leave the place all smiling, happy and laughing," he says

Alan Muxlow says the health side of the group is an important aspect of what they do – and having a safe, open environment to talk to each other about health issues is beneficial. He enjoys the comradery and joking around.

"If we're not having fun, then we've got to change something," Muxlow says. #

Top: Members hard at work. Bottom: Special stoat traps for Wellington Islands. Photo by Nigel Clough, MenzShed Kāpiti.

A page from the proposed Lifetime Magazine, which was going to go our in 2020, but Covid put paid to it — we were nearly famous!

WORK IN PROGRESS

A summary of what's going on at the shed.

The Weta housing project continues, we are hopeful of government sponsorship for providing safe motel accommodation to NZ natives!





Tony W, (of the inner glow) and David W - drilling out the weta accommodation block.

A special mention should go to Joe Pryor of Metco Engineering who makes the weta motel roofs for us. Many thanks Joe.





Planter Stand



A sturdy planter stand built by Roger C fetched a \$100 donation.

Broken table legs

Somehow two of the curved feet were broken off this table, (must have been dropped), and John P had to be inventive with his gluing and clamping to get them back in position.



Turned Bowls



Ratters Again!



David P, Ray N and Geoff N working on a monster rat trap!

Ornamental Plants





Workbench for a child



Skip, (Brian S) made this from surplus timber for a child who wanted a work bench.

The mum of the recipient



Notice board



The church that Chris T attends wanted a hinged notice board to go over a window. Roger C made by cutting down an old notice board and regluing the frame. The church was delighted and donated \$50.

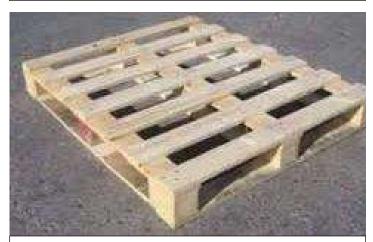
Someone complained it blocked the light!



Ray Y performs an essential service sharpening and restoring tools.



John C spends time with Tony L playing chess



Took me all day yesterday but I finally finished it. A pallet made from an old coffee table.



The hunt for the needle continues! Rashi,, Russel H and Brian D



The gardeners, David C and Ron B well contained behind the wire by Noel T and another.



Planter beds set for Winter.



The firewood gang, Charlie L, Barry I and



Ray W in the metal workshop making up frames, note his home-made weld chipping hammer.



Terry T using the metalwork lathe, he wouldn't look up!



Hans V in the tool store, part of the sorting team.



John P with one of a set of chairs he glued up



Above - Sorted tools in the tool store.

Below – yet to be sorteds.





Label on a box of NZ made stainless steel nails.

Plus a special mention of support of our MenzShed Kapiti backers, local businesses, supporters and sponsors.















Supply of toilet & Plumbing Items



Serious Site Earthworks









Electrical Apprentice Manpower

Plus that ongoing support for our projects and community activities



inting Our Brochures











Boys Toys and Just Stuff for Community Projects

Remember these magnificent people when you plan your next special project