

Still seeming to play catch up. Now half way through October and the September newsletter needs to be completed. Must apply KITA principle!!

So what happened in September?

1. Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on September 14th and the business was completed successfully. Major items on the agenda were election of the committee, approval of the annual accounts and an update of the progress of the site development.

By the way the Committee as elected was:

Chair	Doug Wilson
Secretary	Alan Muxlow
Treasurer	Peter Blackler
Committee	Ron Blackmore, Nigel Clough, Gilbert Coom, Murray Kennett, Gordon McGovern, Ron McNulty, Peter Rendall, John Robinson, and Chad Wappes



Welcome to the new Committee members – two Rons, Gilbert and Murray.

2. Raumati Beach School



We had a thank you visit from pupils at Raumati Beach School. Skip and Frank had cut some lettering from corrugated iron (as shown in the photos) and assisted with their putting these up. Maddie Mitchell, Alana Hill and Cate Mousey along with their teacher attended to thank Skip and Frank and supply some much appreciated chocolate as a gesture of thanks.

A great job guys.

3. Lizard Lounges – A Follow Up On Sarah's Lizard Study



If you set your mind back to earlier this year you will remember the major task undertaken by Ian, John and their chief assistants to prepare 1800 slats of bituminous hemp roofing to be assembled as predator resistant lizard lodges for a number of projects around the greater Wellington region. Central to this was a serious research project being undertaken by Sarah Herbert, a PHD student at VUW who was researching issues of enhancing habitat to encourage lizard populations.

You might like to check out her bright and informative blog explaining her research and showing what has been happening.

www.scribbleblog.wordpress.com.

4. Special Guests – Cancer Society’s Mandy and Ann

Mandy and Ann from the Cancer Society visited one morning for morning tea and supplied some wonderful food in appreciation for Menzshed assistance.

Most of you will be aware of the support these two people help coordinate for the benefit of so many in our community. MenzShed Kapiti has set out to do anything we can to support their efforts in return.

Ann thanked the team who had assisted with the set up and clear up at the 24hour Relay for Life event earlier in the year. Cancer Society raised some \$37,000 as a result of the Relay.



When Mandy was given the opportunity to speak to our gathered members she expressed their sincere thanks for the support we have given plus we heard so much about how John R (absent) had saved the Society so much money by making minor design improvements that prevent the free public sunscreen dispensing containers being knicked by people at public gatherings. After all the Cancer Society has to pay for the container and its contents.



The photos we forwarded to John R during his US sojourn have resulted in John threatening to “spam” all such food photos. But maybe he is not suffering too much if the photo of a recent dessert is any indication of the hardship John is experiencing.

Excellent work John and those who were involved in the Relay for Life.

And for a change we will check out a **day in the life of Kapiti Menzshed**. In this case the 28th of September.

5. Refurbishment of Furniture

John P continues to do some wonderful furniture refurbishment. Today he was about to deliver a chair he has completed and started on this garden bench. It is so good to see these items being restored and put back into use. Great work John.



6. Repaint of the Kapiti Boat Club Sunburst



After several years resting in a poor state of repair at the Boat Club Bruce and John R (of Kapiti Boat Club and not the one enjoying desserts in the US – see item 3 above!) are working wonders on this boat. The hull has been prepared and painted and work is due to start on the deck and cockpit – watch this space.

7. Control of Bay B

Christopher H has taken over the management of the store after James departed to Nelson and the Waimea Shed. Christopher continues the miracle of creating order out of the chaos which was the store, or should we say the dumping ground. Wonderful to have someone to continue with the good work of managing the store.

8. Jumping strip

A comment by a child that their long jump launch board with coloured strips at athletics was falling apart was where it began - a good Menzshed project!

Tattered carpet was removed, recycled but newer carpet glued on and then a challenge to make coloured strips. Resene's recent delivery of boxes of recycled paint and with some mixing the paint was ready. Several coats of bright colours helped by masking tape for clearly defined stripes created this masterpiece. The photo shows the end result - a new rough surface & clearly seen stripes. Now we



await the first athletics to see if the new board guarantees good outcomes. Thanks Alan for the good work and the report on this project.

9. Work for DoC

David from DoC visited to collect three items which we had prepared for them.

- A dummy Kaka nest ready for a study programme
- A Saddleback nest, and
- A refurbished Kaka nest

The background on this is Mark had replaced the mount on the Kaka Nest. (They had lost part of the original.) This job plus the nest for Nga Manu will help pay for the latest mount designed by Mark K.

They took a prototype predator free Saddleback Nest which Mark had designed. As he awaits responses Mark has been in contact with experts from around the world. To meet this newer challenge means he is now talking with the NZ predator expert based at Lincoln University. With this energy and effort look for a world class solution.



DOC also asked if we had a part tube only with roof that could be used as a mockup for a special kaka education programme. Mark had prepared one using an Expressway plastic pipe offcut complete with roof and landing perch.

The education programme is all described on this website.

<https://naturethrougharts.org.nz/kaia-the-kaka/>

10. Rat Traps



There is a lot of interest in pest eradication. Not only as a result of the Government objective of pest eradication but with local interest groups working to eradicate pests.

Both DoC and Kapiti Rat Pack are wanting rat traps. And in some cases these traps will have both rat and mice traps fitted. It has been a challenge to get the right materials for these traps and after plenty of trial and error Brent, Rob, Ned and Nigel selected a suitable material to hold the traps. Anyone involved in the production line DO NOT change the design as it has taken a lot of work to get this right. The pop rivets now fit.

11. Kids BBQ Table

Another such table has rolled off the production line. Thanks Brian for leading a team to maintain this quality product for our younger group. And thanks also to Ross for delivering the table to ABC Childcare.



12. Art Material Container



David A was in the throes of completing a container for his daughter's art material.

Great way to keep the kids on side David.

13. Groundwork on the Menzshed site

The garden team are continuing the tidy up and landscaping of the site. Cliff, Peter B, Ric and Graham C were working to move some concrete beams and then to flatten the ground around the area.

Phase 1 was the moving of the concrete beams and with some simple equipment they certainly made this look easy. The beams were probably in the order of one tonne each. The Egyptians moved large blocks of stone to create pyramids. These guys have yet to declare their intentions!!



14. Plant Propagation



Ron and Jim were working on the seed beds making sure there is enough plants to provide the Christmas BBQ salad and into the new year.

If the plants already planted out are any indication we will be well catered into next year.



15. Firewood

With the wet and cold weather extending into September Charlie and Ross have continued with the cutting of firewood. In this case they were clearing some of the wood on the upper level of the site. Another ongoing job which has public demand for the firewood, clears the site and reduces the site waste. Good work team. And thanks to HUHA for donating the plastic bags which we use to pack the cut wood.



16. Play Hut

Murray and Rick are continuing with this project and now we have found a suitable recipient they are completing the finishing touches.



17. Waikanae School



John M and Terry have been doing a great job with the regular wood working session on Thursday at Waikanae School. In John's absence Terry was a little stressed out as he prepared the wood for the last session before the end of the term but he managed to prepare some table legs for the Thursday session.

The enthusiasm of the pupils involved certainly has been keeping John and Terry on their toes.
Sorry about the quality of the photo but Terry was moving so fast either the shutter speed or the photographer's reactions were too slow!!

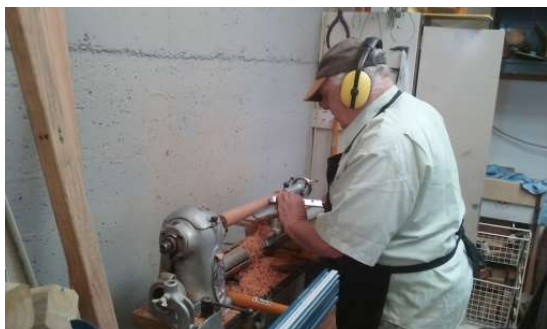
18. Kenakena School Production

Derek, Ian G and Barry I have been working to get 20 cubes ready for the Kenakena School production.

These are all precut and the fabrication will be done in October.



19. Table Legs for a resident of Winara Retirement Village.



Skip has been turning some table legs on the lathe to a resident's specification. An interesting project aimed at satisfying another member of the Kapiti Community.

20. Whareroa Caravan

As part of the refurbishment of the caravan Brian has been attacking the grime and mould on the outside of the caravan with a water blaster. Already it is fifty shades lighter and brighter.



So with 15 projects on the go on the 28th it was another typical day in the life of MenzShed Kapiti.

21. MenzShed Member John Scratching His Itch

Now John O is a quiet man who gets on with things without a lot of trumpeting and bellowing. John is approaching a certain magic number so it became time to decide if the time was right. Well it's taken 10 years but seems the time is right and with some quiet preparation John is now this lean mean machine ready to complete the Te Araroa Trail. If you are an outdoors type person you will know that the Te Araroa Trail is a loooong walk, starting at Cape Reinga and ending at Bluff that takes in a mind-blowing number of spectacular NZ landscapes



"En route it explores New Zealand's tombolos, its volcanoes, its range and mountain uplift, its rivers, lakes and valleys. Successful long trails overseas generally have a geographic and geological unity. Te Araroa's variety is underpinned by the mightiest geology of all – tectonic

plate subduction. When walking New Zealand, you are walking also the Pacific Plate boundary or – at least sometimes – along the Rim of Fire.”

Want to know more then check out www.teararoa.org.nz for the full picture in as much or as little detail as your mind allows you to absorb.

John begins his journey in a few weeks and has offered his journey as an instrument for our MenzShed Kapiti to offer as a sponsorship arrangement that contributes to our building fund. At this time this is just a brief introduction to the journey and we will promote our fundraising in more details very soon. Just think about this. If you offer to sponsor Johns travels at 1 cent per km, at journey's end it will cost you only \$30 that will be a valued contribution to the MenzShed Kapiti Inc Building Fund. ie. \$30 toward our approx. \$180,000 target.

We will be monitoring John's progress on the Te Araroa Trail as we are getting a weekly update from Hilary as mission control. If you are interested in sponsoring John, as explained by Nigel above, contact Peter R who will be coordinating this. Remember 10 guys sponsoring John at 1 cent per kilometre represents \$300 towards the extension to our shed.

Well that's about it (finally). Need to prepare the draft for the October newsletter. And remember any contributions are welcome.

Look forward to seeing you at Menzshed and helping to work through the projects on our list.

And if you don't feel like getting involved in any of the projects in the future you are welcome to come anyway, have a brew and a chat. See you there.

Cheers and thanks to Alan and Nigel for their contributions.

Peter R

And a special mention of very important MenzShed Kapiti backers; local business supporters and sponsors -



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Printing The Brochures



Driving The Website



Stripping For MenzShed



Goodman Contractors Ltd



Plants for the Plots



Boys Toys and Just Stuff for Community Projects

Remember these magnificent people when you plan your next special project.