

I think February is going to be the calm before the storm, and I didn't mean Cyclone Gita.

There has been plenty going on but it is the promise, or maybe the threat, from projects to come which seems to be the challenge. In particular the ANZAC Crosses with their deadline before ANZAC Day. (over 1800 crosses to assemble including some 7200 pin ends to be ground off!)

Enough of the worrying. What happened in February?

### 1. Tool bags for Fiji

You may recall Roy collected six toolboxes to supply to the people of Savusavu village. A team from Waikanae Anglican Church have made several visits to Savusavu to assist with the rebuild of the village after the devastation caused by Cyclone Winston two years ago.

Roy reported – “We had the tools in a collective pool that people could use during the week we were there and afterwards I gave them out to those that had helped.

20 people came from Waikanae Anglican Parish - 10 adults, 6 teenagers, 4 kids went to Savusavu, Vanua Levu, Fiji.



Spent most of the week finishing a new dwelling for an elderly lady named Sabina (60ish), whose beachfront home was severely damaged during Cyclone Winstone nearly two years ago yet she was still living in it. The old house has piles smashed up through the floor, is majorly out of level and has braces outside the house holding it up.

The other big job we did was to improve the cyclone strapping in the roof of the village hall and make a step and door to make it lockable.

Thanks again for your help.”

Shows the benefit of supplying tools to clear up a disaster and for the ongoing recovery of those who have been affected by a disaster

### 2. Shade House

When will the gardening team run out of ideas to keep them busy? At this stage the shade house is the latest structure and is nearly complete. Jim F, Ron B and Grant F have been working to complete this.



Not sure if this is for growing plants or a quiet shady place away from the noise and bustle of the Shed to meditate or have a nap!

### 3. Whareroa Caravan

This project is nearing completion although members of the WhareroaTrust suspect this is a totally different caravan. Good work team in creating such a wonderful impression.

Fred has been leading the rebuild which now has the strengthening floors beams in place and only has the inside floor, table and chairs to complete. Brian has been supporting Fred and is the painter in chief. Robbie has completed the mesh on the natural air conditioning units, or should we say vents, and John O has been providing support from time to time.

A photo of the finished article should be in the March newsletter.



### 4. Is it a seat or a table?

An excellent question! Ron McNulty has rebuilt this replacing some rot infested wood and has made an excellent job. Ready for Barry T when he returns.

Not sure about the model sitting on it but the seat/table has passed its load test.

### 5. Letter boxes for Seven Oaks Retirement Village

The prototype was developed by Skip.

Murray K, Tony and David D have been making inroads into the first order of 40 letterboxes. Keep up the good work team.



From this to that



## 6. BBQ Table

Chad has taken to the New Zealand way of life, Menzshed and DIY using native timber. Under Gordon McG's supervision he is creating a designer BBQ table in rimu. Good work Chad.



## 7. Ply Sheet Cutter

Ian G and John R (yes he is back from Trump land) were getting this ready for the cutting the storage boxes for the ANZAC Crosses. See the update at the end of the newsletter.

## 8. Refurbishing a dresser

Russell has been tidying up a dresser which he had been given ready for his two teenage (or nearly) daughters.

## 9. Tray for Art materials and brushes

Peter D and Rashid created a customised tray for Peter's artists stuff.

## 10. Donation of Sunscreen

Thanks to Mandy from the Cancer Society for the generous donation of a litre of sunscreen in a dispenser.

John R worked his magic to secure the dispenser to the Safety Table.

This dispenser is not designed to gather dust. Be sensible and use the sunscreen if you are working outside. It may protect the beauty of your wrinkles.



## 11. A piece of Athletic Park

For those of you with long memories or who enjoyed being blasted on Millard Stand, Derek is working on one of the sets sold after the stand was demolished.

Unfortunately the bench hasn't weathered too well and it is being converted to a chair.



The metal tag identifying it was part of Athletic Park will be refitted to the chair.



Paul W honoured the situation by wearing a T shirt which was produced for the final game on the Park – 10<sup>th</sup> October 1999. The game was between Wellington and Otago.

## 12. Penguin Nests



Our previous batch of nests must have been successful and we have an order for 40 more.

Mark, Ian P and David D have been into production mode with some 20 almost finished already.

Once again it is interesting to note penguins must be either ambidextrous or there are exactly 50% of them are left handed and 50% right handed matching our production output.



## 13. Cabot's Donation



### Thanks to Cabots sponsorship

Sponsors play a significant role in our operations and allow us to go the extra mile with our projects. When **Cabot's** offered 10 litres of their products to all NZ registered MenzShed we took the opportunity with both hands and trolled through their catalogues extensive range of products looking for those most suitable.





Thanks Cabots

And thanks to Alan M for supplying this article and reminding us of the storage box – no pressure!!

Consultation with our two most knowledgeable members involved in finishing wood stained projects, John P and Gordon M, resulted in a wide range of water and oil based stains and finishes being chosen .

When the box was opened the full extent of this generous offer was realised as seen in the photo. But the challenge now is the problem of keeping it all together, so a box is being built to house the collection. Hopefully this will overcome one of the failings of MenzShed Kapiti members of not putting things back where they belong!

#### **14. Multiple Sclerosis Support Group**

Good to be able to share our experiences with a group of seven people from this group who visited one day. A great exchange and we were able to share information on wheelchair access. This is timely as the team who worked on the Marine Hut are scoping a ramp for the observation ramp for the refurbished US Marine Hut at Queen Elizabeth Park

Look forward to repeat visits guys. Sorry about the lack of photos. Must have been too much talking!

#### **15. Welfare Support**

We like to keep in touch with our members and especially when they are not able to make it to the Tuesday/Thursday sessions.

John O is back after his Te Araroa trek and is picking up this role again.

A couple of reminders:

1. If you are aware that a member is ill or you haven't seen someone for a while let John know.
2. Remember John' effort in his trek and that he set up Menzshed Kapiti as a fundraiser. Your donations are still welcome. Just follow the instructions below.

You can do this by putting your contribution into the box at the Shed and write in the diary your name, amount and Sheddie or you can make a direct payment to the MenzShed Kapiti Inc bank account 38 9010 0354831 00 and put your name and the word Sheddie to identify what the payment is for.

### 16. Visit by Plimmerton Resident's Association

Dave A and Mike C visited Menzshed Kapiti to see how it worked. They have been commissioned by the Resident's Association to set up a Menzshed in Plimmerton.

Good luck and we hope your visit to Kapiti was beneficial.



### 17. Site Clearance/ Firewood

Charlie continues to keep the stock of firewood ready for sale to local residents. At times even has a little help from friends



Between this and his sorting of offcuts he is clearing surplus timber from the site. In the meantime he is building a pile of scraps ready for Dave P's bonfire later in the year.

### 18. Bridge Club Cardholders

John P worked his magic to create four cardholders for the Bridge Club. It must be great for those with arthritis or who have problems holding the cards. Their representative when they collected the cardholders was very appreciative of the superb job.

John P worked his magic to create four



### 19. Visitor from Waimea Menzshed

It is great to see James return from across the water to visit us. It was interesting to compare notes and for Nigel C to be interrogated or at least respond to James' questionnaire on behalf of Waimea Menzshed as they look at the direction the shed wants to take.

### 20. Menzshed Kapiti Building Extensions

Peter B is preparing a summary of the plans, what needs to be done and what money we need to raise to achieve this extension to our facilities. He will circulate it shortly.

As members it is important to know what is happening and how we are going to achieve it.

Please let us know where you are able to help.

And now it is the 1<sup>st</sup> of March and the plywood for the storage boxes for the ANZAC Crosses has arrived. And so the tempo is about to step up.

And now we can look forward to March.

By the way if you see a photo and have a phone to take the scene then let me know. It is great to get a different viewpoint. And some projects come and go so quickly we miss the opportunity to record what is happening.

Cheers

PeterR

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



Powering MenzShed Kapiti



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.**