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Stalwart Alan Kissell helps growth of Menzshed Waimea



Full story on page 7

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DON'T FORGET THE WORKING BEE IS EVERY FRIDAY. HOURS ARE FLEXIBLE!



Newsletter Issue # 7 February 2017





From the Editors desk

Hi fellow Sheddies

Well, it is now nearly two months into 2017 and I don't know where it is going. It seems to be going far too fast for me and I am not sure if I am keeping up with it.

The year has started about where we left off, lots of projects to do and hope that we have enough helpers to do them. I see from Andrew's TO DO LIST that there is a long list of things to do around our shed, but these jobs are to benefit all of us so that we can be proud to be a member of Menzshed Waimea.

We had a great Christmas do and I think that everyone enjoyed the evening, good food, entertainment, and a few drinks. (I did anyway.)

The Shed has had its first committee meeting for the year and a lot was discussed, from our work from last year to our work for this year, the minutes from this meeting has run to ten (10) pages which is far too much to fit into our newsletter, so after talking to Alan, the minutes will be available for all members to read at the shed, which I encourage everyone to do. From my own perspective, I would rather focus on items or articles that are relevant to the MENZSHED members, the shed has to be about what the members want to do at the shed, and what the shed can do for them, at the moment the shed is fulfilling some of these.

There are some other areas that I would like to report on through the newsletter, my main area would be a social/event/happening calendar where we can plan ahead so that everyone can be involved and can participate if they want to, maybe have a for sale area and list some of the many items that we have that can be purchased, maybe a suggestions area where we can list members ideas, etc.

But to do this I have to have some feedback. I have already had two from the request that Andrew sent out about articles for the newsletter. I would be very happy to have any input from any of you.

Cheers

Ed.



Hi Terry, all the best on your recuperation. Make sure that you are doing all the right things.

Hope to see you back at the shed in the near future.

Cheers from all the sheddies.



From the Secretary's desk.

We have had a fantastic couple of months with many projects undertaken for various customers and we are already starting the New Year with a steady flow of great Community Project requests.

I especially want to make special acknowledgement of our **Sponsors** and Supporters.

Carter Holt Harvey have donated a significant amount of wood product to us including, 1st Grade beams for the roof to be built between the two containers. This is a significant contribution to the Shed and has saved the Shed many thousands of dollars. Special thanks to Chris Sibbald (CHH) for championing this for us. Chris has been a long-standing supporter of the Shed.



One of the most amazing new sponsor contributions happened mid-December when **Cold Storage Nelson** approached us after reading our newsletter about lack of internet access and old computer technology. Without asking or any approach from the Shed, Cold Storage Nelson, turned up on site and offered to provide high speed internet access beamed directly by microwave from their site in Beach Rd, and three new computers (2 with double screens) in our office.

These have all been installed and up and running. There is no financial cost to the Shed. This is a HUGE leap forward for the Shed with respect to



technology and opens new avenues for us with respect to opportunities for members and modernising our equipment on offer to members, e.g. We can now list items immediately on Trade-Me as soon as they are made ready for sale. George says the item is ready, photo taken, and listed within an hour. This is a good steady revenue stream for the Shed.

Special thanks to Kent Boisen (IT Manager) and his staff for arranging this technology for us. Kent has also joined the Shed and is keen to help with setting up a technology section in the Shed.

Office Products Richmond have given us a board room table top which is brand new, and all we need do is to fit legs. This is currently underway and will be a great asset to the Shed for meetings etc. Office Products have been a fantastic supporter of the Shed and their contributions are very much appreciated.

Nelson Pine Industries have recently donated a large amount of MDF for us to line our smoko room, which is nearly complete. Special thanks to George McMahon for his continued support of the Shed.

TIL Freight picked up a truck and trailer of wood for us that CHH had donated, just before Christmas. They did this job for nothing even though they were extremely busy with Christmas freight and were running at over capacity. Special thanks to Ian Nicholas for authorising this.

Bunnings, as always, have supplied us with many items they no longer stock, or don't require, which are always gratefully appreciated and they also give us exceptionally good deals on items we purchase from them. We really enjoy doing the Ladies Nights and any other way we can help and promote Bunnings. Please support them by shopping there. Bunnings are a tremendous supporter of the Shed and are very valued.

This is only a snapshot of the last couple of months. We also very much appreciate and need the support and sponsorship from companies like **Signz & Graphics, Copyart, Nelson City Council, Tasman**

District Council, Halswell Timber, Nick Smith (our Patron), Nelson Forktrucks Ltd, Lotteries Commission, Rata Foundation, TIL Freightng and the various **Community Trusts** we apply to for grants.

This demonstrates the importance of our Sponsors and Supporters and your support of them. If it was not for these companies and the many other companies that support us, we would not be in the position we are.

We are also incredibly appreciative of the people who 'pop in' to the Shed with items from family members or estates and donate items to the Shed so we can use them at the Shed or use to raise funds.

MENZSHED Waimea has a fantastic name in the Community and this has only been possible with the effort our members make, and the Community/Commercial projects we undertake. We have fantastic facilities which we should be proud of. We are one of the biggest and most comprehensive Sheds in NZ, offering members wide ranging facilities.

Over the Christmas break, we had several visits from members from other areas, and they were blown away with our Shed and what we could offer our members.

We should be proud of what we have achieved in a few years and welcome feedback on any direction you feel the Shed should be heading or facilities we should be looking at providing. A tremendous amount of work has gone into giving our members the facilities we have today, and the next year is going to be yet another great leap in providing the facilities you will find amazing and useful.



It is that time again when we have to think about AGM's and Membership Fees.

The

Annual General Meeting will be on **Saturday 6th May at 1400hrs (2.0PM)**

As always this is a BYO refreshments. Nomination forms will be sent out soon.

Membership Subs are due on **1st April 2017**

Subs for this year are \$40.00

This increase was passed at the 2016 AGM



From Your Co-ordinator

We finished 2016 with our xmas function and we had a great night which 80 people attended.

Hope you have all had a great xmas and got to spend some quality time with your families.

At the time of writing this I am recovering from a total knee replacement surgery. My knee feels better each day so hopefully won't be too long before I'm fully back on deck. Thank you, guys, for stepping in and helping with IHC classes on Tuesdays and your support.

Thanks Andrew for helping me with the '17 page' report for Charities Commission. It was a very extensive procedure but now Andrew has got all our financials on the approved spreadsheets so it will only be a formality to produce accounts at any given time.

We have a steady influx of new members joining every week as well as old members renewing their membership. Our membership is steadily increasing and is now approx. 180. This is surely a sign of the success of our shed and the publicity generated.

The last couple of months have been extremely busy at our shed and this has mainly been due to you our members who have actively got involved and supported projects at the shed. Thank you to all who have helped out with our working bees each Friday and during the week. It is great to see so many of our members coming down to the shed using our fantastic facilities of which we can all be proud.

Gary has been developing the garden area which is getting well used. He has created a great area.

48 BBQ tables have been manufactured and stained for Tahunanui Beach Motor Camp.

Paul Sargisson has taken trailer loads of rubbish to dump.

Alan Berryman has turned 400mm and 450mm long 20mm thick needles for a craft guild and assembled 2 rimu coffee tables.

Ian Hobden manufactured 2 oven stands for Tahunanui Beach Motor Camp.

Woodwork men have been busy making lots of doors and windows each week, furniture repairs and building toys.

Engineering Men have been busy cutting, bending and welding bleachers. They have also been working on some of our machinery.

We had a crew do the track security for Harness Racing meeting in January. Everyone had a great time and we raised some valuable funds.

Handrails fitted at hospice patient's homes.

Concrete pads poured for containers to sit on.

The working bees each Friday have been well supported and large doses of hilarity and hard work contributed to fun days for all.

I would like to personally thank all the men that pitched in and helped us get the jobs completed.

Andrew has taken ownership of the secretary role and is doing a brilliant job. He has actively endeavored to meet all members who come to the shed and has been in communication with our other members. As well he has been extremely active working around the shed and painting over graffiti around Richmond. Andrew worked right through the x-mas break cleaning and tidying our premises and yard. Amazing effort.

Bill has produced another great Newsletter. Thank you.

We all want our shed to be the best it can be so we need to hear from you our members on things you would like to see happen or any suggestions you may have. We can't promise to deliver on all requests

but at least we will be aware of your requirements. There are so many more things we could be doing but we need your input.

Jimu's story telling nights started again on 18th January. These talk nights have been thoroughly enjoyable. Unfortunately, Jimu is away for a couple of months so story telling nights will recommence when he's back.

Kiwi George has been busy cleaning and fixing items. He just gets his shed cleared only to find on his next visit it's full again.

George and Andrew have been selling lots of items on Trade Me.

Bryan Taylor is working on making timber louvre windows for a train carriage which is located near Farewell Spit. A good job for a skilled craftsman like Bryan.

Dave Meier is making good progress on the cycle he is making for a young man with a physical disability. He is also working with 2 young boys making a go kart.

Upcoming Projects

-  Paint exterior wall of shed on seaward side
-  Graffiti removal. This is an ongoing job
-  Complete lining, skirting and scotia in smoko room.
-  Line ceiling in kitchen
-  Paint walls and ceiling in smoko room
-  Sand floors
-  Polyurethane floor
-  Finials
-  French doors and windows
-  Playhouse for Moutere Community Centre



Health & Safety Report:

Our Health and Safety Policy is currently being reviewed and recommendations will be made to us. We all have a responsibility for Health and Safety so if you see something that looks unsafe please tell a supervisor immediately.

We have moved the main gates in an effort to make all people enter our shed through the front door. This will enable us to get every visitor to sign in and ensure nobody has access direct into engineering shed or woodwork machine shop. Whilst this will be a little inconvenient for some members it is important that we know who is on site and people can't just walk into either workshop. This appears to be getting the majority of people coming through the front door however gate tends to get left open and system falls down.

The engineering shed, will only be open when we have a supervisor specifically for engineering shed. Health and Safety report has been started and is currently with Alan and Andrew to read the first draft and respond with any changes before the next stage is commenced.

(Story from the front page)

Stalwart Alan Kissell helps growth of Menzshed Waimea

Alan Kissell has been integral to the rise of Menzshed Waimea.

He started as a member of its steering committee and helped with fundraising for about 18 months before the shed opened its Richmond Park premises in 2011.

There was a membership of about 30 back then. Over the past six years, that membership has grown to 177 with men from across the region including Nelson, Stoke, Wakefield, Brightwater, Richmond and Motueka. Kissell is the coordinator.

"Its way bigger than what any of us ever imagined," he says. "We have 8000 people a year come through here. We would be open the most hours a week, I think, for any shed in New Zealand that I'm aware of and probably just about the biggest membership."

Kissell says he believes the growth is because the team at the shed tries to accommodate everyone.

"No matter whether they're an engineer or a builder or have never had any skills," he says. "A guy comes through that door and we say: 'Right, how can we accommodate what he's looking to do'. We're not exclusive."

The shed is open from 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday along with some Saturdays.

Kissell estimates just 5 per cent of its members come from a trade background but they're a skilled lot including engineers, electricians, builders and joiners. Kissell himself worked as a builder but like most of the tradie members, he's retired.

"For me, [the shed is] all about utilizing the skills of the guys we've got here to keep everyone – the young and the old – learning."

The shed itself has expanded since its official opening. An extension to house machinery was built on the main building, which is used for woodwork.

There are also well-tended gardens for men who have downsized and no longer have a vege patch at home. In November 2014, a new engineering shed was opened to coincide with Clarence (Clari) Merrick's 90th birthday. Merrick, a skilled engineer, died in December, 2016 aged 92. He was the oldest member of the shed and an "absolutely brilliant guy".

"So we built his coffin for him," Kissell says. "The engineers put spanners on as handles – that was pretty special." The youngest attendee was about 9.

"There are some homeschooled kids or ones that don't have access to technology rooms ... so we run classes for them."

Over the past few years, the team has also been helping men referred by the Corrections Department.

"We're trying to teach these guys some skills because some of them may not have had a father figure or they just may not have learnt lot woodwork or engineering skills," Kissell says. "We've been able to help a couple of them find work at the end of their time."

People with intellectual disabilities have been long welcomed.

"Some of the guys have been there right from the start but the groups just grown and grown so now we have to have two classes," Kissell says.

He finds the work rewarding and it was mentioned when Kissell was recently awarded a Kiwibank local hero award.

New members are welcome at the shed. It costs \$40.

"They apply to join, we do an induction so we're familiar with what level they're at and from there we can get our supervisors who can give them more training so they can use the machinery on their own," Kissell says. "Some of them may not want to use the machinery; they might want to be here for a bit of company and that's great, too."



On the road again

Morena from Whangaparaoa.

G'day Guys from Whangaparaoa, just North of Auckland, Plenty happening on the Road, here is a little article for the newsletter, about visiting the Henley Menz Shed in Masterton

I called into see the Masterton Men's Shed at Henley Park on the 13th Feb. Very impressive place, a totally new shed, built from the get-go as a Menz Shed. It also has part of the building shared with another group/organisation. Murray Campbell showed me around, very talkative (he is the main guy) Impressive machine shop with two super nice buzzers (an older Wadkin and a newer one, both with long beds). A good Dyco Superfine dimension saw and a nice industrial SCM thicknesser. They also have a model making room, a media room, and also have a Menz Shed reading group. This group started as a stories group and changed into a group who are now writing their life stories down....this is something I will suggest when I return).

There metal shop has a power hacksaw, a milling machine and two really nice lathes, one of which they bought brand new. I took lots of photos too! They make kids toys to sell and other projects for money for the shed...most impressed!

Murray Campbell suggested we wait till the windy weather passes before we head to Castle Point as in Murray's words "It can blow the milk out of your tea at Castle Point"



Cheers
Jimu

I have not put in anymore photos from Jimu's trip, but they can be seen out at the shed.

"Music is the shorthand of emotion"
Leo Tolstoy.

ODDS 'N' ENDS

Hello fellow Sheddies



Our off-cut wood bin is full and we like to offer the wood in the first instance to members. The larger off cuts have been taken out and will be used to sell as firewood as a fund raiser. The bin is mainly full of small bits of wood. If you would like the wood, please let me know and (for a donation) you are welcome to it. It is all untreated wood.

Tony Cutten and I ran the Buller half marathon on 13th Feb. Both completed the run in record time. Tony just under 2 hours. Myself in just under 2.5 hours.
A Menzshed team next year? Training provided, Bruce Rudge



Hello fellow Sheddies

We have had a couple of offers from visitors who thought a few of our members might be interested in.

1. A Mr Dave Dunbar has a brand new Grandfather Clock (main working parts). All that is required is for the wooden cabinet to be made. It is totally complete. He is selling it as he can no longer physically do it. He is looking for around \$500.

He can be contacted on 5449023 if you are interested.

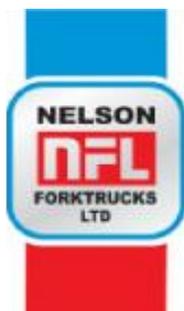
2, A Mr Bill Newsome has been making Victorian Rocking horses for a very long time but now cannot carry on doing his Hobby. I have seen photos of what he has made and they are absolutely amazing. He has plans and templates available plus partially made horses to be finished. There are plans for a large horse and a small horse.

He can be contacted on 5442008

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