

MENZSHED - TAWA -

February 2019

Shed's New Opening Procedures

After reviewing our procedures and in consultation with other successful MenZsheds it has been decided to start each shed secession with a cuppa.



This means that the shed will be opened by the supervisor just before 10:00am on a Tuesday and Saturday and get the tea and coffee brewing. Members can arrive at 10:00am, start the day with a hot drink and get the opportunity to meet other members, welcome new potential members and spend the first half hour socialising.

The shed supervisor may outline the projects and work currently being undertaken and new projects to be started. Members will be invited to assist if they feel up to it or continue with their own projects.

Have Your Say

As members of the community and of other groups (Rotary, Lions, Probus, U3A, Churches) you often get to hear of chances where the MenZshed can be of assistance.

For example, building **picnic tables** for the surrounding bush walks, **shelving system** for the proposed community garden, designing and building **letter boxes** for residents in Grenada North, making **bird feeders and weta houses**, **wood-turned bowls**, **pest traps** or repairing or building a variety of furniture or fittings for schools, senior's residential homes etc.

If there are opportunities where the shed can be involved, please bring them to the 10:00am morning tea session (or at any time) or to me, Ric or any committee member.

We will follow up on your behalf and set up a project if it is a viable.

Shed Project

As mentioned previously, Wellington City Council, our primary sponsor has given us a grant to build additional workbenches for the shed.

The timber and hardware is now in the shed and we need helpers to construct the first four benches. Please advise our secretary, if you would like to be in one of the workbench building teams.

Progress is also being made in the machine room. The drill press and chop saw are now in this room. Marius is leading another team of members to provide additional bench space for items such as the sanders and jig saws.

Pool Table

The shed has been donated an 8 x 4 pool table complete with a set of balls and cues. Unfortunately the table top is not in pristine condition and requires stripping and recovering. When complete this pool table will be another excellent resource either as a social item for the shed or (if absolutely necessary) As something we could sell for shed funds.

Wood Turning

Bryan Hawkins has made excellent progress in obtaining a new chuck for one of the wood lathes. He has persuaded the Wood workers guild (WWG) to donate the chuck (an expensive piece of machinery) to the shed. Thank you Bryan and WWG.

By way of an introduction by the Wood Worker's Guild workshop on Saturday 16 March, Bryan plans to run a brief "Introduction to Wood Turning" session on **Saturday 9 March** from **11:00am**.

Some of Bryan's wood turned artefacts displayed below:



Wood Worker's Guild Workshop

As mentioned previously, on **Saturday 16 March** about 40 members from the Guild of Woodworkers will visit the shed for an all day workshop. The demonstration and workshop will last all day from 9:00am to about 4:00pm.

As a result, the shed will be unavailable as a normal open day on 16 March.

Jack Fry will be the shed supervisor on that day as he is also member of WWG. He will be providing lunch at \$10.00 per head.

Please advise Jack Fry if you intend being at the WWG workshop on the 16 March and if you would like lunch.

Sponsors

The Union Church's St David's Fund has granted us \$1,000 towards developing our shed facilities. The money will probably be used to equip each workbench with a basic set of tools. Our sincere thanks to St David's Fund and all our sponsors.

Completed Activities

Saturday 16 February will be regarded as a successful awareness day for our Shed.

For a start, the shed was invited to have a presence at the Linden Social Centre Open Day.

There was a lot of interest in shed and activities and we have probably signed up two new members. *A lady wanted her husband to join as she wanted a coffin made. Not sure if it was for her or the husband!*

We exhibited Bryan's wood turned artefacts and raised over \$100.00.



John Holloway, Gary Beecroft, Ric Godenho and Ian Harris at the Linden Community Centre

Also on the same day, MenZshed presented Tawa Library with five planter boxes that the Tawa Residents Association had commissioned. This work was finally carried out by some of the Smartway Builders team members on our behalf of the shed.



Pictured above from left with **Ann Woolston**, Director of Smartway Builders, is **Fiona Wild** from Tawa Residents Association who commissioned the planter boxes, **Annemarie van der Slot-Verhoeven** from Mayflower nurseries who supplied the topsoil and plants, **Howard Woolston**, Owner / Director of Smartway Builders who was instrumental in having the planters built, **Gary Beecroft** MenZshed chairman and **Richard Herbert** chair of the Tawa community board.

The library staff were delighted to receive the planters that now dress the front of the library.

Committee Meetings

Because the committee sees shed activities ramping up in 2019, they have decided to meet every fortnight (rather than monthly) to fully support these activities. (Sign off projects, ratify proposals, review progress and plan future activities).

The committee is also considering having a monthly meeting with the members to hear suggestions, consider changes to our operation and be available to answer queries. A decision on these monthly member's meetings will be confirmed in the next few weeks.

Communications

Following on from the need to communicate better, we have had little response to our Secretary's request concerning the proposed circulation of the list of our members' names, addresses and contact details to all paid-up members.

If you have any objections to your information being released, please let Secretary Doug know as soon as possible.

Knowing who our members are and how to contact them contact them, should help to build up friendships.

Shed Operation

Several members have commented on how neat and organised the shed is looking. This is mainly due to the additional shelving that was installed last year and Jack Fry's diligence in storing the tools in the correct shelves. He has produced a list of tools we have where they are stored.

Just a friendly reminder, for continued health and safety reasons,

- When bringing 'new' tools for the shed, please put them in the wire shelving near the registration desk (Jack will need to allocate them to a shelf and update the tool register)
- please return tools to their correct storage location after use,
- you wear hearing and vision protectors when in the shed (we have bought a quantity of new ear muffs and goggles)
- please clean your bench and workspace after use
- do not store tools, or timber on workbenches, please keep them clear
- look out for others especially if you see them struggling or using tools in an unsafe way
- do not park by the kitchen, drive through the second set of gates and park outside the shed
- be considerate when parking, keeping the shed roller door clear
- we have a trailer for hire and use by members (see our secretary for details).

Remember SAFETY is everybody's responsibility!

Thank You

Ric Godenho

Just to let you know, John left the MenZshed on Saturday afternoon and cashed his superannuation cheque in a bar. It was a good cheque, enough that he was able to party until Monday afternoon.

He went home to face his wife knowing that he would be in trouble. All she said was, "How would you like it if you didn't see me for three days?"

With his mind still in a bit of a haze he replied, " That would suit me just fine."

Tuesday came and he didn't see his wife, then Wednesday the same, by Thursday he could just see her out of the corner of his left eye.

