

MENZSHED - TAWA -

May 2019

BBQ

After discussions with members and the committee, it was decided that it had been a while since we got together simply to socialise and just have a friendly day at the shed.

So there is a FREE BBQ planned on for the middle of the year on **Saturday 1 June** at the shed. It will start at 10:00AM and run until 1:00PM.

This get together will be an opportunity to once again check out our facilities, meet fellow members and hopefully get inspired to learn some new skills like wood turning, or build projects of your own. As we would love to know what you think, we encourage you to bring ideas or suggestions for discussion. You could discuss them directly with the chairman Gary or any committee member present. We look forward to your comments recommendations or proposals.

The BBQ is also an invitation to your other half to see for herself what men do (other than drink tea, brag and tell lies) when the menfolk visit the shed every Tuesday and Saturday.

Shed update

Our shed is reasonably well established now with a range of certified tools and accessories neatly catalogued and stored.

We have a trailer that is available to our members for hire at very reasonable rates. Please enquire from any committee member or supervisor.

The shed has just been generously gifted a BBQ from the Kapiti MenZshed. We plan to use it on Saturday 1 June. We also have a second BBQ that requires some minor work to make operational. If you are interested in a BBQ or would like to help get it up and running, please see any shed supervisor.

We have built six work benches and plan to equip them with wood vices.

We have also been given a pool table with all the accessories. The cloth needs replacing and we just need some of you to help re-felt the table. It will be for our own use, but if that does not work out, then we will have an asset that we could sell for valuable funds.

Three of our wood turning lathes are now operational and equipped with a comprehensive set of wood carving chisels. Bryan Hawkins is our wood turning expert and he has indicated that he is more than willing to run some classes if necessary.

Recently we held a tool sharpening workshop and plan to have regular monthly workshops covering a variety of skills.

Archie Kerr from the Naenae MenZshed runs a wood carving session at their shed on the 3rd Tuesday of every month between 7-9 pm. Archie is happy for Tawa people to attend - if enough become involved, there could be a session at Tawa. Naenae MenZshed is in Treadwell Street. The wood carving coordinator is Sam Hillis on 529 7105. Alternatively contact Nick Crocker (see below).

On Saturday 25 May there is a Knife making Workshop with Green Woodworkers & John Spittal at the Naenae MenZshed. If you are interested in attending, please see Nick Crocker or email him at alopex@actrix.co.nz

The shed plans to visit other MenZsheds over the following months and have more social interaction with them. The next outing is to the Henley Shed in Masterton **Friday 17 May**. Please contact David Bray if you would like a ride or could help with the carpooling.

Andre Lategan has volunteered to coordinate projects for the members. So if you plan to get involved with one of our projects, please see Andre. He is keeping a record of who / what / when about them and will update the committee as and when he needs to.

Spring into Tawa Projects

Spring into Tawa is a community event for which we are planning to be involved. So over the next few months we will be making Bird Feeders, Weta Motels and hopefully wooden toys for sale at this event.



The bird feeders will be sold completely made up or as a kit.

Please pop along any Tuesday or Saturday and help making these saleable items for the shed.

Projects

Tawa MenZshed is a community initiative established to assist and get involved with organisations and individuals in our area.

We have undertaken a few community projects and have a few more on our books but we are excited to do more for our neighbours and corporations

If you are aware of how we can be of service to companies, schools, institutes or groups in and around Tawa, then please bring them to our BBQ get together on Saturday 1 June. Alternatively, just drop me a note or have a chat with any committee member. We need your involvement in promoting the shed.

Fund Raising

There are two exciting Fund Raising activities (apart from the firewood sales) that are planned for the shed and naturally we need your help in maximising our revenue and profit from them.

The first is a

Sausage Sizzle to be held at **Mitre 10 Porirua** on Queen's birthday Monday **3rd June** between 10.00AM and 4.00PM (6 hours)



We need at least 12 volunteers, two for each session of one hour to sell "*Bangers for the Queen*".

There is a sign on the whiteboard as you enter the shed where you can record which time slot you prefer to be available. Alternately contact Ric on (04) 232 4707.

The second Fund raiser is a **Movie evening**. This will be a screening of **Rocketman**.

ROCKETMAN is an epic musical fantasy about the incredible human story of Elton John's breakthrough years. The film follows the fantastical journey of transformation from shy piano prodigy Reginald Dwight into international superstar Elton John.

This inspirational story – set to Elton John's most beloved songs and performed by star Taron Egerton – tells the universally relatable story of how a small-town boy became one of the most iconic figures in pop culture.

ROCKETMAN also stars Jamie Bell as Elton's longtime lyricist and writing partner Bernie Taupin, Richard Madden as Elton's first manager, John Reid, and Bryce Dallas Howard as Elton's mother Sheila Farebrother.

The movie will screen exclusively for our MenZshed at **6:00PM** at the **Pauatahanui Light House** cinema on **Wednesday 12 June 2019**.

Tickets cost \$20.00 each and there are a limited number of seats.

Please contact any committee member or our secretary Doug on 232 7894.

Safety

Health and Safety is one our prime concerns at the Tawa MenZshed. We have shed supervisors to look out for workers in the shed, but it is everyone's personal responsibility to be aware of the potentially dangerous environment we work in, particularly around power tools.

Jim Armstrong who was the President of the Wellington Wood Guild in 2015 is an excellent & skilled woodworker, as well as a **Plastic Surgeon**. Part of his work entails repairing damaged hands.



Jim writes, *“I have spent hundreds, if not thousands of hours sitting at an operating table trying to mend mangled amputated hand parts over the last 25 years. And I can guarantee you that no matter how good the surgery and how good the hand therapist or how motivated the patient, those hands are never as good as the original.*

“In our fairly fairly modest regional surgical unit at Hutt Hospital we see about 1.7 skill saw injuries per week. If you add bench saws, band saws and drop saws into the equation we see about 2.5 saw injuries per week which is about 130 a year.

One of the most interesting facts we found when reviewing these skill saw injuries [by ‘Skill’ saw I mean all hand-held circular saws] was that the average experience of the user was about 15 years. Some had been using these saws for 35 years. **Experience is no protection.**

Please take extra care in the shed and look after fellow members, especially when working with power tools.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 17 May	Henley MenZshed Masterton visit. Depart from Union Church carpark at 9:00AM. Contact David Bray.
Saturday 1 June	Tawa MenZshed free BBQ for members and supporters starting at 10:00AM
Monday 3 June	Queen’s Birthday BBQ Fundraiser for the shed at Porirua Mitre10 from 10:00am to 4:00PM. Volunteers needed.
Wednesday 12 June	Rocket Man Movie evening at Pauatahanui Lighthouse at 6:00PM. Limited number of tickets

In Conclusion

To gauge the effectiveness (or otherwise) of these monthly communications (that is, if you find the monthly newsletters useful), please send Ric an email with the word “newsletter” in the subject line to Ricg@xtra.co.nz. Thank you.

Ric Godenho.