



MENZSHED
- TAWA -



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Nov - Dec 2019

Christmas cheer from the Chair – of Tawa MenzShed that is.


It is a little over three years since we had the inaugural establishment meeting of Tawa MenzShed and nearly 18 months since we opened the doors and started turning wood into sawdust – and other things - some of which are actually useful.

We have around 100 members who have signed up and about 60 odd who have actually paid their subs, so we are in fine fettle. We now open three days a week and will probably have to consider other opening days if more members become active.

We are starting to fledge our wings with community projects to expand our horizons beyond our in-house projects. A pantry for the Tawa Community Gardens. Repairing a Lions seat in the Tawa Bush Reserve. New Year's projects for early 2020 are likely to include raised gardens for Tawa School and plant propagation shade tunnels for Friends of Tawa Bush Reserve.

Overall we are in good shape for 2020 as we continue to enhance our facilities with new tools and improvements to all aspects of what we have to offer to members and our community. One day, we will even have internal access out to tea room.

May I take this opportunity to wish all MenzShed members and their families a very merry Christmas and a safe holiday season.

And please do remember, as you experience the slings and arrows of life, a good MenzShedder will always remember that, sometimes you are the hammer, and sometimes you are the nail. 

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Tawa Menzshed Workshops.

We have been offered two workshops that members may be interested in taking part in.

1: Chair making

This workshop is a two consecutive weekends at Mangaroa Valley, Upper Hutt using a pole lathe turning green wood, that is wood freshly felled, bending, and assembling. At a later date, probably at our shed, weaving the seat with sea grass. If you are interested and have never done any wood turning before Brian Hawkins is prepared to organise a beginners course on the power lathes in the shed so that you can accomplish basic wood tuning before attempting to use the pole lathe. For an example of the type of chair here is a photograph of one that I made. If you are interested I can show it at the shed one day.


For those of you who have never seen a pole lathe in action here am I trundling away on one making the spindles for my chair.



2. Pyrography.

Graeme McIntyre a member of the Wellington Wood Workers Guild is quite prepared to demonstrate decorating wooden objects by burning a design using a pyrograph tool. This effect is the same as the key ring holders made by Marius except they were mass produced using a laser.

So if you are interested in taking part in either of these two workshops in early next year please contact me.

Jack Fry 232 2594 

Subscriptions

A reminder about subscriptions and new members, a form can be got at the shed, fill it out and sign it.

Subscription runs from 1st July to 30 June so we are halfway through our year but surprisingly there are a number that havnt yet paid.


Payment can be made in three ways.

1. Directly transfer \$20.00 into the shed's account (details on form) and hand the completed form any shed supervisor at shed

2. Enclose cash or cheque with the completed form and hand the completed form any shed supervisor at shed


3. Mail your cheque directly to the treasurer, John Melville together with the completed form.

Treasurer, John Melville, email john@jamm.co.nz.

We start each session with a cuppa and a natter - and maybe discuss the projects for the day. We are asked to chip in a couple of dollars to help pay for refreshments & bikkies. 



Pool Table

Some of our members have now completed the re-covering of our pool table - as you can see some couldn't resist trying it out and neither can I!!! To make more room down in the workshop it has been "manhauled" up into the "quiet" room, where hopefully it will stay?? 



The Container Story


In early 2017 when Tawa Menzshed was a being but without a shed we were offered, free of charge, a container. Three of us went to view this gift which at the time was full of furniture and covered with a tarpaulin. I assumed that there was a small leak or two which we could easily fix but then the container arrived minus its furniture and tarpaulin but plus hundreds of holes in the roof and some in the sides



What a shock and what are we going to do?. We talked to a Container dealer who said it was the worst container he had ever seen and offered to sell us a second hand one for \$2,000.00, which we did not have. He suggested that we could get it taken away for free and maybe even get some money for it as scrap. So we then thought about it for awhile, shall we keep it and cover up the holes with a steel roof or a tarpaulin?. In the mean time we were given a load of deck joists which we put in the container out of the way but unfortunately not to keep them dry.

Finally this year we made the decision to cover the roof with second hand corrugated iron which **Smartway Builders** will contribute and use the deck joists, after de nailing, as the timer plate and rafters for the roof so that when complete we can store most of the timber which is gradually filling up the shed. But we need help as we need at least four members to cut and install the roof timbers and probably the same amount to fix the roofing iron.

So folks how about it and maybe then we could give the old container a lick of paint.

Jack Fry 232 2594 

Spring into Tawa


The shed had a very successful stall at **Spring into Tawa** event Sat 19 October where we were able to show a bit how the Menzshed operates to the community of Tawa, and sell a number of products that have been made by members.

Ann Woolston from Smartway Builders had kindly volunteered to coordinate this event for the shed.

We had a range of items on display for sale which also exhibit some of the work that can be done at the Shed. These including; key rings, bird nectar feeders, candle holders, toast tweezers, toy cars, and more.

Thanks to all who worked hard in making all the products for the stall, to all those who helped on the day in the setup, dismantle, sales and walking through crowds promoting MenZShed membership.

There are still some items that can be purchased: Bird Feeders - \$15.00, Tea Lights - Sets of 3 from same piece of wood - \$10.00, Triple Tea Light - \$8.00, Single Tea Light - \$4.00. spread the word.

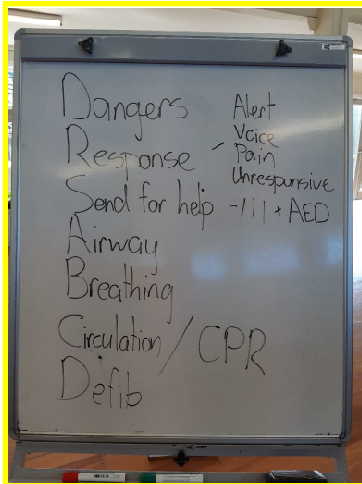
It started out rather wet but that didn't stop everyone getting involved and helping make it a success. Roll on to next years Spring Into Tawa. 



First Aid Training

On Saturday October 12 **Tawa Union Church** arranged for Red Cross to put on a morning of basic First Aid training at the church in Elena Place. The course was run from 9am to 11am.

This is part of the TUC's aim to have at least one person from each of their TUC groups to have First Aid skills. The Menzshed were able to take advantage of this opportunity to send several members to attend the training - which they hope never to use.



We were presented with a "Check List" to follow:

Danger
Response
Send for help
Airway
Breathing
Circulation/CPR
Defib

.....and its pretty important to follow

this check list as close as you can as each step is very important.

David of course (as we all did) had a number of questions to be answered.



It then was demonstration time - easy when watching the expert.....



I dont think David's patient quite got up and

This is really the best option if things really going "pear shaped" but you need access to the Defibrillation machine. This unit while it looks quite daunting, when in use it speaks to you with very explicit instructions - it will not give the electric shock if it detects its not necessary.



I think we should have a session at the Menzshed – its almost 100% certain we will have an occasion at some stage in the future to need to use this knowledge and maybe the Defibrillation m/c ☐

Looks like Gary wasn't sure what to do with that "breathing shield"



Community Pantry

The Menzshed was approached earlier this year to see if we could construct a community pantry for excess produce from the Community Garden in Oxford Street. An outline plan and photo was provided as an example of what was envisaged. Brian Smith produced a design maximising the use of standard size materials to reduce waste and cost. A grant was obtained from the Community Garden via a Community Grant and Brian Frampton of ITM Tawa generously donated some of the materials.

To enable most work to be undertaken in the Shed, the construction is in two parts - a base which was installed on site (photo) and the upper pantry portion which is then fitted onto the base when complete (photo). Shed members contributed knowledge, experience and time to produce the completed unit which is about to be installed on site outside the Tawa Central Kindergarten. It's rumoured that the children will decorate the outside.

Ian Harris ☐



Above: Ian proudly admiring “planting” of base and start of installation.



Above: Pantry in assembly mode in Menzshed workshop

Below & right: Finished and installed Pantry



The **MenzShed** Tawa (MZT) and the **Friends of the Tawa Bush Reserves** (FOTBR) Collaboration (Gary Beecroft)

FOTBR's plant propagation operation generates approximately 500 trees per annum from locally eco-sourced seed, for planting in Tawa's bush reserves. The current propagation facility at Tawa College will soon be unavailable. The FOTBR approached the MZT and the WCC to consider collaborative use of the land beside the MZT. Both committees supported the community groups operating in collaboration as neighbours, and the WCC agreed.

In the new year the FOTBR will finish clearing the site, then erect a Greenhouse (7M X 2.4M) and two shade houses (8M X 3M), on the site pictured below. It is hoped that both organisations will be able to help each other with construction, fitout, and funding from external sources. The collaboration will further extend the important positive attitude of Tawa Community groups involvement and support for the people of Tawa. ☐



Friends of the Tawa Bush Reserves

Andre has organised with members of the "Tawa Menzshed" and for "Friends of the Tawa Bush Reserves" to repair a seat somewhere off Peterhouse Street in Tawa. As can be seen by the photo the seat part is pretty far gone. It will probably need to have the wood replaced - just the sort of job the Menzshed like to get stuck into.



There is a need for some additional new supervisors, particularly to cover the new opening day of Thursday and other gaps as they arise as a few of the original supervisors are no longer able to do this.

Seasons Greeting, have a safe Christmas holidays and best wishes from the committee.

MENZSHED TAWA DAY SUPERVISORS' ROSTER December 2019 – February 2020

Saturday, 7 December	Max George
Tuesday, 10 December	André Lategan
Thursday, 12 December	Richard Herbert
Saturday, 14 December	John Melville
Tuesday, 17 December	Jack Fry
Thursday, 19 December	André Lategan
Saturday, 21 December	Richard Herbert

Please Note closure period

Saturday, 18 January

Tuesday, 21 January

Thursday, 23 January

Saturday, 25 January

Tuesday, 28 January

Thursday, 30 January

Saturday, 1 February

Tuesday, 4 February

Thursday, 6 February

Saturday, 8 February

Tuesday, 11 February

Thursday, 13 February

Saturday, 15 February

Tuesday, 18 February

Thursday, 20 February

Saturday, 22 February

Tuesday, 25 February

Thursday, 27 February

Saturday, 29 February

Shed operations Closed for Christmas – New Year break

Max George

Still need volunteer

Bryan Hawkins

Ian Harris

Jack Fry

John Gibson

Max George

André Lategan

Shed operations Closed for Waitangi Day

John Melville

Jack Fry

André Lategan

John Holloway

Ian Harris

John Gibson

John Melville

Jack Fry

André Lategan

John Holloway

NOTES:

Shed Supervisor Volunteers so far are:

Gary Beecroft, David Bray, Jack Fry, Max George, Ian Harris, André Lategan, John Melville, Bryan Hawkins, John Holloway, Richard Herbert, Stuart Lavin.

If you cannot make your allocated day, please contact the persons rostered for the next couple of meetings to arrange a swap.

- Jack is not available on Saturdays
- David prefers Saturdays
- Max prefers 1st Saturday.
- Gary, Bryan and John Gibson, John Holloway cannot do Tuesdays
- John Holloway cannot do Thursdays