

# MENZSHED - TAWA -

[www.facebook.com/TawaMenzShed](https://www.facebook.com/TawaMenzShed)  
[www.tawamenzshed.org.nz](http://www.tawamenzshed.org.nz)

Jan-Feb 2022

## Covid still dominates



Happy new year to you all.

We are not sure yet but predictions are dire that the new strains of Covid will reach a peak this coming year. Its been a trying couple of years and as far as I know none of our members have had the Covid??

We are all taking precautions to minimise its spread, which has probably kept a number of members away. The whole way we approach everyday things has changed – some of which will be with us for a long time.

As with other organisations the Tawa Menzshed is taking the required precautions, i.e. requiring members that attend are double vaccinated and boosted, wears masks – which in a woodworking environment is advisable anyway – distance etc.

There has been lots of activity by members that have attended regularly and your committee are working hard to upgrade more m/c's to make life easier and safer for all.

There have been many enquiries for all manner of projects for us to undertake, some not practicable, some we consider would make us dangerously liable if things went wrong. We like to help if we can, but the best thing is to try to get these people to come along to the 'shed and enjoy the delights of do it for themselves, after-all there is no shortage of skilled help and advice.

## A Joint Effort.....

On 21 March 2021, Rachael Millar, one of Tawa's St Francis Xavier School Grants' Officers and Teacher Aide visited our MenZshed to ask if we could build three Picnic tables for the children aged around 5 to 7 years old.

Rachael had some pictures of a picnic table the school wanted, built by a North American builder.

So in taking on this community request, we had to consider a few requirements of the build.

Did we have the manpower to commit to the project and did it conflict with any other projects currently being undertaken? Then there was the material necessary for the table. We decided not use Radiata Pine because the H3.1 pines; suitable for outdoor furniture could be hazardous (I.E. it contains copper chromium **arsenic** (CCA)). Fortunately Bunnings stocked Kwila an Indonesian hardwood used extensively for decking and although more expensive than the pine, it was perfect for use with children.

On March 22 we provided Rachael with the price for the job using Kwila and stainless screw fasteners. Her grant application with Hutt Mana Charitable Trust was successful and she advised us on May 22 when we started the build.

Jim, Bryan and I bought the timber and started designing the table so that all fasteners (screws and bolts) would not be visible on the table top or seats.

A proto type table was completed and on 24 June 2021 and Rachael was invited back to the shed to check out the prototype. **She liked it.**

More material was purchased from Bunnings and the second and third tables were started.

The project was pleasurable to complete, but due to the weather and other school commitments, all three tables weren't delivered to the school till 12 August 2021.



WE are proud of the finished products and the team effort to build the tables as was the school, Feedback from Rachael confirmed that the school was pleased with the result and from the faces on the children and excitement of using them for their lunch, we are proud to have been part of a successful community project.

Ric Godenho.

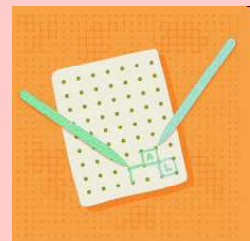
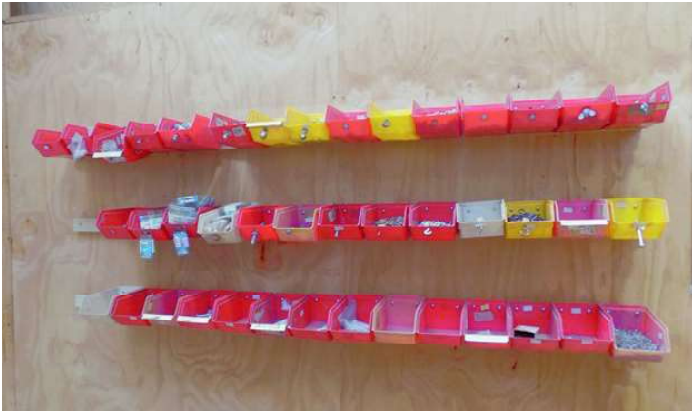






## French cleat fixings

When ITM closed in Tawa they gave John Bertie lots of items that they used to stock. A lot of miscellaneous items such as dome nuts, split pins, screw hooks etc., which we did not have room on the shelves so Peter Nalder erected some of the French cleat rails on the wall between the tool store and the stair case and fitted trays on the rails. The rails are now full so Don Jones is adding to them and in order to aid identification as to what is inside one piece is attached to the front to make it easier for you.



## Keeping your tools sharp

It is all very well keeping your chisels sharp, but you need to keep your brain sharp too.

Here is a daily exercise for all Shedders. Find one 5 letter word every day.

<https://www.powerlanguage.co.uk/wordle/>

Yes. A new word every day. Look sharp!

## **Machine Tool Gurus or Experts**

Your Shed now has a number of quite sophisticated modern machine tools in addition to some quite serviceable older machines, which somehow have escaped from the local museum for retired tools.

What has become evident is that the complexity of the newer machine tools, and the foibles of some of the older tools, creates the opportunity for less experienced members to misuse these tools, leading in some cases to damage to the machines, which then causes an inconvenience to other members wishing to use them.

Your committee has decided that each machine deemed to be “complex” is to have a “guru” or expert, assisted by one or two deputies, to be responsible for certifying individual members’ competence to operate each of the designated machines, to be responsible for training and ongoing maintenance.

To that end we need volunteers for these roles. We know that many of our members do indeed have expertise in each of these machines. We don’t necessarily know who they are. So if that’s you, please let Jack know and he will add you to the team.

The current list of candidate tools is: Band Saw, Compound Saw, Drill Press, Grizzly Saw, Morticer, Planer, Router Table, Stop Saw and Thicknesser. Know stuff about any of these machines? Then your Shed needs YOU!

To be a minder or deputy you need to have a good working knowledge of the machine and capable of doing minor adjustments, there are instruction books for most of the machines in the filing cabinet in the room upstairs. Other wise use Google or ask people like Andre, Brian, Nick or myself.

<u><b>Machine</b></u>	<u><b>Minder or guru</b></u>	<u><b>Deputy</b></u>
1. Band saw	Jack	?
2. Compound Saw	?	John Gibson
3. Drill Press	Andre	?
4. Grizzly Saw	John Gibson	?
5. Morticer	Gary	?
6. Planer	John Holloway	?
7. Router Table	Ben	?
8. Stop Saw	Andre	?
9. Thicknesser	Neville	Jack



### **Medical events at the Shed**



**In the event of any serious medical event at the shed we will call an ambulance.**

For those members who are concerned about less serious incidents that may occur to them at the Shed (we are all getting older), we would ask you please to write an emergency contact phone number on the back of your name tag (and their name!) so that telephone contact can be made if needed.

This would only be used in the unlikely event of a moderate incident where the affected party is unable to make the call themselves. *Excludes dropping your own phone down the loo!*

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## Weta Motels

As the original design was difficult to make Joey redesigned the weta motel and has made several with either wood or tin roof. These are for sale at \$25.00. Lets hope that these work as well as the original where wetas moved in within a week of installation.



## Firewood For Sale.

Your winter firewood stock run down? The first Autumn chills during lockdown has reminded us that winter

is on its way. And so as we emerge out of lockdown and the Tawa MenZshed resumes operations we are starting up again a fundraiser (maybe) project to sell boxes of firewood to assist with the shed development and as a service to the community.

Can MenZshed members please help spread the word to neighbours and circle of friends who may have wood burners.

Banana boxes of firewood sell for \$10.00 each and can be delivered within Tawa. The firewood comprises cut up pallets, and offcuts from other MenZshed activities.

To place your orders please contact Richard Herbert on 232 6828, or email: [herbert.r@xtra.co.nz](mailto:herbert.r@xtra.co.nz)

Payment either on delivery or to the MenZshed bank account 02 0552 0040123 00 Reference "your surname"





*The Tawa Menzshed was delighted to be involved in this fund raising project run by:*

## **ROTARY CLUB OF TAWA**

*and from all of us a great "Thank You" goes to Ben Chambers, he toiled away and built this wonderful Mud Kitchen for them to raffle. □*



**The Rotary Club of Tawa Inc.**

PO Box 51086, Tawa

Wellington 5429

Karyn Meade, President

Paul Drummond, Secretary

2021-2022

## **ROTARY CLUB OF TAWA**



6 February 2022

The Chair

Menzshed Tawa

By email: [gary.beecroft@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gary.beecroft@xtra.co.nz)

Dear Gary

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Tawa, I am writing to make you aware of the success of our Christmas raffle.

The outdoor kitchen commissioned from Menzshed was a great drawcard, becoming the main raffle prize shown on the raffle tickets:



Tickets.

\$5 each: \$20 per book

### **Christmas 2021 Raffle**

Funds raised are for the

***Wellington Regional Childrens Hospital***

1st Prize: Children's outdoor play kitchen

2nd Prize: Children's bike

3rd Prize: Children's outdoor chairs



Raffle closes and drawn 15 December 2021.

Tickets limited to 2000, prizes not exchangeable.

Winners will be notified by phone with prizes delivered in the Wellington region.

The Rotary Club of Tawa acknowledges the Tawa Menzshed construction of the outdoor kitchen.

The winner of the mud kitchen lives in Raumati and he and his wife were pleased to have won and to have the kitchen delivered to their home.

Thank you for providing such a well-constructed outdoor kitchen. At the end of the raffle promotion, Tawa Rotary was pleased to be able to make a \$5000 grant towards the new Wellington Children's Hospital.

Regards

***Elizabeth Sutton***

Elizabeth Sutton

Convenor, Fund Raising Committee

**The Rotary Club of Tawa Inc.** <http://www.tawarotary.org.nz/>



Rotary Club of Tawa



I was supervisor couple weeks back, and I managed to find the shed due to our bright new shiny sign pointing the way, this was organised after many enquiries by our honourable secretary John Gibson. He was as delighted as I was to see it pointing the way.....



.....during the morning for the guys there it was all go, none more so than Joey beavering away at our Weta Houses, for once he was deciding exactly “how to do it”. I have noticed on some occasions he is lucky enough to get lots of advice from anyone or everyone that passes by his bench!! ☐







I have also noticed over the past weeks two projects by a couple of members that elicit many enquiries from the most curious among us, enquiring what, why, how and so on.

All will be revealed in time.....



On a more serious note, when I went into the m/c room, it was disappointing to see our shiny new SawStop m/c had been used by someone and they had not cleaned – or at very least not completed cleaning up on m/c, and as important not around it. If you find any of our m/cs like this when you go to use them and you use them – clean it up after use – don't leave it like it after you use it ☐