



MENZSHED - TAWA -

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Dec 2022



CHRISTMAS WISHES

Hello Men's Shed Members,

As your Chair, and on behalf of our outstanding committee, I want to wish you all season's greetings and the very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

As I've grown older and more inclined to reflection, I have realised the greatest thing about the festive season is it makes us think about the things most important to us; our philosophy of life, what we believe in religiously, and the people most important to us. In New Zealand we have the privilege of being able to freely do these things; celebrate our beliefs and have our family and friends with us for the festive season. A privilege to appreciate every day.

I would like to thank all of you who have made contributions to our organisation and its goals over the last 12 months, but especially to the committee members, supervisors, and project leaders who make a significant contribution every week to keep our organisation running for you and our community.

Best wishes to you all and I look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Gary Beecroft



Hi all, as editor I would like to say its been an exciting year, its gone pretty quick as they do these days. Thank you to everyone for all the patience and encouragement through the year, I never fail to be impressed with the knowledge and range of the diverse skills the different members have.

All have a great Christmas and all the very best for the coming year.



I want to buy an electric car - but they charge too much



We had a lovely visit from Greg O'Connor, as you can see Gary was learning from his experience. Great to see such a busy man making time to visit our shed, hope to see you more often in the coming year Greg.



Looks like Gary is learning a thing or two from our local MP Greg O'Connor



..... equally I think Greg might also be learning something too?? or could he be asking Greg for something our shed needs!!



Also there to meet Greg were Mil Milenkovic, Jim Bourke and Graeme Chambelain

Some of our members "modelling" the new hi-tech earmuffs we have recently purchased with the aid of a grant from Hutt Mana Charitable Trust



A new table for our new Thicknesser



Peter Nalder is making great strides on the “ new table” for our new Thicknesser

Below: Our new thicknesser waiting patiently for Peter’s new mounting table



Reminder.....

Just to remind people we have a number of items to sell now, we have various items that have been made at the shed, can't remember them all but some are Majong racks - these come in various woods at various prices, coasters, garden stakes, another batch of bird feeders in the making, I think there are Weta houses, and other items to. If you would like a list, any committee member can be contacted but Jack Fry has master list.

Urgent reminders.....

There are a couple of ongoing subjects of discussion that should be repeated here, the dust extraction system we have in the m/c room works most efficiently for the m/c you are using, when only the gate is open for the the m/c in use. That's pretty obvious. If several m/cs on same line are being used at the same time - then dust extraction efficiency will be reduced because there is less suction at each gate. That's fine when we are aware of this. The problem can and does arise when “someone” doesn't close their gate after use, please when using the dust extraction system (*and we want you to*) open your gate when using the m/c and close it again when finished.

I think it's also timely to remind members to clean up after using a bench or m/c, I know there are members who are scrupulous about this, but there are others that are not. There are always people that will clean up a dirty m/c for others but they shouldn't have to.

My last little niggles/reminders regards the Stopsaw. This is a wonderful piece of equipment but there is a proper, correct sequence for firing up this m/c. *Its on the wall but will reduce it to basics here.*

When starting on this m/c - setup as much as you can for the cut you are going to do, height of blade, fence position, guards in place etc. - to check accuracy and safety - before even plugging in at wall, now at this stage big red paddle button should be pushed in, and on/off sw in down position. When satisfied *plug m/c in, start dust extraction* - if not already going, make *sure gate is open*. **Switch on/off to on and observe the sequence of lights (red flashing) - they are going through a self check to make sure the safety (your safety) module is working fine, if you dont get a green light DONT USE THE M/C**, if you get the green light all is fine and if all else is fine you can start the saw blade. When finished all your cuts, a reverse sequence should be adopted, push in red paddle button, **turn on/off sw to off - DONT FORGET THIS STEP**, lower blade etc, close gate on dust extraction, turn off dust extraction, unplug m/c and secure. The procedure for the dust extraction on the Stopsaw of course applies to all the m/cs connected to the system.



TAWA LIONS CHRISTMAS PARADE



2022

The Tawa Menzshed were pleased to once again collaborate with Tawa Lions to help contribute to Tawa community by assisting with the preparation of the Pirate float for this years recent Xmas parade through Tawa.

On right, is John Birtie (Lion member and Tawa Menzshed member) putting finishing touches to their Pirates float.

John did anyone notice the Pirate flag was upside down??



After 3-year gap between appearances Ohariu MP Greg O'Connor, accompanied by an offsider, appeared as ringmaster up at the front of the Johnsonville Christmas Parade

[This Photo is courtesy of The Herald newspaper 8th Dec 2022](#)



Expanding the car park at the MZT

Over the last year the Committees of the Men's Shed (MZT) and the Friends of the Tawa Bush Reserved (FOTBR) have been negotiating with Wellington City Council (WCC) regarding an expansion to our car parking area, also with the possibility of installing a new container on that site for each of the 3 organisations involved.

Recently, working in close coordination with the FOTBR, WCC have given permission to clear the site, unfortunately probably at our own expense, but any costs will be shared with MZT. There is a possibility that the WCC Sports Ground team may supply a front-end loader.

Some committee members have suggested the first step is clearing all the grass off the site, so we have an idea of the ground base and what is involved in its development.

The cheapest method of doing this would be to have a combined working bee with the FOTBR. Using existing trailers and transporting the green waste to the broken hill refuse site would be a cheap option. If supported the current plan is to organise this with Richard Herbert and FOTBR early in the new year so please members keep this in mind.

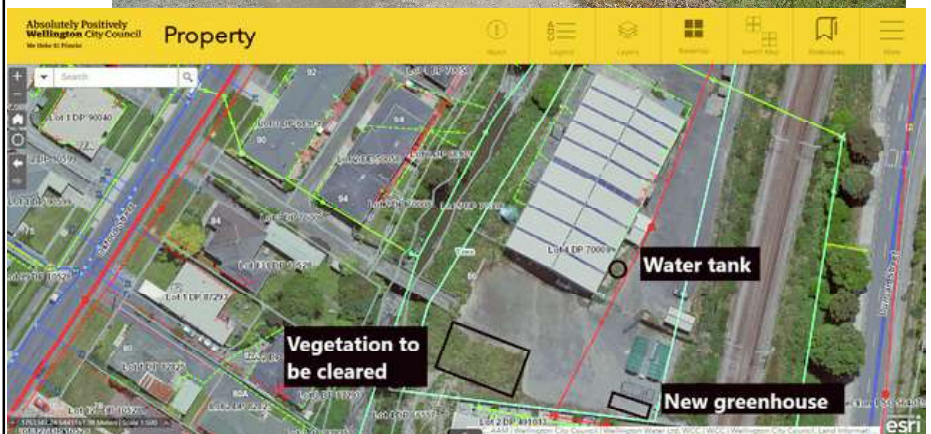
There has also been a proposal to erect a small extension on the end of building to house our dust extraction system, thus reducing the noise drastically, in this extension we could also house some timber. Time will tell?

Gary Beecroft



Reminder....

Our shed will be closed for Xmas/New Year. Last session for 2022 will be **Sat Dec 17th**, Super will be Graeme Chamberlain. First session in New Year will be **Tues Jan 24th 2023**



Why the mathematicians are the best cooks, they turn average ingredient into a mean meal, even with a bad range!





Original, it got wet and was breaking up

For those members that have watched me fumble my way through making a replacment toy cooker for the Plunket, thank you for all the advice and encouragement. It was gratefully received by Plunket



I was ready to give up at this stage.....



This was the trolley that I was given so much advice on - and I was grateful - the little children broke the wooden axles so it had to come back in for "modifications", its now built like the proverbial "brick...."

I got an email explaining how to read maps backward - it was spam



Tawa RSA sign refurbishment

A bit more painting has been done on the RSA sign, it must be getting close to re-assembly ??

Jack has been working his magic on the metal parts - cant wait to get those recipe's

