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March 2025

BBQ Shelter for Wall Street Park

The long awaited opening for the BBQ shelter took place on 14 Feb. The task for design and production was taken on by John Gibson and with the help of a few others from shed it was duly fabricated, mostly at the shed then taken to the park and erected.

On the day the event was very well attended by the different groups that have been involved with making this day happen - a list has duly been mounted on the BBQ for all to see. The weather was a stunner, several members from shed turned up, Greg O'Connor and Jill Day were among other notorieties in attendance. Jill Day gave a good speech acknowledging all those people and organisations that have contributed.



Thank you to all those that helped JG to make this happen for the local community

Firewood For Sale

Your winter firewood stock run down? The first Autumn chills has reminded us that winter is on its way. Tawa MenZshed have started to replenish stocks again and as a fundraiser 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

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



Tawa Menzshed Tops - with our Logo

Gary B & Peter M have taken the "bull by the horn" and organised - with full blessing of committee- to get some tops with our Logo on, various tops are available and once selected can be ordered through a committee member.

As you can see our gorgeous models show them off nicely.

Price for these tops are \$43.00, This price is cost - no mark up, they are good quality, wash well and my wife says dont need ironing - thats got to be a plus.

Payment can be made in cash on delivery or into our shed acct 02 0552 0040123 00 with your details



MENZSHED TAWA DAY SUPERVISORS' ROSTER March - April 2025

Sunday, 23 March	Diana Phillips and Ruth Pirie
Tuesday, 25 March	Nick Crocker
Thursday, 27 March	Peter Nalder
Saturday, 29 March	John Holloway
Sunday, 30 March	Peter Manson
Tuesday, 1 April	Richard Herbert
Thursday, 3 April	John Melville
Saturday, 5 April	Graeme Chamberlain
Sunday, 6 April	Richard Herbert
Tuesday, 8 April	Jack Fry
Thursday, 10 April	Jeff Scott
Saturday, 12 April	André Lategan
Sunday, 13 April	Neville Wong
Tuesday, 15 April	Nick Crocker
Thursday, 17 April	Bryan Hawkins
Saturday, 19 April	John Holloway
Sunday, 20 April	Diana Phillips and Ruth Pirie
Tuesday, 22 April	Graeme Chamberlain
Thursday, 24 April	Peter Nalder
Saturday, 26 April	André Lategan
Sunday, 27 April	Peter Manson
Tuesday, 29 April	Nick Crocker

Time for *praise* and a *gripe*, the picture below shows that the the skill saw that had gone missing has now returned - great - but a couple of angle grinders have now gone missing???? PLEASE if you are going to borrow a tool etc write it in the book.



Cameras up and going

Watch out everyone.....

..... Peter M has been busy installing our surveillance cameras (not sure if all up yet) but they are well on their way. I think we now have eyes in m/c room, entrance door, main workroom and small tool room and I think a couple more to go. Its a great system and will be an asset when we need to check back for whatever reason.

Clark.Meister@onlinecommunications.co.nz
Clark Meister RCDD
| Director
M: 027 4430222 T: 04 4770000
C: Online Communications
A: 92 Abel Smith Street, Te Aro, Wellington 6011



Our co-joined containers have gone from the above to on the right, I think its still to be decided if they get painted again in Tawa Rugby colours or Arsenal, the leaks are being attended to and there is stuff already in them



Our single container left now has the 2 dust extractor units in it and Grame C is working hard to get them connected but first he is also very busy re-arranging the ducting system for the dust extraction as can be seen in picture below, the combo drop saw has been shifted and ducting around inside the shop is being re-arranged. There will be more room when all is completed



Menzshed Health Expo

Menzshed N.Z.Inc have been promoting Health Expos around the country to some great success and it has been suggested that the Menzsheds of Plimmerton, Porirua and our shed combine to organise a health expo with the aim of raising awareness about common health issues and preventative measures and giving men, especially older men, an opportunity to have a free health check on a one to one basis with a health professional.

At the moment the plan is to have a room at the **Te Rauparaha Arena** in conjunction with The Local Trades Expo on **7th June** this year.

The Porirua Menzshed are co-ordinating this event but will need some input from our members to assist in various ways and this will be an excellent opportunity to find out about alzheimers, demenetia, strokes heart and prostrate problems from the experts.

Jack Fry



CPR/Defibrillator training

We are trying to gauge interest from our committee, supervisors and members if there are enough people to have a training session with St John's. We know we would immediately call an ambulance but in the meantime we cant "just stand there".

If you are interested, in the first instance, please contact:

[John Holloway 021 100 2069](tel:0211002069) or holloway@xtra.co.nz

An update on our Sign-in system,

Ian Dennison has done quite a few "behind the scenes" changes that I think the Supervisors should be catching up on, hopefully in the new year Ian will be able to give us a run down

Are we being Square ?

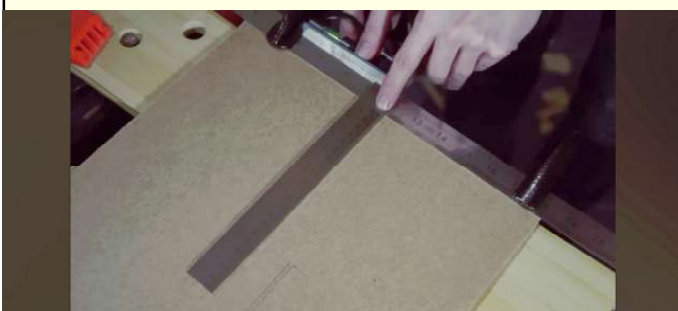
A woodworker recently suggested the mitre joint I had just made; was not square. Yes it can happen.

In this instance, he was checking it with an adjustable (or combination) square he had taken off the rack in our Menzshed. Hence, it seemed wise to check the tool.

You can do this, by using said Square and drawing a line perpendicular to an edge you know is straight. Turn the tool over, & just cover up that line, then draw another line. The 2 lines drawn on this occasion were about 3 mm apart at the end, so the tool was faulty. I have even bought a new one that was out of square. They can be rectified to true them up. We could learn how to do this, when we run one of our short tool skill sessions.

Cheers, Nick C

[The pictures sort of explain the checking procedure but best to attend the "Skill Sessions" - Ed](#)



WOODWORK Eight Classes Held at the Tawa Men's Shed Tuesday and Thursday 7-9 pm Starts 6th and 8th May 2025: Skills & Projects

Tutor/Facilitators: **Gary Beecroft**

8 Tuesday nights - Starts on 24 October from 7-9pm

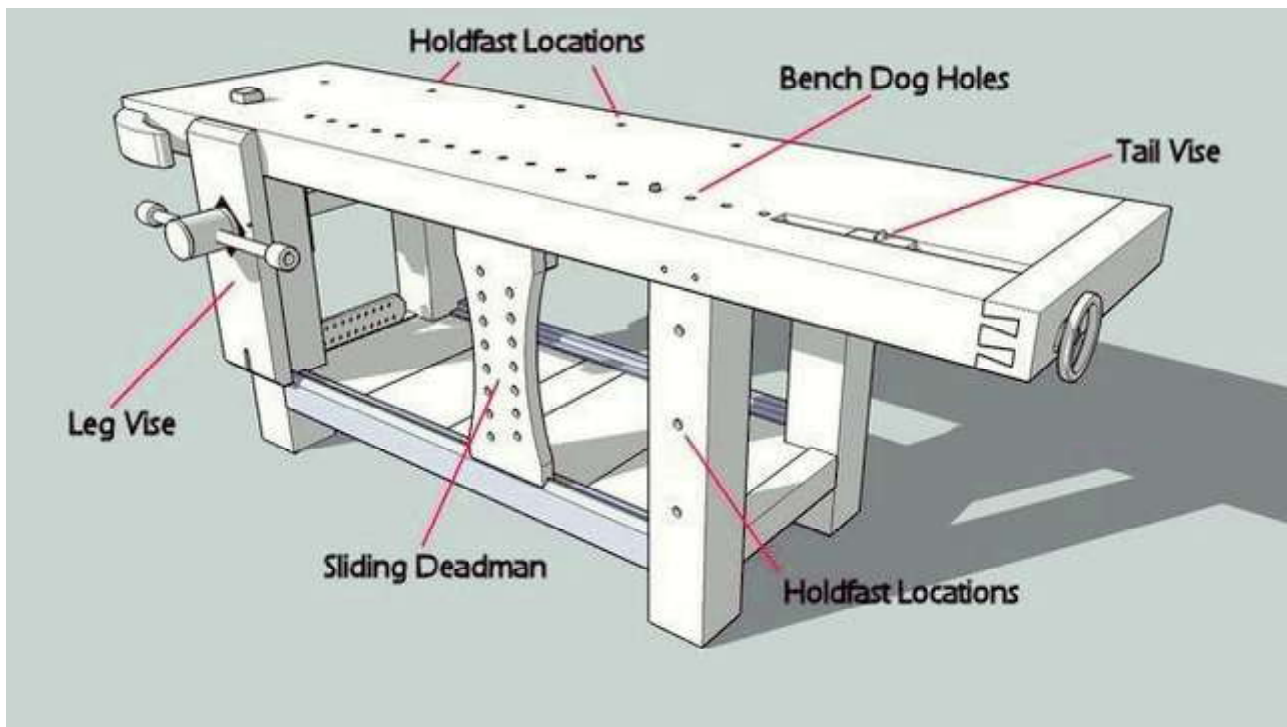
Learn woodworking skills using hand tools, power tools, and commercial machines. You can learn woodwork skills, or choose your own project at your level of ability and learn skills while completing the project. You provide your own materials. No recycled timber allowed. This course will be held at the Tawa Menz Shed Davies St, Tawa, but is running in conjunction with the Tawa College Community Education program. Enrolment is through Community Education at

Fees: NZ\$180



This pictures show a selection of the diverse projects and the high quality attained by the students attending these classes





Modifications to our benches

Some discussion has been had at committee level and elsewhere regarding our work benches and improvements that can be made. Some ideas were put forward by Gary B and JohnG took up the challenge to implement one change and to promote thought AND action for other members to carry out some of these improvements.

So.....

1. Flat work surface. Two(?) of the benches currently have partial inserts to make them partially flat. Messy, because cleaning the gap between the inserts is difficult and they are not easily removed. We should fabricate a complete full length insert and make it easily removable.
2. The side clamping slot is a sound idea, but needs to be only part way along the side of the bench so as not to obstruct the vice. Unless some clever clogs has a better idea? I have a partially considered idea but it may not work??
3. Supporting peg holes in the legs. Once again. interference between the potentially long work piece and the vice needs further thought. Also the nature of the pegs and pins needs to be carefully considered so they aren't too tight or too sloppy and maintain an appropriate 90° angle to the vertical.
4. Mounting the plunge (rail?) saw. I believe we could design an alternative insert for the flat work surface (1 above) that could be slotted in to any of our work benches when required. This insert would have the rail (with extension) securely mounted and make provision for secure clamping of the workpiece thereon. Possibly this could be an adjunct to, or integrated with, the side clamping slot (2 above).

Sooooooooooooooooooooo. Lets start by integrating all of these suggestions into modifications to ONE (1) of our existing benches and see how it turns out? There are a few potential solutions we need to devise to achieve the required harmony, but when the appropriate Feng Shui has been determined we can replicate the harmonised outcome on all of our other benches. If anybody rocks up asking for something to do, we can say, "Copy that!"

Start scratching the grey matter folks.

See next page

Now the serious bit John G has modified the 1st bench as part of Garys wishes to be able to tackle a range of woodworking tasks on our existing but yet to be modified benches. Please feel free in consultation with Gary carry out any more of his ideas. I still think we should spread these mods over various benches to give us a wider range in our workshop



Completed modification



A bit of frippery amongst all the serious projects going on - although Im not sure John M would agree - what is john making here - answers on a postcard please, there is not a prize just satisfaction in guessing correctly??



Beyond the everyday...

Where do you go when you can't find the tools or fixings that you want at one of the local stores such as Bunnings, Mitre10 or Placemakers? Depending on what you want, maybe you can get it from one of the online marketplaces such as AliExpress, Amazon, EBay, Temu or TradeMe.

Sometimes the only solution is to find the right specialist supplier. Often these are small outfits who don't spend up large on advertising (so they won't appear at the top of your Google search).

Here are some specialist providers I've come across. If you're not already familiar with them, you might find it interesting to see what they have to offer.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Website</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Capital Cutters	https://www.capitalcutters.co.nz/router-bits	NZ. Router bits.
Carbatec	https://www.carbatec.co.nz/	Aus based, with NZ branches. Woodworking tools and machinery.
Machinery House	https://www.machineryhouse.co.nz/	Aus based, with NZ branches. Machine tools and accessories.
Piranha Tools	https://piranhatools.co.nz	NZ. A wide range of mostly hand tools from around the world.
Rali	https://rali-shop.com/	Swiss. Planes, chisels and vices as systems with interchangeable parts.
Richmond Rolling Solutions	https://richmondnz.co.nz/	NZ. Wheels & castors, and anything related.
Supreme Oils	https://www.supremeoils.co.nz/	NZ. Finishing oils.
The Toolshed	https://www.thetoolshed.co.nz/	NZ. Machine tools and accessories.
Timberbits	https://www.timberbits.com/	Aus. Woodworking and woodturning supplies.
Wood Craft Supplies	https://www.woodcraftsupplies.net.au/	Aus. Metal detectors, pocket hole gear and spiral cutterheads.

I'm sure you will have come across others. Maybe you could let John know, to share in a future newsletter?

Author: Jerry Ball

What a journey.....

Id like to share some of my experience of trying what is for me a tricky job. This was supposed to be a quick repair for a friend - my first thought when I offered help was to just make a solid round disk and whack that in. We have all the equipment to make a replacement top - its just that I have no experience really of using all that gear and I think I used most of our tools available to me.

I thought how hard can it be? I soon found out and I have learned some valuble lessons for the future.



This is what I started with

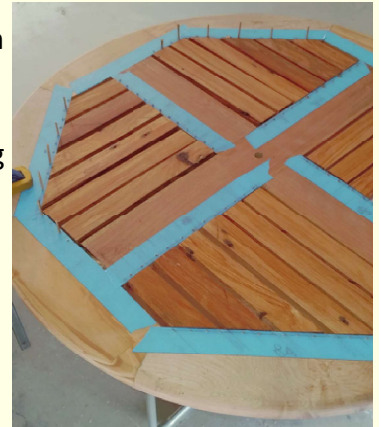


I did lots of measuring (and spent lots time) to get the corrct angles then found out when I got to the combo drop saw the angle is already built in (22.5degrees for eight pieces)



Graeme C helped me round off the outside - not an easy job for a left hander, then we rounded off the top edge

I had great fun using tooth-picks for dowels locking in the slats - this is where my not so accurate cutting showed up with the gaps between not so even as I wanted



Time to put it in its housing, this was now all glued up and ready for staining with Teak Oil - another learning curve, Im just left with mounting the top to the base and we are ready for cocktails.

