



## NEW ZEALAND Newsletter – April 2017

Welcome to the latest round up of Shed related items from the Executive, and around the country.

### *National body AGM looming fast*

**Annual General Meeting 2017** - Monday 15 May at 7:30pm

We will be using an internet based service GoToWebinar.

Leading up to the AGM, nominations for regional representatives closed on 16 March. These people are declared elected:

Region 1 (Northland, Auckland) Ross McEwan

Region 2 (Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne, Hawkes Bay) Keith Dickson

Region 3 (Taranaki, Manawatu-Wanganui, Wellington) David Chapple

Region 6 (Tasman, Nelson, Marlborough) Patrick Leggett.

As the RR role for Region 2 has been vacant for several months, Keith has started in the role.

Chris Davies the RR for Region 6 departed for the UK at the end of March and resigned from the role. Patrick has therefore started early too. We welcomed Keith and Patrick at an Executive Committee meeting of 3 April.

Late nominations:

Region 4 (West Coast, Canterbury) Trevor Scott - has been received and accepted.

Region 5 (Otago, Southland) – a nomination for Neil McArthur is expected.

Nominations for other executive roles closed on 15 April.

Support Services – John Bush

Treasurer – Peter Blackler

Secretary – Roger Bowman.

A motion will be put at the AGM that these people be confirmed in the roles.

Remits – none received by close date 16 March.

Prior to the AGM, reports from the Chairman and Treasurer will be distributed to member sheds.

Trials of the GoToWebinar application for sheds that wish to attend the AGM will start late April. Now is a good time to contact the [secretary](#) and confirm your nominee. Only sheds that are members of MENZSHED New Zealand may have a nominee attend.

Check this YouTube video clip for an introduction - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IVRM2aKiRU>

## Shed News Region 1



The Region One Menzshed meeting was held on Tuesday 21 February at 10am, hosted by the Whangarei Menzshed team in Whangarei. As well as sharing between the sheds gathered for the meeting and checking out the historic Railway building which will be housing the Whangarei shed, the group got to pose for a great photo to mark the occasion.

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## Shed News Region 2

Profile - Keith Dickson

Region Two Representative

I was born in Dunedin to parents who had both served in Egypt and Italy during W.W.2.. Mum as a nursing sister and Dad as an engineer. When I was very young we shifted to Tokoroa where Dad was involved in the construction of the original Kinleith mill. After about 6 years we returned to Dunedin : Dad became engineering manager at a large printing works and Mum was Sister in Charge of the X-Ray Dept. at Dunedin Public Hospital.

By 1964 I had completed my education at Bayfield High School, and by 1969 I had completed an Electrical Apprenticeship At Sontag Electrical. I spent much of my



spare time on the Otago Harbour with Sea Scouts, Sea Cadets and the Vauxhall Yacht Club. During those years I was fortunate to have had many adventures around N.Z. ,to places like Bluff, Central Otago,Akaroa, Nelson,Ripapapa &Motutapu Islands and the Philomel Naval Base. Then around 1970 our family shifted back to Tokoroa where Dad was again involved in a major expansion project at Kinleith and I worked on some of the "Think Big " projects and also at the Nelson Pine Forests chipper mill at Richmond

My career path has taken a few turns over the years; I have been a professional photographer and a trade union official, and have worked at most of the power stations in the North Island and also at the Cobb near Takaka ,and I built switchboards for the Anzac Frigates.

My sports have included yachting, hockey and parachuting, now I play a lot snooker at Mt.Maunganui R.S.A. I have three daughters and now two very young grandsons. Tragically, three years ago another one died at age eleven from a very rare form of bone cancer.

Five years ago I shifted into this R.S.A. village and to fulfil my own needs I set to work to establish our Shed which is progressing steadily and although it is very well equipped it is far too small and we are working towards putting in a mezzanine floor.

My ten years experience as a trade union official has put me in a good position to run meetings and assist in guiding our group. We have a named A4 photo of every member on the wall of the shed they have worked out to be very handy!

In my roll as Regional Rep. I see there may be opportunities to establish "Sheds" at Te Puke, Tokoroa ,Te Kuiti, Waihi and Raglan so if anyone knows of contacts in these areas please let me know and we may be able to get something started !

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## **Shed News Region 3**

### **Featherston Menz Shed**

There's a busy air about the shed with a number of projects underway. Richard has completed the first of two cash drawers for the Anzac Hall using some reclaimed timber which has come up a treat and looks like a fine piece of furniture.

Meanwhile, Rod is extending his fleet of wooden toys as he starts work on another three trucks, leaving sheddies wondering just how many grandchildren he has.

As proof that the shed does hi-tech too, Will's Raspberry Pi based autonomous irrigator project moves steadily from benchtop proof-of-concept to full sized prototype using the innards of an old mobility scooter. When complete this contraption will check the online weather forecast to decide if the garden needs watering and if it does will trundle from one row of veggies to the next dispensing water from a spray boom.

At the last monthly meeting, the shed welcomed what must be a record six new members in a month.

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NAENAE

### **Building: by Archie Kerr**

The new extension is now up and running and proving a huge boon to members with the extra space. The surrounds are looking pretty good with paving and a general tidy-up. Thanks again to Tom Paku for the loan of his spare compactor without which the paving would have looked more like the Southern Alps. The parking is yet to be sorted out. The Council, in spite of our pretty solid record of keeping off the grass since they requested it,



don't quite trust us and are putting bollards around the whole area so we can't cheat. The driveway next the Shed is available and once the temporary fencing around the current building site of the Bowls Club is removed we will be able to use that area more efficiently and also have access to the area we had been using before.

The other item that needs working on is a new larger and tidier sign for the Shed which is being investigated as we speak.

The metal-working bit of the Shed is now in full swing with Graham E even having time to do a little job for himself (!) rather than spending all his time fixing equipment that comes in or gets badly used.

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## MenzShed Kapiti war remembrance projects gather pace



Kapiti Accessibility Advisory Group co-chairs Sue Emirali and Jim Webber, second-right, with MenzShed Kapiti treasurer Peter Blackler and Kapiti US Marines Trust trustee Anthony Dreaver in front of the partially-restored hut.

A Kapiti volunteer group's wartime commemoration projects are nearing completion, as their mid-year deadlines loom.

MenzShed Kapiti is constructing a replica hut to match those US Navy personnel stayed in during their time in Kapiti during WWII.

The hut is based at MenzShed headquarters in Waikanae, north of Wellington. It will be complete in time for the US Memorial Day commemoration at Queen Elizabeth Park on May 29, marking the 75th anniversary since US Navy personnel landed in New Zealand.

The hut will be stationed near the existing QE Park memorial. It consists of two four-bedroom huts joined together.

It will be sealed shut, but the inside, featuring replica bunk beds, will be visible through ventilation panels. A TV screen, featuring five short films, will also be displayed.

The group's other major project is to build about 1500 crosses for Wellington's Anzac Day celebrations.

Treasurer Peter Blackler said the hut required a full reconstruction. "A lot of the weatherboards were broken, cracked and rotten, and the structured timber was cracked and rotten.

"It's been a bit of a slow process, but we're getting there now."

The Kapiti US Marines Trust acquired the hut from Tiromoana Rd in Raumati - the huts were used as housing and storage units after the war.

Trustee Anthony Dreaver said restoring the prefabricated hut as close as possible to its original condition was crucial. That included lowering the hut's roof to its original height of under five feet - it had been raised to almost eight feet after the war.

Blackler said the anticipated finishing time was the end of March, and work still to be completed included constructing a door, roof and disability ramps.

Eight MenzShed members have worked on the project.

Blackler said the cross construction would gather pace this week - about 200 have been made so far.

Each cross represented a soldier who died in WWI, during the year 1917.

The group has constructed crosses in the past two years - the number is up from 960 last year and 400 the year before. It will rise to about 2000 next year.

"It's quite a sobering job," Blackler said. "You go along and some family names come up quite frequently."

The group is also constructing 30 boxes for the crosses to be transported in.

They will be displayed at Wellington's Botanic Gardens from April 19-May 3.

**Story by Adam Pouloupoulos**

**Published – Kapiti Observer and on Stuff.co.nz**

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## **Shed News Region 4**

**Send us some news for the next newsletter**

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## **Shed News Region 5**

North Dunedin Shed

We meet Saturday and Wednesday mornings from 9.30.

Address. 35 Bonnington Street (just over the little bridge) off Norwood Street, North East Valley.

We have the use of a large old farm shed which we have had to do a lot of work to before we could set it up as a workshop. In the last three years we have cleaned out an enormous pile of rubbish, old timbers (cut up and sold as firewood), laid down a gravel base to bring us up out of the mud and puddles and lay down a concrete floor. We moved a transportable office building partly under the main roof and extended the electric power to this. Then we built end walls on the original structure including a roller door and incorporated two lockable containers as part of the rear wall. Finally, we had it to a lock up stage. Now we are ready to start fitting it out as a workshop, obtain tools and machinery and finish running electric power to all areas. We have had some financial help from grant providers but need to apply for more. Over the last three years we have had a number of people come and go with just a small, but very dedicated group, putting in a huge amount of work to get it to this stage. We are very keen to attract extra members and are continuing with publicity to achieve this.

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## **Shed News Region 6**

**Region 6 Patrick** The **Havelock Shed** had a most successful stand at the annual Havelock Mussel Festival. The idea was to simply be present on the day, project the movement locally and display a few of the recent items built for the community. Just for the fun of it, we thought we might have a blind auction of the bench seats and picnic tables on show. They had been built from old 2 metre long 200 by 50 planks rescued from a dismantled wharf and donated by the local Port Authority. The interest was unexpected as were the prices bid. All items went and many of those who missed out wanted to order one or three of their own. As a fund raiser that cost us a packet of bugle headed screws, this was a huge success, netting us about \$1200.00, with more to come. We also netted a handful of potentially new members. A rather good day.

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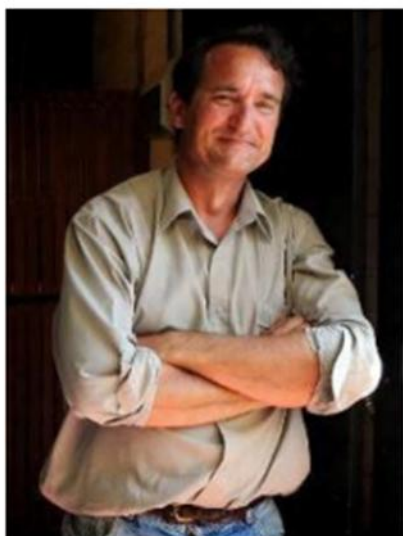
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## Australian Men's Shed Association

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER



Already 2017 is shaping up to be another busy year in the world of Men's Sheds, the AMSA office is a hive of activity as we continue to develop new resources for supporting member sheds.

In short - firstly, I'm pleased to announce our latest corporate sponsor as the global organization, ExxonMobil. Within the next few months we will also be unveiling the new Shed Management and Resources Tools (SMART) program.

As part of our commitment to ensure best practice, we've also introduced an annual member survey which will be distributed for input in the coming weeks.

Read more from David in our April edition of The Shedder.

Click below to read the April edition of the Shedder newsletter

<http://mensshed.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/The-Shedder-April-2017.pdf>

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## *Share – Do you brand products produced in your shed?*

If so what do you use;

- Stick on labels
  - Branding iron
  - Ink stamp
  - ?
- 
- where did you get it ?

Other Sheds are keen to know, so share your solution with us and we will spread the word.



## Profile

# Region 6 Representative

Upper South Island Pat Leggett



Pat and his home built 'Maggie'

Shed: Havelock Menzshed

Email [regrep6@menzshed.nz](mailto:regrep6@menzshed.nz)

I'm a retired bloke, five years now, having been in useful employment for 50 years. The first 23 were served as an aircraft engineer in the RNZAF, followed by 5 in manufacturing and production with Vita NZ and NZ Salmon, five in tertiary education with the Academy Group, finishing off with 17 years running the technical training division of Transpower. The journey has taken me from Auckland, around the world, and finally settling here in lovely Havelock.

There were many adventures along that path and much learning about life and people and how one should and shouldn't set about conducting business. And I wouldn't want to change any of it.

Beyond work, my wife and I and our three kids have always had the sea nearby, so boats and boating have featured prominently, interspersed with the odd game of golf.

The MenzShed ethic I fully endorse, of fellowship and providing for the local community and have seen it operating very successfully here during the last two years.

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## *What else could we include in the next National Newsletter?*

Due out July 2017;

Give us your ideas, and let's see what we can come up with together!

Email your thoughts to – [support@menzshed.nz](mailto:support@menzshed.nz)

## *If you are into data & statistics*

Ray said you should have a look at this data on visits to our website for the last year to 31 March, available here - <http://menzshed.org.nz/library/website/>.