

MENZSHED NZ Blue Skies Conference 15 – 17 April 2016



Early bird registrations for the conference are available up to 15 March, after which the cost for a conference attendee increases by \$25. Registrations close 31 March.

As you can see in the table below, there is already a good spread of shed representatives attending. **Please get your registrations in early to help the planning committee.**

	Partner of a sheddie	Sheddie	Sponsor	Grand Total
Alexandra Men's Shed		2		2
Amberley Menz Shed Inc.	1	1		2
Bishopdale MenZ Shed		1		1
Feilding Menzshed	1	1		2
Ferrymead Busmenz Shed Trust		1		1
Havelock Menzshed		2		2
Henley Mens Shed Incorporated		1		1
Kaiapoi Menz Shed	3	5		8
MBCT Boomer Business, Manurewa		2		2
MenzShed Kapiti	1	1		2
MENZSHED Waimea		2		2
New Brighton Menz Shed		1		1
Oamaru Menzshed		3		3
Rothbury Insurance Brokers Wellington			1	1
Tapawera		1		1
Whakatane MenzShed		2		2
Grand Total	6	26	1	33

The planning committee is made up of shed members from Kaiapoi, Oxford, Bishopdale, Amberley and New Brighton and is confident that you will enjoy a great weekend.

See <http://menzshed.org.nz/conference-2016-2/> for the latest information.

MENZSHED NZ 2016 elections

Do you want to contribute to the running of MENZSHED NZ but are not sure what is involved? Contact one of the executive to get your questions answered. Shed members are encouraged to stand for any of the positions on the executive committee.

The closing date for nominations for Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and the Support Services position is **19 March**.

Annual General Meeting 17 April 2016

Part of the Blue Skies conference in April, the AGM is the opportunity for member sheds to finalise the elections for officers of MENZSHED NZ. It is expected that that the formalities will have been completed by then since the nomination process has prior closing dates but in the absence of nominations, nominations may be taken at the meeting.

The AGM will also consider any Remits that have been raised – suggestions for changes to how MENZSHED NZ operates or constitutional changes.

Information about the AGM has been emailed to sheds. The information includes the election procedures and dates, the nomination form and the remit form. If you believe these advices have not been received by your shed, please contact Secretary Roger Bowman (secretary@menzshed.nz or telephone 03 5224560).

Although the Conference is open to all sheds, voting at the AGM is for financial members only. Unsure if your shed is a member? Check your webpage at www.menzshed.org.nz If your shed page says "Complimentary Hosting", then you are **not** a financial member. The annual shed membership fee is \$25, which is likely to be more than covered by the great savings from member benefits.

The AGM starts at 10:45am on Sunday 17 April.

Shed news

New sheds

New sheds or new shed projects continue to pop up around the country. Recent ones include; Turangi, Lumsden, Darfield and Paeora.

Menzshed Carterton and Carter Court Men's Shed - Correction

In the February newsletter, a paragraph referring to activity at Menzshed Carterton stated that the "Carter Court Rest Homes Men's Shed" had ceased to function. This was incorrect.

The Carter Court Men's Shed is alive and functioning and aims to continue providing such a great facility for its residents.

To Carter Court Rest Home, Carter Court Men's Shed and your supporters and sponsors, we apologise for any concern or embarrassment caused to any of the parties involved.

EVolocity – Support requested from Men's Sheds

EVolocity is a charitable organisation which offers a project based learning programme to high schools whereby teams come together to design, build and compete in electric vehicles, using a supplied electric bike componentry kit.

EVolocity's goal is to draw more young people into science, technology & engineering, and show them that there are actions they can take and decisions they can make that will have a positive impact on our environment.

The projects involve CAD design, mechanical & electrical engineering (including fabrication & welding), electronics and programming. The teams get access to tertiary tutors via weekend boot camps during the year, and EVolocity also aims to assign an engineering mentor to each team.

The programme launched in Canterbury in 2014 with 16 teams from 11 schools. This year EVolocity will be in Canterbury, Nelson, Waikato and Otago with an estimated 50+ teams. It is supported through grants and sponsorships from electricity companies, universities and polytechnics, community trusts and others. Take a look at www.evolocity.co.nz and in particular, click on the links to the photos taken by Dave Harris and Tim Bowman at last year's EVolocity finals event at Ruapuna.

EVolocity has approached Menzshed about possible ways to support EVolocity. If your shed is interested, please email chairman@menzshed.nz with your feedback on the following:

1. Would your Shed have an interest in making workshop facilities available to a school team?
2. Would your Shed have an interest in making a mentor available to a school team?
3. Would your Shed have an interest in getting involved in a Menzshed version of the schools competition, whereby your shed designs & builds an electric vehicle during the year to compete against other Menzshed teams at the national finals of EVolocity, which takes place in Christchurch in late November.

In terms of tools, as a rule teams need access to some or all of the following:

- Leather gloves, earmuffs, eye protectors
- Bench with vice
- Bending equipment (tubing/square), maybe sheet metal
- Press
- Disc grinder
- Hacksaw
- MIG or TIG welder, and/or possible Oxy/Acetylene
- 1/2" Drill press and/or 1/2" electric hand drill with bits
- Socket set
- Ring/open end set + adjustable spanner
- Screwdriver set
- Soldering iron (temp controlled for fine electrical work)
- Sidecutters, tinsnips, pliers and other such hand tools
- Wirebrush, files, sandpaper, paint & paintbrushes or spray gun
- Supply of zip-ties, tape, solder, wire, nuts & bolts and the like

2015 State of Volunteering in New Zealand Report

Late last year a representative from your organisation completed a survey for Volunteering New Zealand answering various questions on the state of volunteering in New Zealand. At the end of the survey you indicated that you would like to receive a copy of this report.

We are pleased to be able to send you the link to the final report, which is available by clicking on this link: <http://bit.ly/VNZ2015StateofVolunteering>

Thank you again for being part of this survey, and we look forward to running this survey again later this year.

Scott Miller

Chief Executive

Volunteering New Zealand