



Newsletter – January 2015

A short newsletter to usher in what I hope will be a successful new year for you and your sheds.

AGM and Shedders Ramble in Masterton 11 – 12 April, 2015.

First, I would like to invite all sheds (members and non members) to attend the AGM and Shedders Ramble in Masterton 11 – 12 April, 2015.

The AGM and Ramble are open to all sheds although voting at the AGM is restricted to member sheds. This is a great opportunity to meet with other sheddies, get answers to any questions you may have and enjoy a very sociable weekend including a buffet dinner on Saturday night.

Use the following links for more information and registration:

<http://menzshed.org.nz/agm-2015/> and <http://menzshed.org.nz/news/agm-elections-and-remits-2015/>

Note that accommodation is tight in Masterton due to other events at the same time so get in quick and if planning to fly to Wellington, check the Kaiapoi Shed / Jetstar offer of free flights in the October newsletter <http://menzshed.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/MENZSHED-NZ-newsletter-October-2014-online.pdf> .



New sheds

New shed projects are starting across the country. Recent initiatives include; Tapanui, Reefton, Westport, Manurewa Collaboration Station, Riccarton (Rannerdale), Lincoln, Kerikeri and a shed revival in Waikuku.

If you hear of any new shed activity in your area, please let MENZSHED NZ know and if possible, extend a helping hand by way of information, support and possibly surplus tools etc..

Donations of tools and machinery

MENZSHED NZ is advised regularly of surplus tools, machinery and materials becoming available. These offers are generally referred to the nearest shed with a request that any excess are offered to nearby sheds.

Recent examples include; timber and paving stones, used freight crates and the entire contents of a handyman's garage. The latter requiring a team of guys and multiple trailers to clear it.



Member shed vs non members

The 40+ member sheds are identified on the website as [MENZSHED NZ Status: Member](#) and non member sheds are shown as [MENZSHED NZ Status: Complimentary hosting](#).

Naturally we would encourage non member sheds to join <http://menzshed.org.nz/register-your-shed/>

Website

MENZSHED NZ exists to promote the spread of men's sheds in NZ. The website provides a searchable facility where the public can look for all sheds in their locality.

The shed pages on the website are for your shed content, please keep them up to date. You can send content changes to webmaster@menzshed.org.nz . Pages can include contact details, text, photos and links to your own website, Facebook page etc..

Feedback

The executive would welcome your feedback or questions. Send them to secretary@menzshed.org.nz or use the Contact us form on the website <http://menzshed.org.nz/contact-us/>

Success stories, new projects or lessons learnt

If you have some news or projects to share with other sheds, success stories or even failures that other sheds can learn from, let your regional representative, secretary or webmaster know. Text and pictures are always welcome.

A major new project for Waikuku is the restoration of the Admiral's barge from HMS Achilles. Used to transport the Queen during her 1st royal tour it is now the 1st project for the revived Waikuku shed.



Website statistics

The website statistics show that the site is fulfilling one of the primary objectives, that of providing the public with information about all known sheds in their area regardless of MENZSHED NZ membership status. The top 4 sheds according to the page visits include 3 member sheds and 1 non member.

The latest website statistics for page visits and location of visitor can be seen on the website <http://menzshed.org.nz/library/website/>

Menzshed NZ Executive priorities

During the Waikanae conference some priorities were established for the executive to focus on during the coming year. The higher priorities in no particular order and progress to date were:

(C) Template guide for sheds on how to approach local authorities.
Regional reps should be your first contact. Peter Blackler (Treasurer) is also available as a contact.

(CI) Guidelines for setting up a shed.
A start has been made on this with a website page and links to information from Community Law. <http://menzshed.org.nz/library/setting-up-shed/> . There are more documents to be loaded to the website soon but if you have any questions, the executive are always willing to answer them.

There is also available the Australian Men's Shed Association manual that contains a lot of relevant information on setting up a shed and also Safety. You can download a copy at [AMSA](#)

A good start in where to obtain funding in NZ can be found at [Fundview](#)

(CII) Health and Safety

See the new documents on the website <http://menzshed.org.nz/library/safety/>

The establishment of a reduced rate first aid programme through St. Johns for member sheds provides an opportunity for shed members to gain some valuable skills and also extend those skills out to the wider community through their participation.

(CIII) Access to research, health and other benefits.

There is some existing research on the website <http://menzshed.org.nz/library/research/>

The executive supported Jenny Moore in her research initiative and selected sheds will have received shed and personal questionnaires. This should be completed in the 1st half of 2015.

Check out the benefits page on the website <http://menzshed.org.nz/membership/benefits/> for offers that may be of use to your shed.

(CIV) Patron

We had considered several options for Patron but did not think they fitted well with our organisation. Will wait until an obvious choice presents itself.