

MENZSHED PORIRUA

NEWSLETTER 22

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2022 Regional
Community
Award
Porirua
Heritage & Environment
Winner

AUG 2022

Hope this finds you well and grinding your way through August, along with the rest of us. If you haven't had Covid you've probably had the run of other viruses, mostly in Man flu versions. Bummer. The trouble is we've had years of intermittent lockdowns and lessened exposure to the usual viruses so when we open up in 2022 and catch these viruses our bodies have forgotten how to resist them. It has also been a hard winter on many fronts but next month is Spring and the days are already longer. On the day of writing this, after weeks of cold and rain the weather is beautiful today. Blue skies, sun, no wind and the sound of much activity at the Shed. The workshop is churning out trestles (for the client nursery) – 100 down, 100 to go. Well done to all members who have worked on this project.



Another delivery of timberand another 20 trestles ticked off....

Later..... knew I'd spoken too soon. Constant rain has caused floods all over the place during the last couple of weeks. Houses seem to be sliding off hills all over Wellington. Quite scary how many 1 in a 100 year floods we now get every couple of years or so. This inclement weather has sure tested drainage systems everywhere. At the Shed we've had to deal with the area outside our gardens (next to the ramp) which have been waterlogged and channelled out by large truck wheels, making it impossible to drive through. Ron has presented a solution and a drain has now been dug and filled with Novaflo pipe and gravel to capture the water that flows down from the lawn onto our bog. The pipe is now reconnected to the sump so the water should flow away. Great work, Ron and Graeme B, who worked on this all Saturday and the Sunday (digger was on 2 day hire) to get so far. Several

truckloads of gravel (30 cubic metres I believe) have since been spread along this drive up to the new container. This will be largely funded by income from the trestles.



Ron Lucas and Graeme Blick did an amazing job to trench, drain and gravel the mud swamp leading around to our gardens.

As stated in the last newsletter the Porirua MenzShed exhibited as part of the Porirua Expo on July 30th at the Te Rauparaha Arena. We had a good corner site and lots of interaction with the public, many of whom still have no idea who we are. We had good sales of pest traps, bird feeders and bird houses which was the icing on the cake. Thanks team for representing us so well once again.



Another lucky punter at our Expo stand tries to guess the number of nails in the glass jar, under Murray's watchful eye.

On Wednesday 10th August we held our AGM. We finished the Shed session early so we could have a sausage sizzle (shameless enticement to retain members for AGM). Needless to say, the presented reports and discussion showed that our Shed is in a healthy situation with a growing, friendly membership and sound finances. Our Shed is productive with a good balance of personal and community projects.

The incoming committee is:

Chairperson	Carole Brown
Secretary	Alastair Woodfield
Treasurer	Richard Cook
Committee	Allan Nichols, Graeme Blick, Ben Espinosa and Murray Goid

Peter Steiner has resigned from committee duties but continues to contribute to Shed operation, especially as a supervisor. Thank you for your service Peter.

Our Shed Supervisors are: Peter Steiner, Ben Espinosa, Ian Brown, Richard Cook, Graham Gibbs, Alastair Woodfield and Murray Goid.

This calls for a huge thank you for all the work our Supervisors do every session. It is an important role to undertake, not only for Shed safety, but also as a front person as they are often the first person our visitors interact with. If you would like to join them please let us know. Any additional supervisors would lessen their workload.

From Richard's Financial report I want you to know that we received income from various projects and 8 grants (our ongoing thanks to Allan Nichols for managing our grants application process).

The grants were from:

<i>COGS</i>	<i>Trust House Foundation</i>
<i>Hutt Mana Charitable Trust</i>	<i>Plimmerton Rotary</i>
<i>Pelorus Trust</i>	<i>Lotteries Grant Board</i>
<i>Nikau Foundation</i>	<i>Groundtruth</i>

And this enabled us to purchase/build:

<i>Cordless Drills Kit</i>	<i>Metal Workshop Electrical equipment</i>
<i>Welding Accessories</i>	<i>Metal Workshop Tools</i>
<i>Plasma Cutter</i>	<i>2 X 6m Containers</i>
<i>Branding Iron</i>	<i>Nail Gun</i>
<i>Wheelchair Ramp</i>	<i>Hand Tools</i>
<i>Drill Press Vice</i>	<i>Computer + Printer</i>
<i>AEG Impact Drivers X 2 + batteries X 4</i>	<i>Materials for Container Roofs</i>
<i>Workbench</i>	<i>Security Upgrade Including CCTV</i>
<i>Establish Porirua Garden jointly with Plimmerton Rotary.</i>	

I'd like to quote you a paragraph from the Shed Chairperson's report:

"I am disappointed that we have a deep pool of dormant talent on our membership list that we rarely see at the Shed. We have so much more we could do with more hands on deck. Although the 'Shed' organisation is more or less complete some tasks take valuable labour away from community projects eg. the container re-roofing removes two people until the task is complete. Our successes, activities and plans are addressed in more detail in our monthly newsletter which is sent to every member and our supporters."

One such project is a request from PCC to build some Christmas decorations for the city. This would be a valuable connection and increase our visibility around Porirua. BUT we need more labour to do this. It would be great to have half a dozen members committed to this project before Christmas. See you at the Shed.....

After our successful win at the Wellington Airport Community Awards we need to do some prep for the November Regional finals. This means we need to be filmed on site in action at the Shed. So this also means we have to schedule an extra Shed day to fit in with the sponsors' filming schedule and this day is **Monday 12th September**. We will be open for about two hours max, probably in the morning, but the timing hasn't been confirmed yet. Food is promised. If you are able to come along and be filmed (this will be shown to all the finalists from Wellington, Kapiti, Porirua and Hutt Valley on the finals night) please respond on the Shed email. We have already sent in our 'script' and our logo, including the new addition since our win (did you notice???)

It remains to wish you all well from this ex Covid household – last week was such a waste of life when everything went on hold. C'est la vie!

Your Committee.

Seb is pretty chuffed about his latest pieces of furniture restoration

