

# Sheddie News

October 2022

The official newsletter of MENZSHED NZ

## *From the Chairman*

How the year is flying by. It is almost time to look towards buying that special gift for a special person for Christmas or should we be going down to the shed and creating a special gift with loving care ?

November is upon us and it is time to look at what we can do to look after the men's health of our members. **Yes it's Movember time, the month to do something special relating to health.** Stop that shaving and have a competition among your members to see who can grow the best beard or longest moustache. Have a special function like a lunch or breakfast and invite a health professional to come and talk to the men.

### **Movember is a time to make members aware of:**

- Alzheimer's Awareness.
- Lung cancer.
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
- Diabetes.

Last week I visited our local Bunnings and met up with Shane a coordinator of a local Menzshed . I was as usual just a shopper at the time but was very surprised to see what Shane was doing. Here he was with a group of older men gathered around a bench. They were a group of Alzheimer folk who once a month come down to Bunnings and create small projects. That day they were making bird feeders. Shane has been helping the Alzheimer folk for a number of years. I am sure they get a lot out of it and the exposure Menzshed get from it goes a long way to promoting our organisation.

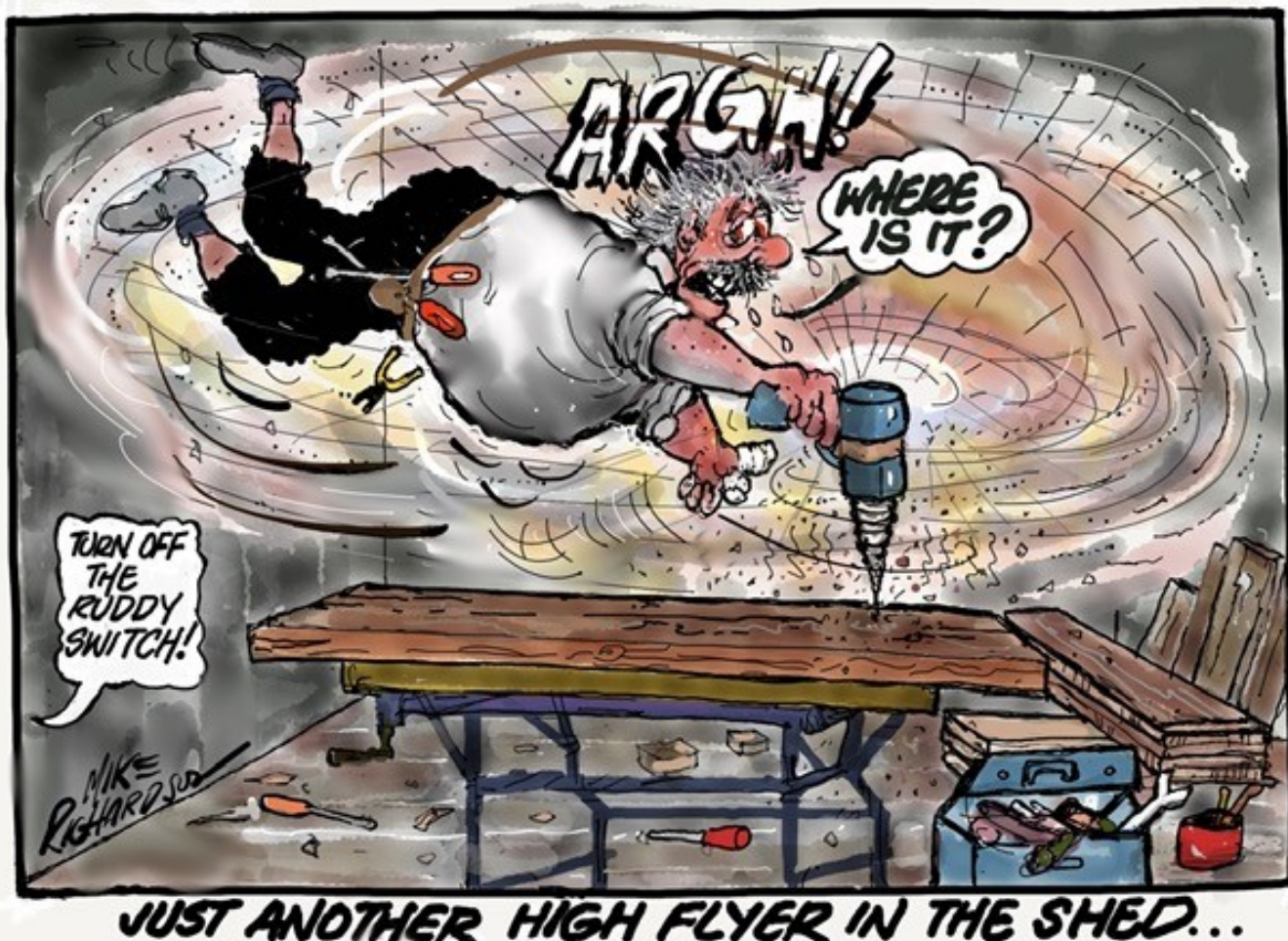
One of the good things that I personally get out of being chairman of Menzshed NZ is the newsletters that sheds send me. It gives me an over view of what is happening around the country and I must say I am SO impressed. It is very interesting and the projects undertaken are very creative. The many community projects undertaken, the personal projects being made and the educational spin off from sheds holding courses on all manner of things, makes Menzsheds so worthwhile. Not to mention the huge benefits of camaraderie shared .

This year we are expecting to see about ten new sheds coming on board. This will bring our total number of member sheds to around one hundred and thirty.

Take care wherever you are. Remember your health and safety down at the shed. Regards Trevor

## *Next Newsletter*

The next newsletter is due for publication at the end of January. The deadline for articles for that newsletter is **Friday 20th January.** When you have completed an interesting project or done something of interest with others down at the shed, send us an article. Don't wait for the deadline as it give the editor time to arrange articles. It is always good to see pictures with an article. Format for article please use Word and Jpeg for pictures as these are easy to work with. Send articles to **chairman@menzshed.nz**



## *Charities Services Newsletter*

### **Reporting, Simplified For Tier 4 Performance Report**

If you are a very small Tier 4 charity you should check out the new Tier 4 template. Earlier this year the External Reporting Board (XRB) released a simplified version of the Tier 4 Performance Report template. It has all the same minimum required information, but is condensed into a short and more manageable three pages.

This is great for small charities, as it will make meeting the reporting requirements much easier. It's specially designed for charities with only one bank account, few or no assets or commitments, and no complex transactions.

If you feel like this might be right for your charity have a look at the [quick guide](#), [and find the template on our website](#).



A reminder to Facebookers that we have a shedder group called the MENZSHED NZ shed forum at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/917022518450093>

Presently 47 sheds are represented by 89 shedders.

To participate, visit the site and answer the two screening questions.

After your application is accepted, you will be able to read and post to the site.



# Region One News

Northland and Auckland

## *A few things from the Men's Shed Auckland East*

### Montessori Preschool Reception

After many discussions and designs it was decided that we would make a reception desk for their pre-school out of totally recycled materials. There were a few challenges, like diverging walls and a half height door, but these were taken in stride when Roger Van Kuylenburg and Peter Ryan, designed, built and installed this beautiful desk to receive visitors and restrict access by children to the office area.



### Community Food Stand

Two of these units were made up this month for local groups to help with the rising cost of living. One went to Bailey Road School and another to a local Marae. Alan Lendrum and Roger Kuylenburg with help from a bunch of members, rustled these up and delivered them. They will go into action as early as possible, helping to feed the locals.

### Letters to God

At Christmas we made a very large Santa's letterbox for the St Heliers Shopping Centre. This time, we made a post box for another of the "Big Guys" up there! James Young joined forces with our engineering and wood shops to make a letter-box for Christ Church, the Anglican church serving Ellerslie and Mt Wellington.



Folding BBQ seating

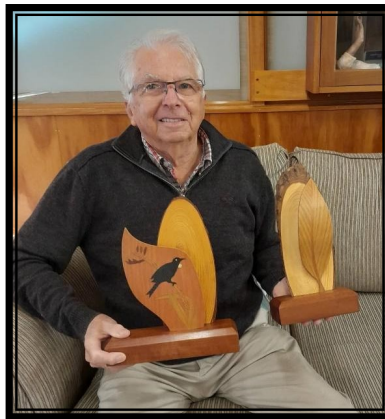


Cubby holes for a local scout group.

# Region One News Continued

## *Boomer Shed Auckland*

**Trophies:** A few men in the shed have worked to design and construct some beautiful trophies awards for the Beautification Trusts Eye on Nature programmes for schools, the Wearable Arts Competition and Creative Arts Competition. The men have used upcycled materials donated to the Boomer Shed by members of the community.



**Boomer and Manukau Bunnings Father's Day Activation 2022:** Some of our Boomer Shed members took part in the Father's Day activities at Bunnings Manukau on Sunday 27 August! They guided children and their parents on how to create a tablet display board and three types of toolboxes, so the kids could DIY their gifts for Dad. Our Boomer Shed handymen had an amazing time connecting with local families. Garry and John summed up the day perfectly - "Teaching the next generation and current parents on how to use tools is the best feeling, as we get the chance to see them leave with a smile and feeling of accomplishment." A big thank you to Bunnings Manukau for hosting our Boomer Shed members and for the wonderful opportunity to connect and share skills with the community!



**Baptise Bowl For Local Church:** The Boomer Shed helps our local community by assisting with community projects. The members of the shed have recently completed the construction of a new Baptise bowl stand for the local Church using native recycled materials.





# Region One News Continued

## *Settlers Albany Blokes Shed*

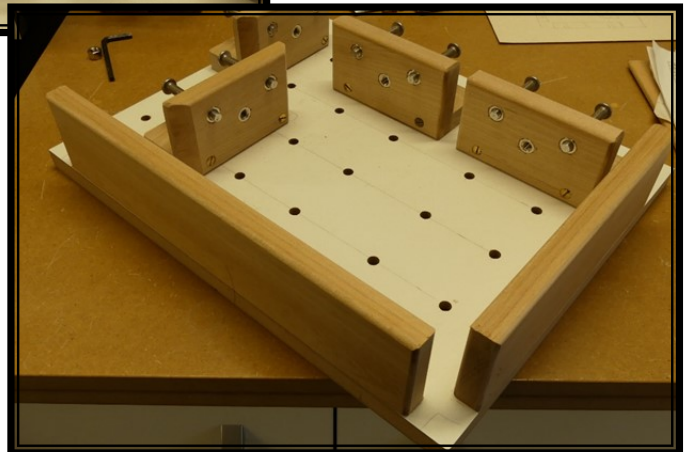
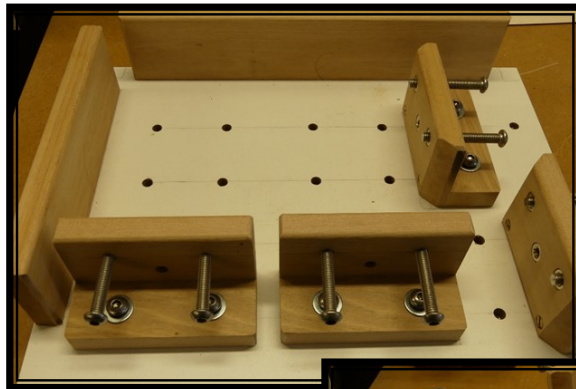
Things have been a bit quiet with only a few projects being worked on. Ian has made a gluing jig for holding the four sides of small boxes (typically jewellery boxes) to be held square with all 4 corners being glued at once and held square.

The first photo is Bryant building a display box that will house miniature items and have a Perspex door. Here he is lining up the corners for gluing. This is one of three. Bryant is new into the village here at Settlers and has already taken to the shed like a duck to water.

The following two photos show the gluing up grid box with the locking screws that will apply pressure to one side and one end with the other two faces being pushed into a fixed square corner. It hasn't been tested so we will wait and see if it is a success.

It can be adjusted to cater for several different size boxes by moving the supports and refixing with screws into the base. Once roughly in place the gluing up can proceed by placing the side/ends into the jig and then adjust the long horizontal screws that will apply pressure and hold in place while the glue dries. Glad wrap will be used to stop any adhesion from the glue to the base.

The last photo is a modified trolley that the preschool across the road from us here wanted made into a small puppet theatre. It has a seal coat as they want to finish painting it with "arty stuff" a bit beyond the skills of our shed.



# Region One News Continued

## *Mens Shed Auckland East*

Wood carving Course: Eight members attended the start of a new wood carving course, with Wanda Gillespie, a professional carver. Picture shows sheddie Dene Hoskins “



### Police Dog Memorial Presentation

Sheddie Penny Simpson crocheted a floral wreath on a steel frame made in our engineering department, for presentation, at a commemoration of past members of the Police Dog Section. From left sheddies Alan and Penny Simpson, Senior Sergeant Peter Pedersen, (in charge of dog section), with his dog Jango, and Sergeant Colin Howard, (in charge of the dog section training).



3D Printer Action Members have been exploring 3D printing using equipment lent by member Raj Das. Hamish Hall of Auckland University designed some seats for Alan Simpson's model bus project. These were successfully printed and proved very valuable in demonstrating the possibilities. We look forward to many future 3D printing projects.

### Glendowie Church Sign installed !

Roger Van Kuylenburg and Peter Ryan completed and installed the large poster cabinet at Glendowie church.



### Orakei gets its Pataka Kai

The Community Food Stand, built by Alan Lendrum and his team, was completed and installed this month. Locals were keen to see it up and running. Helping with the ever-increasing cost of living.



### Nice and Cosy!

Our Shed Managers never cease to amaze us with their process of continuous improvement. This month, we got our barn insulated.

Our conservation team braved “artic conditions” this winter to produce products. Now they will be cool in summer and warm in winter.

Many thanks guys!



### Beyond Expectations!

Our new truck is proving extremely valuable. It is continuously in use for picking up materials and dropping off product.

We've added our Environmental partners logos to the tray. Namely, E B Songbird, Predator Free NZ and Trees for Survival.

Picture shows 300 rat traps destined for Devonport.





# Region Two News

Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Gisborne

## *Hamilton Community Men's Shed*

The main stay of our last newsletter is the reply to the 'What is it ' pics we put up of Keith Day's last project.

It s a 'BUGLE AND.... it works. Blew a bit of a tune on it myself, well different notes anyway LOL

Well he finally finished it. He is already on the way with his next one, a 'trombone.'

What's the difference between a trombone and a trampoline? One takes their shoes off before jumping onto the trampoline!

Reminds me of the song 'Started with a kiss' but instead of a kiss, it was various bits of wood which he gave the kiss of life to.

He has had a writer from 'THE SHED' magazine interview him, they were keen to see what he had made and no doubt we will see Keith's smiling face with his Bugle filling the pages of the Mag soon



Slowly it has all come together, and completed, he has now presented it to his bandmaster.



A job well done. Looking forward to the next musical instrument.  
Speaking of such, we have a few musical artiste's among us.

# Region Two News Continued

## *Te Awamutu Menzshed*

It has been a “roller coaster” three months at the Te Awamutu Menzshed. The shed has been burgled twice in that time. Our drop saw and the large grinder was taken the first time. When they returned the second time, our storeroom door was smashed, and the burglars selectively stole all our cordless drills. The local police were quickly on the case together with Comsafe, our community watchdog.

The Men have since installed bars on all the windows, and the security lights have been upgraded. As this article is going to press, we are waiting for advice on establishing the best security system.

The community spirit has been amazing. The men have found it very humbling. Within twenty-four hours of the first break-in, we had donated to us a new drop saw and a set of cordless drills

Businesses covered our insurance excess with cash donations, and private individuals “chipped in”. The Te Awamutu Primary School held a mufti day and presented us with over one thousand dollars. Our insurance company dealt with our claim very professionally and speedily, allowing the shed to continue operating without any downtime.

The break-ins all happened in the middle of a rebuild of our main working area. We have rebuilt our main working site, ensuring we are not exposed to the elements quite as much. This has been achieved without compromising the natural light over the work benches. The local business gave us substantial discounts on materials to complete this work. With this now complete, we have a great communal work area.



Shed projects have been continuing with the placing of a large order of chopping boards by a local business to give their clients as Christmas gifts now nearing completion. The engineering workshop has been busy repairing lawnmowers for the coming spring. The garden section has kept a steady supply of veggies for the men. New potatoes are the next thing on the menu and are near to being dug.

One of our early members was a commercial kumara grower and has given us strict instructions on how to grow kumara plants. His directions we follow to the “letter,” and this year’s plants are well safety stickers on all our machinery. The shed holds a monthly safety session showing safety videos, or the men gather around a machine for a training session.



A successful garage sale has been held. We were able to sell off accumulated unwanted tools. One of our ongoing community projects is to help estates and those going into retirement villages dispose of and tidy up their unwanted tools, etc. We often find a home for these tools with young people starting their businesses or just as collectors.



# Region Two News Continued

## *Menzshed Kapiti*

Membership continues to grow as we see nearly 60 members turning up at our Tuesday and Thursday sessions. We have now completed our major off-site project of supporting the retro-fitting of an old relocated classroom for the local food-bank which has now opened. A quick tally looks as if we have contributed approx. 1300 hours - no mean feat and well beyond an initial expectations and we will look carefully at such offers of help in the future.



Completion of our additional workshop extension is ongoing, now finishing the internal gib lining before various sheets of timber panelling are added for protection. This is all completed with our own members specialist trade skills and with lots of helpers. Three-phase wiring has required extensive electrical work which will allow some better machinery in the future.



Our strong financial basis means we do not need to fundraise but voluntary donations from our community projects, Doc projects, rat trap and firewood sales, means we have a steady income. Projects keep rolling in from a variety of sources including requests from local residents and many local charity groups including childcare centres, a variety of clubs and local schools. Tracking the projects, currently 110 so far this year, has required a comprehensive database stored in the cloud.

We found a home for some of our surplus tools when a newly formed group, Repair Cafe Raumati South, wanted a unique set of tools for their volunteers. Another outlet yet to explore for excess tools is for refugee families. We challenge other Menz Shed's to follow up this option in their area.



# Region Three News

Taranaki, Manawatu, Whanganui, Hawkes Bay and Wellington

## *Menzshed Waitara – One Year Under The Belt*

We survived our first year, held our AGM at the end of July and are now ready to face a second year as a MenzShed. The seed funding from Te Ara Whakamua O Whaitara helped us to get the old building we are leasing up to a working and comfortable place that can now be used to suit our purposes.

A smoko room and small kitchen has been completed and a storeroom for organising the tools and fittings for easy access is in the process of being remodelled and organised by our “quartermaster”. Quite a few trips to the “dump” to get rid of the rubbish were taken as well.

During the year we have completed a number of projects, a tray to hold cups for a lady who makes cups of tea for a variety of groups she is associated with, another local wanted a larger “chook house”, a raised garden was built for a nurse who wanted it for her house, fixed a few chairs and sharpened a few tools for people, made “dibblers” for a volunteer to use with the children for the Trees for Survival charity and donation boxes for the RSA to use during the Garden Festival.

The major job we undertook was a contract to pull down the old fence around the old historical building precinct near the Memorial Hall and replace it with a new one. Hopefully by the time this goes to press we will have completed the final coat of paint. A number of things have made this a protracted job. The weather was great when we started but then it turned to “custard” for a considerable time so we have been unable to complete the painting, not to mention that the footpath that ran along the front of the fence was ripped up and a new one laid which made access to completing the job impossible as well.

Our charitable focus has been to make sets of the Cornole Game for the schools in the Waitara and North Taranaki area. We applied for and received a Community Matters grant from COGS so that we had the money to make and gift 16 boards to the local schools.

As we move into our second year we have been encouraged with the support we have had from the nearby New Plymouth MenzShed and the Warkworth MenzShed. New Plymouth have been very generous in donating to us tools and fixings that were superfluous to their requirements whilst Warkworth answered the call when we were after a band saw. They gave us one that wasn't needed by themselves as well as a planer and dust extractor. All we had to do was pick it up. Thanks to both MenzSheds for their help and generosity. We are most grateful.

We are looking forward to the new year. We have had a number of new members join up since the AGM. We now have 26 members who are coming to the shed on a regular basis. Two of the new members have an engineering background and it has been great to see the metal lathe that was given by a family now getting used. One of these blokes is using this lathe to restore an old wood lathe that when finished will be used at our shed.



Fencing Time



Dibbles made for the Tree For Survival Charity



St Josephs Waitara School collecting their Cornhole game.



Chook House for local lady



Donation Boxes for RSA



# Region Three News Continued

## *Wellington City Menzshed*

Smoko time at the Shed. I suppose it would be more politically correct to call it “morning tea break” Anyway, here’s a few of the jokers having a break at 11am.



The tale of a table. We were given a round kauri dining table ages ago and it sat forgotten in the back store. The pedestal was damaged, but we still had the top – sadly cracked. Then suddenly Steve decided it could be repaired. Chopped out the crack and inserted a new kauri plank; planed the edges and made it round again. He had a low kauri pedestal so decided to unite the two. David raised the table top.... still a work in progress. We will sell the table for Shed funds.



Steve repaired an elm rocking chair – the owner is an enthusiastic collector of rockers. It had a broken arm which Steve painstakingly rebuilt.



# Region Three News Continued

## *Napier Menz Shed*

This Weinbach piano was brought into the Napier Shed and serviced by their (almost) retired piano tuner with the intention of selling it. However, it is now giving much pleasure to the pianist, David and the members enjoy music while they work. Perhaps we can use it for our Christmas bash and sell it in the New Year. Then we might have to look for another one!



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## *Carterton Menzshed*

We are delighted to say our little group has expanded with consistent turnout 3 mornings a week. Our funds have grown so we are now in a sound position to acquire new machinery, as well as improving our dust extraction system, also looking at getting a defibrillator. An interesting adjunct to the normal operation of the shed is a programme initiated by Alan Batson one of our more caring members who supervises several of our Neurodiverse young members of the community. With their carers, they get involved with the day to day operation of the shed and come out with something they have made, providing them with an experience that normally would not be available if it wasn't for our shed.



Marble amusement game completed and ready for testing.



There is always time for a cuppa



# Region Three News Continued

## *Menzshed Tawa*

This is a large sign from over at the RSA that we are “refurbishing”- it will gleam when finished. The RSA asked if Menzshed could help them with renovating their sign which is showing signs of ageing. The metal bits are being taken by Jack Fry to his lair to use his “preservation” skills. Below is an explanation from Jack about the process for the metal parts, we will do a follow up when completed.



Brassed Off : I understand that there is some interest in what is happening in the upstairs room in the shed and the treatment of the brass letters from the R.S.A. notice board. The reason that this work is being done upstairs is because the process will involve the letters soaking in solutions for several weeks and the work benches could not be occupied for such a long time.

Photographs taken before the R.S.A. sign was taken down showed corrosion stains running down the painted panel. It appeared that these stains were coming from beneath the brass letters and possibly because the front of the letters had been protected by a light brown coloured paint or a clear lacquer. Fortunately this was not so as microscopic examination showed that there was no lacquer and the light brown colouration of the brass letters was made by patination not paint.

This made the job a lot easier with no lacquer to strip off and the only paint removal was spots of white paint on some of the letters except the crescent shaped piece which had white paint all over its back. The paint was removed using a scalpel, the letters were then dry cleaned with a stiff bristle brush and washed in a solution of a non ionic detergent in demineralised water. The reason for using demineralised water is that it is free from chloride ions, which are present in tap water, and it is a lot cheaper than distilled water. The brass letters are now soaking in the demineralised water whilst being checked for the presence of soluble chlorides. Their presence are being monitored using the nitric acid/silver nitrate test which if chlorides are present turn the test solution cloudy. Soaking and replacing the demineralised water will continue until tests show that very low levels of chloride remain.

Once the tests show that the level of the soluble chlorides are low the baths will be emptied and filled with a solution of sodiumsesquicarbonate in demineralised water which will neutralise any free chlorides remaining. The letters will then be rinsed, dried and coated with a clear acrylic lacquer for protection against further corrosion. A full report of the treatment will be prepared.



# Region Three News Continued

## *Menzshed Manawatu*

**Wooden Trucks:** This truck was a copy of a toy found in an Op. shop. A single copy was made in natural wood and sold. The design was seen as a good model to make a few more. The painted trucks were made from a CAD drawing (created from the original) with treated wood from window framing off cuts, nailed and glued together. The wheels were made using a jig and router to cut the wheels and in the process a mudguard was also made. The radius of the mud guard automatically matched that of the wheel. This method also gave a cleaner cut than using a hole saw. A jig was also made to cut the side windows using a router. We subsequently produced 10 of these. A set of plans in CAD now exists to enable us to make more in the future.



**School Projects:** A teacher at a local school asked if we could kitset and oversee her pupils to make wooden bug motels and bird feeders. We recycled a stack of pallets which we pre-cut and drilled all the panels. A group of us then went to school for two sessions to supervise 80 pupils assembling the projects. We only had 40 kids each time which was about as many as we could cope with in each session. Trying to find 40 hammers posed some logistical issues, but with patience and perseverance we got through it well. The looks on the children's faces when they left with their completed projects was very rewarding. Clearly many of them have never had such an experience before. Other schools have heard about this and requests are growing for us to do it again for more schools.



**Adult swing:** Community Connections approached us about building a large and robust swing for an 18 year old young man who gains much tranquillity in his life through the motion of swinging. The family has limited financial resources so it seemed like a good project for us to do as we had all the required materials in stock. We built the swing at the shed then installed it at his home. The family as well as staff at Communities Connections are delighted with the result.



**Repair Café:** Menzshed Manawatu are participating in the newly formed Repair Café which began operations on 24th September. The initial session was held at Te Manawa and there was certainly a good response from the population. We had 8 members on board for the initial session and repaired a wide range of articles from children's toys to small furniture items. It is planned for this to become a monthly activity and will give us another community event to get involved in. The movement is designed to reduce the amount that ends up in landfills because people do not have the skills or time to repair them.





# Region Three News Continued

## *Menzshed Hastings*

Menzshed Hastings continues to grow in numbers, recently risen from around 65 to 80. At this level we decided to take a breather, endorse a ceiling, and just let the new members settle into the shed.

Club members continue to enjoy camaraderie together and have also completed a host of community projects as well as some of their own. One member, Jim, donated a beautiful Tugboat, meticulously made from a Billings kit, and we were able to sell this for significant club funds. Another member is a dab hand at putting together flatpack furniture. With a bit of head-scratching and a few additional parts, Phil was able to recreate a rather large, to say the least, “John Lewis” wardrobe for a very happy customer.



Allan continues to keep the U-Build-It company in Sydney busy posting scale model plans of model trucks and heavy machinery. He is, in turn, machine-like, turning out model after model of the intricate works.



Earlier in the year we revamped recycling boxes for local council staff. The bins were delivered on a Friday morning, and from midday Friday until late Sunday afternoon an enthusiastic team of volunteers gave the boxes several coats of paint, renewed the recycling colours on the lids, replaced hinges and handles and had the boxes ready for return to the council staffrooms on Monday.



The Napier kiwi creche, “Kiwis for Kiwi”, requested our shed make a variety of cover boxes and shelters for the kiwi chicks they rear. The chicks are hatched in Rotorua and brought down to Napier to grow and develop and learn to fend for themselves. Our member, Chris, has been meticulous in making sure the boxes were built to plan and high standard, giving the creche a good supply of perfect shelter for the kiwi chicks for years to come.

We also learned of the misfortune of the Pahiatua Menzshed who experienced a burglary of their premises, with an extensive amount of equipment stolen. We were able to pass on a selection of tools from our shed and offer a \$500 donation which was gratefully received.

Several of our shed members turned car-park attendants, overseeing the car parking for one of the business enterprises “My Walk-in Wardrobe” at the local showgrounds where our shed is located. With the help of our crew the car-parking was much more orderly than the previous time and everyone had a fun morning. We received a nice donation and even managed to sell a few bikes.

So, it has been a fun few months and successful year to date. Our chairman keeps divvying out the work and maintains a steady eye on the crew. We’ve achieved a lot over the past year with still more to come.



# Region Four News

## Canterbury and Westland

### *Halswell Menzshed*

On Saturday 2 July we held a Shed breakfast to say thank you to Roger Spicer for the work he has done for the Halswell Menzshed, as manager, since he founded the shed along with Mark Anderson, in 2013.

With a few speeches after breakfast - we heard from Mark Anderson (Co-founder), Adrienne Senior (Trust chairperson) and Trevor Scott (Regional Rep/Chairman from Menzshed NZ). All spoke of the great work Roger had done for the Shed and the great culture we are privileged to enjoy.

Roger also spoke, and reminisced of the early days when everything ran on his credit card to the now well managed Shed, complete with a Steering Group and Trust to keep an eye on things and with pretty sound finances. Roger is still going to be around and will become a Trustee.

It was also announced that Tim Joyce has agreed to take on the Manager role. He was quick to add that he did not put his hand up for this. He had been convinced that he should use his administrative abilities for the benefit of the Shed, as he has seen so many other sheddies do, with their respective skills. As a Trustee and Treasurer he had been doing a fair chunk of the work required anyway.



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### *August Hub Meeting at Ashburton*

Four times a year the Canterbury Menzshed hold a Hub Meeting. These are held at different sheds each time and this means that the sheds located a distance from Christchurch don't have to travel long distances to the meeting. Ashburton Menz Shed made all sixty plus Menzshed members from twelve sheds very welcome. Time was spent with an informal report back from each shed, bringing members up to date with happenings from a national perspective. Then it was time to look around the Ashburton shed, chat to fellow men from far and wide, reunite with men met at previous Hub Meetings, check out the swap table and take away a gem before sharing a meal together. The pizzas were a tasty treat. The afternoon was spent with a visit to Lusetti Seeds. They process the seeds and export them to many countries. The machinery used came from Germany and is very hi tec. I am sure that all who went to the hub meeting were impressed not only by Lusetti Seeds but with the layout and space that the Ashburton Shed has.



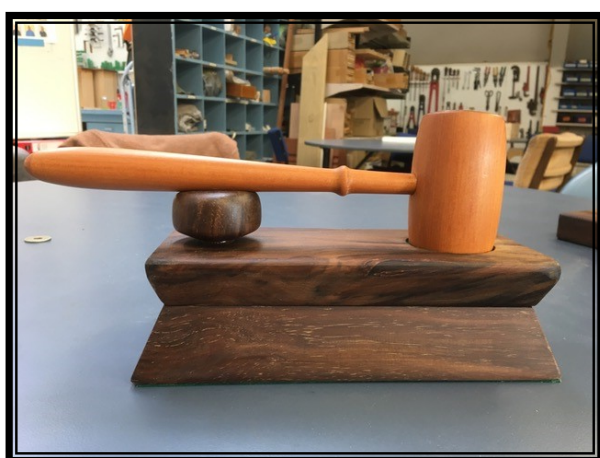
Looking forward to the next Hub Meeting in Lincoln.



# Region Four News Continued

## *Bishopdale Menzshed.*

Two local Council Community Board employees visited us with a 1500 year old (according to radio carbon dating) matai stump and asked if we could make a gavel and stand (sample provided) to present to a Community Board member who was retiring after 30 years service, a number of these as chairman. Bert, our resident lathe expert, took up the challenge. Unfortunately the stump, being mostly roots, did not have enough straight grained timber to make a gavel of any strength so Bert turned the gavel out of more recent matai. One of the pieces cut from the stump had an attractive shape so in addition to the gavel we mounted this on a base. It will probably go in a Council display cabinet with an acknowledgement of the source of the timber. Photos show the gavel and stand, the mounted "sculpture" and a delighted Mike Mora receiving the gavel.

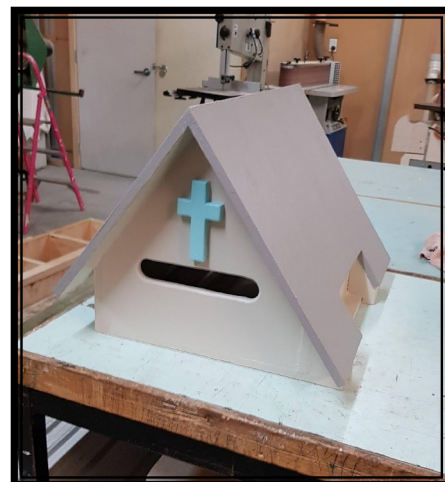


## *Oxford Community Men's Shed*

We have been very busy over the last few months and don't seem to have a lot to show for it. It has taken time to negotiate with council departments to get all the paperwork signed off to allow our storage container to sit on site. With that all done we measured up the site and put in the foundations for it to sit on and arranged for the delivery. All this went without a problem. We are now working through the list of materials needed to install the roof over the container and the 2.4 metre gap between the container and the main shed building. All the while gathering up supplies of steel angle to make up legs for the heap of steel shelving we have had stored away for a lot of years for just such a need. Then we needed to have a clean out in our existing wood storage sheds to enable more wood to go in them from other areas in what is ending up to be a very merry go round of lumps of wood.

The end result which we can now see clearly although still a few months away will be the doubling in size of our metalwork shop area, a better placed area for a shadow board of the hand tools, all the power tools in cupboards out of the way but handy for use, most of our bulk nails / screws / bolts etc clearly identified and stored in the container along with the paints and any tools we don't use very much. We are hoping the area between the shed and container will be dry enough to store our sheet ply and a rack for all our steel. While all this has been happening the guys have been making more supplies of cutting boards and various small items that we sell in our market stall. The stall season will start in two weeks. And repairing and making all sorts of items for the local community such as corn hole game boards and letterboxes.

We have repaired our forth steel picnic table seat for this year and one table on behalf of the local council, all from one park and all caused by vandals, good business for us but not good community wise.



# Region Four News Continued

## *Kaiapoi Menzshed*

Menz Shed of Kaiapoi Trust held their AGM on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September with 28 members present and nine apologies, an excellent turnout. One month into the new financial year and 38 members (75%) have already paid their subs, many choosing to do so electronically.

Considering the effect of Covid-19 on all our activities it has been a successful year financially mainly due to some excellent community projects. Life was made more difficult by the Sutton's factory fire as our shed is in their factory complex though fortunately we suffered no damage.

Socially the year has been very successful as we were challenged to find creative ways to increase the opportunity to socialise. This included a midwinter dinner, a round of mini golf and lunch at the Hornby Working Men's Club, a visit to Sutherlands Sawmill and Processing plant and changing our monthly meetings from evenings at the local club to a meeting at lunchtime with a pizza, toasted sandwich or wedges, washed down with a pint or coffee. This has increased attendance and resulted in members becoming more involved. We have during the last twelve months acquired a second-hand edge laminator and learnt to drive the beast. Also a new spiral cutting thicknesser that is so quiet it is possible to hold a conversation while it is cutting.



Among the many interesting projects was a produce stand for the Pines & Kairaki Beach communities, above, with the community hall in the background.

We have built bird nesting boxes, bug motels, widened garage doors, repaired sash windows, dining chairs and a music box, and completed the decorations for the Kaiapoi River Bridge. We made spring daffodils for the bridge some years ago, four sets each side, and have added Canterbury, Christmas, Valentines, Anzac and Matariki displays in the last twelve months.

We are often asked to restore garden bench seats and occasionally acquire the cast metal ends at the local auction to rebuild and sell. We have also been donated a stalled project, a partly restored circular dining table now ready for the Christmas market. Then there are the personal projects, large, small and varied. All together a very productive year.



Restored Items



The new Hammer A3 41D  
3 phase thicknesser.



Jack preparing morning tea at  
our drop-down servery wall.



# Region Four News Continued

## *Lincoln Menzshed Extension*

In March this year Widespan Sheds completed construction of the water-tight shell of the Lincoln Men's shed extension. Work to complete the interior fit out by shed members then began. This involved lining the workshop portion of the building with plywood, and construction of the office, kitchen and toilet area that separates the workshop from the meeting room. This photo is taken from the meeting room which as well as the office kitchen and toilet is now fully insulated and lined with Gib Board.



Stormwater and wastewater connections have been made to the street, internal plumbing work is complete apart from the final internal fit out, and the final electrical fit out will be completed when we have finished internal painting and installation of the suspended ceiling above the meeting room. The main tasks at the moment are completion of stopping and painting of the Gib lining, and the assembly and fit out of the kitchen joinery and appliances.

The job has been a major undertaking for our members with a dedicated team leading the way on the project during normal shed opening times and also at other times through the week.



As the Lincoln Men's Shed is hosting the Canterbury area Hub Meeting late November we are working towards being ready to host our visitors in at least a nearly-completed shed extension.

Sign at Liffey Village Lincoln": The Lincoln Men's Shed was approached by a representative from an Over 55's Retirement Village in Lincoln to have a sign erected at their entrance. The purpose was to raise their street visibility and to advise people looking for a short cut that there was no through route. As one of our members is a semi-retired sign writer this seemed to be a job we could handle. After a site visit to agree on design and location we constructed the sign at the shed and erected it on a suitably fine day.

Here we see Graeme and Mike enjoying fresh muffins and a glass of water after completing the job.



# Region Four News Continued

## *Timaru Community Menzshed*

### Making Gulliver a Penny-Farthing Whirligig

I have always been fascinated by the *A.A.insurance advertisement on TV, a gentleman trying to impersonate Matt Munroe singing Born Free with a wee man (whirligig) wind assisted skipping in the background.*

Not sure what they were called so I asked Mr Google about wind vanes and he was able to point me in the direction of a whole new world of wind driven whirligigs, designs by the hundreds they even have whirligigs conventions in places like the UK and America

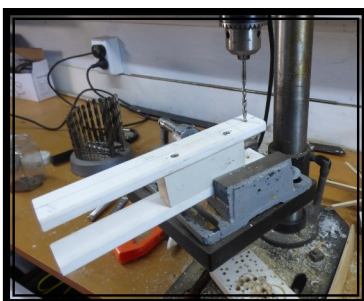
The design that caught my eye was a video clip of a bicycle whirligig with a fan in the wheel pumping the riders legs up and down. Plans were not available, not that I wanted them, I just wanted the challenge of designing and building it myself. Rough sketches were made and I was able to keep referring to the video clip to refresh my memory

A piece of 8mm ply 500x400mm was used to plan, mark out and trial assemble all the parts starting with the big wheel cut from 2 pieces of 8 mm ply glued and screwed together. The fan hub was cut using a hole saw with 8 slots cut by hand saw round the circumference for the blades to be glued into, then a piece of 4mm brass rod threaded both ends was glued in for the axle

I used pieces of scrap brass for the pedals, the forks and frame came together without too many problems then the whole thing was mounted permanently upright on a base held in place by metal brackets.

Enjoyed making the rider (Gulliver) a bit of wood carving involved, he has long skinny arms and legs made from aluminium tube from an old TV aerial and all his joints have felt washers so they can be oiled to keep them lubricated. A wind vane is mounted at right angles to the whirligig to keep it pointing into the wind and the whole thing mounted on a turntable made from copper tube with nylon bearings

Gulliver is mounted on our retractable clothesline post. Our back yard is like an arena surrounded by three large two story houses plus the back of our house and 3 large trees, not an ideal place but he is happy doing his own thing. He seems to prefer winds from the north west.





# Region Four News Continued

## *New Brighton Menz Shed*

Since we shifted from our garage in New Brighton to new premises in an unused church hall a lot has happened. The Marriots Road building is at least two and a half times bigger then the double garage we were using. Space to spread out and add more work benches and equipment. After the initial shift we had extra wiring and power points installed. We have gained, by way of donations, a three phase band saw, a mig welder and a new table saw.

Our membership has increased three fold and we operate three mornings a week, so we can now devote more time and manpower to some of the bigger community projects.

Recently a counter was made from old church pews for St Faiths church, a toy size marae for Waitakiri school and a strong box for sand buckets and spades for children of New Brighton. Materials for the box were funded by the New Brighton Lions.



We have one large job at present being a stand alone cabinet for office use with computer station, but apart from that guys are busy doing their own projects. Allan Ball chairman

# Region Four News Continued

## *Pegasus Woodend -Menzshed*

Since my last article for the National Newsletter our shed has been busy, and the pace has not let up since we established our new shed in October 2021. Our woodworking skills are being tested by making garden furniture which includes a large table top and bench seats created from oak slabs, and other tables and seats made from Kwila and also Rimu slabs. Our other projects have been quite diverse from bed frame repairs to pottery plates to metal plant stands.

The type of work we have done or are receiving is a good mix between community projects and paid jobs from the community. It is difficult to strike a fair price with the community because of them understanding who we are and what we represent. Grants and charities have so far continued to pay us but at some stage our options will run out. I guess that all sheds are facing this same problem of how to price a job and how it is best done.

Our membership is still around twenty seven with an average turn out on Wednesdays and Fridays of between ten and sixteen members. Since our last newsletter we have added a new table saw to our machinery inventory. Our small ceiling air filtration system is working well in catching the fine particles of airborne dust; something that I recommend is good value for money, it does create a better working environment.

We have built a fence between our wood storage container and our second container housing our engineering workshop. This has significantly improved the tidiness of the grounds and within these parameters we are building a small shed to house our paint and miscellaneous articles. Raising money is always an issue to pay for these improvements, but spending money saves burning holes in our pockets.

Thanks for reading our newsletter and all of you take care and stay safe.





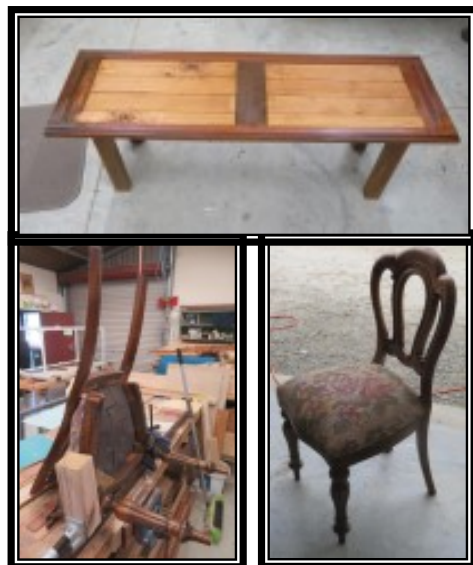
# Region Four News Continued

## *Rolleston Men's Shed*

Since the last newsletter, life has been normal at the Shed. Projects keep going out the door as more come in. More chairs for repair, more coffee tables from odd things. What to do with this cupboard door? Yes, another coffee table.

A major job on this chair, the base and front and back legs all needed to be worked on.

What about a wood box. In this case, a large "case" shaped one. The Engineering section welded up the square tube frame and the Woodwork section did the panels. Reports have come in that it has been admired by a number of people.



The Shed has previously made a recycling shed for the Council and this is another similar shed, about to go out the door. The other was for battery recycling but the latest, bigger shed is for odd metal. The noisy Woodwork section has been reorganised, lathes that produce most of the dust and sawdust have been moved to the other end of the workshop to be as close as possible to the dust extractor.

The Electronics and Computer section continues to upgrade computers, the oldest being a 2008 HP laptop which is now a very usable computer for the owner. No high powered work, mainly emails and internet browsing but it is quick and easy to use as it now doesn't use Windows and won't be going into land-fill. Another two member's computers also done recently, Linux and solid state disks fitted. Riccarton Menz Shed has also been helped out with setting up an email address and given the laptop it was done on. A range of other items repaired include, vacuum cleaners, hifi amplifiers and other odds.

Some of the items worked on at the Shed look as if they are straight out of the TV programme, *The Repair Shop*. A rather battered tricycle. Could the brake be fixed? It has now had a new coat of paint, the tatty paint on the wheels removed and it almost looks as if it has just come out of a shop. And yes, it had a cloth cover over it while waiting for the owner to come for it. The cover was removed for the reveal.



Work gets done for local schools and the latest project was a couple of sandpits. A reasonably major on-site job. The sides of the curved part was done in just over half metre sections, tongue fastened.



# Region Five News

## Otago and Southland

### *Alexandra Men's Shed*

We have been busy completing a further 6 units of our popular eight-seater outdoor picnic tables, this time for the Terrace Primary School. Anecdotally, we have heard that they have been extremely popular with the young students. Apparently they have each nominated their preferred seat culminating in a rush to secure it first at break periods. First in first served it seems!

Another similar table has just been completed and sited near the water's edge of the St Bathans Blue Lake picnic spot. The table was funded by the local branch of Rural Woman and reserve committee. Again, another thoroughly delighted customer, her first comment at pickup was, "It's gorgeous", so hopefully it will lead to further examples being built.

A recent project was to produce half a dozen small folding tables as well as bird feeders as a shed contribution to a fund-raiser in aid of a beneficiary of the NZ Stroke Foundation. The poor man suffered a devastating medical event at age 51 which turned his life around for him as well as his family. Unfortunately, the date conflicted with another similar event to raise funds for a child cancer victim, a cause the punters seemed to favour on the day.

Just recently the shed has been involved in preparing trailers for the 65th Alexandra Blossom Festival floats. This is invariably a rush job dumped on us at the last minute, but our boys pulled out all stops and delivered on time as usual. Despite the last-minute rush, our efforts are normally rewarded by a generous contribution toward shed funds by the festival organisers, so all well worthwhile.

Our treasurer has done a grand job of sourcing grant money enabling the shed to take delivery of some much-needed new equipment, including lathes, dust extractors, table saw bench, bandsaw, welding equipment, milling machine and small forge. It looks more like a workshop with attitude now. The updated gear means we have surplus older machine items for sale or donate to another shed, as well as a large sliding table saw. This is a Lartigiana Casadei KS1400 model the shed purchased at a closing down sale during the early days and while an excellent piece of kit is too big for us, so now surplus to requirements. We have it advertised on Trademe at \$1,500 plus GST, some enquiry but only tire kickers so far.

And to finish off, here we see stalwarts Sam, Ayson and Pete working their butts off to get the job done.





# Region Five News Continued

## *Taieri Blokes Shed*

Some years back the Taieri Blokes Shed made two bench seats for the Green Track group. They are a group who maintain the walking tracks in the Silver Peaks Forest inland around Dunedin.

All went well for a number of years till some person or persons pulled them up and threw them down the hillside. The tramping group retrieved them and concreted them in the ground. Not to be beaten, the vandals took a chainsaw to them and completely destroyed them.

The Tramping Group approached us again to make another two seats with metal round the legs and a metal bar right through the length of the seat, including a reinforcing rod in the legs to cement them in. It now takes four people to carry one seat.

The group will now have to helicopter the seats and concrete into their sites due to the weight.

The mentality of our generation has to be questioned!! Someone has tramped for up to two hours to destroy the seats.



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## *Menzshed Invercargill*

Life continues to be busy for Menzshed in the South. This month - a brief overview of our Electrical/ Electronics Section. Peter & Simon, (pictured) have contributed hugely to our success, both in carrying out necessary work and upgrades to our premises, as well as contributing to the variety of community projects and jobs that come our way. Here is a summary of projects, commencing with tasks in our first building five years ago: Repairing flooring to enable mounting of a table saw, installing extra power points where necessary and changing the wiring, connect hot water, install various loaned equipment, check condition of/ repair loaned tools when necessary, start assembling & wiring fault lights for pots at Tiwai Aluminium Smelter, refurbishing old Post Office bikes for Red Cross Refugees. Then we shifted to our new premises in Liddell St.: Rewire new shed premises, upgrade and add switchboards, install machinery, install dust collection controller, upgrade kitchen.

Also, Simon took on the task of making our own CNC machine, which also appears in the photo and beside it, an example of some of the tasks made easy by using it. It has proved very valuable in numerous other projects over recent months.



Two weeks ago we had a Men's Health night, where member Terry Wright and his wife Trish, who have been the faces of Prostate Awareness in Southland for seven years, gave a presentation on the signs of, and treatment for, Prostate Cancer. This was followed by a talk by Ken Bowie on his experience of Bowel Cancer, followed by liver metastases, back in the year 2000.

Much frank and open discussion followed, with other personal experiences brought out in the open. It proved that, given the right environment, men can, and will, talk openly about their health. We plan to have more such evenings.

# Region Six News

Tasman, Nelson and Marlborough

## *Motueka Menzshed Scroll Saw Workshop*

One Wednesday morning while we were having smoko a representative from the Motueka District Arts Council came to talk to us about becoming involved in their Mid Winter Art Festival Workshops. Two of our members thought it would be a good idea to run a scroll saw workshop. We did this on 23rd July at 10am - 12.30pm. Seven of the sheddies loaned us their scroll saws and we had plenty of scraps around the place. All we had to do was to organise a programme then we were all set to go.

The Arts Council did the hard work of advertising and getting the students to come and this resulted in five women and two men who had never used a scroll saw before taking part, although one of the women had seen one being used. Four Sheddies came to help in a supervisory role and became very involved with helping the students.

We put on a cup of tea and biscuits for those who came and while we were getting ourselves settled, one of the Sheddies gave a brief outline of the health and safety requirements. ie safety glasses and ear muffs and generally how to be safe around the equipment.

We displayed different things that can be made with a scroll saw, including a small side table, jigsaw puzzles, trivets, toys of various types, a clock made from a vinyl 33 rpm record and many more items. The display was designed to give inspiration to the students of what could be done in the hope that they would continue using a scroll saw.

Another of the Sheddies gave a rundown on the scroll saw, covering the various parts of the scroll saw and how to put a blade in the machine. Everyone was given a pinless blade to put into the machine and that was achieved quite well by everyone.

Then it was on to the practice patterns which had been printed off and stuck onto 6mm MDF sheets about 200 x 300 mms. These patterns were designed to give practice in most of the cuts one would come across in scroll work, such as curved cuts, inside corners, outside corners, straight lines, interior cuts etc.

Many of the cuts went off the lines. but that was to be expected on a first go. These practice cuts for most of the students took up all the time, but some finished quickly and started to cut out a toy elephant or small cars.

As far as we were concerned the workshop went very well. The class was supposed to finish at 12.30 but at 1.00pm there were one or two still finishing off. Not sure whether we will do it again next year.





## *National Menzshed Conference 2023*

It is all go ! The team in the Hawkes Bay are working hard to bring this event together. It will not be long before the programme and registrations are open. At present they are finalising the speakers and working through pricing for the event. This all takes time and energy. As things are finalised we will be sending out emails with information so that you are kept up to date and can then plan for the occasion.

The executive is look forward to seeing your shed represented.

There will be static displays from sheds promoting what they do. Start planning how you intend showcasing your shed.



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[www.menzshed.org.nz/membership/benefits/](http://www.menzshed.org.nz/membership/benefits/)

