

# NZ Mens Sheds News

February 2025 Edition

The official newsletter of 

## A word from the National Chairman

Summary of MSNZ current initiatives - actual and planned (in no particular order)

- Quarterly newsletter to all members continuing as before. Please contribute articles for it and forward to all individual members on receipt.
- Monthly updates to Chairmen of all sheds.
- Group purchasing discounts.
- Research of the benefits of sheds to their members - funded by SF.
- Website makeover - funded by SF.
- Brand / logo makeover - funded by SF.
- PR campaign - funded by SF.
- Publications - self funded; costs covered by sponsors (different for each one).
- Regional Reps to hold two hub meetings per year in the hubs of each region.
- Invercargill conference.

### Requests to all sheds.

Our requests to all sheds are simple:

1. Please seriously consider organising a Men's Health Expo in your area within the next few months; for the benefit of all men in the area and to improve our chances of receiving ongoing financial support from SF (if a Men's Health Expo is too much for you at this stage, then please consider what else you might be able to do instead along similar men's health related lines.)
2. If you have not done so already please register for the conference, take the opportunity to engage with your National Exec face to face and have your say about the future of your national body
3. Please consider applying for one of the upcoming 'situations vacant' on the MENZSHED NZ national exec; Secretary, Treasurer, RR1, RR4 and RR5.

Happy shedding and if you have any comments, requests or suggestions please do not hesitate to share them; either via your Regional Rep or directly with me.

**David Broadhead, Chairman, MENZSHED NEW ZEALAND**

**021 324 762**

**Housekeeping:**

**This full MENZSHED NZ update to Chairmen of all sheds Jan '25 was sent to the primary and secondary contacts that we have on record for all member sheds.**

**If your details need updating please contact Roger Bowman, [secretary@menzshed.nz](mailto:secretary@menzshed.nz)**

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## **Reminder from the National Secretary**

### **Newsletter Distribution**

Quarterly distribution is reliant upon individual shed secretaries emailing the newsletter to sheddies. We're keen for that to continue, in addition to hosting them on our website and the sheddie forum Facebook page.

We have just launched an opportunity for sheddies to register their personal contact information online, for immediate newsletter distribution to their personal email address.

Here's the website link <https://menzshed.org.nz/newsletters>

### **MENZSHED NZ AGM**

Annual General Meeting - MENZSHED NEW ZEALAND Inc

The AGM will be held at 10am on Sunday 6 April at the Kelvin Hotel, Invercargill.

Business will include annual reports from the Chairman and the Treasurer, elections of officers, setting the 2025 shed membership fee and consideration of any member's motions (members being sheds, not people.)

The executive committee members serve two-year terms and this year elections are required for

four Regional Representatives:

Regions:

- Auckland, Northland
  - Taranaki, Hawkes Bay, Manawatū-Whanganui, Wellington
  - Canterbury, West Coast
  - Otago, Southland
- And
- National Treasurer
  - National Secretary

The closing date for nominations is Thursday 27 March. Several incumbents have advised that they are not seeking re-election.

Member's motions must be received by Monday 17 March.

Comprehensive information and nomination forms were sent to sheds on 8 January, further reminders will follow.

Seeking more information? Please contact MENZSHED NZ Secretary Roger Bowman  
[secretary@menzshed.nz](mailto:secretary@menzshed.nz)

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# NATIONAL CONFERENCE INVERCARGILL 4th-5th-6th April 2025.

Have you registered for this event yet? - Time is running out -  
Numbers are capped at 120 for this event.

You should all be aware by now that the 2025 conference is just a few weeks away.

A crack team from the Invercargill shed have organised a great programme of speakers and visits for both delegates and partners.

Conferences are unquestionably the best way for us all to communicate, network and share each other's' ideas.

But right now, registrations are somewhat underwhelming. So, come on and make this a success.

Please reconsider your attendance and if costs were a factor in your original decision to not attend please be aware that they have been trimmed since the original notices; the cost of the registration fee, which includes all meals and other activities has been reduced from \$325 to \$150 and the cost of the Saturday dinner which was previously going to be an additional \$130 is now included in the registration fee.

Please support your national body by attending the conference - our first for 7 years!

Conference registration is by an on-line form. Information about accessing the form was sent to sheds 4th December to distribute to members. Our Invercargill hosts are waiting to receive sheddie registrations.

Please click this link <http://tinyurl.com/yc8m92f6>

..... to read about the programme, and If you don't have email a manual registration form is included at the end of this newsletter.

Note - Parking is available at the parking building opposite the Kelvin Hotel for all who registered for the conference provided that they check into the hotel within 15 minutes of parking their vehicle at no charge.

# Region One News

Northland and Auckland

## Mens Shed Auckland East.

### Abodo DOC200s Shipped!!

This has been our biggest environmental order and has proven fairly challenging. The customer wanted these 100 mustelid traps specifically made using their product and installed in their supplier's forest in Hawkes Bay. We had to take extra care laminating the boards together and avoiding splitting the timber especially on the lids where we traditionally use plywood. The treatment used by Abodo Wood Ltd is commercially sensitive so we're hoping the long-term performance in the forest will be OK. A test of our adaptability!



### A Rocking Horse that "Rocks!"

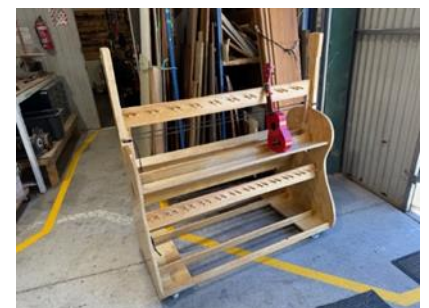


Nearing completion on the mezzanine is this rocking horse built by Peter Hoyle out of native Macrocarpa. It's both functional and fragrant. A lovely timber to work with!

Bernie Ward was at a recent event when during the discussion he was offered funding by a private benefactor, to make toys for the Local Children's Hospitals. This rocking horse is part of that toy program.

### Ukelele Stand for Stonefields School

Nigel High Made this neat Uke stand for Stonefields School music department. The mandate was simple and yet vague - a portable stand to take 40 soprano ukuleles ( the smallest type). The rest we had to come up with. So it's on castors and it's built almost entirely from one sheet of 18 mm ply and finished in polyurethane oil varnish. Custom made bungee cords help to hold the ukuleles in place when it's being moved.



Continued

## Shroud Boards for Aroha Funerals



A new activity at the shed is the making of wooden shroud boards for a local funeral director. Shroud boards are an eco-friendly and more affordable alternative to coffins for cremation. The deceased is wrapped in a shroud, laid on the untreated plywood shroud board and placed in a wicker casket. After a closed coffin memorial service the casket is taken to the crematorium where the deceased and shroud board are lifted out together and introduced into the cremator as a whole. The wicker casket is reused. The end of the board has

to be strong to absorb the force of the machinery used to move it so 16 screws are used to attach the head board and supports. After cremation the screws are recovered with a magnet. Ten boards have been ordered and one has already been used. Douglas Ormrod is leading the project.



## Laminated Table

Over many weeks, Nigel High with a little help from his shed mates, crafted a beautiful laminated dining table. When it came time to take it home his situation changed so he offered it to the shed on a profit share basis. A visitor was super impressed and had to have it. The Shed received the "lions share" of the proceeds and banked the tidy sum of \$1000. Such is the calibre and goodwill of sheddies that a member can spend all his time making something and the Shed benefits. Thanks to Nigel for being a "GREAT BLOKE".



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# Update from Albany Blokes Shed

As Christmas approached, we were making some fund-raising goodies to sell during Happy Hour.



Snow men

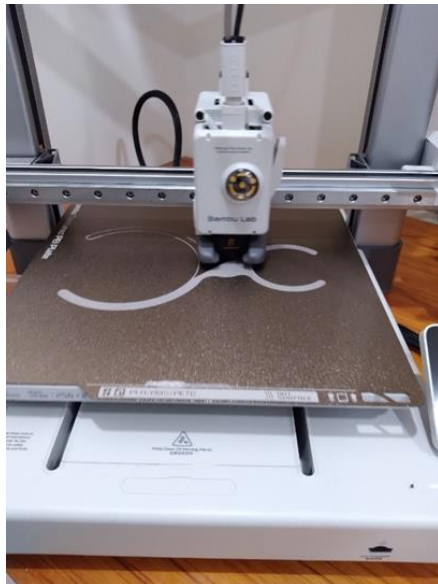


Small Christmas trees.

Both these items help use up all the small scraps of wood.

Tony is a new member of our shed and is very keen to learn some woodworking skills. He has also brought into the shed his small metal working lathe in the hope of getting to use it more.

I recently purchased a 3D printer to produce deck fittings for my model boat and



extendable magnet bought from a easy to adapt.

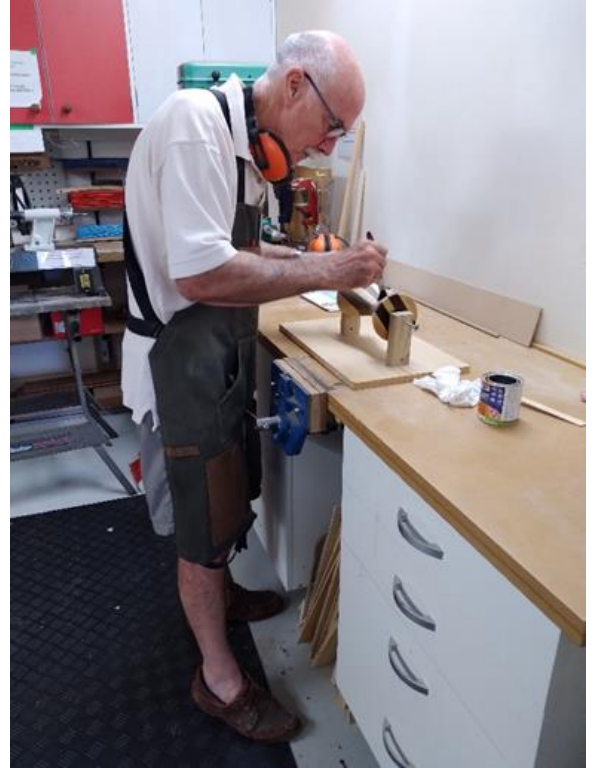


after several online tutorials in Cad drawing, I managed to successfully make the parts. One project I also produced was a bowls lifter for lawn bowls and it works very well. Using an local DIY store it was



Brian with another of his fantastic carvings. This one is a northland bay showing the houses on the shoreline

Bryant has been busy making several different candle holders. This one turned on the lathe using different types of wood to give it some nice character



Close up view.

We don't have a huge shed here at Settlers, but we seem to be able to produce a lot of different things of interest along with repairing residents' goods.

We have a lot of fun which is what it's about.

Ian Langley

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# BOOMER SHED

## Manurewa's Boomer Shed: Balance Bikes and Tactile Murals

Kia ora! The members of Boomer Shed Manurewa are whizzing through their to-do list. A new batch of balance bikes are to be rolled out later this year once completed as an ongoing project. They saw the first batch of 25 balance bikes in 2024 made from 100 repurposed bike wheels that were slated to be thrown out.



These balance bikes now help young children learn to walk & ride with confidence.

The unveiling of the tactile mural for the Blind Low Vision Education Network New Zealand (BLENNZ), which the Boomers have been working on for over year, will occur on Friday 14th February. The interactive mural has features that incorporate sound and texture to encourage exploration and creativity for blind, deafblind, and low vision children. It is a culmination of the children's and Boomers' ideas, and the history and geographical features of Manurewa, Manukau Harbour, and Wiri.



The Boomer Shed is more bustling than ever as they pick up more community projects and get ready to offer repair services for household items at the Manurewa Repair Café.

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# Region Two News

Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Gisborne

## A Quite Boring Treatise on the [Relatively] New **Tuakau Menzshed**

Like many other sheds, we started off with four or five of us around a café table 18 months ago. A couple of the blokes had been talking about the idea of a local shed for several years, so a kind offer of the use of a currently unused shed from the local Tuakau Emergency Services Community Trust was the catalyst for action rather than words.

After a week or so emptying and disposing of the stored contents and rubbish [the price of getting in!] and blowing and sweeping away ten years-worth of dust, the now six or seven of us, were the proud occupiers of a totally empty Tuakau shed for blokes!

As is usually the case in a small country town, the word got around. We received regular offers of a wide variety of tools, machinery and timber. Amazing what appears out of good old farm sheds, particularly the beautiful native timber, and even a few established Auckland 'Sheds' made generous contributions of their excess tooling. We have of course been extremely grateful for all offers; even considering that much of our gear is like we blokes, old, tired, experienced but still working pretty well!



So, the word spread further and soon we were gaining members at a steady rate. We knocked up a work bench or three and the enthusiasm really got going, starting to produce those usual small bits and pieces that we could sell at the local market. As our numbers grew so did our skill range and our developing output. One of our members, was chatting with his boss, owner of a large timber mill, and hinted at our timber and storage needs. Shortly thereafter an all but new 40-foot container appeared, along with a truckload or two of top class timber! Well, what could we say but free morning tea or coffee for life for him of course!

So, the word was now really getting around. New members from all over Franklin were rolling/limping in, and we were starting to become victims of our own success. Not only the 20 of us now tripping over one another in the shed, but our morning teas had greater numbers than a local election.

We'd even worked out, as a newly fledged charity, how to put our hand to ask for a dollar or so for assistance. Heavens, actual money?



Thus, a long term plan of some more floor space 'somehow, somewhere' was re-generated and cranked up by our new keen and innovative committee.

Floorspace between our two storage containers was their wise decision, and why don't we even build a roof over it? Let's try to finish it before winter; we might even beat those JAFFA's at Eden Park!

Reference the photos for progress; roof goes on in the next few weeks!

30 of us now, all welcome you to morning tea, any Monday or Wednesday [home baking not mandatory, but an even better reception guaranteed].

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Just a little thank you to the Tokoroa MENZShed from the Mangakino MENZShed



Back in October 2024 the Mangakino Central Charitable Trust and the Mangakino MENZShed was lucky enough to receive a wonderful gift from the Tokoroa MENZShed. A 1999 Ford Econovan. What a great show of Whakawhanaungatanaga. This will come in very handy!





Nestled on the shores of Tauranga Harbour, is Cooney Reserve at Omokoroa. The Cooney Reserve coastal wetland is highly regarded as home to more than 50 species of birds, including threatened birds, such as the endangered dotterel, the very rare fern bird, and the elusive banded rail. But it had a chequered history being previously utilised as a local solid and green waste dump. It was in 2000 that the dump was disestablished and clean soil, along with top soil, brought in to make the land usable. Efforts by local groups have shaped green spaces and tracks bringing the area into recreational use. The Omokoroa Menzshed, and Omokoroa Environmental Managers Inc, in cooperation with other volunteer groups, are building two observatory facilities which will conceal the presence of bird watchers to avoid disturbing the birds. Under the direction of Menzshed member Peter Ehrlich who is managing the project, the end of stage one is nearing completion.

The project includes the Cooney Observatory, and the Tinopai Observatory, named after their respective adjacent sandbars. The Cooney Observatory, which is stage one, will be able to accommodate larger student numbers, and special interest groups. In addition to the two observatories, a prominent Godwit inspired sculpture will be erected near the accessway.

Planning for the project has had to take into effect the ecological impacts, and minimising disturbance of the birds. Access to the Cooney Observatory is by way of a 20 metre boardwalk, and metal pathway. The foundations for the boardwalk and observatory were put in using a system of screwing 51 ground screws, each 3.5 metres long, into the earth. Peter Ehrlich says "the screws were installed in two days, so there were huge time savings, no need for holes, heavy equipment or concrete. This avoided digging holes and mixing concrete, and provided an environmentally friendly solution. Whether the ground is soft or hard, the screws are fully functional from the moment they are installed, and there is no need to waste time waiting for concrete to set."

The building of the boardwalk was achieved in a highly successful collaboration with the Western Bay of Plenty District Council, and Department of Corrections. For eight weeks, teams of 4-8 community service workers arrived on site two days per week. After an induction they would choose from the various tasks that needed doing that day. Peter says that many of the workers turned out to be enthusiastic project participants, and contributed to a great team spirit overall. "Many were super excited about their involvement – several asked to be rostered on to our project repeatedly, and some even returned to the site after work to show their families around. This is a fantastic social outcome that was unanticipated and on a personal level is very gratifying – it kept me on my toes."

The next phase saw the work return to the Menzshed premises, where members constructed a replica floor, and on top of this the frames, wall panels, and roof trusses were constructed, and the viewing portholes cut out, before a coat of paint was applied. At the end of August, the structure was dismantled, and taken down to the site, where it was reassembled at the end of the boardwalk. The key aspect of this manner of construction was that it was prefabricated offsite, away from the fragile wetland ecosystem. The observatory building was scheduled to be completed during September, and it was except for finishing touches. It was officially opened at the 'Welcome Home Godwit/Kuaka Festival' on 10 November by MP

Scott Simpson. With the godwits having started to arrive locals and visitors can take an up close and personal peek at them.

The Omokoroa MenzShed has been established for four years, and has worked hard to involve itself in the community. This has resulted in the Shed being nominated and selected as a finalist in the TECT Western Bay Community Awards 2025, in the Heart of the Community Award Category.

The “Stop Digging” Foundation screws being drilled into the ground.



All the foundations in – no mess, no concrete, no environmental damage.



The observatory pre-construction nearing completion back at the Omokaroa MenzShed.



Construction complete – the members celebrate



The walkway into the observatory, shielded from the foreshore.



The observatory – as close to the foreshore as possible.



The sand bar where the birds will rest and visitors will get a very personal peek.



MATAMATA MENZSHED and MATAMATA PIAKO DISTRICT COUNCIL:

In July 2024 the district council came to us with a proposal to manufacture outside table and chairs that could be permanently fixed in an area of the Town Center.

We decided after some discussion that we would go ahead with the project

We had a meeting with their town development officer and he informed us that the council had been given two pieces of old timber that they would like us to use for the tables.

The council arrived one morning with a hi ab and proceeded to unload 135 kilos of old timber in 2 pieces.

The Timber was Black Walnut and looked like it had been around for many years stacked away in a storage shed.

We were surprised at the state it was in so we got started on looking at the shapes to ascertain what we could do with it .

We came up with the idea that it could be a symbolic map of NZ. The council were okay with this so gave us the go ahead to finish the tables



One of our men started to sand these pieces and after approx. 10 coats of marine Grade Poly we got to a stage where the tops were ready Please Note we did not forget Stewart Island in middle of Photo

Once we had finished the preparation we were asked to make the stands that would be attached to the table and bolted to the concrete pad that the council will lay in the Grass area.

Our Engineering shop made up a set of legs for the tops and had these welded to the bracing that we had made to keep the timber straight.



Once these legs were completed we had to make seats that could be attached at different parts and also attached to the concrete base. We were also aware that this being a public facility we had to make provisions for Wheelchairs



The STOOLS Painted by local schools at Color Festival Day. The Blue representing the PAUA around NZ.

After approx. 5 months we successfully were able to place the tables and stools in the area in Town for all the locals and visitors to use.



A great job by the shed members DES CLIFF ALAN WAYNE To mention a few. A Good Fundraiser with the Council  
FINISHED - THE ONLY TOWN IN NZ WITH A PICNIC TABLE THE SHAPE OF NEW ZEALAND

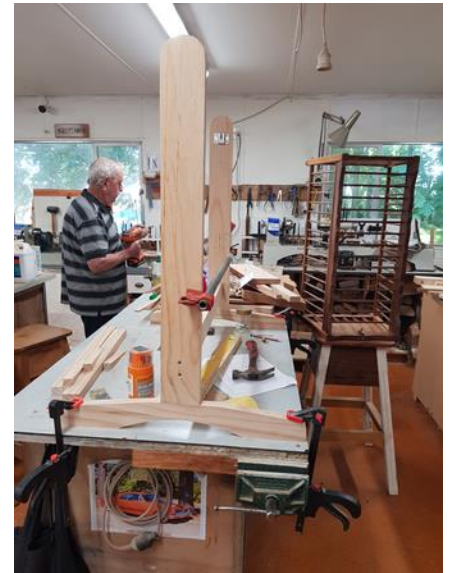
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Te Puke Menzshed is back up to speed after the holiday break.

We always have a lot of smaller community jobs to go with our bigger projects.

Some are quite small, but no less important.

We recently rebuilt a table and stools for a kindergarten, and had a “rush” cradle job.



It arrived in pieces as a “flat pack” sans fittings and legs. “Due soon, Friday OK?”

Second time with the cradle for the new Mum, first time as an adult.



The Kindergarten table arrived in a sad state with no top or casters and needing repair.

Only 2 stools were repairable so two new ones were made to match.

Hopefully the future Sheddies appreciate what was done.

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# Region Three News

Taranaki, Manawatu, Whanganui, Hawkes Bay and Wellington



Kairanga School Project We have had a relationship with Kairanga School going back to at least 2017.

There were probably a couple of years before that. Projects have been 2017 - Candle holders and flower presses 2018 – Pencil cases 2019 Planter boxes 2020 Garden Angels 2021 - 2022 2023 Flower Presses 2024 – Frames for art work I am not sure which year was Covid affected, but one year we made kitset small Christmas trees for the children to decorate.

The Garden angel project had a spin off and we marketed this through te Manawa at Christmas time as per the attached brochure. We sold quite a few. This year's project worked out really well, and the input required from the children was not too much and well within their capabilities.

Feedback from the School was that some children said it was the best thing this year. My concern was that the project was not at all well known among Shed members. At the outset I said I was happy to be the liaison person, but did not want to direct the project. Maybe the message did not get through. The work John Hughes did to assemble the kits was excellent, and they all went together well. We need to make such projects known among the three Shed days so that there is an opportunity for all members to participate. We had 4 members on the Tuesday, and 6 on the Wednesday. We really needed more. On the Wednesday, I found I was the only person who initially knew what we were doing.

We soon got ourselves organised. I am sure that all members enjoyed the experience, and the children are just delightful. I will email the photos the school sent. They are providing morning tea this week.

They really appreciate the link. They have invited us back next year, and as previously

the school will make suggestions as to what the project may entail. Let's make sure that all members are aware of it and that there is one person who is designated as the project leader, so that we all get behind it.

Planter boxes

Pencil cases

David Chapple



## GARDEN ANGELS

Make your very own  
Garden Angel



Assemble and paint it  
As you desire.....

Attach wings to the rear of the angel with screws supplied

Attach spike to rear with screws provided, so the angel  
can sit in the garden

Fit the "halo" to the hole in the top of the angel,  
and paint angel to your own design.

Created by Menzshed Manawatu



# Carterton Menzshed feeling the bulge.

The shed reopened 6th January, it was good to be back with the crew making saw dust and noise, giving the machines a good work out.

Our membership and particularly attendances had a good boost in the latter half of 2024. Which has again put pressure on an already tight working space.

Our goal of having our own purpose-built facilities has advanced with our local council coming on board.

In the immediate future we have approached the A&P showground management, where we rent a one room pavilion, to see what we can do about access to more space.

All in all, Carterton shed is thriving although bulging a little at the seams.



**A poem** "Menzshed" contributed by our member Jeff.

There is an emotion that hits me and you  
as we live out our lives in our town and our nation:  
it is...frustration.



So how do we handle it? What do we do?

.....We laugh at it.

But sometimes we can't cause we're still seeing red

So, we will all laugh ... at something else instead.

# MENS HEALTH EXPO

**No appointment required—Free event for every man**

*At Copthorne Solway Park, Masterton*

**Saturday 1st March 2025, 9am till 12 noon**

Your chance for a free consultation with health professionals from: Arthritis, Prostate, Heart, Ears, Lumps and bumps, Blood Pressure, Surgical, Nutrition, Diabetes, Stroke, Selina Sutherland Hospital, Local GP's & Nurses.

All in one place just for you blokes, make this your 2025 priority service check up.

Just a quick blood pressure check could save your life!

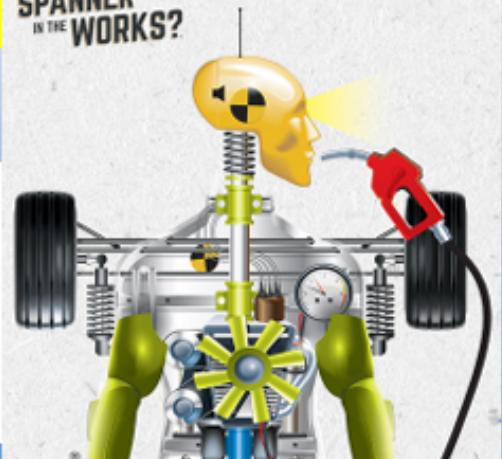
**WHEN WAS YOUR  
LAST SERVICE?**

Hosts

**MENZSHED**<sup>®</sup>  
NEW ZEALAND



**SPANNER  
IN THE  
WORKS?**



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# Menzshed Hawera

What is Hawera Menzshed about?

Hawera Menzshed was launched late 2019 with an article in the Taranaki Star looking for interested people in starting a Menzshed in Hawera. A meeting was held in the Hawera Club and attended by approximately 30 people. From that the local Menzshed was inaugurated and a committee formed.

A venue was established when the Hawera A & P Association offered for rent a part of its Pavilion building and we were away. A membership fee of \$50 per year was established and is charged.

Donations were offered from near and far for equipment, tools and materials and we started. Many heartfelt thanks to all who have generously donated to the shed.

We currently (2025) have 30+ paid up members of men, women and youth, with usually 8 to 12 active members turning up on open days which are Wednesday to Saturday afternoons 12pm until 3pm and Tuesday evenings 5pm to 8pm.

Many projects for the community have been completed and members also complete personal projects brought from home.

The local public are encouraged to bring projects to the shed for the members to build or repair for a small fee to cover materials and rent.

One of our latest projects is to build some carts for a local youth camp. These are now near completion (Photo below).



Another of our projects is to build a memorial bench seat for a local organisation for a deceased member of their staff.



This project is about to start and should be completed in a couple of weeks.

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Every Shed needs one of these (Editor)

Wood-Mizer is the global leader in manufacturing of wood processing equipment (Sawmills, edgers, firewood splitters, planer Moulders, table saws, resaws etc.)

Wood-Mizer NZ is currently running a special on our LX50 Super Hobbyist Sawmills @\$7,600NZD Incl GST (Down from \$11,500 Incl GST) We would love to have some conversations about having our sawmills in Menz Sheds nationwide to assist with your projects, we feel that our machines would be valuable additions to your setups and would provide a huge amount of enjoyment for your members. With staff support in both islands, we are able to provide additional training as needed. We would also be happy to do demo and training days at your main branches.



### LX50SUPER Portable Sawmill

Entry-level portable sawmill with SUPER upgrades including a stronger steel sawmill frame, more powerful 14HP KOHLER gas engine, longer sawing length, durable laser cut steel bed with leveling feet, extra quick-set log handling, and more! <http://woodmizer.co.nz>



# CHB. Community Menzshed Trust, Waipukurau

A Lady member of the Whanganui Menzshed has offered these aprons to members of the Menzshed's.



A local school (Argyll East near Otane) requested a shelter. The Waipukurau Shed knocked this shelter together over 5 days. School Board Members collected.

## **Staub Family Donation.**

The Staub Family of Waipawa gave a donation (Workshop Equipment) value greater than \$20,000.00. This must be recognized as an exceptional gift to the Menzshed. A letter of thanks and appreciation has been passed on to the Staub Family.

The family request a Plaque in their honour to be created and placed on the engineering lathe. Owen will source a supplier to create the plaque.

Jobs continue to flow in, kid's trollies, broken chairs, chifonier repairs, all adds to the Waipukurau Shed Income.

The local Central Hawkes Bay Council has been dropping off cots for repair. The Shed has repaired 3 with another 3 waiting to be repaired.



# Region Four News

Canterbury and Westland

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## Hello Canterbury and West Coast sheds

For more than three years, the MENZSHED NZ exec team has been ticking along without a formally nominated Regional Representative for your region (one of six roles nationally.)

With a national conference happening in Invercargill (hooray!) and the MENZSHED NZ AGM in April, we're very keen to see the vacancy filled to ensure that you are regularly kept up to date with national and regional news and events.

Long term MENZSHED NZ team members Ian Miller (RR for Otago, Southland and Taieri Blokes sheddie) and John Bush (Support Services and Masterton sheddie) will host a meeting of shed representatives to explain the role and encourage a nomination.

The venue is St Timothy's Church Hall, 46 Kendal Ave, opposite the Bishopdale Menzshed.

**Tuesday 18 February at 10am.** Expecting to conclude around mid-day.

Thank you, Richard Rendle, for organising the venue.

Hope we can get a good gathering and fruitful dialogue on the way forward ->

If you haven't already - Please could you respond back with a confirmation of attendance to [support@menzshed.nz](mailto:support@menzshed.nz)

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## Rolleston Men's Shed

The year finished with herds of reindeer coming off the 3D router to go to the Cancer Society and to members.

The year started again with plenty of projects.

In woodworking many of these are jobs for community members, tables to refurbish, desks to dismantle and reassemble.





A piano stool was varnished and a solid top made to replace a cushioned and strap suspended top.

The owner will make a new cushion.

The 2D laser engraver, 3D router and 3D printer are all running each Shed session.

Electronics jobs range from Kenwood mixers to fix to computers to upgrade. Computer upgrades usually involve fitting a Solid State Disk (SSD) and installing Linux.

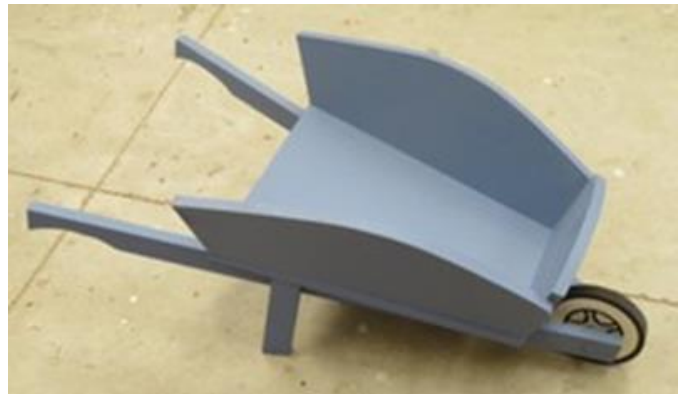
The data from the removed disk is copied across to the new disk.

The Shed did its annual bike and scooter engraving for one of the local primary schools, the day before the school year started. A very busy afternoon there. The Shed has two vibrating engravers and one rotary. One of the members also brought his rotary engraver.

Engineering always has something to make and weld.

The Rolleston Library asked for a display to show what the Shed does. This has been set up and will probably be on display for all of this year. It is in a glass case about 1.5 m high and 0.5 m square with 4 glass shelves.

A planter box in the form of a miniature wheel barrow, made by our oldest member.



A bit of spare timber in the Woodwork Section and a towel rack is made.





A picnic table in place at Charlesworth Reserve, Ferrymead, (concreted) and the stack of 50 Macrocarpa sleepers which will be all used for the 5 raised beds for the Pasifika project at Linwood Community Garden.

picnic tables we made for the Christchurch Estuary Trust with the support of Rotary for the funding. We milled Macrocarpa sleepers to build a very robust set of tables which we then placed in 2 reserves around the Christchurch Estuary. We are also working on a council funded project building raised beds for an intergenerational group of Pasifika people who are sharing/learning gardening skills. Again, milling from macro sleepers and finishing with a high quality oil.



# Region Five News

Otago and Southland

## Menz Shed Invercargill

### RETURN OF THE BELL

August 1963 saw the arrival of the vessel MS Wanganella in Doubtful Sound, Fiordland, where it was used as accommodation for workers building the Manapouri Power Station, deep within the surrounding mountains. The Wanganella brought with it an interesting history, having first been a luxury Trans-Tasman passenger liner, then during World War 2 a hospital ship and later had the unenviable record of having been stuck on Barrett's Reef in Wellington harbour, for longer than any other ship that was refloated.

On the 4th April 1970 the Wanganella was towed to Hong Kong, where it was found that it was uneconomical to repair her engines, and the vessel was towed to Taiwan and scrapped.

The ship's bell was donated to Rangi Ruru Girls College in Christchurch, where it was used for some time as a school bell. Recently it was given on a permanent loan to the Deep Cove Hostel Trust, who operate a 52-bed hostel, used principally to accommodate school parties attending camps at Deep Cove. A metal tower was built by E Type Engineering, and a roof for it was built by Peter Bailey

(Shed Manager) Trevor Hansen and other elves at Menzshed, Invercargill.

At the end of January this was all assembled and installed at the Deep Cove Hostel by members of the Invercargill Rotary.

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## Christmas Cheer

Taieri Blokes Shed received a small funding grant which enabled small projects to be delivered to local schools and kindergartens. This project involved cutting out slim wooden triangles from 100 x 50mm untreated framing. Each child then decorated this as a Christmas gift for their parent or carer.

Room 6  
Silverstream School  
December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Dear "Blokes Shed"

We have had lots of fun making our Xmas gnomes and would like to thank you very much for providing the wood and cutting them into shapes. We know our parents are going to be thrilled with them when we take them home.



Merry Xmas from Scarlett and Ariaiah

( Class teacher – Ali Greenall )

Ariaiah  
Scarlett

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## Waitaki Menzshed

Planter art brings community together

In Nov 24, the Waitaki District Council approached the Waitaki Menzshed to see if we could assist them in making planter boxes as part of a project for the main street in Oamaru.

We assisted in the design to ensure that they could be made from 1.8m fencing pails. The Council organised Mitre 10 to supply the wood and screws. Originally, we had about 6 weeks to complete these planters, however we worked well as a team to complete them in only two weeks (about 18 work hours!)

Twenty boxes in total (10 large and 10 smaller) were built and sixteen were painted by the public at a fun day. Four have been more professionally finished including one done by the art department for the Netflix production of “East of Eden” that filmed in town earlier this month.

Once the trial for the planters in the main street is finished, they may be offered to the community for relocation.



# Region Six News

Tasman, Nelson and Marlborough

## YOUR SHED SNIPPETS AND ARTICLES MATTER TO OTHERS

So, you will have seen from the responses that came in from the 74 sheds that did the online survey that National communications & Newsletters ranked 4th highest of what shed members want from the National Body.

Every shed has a unique story to tell – whether it's a special project, an inspiring member, other blokes want to hear about it. We'd love to highlight the great work happening at your shed.

Send us your stories and we'll share them in the quarterly national newsletter.

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

[If you haven't read the full 18-page summary of the survey, ask you shed officers to share a copy]



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## Understanding eligibility for Shingrix

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Shingles can be a serious and painful condition, so it is important that you know how and when you are eligible for your free vaccinations.

The shingles vaccination is free for 12 months following your 65th birthday. To be effective, you will need two doses received between two to six months apart. Your second dose will be free, even if you've turned 66.

If you're eligible for a free vaccination, you may get it from your nurse, doctor, or healthcare provider. It is also available at some pharmacies.

If you are not 65 years old but still wish to be vaccinated, you will need to pay. The price will vary depending on the provider, but you can expect it to cost between \$600 to \$800 for both doses.

### What is shingles

Everyone who has had chickenpox is at risk of developing shingles later in life. One in every three people will get shingles during their lifetime.

Shingles is a painful rash that develops on one side of the face, body or head. Before the rash develops, people often have pain, itching, or tingling in the area where the rash will develop.

The most serious complications are nerve pain that can last for months or years, and eye problems that can result in loss of vision.

The best protection you can have against shingles is to make sure you get vaccinated.

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### Next Newsletter – May 2025

The next newsletter is due for publication mid-May 2025. The deadline for articles for that newsletter will be 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025. 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 gives 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 easier to work with. Please limited article to around one or two maximum A4 page/s.

Please do not send your whole shed newsletter, as I will only publish single articles sent.

Send articles to [support@menzshed.nz](mailto:support@menzshed.nz) Cheers John Bush Support Services and Newsletter Editor

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## Sponsors & Supporters of Men's Sheds

Visit our web site to find out more about each company and the benefits they provide to member sheds.

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



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# NATIONAL CONFERENCE - INVERCARGILL

## 4th-5th-6th April 2025.

**Registration Form** - printable for those with no internet to fill in and post to Menzshed Invercargill, 55 Liddel Street, Invercargill 9840.

It is essential to have a phone number!!!!!!!

Accommodation is NOT included! Make your own arrangements. (Suggest Kelvin Hotel, Conference venue)

Paper registrations must be received by 13th March.

Name.....

Phone Number.....

Address.....

Which shed are you a member of?.....

Do you require transport from the Invercargill airport?.....

Are you bringing a partner who will be attending the partners program?.....

Will your partner be attending the:

Friday evening dinner? .....

Saturday evening dinner?.....

Sunday morning breakfast?.....

Any dietary requirements?

Delegate.....

Partner.....

### PAYMENT

Delegate Registration fully paid by 27th February 2025 \$150

Delegate Registration paid on or after 27th February 2025 - \$170



Please add any additional payments for partner if applicable.

Partner Program \$40-00

Friday dinner \$50-00

Saturday dinner \$57-50

Sunday breakfast \$28-00

Total \$.....

Refunds and Cancellations : Refunds can only be paid on cancellations made on or before

13th March 2025

Bank Account: 03-1369 - 0245889-02 - MENZSHED (Invercargill. (Inc)

Amount Paid.....

Date Paid.....