



LET'S KICK OFF 2014 WITH SOME SERIOUS ENERGY

2014 Newsletter No1

In case people wondered about how the break went, we just carried on as normal. I kept getting these phone calls to say there were people waiting for the doors to open so I obliged by turning up with a bottle of milk and the key. Derek's coffee table received its final touches and its now back with him in Ngaio Road. Don't forget to wave to Derek as you pass him near the Reserve across from the Pressy Church. The small gatherings also sorted some rubbish that was deposited at the Otaihangā Dump.

Success With Our Light Up Kapiti Participation



Once again the Light Up Kapiti display at Barry & Karen Church's place in Paraparaumu went very well. We received lots of donations to help pay the bills during the coming year.

Santa Ross played his part to the full and SHOCK HORROR, I think he even began to like little children. Whatever it was, they certainly liked him in his bright red suit.

Both adults and children alike enjoyed the displays at our stand; especially Peter's old Lister engine powering our lights on the site.

The Santa knee hosted many, noticeably mainly young female visitors to lodge their special wishes for Christmas Day.

Maybe we should begin to think about what we might do next year to make it THE Kapiti display that adults and children all rave about.



Anna's Magnificent Table Is Complete

Earlier last year Anna bought along an old door and some rough power pole cross trees to see if we could turn them into a rustic table she described. DONE & READY!



😊😊😊 It's Now Time to Really Get 2014 Started 😊😊😊

2013 ended with a flourish. Lots of great projects completed and friendships sealed. It's now time to get the place ticking along again, making things happening so we all benefit to the max from the activities each week and so we all get the maximum out of our shed. There are old projects to complete, new ones to launch and forward looking plans to make. Get yourself there, participate, be one of the crew doing things for our fantastic community. Kapiti is a fantastic community to be part of with our membership keen to contribute to it.

VERY IMPORTANT!!!! BBQ To Kickstart 2014 AND

Brief Everyone About Current Plans For the Year 😊😊😊😊😊😊😊😊

When - NEXT THURSDAY 30 JANUARY FROM 1.00PM

Where - MENZSHED WORKSHOP

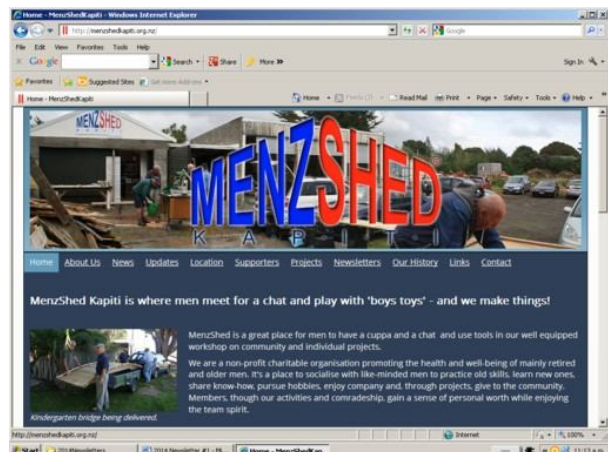
This could be the most important one to be at. Your ideas put into the pot could change the way we do things. Lots of building development planned so people with skills in those areas could make an enormous contribution to keeping us on the right track.

To begin the 2014 kick off some old projects are coming to completion and other new projects are already gaining momentum.

The MenzShed Kapiti Web Site Is Online 😊

You will all know from the email Alan sent out, that our website is now up and running on line to help keep you all informed about what's happening.

Take a look to keep in touch more often than our newsletters flow from my computer. I blame the computer for getting slower by the day but then again (Thanks!) maybe it's me? www.menzshedkapiti.org.nz How's that for the first time Alan has taken on building a web site. **GOOD ONE!**



Conference Preparation Makes Good Progress 😊

As you all know, MenzShed Kapiti was asked to tackle hosting the 2014 National Conference for MenzSheds about the country. The dates are Friday 14 March to Sunday 16 March. The theme of the conference is MenzSheds in Their Community.

Friday afternoon will focus almost exclusively upon that theme, then Friday evening a social gathering as a crank up the comfort with one another time. Kapiti members are vital to making that a success.

Saturday will feature a bus tour of some of the special interest activities in the area. You might like to be part of that if nothing else. Places like Jeff Fox in Manakau, the Len Southward workshop, Steam Inc etc. The evening features a dinner plus guest speaker plus special entertainment by the Andrew London trio.

Sunday morning will complete the main conference with special subject relating to the operations of a MenzShed. Things like Mens Health, legal stuff, fundraising, etc. and day will conclude with the MenzShed New Zealand AGM from lunchtime.

Take a look at the registration details on our website www.menzshedkapiti.org.nz or the National Body website www.menzshed.org.nz

Attending the conference is available to anyone. Of course if the numbers got too large we would have to apply restrictions but I can't see that happening.

Second Octal Picnic Table For Completion 😊

We are proud of our shed so we plan to feature it and its people during the National Conference as the highlight of the Friday evening social event. So we need to have samples of the items produced for display. It would be appropriate to complete the second partly finished children's octal picnic table as a larger item along with lots of smaller items. We just need to somehow extract it from our storage shed past all the treasures we have stored away since putting it in there. Bill is ready to begin but he probably needs the odd heckler to keep him focused on completing the task.

Storage Container Made Watertight 😊

Peter B had a thought. Why not use some of our spare corrugated iron to make the old Sports Day storage container watertight once again. It seems a pity that the leaks are slowly but surely destroying the contents, floor and interior of the container. Maybe it can then also supply a home to some of our less important spare items. No sooner thought than the task was begun and done. Everything was wet and rotting but now the drying out has begun.



Montessori Preschool Cottage Façade **Near Completion** 😊

Since the structure came back from being displayed at the Christmas lights, Peter D and Ian haven't wasted any time and they are now at the stage of installing the flashings and facings before painting. Get ready for delivery Montessori School.

Surf Club Trailer Nears Completion 😊

Ray and Terry have taken giant steps toward completing the Surf Club Trailer. The size of this job tended to mean that there had to be pauses while other large projects carried on plus the grinding associated with the welding also created lots of noise which affected all about. So always being considerate the team introduced special days separate from other activities. Consequently in a single week Ray and Terry have completed what normally would take several weeks to achieve.



Congratulations are definitely in order. Have an extra coffee team. (Special guest photo by Garry)

A Batch of Tui Feeders Begins 😊

There was lots of interest in our feeder at the display and anytime visitors see it, so Michael has begun the first batch of these. There are at least 3 orders for kindergartens and lots of local people want them too.

Walter with his cup of tea is now a Kiwi but isn't part of the deal when we send them on. We need to keep him to help get things done about the place.



A New Civilised Latrine Begins 😊

After all this time with only a small bright yellow dunny its now time to upgrade to a latrine with handicapped access, a hand basin within the building and space in front of the pan to turn about and readjust things. Of course we need to have this done in time for the conference social event. James has set about a design using up some of the materials we have accumulated to get things started with and now the sawing of timber has begun. It's just a pile of lengths of timber at present so no photo just yet.

Veranda & Concrete Entrance Begins 😊

Peter B has done a lot of work putting together a plan for developing our site for us and eventually other community groups. That required both building and resource consents to get the ball rolling. He now has the consents on his hands for stage 1 so its time to BOOGIE. The first stage is to create a covered area in front of the 3 bay workshop doors with a clear roof veranda and concrete pad. This will provide some protection from the weather and in effect open out our workshop so it is a much safer and more work friendly place.

Mezzanine Storage Floor Within The Workshop Bays Begins 😊

Alan and Peter happened to visit a bloke with the right timber so this can begin now. Without the storage space this will create in the workshop bays we will always be struggling to keep the workshops clear for use by a number of people. Work in progress and partially completed jobs need this space urgently. IT'S NOW UNDER WAY.

Mobile Workbenches For Our Workbays Begin 😊

Progress toward completing the mezzanine storage means we can begin the job of making the workshop bays more work friendly. Gordon has taken on the challenge of producing workbenches that fit nicely into the work spaces and are mobile using a special dolly to relocate into the veranda area when it is completed. Our workshops should be great examples by the time the Conference social event takes place on 14 March. Excellent!

More Weta Motel Kitsets Begin 😊

I had a call from a lady involved with Friends of The Park. She said all the right things about our Weta Motel design being the best and that all but one of our previous batch had become occupied within 3 months. Then she said they were planning some more children's nature programmes and "... was it possible to put together some more kitsets for children to assemble. Please! Please!"

I'm a sucker so now we (or I) begin to produce 20 kitsets for use beginning 22 February and eventually up to 100 for future nature programmes. Things for children, nature and nice ladies saying nice things make me a push-over as you can see. I have the templates started so the whole project should be simple. I hope so anyway. Now VOLUNTEERS PLEASE 😊 !!!

Pest Traps For DOC Coming Up

Just before Christmas I was talking with Lisa at DOC looking for someone from there to attend our conference to talk about MenzSheds contributing to DOC projects. The original request for weta motels came from Lisa. To cut a long story short restructuring has left them looking to outside people like us to make up pest traps for use on land adjacent to the DOC estate. She has about 100 trap mechanisms and I have said we can help them with this. Another fine mess I have got us into.

IMPORTANT!! Relay For Life Volunteers Needed IMPORTANT!!
IMPORTANT!! Relay For Life Volunteers Needed IMPORTANT!!

Once again a Relay for Life event is being held in Kapiti over the weekend of 22 and 23 February. Last year our MenzShed gave support by a group of members being available to help put up small tents for the competitors to use as their base and rest stop plus sort out things like gas cookers etc.

The time slots are : Saturday 9.00am to 12.30pm to set up and Sunday 9.30am to about 11.30am to help break things down.

Give Doug a ring if you can help. 293 8574 or come along to the workshop and speak with him on Tuesday or Thursday or see what you can do by talking with him at the BBQ on Thursday 30 January.

There's always lots happening at the shed; meeting new people; talking with visitors; exploring ideas; drinking coffee and tea; eating scones, cakes, muffins, etc, etc; telling stories; sorting bits and pieces; laying out the workshops; doing projects to benefit the community. Maybe you just need to get out from under the feet of someone who cares or if you haven't been for a while, come along and share a cuppa.

Cheers to you all

Nigel Clough
MenzShed Kapiti
904 2932