



Newsletter - October 2014

A commitment was made at the AGM in Waikanae by the executive of Menzshed NZ to be more proactive in communicating with member sheds. Over recent months there has been a lot of communication between sheds and the executive. However the executive did not meet one commitment, to provide a quarterly newsletter. We can make many excuses but basically the executive failed to gather sufficient content to make a newsletter useful.

Planning is well advanced for the next AGM in Masterton, 11 - 12 April 2015. It promises to be an interesting event as well as providing the opportunity for sheds to consider how they might want to contribute to the running of MENZSHED NZ.

Sheds continue to help each other and also provide assistance to new shed projects. This willingness to share experiences is a real help at the start of a new shed project. The executive has also been active in this regard, both through hosting shed visits, visiting sheds and talking to the community.

AGM, Masterton 11 – 12 April 2015

The AGM and associated activities will be held in the Wairarapa in the afternoon 11 April and morning 12th April. Planning is underway for a combined Shedders Ramble to Wairarapa Sheds, and the AGM.

Thanks to the organisers; Greytown Menz Shed, MenzShed Featherston and Henley Men's Shed. More details will follow in due course.

Jetstar travel offer to AGM

The Kaiapoi Men's shed received a travel grant from Jetstar. Naturally travel must be related to men's shed activities and the grant is only available for travel on Jetstar services. The latter provides direct flights to Wellington from Auckland and Christchurch with indirect flights possible from Dunedin and Queenstown but requiring overnight stays.

The Kaiapoi shed have generously agreed to make the grant available to other shed representatives traveling to the MENZSHED NZ AGM in Masterton, to be held in the afternoon 11 April and morning 12 April, 2015. A maximum of 2 representatives per shed may apply for the grant and they must be members of the shed.

The grant will be available for use by other sheds in the order in which applications are received. As the Jetstar grant is depleted at the full airfare equivalent rate regardless of any fare discounts that may be used, the grant will not last long.

To apply for travel tickets, the secretary or other office holder of your shed should send an email to Frank Overend bdirect@xtra.co.nz with the following:

- The name of the shed,
- The name of the office holder applying for the travel grant,
- Position held by the office holder and,
- For each person traveling to the AGM (a maximum of 2 members per shed, partners are not eligible for the travel grant):
 - Full name
 - Address
 - Phone number
 - Mobile
 - Email address

- Position held if any
- Carry-on baggage only or checked baggage required and
- The flight numbers, dates and times of flights (Check out WEBJET.com and find out the exact departure and arrival details, see example below).

Notes

1. Flights will only be booked if within the period 10 - 13 April 2015.
2. Changes of flights once booked are not permitted.

Example of flight specification:

Carry-on baggage only required

Apr 11, 2015 Christchurch Wellington 0h 50m Non Stop

Jetstar - Flight# JQ 286, Departure 06:55 AM Christchurch, Arrival 07:45 AM Wellington.

Apr 12, 2015 Wellington Christchurch 0h 50m Non Stop

Jetstar - Flight# JQ 289, Departure 05:50 PM Wellington, Arrival 06:40 PM Christchurch.

Menzshed NZ Executive priorities

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

(C) Template guide for sheds on how to approach local authorities.

Regional reps should be your first contact. Peter Blackler (Treasurer) is also available as a contact.

(CI) Guidelines for setting up a shed.

A start has been made on this with a website page and links to information from Community Law.

<http://menzshed.org.nz/library/setting-up-shed/>

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

A good start in where to obtain funding in NZ can be found at Fundview

(CII) Health and Safety

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

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

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

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

The executive supported Jenny Moore in her research initiative and selected sheds will have received shed and personal questionnaires.

A proposal from a national retail chain for sheds to participate in a product evaluation programme unfortunately did not eventuate. The executive is following other avenues that may result in benefits to member sheds.

The take up of shed insurance available through Rothburys is also gaining momentum with benefits to all participating sheds of potential savings on premiums. Note though this may only mean they don't go up so fast!

Shed co-operation

Some recent examples illustrate how sheds are willing to work together on a common project:

- The Women's refuge was going to initiate a national advertising program and wanted some signs produced to go into bus shelters. North Shore, Wellington City and New Brighton sheds agreed to work together on the project which already had tight time constraints. In the end the project did not go ahead but it was heartening to see how willing sheds were to work together.
- In Christchurch, Linwood and New Brighton got together to work on a Greening the Rubble project, providing benches for a "Garden of Tranquillity". All materials were provided. What is notable is that the Linwood shed is operating out of a marquee. New Brighton is slightly better off having a double garage.



- And for a different kind of co-operation, the agreement between Masterton, Featherston and Greytown to have a common membership makes activities at each shed available to all.

Member shed vs non members

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

Communication is a 2 way process

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

The shed pages on the website are for your shed content, please keep them up to date. You can send content changes to webmaster@menzshed.org.nz .

The executive would also welcome your feedback or questions.

Send them to secretary@menzshed.org.nz or use the Contact us form on the website <http://menzshed.org.nz/contact-us/>

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

Prostate health

Hi there, my name is Jim Duthie & I'm a Urological Surgeon at Tauranga. I'm also the social media consultant for the Prostate Cancer Foundation of NZ, and I'm just letting you know about a short YouTube video we've put together about prostate cancer screening for men.

The idea is to get men thinking about their health, and we'd appreciate your feedback as we hope this will be the first of a series on men's health.

See what you think: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=64ZciiSIDrk>

I hope you find it's not too preachy, and maybe share it with your members. If guys take care of themselves, they'll have more time to tinker in their sheds!

Thanks for your time,
Jim Duthie, jbduthie@gmail.com

You can see more about the prostate at
<http://prostatecancerresearch.org.au/research/3d-anatomy-animation-series>

Website statistics

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

If you want to update your shed page, contact the webmaster webmaster@menzshed.org.nz . Contact details, text, photos and links to your own website, Facebook page etc..

Fields of Remembrance / RSA – White Crosses

Some sheds are involved in making the white crosses.

There is a detailed specification as to how the crosses should be made on the project website
<http://www.fieldsofremembrance.org.nz/White+Crosses/White+Cross+Specifications.html>

but we have also become aware that some crosses are being made from Hippolon, a plastic sheet (Contact Wendy Harris 03 528 7256 if you want to know more). If you are getting involved in making the crosses, you might want to check out the alternatives.

Region 1 – Top of North Island

Whangarei Men's Shed

The Top Shed (well, location wise). After fifteen months since our local council agreed to sell the Railway Station to the Men's Shed we have finished the negotiations and last week signed the Sale & Purchase agreement.

Our architect has finalised the plans of what we want and we are now progressing to the quotation stage for re-piling the building as well as the re-roofing. At this point we are looking for about \$130,000 for this stage one, which if we are successful, with our grant applications, will be finished by mid 2015. Then we can start on the internal and external work which will be carried out by our members and our labour value will be in excess of a third of the money required for those stages.



Kerikeri

Kerikeri Rotary are looking to assist a small group up there make a start on whipping up enthusiasm and the prospect of a building for a local Men's Shed.

Men's Shed North Shore

After ten months wait we have finally received the signed Lease document for our proposed 100² m extension. Resource Consent application has been lodged and funding applications are underway we hope to have this area up and running by April 2015 and our engineering department will be relocated to their new home.

Membership continues to grow at an average rate of five new members each month and this of course has increased our daily attendance from 18 in April to 21 in September.



A variety of projects have been completed with the Chess Board being the most amazing when our member John Ormsby walked into the shed with an almost black table and said that he wanted to restore it.

John had limited woodworking knowledge



and the end product is a great achievement.

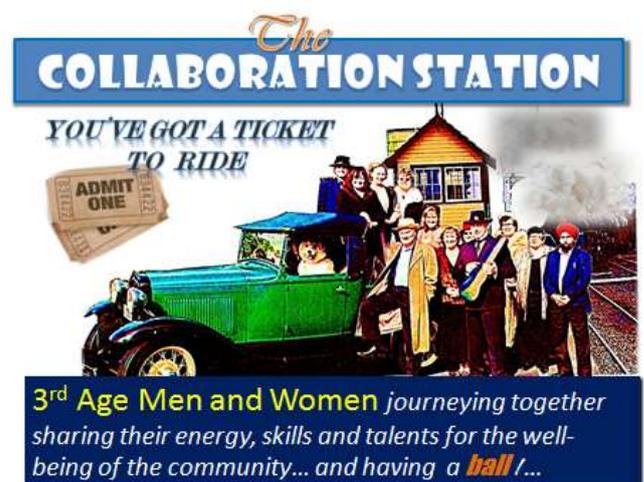
Henderson Men's Shed

With the recent shift to a new building at 135 Awaroa Rd Sunnyvale, the Shed is struggling with space restrictions. Members are currently busy with refurbishment of equipment and negotiating with Council (who own the building) to have additional power outlets installed. The engineering equipment that this shed has is amazing and they obviously have the members with the necessary experience to operate all this gear.

The Collaboration Station Manurewa

Not a railway station like Whangarei but certainly a place where people meet to share experiences, discuss "where to tomorrow" and plan new adventures. We all remember when the post, newspapers and magazines arrived on the train, so the station was really a communication hub and the Collaboration Station will certainly follow along these paths.

The date for the Grand Opening has been set as Thursday 12th February 2015 commencing 4:00pm. As from Tuesday 28th October they will have two half days open each week, Tuesday and Friday 9:00am – 12:00pm. This will be adjusted to cope with the anticipated increased membership. Their first newsletter has been produced and a brochure with full details on their establishment. Work is underway to design the workshop layout and a "wish list" of equipment has been established.



They have a great set up committee and plan not only to have the usual woodwork, engineering etc. but also computer and mobile phone education, Culinary Cooking, Ceramics and Glass, Art and Painting. What an amazing venue being developed for all Manurewa residents both Male and Female.

Developing sheds

Auckland Central Men's Shed

The chaps are still investigating a suitable building and have just had a contact from another chap wanting to establish a Makerspace group in Auckland, which has offered them the opportunity for a "joint venture" with a building that has just become available. The setup committee are to meet with this chap and discuss the concept. Should this prove to be an acceptable project we could see the new Shed established very soon.

Howick/Pakuranga Men's Shed

The setup committee have been very busy viewing many buildings for their Shed unfortunately they haven't found the ideal building. There has been a lot of discussion on the subject of building a Purpose Built Shed and the decision on that action will be confirmed prior to the end of the year. The Local Board have given them support and may well identify a piece of land that would suit their needs. Once this hurdle has been satisfied things should progress very fast, many meetings have been held and foundations for the Management of the Shed almost complete.

Hobsonville Point Men's Shed

Ross McEwan, regional representative will be attending the Hobsonville Point Community Network meeting on 20th November to promote a Shed in this area where two new Retirement Villages are due to open. The meeting will be attended by residents and Council officers.

General

Interest in Men's Sheds has come from Kerikeri and Helensville. Information has been forwarded to both contacts and follow ups planned for later in the month. Several enquiries for Sheds in Region 1 have been received from the National Secretary. These people have been contacted and provided with details of their nearest Shed along with information on Men's Sheds.

Region 2 – Middle of North Island

Region 2 get together - 15 November 2015

Matamata Shed Chair and Secretary have offered again to be the host shed and plans for day include

- a meeting of the minds over a cuppa at the Matamata Men's Shed, 3 Rewa St, Matamata, around 10.15 - 10.30am (giving people from further away time to travel)
- followed by discussion of shed reports on issues of importance concerning sheds
- outlines of local projects in action followed by
- a bite to eat at the Matamata Club \$14 estimated with
- a visit to the local Firth Tower Museum possible charge of \$3
- So that people can be on the road again around 2.30pmish.

Some of the items from previous meetings have included getting resources, funding, projects on the go and surplus materials.

There are presently several established and some developing men's sheds in our region. They include; Te Awamutu, Hamilton, Matamata, Katikati, Rotorua, Taupo, Pauanui, Tauranga, Whakatane, Napier and recent interest has been shown by communities in Taumarunui and



Morrinsville. There could be others, let me know if you know any that I don't know about and there are definitely sheds already established in some retirement villages whose members could also be interested in attending a regional shed day.

Can you please organise for someone in your shed to take responsibility for sending to me:

- a reply of numbers likely to attend or
- a nil return apology

So that we can keep the lines of communication open.

Neil Bruce, 0211545026, nb001@wave.co.nz

Matamata Community Mens Shed

A very full on and busy few months for our blokes. After 8 months in our original building we moved in March to a bigger, brighter shed in Rewa St. The more central location has attracted more passing traffic and our membership is increasing slowly.

The move involved considerable work to get the shed in working order. Painting, plumbing, electrical work, setting up a kitchen area and a social area. The men have built work benches, shelving and shadow boards for tools.

In June our secretary Pam Dazeley received a Community Volunteer Award from Matamata Piako District Council.

There have a number of articles in our local weekly paper that have lifted the profile of the Shed. Projects include:

- outdoor equipment for pre-schools, scooter racks, which are very popular,
- park benches for a local horse stud, cape cod chairs and shelving equipment for the local I-Site (referred to as The Gate House).
- Plus, small odd jobs and repairs just seem to appear on the door step almost on a daily basis.

We have put measures in place regarding health and safety. General safety rules are displayed around the walls, together with a well equipped first-aid kit secured in full view. Health and safety information is attached to each new member's application form.

Our members number 23. We have 8 or 10 regulars and 4 or 5 working men who are great supporters in many ways. Our Membership fee is \$40.00 per year.

We are grateful to have received some funding. \$1000 from Bryant Trust, \$2649.00 from First Sovereign Trust for a Table Saw and \$200 from Matamata Llons Club for a Jig Saw. Applications are in the pipeline to Waikato Trust, Sky City and The Lion Foundation.

Katikati

Katikati has been involved with the RSA Cross making project. The 23 crosses – created by Katikati Men's Shed from donated materials were printed by Tauranga City Council and became part of the town's Fields of Remembrance project that was on display at Diggelmann Park for three weeks.

The Katikati shed men have a good workshop on the southern entry to the town. While the museum that was adjacent has closed, the shed still continues to function on its own.

Currently we are doing odd jobs which are too minor for tradespeople for the local kindergarten. Also repairs to furniture and the like from individuals from time to time. Preparation is currently underway in making a trailer drawn Christmas Parade float. We have an ancient telephone box where deterioration has well set in. Refurbishment to an as new standard, retaining the authentic standard is about to commence.

We look forward to seeing what other sheds do as this may give ongoing insight for jobs we may take on.

Hamilton Community Men's Shed – A cautionary tale

Since the last newsletter our shed has been on the lookout for a new treasurer who can "present the books in the light that is required by the charities commission" having lost charitable status a year ago.

While this is not a situation any shed would look to be proud of, it is one that can happen to any organisation for a variety of reasons – e.g. non availability of the requisite calibre of treasurer, changes in trust membership where responsibilities are not as clear as they should be and busyness of people in board roles.

This also was compounded by having only one person as the contact with the charities commission and as a consequence emails from the commission were going to a hidden spam folder..... the proverbial left hand could not connect with the right hand and a few things went down the gurgler in quick succession.

In particular, although reinstatement manoeuvres were in train, the progress was stalled by the hidden spam folder hiding commission correspondence and as a consequence of this the IRD withdrew our shed's donee status making any form of income (like subs) tax liable, requiring us to pay provisional tax on the income that had been generated in the previous year. Of course we had no contingency funds for this and were between a rock and a hard place.

With resolute tenacity, together with a previous secretary and a newly appointed treasurer, we had the task of tracking the problems and submitting the required documentation that had failed to be submitted. Three months later we were reinstated with charitable status and in the next month we are preparing the annual return for us to the Charities Commission.

A sobering lesson but one that can occur with volunteers who are keen to assist but do not necessarily have the background and experience in trust matters. We have managed to secure a solid replacement treasurer albeit a mature student doing a PH D research programme through School of Management at the Uni here in Hamilton.

In this regard, I need to mention the importance of our local Volunteering Waikato organisation which hosts our vacancies and supplies candidates to fill such vacancies. If you have a volunteering agency in your district, it is a possibility to join the group and receive the benefits of people with training and experience wanting to give back to their community or receive further professional experience in a European tradition or wanting to learn about the voluntary and community sector.

In addition to this, we have offered several courses to our members and beyond - Small Japanese box making, 1 1/2 octave xylophone



making for adults and school children

I have run three courses this last term and can supply plans for other sheds who may be interested in constructing the same) while other members have offered Santa's Elves "toys for Christmas" making sessions, while another member is currently running a Hebel (aerated concrete carving) course.



Our female mixed session course on a Thursday morning continues since the first term (not great numbers) but it is fulfilling a need that we can cater for in the community. Up until this term the Home Schooler programme has been running solidly for three years.

Regular sessions occur on Wed and Sat mornings with a Wed Evening as well. We continue to work with community groups in the area and schools, playcentres and toy libraries are recent groups requesting support by our shed.

While we received a starter fund of \$3000 for a shed extension, a local wood turners group has since made connection regarding a possible merger so we are planning the next stage of a discussion that could see new developments and directions. Can't say where this will end but it makes sense for groups like ours to work together as they already do in some sheds throughout NZ.

Te Awamutu Community Menz Shed,

Te Awamutu established a rural shed in March 2011 and receives solid community support. Stephen Anso, noted "Our draft mission statement states: "The Te Awamutu Community Menz Shed is a place where men can gather together to enhance their personal wellbeing....participating in meaningful activities and companionship. There is no "bro-mance" here, nor any misogynistic or macho behaviour or discussion".

The Te Awamutu Shed has leased a three bedroom cottage, with a detached single garage. The property was custom "refurbished" for the landlady and for shed use. Shed members created a new 6x9m workshop close to the house with a covered area, sheltered from the prevailing south west winds, to increase useable work areas outside.

The shed's "funding" officer, sourced grant applications to purchase new trade quality machines to fully equip the shed with "long lasting" wood working equipment. In 2013, the shed was runner-up in the local Trustpower Community "Health and Wellbeing" Award. Of particular interest has been the transformation of the rear section into a bountiful community garden under the guidance of a former market gardener come member.

While wood working predominates, specific community projects include new playschool furniture and toys, Christmas parade float displays, repairs and renovations for the Te Awamutu museum, the Maori women's community trust, and local school and community boards. Two innovative features of the shed are an imported branding machine (like a logo shaped soldering iron) which "brands" completed shed projects and doubles as an advertising sign.

The shed chair, a local technical teacher, is trialling a graduated membership system with colour coded name badges which denote induction completed, safety levels reached and abilities to use equipment recognised within the shed.

Operational concerns relate to member involvement, interest in decision making and the running of the shed especially when members' health levels vary and their ability to be actively involved changes.

ROTORUA MENZ SHED

Rotorua Shed has had to reform itself after complications with the local community trust that shared premises. After considerable negotiation they are now in a new shed summarized as follows:

1. Officially opened on 15 March 2014 with nine members. Today, 21 August 2014, we signed up our 50th member (\$20.00 per year).
2. The Community Centre area of the Shed is under their jurisdiction and management and is also available for other community groups to sublet. Room is nearly all taken up and walls are being opened

- up to create more rooms.
3. Official days are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, with Friday as an extra for work on the building or to raise money for the Shed.
 4. They have trebled the machinery they had when they moved to their present location. Includes machinery (a full dust extraction unit) from a local high school that now has a new Technical Block - cost of \$1,100 for about \$15,000 worth of saws, lathes, buzzers, etc. even at second hand prices.
 5. Developed a good relationship with a number of businesses that donate surplus or reject materials.
 6. Have a paid Funding and Finance Officer who looks after the front office four hours a day, five days a week, for us and the Community Centre. A grant was given to cover her pay.
 7. Five other charitable groups have their "home" at the centre.
 8. Three members gave non-interest bearing loans of \$5,000 each to help pay for the setting up costs and initial running of Menz Shed.
 9. We have just made 114 crosses for WW1 Rotorua people and are now about to paint them.

Napier MENZSHED

Hello fellow shedders. We are a brand new shed which we have set up over the past few weeks and are really enjoying the work we have been doing renewing and redecorating a good building which needed a lot of TLC.

In the process of setting up the woodworking side of the exercise we have built four carpenters benches and are now importing carpenters bench vices from China. The company will only sell us a minimum of ten which is way too many for us but we feel that other sheds may be interested in purchasing the surplus six as they will be sold at a very reasonable price. Not sure exactly at this stage but looks to be around \$40NZ. They are a top quality 7 inch vice with the quick opening feature, the runners and worm drive are hardened steel and the vices are blue powder coated.

If any shed is interested would you Email me. This is only to give me an idea if there is interest. If there is none I will put them on Trade Me and am sure they will go when the cheapest on the market is around \$70 and not near the quality of what are going to import. Not sure yet when they would arrive in NZ.

Bill Rogers. Secretary. Menz Shed Napier.

Phone 06 8454064. Email bill@rogers.co.nz

Region 3 – Bottom of North Island

Masterton

A visit to Henley Menzshed in Masterton never fails to impress, with the location, the grounds and buildings being a benchmark for us all to strive for.

It also brings home the advantage of having a fulltime Mentor/ Supervisor to run things on a daily basis. Something most of the smaller sheds can only dream about, as most of us operate in an odd selection of buildings, garages etc., with very limited resources.

So great stuff John and the crew at Henley.

Kapiti

Kapiti was a hive of industry as they were roofing over the new pole shed extension. Some 20 or 30 guys busy as beavers on various tasks in the shed. It now covers a large area suitable for indoor and outdoor work. A far cry from the small building it started in.

Just shows what can be achieved with keen guys with vision and enthusiasm, plus land available to extend.

Wellington Airport in conjunction with the Wellington Community Trust and the five Local Authorities organises the Regional Community Awards. There are 5 categories up for consideration: Heritage and

Environment; Health and Well-Being: Sport and Leisure: Education and Child Youth Development; and Arts and Craft.

MenzShed Kapiti was entered into the Health and Well-Being category for the Kapiti Coast. At the local awards evening held 14th August, MenzShed Kapiti won the Health and Well-Being category heading off two other service organisations. However MenzShed Kapiti was also judged to be the overall Supreme winner for the Kapiti Coast - heading off the winners of the other 4 categories.

Winning each of these awards is not only great for MenzShed Kapiti - with the 2 significant cheques associated with each award and for the recognition of the Shed's contribution to the Community, but it is also great for the overall recognition of the MenzShed movement in New Zealand.

MenzShed Kapiti now goes forward to compete with the other 4 winners from Upper Hutt, Lower Hutt, Wellington City, and Porirua in the Wellington Regional Awards which are being held on 11th November.

Dannevirke

At Dannevirke we are in negotiation with our landlord to increase space by another 80 square metres to enable us to separate metal work, and welding away from the woodwork area. The boat we are re-decking with a new cabin etc. is now well advanced, thanks to members with skill in this area.

No take up of St Johns first aid course offer as yet. But we have the local DHB doing a health evening covering blood pressure, diabetes etc., so hopefully after this we may get some more interest in the St John scheme.

City Menzshed Wellington

The city shed publishes a monthly newsletter, Worth checking it out at <http://www.citymenzshed.org.nz/newsletters.html> to see what they have been up to.

Region 4 – Top of South Island

First aid and Worksafe courses

14 members from Waimea and 2 from Whakatu have just completed Comprehensive First Aid course. 8 members from Waimea and Renwick Menzsheds have completed Worksafe NZ course.

Tapawera

Members have completed purchase of the local scout den and now considering fit out requirements.

Supporting Tapawera Show Day and Tapawera Christmas Fair with car parking and the promotion association to erect a Maori themed gateway in the village.



Whakatu Menzshed

Whakatu Menzshed has a steering committee looking for suitable premises and they are progressing Incorporated Society status.

Renwick Menzshed

Renwick Menzshed is progressing Incorporated Society Status and membership of MENZSHED NZ.

Canterbury sheds

Canterbury has continued to operate regional shed hub meetings since 2009. Now bi-monthly, the October meeting included a talk on hearing and hearing loss prevention.

New sheds have opened in Ashburton and Kaiapoi. Akaroa and Linwood are operating temporary sheds while they look for permanent premises. There are also new shed projects in Bishopdale, Riccarton, Lincoln, Leeston and Darfield.

Presentations to Rotary groups, participation in the Positive ageing expo, an article in the ThisandThat magazine and leaflet drops by CPIT Social Work students have all helped to raise awareness of all sheds in Canterbury.



The CPIT Bachelor of Social Work Menzshed Community Project group was all female bar one male. They visited a number of sheds and came away with a really positive experience, possibly helped by their sometimes taking some baking. A new shed flyer was developed and distributed along with a poster.

The project team really enjoyed the experience and will be taking

their knowledge of men's sheds with them in their career and into their communities.

Akaroa

Operating from temporary sheds, they now expect to move to permanent premises. Have been developing Morepork houses.

Amberley

Amberley is also on the move to a more central location in the town. Coffin making is one of the activities that they have considered.

Ashburton

A group formed from a public meeting in March and in May they opened up their very large shed.

Bishopdale

A public meeting in May and Bishopdale is now close to securing premises for a shed.

Halswell

One of the larger sheds in Christchurch, they guys have got it organized including a homemade dust extraction system.

Kaiapoi

Opened the shed in June. A large crowd attended the opening including Jetstar reps. They are now looking at building an engineering shed alongside.

Linwood and New Brighton

Worked together on benches for a Greening the Rubble project as part of the creation of a "Garden of Tranquillity".



Redcliffs

Reg Dalley, co-ordinator of the shed died in September. Reg was a shed enthusiast and his contribution to the Redcliffs shed will be missed.

Riccarton

The project to establish a shed at St. Ninians has been shelved and the resources transferred to establishing a shed at the Rannerdale Veterans Home.

Region 5 – Bottom of South Island

Taieri

Taieri Blokes Shed opened their new shed on Saturday 5th of July on premises owned by the Otago Aero Club at the Taieri aerodrome. The new shed was opened by the Dunedin Mayor Mr Dave Cull and there were over 100 guests at the function.

It is a credit to the members who have worked tirelessly to develop a shed that would be right up there with how a shed should be set up. They have a large smoko / meeting room and separate rooms for; electrical, wood turning, painting, storage of small equipment, engineering supplies, a large joinery workshop and an engineering workshop.

Still getting used to their new enlarged shed and the extra room that they now have.

Alexandra

Alex Shed won the Heritage and Environment Award at the recent Trust Power Community Awards for their work in assisting a large number of not for profit groups in Central Otago. This was very pleasing for a small group of blokes in only their second year of operations.

At the conclusion of the Trust Power awards, the Communications Manager Graeme Purches devoted the majority of his closing remarks to the Men's Sheds around the country, what a great organisation we were and how much work was done by sheds the length and breadth of New Zealand.

Alexandra shed have been very busy building floats for the Blossom Festival parade. The float that they made for the Alexandra Youth Forum won the prize for the most innovative float and their princess was crowned the Festival Queen.



North. East Valley,

The proposed new shed is progressing slowly but they have an enthusiastic group driving it along.

Kings Shed at South Dunedin

Have put a container next to their workshop to use as a storeroom and this has been very beneficial in providing them with a lot more working space.

Waimate

A group of men are attempting to start a new shed at Waimate. As a starter to see what is needed for them to get organised they intend to make a trip to Dunedin to visit the Kings and Taieri sheds in the next few weeks.

Invercargill

Have heard that there is talk of a shed starting in Invercargill but at this stage have not been able to track down anyone to get in contact with.