

Newsletter No3 for 2013

LUNCHTIME BBQ THIS COMING THURSDAY

Yes its time to have a social get together to celebrate real progress with redeveloping the new 3 bay shed. So if you haven't been for a while try to make it on Thursday. If you need a lunch pass from a higher authority at home then do something to earn brownie points so you can be there.

We had left over sausages and meat patties after our April BBQ so just perfect for a special lunch occasion.

WHEN THURSDAY (this week) 16 MAY FROM 12.30pm
WHERE MENZSHED WORKSHOP RANGIHIROA STREET, WAIKANAЕ BEACH.

PROGRESS AT THE NEW SHED

Peter has kept the pedal to the metal and the whole redevelopment of our workshops is progressing nicely. Add to that an enthusiastic support team keen to make the place work for us all and the whole project becomes unstoppable. Anyone around the place takes up the challenge to get things done but I particularly note John, Bill, Ian, Alan, Ross, Murf, Chris, Daryl, Walter, another John, Richard, Denis, George, Doug, Nelson, Eddie, Kevin, Bob, Fred, Ray, Gordon etc, etc. What a team. FANTASTIC!!!

The first major milestone achieved is that we now have a formal **10 year Licence To Occupy** the site PLUS included in that agreement is recognition of agreement in principal to our developing the old Council Depot site as a community facility. FANTASTIC!!!!

The second major achievement is the **relocation of our power feed** to the new shed along with temporary connections to allow the place to continue to function doing our projects.

The whole **interior has been cleaned and painted** and we are progressively reconfiguring the interior so we have a quieter, dust-free, communal area separate to the workshop areas.



The first stage has been completed with the kitchen functioning properly and the first stage of partitioning off the communal area using office partition units recovered from Lindale

when the Council relocated to their new building. The fabric covered



sections will give us some isolation from the workshop noise plus a pleasant environment to have coffee and tea, read or talk together.

The door posts of our new shed were previously way out of plumb from many impacts with Council trucks and machines over the years. Not any more. They are now perfectly vertical and firmly bolted down to the concrete floor. Even the security gates now function properly.



The permanent road entrance sign on Rangihiroa Street is now in place so finding our shed will be so much easier for new people.



PROGRESS WITH OTHER PROJECTS

Last newsletter I asked if anyone had a lawnmower that could be donated to a worthy cause. Well that lawnmower has been reconditioned, repainted and delivered to a very grateful fellow to make good use of.

Daryl's Slot Car Table needed some minor adjustments to make sure it was level when unfolded. That is now completed and ready to be kitted with the track for Daryl's son to make good use of.



After the Sustainable Garden Show we had a request from a school teacher for one of our easels to hold a small whiteboard alongside a workbench. Done! Chris put the final touch with a coat of polyurethane to keep it smart this past week. All ready for delivery.



We had a request from a local lady who needed a letterbox that would fit into a small space on her fence. Denis and Murf have done the trick and that is now ready to be fitted.

The Parkinson's Society requested someone to come along and talk about MenzShed to their group. Doug did the good deed and received a great reception.

These past two weekends Denis has set up a display stand at the Waikanae Saturday Market to offer some of our saleable items. Money for our building fund and the like. Interest has been high but we have still to decide about making this a regular thing because making things to sell might become too much of a commitment.

This past fortnight we have have more great tools donated to our workshop array. One thing in particular that I can see getting a lot of use is the Router table donated by Lewis. We had a small homemade one that we were using but adjusting the cut was quite a challenge. This new Triton will make a world of difference.



As a final point I would like to give credit to one of our local business supporters for the fantastic way they have made materials affordable. Once again **Crightons Building Supplies in Te Roto Drive discounted the cost of materials we needed to make our workshop changes**. The cost reductions are not just a few dollars but very significant reductions so we can complete things that we would otherwise have to put off. THANKS CRIGHTONS BUILDING SUPPLIES. I know I will support them by buying for any of my personal home projects. When we are done with our changes I would like to invite the staff along to see what been achieved.

That's it for now. Producing this has been quite a challenge. I have completely rewritten the thing from memory 3 times in the last 24 hours simply because my computer decided to develop a nasty habit of trying to save finished documents to a non existent network then crash. **A curse on Microsoft**. Ever since I accepted an update to my operating system network files I have had numerous gremlins in the system. I think they are trying to tell me that I need to spend money on a new system to replace my old Windows XP based system. BAH!!!

Hope to see you all on either Tuesday at the workshop session or Thursday at the workshop and lunchtime BBQ following.

Cheers

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