

After a break from reporting on the project progress it is time to fill up the ink bottle or, is it loosen up the arthritic fingers to type!

2017 was a very successful year and now we will catch up the project progress for December and January even if the apparent calm of January 2018 belies the likely activity of 2018. Anyway it has been pleasant enjoying the sun, catching up and having a chat with everyone while gearing up for 2018.

So what has happened in December and January besides the Christmas type activities reported in the December Newsletter?

1. Bookcase refurbishment

Chad has been refurbishing a bookcase. Remarkable the difference in how the bookcase looks after some TLC.



2. Christmas BBQ

It was another great day to enjoy sitting in the sun, or, for the more prudent among us, sitting in the shade.



Wonderful to share an excellent BBQ and salads (grown in our Menzshed garden) with members,

partners, friends neighbours and supporters on Menzshed in the Kapiti Community as we reflected on the years activities and achievements.



Thanks to the team who worked to prepare and present the BBQ.

3. John's Jaunt

It is great to see John O alias Sheddie back at Menzshed. His efforts in completing Te Araroa Trail from North Cape to Hamilton is even more amazing as he did this while suffering from a blood clot on the lung. On his return home he was hospitalised for the best part of a week for treatment. There is certainly a stubborn streak to achieve that.

I guess there is a warning to all those people who travel overseas that if you get DVT symptoms after such travel get it checked out as soon as possible. John said he was lucky but it has resulted in modifications to his plans for the future as he recuperates. This includes how and when he can complete Te Araroa.

By the way those of you who are **planning to contribute to John's sponsorship of the MenzShed** the first instalment would be appreciated.

You can do this by putting your contribution into the box at the Shed and write in the diary your name, amount and Sheddie or you can make a direct payment to the MenzShed Kapiti Inc bank account 38 9010 0354831 00 and put your name and the word Sheddie to identify what the payment is for.



Remember John made sponsorship available to MenzShed Kapiti to help our building fund.

4. Kitset Assembly



In the stampede before Christmas a local resident came in needing help to assemble some outdoor furniture. In 40 minutes Tony, Graeme and Murray had completed the job and a satisfied customer went on their way.

5. Cutout lizards

A bloke from Kapiti Biodiversity made a request for these for a programme being developed for children. 150 of these are required by the end of 2018.

Skip has setup a jig and to date 10 of these have been completed. We will be able to fill gaps in our workload but it is still a lot of work to complete these.



6. Piano for Mahara Place

Yes we have Meals on Wheels and now we have Piano on Wheels in Waikanae.



After a donation of a piano and a request from Waikanae Community Board, Peter and the creative members of the engineering team developed a trolley to enable the piano to be wheeled out from Olive Grove Café so that those with the inclination can tinkle the ivories in Mahara Place.



Thanks to Ray W for his work on this and to Nigel C and Derek for repairing the back of the piano.



Stop Press – and here it is in position outside Olive Grove Café. Thanks to Olive Grove's Fleur for agreeing to securing the piano overnight

7. Rocking Horse

John P has worked his magic again. This rocking horse arrived in a "worse for wear" state and John has refurbished this back to new. Great work John.



8. Stirrers for Scouts



Bruce J created these wonderful pot stirrers for a local scout group for their camp cooking activities. Big pots need XXL sized stirrers.

By the looks of it a happy customer. (Must keep our wives happy, right?)

9. Washing Machine Check

This donated washing machine was repaired, checked and delivered to the Salvation Army. Another job assisting those in the Community.



10. BBQ Tables for Wellington Free Ambulance(WFA)



Paul W, Murray K and Tony built these two tables which were given in return for the WFA contribution to our Defibrillator.

After painting they were delivered to the WFA in Paraparaumu.

Another of our efforts to support WFA.

Good work team.



11. Seed Rumbler for Kapiti Biodiversity Group



After engineering modifications to the motor drive this was collected by Kapiti Biodiversity in January.

The Rumbler as displayed at our Christmas BBQ.

Paul F reports that the Rumbler is working well and the team at Kapiti Biodiversity are testing various recipes for the mixture of the balls, the best speed for mixing and expects the seed balls to go on sale in a couple of months.

12. Kapiti Foodbank

After the successful delivery of vegetables and other food to the Foodbank just before Christmas the gardening team have decided to supply the Foodbank with our surplus produce. Now our green fingered team have made four deliveries to the Foodbank. Superb effort.

13. Canoe



For those who have wondered what has happened to the canoe which has hung in Shed B since 2011- it has been finished. Mark took this over, finished the frame, purchased some suitable fabric to cover it and has tested it in the Waikanae River.

He is now in Hawaii recovering.

This canoe has had a chequered career in its construction. It began as a Duke of Edinburgh project some 40 years ago and then stored in a garage until alterations necessitated its donation to Menzshed for completion. It's done!



14. Garden tools for Refugees

After Alan M spotted a request on Facebook some garden tools were collected and delivered to a grateful refugee family in Porirua. It is wonderful that we can support these people as they settle in New Zealand.



15. Site Maintenance

Brent P has done a great job painting the containers on site and the shed rear walls. It certainly smartens up the site.

16. Dr Cameron's bench

The Waikanae Community Board asked for this bench to be built as a means of acknowledging Dr Cameron's service to Waikanae. Peter B completed this bench and,



the Waikanae River.

KCDC collected it for installation on one of the walkways along



Has anyone spotted it's location yet?

17. Menzshed Garden



Beside their usual work of maintaining the garden, the team has backfilled the wall across the middle of the site, completed the retaining wall on the south side of the site and the garden shed.



The shade shed is well on the way to completion.

And there are a number of projects in various stages of completion or preparation. These include:

- Whareroa Farm Caravan
- Firewood
- Rat traps
- Letter Boxes
- Karariki Nests
- ANZAC Crosses

But more about these in February.

And for those of you who are stressing about the pressure of retirement,

Thanks to Barry I for the following:

**The trouble
with retirement
is that you never
get a day off!**

www.siviersurfers.com

And so we are into 2018 and looking for another challenging year

Let's make it a great year.

Peter & Nigel

And a special mention of very important MenzShed Kapiti backers; local business supporters and sponsors -



Powering MenzShed Kapiti



Printing The Brochures



Driving The Website



Stripping For MenzShed



Goodman Contractors Ltd



Plants for the Plots



Boys Toys and Just Stuff for Community Projects

Remember these magnificent people when you plan your next special project.