

Auckland Central Community Shed (Inc)

SHED NEWSLETTER



February 20201

We had a good start to the year coming back to a clean and tidy Shed, with space made available after old projects and materials in storage bays were cleared during the working bee last year. A lot of the wood we removed was put into the 'Community Resource' area (in the corner of the Greens behind the dome)...so remember to look there if you need some extra wood for a project.

The management Committee met at the end of January and has made some decisions that will impact on you all. We need to cover increasing running costs, membership fees are to increase to \$150 per annum. For new membership this will take effect immediately and, for current members, when your annual membership fees are payable they will be at the new rate of \$150.

Attendance has been light since Xmas up until last Wednesday. To enable all Members to have access to machinery we are imposing a limit of one hours continuous use on any machinery. This move has come about after a Member used the thicknesser continuously from opening time to closing time. I believe a number of Members left during the course of the day, largely I expect because of the machine's loud droning noise. Eventually the Member was asked to arrange a time outside normal shed opening time to continue his project and this he was able to do.

The incident brought up the issue of Shed noise being at 'dangerous' levels and accessibility of machinery (for everyone). We have purchased a sound meter to help us monitor noise levels and are seeking advice from a Noise Control Specialist who has been working with other Community Sheds. In the meantime, please chat with the Duty Manager when you intend to use "very noisy" machinery for longer periods to discuss a way to 'manage' this as best as possible and, where possible, use noisy portable equipment (such as routers) outside. There is a large tarp that can be put out to provide some shade.

We want to promote a culture where Members bring their own PPE (personal protection equipment). We provide very basic ear muffs (defenders) and masks, and in case you forget we will also now offer high quality disposable masks that can be purchased from the Office (or

the Duty Manager if the Office is shut) for \$5 each. Better quality ear defenders start at \$20 at Blackwoods Safety.

Still on Health and Safety we are in the process of investigating a Risk and Hazard Register. Please inform the Duty Manager if you have a 'near miss' or are aware of something that needs attention including any tools that have a malfunction. The Shed has a Health & Safety Policy but for it to work successfully all members need to be on-board with it.

We have had a few members come forward to be Duty Managers they will be added to the Duty Managers Roster for March. They are Deniz, Chris G, Guillaume, Alana and Neal. Thank you for your commitment people.

Patrick Harris
Chairman

BBQ TIME. We want to make the most of the Summer and following the success of the December event, we are planning another BBQ on **Wednesday 17th February at 6pm** at the Shed. It'll be the same deal as before... Open to Members and their families, either bring a plate or pay \$5/head (kids go free) to share some tasty food and have a yarn with your fellow Sheddies.



MAINTENANCE and SAFETY.

Fire hazard. If you use boiled linseed or other oil based wood finishing products *please take all rags associated with this application home with you.* These items can self ignite if simply put in with the rubbish (see attached notice). At home dry the rags flat away from flammable material, or hang them out to dry and then dispose of them.

Sanding Equipment. We found these two sorrowful looking specimens last week...still attached to the machine! If you're not sure when to replace sanding/grinding disks just ask the Duty Manager for guidance, and remember to note down purchases needed on the sheet in the Tool Room if you use the last replacement item.



Storage of projects. If you weren't aware already, we have limited storage space so please only use the dedicated bays to store current projects and/or materials only. We plan to hold a couple of big clean up working bees this year as there was too much to do in the one before Christmas so don't forget to name and date it too.

WORKSPACES. We are still getting a lot of interest from people wanting to join the Shed and currently have a growing waiting list. Once again it's great to see Members' continued enthusiasm working to improve our less used areas such as the Tractor Shed, which had a lucky escape recently when a large branch broke away from the large Oak tree behind.



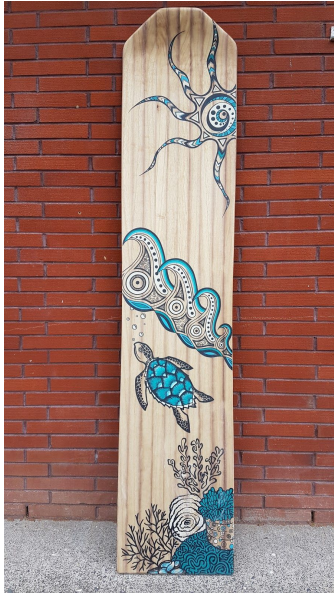
As we had to clear out the space in prep for repairs and shelving, Deniz took the opportunity to brighten the space with a lick of white paint on the wall. Meanwhile Brian has been preparing items for the new racking hanging. With other help they've created a great space for metal work especially if you have metalwork finishing to do.

The approved user list for the engineering lathe is growing and Members are remembering to fill in the log book to record it's use :-). We're always keen to increase Duty Manager numbers ...the more the merrier... so see Nikki in the office if you want to find out more.

WORKING BEE*. We had a really good turn out making rat trap tunnels this month. Over a dozen members turned up including one person on the waiting list waiting to join...he definitely got some 'Brownie Points'! It was very enjoyable with plenty of banter and chatting going on. We made 49 of the regular tunnels from treated timber and 12 using dressed Macrocarpa for Unitec's Sanctuary Organic Gardens.

If you are not able to join the working bees, but are still looking for a way to contribute to your Shed, don't forget to ask a Duty Manager or check out the Members job list in the entrance way. Opportunities to help range from cleaning and maintenance, tidying storage spaces, sorting fire wood, purchasing supplies (and claiming back expenses), emptying the litter bins, or even writing instructions on machine use. It all needs doing by Members.

** usually held on the last Thursday of the month.*



MEMBER PROJECTS. As always there are a variety of projects being undertaken by Members. Guillame completed his impressive board and Patrick v. has been busy creating a unique piece of art. The Committee is keen to run some Member workshops this year. If you have any skills you wish to share or skills you'd like to learn, get in touch with Nikki. Maybe the first session should be how to change a sanding disk lol.



COMMUNITY WORK. Before Christmas, we provided the means for one of our Members to run a 'growing mushrooms' workshop involving injecting logs with a culture (see pic). In addition to our ongoing work for [Urban Ark - Manawa Taiao](#), Don has also built some scoreboards for the adjacent Mt Albert Vikings petanque club and we are hosting a Kea group one evening this month**. We are also looking to make some community library boxes for [Lilliput Libraries](#).



Indeed, requests are coming in thick and fast for both community projects and individual repairs from the community [probably a knock on effect from the 'Repair Shed' programme]. We are not able to accommodate everyone as some jobs are quite inappropriate and need to be done by trade specialists and not...'on the cheap' by Shed Members!

*** 4 x Members' help required to run. Please see Nikki or Craig (DM)*

MEMBERS ONLY. If you're a new Member you may not be aware that you can access the latest Committee minutes using the password **MyShed** (inc capitals).

Ma tini ma mano ka rapa te whai.

The Shed is proudly supported by:

