

Auckland Central Community Shed (Inc)

SHED NEWSLETTER



March 2021

At the time of writing we are in the middle of the Americas Cup Challenge 'fever' and when you switch on TV to watch the coverage you get the Toyota message about being a part of 'crazy innovation'. Well at the Shed we have our moments of 'Crazy Innovation'...our Ken has come up with a pretty crazy invention of turning a washing machine into a salad spinner. Kelmarna Community Gardens (Grey Lynn / Herne Bay) approached the Shed looking for a way to enable them to process their fancy salad mixes and to be able to rinse and then spin before packaging. So he *gone an' done it*....and we've named it the *Kenerator*. What a Sheddie!



We are quickly approaching daylight saving cross-over and the Shed Committee has decided to continue with Saturday opening but will monitor the level of traffic congestion and accessibility of the Shed. If parking becomes a significant problem we can then make a decision to switch to Sunday.

This year we are looking at more training opportunities for Members. We looked at organising welding training but unfortunately we simply don't have enough of the equipment to be able to do that in groups. If you are keen to learn or practice my suggestion is that you approach either Charles, Deniz, Neal or Brian for one on one instruction. Nikki can help with contacting if you need it. Likewise, if you have a particular skill you'd be keen to share please let us know.

We had a good turn-out from members (6) last week to learn about Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) for our electrical tools and machinery. Testing of the gear has subsequently been going ahead...thanks guys. We will arrange another session in a few months so if you are keen to attend, let Nikki know.

Patrick Harris
Chairman

BBQ TIME. We want to make the most of the sunshine and following the success of the December event, we are planning another BBQ on Wednesday 31st March 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. *THE SHED WILL NOT BE OPEN FOR WORK THIS EVENING!*



HUB NEWS

[The Hub](#) (upstairs) has a couple of new coordinators Claire (Shed member) and Pascal. We at the Shed have always tried to support the Hub in their endeavours when we can and we would like to continue in this way with your help. They are currently looking to clean up 'The Commons' (aka the greens) so all offers of help are appreciated. In particular, anything that is put on the 'turf' must go on a pallet (a requirement of the lease) so next time you are in please grab a pallet and put our wood turning logs on it :-)

EASTER OPENING. We will open as usual on the Easter weekend (Saturday 3rd and Monday 5th April) *provided* we have a Duty Manager. Get in touch with Craig LB if you can't do your usual slot then so we can look to others to fill.



**URBAN ARK
MANAWA TAIAO**
Nature in the city

WORKING BEE. As usual, we will be doing a [working bee](#) on the last Thursday of this month (25 March) to support our partners [Urban Ark Manawa Taiao](#). If you've not joined us for this before, just pop along around 10 am and we'll help set you up with a task. All help is

welcome.

AGM. The Shed's AGM is on the horizon. We have booked The Hub space upstairs and it will start at **2 pm on Saturday 26 June**. It was well attended last year so come early to secure a seat. The Committee is always keen to hear your feedback and we are still looking for someone to fill the Secretary's role.

PROFICIENCY. As you may know, we require Members to undertake training before being let loose on the engineering lathe. Talks have begun about introducing a similar system for **all** our tools and machinery. Not only will this help us keep everyone safer, we think it will also help

with the problem of breakage and maintenance. We are, of course, keen to hear all suggestions to deal with these issues so feel free to discuss these with a Duty Manager, [Committee Member](#) or Nikki.

COMMUNITY WORK. The Shed has a steady number of requests from our local and sometimes business community. The variety never fails to surprise us. Petanque scoreboards, physiotherapy steps, community libraries to name but a few. Don has been busy with many of those but some, like fitting out someone's camper van, are just within our remit. If you have some spare time or a skill you'd like to share



MEMBER PROJECTS. The engineering area is usually a lot quieter than woodworking but we would love to see more Members make use of this space and help keep it in good working order. Two engineers, Brian and Deniz, recently helped with a project to fix and restore a doorbell. The handle was welded back on and, using a kitchen recipe for removing brass tarnish plus a bit of metal polish on the bench grinder buffing wheel, a remarkable transformation took place!



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

*Ma tini ma mano ka rapa te whai.
Many hands make light work.*

The Shed is proudly supported by:

