



Mike's Mutterings



We were very sorry to learn recently that new member, Bruce Kirk, passed away suddenly. I only met him once, but he struck me as a friendly, cheerful person, who would have been a valuable member of our club. You may be resting in this world, Bruce, but I bet you are helping those in the heavenly realm with their engineering problems.

For those of you who haven't been to visit TOLO yet, you will see examples of what the members have been doing, as well as other works by members of the community. The 3D paintings look great.

Some of us have planned to visit members of Pirirakau marae, who supported us while we were getting established, to korero how we can work together. The visit was rescheduled because of a tangi but will be held soon. Menzshed Omokoroa is willing to talk to any local group to see how we can work together on projects.

Those of you who have been in our smoko room recently, will notice new whiteboards on the wall. These are to show what projects we are involved in, and who is doing them. Please do not get involved in one unless you have spoken with the member doing them, and a supervisor first. Part of our H & S policy is not to tread on toes.

A recent project being worked on, is refurbishing chairs from Acacia Park. You will see them in the back shed. This will bring in much needed funds.

When I called in last Thursday (15th), it was a hive of activity with at least one new member joining us. If this carries on we may need bigger premises sooner than later.

Keep well....

Mike Hayden

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It's a record. On Thursday 25 August the Shed set an attendance record. Twenty members strained the resources of the tea urn, and the biscuit tin. Well done everybody, and the supervisors for keeping everyone gainfully employed!

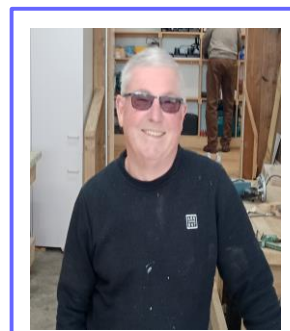
Member Profiles - Each month we normally profile two members, so that we all get to know each other a little better. This month it is Paul and Andrew –

Paul Zeeders – Committee Member

Paul grew up on a dairy farm in a small place called Elstow in the Waikato. Realizing that farming was not for him, he left home at sixteen and started an electrical apprenticeship in Hamilton, for the local power board – where he got a good grounding in all things electrical, as they also looked after city services and the Hamilton Airport.

Four years later he had his registration, and was off on his OE to the Netherlands as he had a Dutch passport from his parent's heritage. When he arrived he was told that being the eldest son in the family, he would be going into the Dutch Army for two years compulsory training - "I'm out of here!" He headed to London to stay with a mate, and found a job at London Hospital, which had the bonus of being heated in the winter, unlike the construction sites many other kiwis were working on. After two years, he and his mate decided that they would ride back to NZ, instead of flying. Having never ridden a motorcycle before, he had a couple of rides around the local supermarket carpark, before heading to the ferry, and riding on the wrong side of the road. The next 3 months saw them head through Europe and Southwestern Asia before flying the bikes from India to Australia, and riding from Perth to Sydney. See photo next page.. Once back in NZ, he settled into working in the Waikato as a sparky, met his wife, Karen, and had two daughters. They always said they would retire somewhere near the water, and friends mentioned that they should have a look at Omokoroa. Sitting on the deck at the boat club, having a coffee, Paul said to Karen, "Hell, I could live here!" After looking for 8 months they found a project house with a view, but it took them another 4 years to make the move. Now he is working at Port of Tauranga as a sparky, and Karen works at Tauranga Boys' College as a Teacher Aide.

In the Waikato he had 314 square metres of sheds on a lifestyle block, and worried about how he was going to cope moving back into town. Serious decluttering has got to where they are now, and when Paul saw the ad in the newsletter at the boat club for the MenzShed he knew he had found the answer to his shed problems. Paul can only go on Saturdays, but when he retires he is looking forward to going during the week – "The Shed is a valuable asset to the men of Omokoroa (and their wives) as well as the community."



Andrew McWilliam – Committee Member

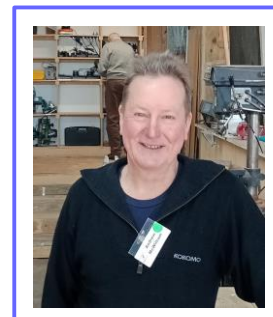
Andrew started his working life as an apprentice at the NZ Post Office Workshops in Newmarket, where his dad worked, and he got him his job. They made phone boxes from Fijian Kauri and Pine. They also made stamping tables with pigeon holes, extension ladders, step ladders, and office furniture. He gained his Advance Trade Certificate in cabinetmaking, and then took a years leave to go on his OE with his girlfriend, who is now his wife of nearly 38 years. After returning to New Zealand, he worked for other companies, which saw him building office furniture, hospital furniture, solid timber doors and kitchens – which was his 17 years as a cabinetmaker.

He then got a job at Sensation Yachts in Auckland, where he built the pilot house for SY Mari Sha 3, a 44.7 metre super yacht, with a light weight nomex interior. In 1989 she broke the Trans-Atlantic record in 8 days, 23 hours, and 29 minutes.

Andrew then moved to Alloy Yachts and for the next 17 years was involved in building 26 super yachts, 19 sailboats, and 7 motor yachts - the largest SY Vertigo (67.2 metres, or 220 feet long) which was worth \$100 million. That kept 450 staff, contractors, and suppliers, and lots of other people employed for about three years. (Check out www.alloysupport.com/yachts). This was the best place he worked at, and the vessels are floating works of art.

When they moved to Bay of Plenty, Andrew worked at Pachoud Yachts for six and a half years, building luxury catamarans, from 18 to 26 metres – some with a foil between the hulls, and doing in excess of 40 knots.

Andrew now works close to home at Pacific Coast Kitchens in Omokoroa, helping to make dream kitchens for many locals. In his spare time he has been busy helping to set up the Shed, buying and maintaining many machines and tools.



SY Mari Sha 3



Thanks to our sponsors and supporters:



Paul at a stop in Austria. The motorcycle was a 1989 Yamaha XT600 Z Tenere, which he purchased from new, and loaded up for the trip.



Recycled timber donated by a local resident arrives at the shed, with more to come.



Another product from John Griggs. The book shelf was designed for a specific area, in fellow shedder Grant's house, to go in a studio where Grant's daughter works from home.



John is currently working on another piece of fine furniture crafted from macrocapa.



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www.menzshedomokoroa.org



The Shed is open -

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

BRAIN TEASER

1. What is the record for most hotdogs eaten In one sitting?
2. Which body parts continue to grow throughout your life?
3. What is the largest city in Europe by population?
4. How many bones does a shark have?
5. What is a group of rhinos called?

1. 76 by Joey Chestnut during a hotdog eating contest in the USA in 2021.
2. Nose and ears
3. Istanbul, Turkey
4. None – they have cartilage
5. A crash

ANSWERS



**ACORN
FOUNDATION**
WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY

This month a grant of \$5020 has been made to the shed by The Acorn Foundation. Recently Margot McCool, the Donor and Community Engagement Manager, visited the

Shed and had morning tea with our team and explained the work of the Foundation. Her role focuses on donors and community distributions that Acorn makes.



The grant will enable us to purchase a trimmer kit and router, safety visors, saw blades, labels, and a framing tool, and to contribute to our on-going running costs.

A Shedder remembered ..

Bruce Kirk, who was one of our newer members, passed away on Monday 5 September. He was new, and generous in his time and support of the Shed, and would do whatever was available to do. His background was engineering related, and despite his interest in that line of work, he would spend time helping on any project, and enjoying it.



He had put his name down to be at TOLO for Blue September on four days, being one of those who volunteered for the most number of days. His enthusiasm will be missed.

Having a quiet day? Did you know shedders are musicians: Get on to Google, and query menzshed music. You will find: **John Paul Youngs Men's Shed jingle:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=shUpCj16H6o>

The Men's Shed choir

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QMsOXffod8>

Men's Shed musicians back to what they do best

<https://www.facebook.com/NaasCommunityMensShed/videos/mens-shed-musicians-back-to-what-they-do-bestplaying-great-music-at-our-outdoor-/261303199065858/>