



Mike's Mutterings

Hi, fellow shedders -

It's great to see the sun out again, even if it's not too warm yet. My smallish flock of sheep are lambing and the little fellows are enjoying either sleeping or leaping around in the sun. I'm also spending a lot of time re-arranging the vegetable gardens, but I fear I may be leaving the pruning too late.

I would like to thank you all for the great attendance at our AGM last month. At a guess it seemed as if nearly the whole membership came along. I feel you have a great committee to guide us through the coming year, with a range of experiences behind it. Unfortunately, with Allan's resignation as secretary, after a couple or more years of sterling service, including achieving many thousand of dollars for us in grants, no one was willing to fill this role.

Tony, our treasurer who is traveling overseas, has also indicated that he will be resigning at the end of September. This leaves us with two vital gaps in our committee – the two most important positions in fact. At present I am acting secretary, which I shall not continue. So things will grind to a halt soon.

I am going to suggest to the committee that, if necessary, we hold a Special General Meeting in late September to resolve this issue. If we can't, we shall be unconstitutional, in my opinion, and should close. Without an executive we would get very little financial support, and will be stifled in our purchases and support. If you have experience, in either of these roles, please give serious thought to joining the committee. I realize that there are probably community residents who have the skills but are not members. An alternative is to employ people to carry out these roles, but are not members. I can see problems with this.

Another problem which was noticeable at the AGM was the venue. The Shed is not conducive to holding a large meeting. Because of the noise of the weather, and the activities at the back of the room. I doubt if many members at the back part of the meeting heard what was going on, especially when feed-back was being directed to the front. Therefore, I am going to suggest that for any meeting where large numbers are expected, that we hire the Settlers Hall or a similar venue, and have a microphone so that everyone can hear everything. When we see issues we make the necessary changes to improve them. We have always done this.

Like our gardens, we are growing well and flourishing. Our efforts are beginning to bear fruit.

Keep well

Mike Hayden



Two examples of John Grigg's handiwork. On the left is a Newton's Cradle. Client Peter Hartle pictured with John, provided the balls, and John made the cradle.

On the right, vege boxes. His family has the tidiest of pantrys.

What is a Newton's Cradle?see the back page.



Member Profiles - Each month we normally profile our members. This month we learn about Alan Gregory, and his inspiration.....



A V class Mullet Boat



Growing up overlooking the Auckland Harbour with supportive parents was fun, and a wonderful playground for us four kids, where we learned to fish, sail and dive. Our grandfather's fishing stories about he and his brothers going fishing in the 1900's, that he told us while sitting on his garden steps looking out over the waters, rolling a smoke were an inspiration. So too, were my dads about racing the old V class mulleties pre-war.

Winter sport was, of course, rugby from 15th D grade, where I do recall the coach having to come on to the field, and point the way to run. Right through to captain of the 1st XV, senior club rugby, and finally Golden Oldies in New Zealand, Aussie, England, USA and Wales, till the bones started getting too sore.

Sailing started in a dinghy with a bamboo mast, and one of mum's tablecloths "borrowed" for the sail, as was dad's best braided fishing lines for sheets. Time morphed this into keelers—a Reactor 25, then built a ¼ tonner, and then a Farr 38 in which we were national champions for four years, including the Auckland to Suva Yacht Race. We sailed in Aussie, and in Singapore complete with armed patrol boats.

I have been fortunate to experience working and living in different countries with different cultures, in the chemical and packaging industries of SE Asia and Australia, which gives one a perspective on life. Now retired to Omokoroa for its lifestyle and closeness to grandchildren, I still muck around with boats and fishing, with a family launch for holidays around the gulf.

The Menzshed is just spot on as it offers a great place to meet your neighbours, have a yarn on men's stuff over a cuppa and biscuit (if Bill remembers to buy some), and learn some more skills from more learned gentlemen, while mucking around with bits of wood.



Omokoroa No.1 School Project

Carter and Jake, the first two students from the school to come to the shed, have graduated. They completed two bean bag game boards, which have now been presented to the school, and which all the students are eagerly waiting to play with. To complete their project, Carter and Jake had to give an illustrated talk to their class about what they had been doing, and what they learned. This was followed by a full assembly of the school. These events were attended by Len Riggir, Peter Smith, Bill Boulton, and Peter Ehrlich, and at the assembly Len presented the two boys with an Achievement Certificate from the Shed. This was a very successful project in partnership with the school, and it continues with two new boys, William and Wilfred, now attending the Shed to make another two bean bag boards. A copy of the presentation that Carter and Jake made to their class will be displayed at the Shed for members to view. There is a twist to the story.....

Carter, Jake, Wilfred and William were road testing the boards outside the shed. One of our members thought they were rubbish at the game, and said, "I'll give you one bean bag each. If you can get it through the hole, I'll give you \$10." "You're on!" the boys said, and the first lad promptly landed the bean bag straight through the hole. The nameless member will forever be known as "Ten Dollar Bill".

Thanks to our sponsors and supporters:



Just a "minute".....

A repeat of a message sent to members earlier this month.

This is a message to all members of the Menzshed relating to a few things that came up at the Committee meeting on the 8th August, and we wanted to communicate these personally to you.

Machinery safety:

This is very important to us all. Nobody wants to see anyone get hurt or worse. We need to see more safety by some of our members, to the extent that if we see something unsafe that is recurring by members, we may need to stop some people using machinery. Each Shed day Richard will grab 5-6 members and go through safety features, and do - do nots on machinery. A record will be kept of who has done this.

Purchasing:

Only Supervisors have the authority to purchase anything on behalf of the Shed. If anybody just goes and buys something and hands in a receipt, they may not get reimbursed for it.

New work:

All jobs that come into the Shed must be handled through a Supervisor. We need to get better at handling jobs, and giving the customer a ballpark figure of costs.

Vacancy on the Committee:

As we are all aware we don't have a Secretary at the moment. If anybody in the Shed wishes to take on the role please contact Mike or Dick for information. It is getting more streamlined with the use of the cloud.

Question: If we wanted to distribute our membership list to ONLY our members. Would you be in favour? We would only put names, address, phone, and email.

We all really enjoy what the shed is all about, so this is just a quick memo to keep you up to date.



Richard has been dumpster diving in the exotic woods bin and practicing his wood turning skills with excellent results.

CONTACT US

President - Mike Hayden
Mobile 021 247 8057
mchayden@xtra.co.nz

Vice Pres. - Dick Megchelse
Mobile 027 297 6157
info@menzshedomokoroa.org

FIND US

Address: 7 Prole Road, Omokoroa (first driveway on the left).

And on line

[facebook.com/Menzshed/Omokoroa](https://www.facebook.com/Menzshed/Omokoroa)

www.menzshedomokoroa.org



The Shed is open -

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Trivia Questions -

1. What is meteorology the study of?
2. Representing the Southern Cross constellation, how many red stars are on NZ's national flag?
3. Which national disaster is measured on the Richter Scale?
4. Who was NZ's longest serving Prime Minister?
5. Which animal can be seen on the Porsche logo?
6. Which driver holds the record for the most Grand Prix wins?
7. What is your body's largest organ?
8. What was the name of the rock band formed by Jimmy Page?

- Answers -
1. The weather
 2. Four
 3. Earthquakes
 4. Richard Seddon, PM for 13 years
 5. Horse
 6. Michael Schumacher
 7. The skin
 8. Led Zeppelin

Food for thought

The MenzShed New Zealand Newsletter for July 2023 is available on line. It's a sit down with a cuppa and read as it is 43 pages long – but its full of news and views - just Google [Menzshed NZ Newsletter July 2023](#). You don't have to read it all at once. If you open it, and book mark it, you can come back to on rainy days.

Condolences

The Shed shares its condolences with member, John Butt, whose wife Dorothy passed away recently. Our thoughts are with you.

Newton's Cradle



The Newton's cradle is a device that demonstrates the conservation of momentum and the conservation of energy with swinging spheres. When one sphere at the end is lifted and released, it strikes the stationary spheres, transmitting a pressure or sonic wave through the stationary spheres that creates a force that pushes the last sphere upward. The last sphere swings back and strikes the nearly stationary spheres, repeating the effect in the opposite direction. The device is named after 17th-century English scientist Sir Isaac Newton and designed by French scientist Edme Mariotte. It is also known as Newton's pendulum, Newton's balls, Newton's rocker or executive ball clicker (since the device makes a click each time the balls collide, which they do repeatedly in a steady rhythm).

There is much confusion over the origins of the modern Newton's cradle. Marius J. Morin has been credited as being the first to name and make this popular executive toy. However, in early 1967, an English actor, Simon Prebble, coined the name "Newton's cradle" (now used generically) for the wooden version manufactured by his company, Scientific Demonstrations Ltd. After some initial resistance from retailers, they were first sold by Harrods of London, thus creating the start of an enduring market for executive toys. Later a very successful chrome design for the Carnaby Street store Gear was created by the sculptor and future film director Richard Loncraine.

The largest cradle device in the world was designed by MythBusters and consisted of five one-ton concrete and steel rebar-filled buoys suspended from a steel truss. The buoys also had a steel plate inserted in between their two-halves to act as a "contact point" for transferring the energy; this cradle device did not function well because concrete is not elastic so most of the energy was lost to a heat buildup in the concrete. A smaller-scale version constructed by them consists of five 15-centimetre (6 in) chrome steel ball bearings, each weighing 15 kilograms (33 lb), and is nearly as efficient as a desktop model.