



Restoring family history

As you walk around the shed, and ask someone what they are doing, you often get an interesting story. Alan had a piece of timber in the vice and he was finely shaping it with a chisel. Alan just said he was fixing a knife, but the real story is that he was introduced to this machete as a child, when he saw his grandfather cutting wood with it, and who then taught him how to cut kindling. Alan's father had it during the Second World War, when he was attached to the unit that was the forerunner to the SAS, and he wore it in a sheath on his belt. The original handle (the small dark piece in the picture) shows all the wear of its age, including lines caused by binding that Alan had used to hold it together. The lighter piece of timber is one side of the new handle, and is teak recovered from a boat's companionway, and the fine shaping that Alan was doing was to taper the inserts for the hilt of the knife so that the blade fits inside the new handle.

It is a piece of history and Alan will be keeping the restored blade in the family, for the next generation.



The Shop is taking shape

Progress on the shop has been slower than expected. Purchased as a kit set, it has been more of a jigsaw with many parts having to be customised to fit. However the roof is now on, with Peter shown at left putting in one of the last screws. The next job is to gap fill all the seams to ensure water tightness - and then hook up the power, open up the fence and build the security gates, and access ramps, and lay some carpet tile flooring etc.

So in a couple of weeks our shop window to the community will be open. Well done to Peter Ehrlich and his team who have been doing the construction.



STOP PRESS!!!!!!

The shop is open. A concerted effort on 31 May saw the access ramp finished and goods placed in the shop. It was followed by the traditional "Roof Shout" with a BBQ for all involved.



Are you qualified?

As an organisation, the Shed has a responsibility to ensure that we operate safely. That means that when a member wants to use a powered tool/machine, that we know that the member has the knowledge and skills to do so safely. Each member has been assessed, and a large board has been erected in the tea room, on which is marked the approved skills for everyone. It's a very simple system – if you are not shown as approved for a tool or machine – you can't use it. You need to discuss

with a supervisor on how to receive the required instruction and approval. Once that is done, the board will be amended accordingly. And for all members, if you see someone using a tool or machine, and they aren't shown as approved on the board, it is your responsibility to bring this to the attention of the supervisor so that this can be followed up to ensure the correct approval is obtained.

A new welder has arrived...



A grant has been received from the New Zealand Community Trust to fund the purchase of a new welder, which has been done from BOC Tauranga. NZCT is one of New Zealand's largest gaming trusts, and they make contributions to local communities, awarding grants for a wide range of community services, including sports, rescue services, youth development, the Arts, and cultural activities. Richard quickly picked it up. He says that we will be able to build anything we like with it, but that its primary use will be with mild steel. It is a MIG welder, which means that it has a continuous welding wire, and differs from a ARC welder which utilises welding rods. Richard says it is a very flash gas welding system.

A grant has also been received from The Centre, Omokoroa which will go towards purchasing a new wood lathe. Thanks to Allan for his continuing work in seeking funds and support. Both these machines will benefit our members in the applications of the work we can now do.



Dante and Brooklyn have completed their first three weeks (of eight) at the Shed and on 21 May took four Swallow Nesting Platforms back to school. To achieve this they had to master setting out, measuring, drilling, screwing, using an orbital sander, hand sanding and applying the Menzshed logo with a branding Iron. And the following week two black bird boxes were also finished and went to school. Thanks to our members that assist with this.



Thanks to our sponsors and supporters:



President's thoughts.....

- Here we are in June already, halfway through the calendar year, heading towards the shortest day, which is usually accompanied by wetter days! Making the most of the current weather however, our team of builders and helpers have almost completed the office and showroom - just the final touches to be done. We are confident that having a focal point to come to, for visitors coming to our Shed, will enhance their interaction with us. Also from a safety perspective, not having visitors wandering through the sheds and premises will be better for all concerned. Special thanks to all the guys who have contributed to getting this done, and a special thanks to our benefactor, also a shed member, who provided the funds for this project.

- Some of our members accompanied "Jed" at a meeting with Council recently, involving discussions about the Kaimai Reserves Management Plan and the present location of our shed. Our submission was well received, and we were advised that any change of location would be forewarned with plenty of notice, possibly two years, and will still be quite some time before that is implemented, possibly ten years. However we all know circumstances change and we should prepare for the eventuality and need to do so. There was a lot of work put into the submission, and I'd like to thank Jed and Allan Hughes for their work preparing it.

- During the last month we had a visit from the MenzShed regional representative, Wayne Anderson. He managed to have a very brief look around our sheds and a quick chat. During our discussion the topic of fees, for each member, came up, where we explained that a \$5 per head fee each year was a very marked increase to the current fee, presently \$25 per shed being paid to be affiliated with the MenzShed organisation. Although the remit passed at the AGM held in Invercargill, not everyone is happy with such a substantial increase to our costs, and your committee is looking into how we can support the needs of the organization but do so at a realistic level.

- Just a reminder to us all, if you would like to borrow something from the shed, or if you would like to have an article for your own project, please ASK a supervisor or committee member. Failure to do so will be treated as theft, and treated accordingly. We will try to accommodate your needs where possible.

- Finally I'd like to thank you for the effort you put in to making our shed successfully recognised and part of a great community we lived in. We all have a part to play, large or small and your input is valued.

Cheers

Dick Megchelse



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The Shed is open -
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Trivia Questions –

1. What is the square root of 64?
2. What is the longest bridge in New Zealand?
3. Jim Henson is the creator of what beloved cast of characters?
4. Which island in Foveaux Strait is the location of New Zealand's tallest lighthouse?
5. Which Andrew Lloyd Webber Broadway show features the characters Mistoffelees and Old Deuteronomy?
6. Who won New Zealand's first ever Winter Olympics medal, with a silver in the women's slalom at Albertville in 1992?
7. Which country produces the most tea?
8. The line, "Your mother was a hamster and your father smelt of elderberries", is a line from which 1975 movie?
9. Richard Branson is the owner of which airline?

The sheds are multiplying....



The child care centre beside us has now closed. They donated two garden sheds to us – one as shown, and a smaller shed. Both sheds were picked up and moved onto our property with the generous help of Omokoroa General Carriers. The suggested use of the shed shown is for sand blasting and painting.

New Member

Welcome to Toby Norman whose application to join us was successful. If you see Toby around, please make him feel welcome.

King's Birthday Honours



Shed member, Wayne Wright was today recognised in the King's Birthday Honours, being made an Officer of the New Zealand Order Of Merit for his services to education and philanthropy.

President Dick Megchelse said, "We extend our congratulations to a very worthy recipient of this award, Wayne Wright has been a very supportive member of the Shed, generously contributing to its initial set up, and ongoing ventures. Thank you Wayne."

- Answers –
1. Eight
 2. Rakaiā River Bridge (1757 metres)
 3. The Muppets
 4. Dog Island/Te Motu Piu
 5. Cats
 6. Annelise Coberger
 7. China
 8. Monty Python and the Holy Grail
 9. Virgin Atlantic