



All the signs are there

You can't miss us! A new sign has gone up at the driveway entrance. Thanks to Barfoot & Thompson – bigger and better than what we had there before. President Dick and Vice President Rob are doing the honours installing it. Alongside it, and sharing the frame is a sign from the Resource Collective Recovery Centre, which opened next door on 18 November.



And out on Omokoroa Road, is our new “Outlet Shop Open” sign, which is portable and can be moved around.

The opening of the Resource Collective became a parking issue with all the available area full up. This was despite David having prepared and installed a parking “arrow” sign. But this will be a good thing when the business beds in and settles down. It will mean more traffic in and around our site, and thus more visibility in the community.

As members we will need to be more aware of traffic and pedestrians as we enter and leave.

Remember that we have a

5 k.p.h speed limit

specified in our rules.



OPEN DAY
Saturday 13 December
9 am to noon
All Welcome – Come and see what we do!



Desmond Gardiner - 97 years young.....

On 11 November the Shed celebrated our oldest member on the occasion of his 97th birthday, with a morning tea. Des featured in the July 2022 newsletter, and some highlights of his life demonstrating his wide experience are repeated here....



- born in Opotiki in 1928, his father was the Post Office telegraphist when telegrams were sent by morse code, and received in printed strips which were stuck on forms, and then delivered on a leather belt driven Harley Davidson.
- He saw Sir Charles Kingsford Smith land his aircraft, Southern Cross, on Ohope Beach in 1934.
- His first job after schooling was a junior engineering job in the Wellesley Street automatic telephone exchange. He had to learn to drive so he could service five telephone exchanges, using a Ford pick-up truck. In 1949 this led to him going to Liverpool in England to test automated exchanges being supplied to New Zealand. This required him to travel on the MV Rangitoto for a period of six weeks. The supplier formed a new company in New Zealand, and on his return, Des joined the company in Auckland, then as branch manager in Wellington and Christchurch. In 1963, due to import restrictions, Des took the opportunity to set up his own company, thus eliminating the competition. This was followed by other commercial enterprises which Des was able to set up, and sell, assisted by his wife in the office.
- On the sporting front, Des joined the Auckland Tramping Club, during which time he helped them to build a hut on Ruapehu. By coincidence he and a mate, Frank, were camped in a pup tent overlooking the crater lake in March 1945. Frank wanted to snap a photo of the sun rising over BOP, but didn't get a chance. Just as the sun came up, the crater lake exploded, showering them with debris. Before taking off, leaving the tent behind, Frank did take a photo, using a camera on a tripod, and quarter glass negatives. This picture appeared as the centre piece in the "Weekly News", captioned "Taken by two idiots who were sleeping above crater lake". He had also done a lot of small boat sailing, in the M Class in Auckland, and R and X class in Christchurch. In the X class he was a member of a three man Canterbury crew to win the prestigious Sanders Cup in the national competition. He also built a Finn class yacht, and six Optimists.
- Trapping predators – Des was involved from 2000-2015 trapping predators at Shakespeare Park in Whangaparoa near where he was living at the time. He moved here in 2015, and joined the Friends of the Blade. In his time he has made over 450 traps (this was at the time he was interviewed in 2022). We have seen him making many more, passing on the skill to other Shed members, and creating sales for the Shed.

Best wishes Des!

Thanks to our sponsors and supporters:



President's thoughts

Welcome to this month's newsletter in which you'll be able to catch up with what's happening at the Shed. A special welcome to our new members, we trust that we'll see you along at our morning sessions, and that you'll enjoy the companionship of your fellow members. There are numerous areas of participation where you can join in. If anyone is unsure of the expectations within the Shed activities, please ask one of the supervisors.

It's good to see the renewed effort going into the "garden" and the new plantings taking place, from which we'll be able to enjoy the "fruit" of the labour put in.

It was great to celebrate the 97th birthday of our oldest member Des, this month, and to also have an enquiry from an eighteen-year-old wanting to learn some skills. Your age and abilities shouldn't be a hindrance to being part of the camaraderie amongst fellow "Sheddies".

As we draw towards the end of the year it would be good if you can join in our "Open Day", on 13th December, followed by a BBQ and time socialising for our members. I take this opportunity to thank you for your participation throughout the year, and look forward to the year ahead as we continue to be a vital part in supporting the wider community, and in particular the men of our community.

Regards

Dick Megchelse



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FIND US

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[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 – With new electric cars appearing at the Shed, can you remember the cars of yester year?

1. 1970-76 – which small four door saloon was introduced by Hillman to compete with the very successful Ford Escort?
2. 1962-1982 – which medium sized family saloon was to become the best-selling car in the UK during the 1970s?
3. 1968-2002 – which small family saloon, later a hatchback, was the best selling car in Britain throughout the `80s and 90s, as well as being very successful on the rallying circuit.
4. 1997-present – which Land Rover model was one of the first cars to offer a compromise between off-road ability, streamlined looks, and comfortable day-to-day road use?
5. 1972-1985 – which executive saloon by Ford became famous as the main vehicle used by Scotland Yard's Flying Squad in the TV cop series, 'The Sweeney'?

Shed news . . .



Clive



Gary

Two members have put up their hands to fill vacant positions within the Shed. Clive Davy is a new Shed supervisor, and Gary Neels has started training on the knife sharpener. Thanks guys

The school term attendance by Omokoroa No 1 School has wound up for the year. The school project team



is seen here with the students. All the students who had attended the shed this year had made a large hand crafted card in appreciation, which was presented to the Project team, along with a morning tea.

New Members ..

In the last months the following new members have been approved – Charles Dalton, Bruce Matheson, Darren Tinetti, Wayne Dobson, and Dave Bollard. Welcome guys, we look forward to working with you.



- Answers –
1. Avenger
 2. Cortina
 3. Ford Escort
 4. Freelande
 5. Granada