

# MENS SHED Auckland East Inc.

Weekly Newsletter for the 23rd December 2024

**Our Purpose - To Sustain or Enhance Members' Mental Health and Wellbeing.**

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## **Christmas Message to Sheddies at Mens Shed Auckland East**

As the holiday season approaches, the Governance Committee extends its heartfelt thanks and best wishes to everyone in the Shed . This year has been marked by tremendous growth, achievement, and community spirit—made possible by your hard work, dedication, and camaraderie.

We've seen great progress through successful projects that have benefited both our Shed and the Local Community. Our membership has again grown significantly this year, a testament to the vibrant and welcoming environment we've all fostered.

While everyone's contributions are deeply appreciated, we'd like to make special mention of a few individuals who have been with us since the very beginning.

- **Don Morrison**, our retiring Office Manager, whose dedication and organizational skills have kept the Shed running smoothly. We thank him for his tireless efforts and look forward to seeing him on the shop floor.
- **Mal McLennan**, for his outstanding leadership as Vice Chairman and Chairman. His vision and guidance have been pivotal to our success.

- **Alan Minson**, for his expertise, persistence, and dedication to growing our Shed. Alan and his Environmental Crew have excelled in generating much of the funding which keeps our shed viable. He and his team have built a national reputation for making quality products, consistently, and delivering them on time.

Thanks again to everyone who participated in our Shed's activities this year. Our premises look fantastic, with new machines and tools offering more opportunities to learn and create. Your contributions—big or small—make a real difference, and we are proud to be part of such a vibrant community.

As we head into the festive season, we wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, filled with joy and happiness. We look forward to continuing our great work together in the coming year.

Thank you for an incredible year, and here's to an exciting New Year ahead!

The Governance Committee  
Mens Shed Auckland East Incorporated.

## Events

### Final Barbeque for 2024



Our Christmas luncheon was enjoyed by 50 sheddies and two members from the Orakei local Board. The Shed choir sang three songs with gusto and members joined in. This was no barbecue – our retired plastic surgeon Prof Don Liggins expertly carved a ham which was served up with some healthy extras, followed by a second course consisting of tarts, strawberries, cake and chocolate, brought along by members..

**Thanks to Graeme Collie and his team for presenting a great finale for 2024**

## **Barbeque on Kawau Island.**



Our illustrious islander, Graeme Phipps, has invited us to a barbecue on his estate on Kawau Island.

The plan is to carpool to Sandspit then Ferry to Graeme's wharf . There is plenty to do there from Ocean Golf to Trekking and Canoeing. Boat owners are welcome to bring their boats and stay overnight if that suits.

The 18th of February is the target date to coincide with high tide. its a little way off but a good time to make space in your diaries.

He is negotiating the ferry fare from Sandspit which will probably be around \$100 return . We need to bring our own food, drink, walking shoes and bathing gear.. He has Barbeques, canoes and some sports gear available. He's asking for an indication of interest so he can negotiate with the Ferry company and be sure his facilities can cope.

Register with Graeme or Don Morrison.

## **Projects**

### **Ukelele Stand for Stonefields School**



Nigel High made this neat Ukelele stand for The Stonefields School music department. The mandate was simple and yet vague - a portable stand to take 40 soprano ukuleles ( the smallest type). The rest we had to come up with. So it's on castors and it's built almost entirely from one sheet of 18 mm ply and finished in polyurethane oil varnish. Custom made bungee cords help to hold the ukuleles in place when it's being moved.

### **Shroud Boards for Aroha Funerals**





A new activity at the shed is the making of wooden shroud boards for a local funeral director. Shroud boards are an eco-friendly and more affordable alternative to coffins for cremation. The deceased is wrapped in a shroud, laid on the untreated plywood shroud board and placed in a wicker casket. After a closed coffin memorial service the casket is taken to the crematorium where the deceased and shroud board are lifted out together and introduced into the cremator as a whole. The wicker casket is reused. The end of the board has to be strong to absorb the force of the machinery used to move it so 16 screws are used to attach the head board and supports. After cremation the screws are recovered with a magnet. Ten boards have been ordered and one has already been used. Douglas Ormrod is leading the project.

## Community News

Kaipatiki Project Latest Newsletter [HERE](#)

Orakei Local Board Latest Newsletter [HERE](#)

Nga Kaitiaki Hapori o Pourewa Summer Newsletter 2024 [HERE](#)

Eastern Bay Songbird Newsletter [HERE](#)

### What not to do in the Shed



The picture shows how the drill press was left on Saturday – members should remember that machines are self cleaning – that means you use it – you clean it. **Come on fellas, do the right thing!**

### What do you do with the caps which the council do not want?



As a result of discussions this week about recycling and what do you do with the caps which the council do not want to be included in the recycling bin, because it clogged up the machines. The bins in the photo are at New World Lunn Av and deal with both Plastic

and Metal caps.

**Our Opening Days Over The Festive Season are;**

**Monday 23rd December Open**

**Tuesday Dec 24th Closed**

**Wednesday Dec 25th Closed**

**Thursday Dec 26th Closed**

**Friday Dec 27th Open**

**Saturday Dec 28th Open**

**Monday Dec 30th Open**

**Tuesday Dec 31st Closed**

**Wednesday Jan 1st Closed**

**Thursday 2nd Jan Closed**

**Friday Jan 3rd Open**

**Normal program resumes**



**Mal's Corner**

**Antarctica is the coldest place on earth with a temperature of - 89° C**

**The art of medicine often involves amusing the patient  
while nature & time cures the disease**

**The astronaut developed claustrophobia –  
he just needed some space**

**Do you Believe Him?**

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**ENJOY YOUR CHRISTMAS SEASON**

Kevin H

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