



**Weekly Newsletter for the 16th Feb 2026 issue 135**

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

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Read the whole newsletter before clicking any links.  
Otherwise you could get lost and miss out on some vital information.

## **Weta Condo at Purewa Memorial**

Photos from the Memorial Garden at Purewa Cemetery.





"The Community, led by Charmaine Vaughan, has established an invertebrate-inspired garden in memory of Kyle Whorrall, our PhD student who was tragically murdered at a bus stop on St Johns Rd last April. Kyle came from the USA to undertake postgraduate research on NZ beetles at Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, St Johns, working jointly with The University of Auckland.

Following his brutal murder, a pauper's grave in Purewa Cemetery has been converted into a Memorial Garden of native plants, each with connections to insects or other invertebrate organisms. The garden was planted just before Christmas and a **Mens Shed Weta Condo was recently installed.**

Progressively, many other items will be added along with appropriate signage. The intention is that the garden be both a memorial as well as an educational resource for students to learn about Kyle's passion and the wonderful world of our native invertebrate critters."

The Memorial Garden is close to the large family grave of Richard Hellaby & family. The latter has the following location: Richard Hellaby, Died 1902, [Block E Row 39 Plot 066](#)

The location of the Memorial Garden is marked in the map of Purewa Cemetery

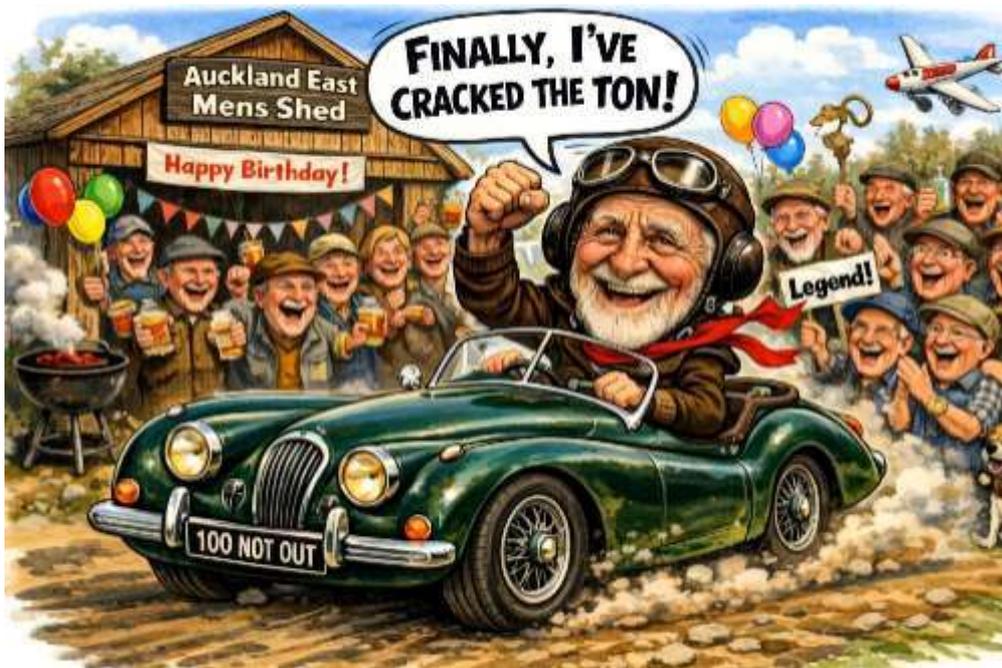
above - at the sharp point of the blue marker, on the southern side of Purchas Way adjacent to a broad intersection.

## **Works in Progress**

Nearly ready for the new engineering shop floor....



## **Basil's Birthday Bash**



Basil had a great birthday celebration in the Shed, with members of his family and a huge turnout of sheddies to congratulate him, and wish him well. We presented Basil with a gift of a characture of him in his beloved Jaguar, cheered on by all the sheddies and signed off by sheddies on the back. Nancy, his wife and Naomi his daughter, along with other family members,

joined in and brought a beautiful cake for us all to enjoy.  
It was thought prudent to put only one candle on his cake for the first century,  
because 100 would probably set fire to the shed!

The dedication on the back of the picture reads...

**Congratulations Basil on reaching 100  
remarkable years in 2026.  
You have built your life, your way.  
With courage, vision, and determination, that  
inspires us all.  
Happy Birthday, from your mates at the Shed.**

## **Shed Tutorials**

**A series of tutorials will be run by Peter Montgomery on the  
mezzanine floor as follows.**

### **How to Sharpen/set/care and use.**

Wednesday 18th February. Chisels.

Wednesday 25th February. Scissors.

Wednesday 4th March. Wood Planes.

## **Upcoming Speakers**

### **Wednesday 18 February**

#### **What Everyone Should Know About Palliative Care”**

By Dr Pip Tuckey who is a qualified physician at Middlemore Hospital.

Previously worked at South Auckland Hospice.

Dr. Tuckey’s presentation will be recorded.

### **Tuesday 24 February**

**The Missing F- word. Fauna, Flora, and Fungi**

By Shed Member Peter Buchanan

Fungi form the second largest kingdom of life, a kingdom much larger than the plants kingdom. Peter will give some background about the fungal world , and its importance to ecology, plant growth, human medicine and nutrition (and the odd poisoning ), plus diseases of plants and animals, the fungal conservation. Peter has recently retired after a multi decade career as a mycologist ( fungal scientist) , and continues his passion as a volunteer researcher at the government's bio economy science Institute.

Peter's presentation will be recorded.

## **February Barbecues**

**Friday 27th, At Midday**

## **Family and Friends Day**

**Saturday 14th February 2026**

Was enjoyed by all with a tour of the shed and some buy conversations.

## **Shed Board Meeting**

**Tuesday 17th February**

**11 am start.**

## **Next Wellness Group Meeting**



The next get together of the Wellness Group will be at Stonebake Café on

**Monday 23rd February at 12 noon..**

Whether you're a regular attendee or you would like to just come along out of curiosity, it is a great opportunity to share experiences over lunch and support one another in a confidential and safe environment.

As always, everyone is most welcome.

If you wish to learn more about the group, do not hesitate to contact

**Pete Montgomery 0274966901**

**Bob Lawton 0220178213**

**Ken Duncalfe 0274931463**

## **Panmure Basin Fun Day**

**Sunday 8th March 2026**

10am - 2pm

## **History Project**

We need your stories about why you are here and what the shed has done to enhance your life. Take some time to download the attached prompt and write a 100 or so words about your experiences with the shed. Add a happy picture and

send to the editor so we can talk about the people, as well as the place, and what the shed means to them.

**[View and Download prompt HERE](#)**

**send to:** [editor@msae.nz](mailto:editor@msae.nz)

## **Mal's Corner**

**I asked a wise man – "tell me sir", in which field could I make a great career?**

**He said with a smile, be a good human being – there is a lot of opportunity and very little competition**

**When you can't find the sunshine – be the sunshine**

**Never run with scissors or other pointy objects**

**Have a great week!**

Kevin H (ed)

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**MSAE BANK Account Number .... ASB 12 3618 0064616 00**

Donations gratefully accepted and go towards building a stunning Shed for  
Members, for today and far into the future.