MENS SHED
Auckland East Inc.

Weekly Newsletter for the 19th October 2026 (170)

Our Purpose - To Sustain or Enhance Members Mental Health and Welbeing.

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

View this newsletter in your browser

Projects

Chess board

Made in the Shed

By (Dynamo) Dene Hoskins.





A great chessboard as a gift for that bright person in your family.....maybe thats you !

Open to offers, so get in quick.

See David Blackmore in the office, to put in your bid.

Community Projects Coming up.

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Sat Oct 31st Halloween at St Heliers Community centre with our toy cars.

Sat Nov 21st Stonefields Market Day with our stall.

Sat Dec 12 Panmure Business Market day

Your attendance is needed.

Register with Don Morrison in the office.



The Biggest Risk we face in our Shed is FIRE.

If our building caught fire it would take many years to return to where we are today.

And in that time we would have nowhere to meet, or work or fund our enterprise.

So, we all need to be extra vigilant, about protecting our shed.

What you can do:

Look for the **Fire Extinguishers and Fire Blankets** located around the shed and know how to use them.

Even with our new extraction equipment there is the potential for **Wood Dust** to spontaneously combust.

Be pedantic about **Keeping the machines and the shed clean.** Dust the shelves, Sweep the floor, vacuum the machines after use.

There are **vacuum machines** dotted around the shed. Locate them and use them.

Take extreme care of our **Lithium batteries** - ensure all battery chargers are switched off at the end of each day and Store Lithium Batteries from hand held power tools in the dedicated storage stations at the end of each day

Remove **Solvent or Oil Soaked Rags** from the shed. Hang in the open air so they can dry, then dispose of them in the skip.

Clearly, **NO NAKED FLAMES** IN THE SHED!

Engineering uses gas torches, but these are in a strictly controlled environment.

Switch off machines at the wall at the end of the day.

We have built our Shed together, for the use and benefit of our existing members, their children and grandchildren ad infinitum. And our community.

Lets be vigilant about something we will pass on !



Board Meeting

Tuesday 20th October



Talk to John Tattersall for any additions.

Wednesday Workshops

Learn some great stuff !

Wednesday 21st October - Sewing Machine operation . Fraser E

Wednesday 28th October - 3D Printing. Alan S

Workshops are planned to commence at 10.45 am

immediately following morning Tea, on the Mezzanine.

Wellbeing Group



The next meeting will be at Summer (Formerly Stonebake) Café on

Monday 19 th October at 12 noon.

Whether you're a regular attendee, or wish to join in for the first time, this is a great opportunity to chat and share stories over lunch in a supportive and confidential environment.

Discuss with the organizers, or just turn up.

You will be made very welcome!

Pete Montgomery 0274966901

Bob Lawton 0220178213

Ken Duncalfe 0274931463

Good News

for a change!!



THE GIANT WĒTĀ IS MAKING A COMEBACK!

A Kiwi conservation success story

New Zealand is home to some extraordinary wildlife, but few creatures are as impressive as the wētāpunga, our largest native insect. Weighing up to 35 grams, this giant wētā was once widespread across parts of the North Island. Eventually, its natural population survived only on Little Barrier Island.

Now there's some excellent news. Over 15 years, conservation teams at Auckland Zoo and Butterfly Creek bred thousands of wētāpunga and helped establish new populations in the wild. More than 11,000 have been released at 10 sites, including islands in the Hauraki Gulf.

Monitoring has confirmed that several generations have now been born on some of these islands. The species' conservation status has improved from nationally endangered to nationally increasing.

It's a terrific example of what can be achieved through patience, scientific knowledge and practical teamwork.

Read more: Department of Conservation – The giant wētā recovery story

NEARLY 2,000 YOUNG KAURI COME HOME

A fresh start for Auckland's treasured forests

There's encouraging news from the Waitākere Ranges, where nearly 2,000 young kauri have been planted at five sites as part of a major forest restoration effort.

The seedlings were grown from seeds collected from healthy kauri in the ranges. They were then raised at a specialist nursery in Rotorua before being returned to their ancestral home.

The project brings together mana whenua, scientists, Auckland Council staff and volunteers, all working towards the same goal: giving these magnificent native trees a healthier future.

Kauri dieback remains a serious threat, and there is still no known cure. The young trees will therefore be carefully monitored to help researchers understand how healthy kauri can survive and thrive in the forest.

Kauri can live for centuries, even reaching a thousand years old. The people planting these seedlings today may never see them reach their full size, but future generations could benefit from their efforts.

A worthwhile reminder that some of the best community projects are investments in a future we may not live to see.

Read more: OurAuckland – Kauri seedlings return to their ancestral roots

KIWI ENGINEERS SAVE MILLIONS BY FIXING PROBLEMS BEFORE THEY HAPPEN

A smarter way to protect New Zealand's electricity supply

Good engineering isn't always about building something new. Sometimes the cleverest

solution is finding a problem before it becomes an expensive failure.

That principle has just earned a team of New Zealand infrastructure specialists the Supreme Award at Transpower's 2026 Engineering and Technology Excellence Awards.

Working together, Downer, Northpower, Omexom, Transpower and Ventia developed a better system for inspecting and managing the complex steel structures and electrical connections at substations around the country.

Using improved inspections, better information and drone technology, the team created a system that identifies defects and safety risks earlier, allowing maintenance and spending to be planned more intelligently.

After two years in operation, the programme has helped prevent equipment failures and interruptions to electricity supply. It has also enabled $11 million in unnecessary expenditure to be cancelled and another $22 million to be deferred.

That's a potential $33 million in avoided or postponed spending, alongside improvements in safety and reliability.

It's a fine example of Kiwi ingenuity, collaboration and the value of taking a preventative approach rather than waiting for something to go wrong.

Read more: Transpower – 2026 Engineering and Technology Excellence Awards

Next Barbecue



Friday October 30th

Have You Enrolled To Vote in the 2026 General Election Yet?

To vote in a general election you need to be enrolled by midnight, 13 days before Election Day.

For the 2026 General Election this means you can't enrol or update your details after midnight on the 25th of October 2026.

You can return an enrolment form by 25 October by scanning or photographing it and uploading it to
the Electoral Commission's website or emailing it to them.

Go **HERE**

You can also drop forms into one of the enrolment hubs.

If you're returning your enrolment form by post, you are recommended to **post it**

no later than Tuesday 20 October to help ensure it arrives before the enrolment deadline.

Enrolment applications must be received by post by Tuesday 27 October,

Paper enrolment forms that arrive by post after that date will not be accepted.

Coming Up

Labour Weekend

Friday 23rd to Monday 26th October

We'll be at the Shed! You can be Toooooo.

Grow More
With Less Water with
The Kaipatiki Project. more HERE

The latest News from Auckland East Community Centre Here

Read Whats Happening at Libraries across All of Auckland this Month Here

Mal's Corner



The Donald was Heard to say that he would kill
for a Nobel peace prize

The colder the x-ray table,
the more of your body is required to be on it.

Everyone has a photographic memory,

some just don't have film.

WATCH The last 5 laps of the Bathurst 1000

(after 156 laps and nearly 6 hours of racing).

See all the dramas.

Click HERE



Have a GREAT Week !

Kevin H (editor@msae.nz)

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