

NEWSLETTER WINTER 2016



MENZSHED MANAWATU

CARRYING OUR FUTURE

One of the projects that has caused a lot of interest has been the “bag boxes” that Menzshed has made for a local group – “**Carrying Our Future**” who are promoting the use of take home re-cycled cloth bags instead of plastic bags for shopping.

They tell us that 40,000 plastic bags go to the landfill each week, and the principle of “borrow-wash and return” has been successfully tried in Australia. It is hoped that George Street will be first single-use plastic bag free street in New Zealand. Menzshed has made two boxes and is working on another two, and are proud to support this initiative.



DOLL PATTERNS



Some projects may be small for us but have significance beyond their size as they enable other groups to fulfill their ideals and complete a project. One such was the making of patterns for calico cloth dolls which Palmerston North InnerWheel Club makes for the Children’s Ward at the P.N. Hospital. The dolls are not just toys – they are tools for making patient’s time there easier. Children put their own personal touch on the dolls – displaying their personality.

Menzshed made patterns for the dolls to ensure, although they were made by different people – they all turned out a similar shape.

Menzshed Manawatu were proud to be recognized as Winner in the Health Category of the TRUSTPOWER Regional Awards in 2015

ASSISTING OUR YOUNG



Kindergartens have featured in our Project Schedule of late. We were pleased to be able to construct a shelf unit for Awapuni Kindergarten, to accommodate bags and coats. Our workspaces were stretched to accommodate the units, but the weather was kind to us at that stage and we were able to paint the units outside..

What do you do with toys that are loved and valued but have had a hard life. Ask Menzshed to re-furbish them. On a trip to Hokowhitu Kindergarten we spied a couple of trucks that needed a “valve grind”. With new wheels and a fresh coat of paint they are ready to feature in a new generation of young people’s activities



STORAGE SPACE

Menzshed is grateful for donations of materials it receives, and which are put to good use in our projects. Space is at a premium, and we are very grateful to the Manawatu Raceway who have made some space available to us for storage of timber and other materials.



VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION EVENT

on 21st June a number of volunteers were recognised at an event hosted by the VOLUNTEER RESOURCE CENTRE. In the General Category, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Awapuni, Menzshed member Jim Pull was recognized. The citation that accompanied the award, mentioned the contribution Jim has made to the Menzshed, since its commencement, and how he had become the go-to guy for all attending the Shed. This is as well as his contribution through mentoring young people in woodworking skills. Pictured Jim on the night, with Mayor Grant Smith, Tyler – one of the young people Jim has mentored who supported Jim on the evening,, with David Chapple – Menzshed Trust Chairman.



Encouraging the Young

We sometimes get asked to make items for individuals, and can do this, provided it does not interfere with projects for Community Groups. One such project was the child's workbench – created out of a piece of furniture donated to us. We are always happy to consider projects such as this.

KAIRANGA SCHOOL

Menzshed returned to **Kairanga School** for a special morning earlier in July. One of the classes were assisted to make a project – either a candle holder or a flower press. It was an opportunity for the children to use power tools and create something from wood, learning about re-cycling and the processes of setting out a project along the way. We are not sure who had the most fun, but it was a worthwhile exercise.



BOOKSHELVES

The first of some bookshelves being made for the Red Cross, and in conjunction with **ALTRUSA** have been installed in Hancock House Community Centre. Finished in bright red it matches a re-furbished easel which will also be able to have books on display. Look out for others to come around the City.

