



**Media information: Thursday 11 June 2020**

### **MTLT provides new home for Wairarapa Woodworkers Guild**

There will be more opportunities for local people to develop woodworking skills after Masterton Trust Lands Trust (MTLT) provided the Wairarapa Woodworkers Guild with a concessional rent grant and larger facility to operate from.

The Guild has relocated from Carterton Men's Shed into the MTLT-owned former trout hatchery building adjacent to Millennium Reserve.

Guild president Nick Crozier said the building was ideal for the organisation, which has a growing membership.

"It's fantastic to have a dedicated space where we can have our machines permanently laid out, rather than having to set up and then pack up our equipment each session. The central location will provide easier access to our club nights and workshops, and the building is well equipped for running our courses."

Mr Crozier said the larger space would allow the Guild to extend the range of activities and courses it can offer, and the groups it can provide these to.

"There's growing interest from people of all ages to learn woodturning and scroll sawing skills. Moving to the new building will allow us to expand our courses and offer activity sessions to community groups and schools."

Along with running courses and handcrafting items for their own use, Guild members produce and donate over 150 wig stands each year to the Cancer Society.

Mr Crozier said the Guild was "blown away" to get a MTLT concessional rent grant to use the building.

"As a small non-profit organisation, we simply couldn't operate without this support. The grant means we can provide really good teaching services to our members and more opportunities for the local community to come and learn a new skill."

MTLT Chairperson Leanne Southey said it was good to have the building being used after a number of years of being vacant.

"It's really pleasing to see this community-owned asset being used as a place where locals can come to try out woodworking and possibly develop a life-long interest in this craft."

*Wairarapa Woodworkers Guild have started running courses again. Check out their Facebook page for details of upcoming courses.*

Ends

**For more information contact:**

Andrew Croskery, Masterton Trust Lands Trust, phone 021 477 152

*Photo captions: Wairarapa Woodworkers Guild are running courses again at their new home in the MTLT-owned former trout hatchery building next to Millennium Reserve.*