



# Waste not, want not

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We're proud to contribute to local waste reduction projects through our Waste Minimisation Community Fund. Here we profile a recent funding recipient, the Wānaka Community Workshop.



The Wānaka  
Community  
Workshop welcomes  
everyone,  
including dogs!

Applications  
for the next round  
of funding open in  
March. Watch  
this space!

The idea for the Wānaka Community Workshop was dreamed up by locals Ben Acland and Gwilym Griffith-Jones as a way to divert construction waste from landfill.

“I wanted to be part of a positive change, there’s so much unnecessary waste heading to our landfills. We had this idea for a community workshop, with a vision for a resilient, zero-waste Upper Clutha community,” said Ben.

Through the workshop they hope to connect the community with knowledge, resources, and each other to make, share, and repair items.

Ben said the workshop is open to everyone. “Participants can learn and share a range of skills, or simply drop in for a cup of tea and some companionship. We developed the Workshop as a community resource, where people can access the tools, materials and physical space necessary for building and repair projects without having to purchase or rent their own.”

The workshop partnered with local building company Dunlop Builders and other local businesses to receive regular collections and deliveries of diverted waste materials.

Recent projects that members have been involved in, include community produce stands for Wastebusters and the Wānaka Community Hub.

“Generally donated food for the Food Bank is dry goods. These stands are for excess fresh garden produce for people in need in our community. They were made by the MenShed from plywood, and old bicycle wheels, only the screws holding them together are bought new. Then they were painted by Kahu Youth Trust kids holiday program,” said Ben.

Another major project has been rodent traps. This is a collaboration with Wānaka Backyard Trapping and Cardrona Ski Field to put in a trap line on the Millennium trail from Waterfall Creek. The MenShed created the traps, built from waste plywood.

The Workshop also teamed up with Mons Royale at a bike event where participants were challenged to build their own bike stand from waste materials in just two hours, with support from Workshop volunteers. The bike stands and rat traps are available to purchase from their website.

Funding received from QLDC has helped the team buy dust extraction and power tools.

“It is really important to have safe modern machinery and high-quality dust extraction for the safety of the users and we are really grateful for the support of the QLDC Waste Minimisation Community Fund,” Ben said.

Check them out on Facebook

**@wanakacommunityworkshop** or

**[www.wanakacommunityworkshop.org.nz](http://www.wanakacommunityworkshop.org.nz)**