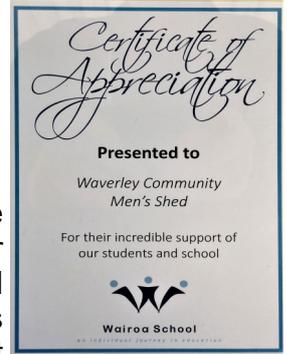




PAST PROJECT: WAIROA SCHOOL ORTHOPAEDIC STEPS



Almost from the very day we opened the Waverley Men's Shed in 2013 we have developed a special relationship with the Wairoa School and whenever we can, we provide support for the School. The students at Wairoa School are aged 5 to 18 years, all have moderate and severe intellectual disabilities and we at the Waverley Men's Shed design and build a range of equipment and toys which enable the students to learn and to participate in social activities.

Most students have other complexities, which impacts on their lives daily. These include physical disability, Autism, medical and health care issues which require the staff assistance and specialist equipment. The specialist equipment has included a set of timber steps with hand-rails and a platform designed to be moved to areas across the school, if needed, depending on the identified needs of the students. This allows students to safely practice using steps which is not safe to do using regular stairs,



With the careful design by Peter Black, who was assisted in the building of the steps by William Honeyball and many other members of the Shed, a wonderful set of orthopaedic steps which are safe was made. This provides the opportunity for the School's children to safely practice their mobility skills.

The steps were made of a set of stairs on each side of a landing at the top, but it was a bit tricky because on one side there

are 4 steps, and on the other side only 3 steps. It is understood that these steps are being utilised in the treating and training of the special needs children at the School.



We are informed by Carmel Seeto, the School principal, that specialist physiotherapists and occupational therapists who visit the School to assist our students comment on how wonderful the steps are for mobility training. The equipment is of an exceptional standard.