

G'day Sheddies,

Did you think we'd been scuttled? No, we're still riding high, and we're still locked out of the shed. We've now had a proposal put to us by John Gibbons which we are considering. I've listed it in the next column so you can consider it too.

We are continuing our search for alternative premises. The ideal would be about 100 square metres of space with a toilet, easy access to the road, close to a bus route, and in the city area. If you know of a possible site please email info@citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz

Not only our personal belongings and tools remain behind Gibbons locked doors, but so too are two jobs that we were doing for Refugee Services and one for school.

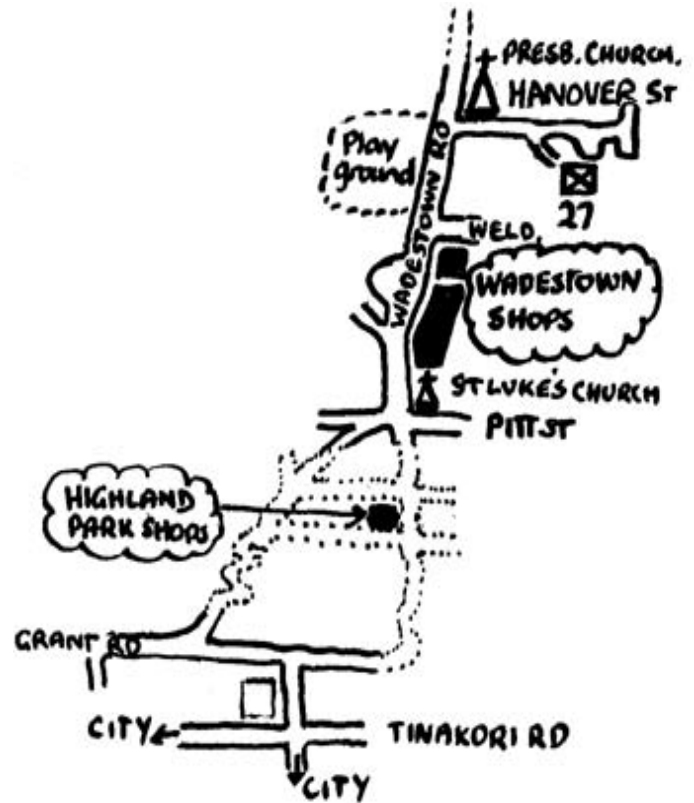
One of the things the Refugee Services is waiting on is a child's cot. Does anyone have a spare cot they could give to them?

A shed is important part of the MenzShed, but **more** important are the people, the sheddies. We are there to provide support and companionship to Wellington's older men, and we intend to keep doing that shed, or no shed.

So, next Thursday, 20 October, Wellington City Menzshed sheddies are invited to meet, 10-12ish at my place, 27 Hanover Street, Wadestown. We've no tools so it'll be mainly a Grumpy Old Mens' session. However, anyone who wants make a start on a small project is welcome to use my tiny workshop while you're there. As our collection of stale biscuits is also still behind the Gibbons locked door, we may just have to steel ourselves to eat fresh biscuits.

The house is 2 minutes walk from the Wadestown shops so you could all come by bus, and use your Gold Cards.

John Shrapnell, Secretary Wellington City MenzShed



Below is an unexpurgated version of Gibbons proposals is below. Only paragraph numbers have been added for easy reference.

- 1. Membership of the Trust is available to any person that supports the purpose of the Trust, who pays the annual subscription that shall be set from time to time by the Trustees, and shall not be a member of a Trust with similar purposes.*
- 2. Membership of the Trust can be rescinded if a two-thirds majority of the Trustee decide that the member's behaviour is contrary to the best interests of the Trust. On recommendation of the Shed Committee the Trustees will also be guided as to a member's suitability.*
- 3. Members are entitled to use the Haining Street Shed, and attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or any other public meeting called by the Trustees.*

4. Every member shall be entitled to one vote at the AGM and any Special Meeting or any public meeting.

5. The Board of Trustees shall recommend the Subscription rate for the forthcoming year at each AGM.

6. At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or special meeting called, the members shall vote for the positions of Shed Chairman, Shed Secretary, and Shed Treasurer from the duly nominated members.

7. The Shed Executive will form a committee from members to fulfil any roles in the Shed they feel appropriate.

8. The Shed Chairman will be a Trustee of WMS

9. The Shed Executive will report on activities, attendance, etc on a regularly (at least quarterly) to the Board of Trustees

10. The Shed Executive and committee will accept full responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the Shed and its members.

11. Funding of the Shed will be the prime responsibility of the Board of Trustees, assisted by members. If staff are contracted for the Shed the Trust will pay such contracts.

12. A separate bank A/c for other Shed activities should be opened under control of the Shed Treasurer.

This is a similar proposal to one made many months ago, and which was rejected by the sheddies because it was undemocratic.

Number of trustees is currently three, maximum of eight, one of whom would be the sheddie Chair.

In response to a question about how trustees would be appointed, Mr Gibbons said the Trustees would appoint new trustees, not the sheddies.

You are welcome to voice your thoughts on this and other matters to:

info@citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz

This promotion for the MenzShed movement appeared Spring issue of *Community Connections*, a publication put out by Presbyterian Support Services. It is sent to the *Enliven* retirement homes.

MenzSheds - a place for blokes to share their skills

Moving into a retirement village might mean having to give up your shed – but that doesn't mean you have to give up your tools.

Many towns in New Zealand have MenzSheds; a place where blokes can get together to work on projects using good old-fashioned elbow grease.

John Shrapnell, from Wellington City MenzShed, says the sheds' activities provide companionship for older men.

"We are there for any man who wants to find companionship, revive past skills, learn new skills and get to feel useful once again," he says.

MenzShed projects are usually targeted at helping people in the community, John says.



"We might be doing anything from repainting stools for the Kindergarten, repairing furniture for refugees or putting up shelves at the medical centre.

"None of us are paid. The income from a Shed's activities covers the operating cost of maintaining tools and buying milk and tea."

There is - or soon will be - a MenzShed near you. Wellington, Levin and Whanganui MenzSheds are up and running, while Manawatu Menzshed in Palmerston North will be opening soon.

For more information, contact:

Levin: Alan or Heather Birrell (06) 368 7463

Whanganui: George Bowers (06) 345 0291

Wellington City: John Shrapnell (04) 473 7128