



*Odds and Ends
from the Shed*

Monday, 26 November 2012

Website - www.citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz

Email - info@citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz

What's New?

No major developments since our last newsletter, but quite a few odd and ends.

The roller door to our loading bay finally gave up the ghost. It's our only entrance to the shed, and its closure has made life difficult. We do still have the small person-door operating, but we can't get some things in out of the shed through that. Refugee Services are having the same difficulties.

Refugee Services have now merged with New Zealand Red Cross. We are meeting with Red Cross this week to determine how the merger will affect our co-location agreement with Refugee Services.

Our Macarthy Trust Grant application was turned down on three counts. We did not supply audited accounts - our accounts were reviewed by a professional chartered accountant, but although we were told by one officer that this would be OK another said we had to have the accounts audited. The quote for an audit was \$3,000!

The second reason was that we had not provided evidence of our ability to raise funds. This was despite the fact that at the time of the application we had raised over \$26,000 in grants in order to pay the rent etc. Apparently the Public Trust, which administers the Macarthy Trust applications said they want to see that we had held sausage sizzles and raffles to raise funds!

The third reason was that we had not shown we were sustainable. Apparently the Public Trust expects us to deliver all our services and pay the rent, power bill etc from our own resources and the income we generate! Yeah Right!

Adult Picnic Table is already to go to the Highland Park Progressive Association. They are planning to put it on the top of the Highland Park trig site which has 360 degree views all around Wellington. They're just waiting for permission

from the City Council. They are also hoping to place another on the Fort Dorset site that they have adopted.

Dick Smith in Vivian Street closed down recently and Jim Baltaxe negotiated for us to remove a lot of the shop's storage units. They were big and very heavy and it took a team of members to get them out of the backdoor of the shop.

Luckily Jim had also negotiated some free storage space only metres away in an empty building as there'd be no room of all the stuff at the City MenzShed.

Care Share & Wear are a group of young women who help disadvantaged children by collecting used clothes from high decile school and redistributing to low decile school in the Wellington region. They work on a shoe string and desperately need shelving.,

Ah, we thought, the shelves from Dick Smiths. So this Wednesday we'll be trying to move some of these very heavy shelving units out of the temporary storage into a truck, across to Newtown, and then down a long narrow corridor, and into a room. Help needed probably around 10am. Contact Jim Baltaxe - jimbaltaxe@yahoo.co.nz.

04210-3003 Yes, it's a phone number, Yes it's the City MenzShed phone number, Yes you have to dial the whole number. We now have a phone courtesy of part of the grant from the Wellington City Council.

As we don't own the premises we can't put in a land line. A cell phone was not the answer because the costs were too great. With some detailed research John came up with a novel solution, a Vodaphone wireless phone system. We can use the phone anywhere in the shed, and if we move to another location we can take the phone and transmitter with us.

Christmas and the New Year

If you're still worried about those Christmas presents, why not come to the City MenzShed and make one? You can be sure that you'll get a better response from something small that you made yourself, than you will from spending dollars on in a shop.

Presents we have made recently include - a garden chair, a kid's bench, a tea tray. It doesn't have to be big. It doesn't have to be difficult make, but it does require you to make an effort.

We have a variety of ideas. Some you could complete in half an hour with just some coloured card a sharp knife and a little imagination. Another might take you an hour using wood, a saw and a sanding machine.

If you drop us an email with an idea of your skill level and for whom you might make a present, we'll give you some ideas to consider. Email to info@citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz.

We also need to know how many people would want to use the shed over the Christmas and January period. We could stick to our usual opening hours or modify them to suit. Let us know again email to info@citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz

The MenzShed is open to all Wellington men, but especially those in the older age group.

We offer a place where you'll find companionship, and a chance to revive your old skills, or learn new skills.

We help Kindergartens, Plunket, Refugee Services and other community groups by repairing and painting broken furniture. We have a great collection of tools.

We meet from 10 to 1pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 12 to 3pm on Wednesdays.

You will find us through the loading bay at the top of Feltex Lane which runs beside Warehouse Stationery in Victoria Street.

