



*Odds and Ends  
from the Shed  
Friday, 6 December 2012*

Website - [www.citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz](http://www.citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz)  
Email - [info@citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz](mailto:info@citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz)

## What's New?

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

We were able to help them with some shelves that we recovered from the Dick Smiths close down in Vivian Street. It was Jim Baltaxe who negotiated our access to the shelves and their move to the CSW room in Newtown.

Unfortunately the shelf units were too big to go through the doorway, but not to be defeated the team return to the MenzShed for tools and were able to break up the units reassemble on the spot. Jim says particular thanks should go to Norman, Stuart and above all, George Sutton who worked far too hard once again. He really is some one special.

### **We Win Some Lose Some**

Last week we had our grant application to the Mcarthy Trust turned down, this week the St Joan's Trust turned us down too. But the On Friday came a letter from the Lottery Grants Board with news that they'd approved our application for a grant of \$6,000.

### **Sustainability Trust Table Ready for Sanding**

For the last few weeks our President Don Matheson has been cutting and assembling and gluing lengths of recycled tongue and groove timber. It's not the usual 12mm thick stuff used for wall linings, this is 50 mm thick. The timber is to become an eating bench for the Sustainability Trust.

There's still quite a bit of work to do on it, filling the nail holes, sanding, and few coats of heat resistant varnish. Don is opening up the project for others to join in, and already Gary Proctor has expressed an interest.

### **Designing a More Flexible Picnic Table**

John has already built and sold three picnic tables and he's now working on a design that will allow the standard picnic table to be split into two bench seats. There are still some teething problems to be solved, but he's hoping it will become a popular item that we can sell to help build up our funds.

### **Computer Desks All Sold**

Last week we sold the last of the computer desks that Jim Baltaxe had acquired. John opened a TradeMe account for the shed, which is where he's been selling the desks. The desks brought in \$240.

### **Wellington Activity Pupils to Visit**

Next Wednesday we are expecting a visit from pupils of the Wellington Activity Centre. WAC uses the old Kaiwharawhara School building. It's a wonderful site over looking the harbour with great classroom facilities, a large but under equipped workshop and masses of parking space. It would make a grand MenzShed!

WAC looks after pupils who, for one reason or another, are not suited to main stream schooling. In the New Year John is going to run a project there for the pupils (girls and boys) on how to build a picnic table for their school.

The Supervisor of the boys group, Wiki, says it would be helpful for them to meet some older men, and to see that age does not mean that you're past it.

### **Still No News on Roller Door**

We regret to report that there's still no news on when the roller door will be replaced. It was supposed to have happened about three weeks ago. Here's hoping.

**Refugee Services Merge With Red Cross**  
As from Monday 10 December, Refugee Services

will become part of New Zealand Red Cross. Don and John have had talks with Red Cross to determine what affect the merger will have on the City MenzShed. Refugee Services have been sharing the space we lease at Southmark House and this co-location played a significant part on the grant we got from the Wellington City Council to for our rent payments.

We have been assured that Red Cross will continue the furniture supply service for refugee and immigrants that Refugee Services was operating from Southmark House.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

Email - [info@citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz](mailto:info@citymenzshed.wellington.net.nz)

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