



Odds and Ends from the Shed

Tuesday, 23 July 2013

Website - www.citymenzshed.org.nz
Email - info@citymenzshed.org.nz

Help Wanted

Over the next two sessions, Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 there's a chance of you to be involved in the latest community project. We have to build the wooden frames for two glasshouses for the Aro Valley community group.

We build the frames in the City Menzshed, they take the frames to their sites and glaze them, not with glass, but with recycled plastic drink bottles.

Today we took in 170 metres of 100 x 50 timber, bracing steel and hardware. Today we adapted their rudimentary plan to a practical plan and worked out a cutting list.

Today we also cut a small hole in the wall leading to the drop saw so that we can feed in long lengths of timber.

Tomorrow we begin cutting and we need to assemble the four walls and roof and five separate frames. Most parts will be nailed, some will be screwed. We have several hammers at the shed and two drills.

We also probably need two or three to lift and move the table saw to give us room to assemble the units.

The Quake

Yesterday I drove through town to see how the Chinese Mission building had stood up to the quakes. Would it be just a heap of rubble?

My concerns grew as I weaved down Featherston Street, avoiding the piles of broken glass and shattered concrete. The Library and Town Hall and many other buildings were cordoned off. So too even the Michael Fowler Centre. Today I learned

that even one of Wellington newest buildings the home of the IRD was in trouble - no lifts working because the counterweights had become entangled.

If all this happened to new buildings, what hope our building, built in 1905?

Up Taranaki Street, and at last I could see our home, the Chinese Mission, still standing. I walked round the outside. No sign of cracks or broken glass.

I cautiously opened the door. No one there. Everything look normal. During the next few minutes I went to every room looking for cracks in the walls, broken glass, and then I found it.

A length of spare skirting board had fallen from its storage place on one wall across to the other wall.

Clever fellows those builder of 1905.

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 at the old Chinese Mission Hall, 46 Frederick Street.

Email - info@citymenzshed.org.nz
Phone - 04210-3003
Website - www.citymenzshed.org.nz



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