

Farewell Norman

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge we have lost one of our founding members, Norman Kabak. He spent that last few weeks in the Mary Potter Hospice in typical Norman fashion. As you entered his room his first words would be "How can I help you today?"



Norman is survived by his wife Sally and two granddaughters that he and Sally have been caring for in their Sar Street home.

On behalf of us all we sent the following letter.

A letter to Sally, Zena and Letitia Kabak

All of us at the City MenzShed are thinking of you as you grieve for the loss of Norman. Many of us have also lost loved ones so we have some inkling of what you are going through.

Norman was a special man. His wisdom and patience, whenever we faced adversity, helped us through many

difficult times. We might have raced ahead on an unwise course, but Norman would get our attention and ask had we considered a different approach.

He would often raise one finger in the air and in his sonorous tones state that "I have a question". He seemed to think we might have the answer he was seeking. Occasionally we did, but often his own extensive knowledge and experience left us gasping.

Like you, we will not forget Norman. He was a significant part of our lives and his spirit will be with us always.

We hope that you and your granddaughters know that you are always welcome at the City MenzShed.

Amalgamation?

The Wellington City Council is attempting to organise and amalgamation of our City MenzShed with the Wellington MenzShed in Haining Street. They say it make little sense to have two menzsheds so close to each other and if the two sheds amalgamated it might be possible to find a suitable building.

The WCC facilitated a meeting last week between our trustees and John Gibbons from Haining Street. Apparently Gibbons, like us, is on a month-by-month lease too.

While on the face of it the amalgamation makes sense, there is some unpleasant history with John Gibbons and there are issues to be resolved.

We'll keep members in touch with any developments. In the meantime our friendly landlord will shortly demolish the old house beside the Mission

Hall. This will enable him to make some judgments about whether to demolish the Mission Hall or strengthen it to meet the required WCC standards for buildings.

Lottery Grant Application

Our application to Internal Affairs for a grant of lottery funds money will be signed and posted off today.

It is a fact of life that if voluntary organisations like our is to survive, we are dependant upon grants to pay the bills.

Salford Starting to Move

You may have been wondering if anything came of our wining the British competition for ideas to help make the elderly more independent.

The facilitator in Salford skyped me this week to say that after much consideration the local authorities and starting the process to set up a mensshed.

Menzshed National Conference

National Conference 2014
Conference theme
'MenzShed In The Community'

**Reserve in your Shed Diary to be at El Rancho Christian Holiday Park, Waikanae
14 to 16 March, 2014**

MenzShed Kapiti took up the gauntlet to hold the next MenzShed National Conference and plans are progressing well.

We know from our experience that you all need to be there because; you meet up with amazing like-minded people; you see some interesting things; you hear useful information; you can influence National development; and it's FUN!

- To make it easier to attend we are making it affordable:
- Registration fee kept to a level that will encourage attendance.

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 - shrapnell@citymenzshed.org.nz
Phone - 04210-3003
Website - www.citymenzshed.org.nz

- Venue secured with 3 accommodation blocks of 7 twin rooms right next to the conference room PLUS full motel accommodation available PLUS Motor home and Caravan sites within the complex.

- To make it worthwhile the programme will be relevant to the theme of "MenzShed In The Community" with the content and activities focused on MenzShed matters and interests.

- To make it fun our visits within the Kapiti district, which has an amazing selection of national and world-class places to see, will be varied and related to MenzShed activities.

If any shed members would like to contribute to the programme with a short presentation about your shed and the community or any related topic then please let us know so we can include it in the programme.

To help our planning with attendance numbers please contact Nigel as soon as possible with your expressions of interest by
Email: nclough@paradise.net.nz
or Telephone: 04 904 2932