



NZ Charitable Trust
CC46249

Odds and Ends
from the Shed
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All Working Well And Nowhere to Go

If you read the Saturday's DomPost or accessed Stuff's pages you will have seen the news that the City MenzShed is having to vacate its home of the past four years. And we've nowhere to go!

The reason for all this is the change in the legislation that now makes the building owner responsible for the health and safety of the occupants.

Our building was yellow stickered as earthquake prone and we would sign in each day acknowledging that we were responsible for our own safety. The legislative change meant that this acceptance of our own safety no longer meant anything, and the building owner was now responsible. That was an unacceptable position for the landlord and he asked us to vacate. We would have done the same in his position.

For the past five years we have built from a small group of six sheddies and a few hand tools to a fully functioning Menzshed with a well equipped workshop and a book full of jobs for community groups and commercial customers.

This is now about to disappear because the capital city of New Zealand can't find a home for a Charitable Trust that cares for its more vulnerable citizens.

Policies on Positive Ageing

Let's start with the position of central government what does their policy of Positive Ageing say?

Creating a society in which people can age positively requires more than government action.

Achieving this vision depends on the involvement of central and local government, business, non-government and community sectors. Everyone has a part to play.

Most people want to continue to contribute to society. There is a role for central and local government to work with communities to enable this to happen. There is much debate to take place on how this will best be achieved, and this debate needs to take place at the local level.

How does this match with the Wellington City Council's Policy on Positive Ageing?

supporting older people's recreation, employment, community services, volunteering, life-long learning and use of technology.

promoting and supporting the diversity of the local population and the contributions made by older people

supporting community resilience through neighbourhood programmes and support networks facilitating community collaboration and mobilisation of resources available for older people's needs.

Despite all the fine words and noble visions we are still without a home. Your Board of Trustees is continuing the search. If we cannot find one by the end of this month the doors of the Old Mission Building will close.

What next? The support we give to older people is too important to give up, so too is the work we do for the community. We'll probably meet in our backyard sheds.

We might be old and frail, but we're stubborn too!



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