

Men's Sheds

<http://www.mensheds.com.au/>

Mensheds Australia is a not-for-profit Australian organisation dedicated as the peak body, to resourcing and supporting **Men's Sheds**. The growing problems with men's health, isolation, loneliness and depression are now looming as major health issues in Australia.

Men's Sheds can play a significant and practical role in addressing these and other men's issues and at the same time act as a catalyst in stimulating their community's economic activities.

This website provides information to learn about Men's Sheds through a series of voiceover presentations. There is also a Shed Locator to find the Men's Shed(s) nearest to you geographically.



Known as 'The Hut', the head office of Men's Sheds in Sydney is also a shed!

Center for Participatory Change: Toolbox

<http://www.cpcwnc.org/toolbox.html>

This Toolbox from the Centre for Participatory Change, presents a set of skills and techniques that include writing press releases, running meetings, organisational planning, managing change and Appreciative Inquiry.

These materials have been developed out of the community work of the Centre for Participatory Change (CPC) in North Carolina, USA.

They are available as CPC's contribution to the global movement for social justice and participatory development.

Each skill or technique is described in a straightforward, how-to fashion.

Contents cover:

- Community organising
- Running a non-profit organisation
- Fundraising
- Leadership skills

Father-Inclusive Practice Framework



<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/centre/fac/efathers/includingfathers/>

The Principles of Father-Inclusive Practice presented on this website provide a challenge to all services supporting families.

Each of the nine principles suggests important questions to be addressed at different levels of the service:

- Which fathers are currently included in activities?
- Do fathers experience your service as respectful of their

fathering role and is your service recognised as an advocate for father-child connection?

- Are fathers from diverse backgrounds represented among those accessing your service?
- Do policies and staff development processes support the building of a mixed gender workforce competent to engage with fathers?

*The **Father-Inclusive Practice Framework** (PDF) is neither an impossible set of tasks nor a starting point for acrimonious debate. The goodwill, creativity and enthusiasm demonstrated during development and implementation suggest that change is certainly possible and the goal of more inclusive services fostering healthier more harmonious families is one to which we all can aspire.*

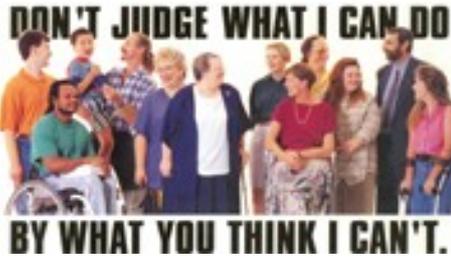
When participants were asked how it would be different if fathers were fully engaged in every aspect of family-related services and activities, a woman with many years experience in welfare and family support services through the Islander community beamed a huge smile as she said "It would be just perfect".



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Human Rights & Equal Opportunity Commission



<http://www.hreoc.gov.au/index.html>

Visit this site for news and the latest policy and legislative information related to the following areas:

- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Social Justice
- Complaints Information
- Disability Rights
- Human Rights
- Racial Discrimination
- Sex Discrimination

Examples of available resources include:

Free DDA Poster: *Don't Judge What I Can Do By What You Think I Can't*

Disability Action Plans

http://www.hreoc.gov.au/disability_rights/action_plans/index.html

Resources for Addressing Sexual Harrassment in the Australian Workplace

http://www.hreoc.gov.au/sex_discrimination/sexual_harassment.html

The Newbie Club

<http://www.newbieclub.com>

This site is a wonderful resource for anyone who is a beginner with any aspect of computer use. It provides a very large range of tutorials, explanations and other information. And everything is written in a clear no-nonsense style, with absolutely no 'geek-speak'!

Resources include many different PC, email and web-browser tutorials. You can also learn about search engines, building a website, or how to publish an ezine.

Apart from the many free resources, there are also several commercial bundles, all in the same user-friendly and accessible style. For example: *First Website Builder* (\$39.95 USD) or *Windows for Newbies* (\$34.95 USD).



How do you like your comfort zone? It's warm and cozy isn't it? Just like a bug in a rug.

Trouble is, a bug is at the mercy of anyone and anything that chooses to trample all over it.

When you make the effort to crawl out of that rug, the sunshine will blind you at first. But then you'll see things you never knew existed.

Stop thinking like a bug. Just swallow hard, stand up straight, and let the sunshine light up your soul.

(Joe Robson, The Newbie Club)

Child Information Gateway

<http://www.childwelfare.gov/>

The US-based Child Welfare Information Gateway "provides access to information and resources to help protect children and strengthen families".

A huge range of information and resources on such topics as:

- Family-centred practice
- Preventing child abuse and neglect
- Supporting and preserving families
- Out of home care
- Adoption

Some examples of available resources:

Elements of Best Practice in Family Centered Services

http://www.childwelfare.gov/famcentered/evaluating/centered_reviews.cfm

Promoting Healthy Families in Your Community: 2007 Resource Packet

http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/res_packet_2007/index.cfm

Parent-Child Interaction Therapy with At Risk Families

http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/f_interactbulletin/



Alcohol & Drug Information

<http://ncadi.samhsa.gov/>

This website contains a huge collection of downloadable resources. You can search or browse the site by issue, by audience or by keywords etc.

While there is a moderate charge for some resources (eg hard copies of reports, videos or DVDs), most are also available for download free of charge as PDF files or webcasts.

Some sample resources are:

Substance Abuse Treatment for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders

<https://ncadistore.samhsa.gov/catalog/productDetails.aspx?ProductID=16979>

When It's Not Your Kid, How Do You Deal With Drug and Alcohol Use? (Early Intervention Adult Influencer brochure)

<http://ncadistore.samhsa.gov/catalog/ProductDetails.aspx?ProductID=16747>

There is also a link to the Top 50 items viewed or downloaded this week at:

<http://ncadistore.samhsa.gov/catalog/top.aspx>



Health and Justice Translation Directories

<http://www.healthtranslations.vic.gov.au/>

<http://www.translations.justice.vic.gov.au/>

To excellent resources for health or justice professionals who work with culturally and linguistically diverse clients.

Each directory links to online multilingual resources from government departments, peak health bodies, hospitals, community health centres and welfare agencies.

Search by topic, by language, or both. Your search results will include an English

summary of the information, a link to a complete English language version and a link to information in the language you requested.

On the Health Directory website, there is also a *Find Your Language* tool, allowing you to create a poster or flip chart to help you to identify the languages culturally and linguistically diverse people speak.

This tool comprises a simple 4-step online process. The phrase "I speak" has been translated into over 90 languages.

The translation and the English text sit side by side on the poster. You can simply have the person from the culturally and linguistically diverse community look over the poster and point to the language that he/she speaks.

You can design your own poster. Choose to include all languages or just the ones that are relevant to you. You can also add your organisation's logo, and publish in a number of formats.

Teen Pregnancy

<http://www.teenpregnancy.org>

Another US-based site with a wide range of helpful resources related to the prevention of teen pregnancy.

Of particular interest for Starlink readers may be the following:

Fact Sheets, Tips and Other Materials

<http://www.teenpregnancy.org/resources/reading/default.asp>

Or these reports at

<http://www.teenpregnancy.org/works/default.asp>

- What Works – Curriculum Based Programs that Prevent Teen Pregnancy
- It's a Guy Thing: Boys, Young Men, and Pregnancy Prevention



A fifth lesson is that school reform has no place for ill-conceived, superficial, half-hearted, a dash-here-and-a-dollop-there staff development, descriptions that still apply to most of what passes for staff development in this nation. We now know that what improves classroom practice and school leadership is tailored, intensive, sustained staff development that includes follow up support, practice, feedback, and evaluation. There simply is no excuse for taking the time of teachers and principals to participate in anything else. (Hayes Mizell)

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Web: <http://www.bjseminars.com.au>

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Funny Biz Workshop

Do you know anyone wanting to build a successful business as a humourist?

Our *Funny Biz* workshop on 26 May will cover essential business skills for comedians, aspiring comedians or anyone in the business of being funny.

When: Saturday 26 May 2007, 10.00 am to 4.30 pm

Where: Fitzroy Library, Fitzroy, Melbourne

Fee: \$110.00 incl. GST (Tea & coffee provided, BYO Lunch)

For more information, call Chris on (03) 9751 1360 or visit

<http://www.bjseminars.com.au/funnybiz.html>

Memories of a 'Roy Boy



Reflections

CHRIS BENNETT



Once Frank's butcher's shop; now The Fitz café

I am sitting outside a café sipping a cup of tea, watching people of different ages and nationalities walk past my table.

Cars, bicycles, vans and trams are noisily zipping up and down Brunswick Street.

The houses, shops, cafés, and the pub across the road are a mixture of old Fitzroy and new Fitzroy.

Wherever I look there is a memory of my childhood.

On my left is the cobble blue stone laneway nearby in Kerr Street, where as children in the 1960's we played cricket and explored the stable with its pungent odour of horse manure.

We climbed the garage wall using the bricks that jutted out as a ladder. From the roof we spotted a couple of other local kids below in the street and threw stones

at them. They returned the favour and I was hit in the head by a stray stone.

On my right is Brunswick Street where the famous W class trams, painted green and cream, used to rattle up and down the tram tracks.

I loved those trams. So much so, that at night I would illegally climb on the stepping board side where I could not be seen by the conductor or the driver. I would crouch down holding onto the hand rail and ride the tram for a few stops. Then I'd jump off and walk away into the night, feeling on top of the world.

Even the café where I am sitting has traces of the butcher's shop where I bought meat and exchanged friendly jibes with the butcher, Frank. A large man, in his fifties, with white hair and rolled up sleeves that revealed faded bluish tattoos on his forearms.

In the middle of the road I see a young Chris run over by a car, escaping with only minor injuries and shock. We were very resilient in those days. We had to be. It was a tough neighbourhood.

More images and experiences of growing up as a 'roy boy come flooding back as I sit here sipping my tea. I keep thinking of how much Fitzroy has changed over the decades.

It also occurs to me how much I have changed.

And yet, in spite of those changes, that young 'roy boy is still part of who I am. Just as the old Fitzroy is still visible beneath the new.



Our bluestone-cobbled cricket pitch