

Chelsea Men's Shed

(A Programme of Chelsea CareWorks)

Presents

Circle of Fire



Men's Open Forum Discussion Group

2011

At

Chelsea Church of Christ

3 – 5 Blantyre Ave, Chelsea

Telephone 9773 0301

Circle of Fire

What is It?

A place where men can talk freely, but not offensively, about matters that concern men.

Who is welcome?

Men of all ages, creeds and abilities

Men who are facing social isolation, depression, mental and physical ailments as a result of the changes to their lives.

Where is it?

Chelsea Church of Christ, 3-5 Blantyre Ave, Chelsea, 3196

Is there a cost?

\$5.00 per session to cover use of facilities, and light refreshments.

\$20 per year, membership of Chelsea Men's Shed

What can be discussed?

Any subject, provided it does not cause offense to others

It's at a church. Will religion be discussed?

Only if participants want to. It is an open forum.

What time/day will meeting be held?

That will be decided by participants but will need to fit it with other programmes held on the premises.

How to I join?

Contact Colin or Steve on 9773 0301 or email:

admin@chelseamensshed.org.au

Website: www.chelseamensshed.org.au



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Respectful Political Incorrectness Allowed

Members Values

- 1. Members will respect the rights to freedom of belief and speech.**
- 2. Members will respect the views of others**
- 3. No member will mock or abuse another member**
- 4. Respectful political incorrectness means that violence or the demeaning, degradation or debasement of any person or group is not supported.**
- 5. As much as possible inclusivity of all men regardless of age, ethnic group, disability will be encouraged. It is acknowledged that there could be instances where this may not be possible to achieve.**
- 6. All members of the group will be encouraged to speak**
- 7. Men's Health and well being issues are considered to be of paramount importance.**

The Circle of Fire

There is something about a fire – when it is friendly.

It is not just the warmth it gives, or the light. It is not just the smell of smoke and its flavour. It is not just that one can cook in its ashes and flames.

The fire is alive. It crackles, and it can spit. Smoke rises from it and sparks lift into the air. It is alive.

You can sit around a fire, perhaps in a half circle, perhaps in a circle. You can gaze into the flames and may be you see something in those flames as ashes. Is it the spirit of the fire? Or is it your imagination?

You sit around a fire and your back is against the world. You shut the world out because you look inwards into the fire.

You look around you at the others who sit around the fire, their faces aglow in the heat, and you see that if it is night. While you sit around the fire they are your mates, and you talk.

Perhaps you talk of serious things – the matters of life and of love that away from the fire there is only silence within you and them.

Perhaps the talk is of things that matter little, or have a light and amusing side.

Perhaps, at times, you sit silent, deep in your thoughts as the others are in theirs.

But you sit among friends. Friends who will talk with you. Or be silent with you, as you want and they want.

It is the circle of fire where there is talk or silence but always there is mateship and communion, in word or in quiet.

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