

43. P LeMay

Hi Sabina

After reading the article on "Commission takes on work age barriers" page 3 of the June 2012 Senior paper by Kirsty Stein.

I would like to make the following comments.

In an earlier article written by Kirsty Stein in the same paper a few months ago, the minister for workplace relations Minister Bill Shorten set out a format for volunteers. It sets out to make the user of volunteers aware of their obligation regards insurance cover. So I understand.

This brings in the area of mensheds where we may not or are not allowed to help people outside our premises because of insurance.

It is also becoming clear that even if you were a tradesperson before you retired and no longer hold a current licence you cannot carry out

any repairs for anyone. Also the area of "age" cover is a sticky or grey area where once you reach a certain age you longer qualify.

Most of us today are living longer than our parents did and today some of us, me included are working part time etc. Centrelink has encouraged me.

I am seventy five years old and do not know how I stand with my "age" insurance.

We have the government encouraging us to work and yet it appears that society is reluctant to do the same.

Society should realise that they to will be old themselves one day, therefore in their own interest, they should be aware of the "age" culture blindly following this dilemma.

Now , as I am a coordinator of a menshed these issues could take away the spirit and very nature of the whole organization

Most men are quite capable of carrying out a lot of odd jobs for, our case attached to a church, people who can ill afford a lot of money on repairs.

I wonder what would have happened in the last two world wars if all this "rubbish" about volunteers and age were in then.

There is a lot more to tell but perhaps at a later date.

Thankyou for giving us a voice .

Regards

Peter LeMay -- Peninsula Community Menshed

P.S. Please feel free to come to our shed sometime at [redacted]. Ettalong

And have a cup of tea or coffee and talk to some very learned and wise men.