

Gimme shelter

man



YEAH! SHELTER! WOOD

Children from Hertford Junior School celebrate the opening of their new after-school club shelter, constructed from 100 per cent reclaimed materials. The hut was designed and built by Martin Cox, a local carpenter who specialises in working with reclaimed and recycled materials.

The shelter was made from telegraph poles

from Romsey in Southampton, timber from the old Adelphi Hotel in Hastings, and a Smirnoff Ice exhibition in London. Cox said, "It sounds like there was a lot of travel involved but everything that was coming here any- only really essential travel was the telegraph poles. The only things that aren't reclaimed are the screws, cement and guttering. It came from a boat from above and a little from the

Noise protest

Activists are to go to trial after a noise demonstration got out of tune, causing five arrests at the end of November 2007. Anti-arms trade activists Smash EDO are outraged by the council's use of by-laws usually applied to deal with noisy drunks.

The administrative hearing was on 6 December and involved four out of the five men arrested, all of whom pleaded not guilty. On the same day another 'bad karaoke' demonstration took place outside Brighton Town Hall on Bartholomew Street in reaction to the use of these by-laws.

The original protest was outside EDO MBM,

a factory that manufactures weapon components. Smash EDO has been campaigning directly since 2004. Brighton-based company to be closed and now say they are having to fight the local government as well as the Dan Saunders, one of those arrested, says it is a right to freedom of expression is under attack in this country. The police are misusing by-laws to stifle peaceful protest. We want the council to take action to make sure they do not continue to use council by-laws to intimidate protesters."

The future of EDO in Brighton is indefinite. On 18 December it was taken over by IIT, the 17th-largest arms company in the world. So far, no guarantees have been given as to whether they will cut jobs or even close the factory open. Smash EDO has vowed to continue their protest. VB

5 Minute Interview

Simonne Gnessen

Financial coach and founder of Wise Monkey Financial Coaching

You're writing a book called *Sheconomics*. What is it about?

It's about the practical and emotional relationship that women have with money. It is written by women for women and in a fun and friendly way.

What motivated you to write it?

Professor Karen Pine - co-writer of *Sheconomics* - was approached to write it after the success of her book *No Diet Diet*.

How long have you been a financial coach?

For about six years. Prior to that I was a financial adviser. I reached a point where the industry was not offering what I needed to give my clients, so I set up my own practice to create something that supported people without selling them products.

Does Wise Monkey Financial Coaching deal with men too?

Absolutely, although 75 per cent of my clients are women.

What has been your most unusual case since you have been coaching?

A woman, in effect a millionairess who had completely separate finances from her husband and kept it secret. I met her at her office, in her house, while her husband was playing golf. There was a knock at the door and she said, 'Oh my God, it's him!' - I felt like I was her lover. Luckily it was someone else.

How do you hope the book will affect readers?

I hope women gain better self-awareness with their relationship with money and have the opportunity to take more responsibility and reduce their worries.

On your website you say women are second-class citizens in respect to money. Why do you think this is?

There is still a big gender difference in pay rates and who handles the money - men tend to make decisions with investments and women with day-to-day money. Also, women are less likely to push for a pay rise so their finances are often not as strong as they could be. VB

