



Trustees' Annual Report 2020-2021

For the year ended 31st March 2021



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The workshop beginning to take shape.

CHARITY CONTACT INFORMATION

Charity Name	Midmar Men's Shed
Registered Charity Number	SC049095
Address	c/o The Midmar Hall Unnamed Road Inverurie AB51 7NE
Governing Document	Midmar Men's Shed Constitution (adopted 11/12/18)
Website	https://midmar.uk
Email	midmarmensshed@gmail.com
Trustees	Chairperson: David Smith. Nigel Bennett (Jan 2021) Treasurer: Jonathan Wilson Secretary: Paul Thain
Management Committee	Jim Allan Nigel Bennett Peter Woodhead Rob Ferguson

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Midmar Men's Shed was established after seeing the success of other Men's Sheds in the surrounding larger towns, with the aim of bringing similar activities closer to our remote area. Midmar is 10-15 miles from the nearest towns and villages. With relatively limited facilities, the area of Midmar relies on a strong network of social clubs and community initiatives.

As stated in our Constitution, the aims of the Shed are:

(a) To provide recreational facilities or organise recreational activities aimed particularly - though not exclusively - at men, with the aim of promoting their social inclusion and generally improving their conditions of life.

(b) To promote good health and wellbeing to its members through active participation and, from time to time, providing opportunities for relevant health organisations to raise awareness of good health strategies for the benefit of members or the community.

Membership is open to anybody over the age of 18, irrespective of religion, political views, nationality, disability, sex, or race.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE, AND MANAGEMENT

Our governing document is the *Midmar Men's Shed Constitution*. This sets out our charity's purpose, structure, and describes how we will operate. Our Trustees are responsible for ensuring that the charity complies with the rules of the Constitution.

The process for recruiting and appointing Trustees is described in the Constitution. In summary, there can be between three and ten members of the 'Management Committee', which includes the three Trustees (Chairperson, Treasurer, & Secretary). Trustee and Management Committee positions are elected during the AGM. To best reflect the needs and wishes of the local community, members of the Management Committee must be existing Shed Members, and permanently reside within five miles of The Midmar Hall.

The full Midmar Men's Shed Constitution can be viewed at: <https://midmar.uk/constitution>

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

COVID-19

As with the rest of the world, COVID-19 had a substantial impact on the Midmar Men's Shed and our activities. Our charity year began in Lockdown (April 2020) and was defined by further lockdowns, social distancing measures, and other restrictions.

During the periods where in-person mixing was limited, we held fortnightly Zoom calls, which allowed us to continually re-set our ambitions for the year, and plan for more sensible outdoor activities that complied with the various levels of government restrictions.

We also created our own COVID-19 Risk Assessment, and a set of guidelines, which are reviewed and updated on a regular basis, to reflect the changing guidelines and restrictions.

Our full COVID Risk Assessment can be viewed at: <https://midmar.uk/covid-risk-assessment/>

SHED IMPROVEMENTS

Since our shed was put in place and sealed up, there has been a long list of small projects and improvements that have been undertaken by our members, these have included:

- Installation of a wood-burning stove & chimney flue, for heating in the winter.
- Large wood-turning lathe, band saw, and various other power tools installed.
- Connected to mains power. Trench was dug, cable laid, & connected by members.
- Large lean-to built on to the north side of the shed for additional storage
- Re-designed the layout to incorporate new tools, shelving, storage, and workbenches.
- Breakdown & disposal of the surplus Portakabin units & materials.



The wood-turning lathe, during refurbishment



Our lean-to during construction



Various stages of the additional Portakabin units being stripped for materials and removed from site

TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE

With the aim of developing a more attractive and wildlife-friendly community, in December 2020 we launched an initiative to plant 1,000 trees in and around the Midmar area. We have been in discussion with local landowners to access small unused strips of ground & field edges.

The Shed has also been working with the local Primary School to provide two trees per child for planting in their gardens (or other appropriate locations), with a nametag so the tree can be known by that person for generations to come.

FUNDRAISING

Our longer-term fundraising initiatives brought in some money during our 2020-2021 fiscal year. The inclusion of our Shed in the Co-Op 'Local Community Fund' managed to raise a total of £1,333. Amazon Smile and EasyFundraising also started bringing in smaller, regular payments.



In summer 2020 we began to accept some bespoke build requests for small donations; these have included bird & bat boxes, garden planters, large compost bins, racks, benches, etc.



One of our large compost bins, which have been in high demand.

Finally, in January 2021 we achieved 'Charity for Tax Purpose' status with HMRC, which allows us to claim back money for tax exemptions, as well as claiming back 'Gift Aid' on eligible donations to The Shed.

MISC. SMALL PROJECTS

Although COVID-19 disrupted some of our planned jobs and projects, we still managed to

- Maintenance of the Midmar Village Hall building; interiors and exteriors.
- Gardening duties around our shed building, and the Midmar Hall grounds
- Maintenance of gardening equipment
- PAT testing of electrical items in The Midmar Hall.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income and Expenditure Account for period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

INCOME

	£
Donations In	2,963.74
Fundraising (to bank)	355.24
Fundraising (to petty cash)	<u>0.00</u>
Total Income	<u>3,318.98</u>

EXPENDITURE

Subscriptions	24.00
Professional Fees	1,107.06
Expenses	1,350.00
Donations Out	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>5,481.06</u>

Net Surplus / (Loss) for the Year **2,162.08**

Opening Bank Balance 3,782.62

Net Surplus / (Loss) for the Year 2,162.08

Closing Bank Balance **1,620.54**

RESERVES POLICY

Any income obtained by The Shed shall only be used to further our objectives. Our ongoing operating costs are relatively small: we have limited utility bills & overheads, and no paid staff. Therefore, it is our intention to use our cash reserve to fund upcoming projects. See 'Future Plans' below for more information.

FUTURE PLANS

In February 2021 we laid out some medium and long-term targets that we are working towards:

- Get our current temporary shed to a state where it can be opened to the public
- Lay the foundation for our permanent Shed.
- Double our membership by diversifying activities and holding 'Open Shed' days.
- Become a broader 'Social Hub' for the community by starting local interest groups:
 - Outdoor activities initially set as:
 - Ski touring
 - Mountain Biking
 - Hiking
 - Mechanical activity: two stroke engine maintenance
 - Midmar internet group: tap into individuals with recent experience of grants etc
- Create some simple revenue-generating initiatives based on environmental activities and the 3-R's; Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

THANK YOU

We would like to thank everyone that has helped us with their support, commitment, and generosity; without which we would not have been able to make such rapid progress in getting our Shed up-and-running.

- **David Smith**, for his time as Chairperson of the Shed
- **Private Donors**, for donating a wood-turning lathe, bandsaw, and various other tools
- **Deeside Log Cabins**, for donating wood & fixings
- **Private Donors**, for donations of furniture, doors, and storage units
- **Inverurie Men's Shed**, for putting us in touch with members of the public wishing to donate to Men's Sheds.
- **Private Donors**, for personal cash donations to the Shed
- All other individuals & members that have generously donated their time, energy, and money.



Our temporary shed with the local landmark hill Bennachie in the distance (left)

DECLARATION

Signed on behalf of the charity Trustees:

SIGNATURE:

Jonathan Wilson

PRINT:

JONATHAN WILSON

ROLE:

TREASURER

DATE:

31st December 2021
