



# Trustees' Annual Report 2021-2022

For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022



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*Our Shed's workshop area: the key place for most of our jobs and activities*

## CHARITY CONTACT INFORMATION

<b>Charity Name</b>	Midmar Men's Shed
<b>Registered Charity Number</b>	SC049095
<b>Address</b>	c/o The Midmar Hall Unnamed Road Inverurie AB51 7NE
<b>Governing Document</b>	Midmar Men's Shed Constitution (adopted 11/12/18)
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://midmar.uk">https://midmar.uk</a>
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:midmarmensshed@gmail.com">midmarmensshed@gmail.com</a>
<b>Trustees</b>	Chairperson: Nigel Bennett Treasurer: Jonathan Wilson, Chris Beetham (April '22) Secretary: Paul Thain
<b>Management Committee</b>	Jim Allan 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.



*Our new external lean-to and storage area: in progress (left) and the finished article (right)*

## 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

2021-2022 was another year that was disrupted by COVID lockdowns and restrictions, however, The Shed managed to maintain a good level of activity, while keeping our controls and guidelines in place. We received some emergency COVID funding from the Scottish Men's Shed Association, which helped us with our annual Shed Insurance bills, and allowed us to purchase a CCTV system, which has already proven valuable.

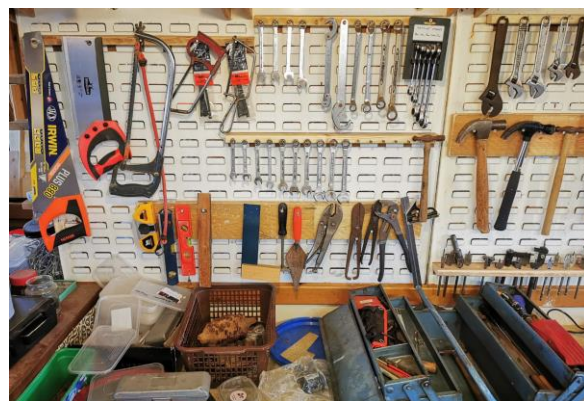


With the gradual easing of lockdowns, we have also been able to attend some of our regional Men's Shed Networking events, which has been useful for sharing and implementing ideas with other Sheds in the area. We look forward to 2022/23 and beyond, where we hope that lockdowns and social distancing are phased out on a more permanent basis - and we can return to full-blown Shedding activities.

## SHED IMPROVEMENTS

Our current, medium term shed building - made from several Portakabin style units - continues to be improved upon. This year saw several notable additions and renovations:

- The external lean-to canopy was finished and roofed, providing additional external storage for our ever-increasing stacks of wood.
- A new large central 'island' workbench was built and installed, for larger projects.
- A new workbench along the edge of the workshop has been built and installed, with clamps for swapping and stabilising medium-sized tools
- Storage in and around the workshop has been expanded and improved: more built-in storage, shelves, drawers, cupboard etc.
- CCTV was installed for additional security - The Shed is unmanned most of the time.



*A couple of our improved storage areas, making better use of previously dead space.*

## SHED WORKSHOPS AND MID-WEEK SOCIALS

Although our membership continues to grow at a steady rate, we are also trying to reach out to community members that the traditional shedding activities may not be of interest to. The first of these initiatives are *Repair Workshops*, where The Shed opens at a weekend - sometimes for a specific activity (recent ones being a bike repair shop, technology check-up, two-stroke engine maintenance) or just a broader '*Open Shed*' event where everyone is invited to bring in anything in that they would like us to look at. The Repair Workshops and Open Sheds have been well-received and are encouraging walk-ins, and a broader community interest in (and awareness of) The Shed.

We have also been trying out the idea of '*mid-week socials*', where Shed members and non-members are invited to The Shed for a good old-fashioned blether... no shedding on the agenda, just a catchup and the occasional food. Although these haven't initially been as popular, we aim to continue these for a little longer.

## FUNDRAISING & DONATIONS

2021-2022 felt like the year that The Shed was embraced by the community. There was a noticeable uptick in general donations (tools & materials) to The Shed, as well as an increase in requests for items to be built in exchange for donations.



Our longer-term fundraising initiatives brought in some money during our 2020-2021 fiscal year. Amazon Smile and EasyFundraising continue to bring small - but regular - payments. Gift Aid also continues to be a source of additional money that we've been able to claim back



*Two of our larger requests this year; raised plant beds for the local school (left), and a raised planter (right)*

## MISC. SMALL PROJECTS

Although COVID-19 disrupted some of our larger planned jobs and projects, we still managed to assist in a wide variety of community projects:

- Contributed to the replacement of the Comers footbridge: man hours, materials, equipment.
- Ongoing maintenance of the Midmar Village Hall building: interiors, exteriors & gardens.
- Transporting communal rubbish to the dump
- Clearing of fallen trees, particularly after Storm Arwen (Nov) and Storm Barra (Dec)
- Supplying Midmar School with new planter boxes for gardening lessons
- Website re-designed and updated

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income and Expenditure Account for period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022

### INCOME

	£
Donations In	300.46
Fundraising (to bank)	620.72
Fundraising (to petty cash)	<u>0.00</u>
Total Income	<u>921.18</u>

### EXPENDITURE

Subscriptions	25.00
Professional Fees	0.00
Expenses	740.61
Donations Out	<u>0.00</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>765.61</u>

<b>Net Surplus / (Loss) for the Year</b>	<b><u>155.57</u></b>
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Opening Bank Balance	1,620.54
Net Surplus / (Loss) for the Year	155.57
<b>Closing Bank Balance</b>	<b><u>1,776.11</u></b>

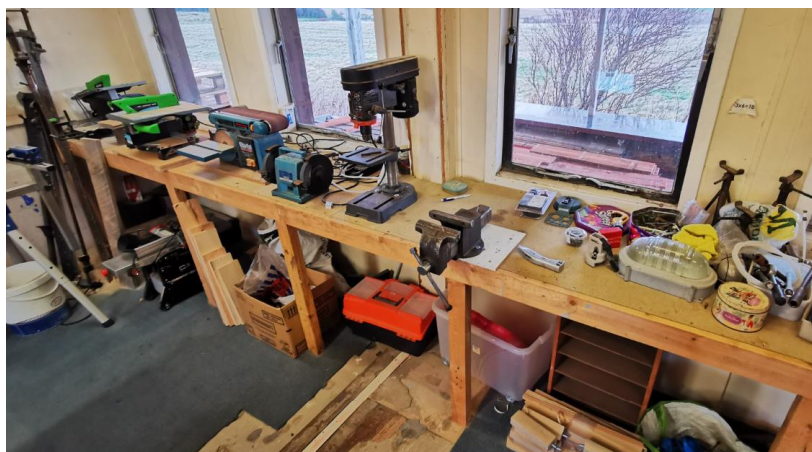
### RESERVES POLICY

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 which these accounts reflect.

Significantly lower income in 21/22 compared to previous years reflects less fund-raising activity, since additional funds weren't required.

Next year it is planned to proceed with the project to build a new Shed to replace the temporary, reclaimed, portable cabin on which current one is based; accordingly increased expenditure requiring increased fund raising is anticipated. The approach will be to largely perform the work ourselves using reclaimed materials as far as practicable minimising the associated environmental footprint and building cost. The building works will be broken down into discrete packages with each package only being commenced when funding is available. The first package will be the foundations which once completed can be safely left in readiness for the next stage.

Prepared by: C Beetham Treasurer



*Our new side-workbench for mid-sized tools*

## FUTURE PLANS

Looking forward, the following targets have been set for the next year:

- Lay the foundation for our permanent Shed, required for keeping our planning permission & building warrants alive.
- Formalise the training requirements & establish a training suitable training matrix for the relevant tools & machinery within The Shed.
- Run skills sessions:
  - Routing / Sign-making
  - Picture frame making
  - Wood Turning
- Become a broader 'Social Hub' for the community by starting local interest groups. Initial couple
  - Board Game Club
  - Walking Group



## THANK YOU

We would like to thank everyone that has helped us with their support, commitment, and generosity; without which we would not be able to keep our Shed going.

- **Jonathan Wilson** for his time as Treasurer of the Shed
- **Rob & Pete** for donating scrap metal, which generated £172.50 in sale value
- **Aberdeen Men's Shed Network** for running quarterly meetups between regional Sheds.
- **Private Donors**, for personal cash, tools, and materials donations to the Shed
- All other individuals & members that have generously donated their time, energy, and money.



*The Midmar Men's Shed, with local landmark hill Bennachie in the background.*

## DECLARATION

Signed on behalf of the charity Trustees:

**SIGNATURE:**

*Chris Beetham*

**PRINT:**

Chris Beetham

**ROLE:**

Treasurer

**DATE:**

30<sup>th</sup> December 2022