



Hayling Island Men's Shed Association

HIMSA NEWSLETTER

Issue 3...December 2016



Hayling Island Men's Shed



NEWS HEADLINES

Maybe we were a bit over-enthusiastic in the last Newsletter in reporting developments with our proposed building: although we have been working hard in the background, sadly there is no real news yet on the location for our workshop building. Negotiations and legal work are continuing to hopefully agree a suitable lease on a plot of land on which we will then be able to erect a suitable building. It is difficult after such a long time, but the Trustees do hope that members will be patient and understanding that everything possible is being done to move things forward as fast as possible.

The good news is that we have received grants from St Hermans Estate Co., Hayling Island Lions Club, and Hayling Island Businessmens Club. We are so grateful for this significant help, which means that we now have over £11,000 in the bank towards the cost of our new building (which is likely to cost over £25,000).

Another development is the lovely van now running round the island advertising HIMSA. Many thanks to member Len Garner who owns the van but is happy to undertake small jobs for the benefit of the Shed.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

~~December 9~~
60s & 70s
evening

December 20
Lions Club
Santa's Sleigh
collection

January 30
Curry Evening



From the Chairman

Happy Birthday HIMS, we're 1 year old. Those looking from the outside may say, "So what, what have you achieved in that year, there's still no Shed!"

They're right, we haven't got a physical building we can call a Shed, but we have achieved a great deal. I'll not go through everything because as you read through this newsletter you'll see what we have done.

Tony George, our secretary, sums up beautifully in the last couple of paragraphs of his write-up what I feel has been our greatest achievement. For me that beating heart is the loyalty, the enthusiasm, the friendship and comradeship that we have built up over the year. It's been a bit of a roller coaster existence, with hopes and aspirations raised and then dashed a bit, but still that beating heart has continued to beat.

I'd like to thank all of you for that. I'm sorry I have not been able to give you the shed you so deserve but I know all the time that heart beats, we will achieve our goal.

I'd like to thank Tony, Roy, Ron and all of you for all the work you do in supporting HIMS. Thank you too to all your wives, partners and families, and may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very peaceful, happy Christmas and healthy New Year.

Gerry



Southern Men's Shed Network

The fourth meeting of the network was in October 2016 at Basingstoke Men's Shed.

The main items for discussion were:

- Updates regarding Individual Sheds
- Progress on Sheds becoming CIO's (Charitable Incorporated Organisations)
- New website page for Woodwork and Craft plans/drawings
- New Website Forum Newsletter
- Feedback from the National Shed Fest in Birmingham

Coming up.....

The Hayling Island Lions Club has very kindly invited us to help on one of the 'Santa's Sleigh' evenings, and they will pass on a suitable donation to the Shed. So please join us if you can on Tuesday 20th Dec at 5.15pm at the junction of Saltmarsh Lane/West Lane.



UKMSA have flagged up a number of useful bits of information:

- The winner of the Shed Fest photo competition: Bourton on the Water Men's Shed ⇒
- Links to some videos that show what can go wrong when using machinery - much more impressive than those that show you how to use a machine properly!
- An update on insurance for Sheds.
- Pyrography is a desk-based activity that might be of interest to Shedders. ⇒
- B&Q operates a community reuse scheme throughout all its stores, enabling Sheds to obtain 'unsellable' items for free.
- B&Q also works with Community Repaint, a network of schemes that collects any surplus, reusable paint and redistributes it within their communities to individuals and families on low income, charities and community groups. In one year nearly 500,000 litres of paint were prevented from going to waste.



Men's Shed in the Hayling Island Community

- We had a stand at the Three Churches Fete in August. We had lots of interest and also raised £138.
- John Moore talked to the 'Daisy Chain' group about the Shed (and they generously gave us a £20 donation).
- A few of us have signed up with the British Red Cross as Emergency Reserve Volunteers.
- Residents of Dilkusha Court on the seafront held a raffle for our benefit and sent us £51. Very many thanks!
- We are grateful for a further £19 in donations from the refreshment van at the Chichester Avenue car park (formerly the 'red van').
- Shed members painted preservative on the new fence along the side of the United Reformed Church premises, and also cleaned out guttering.

HIMSA TRUSTEES

Chairman: Gerry Johnson
Secretary: Tony George
Treasurer: Roy Cadoux
Project Manager: Ron Harman

Publicity: Tom Deans

Fundraising Adviser:
Melanie FitzGerald

Newsletter: Roy Cadoux

Our website:
himsa.co.uk

Contact us:
info@himsa.co.uk

Weekly meetings - Christmas break

We meet on Thursdays at 2 pm at South Hayling United Reformed Church small hall. The address is Hollow Lane, PO11 9EY (opposite Sainsburys).

We will be there each week except 22 and 29 December. We will resume meetings on 5 January.

Everyone is welcome to come and have a cuppa and find out what we are up to - but hopefully before too long we will be getting out of the meeting room and doing some actual work in preparation of our shed building.

We are very grateful to the URC for continuing to allow us to meet there each week.



Find us on Facebook: just search for Hayling Island Mens Shed

News in Brief

- Hayling Island Men's Shed Association as becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) recognised by the Charity Commission. Our Registered Charity number is 1169439.
- HIMSA has received recognition as a charity by HMRC and we have so far received £79 from them under the Gift Aid scheme.
- We now have a pay-as-you-go mobile phone for incoming enquiries about HIMSA. The number is 07887 800932.
- John Moore has some great designs for wooden toys if you might be able to make some.
- Thanks to all those members who have handed in donations as a result of 'odd jobs' they have undertaken, or items they have sold. So far this has raised over £250.
- We now have 45 paid-up members. A big welcome to those who have joined us in recent months.
- We took part in the Aviva Community Fund but unfortunately were not successful in gaining enough votes.

HIMSA Fund-raising Curry evening at Gandhi Restaurant, Hollow Ln.

Monday 30th January 7.30pm

Tickets for a 4-course banquet £20.00 (excludes drinks)

GANDHI RESTAURANT
Hayling Island

One Year in time - A personal view of HIMSA

November 2015 saw me drift into a slightly early retirement with grandiose plans to do all the things I didn't have time for whilst working. Then fate stepped in.

"You might be interested in this", pointed out my wife waving the Hayling Islander at me. "This" was the invitation to the public meeting to create a Men's Shed on Hayling Island. I of course attended along with many more keen souls and as is my habit found myself fully involved.

"Trust you", said the wife this time, wondering where it would lead.

Well, reflecting on the past year it has led to quite a lot and saw me and my new found friends getting to grips with lots of things we perhaps had not envisaged at the time.

After those initial wobbly steps of creating a temporary board of trustees our foundation was solidified at our inaugural AGM, after which it all seemed to be much more 'real' if that is such a thing.

Since then we've moved home twice. There and back again..... Become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, recognised for Gift Aid by HMRC, become founding members of the Southern Men's Shed Network, members of the UK Men's Shed Association and the National Council of Voluntary Organisations. We have been involved in public projects on our beloved Island, and attended Fete and Fair to show our face. We have met with Members of Parliament, Councillors and other supporting dignitaries. Funds have been raised and plans have been made and re-made, a social calendar is coming to fruition and the faithful attend our weekly meetings. Hopes have been raised and lowered on several occasions but optimism is still key.

If a Men's Shed is a building then it is hollow and lifeless. If a Men's Shed is a group of like minded individuals that wish to stay active then it is a beating heart and full of life. Currently I see us as the latter that wish to fill the former.

We may not yet have a shed but that does not mean failure as our aims of inclusion and involvement within the community are being met. Well done to all for year one and thanks for having me.

As for all of my plans? Let's just say that 'progress has been made' but the list is just as long.

Tony George, HIMSA Secretary



TWAM's mission is to collect unwanted tools, refurbish them, sort them into trade kits and send them across the world. They send around 22 containers filled with over 300 tonnes of tools every year.

TWAM wants to support local people supporting their own communities through livelihood creating projects. They believe there is dignity through work and the ability to provide for yourself and your family. They find that entire communities can be transformed through training and the provision of tool kits and equipment.

We at HIMSA are often asked if we can take the contents of people's sheds, which often contain the sorts of tools and equipment that TWAM need. When we are established, maybe it would be a good idea to build on the link with TWAM that South Hayling URC has had in the past?

HIMSA had a great presence at the Three Churches Fete in August



Thanks to all the members who came along to help in any way; to John Moore for the amazing stocks, to John and his wife Carol for the money-spinning tombola, to Alf Pickup for the wooden garden items, and to Gerry and Roy for pretending to enjoy having an onslaught of wet sponges thrown at them through the afternoon.

60s/70s Evening



Our first social event on 9th December was a sell-out.

Grateful thanks especially to members Roy Slyfield (whose idea it was, and who was our DJ) and Mike Harris (who undertook the catering for 80 guests). Maybe we'll have some embarrassing photos in the next newsletter if we're lucky?



At our meeting on 17th November, Hayling Island Men's Shed Association celebrated our first birthday and Gerry brought cake and a candle to mark the occasion. Let's hope we can celebrate our 2nd birthday in our own building!



The Chairman's new toy, made especially by member Alan Ball.

Gerry can now call the meetings to order with a single blow (but he usually likes to bang it several times for effect!)



We had a stand at the Older Persons Information Fair organised by Alan Mak MP at Hayling Island Community Centre, and had a lot of interest from many of the 1000 visitors to the event (especially ladies who wanted to get their retired husbands out from under their feet!)

Our Secretary Tony George became a Distinguished Gentleman for a day, riding his cherished Norton. Funds raised by the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride will be used by the Movember Foundation in local prostate cancer research and suicide prevention programmes.