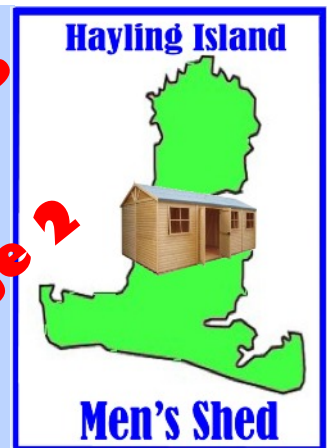


Hayling Island Men's Shed Association

HIMSA NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2016

**STOP PRESS
NEWS!
See page 2**



Hayling Island Men's Shed



A member of the UK Men's Sheds Association

(Above) Our new banner

THE STORY SO FAR...

Having started the notion of a Men's Shed with 21 men turning up to a public meeting in November 2015, we now have over 50 members on our books (38 of whom have paid a membership subscription).

We met every week in the United Reformed Church small hall until the end of February, then we moved to the Royal British Legion for a while, before returning to the URC when it became clear that we were not going to be able to proceed with a shed in the Legion grounds.

At our AGM in February the constitution was ratified and Trustees elected.

We are actively pursuing a possibility for a shed location which will give us sufficient security of tenure to be able to apply for major funding. We have already raised £3700 but will probably need £20000-£25000 to build and fit out our shed.

In the meantime we have been doing various projects in the community, as you will see in this our second newsletter.

From the Chairman...

When I was a young boy of 8 and 9 I spent my summer holidays with my Grandmother near the sea. My walk from her house to the beach would take me past a carpenter's workshop. I'd stand for ages looking through the open windows and doors watching the men making different things and using various tools... making joints with chisels and a mallet, hand drills and saws (no power tools back then), gluing and clamping bits together. What with the smell of the workshop and the fascination of seeing things being made out of wood, I was determined I'd be a carpenter when I grew up.

I didn't become a carpenter but my love of working and making things with wood is still in me, so when the idea of starting a Men's Shed on Hayling Island was thought of, I felt here's an opportunity to relive my childhood dream.

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From the Chairman (continued)

As you can see from the piece “The Story So Far” our membership has grown considerably since our first meeting. By the time this newsletter goes to press we will have held 30 meetings with between 20 and 25 Sheddors attending each week. The enthusiasm and loyalty of the Sheddors is outstanding considering we don't have a Shed yet and it could be some months before we have one.

I'm hoping that before too long we will have a lease agreed for the site of our Shed and work can start on major fund raising. The funding process has already begun with the acceptance of our stage 1 application by a big fund provider, but we need to have 20% of what we are asking for in our own bank, a lease in place and planning permission obtained before we can complete stage 2. It will then be a waiting game to see if we have been successful.

In the meantime, my trusty band of Sheddors donate gifts each week that we raffle off amongst ourselves to boost our funds, they continue to look for things that they can do for the community and support for other organisations which you can read about in this newsletter.

If anyone outside our association reading this newsletter would like to make a donation to our funds to help us achieve what is an obvious community need, we would be most grateful and would like to make you “A Friend of Hayling Island Men's Shed”

I'm very proud to be the Chair of a great bunch of guys and I thank them and my fellow trustees for all they do for HIMSA and for their support. One day we will have a Shed to meet and work in (and who knows, my childhood dream will come true).

Thank you.

Gerry



LATEST NEWS!

21 July 2016

Following the decision of South Hayling United Reformed Church to allow us to use the former allotments to the north of the church building for our shed, we have just heard that the Wessex Trust of the URC has given its approval in principle. There is still a lot of work to do before we can start building, but this is a major step forward and we are very grateful for the support of the church.

The Big Question

While we're busy waiting to get a Shed, here's a question. Is it Mens Shed or Men's Shed? I live in St Catherines Road without an apostrophe, but we belong to UK Men's Sheds Association and Southern Men's Shed Network, so I guess it must be the grammatically correct **Men's Shed**.



Men's Sheds around the UK *From the UK Men's Sheds Association menssheds.org.uk*

The Cheltenham & Gloucester Men in Sheds have built a scaled-down version of a Sopwith Camel made from as much discarded material as they could find - from items such as a large flower pot, baked bean cans and pallet wood with the propeller being carved from a cement mixing board. This demonstration of reuse and creativity which is such a part of Shed activity produced a model with a 14 foot wingspan! The aircraft was on display at RAF Fairford at the Royal International Air Tattoo in July.

Alistair Burt the Minister of State for Social Care and Mental Health visited the Havant Men's Shed on 9 June at the invitation of local MP Alan Mak. Mr Burt was given an overview of projects and discussed with members how Sheds benefit mental health and contribute to other charities. Havant is currently re-timbering a bench for the Rowans Hospice.

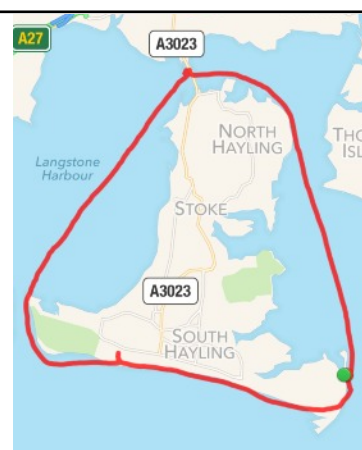
Alistair Burt said 'The Men's Shed movement is an excellent initiative to promote mental health and well-being on a local level. I was hugely impressed by the projects being carried out by Havant Men's Shed's, and the clear enthusiasm that its members have to help the local community.'



Roy Cadoux took part in the Round the Island Kayak Event last month, raising funds for Hayling RNLI and the Firefighters Charity.

Altogether he raised £356: grateful thanks to the shedders who sponsored him.

(Left) back after 14 gruelling miles. (Right) Roy's GPS track



Men's Shed in the Community

We were asked to help tidy the garden in front of Coastguard Cottages, but the residents have taken on the job.

Some of us helped with parking/marshalling at Northney Village Fete. We were asked to lend a hand so we did!



We will be having a stand at the Three Churches Fete on Wed 10 August.

Some of us are signing up with the British Red Cross as Emergency Reserve Volunteers.

We are extremely grateful for a £50 donation from the refreshment van at the Chichester Avenue car park (formerly the 'red van').

Altogether we have now raised over £3750 in less than a year.

HIMSA TRUSTEES

Chairman: Gerry Johnson

Secretary: Tony George

Treasurer: Roy Cadoux

Project Manager: Ron Harman

Website: David Sidebotham

Publicity: Tom Deans

Fundraising Adviser: Melanie FitzGerald

Newsletter: Roy Cadoux

Our website: himsa.co.uk

Contact us: info@himsa.co.uk

Weekly meetings take a summer break

We meet on Thursdays at 2 pm at South Hayling United Reformed Church small hall. We will be there each week except 11, 18 and 25 August. We will resume meetings on 1st September.

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 allowing us to meet there each week.



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

News in Brief

- We now have a donated trailer which will be a great help when we are moving heavy/bulky items.
- Hayling Island Men's Shed Association is working towards becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) recognised by the Charity Commission.
- HIMSA has received recognition as a charity by HMRC so we can now claim Gift Aid on donations.
- We were very pleased to have an unplanned visit from Havant MP Alan Mak on the day of the EU Referendum. He expressed his very strong support for Sheds in Havant.
- We also had a visit in July from Cllr Andy Lenaghan, who was instrumental at the beginning in getting the idea for a Hayling Shed off the ground. He was able to offer some very practical support and advice.
- Thanks to Gordon who has raised funds for the Shed by undertaking a few sharpening jobs.

What we need now...

- **Money!** We probably will need £15,000-£20,000 to purchase a suitable building. In addition we will have to pay for site clearance, laying a base, providing power, water etc. and fitting out the building. We are working towards applying for major grants, but donations and ideas for sources of grants are always welcome.
- **Temporary storage.** We have already been offered some tools and equipment, and now we are very grateful to Rob Bond for providing us with temporary storage.
- **Involvement by members.** Is there some specific way in which you could help? Fund raising, publicity, website, building expertise, teaboy, or anything else you can think of that will take us one step closer to getting our shed. We all need to be involved if we want this to happen!

Southern Men's Shed Network: smsn.org.uk

Meeting 11th July at Romsey Men's Shed

Report from Tony George

The meeting opened with a welcome from Romsey Shed followed by a presentation of their progress so far, including successfully applying for CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) status, their search for a plot for a shed and the search for a suitable building.

There then followed presentations from three guest speakers.

British Red Cross - Louise Gerrard

Louise gave a presentation on a new pilot initiative, the Emergency Volunteer Scheme. This is an attempt to coordinate all the volunteers that come forward during disaster situations to assist with recovery. The example given was the recent history of flooding in the county and the use of volunteers to help the regular emergency services in essential but non critical situations. The county-wide pilot scheme would compile a register of volunteers who would be given some basic training and who could be called upon when needed, coordinated by the Red Cross. It is a no obligation scheme but if successful would be rolled out countrywide. More information can be found at www.redcross.org.uk/reserves or directly from Louise at LGerrard@redcross.org.uk.

Axminster Tools - Craig

This company are offering support for Men's Sheds by offering a 5% discount to Shed members. Also they can offer machinery safety checks, servicing and training which can be either at your shed or at one of their stores. Our nearest is Basingstoke but the headquarters in Axminster is also not too far away. Take a look at www.axminster.co.uk/stores for more information.

Hampshire County Council - Nicola Kelly, Wellbeing Team

Nicola gave a presentation about falls prevention and wondered if we were aware of the reduction in balancing ability as we get older. Trips and falls are the commonest of all accidents and extra care is required whilst surrounded by tools and machinery. She tried to get us all to stand on one leg for 45 seconds and shamefully more than 50% of us failed within 20 seconds. She explained it was a characteristic of ageing and as part of a preventative programme she offered to attend shed meetings and show people some self tests and exercises to aid balance.

Brian Cooke gave an update on the UKMSA and stated that there is still an intention to have a National Conference but that a location has not been decided.

Updates from other sheds was unfortunately cut short due to lack of time.

Work Group updates:

Website Templates - Mike Brading

Only HIMS had responded positively. There had been two negatives and no other response. Project dropped.

SMSN Forum - Steve Redrup

The forum has been simplified and registration for some activities is no longer required. Many new documents are now available through this medium and use has increased.

Group Insurance - Graham Gowman

Little progress had been made. It was felt that the structure offered by Zurich was too restrictive, and that there was little alternative. Many independent brokers led back to Zurich anyway and it was felt that the UKMSA could try a bit more leverage. Brian Cooke responded by saying they had put more pressure on Zurich for a more flexible approach but with little success as of yet.

One warning that had come from the work so far was that a Shed's insurance may not covers all eventualities, and separate policies may well be needed for property, accident and liability. Therefore the need for a simple single structure is an understandable requirement but at this moment in time seems difficult to achieve.

The next meeting will be in October in the Basingstoke area.

Could we make items like these? This display is in a shop at Bosham.



Alan Mak MP talks to one of our meetings expressing his support



Thanks to John Moore for devising and erecting this screen to hide the dustbins



...and thanks to John and Don Bates for constructing this cover for the loop system





(Left) We were able to remove some racking and other useful materials from a shop which had closed at Mengham. Thanks John for storing it in his garage 'for a day or two'!

(Right & below) At the Lions' Club's Donkey Derby we had our first real public display, using our new banner and a photo board. We were able to dispose of some surplus tools and equipment, and some beautifully turned wooden pens, and received an amazing £147 in donations.



(Right & below) Alan Ball, one of our members, is 'The Hayling Woodturner'. Conveniently, he had a display next door to ours. Alan was intending to demonstrate woodturning in action but unfortunately the generator failed.



(Left) Alan used his woodturning skills to replace the broken plastic handle on this cake knife, resulting in another donation to Shed funds.



Getting a bit of exercise on the disused allotment at the rear of the URC



After we had cleared the site we arranged for a digger to level it