

SHOULDER SHOULDER



UK
Men's
Sheds

ISSUE 58 | FEBRUARY 2020

Free event...**at the Nuneaton Store**

Wednesday

26

February

6pm - 9pm

veritas®



An evening with... ***Vic Tesolin***

A rare opportunity to see this world renowned Canadian woodworker in action, using precision Veritas hand tools.

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CONTENTS:

- Meet an ambassador
- Meet a trustee
- Tales from the Sheds
- Funding opportunities
- Treasurer's report
- Puzzles
- A word from Chief Officer

WHAT'S ON?

27-28 March 2020 - Midlands Woodworking Show (Newark)

6 July 2020 - National ShedFest 2020 (Worcester)

September 2020 - Screwfix Live (Farnborough)

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR PHOTO TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE COVER OF SHOULDER TO SHOULDER?

Send us your best shot of a piece of work from your Shed!

Make sure the photo meets the following criteria:

- Portrait orientation
- High resolution
- Good lighting
- Clear subject matter
- Sharp focus
- Make sure you have permission to use the photo
- Make sure to credit the photographer

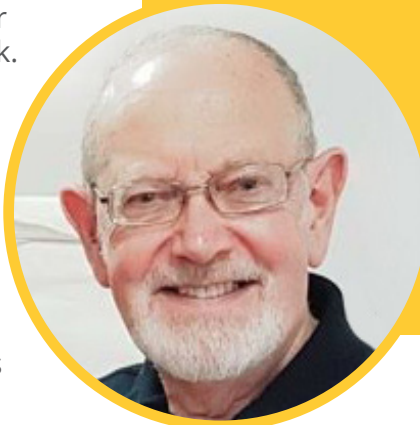
Send your images to newsletter@ukmsa.org.uk
HAPPY SNAPPING!



MEET AN AMBASSADOR DOUG MIZON

Greetings, Shedders from the East of England, or more strictly from my point of view – east Suffolk.

When I was first asked to be an Ambassador about three years ago, I was given the task of covering the whole of Norfolk and Suffolk. It was great fun travelling the counties working with several Development Officers in the local authorities and seeing several new Sheds emerge and mostly thrive. I have always been very proud to represent the UKMSA and to see the enthusiasm with which the concept of Sheds is always received.



With increasing activity, it became sensible to share the role with other Ambassadors so Henry Gowman took over Norfolk and Alan Page, from the west of Suffolk, came in to spread the load. I'm sure you will be hearing more from both of them in due course.

I am part of the Halesworth Shed which came to birth in early 2014 after a friend saw the Breakfast Television programme at the end of 2013 featuring some of the very successful Irish Sheds and the new Shed in Milton Keynes. The programme is still on [YouTube](#) if you are interested. My friend thought the idea 'had legs' as he put it, so we and a couple of others went to see the Norwich Shed and were so impressed that we immediately put the wheels in progress to have a public event at a town craft market to assess local interest. We collected about 30 names of potential Shedders in a couple of hours and filled a 5cwt trailer with donated tools. It took 15 months of regular coffee meetings before we found our premises – time well spent as it welded a solid group of men together, most of whom are still Shed members.

We now rent excellent premises (1,500 sq ft) close to the town centre with around 40 contributing members and have become well known in the town as a place for (mostly) men to have an enjoyable time, learning and sharing skills, drinking tea, putting the world to rights and getting jobs done. We became a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) about a year ago and now have a secure lease on our premises for up to nine years.

Being part of the rapidly growing Ambassador network is a huge joy and privilege. It was great to meet many of the others at Shedfest last September and to realise just how successful a movement it has become. My thanks to our leadership team for all the work they put in, especially Kate Gordon for developing the Ambassador network and for being such an encouragement to us all.



"I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN VERY PROUD TO REPRESENT THE UKMSA AND TO SEE THE ENTHUSIASM WITH WHICH THE CONCEPT OF SHEDS IS ALWAYS RECEIVED".



MEET A TRUSTEE JOHN LATCHFORD

Like many, I did woodwork at school and was one of those who enjoyed it. I could not see a career in it, so I ended up in IT (remember punch cards, I do...) Woodwork became a weekend hobby; which has involved doing up several houses, making all sorts of

stuff in wood; benches, tables, fitted wardrobes and some bigger projects including building an air-rifle range. The most recent project was making a couple of custom doors for a Scout Group HQ that I have long been involved with. I get a lot of satisfaction from making, using practical skills and learning new ones; which I did not always get from battling with corporate bureaucracy in my work life.

I have had various workshops for over 35 years and when I finally retired I was spending too much time on my own in the workshop, so in late 2016 I joined Amersham Men's Shed for the company. Soon afterwards I became Shed Chairman, and in 2018 when the Shed Ambassador programme started, I joined and became a UKMSA Trustee in 2019. In the last year, I have visited Sheds in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex and Rutland.

I enjoyed the last Shedfest and meeting Shedders from across the country. Seeing Paul Sellers speak there was worth the trip, as his woodworking videos and book have certainly encouraged me to try new techniques.

With around 550 Sheds now open across the UK, I think we are a long way from reaching the potential of the movement, there are many men living in cities, towns & villages who do not have access to a local Shed, so there is still plenty for UKMSA to do to support that growth.



Photo taken last summer on a ferry crossing from Seattle to Bainbridge Island. (The harbour cranes in the background are a bit of a standing joke, after I took my wife around the container port on a sight-seeing cruise in Hamburg!) We were in Seattle visiting my son who now lives there.

GO WEST YOUNG MEN...

What a fantastic weekend in Westport, County Mayo on the west coast of Ireland. As part of the Irish Men's Shed Association's cross border initiative Rostrevor Men's Shed visited Westport for the weekend.

The weekend started Friday evening with a fantastic warm welcome at the Wyatt Hotel, a beautiful meal, which was then followed by a great singalong with Kieran, Malachy and Connor playing the guitars and ukuleles. Even some of the quietest amongst us were encouraged to sing a song. However, it's not true what they say about all Welsh people being great singers!!!

Saturday morning the ladies spent the morning at leisure whilst the men visited the Westport Men's Shed. The men had a great morning chatting and sharing ideas over a cuppa! Each member was impressed by a great group of men; and we were certainly impressed at some of their projects, in

particular the restoration of an old tractor and farm machinery which went out to Africa. Tremendous work!!

Our Saturday afternoon was spent at Achill Island. And what a beautiful place it is. Marked by rugged mountains and peat bogs, the island is known for its tall sea cliffs and clean beaches. Simply breathtaking scenery. It was followed by lunch and a pint at the most westerly bar in Europe!

On the return journey home the weekend was rounded off with lunch at the idyllic location of Lusty Beg.

A hugely successful and thoroughly enjoyable weekend all round. Huge congratulations to Rory Milligan for organising a perfect weekend!!

The benefits of a Men's Shed should not be underestimated in tackling isolation and loneliness. If you would like to join a Men's Shed or know somebody who would benefit from joining, why not get in touch with us in Rostrevor or check to see if there's one in your local area. <https://menssheds.ie/>

by Gethin Hughes



"THE BENEFITS OF A MEN'S SHED SHOULD NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED IN TACKLING ISOLATION AND LONELINESS"

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Percy Bilton Charity

To raise up to £5000 in grant money for your shed visit www.percy-bilton-charity.org/applyOrg.html. They offer two programmes for organisations: Large grants – one off payments for capital expenditure of approximately £2,000 and over (the majority of grants fall within the range of £2,000 to £5,000)

The **Percy Bilton** Charity

UnLtd

Over the last seven years *UnLtd* has provided financial and non-financial support to over 200 social entrepreneurs, dedicated to creating bold solutions for an ageing society led by the needs of older people.

www.unltd.org.uk/our-work/our-focus-areas/solutions-for-an-ageing-society

Have a look at their different pots of money, one called 'Do it' www.unltd.org.uk/our-support/starting-up/do-it and another called 'Grow it' www.unltd.org.uk/our-support/starting-up/grow-it. Raise anything from £5000 to £15000 for your local shed!



Aviva Community Fund

Focusing on funding small charities with forward-thinking ideas. To this end, any projects submitted should be to develop a new approach, product or technology, pilot a new scheme, implement a new initiative, or expand existing services to a new area or beneficiary group.

<https://acf.crowdfunder.co.uk/start-crowdfunding>



Greggs Foundation

Are interested in projects that improve resilience within your community. This can include sessional activities/ respite support, equipment for sessional activities, trips and residential breaks. They are also interested in new approaches and innovative ideas as well as sustainable approaches to supporting your community. They do not fund running costs or continuation of existing and ongoing work. <https://www.greggsfoundation.org.uk/grants/local-community-projects-fund>



Charity reporting: Audit or Independent Examination?



From the UKMSA Treasurer

I have in the past Audited and Independently Examined charities. I know about the processes involved, the time it takes to do properly and the cost. The requirements for both are technical and statutory audits can be very complex and are heavily regulated.

What is an Audit?

An Audit is usually a detailed examination and expression of opinion on the truth and fairness of accounts. To express an opinion an auditor must gather sufficient evidence to fully support that opinion. It is high risk work, particularly when things may be hidden and you need to check existence, ownership and valuation of all assets and liabilities.

I asked for the accident book when I was auditing a Hospital. They wanted to know why "Because I want to know if you have killed any Americans" was my reply "Killing Americans is expensive". I was looking for contingent liabilities which would need to be disclosed in the accounts. I was hunting for events that had occurred during the year which could end up costing money after the year end. That's auditing.

An Audit would be an excessive and unnecessary examination for UKMSA let alone any Men's Shed.

What is an Independent Examination?

In contrast an Independent Examination merely compares the books and records to the final accounts and confirms they agree. Of course the books and records could be utter rubbish and no opinion can be given on the actual truth or fairness of the accounts.

Independent Examiners are however expected to undertake sufficient work to confirm proper books and records have been kept, so will be required for example to check bank statements and receipts. But

What is required?

For UKMSA it is a legal requirement to have an Independent Examination and the members agreed at the last AGM with the trustees' view that we should engage and pay a qualified examiner to do it properly.

But what about member Sheds? What form of Examination should your accounts be subject to? There is actually no legal obligation to have these checked unless your income is £25,000 or higher. An audit is only required if your income exceeds either £1 million or £250,000 when gross assets are £3.26 million.

Chances are most Men's Sheds will not require any form of external Examination unless your Shed's own constitution requires one.

If you do require a formal Independent Examination the [Charity Commission's guidance here](#) explains everything you will need to know.

An (alternative) assurance review

I appreciate having my work checked. I like the reassurance that gives my fellow trustees, the members, our funders, the public and the Charity Commission.

You may feel the same and also want some confirmation that your accounts are OK. In which case you can still ask someone to check the records but you shouldn't call it an Audit or an Independent Examination. Doing so may imply certain procedures have been followed which have not been.

To avoid confusion pick an alternative title and form of words for the report. A simple and short statement should be sufficient. Perhaps something like this:

Assurance report:

"I have checked the above Receipts and Payments Account does agree to the Shed's records and that the final (cash and) bank statement balance(s) agree(s) to the funds held at the year end."

Mark Lindsey
UKMSA Trustee and Treasurer

Coming Next Time: The Trustees' Annual Report



Technical points

From the UKMSA Treasurer

Converting to a CIO: Legal and Accounting Considerations

Men's Sheds often start as unincorporated associations (UIA) because they are quick and easy to establish.

An Unincorporated Association is not, however, a legal entity in its own right. It is akin to a partnership where the members are all jointly and severally liable for any contracts and debts.

As the Shed grows the members may decide there is a need for a more formal structure and the benefits of limited liability. This is where many have chosen to become Charitable Incorporated Organisations.

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is a legal entity which at law has a separate identity from its members - which is why the members are not liable for its debts.

An UIA cannot "convert" to a CIO because it is not a legal entity to start with. What actually happens is the UIA ceases, transfers its assets (and liabilities) to a new CIO and the CIO starts. This is why the new CIO will have to open a new bank account in its own name.

The accounting records should follow the legal position. One set of accounts are brought to a close and a new set are started. The two should never be mixed and separate accounts should be prepared for each.

For a while the two bodies (UIA and CIO) will co-exist, but only one should be active.

When the members of an UIA make a decision to transfer their activity and assets (and liabilities) including the bank balance to a new CIO they will need to decide when to do so and advise anyone using the old account details of the new account (and new CIO status).

The best advice is to pick a clear date to switch from one to the other and have everything set up in time. There is no urgency and the new CIO can be dormant for some time if need be while arranging a new bank account and other matters.

It would be good practice, but not essential, for the UIA to clear any bills first and tidy its own affairs up. If the UIA is in the middle of some activity with financial consequences, such as a fundraising campaign, it may prefer to finish that before transferring over to the CIO. If things are simple a transfer can be done at any convenient time, although a month end always feels tidier.

Think of it being like a house move, choose a completion date and move. All furniture and possessions are transferred in a single day and thereafter you don't return to the old house.

The cash funds transferred is a receipt in the CIO's accounts and should appear as a donation from the UIA in the first Receipts and Payments Account. Under Receipts and Payments accounting other assets, such as tools and equipment, transferred are not recorded as a donation. They should however be included on the list of Shed assets.

There is no need (if you are preparing receipts and payments accounts) to worry about whose bill is who's. Up to transfer date use old account, on transfer day transfer funds (close old account) and thereafter just use the new account going forward.

The old UIA should draw up accounts for the members in accordance with its own constitution. These should show the final transfer as a donation to the CIO and the accounts should then show reserves (funds) going to zero.

The new CIO must keep records and prepare accounts in accordance with the Charities Act. Last month we provided a [Men's Shed Cash Book and Accounts template](#) to help you comply with this legal requirement

Mark Lindsey
UKMSA Trustee and Treasurer

Coming Next Time: CIC or CIO - which one to choose?
Tax, accounting and reporting issues.



NAME THAT SHED RELATED ITEM...

FIND OUT THE ANSWERS BEFORE THE NEXT ISSUE; JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP <https://bit.ly/2H2ftM7> and don't forget to tell us which Shed you're from!

2		7					6	8
	9		6	8	7	3		2
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SHEDOKU

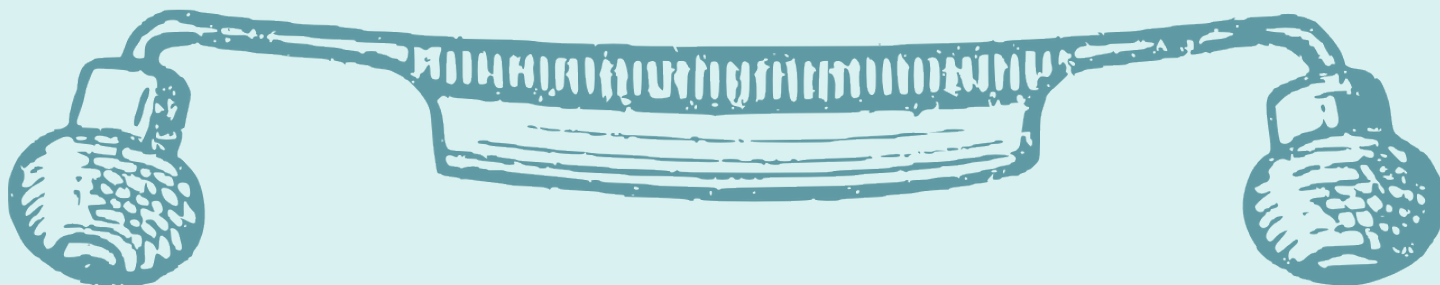


Answers to January Shedoku

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9	2	8	5	1	6	7	3	4
1	5	7	8	2	3	9	4	6
3	9	6	7	5	4	1	2	8
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6	7	2	9	4	8	3	5	1
8	3	1	2	7	5	4	6	9
5	4	9	6	3	1	2	8	7

Answers to January Crossword

[illegible][illegible]

BECAUSE ONE LIFE LOST IS ONE TOO MANY...

This month UKMSA attended the Third National Conference delivered by the Zero Suicide Alliance at the London Museum in the Docklands.

The Zero Suicide Alliance is a collaborative of National Health Service trusts, businesses and individuals who are all committed to suicide prevention in the UK and beyond. The Alliance is ultimately concerned with improving support for people contemplating suicide by raising awareness of and promoting FREE suicide prevention training which is accessible to all. This training aims to: enable people to identify when someone is presenting with suicidal thoughts/behaviour, to be able to speak out in a supportive manner, and to empower them to signpost the individual to the correct services or support.

We are very proud to be a member of the Zero Suicide Alliance and they are one of UKMSA's Third Sector partners.

UKMSA had the opportunity to speak at the conference to a variety of professionals and we were joined by Ambassadors John Latchford, Mike Jenn and Tony Smith-Crallan who did a sterling job imparting their experiences of Sheds to the attendees. Axminster Tools joined us at this event to show both support to the cause and to encourage people to come and find out more about Sheds. From this we have had many positive opportunities present themselves to support the development of new Sheds whilst also providing some insight and managing expectations on social prescribing from a Shed perspective.

The conference was very well attended and included a key note address from the Minister for Suicide, Rt Hon. Nadine Dorries together with speakers from the Mental Health Foundation, Mersey Care and Kings College.

It is incredible and depressing in itself that the biggest single killer of men under the age of 45 is suicide and of all suicides in the UK, three quarters of people who die through suicide are men. Whilst we are by no means the solution to male suicide, we are part of the solution and we hear of so many stories where your Sheds are transforming lives and helping people find a path to a new outlook in life. There are unfortunately and probably inevitably some sad stories too where we have lost some Sheddors.

We are not experts in this field, but we are as an organisation looking at how we develop resources and support to remove the stigma and stimulate conversations for those Sheds and people who want to. As with Sheds, people contemplating suicide exhibit different characteristics, they may come across as happy and jolly as much as they exhibit depression or anxiety. There are a variety of organisations and resources available including mental health first aid and resources on the Zero Suicide Alliance website - www.zerosuicidealliance.com/get-involved/ and there is always the www.samaritans.org who are always at the end of the telephone.

Fellow presenters in the Innovation Zone where we presented were the Lions Barbers Collective www.thelionsbarbercollective.com and www.hubofhope.co.uk who also do tremendous work.

Sheds are caring environments, Sheddors look after each other and in the coming months we are looking to develop resources that can support you in this area in discussions and signpost you to professionals if you wish.

Once again thanks to our staff, Ambassadors and Axminster who attended the conference promoting Men's Sheds. Part of our role, and something we are committed to, is providing support and signposting across the Shed movement to promote positive wellbeing and mental health.

**"WHILST WE ARE BY NO MEANS THE
SOLUTION TO MALE SUICIDE, WE ARE
PART OF THE SOLUTION"**

by Charlie Bethel
UKMSA Chief Officer



HAS YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
LAPSED?

HAVE YOU NEVER
BEEN A MEMBER
OF UKMSA?



HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN!

Now that's
what we're
banging
on about!

DISCOUNTS!

With
membership you
get discounts
and special
offers on
products from
Triton Tools,
Axminster Tools,
ShedStore and
many more

Free Entry to National ShedFest!

Access to a huge
collection of resources
for Sheds from Managing
a Shed to Income
Generation and access
to the our Tool Sharing
Forum.

Networks with Sheds across the
United Kingdom with support
from staff and the well-trained
team of Ambassadors.

ALL FOR JUST £24 A YEAR!

And supporting the wider
Shed Movement to grow.



INSURANCE FOR MEN'S SHEDS AND COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

Export & General is one of the UK's leading specialists in insurance for Community Interest Groups, Charitable Organisations and General Business.

We provide an exclusive tailor-made Men's Shed policy with competitive premiums to over 100 Sheds across the UK. We understand the needs of Shed's, whether they are just starting up or have been running for a decade. We also insure repair cafes and members of the Incredible Edible movement.

WHAT INSURANCE DO WE OFFER TO MEN'S SHEDS?

- £5 million Public/Products Liability (standard)
- £10 million Employers Liability (standard)*
- £250,000 Trustees Indemnity (optional)
- £100,000 Legal Expenses (optional)
- £20,000 Business Interruption (optional)
- Building cover (optional)

FIND OUT MORE:

email tristan.sheppard@exportandgeneral.co.uk,
visit our website at www.mensshedinsurance.co.uk

call us and speak to our team directly on 0208 255 0617

**Under company law in the UK, volunteers are considered employees and thus we recommend Employers Liability to any shed that has voluntary members.*

Export & General Insurance Services Ltd.

IS YOUR SHED EASY TO FIND?



A great way for folks to find your Shed across the UK is through our 'Find a Shed' Page. If your shed is not already signed up or needs to update its details please send them over to admin@ukmsa.org.uk. See if your Shed is on our map here <https://menssheds.org.uk/find-a-shed/>

