



# Southern Men's Shed Network

## Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022

[www.smsn.org.uk](http://www.smsn.org.uk)

Hosted by Church Crookham & Fleet Men's Shed

(Venue: Church Crookham Community Centre, Boyce Rd, Church Crookham, Fleet (GU52 8AQ))

Present: (approx 26 from 12 sheds)

Apologies: Graham Gowman (Nursling), Ken Ebbens West Sussex Cancer Trust

Steve Redrup (Portsea) chaired the meeting, Gerry Johnson (Hayling) took the meeting notes.

### 1. Welcome and Introduction

The chairman (Steve Redrup) opened the meeting at 11:00 and welcomed everyone.

He thanked the Church Crookham & Fleet Men's Shed (CCFMS) for hosting the meeting and for their generous hospitality. He also gave an explanation of the SMSN to those who have not attended before.

### 2. Introduction to Church Crookham & Fleet Men's Shed (Allan Walker)

Alan Walker, Chairman gave the story how they started 5 years ago. Helped largely by working with the Parish Council. Became a CIO 2017 - received £76,1200 from the National Lottery to fund the build of the Shed. During lockdown made PPE face shields with the use of a 3D printer - made 2000 – money raised they gave back to the community.

Current membership 43 with 14 on waiting list. - Membership is £8.00 pm or £80 pa

(Allan Walker's presentation is available on the SMSN Website in the Meetings Documents section)

### 3. Shed News / Updates

**Andover Shed.** Brian Cooke said they were homeless at the present time but is very hopeful of a decision on some new premises that will be made within the next few days. In conjunction with Chapel Arts Studio they now have a shop in the High Street both selling their products and coffee.

They are currently planning their contributions in the upcoming Car-Fest in July.

**Fareham Shed.** Chris Nixon reported that everything was good at the moment - the Shed was open and functioning well and thankfully there were no losses from Covid amongst the members.

**Hayling Island Shed.** Tony George (Chairman) reported that although the Shed has been open for some time the official opening planned for March 2020 didn't happen because of lockdown. They are now planning a scaled down opening in May with the owner of Goodwood, the Duke of Richmond. The Shed now has 86 members and is involved in community projects with local organisations and schools.

**Woking and District Shed.** Roy Westley (Chairman) - Have now opened in Anchor Care Home despite the setbacks since 2019 - they have raised £50,000 and now have 20 members. Plans ongoing.

**Portsea Shed.** Angus Ross. After having to leave their first location in Old Portsmouth (3 years ago), they were allowed to meet and store their assets in the Historic Dockyard in Portsmouth.

Subsequently they managed to get some space in the Gunwharf overflow multi-storey car park, where a disused

filling station used to be located (about 30 years ago).

Largely with funding from their local council (from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)) they have now completed a 1,000 square foot workshop which opened last year. They have undertaken various commissions and are now in good shape.

#### 4. UKMSA Update (Gerry Johnson – West Sussex Ambassador)

##### **Charter for Wellbeing in Craft and DIY.**

To raise a greater awareness to wider organisations of the benefit of Men's Sheds.

Launched 3rd March – House of Commons – Tammy Grey Thompson

Charlie Bethel C O - John Latchford – Chairman. Also present was Luci Love who lost her husband Daron following his struggle with depression.

Her speech: "If only we had known about Men's Sheds, Daron may still be with us"

All Sheds were asked to sign up to the charter to promote the message.

##### **New Partnership – Portable Space.**

Leading UK supplier of Shipping containers, Conversions, Portable cabins, Modular buildings, Steel storage containers. Offering exclusive discounts of £75 which could be increased based on the product purchased.

##### **1000 Faces Project.**

UKMSA have engaged a consultancy company to provide case studies and video clips to create an interactive book that will tell story of Men's Sheds.

They want to start off with a 100 Shedder interviews.

Refer to information sheet available on UKMSA Website.

##### **ShedFEST 2022.**

Saturday 25th June - University Arena, Worcester

Shed of the Year awards

Shed Partnership of the Year - Shed Community Project of the Year

Shed Volunteer of the Year - Shed Health and Wellbeing Impact of the Year - Shed of the Year

##### **UKMSA Office moved.**

Still a virtual office – 49 Station Road, Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 6EA

Email and phone numbers unchanged.

#### 5. The SMSN Website & User Forum (Steve Redrup)

**Before his presentation:** Steve mentioned the new PA system (with wireless microphones) which was being used to help the sound quality when members from the floor are speaking. He wished to thank David Woodhead (Silvers Workshop) for sourcing the system and Nursling, Hayling Island and Portsea Men's Sheds for contributing to the cost.

Steve Redrup then gave an updated version of the presentation he gave, exactly 6 years ago, demonstrating key sections of the SMSN Website and in particular, how to use the Website's Discussion Forum.

He also explained how the Forum is a good tool for exchanging information and questions between the quarterly meetings. He also emphasised that any information posted on the forum in any given week, automatically

generates and is included in the SMSN weekly newsletter, which is emailed to all subscribers.  
(A full copy of Steve's presentation is available on the SMSN Website in the Meetings Documents section)

## 6. Daily Shed Management (General Discussion).

**This item was substituted for the original agenda item (Wessex Cancer Trust ActionMan Campaign) which could not be held due to the speaker being unable to attend.**

Topics mentioned were: Daily attendance, Advantage of having a daily book in / out system. Could help with use of Shed stats when applying for funding. Should be removed in a case of fire evacuation to check all are out of building.

Competency issues regarding use of machine and tools and training. First Aid training.

The need for ICE (In Case of Emergency) records to be readily available in the Shed and does not compromise GDPR if only a name and contact number are public.

## 7. AOB

**Brian Cooke** explained the UKMSA virtual office and the need to cancel any membership renewal cheques that may not have been dealt with. He also asked members to think about the possibility of a regional ShedFEST that could be held in Eastleigh, Manor Farm. Sheds from the Network, I.O.W. and surrounding areas could be involved. Any thoughts to be passed on to him.

**Chris Nixon** informed the meeting he had a quantity rifle butts that had been given by Hampshire Police. He showed some pictures of what could be made with them and offered them to anyone who wanted them. See the Fareham Men's Shed Website [Fareham Men's Shed - Rifle Butt Pictures](#)

## 8. Next SMSN Meeting

Date of the Next Meeting is yet to be confirmed.

It is hoped that the meeting will be in late July or early August.

No Host volunteer as yet. **PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU WOULD BE PREPARED TO HOST JULY/AUG'22.**

## 9. (2:30pm) Meeting closed.

The meeting closed with Steve Redrup giving "Thanks" to Church Crookham & Fleet Men's Shed for hosting and thanked everyone for attending and for such a good turnout in the circumstances.



**NOTE: Viewing the contents of the SMSN ([www.smsn.org.uk](http://www.smsn.org.uk)) Forum does not require registration but to post new content, you must register on the forum to gain update rights.**

**Also, any new posts will automatically be included in the weekly newsletter which is sent to all emailing list subscribers (currently over 120).**

**Anyone can subscribe (Newsletter, Meeting Notices & General Notices) through our website ([www.smsn.org.uk](http://www.smsn.org.uk))**