



Norwich Men's Shed is a registered charity. (Charity No. 1171796)
47-51 Pitt Street, Anglia Square, Norwich, NR3 1DE
norwichmensshed.org.uk

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the period 06 April 2021 – 31 March 2022

Charity name: **Norwich Men's Shed**

Charity registration number: **1171796**

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of Norwich Men's Shed (NMS) are to promote men's good health and wellbeing, for the benefit of the community. In particular for those men who are retired, unemployed, recovering from ill health or addiction, but also those who simply wish to make use of the facilities offered in a safe and friendly environment.

NMS offers a dedicated workshop space for men in the local community – a place to connect, converse and create, addressing key issues around wellbeing, social isolation and loneliness. Members engage in a wide range of meaningful and worthwhile activities with like-minded people, having fun, sharing skills and knowledge and gaining a renewed sense of purpose and belonging. The Shed offers a safe, nurturing environment where members are wanted, valued, and needed. This group of men come together to form a community and the peer support and camaraderie is crucial to maintaining individual wellbeing and good mental health.

All members making a positive contribution to the running of our Shed. Shed members work on their own projects, volunteer their time to undertake public commissions and engage in community-based projects. Some members also mentor/tutor fellow members and community groups.

NMS Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

2021-22 Delivery

We reopened our workshops in May 2021, following (over a) a year of government-enforced lockdown under Covid-19 regulations. The pandemic highlighted universal issues around loneliness and social isolation, which impact on mental health – many men access NMS for these core reasons.

Throughout the year we concentrated on gradually rebuilding our membership after this period of prolonged closure. Ongoing pandemic related regulations meant our workshops looked very different with face coverings required for all users, screened workbenches and a one-way system in place. Our Shed is a place of community, where members naturally work together – social distancing really changed our delivery method and limited the number of members we could have at any one time. We noticed that some members were (naturally) nervous about returning to shared spaces and reconnecting with others – it was imperative that we facilitated a safe space as we gradually regrew our Shed community.

On reopening, we limited workshop attendance to ensure a safe environment – initially (May 2021) we were only able to support existing members, and then offered provision for new members Sept 2021 onwards. 75 men accessed our workshop provision over this timeframe, of which 40 were new



to NMS. Direct beneficiaries are men aged 18 +, this includes men dealing with issues around mental health, physical health, aging, social isolation, unemployment, homelessness and ex-offenders. Due to the nature of our membership, this can vary from the transient, to those who attend regularly on an ongoing basis.

Change in Board –Trustee Recruitment

Pre pandemic (2019-20), we had already identified that we had outgrown our operational model; as a popular facility for men in the local community, we were operating at capacity and had a waiting list of new members. At CIO set-up our board was drawn exclusively from the membership and we recognised the need for change in line with our charitable growth.

Following a successful trustee recruitment campaign, we welcomed Ian Blunnie as a new trustee. A former Parish Councillor and School Governor Ian brings significant experience in community governance and project management and has since stepped up to the chair role (Apr 2022).

Projects and Collaborations:

Although our collaborative working options were significantly reduced due to limited capacity and ongoing Covid restrictions, our members enjoyed participating in the following community projects:

- **Peregrinations** – A collaborative community art project curated by Holly Bodmer that commenced during lockdown as part of Norfolk & Norwich Festival. While our physical workshops were closed, we facilitated remote working on "Peregrinations", in which local artists worked with a selection of community groups. Our members worked with artist Alice Lee, to design and create a selection of automata/props that became an integral part of the final interactive performance at Norwich Cathedral in May 2021.
- **Fairy Door Trail at Cary's Meadow** – Our members designed and created the doors for an interactive fairy door trail as part of Natural Wonder – a project curated by writer Ruthie Collins, to celebrate our connection with the natural world. The doors represent the first member makings created at our workshops after a prolonged period of closure due to the pandemic. This project provided the opportunity for members to be part of a community project while working individually and safely.
- **2 x Community Trees** – Interactive tree sculptures commissioned for learning projects - IntoUniversity (for school workshops/feedback) & Natural Wonder (Learning Aid for Literacy Workshops)
- **Triptych Exhibition Screen** – Our members were commissioned to make the structure for a triptych screen as part of the Norwich Good Economy Exhibition at The Forum. OPEN DOORS - The Story So Far was an interactive exhibition focusing on seldom heard voices within the Norwich community about the local economy.
- **Pigeon Fanciers Mechanical Theatre** – Inspired by collective ideas from working with Norwich Men's Shed for NNF Peregrinations, local artist Alice Lee collaborated with members of our Shed to create this automated installation based on racing pigeons. Together we built a series of mechanised automata that has since been displayed in a number of public-facing venues.



Norwich Men's Shed is a registered charity. (Charity No. 1171796)
47-51 Pitt Street, Anglia Square, Norwich, NR3 1DE
norwichmensshed.org.uk

Financial Review

Funds held 31/03/2022	37,161
Consisting of:	
Restricted Grant Funding	11,690
Unrestricted funds	25,471

Reserves Policy: To maintain a reserve of 3-6 months operating costs with a view to increasing funds held to deal with unexpected events. (Around £15000)

Financial Operating Model:

- Membership fees, donations and income from public commissions/sales of hand-crafted items go towards core ongoing running costs/workshop consumables
- External grant funding covers staff costs
- Any surplus raised from commissions/sales go back into running the charity and are used towards running costs and the purchase of items for the benefit of members, ie larger items of equipment/machinery

In 2021-22 NMS income from membership fees, public commissions and stalls/events was significantly reduced as a direct result of the impact Covid-19 restrictions – any shortfall was recovered through sourcing additional grant funding.

Restricted Grant Funding received from National Lottery Community Fund (Local Connections and Reaching Communities Grants)

Unrestricted Funding received from Norwich City Council (Additional Restrictions Grant) and Arnold Clark (Community Fund)



Norwich Men's Shed is a registered charity. (Charity No. 1171796)
47-51 Pitt Street, Anglia Square, Norwich, NR3 1DE
norwichmensshed.org.uk

Structure, Governance and Management

Norwich Men's Shed (NMS) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

The CIO is governed by a constitution, with charity Trustees being elected by members and the board at the Annual General Meeting.

The Board of Trustees are responsible for general governance and define the direction of the charity.

There is a member elected Operations Committee that sits under the Board of Trustees, who oversee general operations and logistics.

NMS operates as a membership cooperative, with all members having a voice in a coproduction delivery model.

Under their membership agreement, all members help with the running and maintenance of the Shed. Members volunteer time and expertise to facilitate our workshop provision and their input is essential to our operational model. Volunteers are supported by (part-time) paid Coordinator and Supervisor roles.

Norfolk based CIO MensCraft originally set up the Norwich Shed in 2013 – NMS then became an independent CIO in 2017. A small member led charity, NMS originally self-funded through membership contributions and public commissions – as costs have increased and membership has grown, we now apply for grant-funding as required to enable our charity to remain operational.

Over the years, NMS have grown from a small club with a handful of members into a popular, respected and well-known local charity that actively works with other charities and community projects in the area.



Norwich Men's Shed is a registered charity. (Charity No. 1171796)
47-51 Pitt Street, Anglia Square, Norwich, NR3 1DE
norwichmensshed.org.uk

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Norwich Men's Shed
Registered charity number	1171796
Charity's principal address	47-51 Pitt Street Anglia Square Norwich NR3 1DE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Ian Blunnie	Chairman (from 13 Apr 2022)	From 15 Dec 2021	Members AGM
2	Matt Sims	Chairman (to 13 Apr 2022)		Members AGM
3	Tim Ridgley	Treasurer (to 23 Aug 2022)		Members AGM
4	Graham Ives			Members AGM
5	Andrew Jones			Members AGM
6	Richard Arundell	Treasurer (from 23 Aug 2022)	From 07 Jul 2022	Board of Trustees (co-opted trustee)

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Ian Blunnie

Tim Ridgley

Position

Chair

Treasurer (former)

Date

30/01/2023

Independent examiner's report on the accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Norwich Men's Shed

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 March 2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

1171796

Set out on pages

1 - 2

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

N Fowler

Date:

25/01/2023

Name:

Nicola Fowler, NJF Accounts Ltd

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
	Member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation
Address:	21 Springfields
	Poringland, Norwich
	NR14 7RG

Section B	Disclosure
	<p>Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.(E.g. accounting records have not been kept in accordance with s132 of the Charities’ Act 2011 and those accounts do not comply with the requirements of the 2008 Regulations setting out the form and content of charity accounts; any material expenditure or action which appears not to be in accordance with the trusts of the charity; any failure to be provided with information and explanations by any past or present trustee, officer or employee; and any material consistency between the accounts and the trustees’ annual report.)</p>

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Norwich Men's Shed

Reg Charity 1171796

Income and Expenditure Report for the period ending 31st March 2022

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Income			
Course Income	680		680
Donations	937		937
Grant Income	7,117	12,500	19,617
Membership Fees	5,187		5,187
Misc	145		145
Project Income	802		802
Sales	2,443		2,443
Total Income	17,311	12,500	29,811
b/f Current acc	9,458	35,967	45,425
Cash	91	0	91
Paypal	0	0	0
			75,327
Expenditure			
Contractor Fees		27,331	27,331
Equipment/Tools	312	358	670
General Materials	46	108	154
Maintenance	229	308	537
Membership Refund	60		60
Office Costs	138	161	299
Premises Costs		4,968	4,968
Project Costs	312	143	455
Promotion	120	282	402
Refreshments	86	220	306
Service Fees		1,273	1,273
Training		1,625	1,625
Travel	87		87
Total Expenditure	1,390	36,777	38,167
c/f Current accs	25,377	11,690	37,067
Cash	91	-	93
Paypal	-	-	-
			75,327

Norwich Men's Shed

Reg Charity 1171796

Income and expenditure Report for the period ending 31st March 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Income		
Course Income	680	0
Donations	937	366
Grant Income	19,617	44,944
Membership Fees	5,187	1,545
Misc	145	0
Project Income	802	425
Sales	2,443	135
Total Income	29,811	47,415
Expenditure		
Contractor Fees	27,331	16,659
Equipment/Tools	670	122
General Materials	154	216
Maintenance	537	1,095
Membership Refund	60	320
Miscellaneous	-	50
Office Costs	299	80
Premises Costs	4,968	1,617
Project Costs	455	0
Promotion	402	115
Refreshments	306	0
Service Fees	1,273	649
Training	1,625	135
Travel	87	26
Total Expenditure	38,167	21,085
Net Income/(Expenditure)	(8,356)	26,330