



Norwich Men's Shed is a registered charity. (Charity No. 1171796)  
Saint Martin's Hall Church, Oak St, Norwich, NR3 3AQ  
[norwichmensshed.org.uk](http://norwichmensshed.org.uk)

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## Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the period 01 April 2024 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

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

Charity registration number: **1171796**

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### 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 make 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.

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### Achievements and Performance

#### Milestones

In October 2024, NMS signed a 10-year lease with Norwich Historic Churches Trust for the recently vacated former church hall - St. Martins at Oak, Oak Street, Norwich NR3 3AQ.

The site had been used until recently as music studios and a circus performers practice venue.

A great deal of work was required to initially make the space safe for occupation due to Asbestos paint on the floor and other issues. Significant fund raising was required and achieved to enable a complex system for heat and power to be available in the main workshop space at each bench.

Some members worked for days across many weeks to get the space ready for occupation. Members also then created new workbenches and machine rooms, utilising and reusing existing materials wherever possible.

#### Post year-end update:-

The NMS workshop was able to fully reopen to members and Headway Charity members in May 2025. We have then started to have further open days and updates on social media to encourage membership growth.

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### 2023-24 Delivery:

95 men accessed NMS workshop provision April 2024 – October 2024, when the workshop closed to make the move to the new premises. (Since the reopening in May 2025, membership is slowly reestablishing to former numbers, with a more diverse age range as a result of most recent new membership).

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

In addition to our daytime workshop sessions, we hosted a number of member-led evening socials, including skill-sharing, demonstrations and community meals.

The skills sharing element of the service offering is more active than ever, specifically around lathe / wood turning.

Community projects and commissions undertaken are also now more active than in previous years.

### Projects and Collaborations:

Alongside workshop provision for members, we supported a number of community events and activities. Highlighted projects, collaborations and events included:

- **Participation at community events/exhibitions:**

Norfolk Community Foundation Showcase, Forum market events and Community Garden Planter building are a couple of the many events that Members attended, acting as Shed ambassadors and promoted the benefits of NMS membership alongside showcasing items they'd made as members.

- **Commissions created in partnership with local community-based organisations:**

Examples since the workshop reopened in May 2025:- Bench repairs for the Julian Hospital, items for the Mayoral Procession and working with Headway service users during their weekly sessions has been the main activities since reopening.

### Financial Review

<b>Funds held 31/03/2025</b>	<b>£76,180</b>
<b>Consisting of:</b>	
Restricted Grant Funding	£10,525
Unrestricted funds	£65,655

**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 £20,000).

### Financial Operating Model:



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- 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, i.e. larger items of equipment/machinery

**Grant Funding allocated to this financial year:** Norfolk Community Foundation, Aviva Community Fund, Geoffrey Watling, Garfield Weston and others.

We also received donations from Waitrose, via a Crown Funder (which raised funds for the move) and others.

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## 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 Manager 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.

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## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Norwich Men's Shed
Registered charity number	1171796



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<b>Charity's principal address</b>	Saint Martin's Hall Church Oak St Norwich NR3 3AQ
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**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

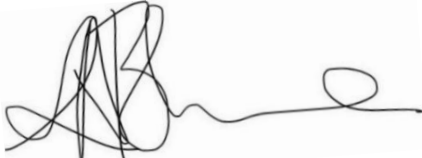

	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	<b>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</b>
1	Ian Blunnie	Chairman		Members AGM
2	Richard Arundell	Treasurer		Members AGM
3	Matt Sims			Members AGM
4	Tim Ridgley			Members AGM

**Declarations**

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

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

**Signature(s)**

	
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**Full name(s)**

Ian Blunnie	Richard Arundell
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**Position**

Chair	Treasurer
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**Date**

01/09/2025
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**Norwich Men's Shed**

Reg Charity 1171796

**Income and Expenditure Report for the year ending 31 March 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
<b>Income</b>		
Course Income	325	845
Donations	22,858	1,553
Grant Income	37,528	55,389
Membership Fees	9,355	9,988
Misc	170	-
Project Income	3,328	3,020
Rebill electricity (to adjacent property)	336	1,389
Sales	2,013	4,332
Workshop Hire	5,710	9,750
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>81,623</b>	<b>86,266</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Bank Fees	52	89
Contractor Fees	1,694	16,307
Equipment/Tools	1,080	517
General Materials	795	281
Maintenance	1,302	1,229
Office Costs	952	236
Premises Costs	13,944	14,646
Premises Relocation Costs	9,840	-
Project Costs	898	420
Promotion	24	532
Refreshments	502	1,134
Service Fees	10,324	542
Staff Costs	31,218	23,007
Training	-	99
Travel	122	107
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>72,748</b>	<b>59,145</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>	<b>8,876</b>	<b>27,120</b>

Independent Examiner: Triple Bottom Line Accounting Limited

**Notes**

No Trustee received Remuneration

There were no Related Party transactions

**Norwich Men's Shed**

Reg Charity 1171796

**Income and Expenditure Report for the year ending 31 March 2025**

		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
<b>Income</b>				
	Course Income	325	-	325
	Donations	4,930	17,927	22,858
	Grant Income	12,000	25,528	37,528
	Membership Fees	9,355	-	9,355
	Misc	170		170
	Project Income	3,328		3,328
	Rebill electricity (to adjacent property)	336	-	336
	Sales	2,013	-	2,013
	Workshop Hire	5,710	-	5,710
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>38,168</b>	<b>43,456</b>	<b>81,623</b>
<b>b/f</b>				
	Current acc	49,623	13,850	63,473
	Cash	31	-	31
	Zettle	50	-	50
	Payroll Deposit Held Externally	4,000	-	4,000
	Deposits Held	(250)	-	(250)
		53,455	13,850	67,305
				<b>148,928</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
	Bank Fees	52	-	52
	Contractor Fees	100	1,594	1,694
	Equipment/Tools	568	512	1,080
	General Materials	307	488	795
	Maintenance	1,181	122	1,302
	Office Costs	952	-	952
	Premises Costs	11,113	2,831	13,944
	Premises Relocation Costs	-	9,840	9,840
	Project Costs	898	-	898
	Promotion	24	-	24
	Refreshments	475	27	502
	Service Fees	9,538	785	10,324
	Staff Costs	637	30,581	31,218
	Training	-	-	-
	Travel	122	-	122
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>25,968</b>	<b>46,780</b>	<b>72,748</b>
<b>c/f</b>				
	Current acc	10,079	-	10,079
	Business Instant Access	51,414	10,525	61,939
	Cash	362	-	362
	Zettle	50	-	50
	Payroll Deposit Held Externally	4,000	-	4,000
	Deposits Held	(250)	-	(250)
		65,655	10,525	76,180
				<b>148,928</b>



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<sup>st</sup> March 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

1171796

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2025.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which 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:

Date: 27/08/2025

Name:

Peter Ellington FAIA

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Peter Ellington is a practicing member of the Association of International Accountants.

Address:

Triple Bottom Line Accounting Limited, The Enterprise Centre, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TJ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

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

The books and records for Norwich Men's Shed are maintained to a high standard, and all supporting documentation was easily accessible.

There are no other significant matters to report.