

The Henfield Shed

Trustees Report to the Members for the year ending 31st Dec 2024

The year has been characterised by one single feature – Change.

At the start of the year, we were pursuing the planning application to develop the Tanyard Barn in Henfield for our use on a long term lease from Horsham District Council (HDC). The planning application which was costly financially and in time led to our application being approved for planning, but we were warned that the Planning Committee would turn down the application. It turned out that HDC discovered, late in the day, that they were not permitted to allow development of the building. They offered us the opportunity to lease the current building, but as this was not sufficient for our needs, we turned down the offer.

We succeeded in negotiating for a refund of all the money spent on the application and this refund of £3823.03 is shown as ‘other income’ in the accounts.

At the same time, we were informed that the owners of Southdown House were imminently putting the building up for sale, and all our last-minute attempts to find an alternative location in the village came to nothing. We are most grateful, therefore, to Dale and Audrey who stepped in to offer us their barn in Small Dole for use as a workshop. Late summer was spent fitting out the barn to accommodate the workshop, repairing and making habitable the ‘portakabin’ as a coffee shop, and installing and fitting out two containers to make a workshop and wood store.

The more remote location compared with our previous High Street location has been a disadvantage, and some members, notably those living in Partridge Green who were accustomed to using public transport, have not been able to attend. The cost of fitting out the new premises amounted to £3246.93 as reflected in the accounts for the year.

We have lost the convenience of people just popping in with repairs and for a chat. Our interface with the public is therefore more difficult. To counter this we now have a permanent presence at Henfield’s Repair Café once each month and we continue to participate in community events in Henfield.

Our finances remain healthy. As of the end of December 2024, our bank balance stood at £57,067.88 compared with £53,045.67 at the end of the previous year. Our income during the year from donations amounted to £ 2,939 (£6762 shown in the accounts less the refund from HDC). Our income was boosted by £1979 received in Gift Aid repayments from tax paid by our donors, a valuable contribution to our funds.

The cost of fitting out the new workshop was a major item of expense, and we ended the year with a small surplus of £118, largely due to the refund from HDC.

Our 'steady state' levels of activity now produces a surplus each month. Money not needed for working capital is being reserved to fund a permanent home for the Shed when find one. The drive to find a new, permanent, home for the Shed continues, so far without success.

During the move from Henfield to Small Dole, much of our activities became disrupted and recording of attendances became difficult. Comparisons with previous years activities are therefore not possible. Nevertheless, we recorded 186 number of days open and 1173 people attending. While open we continued the pattern of making or repairing individual and community projects.

Membership numbers at the end of the year were 33, compared with 37 at the end of December 2023.

As usual, we had 'a 'Shedders day out', this time to visit the Bluebell Railway, a successful event as judged by those who were able to attend. Thank you to Frankie for making the arrangements. We also ran a stand at Henfield's Gardens and Arts Festival in June and participated in Henfield's Late Night Shopping event in December.

During the year, the trustees asked Emma Cole to join the Board of Trustees to serve alongside the other trustees of The Henfield Shed. Emma was the former owner and editor of BN5 magazine and is well connected and liked in Henfield. She brings with her an in-depth knowledge of Henfield, its people and institutions and will be a valuable asset to our charity. Emma's continuation as a Trustee will be subject to your ratification at the AGM. In accordance with the constitution both Neville de Moraes and Peter Tiplady are due to stand down and both offer themselves for re-election.

Bryan Sheldon stood down as a Trustee during the year. Our thanks and appreciation to Bryan for his time, effort and enthusiasm while he was a Trustee. He has been the architect for our Health and Safety procedures as well as devising and delivering induction training to all new members. His readiness to be of service was noteworthy.

Our very big thanks go to the team which turned up regularly during August, September and October last year to repair, re-roof, paint and otherwise lend a hand to make our current premises habitable and workable. Without their untiring efforts, we would not be where we are now. Our special thanks go to Dale and Audrey for the use of their barn and premises for our activities. Without their generosity, we would not have been able to operate as an organisation.

Our thanks also to all our members who have stood by us during this year of change, weathering the disruption, helping to rebuild and, most importantly, continuing to be active members of the Henfield Shed.

The Trustees of The Henfield Shed

August 2025

The Henfield Shed
Profit And Loss Account
For the year ended 31 December 2024

		2024 £	2023 £
Income	Christmas Lunch	-	249
	Donation - unreserved	6,488	8,063
	Gift Aid	1,979	-
	Income - other	3,823	51
	Members' attendance payment	705	910
	Membership	1,025	592
	Petty Cash adjustment	931	404
	Petty Cash Float	3	84
		<u>14,954</u>	<u>10,352</u>
Expenses	Christmas lunch	(21)	(273)
	Electricity	(429)	(773)
	Event fees	(35)	-
	Infrastructure	(278)	(921)
	Insurance	-	(368)
	Licence Fees	(2,130)	(3,204)
	Office expenses	-	(155)
	Other professional fees	(30)	(44)
	Petty cash float adjustment	(84)	(90)
	Petty Cash withdrawal	(850)	(600)
	Project Materials	(1,219)	(1,410)
	Refreshments	(198)	(142)
	Small Dole	(3,251)	-
	Social Activities	-	(201)
	Sundry	(100)	(14)
	Tannery Barn	(1,464)	(1,018)
	Tools and machinery	(741)	(520)
	Trustees expenses	(76)	(42)
		<u>(10,906)</u>	<u>(9,776)</u>
		4,047	576
Taxation	Tax	<u>(106)</u>	<u>(107)</u>
		(106)	(107)
Net profit		<u>3,941</u>	<u>469</u>

The Henfield Shed
Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2024

		2024	2023
		£	£
Bank accounts	Current account	9,830	4,147
	Reserve Account Shed 2	<u>47,240</u>	<u>48,982</u>
		57,070	53,129
Net assets		<u>57,070</u>	<u>53,129</u>
		£	£
Beneficiaries	Income account	53,129	52,660
	Net profit	<u>3,941</u>	<u>469</u>
		57,070	53,129
Total funds		<u>57,070</u>	<u>53,129</u>