

NORTHALLERTON MEN'S SHED

England & Wales - Charity number 1181937

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-02-08

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS: TO PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY PREVENTING PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY MEN AGED 18 OR OVER, WITHIN NORTHALLERTON AND THE SURROUNDING AREA, FROM BECOMING SOCIALLY EXCLUDED, RELIEVING THE NEEDS OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE SOCIALLY EXCLUDED AND ASSISTING THEM TO INTEGRATE INTO SOCIETY THROUGH THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN WHICH THEY CAN MEET TO UNDERTAKE CREATIVE, PHYSICAL OR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, LEARN OR PASS ON SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE, AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER SOCIALLY. FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLAUSE 'SOCIALLY EXCLUDED' MEANS BEING EXCLUDED FROM SOCIETY, OR PARTS OF SOCIETY, AS A RESULT OF ONE OF MORE OF THE FOLLOWING FACTORS: UNEMPLOYMENT; FINANCIAL HARDSHIP; YOUTH OR OLD AGE; ILL HEALTH (PHYSICAL OR MENTAL); SUBSTANCE ABUSE OR DEPENDENCY INCLUDING ALCOHOL AND DRUGS; DISCRIMINATION ON THE GROUNDS OF SEX, RACE, DISABILITY, ETHNIC ORIGIN, RELIGION, BELIEF, CREED, SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER RE-ASSIGNMENT; POOR EDUCATIONAL OR SKILLS ATTAINMENT; RELATIONSHIP AND FAMILY BREAKDOWN; POOR HOUSING (THAT IS HOUSING THAT DOES NOT MEET BASIC HABITABLE STANDARDS); OR CRIME (EITHER AS A VICTIM OF CRIME OR AS AN OFFENDER REHABILITATING INTO SOCIETY).

Activities: A community workshop providing facilities where people can undertake recreational activities to relieve stress, combat social isolation and develop a sense of self worth.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Recreation
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- North Yorkshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	£12,222	£7,287	-	-
2024-05-31	£28,344	£26,674	-	-
2023-05-31	£15,097	£11,813	-	-
2022-05-31	£16,120	£11,270	-	-
2021-03-31	£6,812	£15,358	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Barry Puttock BSc C Eng	Chair	2018-11-29
Christopher Riley		2019-05-01
Laurence Ward		2019-05-01
Martin Dunn		2019-05-28
Peter Kenneth Harding		2025-04-01

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Chairmans Report 2024- May 2025

First I would like to comment on the ongoing success of the shed in terms of its stated aims of being a friendly community workshop where people can come and do stuff, it doesn't have to be great craftsmanship or pioneering inventions it just has to fit the framework of you doing something creative to keep the brain and hands active, and offer you the chance to learn or teach as the case may be, when chatting over a workbench.

Last year we had just expanded into this activity space and I'm so glad we did, its proving to be much more than just a coffee room and I'm glad to see we are getting increased numbers on our Tuesday craft activities.

At the last AGM we announced that we wanted to increase the number of people involved in the management of the shed and accordingly I am glad to explain how we see that working.

I know there are a number of new members here but just so that you are all aware let me recap on the Trustees as they have been since last year. (Show slide)

I think most of you can identify myself (Chairman) and our secretary (chiefly responsible for the terrible jokes in Chat & Chisel) but also the guy who finds the money we need for new projects. Chris ably assisted by Tug produce our monthly Chat & Chisel, which doesn't just go to members but also to our supporters, benefactors and outside agencies who work to introduce their clients who might gain benefit from joining us.

Peter Harding (our Treasurer) took over from Jim Bell last year and has done a sterling job of looking after our finances. Larry Ward our Membership secretary is the one who will chase you if you haven't paid your subs, he and Chris also manage the Gift Aid returns allowing us to get a little something extra from the subs you all pay. Larry also coordinates the table sales. Martin Dunn primarily looks after the management of our numerous WhatsApp groups, especially getting new members onto the butty line. Martin also coordinates the day supervisor calendar so that we all know when we are on duty and find stand ins when we can't be there. They will all have a few words to say about their individual responsibilities.

So now we come to the newly co-opted members of the management committee. Gordon has in fact been in post since last year when he took on being our permanent quartermaster, but he's the one that monitors to blackboard to see what has been requested. The others are generally connected with different interest areas but that is only a guide, so that you know who to approach if you have a query.

They like all the other day supervisors will signpost you to the person who can help you best.

At this point I would like to emphasise that we would like you all to remember to wear your name badges, we have lots of new members and it really does help to let them learn names. If you keep forgetting to bring your badge, why not get into the habit of leaving it on the washing line at the back of the kitchen counter as you leave for the day, then you will always have it when you come next time.

I would like now to thank all the people who have given up a few hours to help on one of our sales stalls, or indeed have made items for us to sell. This is an invaluable part of our long-term viability. Its not just the money we take but also the interest generated and the publicity throughout the

community. We have had a number of new members through these contacts as well as donations of tools and materials.

I would also like to thank Chris for the work he has done with the Darlington Building Society who display our goods for sale and bring in a very healthy amount, particularly in the sales of hedgehog boxes which Eric Whitehead and some of the ladies make during Friday sessions, Northallerton must have the cosiest hedgehog community in Yorkshire. We have developed a really healthy partnership with DBS who from a community point of view seem to be proud to have our work on sale.

I also want to make special mention of Julie Ward who has single handedly sold hundreds of pounds worth of sheep, elephants and flower baskets. Thanks also to some of the ladies who have organised tables at some further out craft stalls and have spread our name whilst taking in some funds.

There has been a suggestion that the opening of the workshop to mixed woodworking activities on a Tuesday morning is being well supported and that some would like this to continue through the afternoon. I think we should do this as long as we have supervisor cover for the whole day and that we respect the needs of the computer group who have priority in the coffee room on a Tuesday afternoon. Perhaps Martin can check that we can have cover until 4pm.

I want to pay tribute to the butty team that keep us fed on Monday lunchtimes it is very much appreciated.

I also want to thank all those who came for our Wednesday deep clean session, it was well attended and made a big improvement. Of course, like all successful things we will certainly want to repeat it but the cleaner and tidier you keep the workshops the less often we will have to step in with a special event. Please look at where you have been working before you leave and ask yourself "Is this as tidy as I would like to have found it".

Other than that, keep up the good work, enjoy your sessions here, help others to do the same, and spread the word.

Opening Balances:

Barclays Bank current account	£	3,551.80
Barclays Bank premium reserve	£	15,054.63
Virgin Money fixed term deposit	£	45,388.52
Virgin Money current account	£	100.00
Cash	£	132.00
HMRC debtor re Gift Aid claim	£	1,574.20
Advance payment 2025-26 Subs	-£	1,740.00

£ 64,061.15

Shed Income:

Bank Interest (gross)	£	644.78
Grants	£	-
Donations	£	1,327.30
GiftAided	£	1,572.00
Subs Weekly	£	3,451.60
Subs Annual 2024-25	£	2,782.50
Sales	£	2,001.44
Misc.	£	442.62

£ 12,222.24

Other Income:

PayPal uncollected	£	89.40
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£ 89.40

Cash held re Daily Subs Float

£ 50.00

Cash held re Mart Car Park

£ 81.00

Shed Expenditure:

Rent	-£	4,000.00
Insurance	£	-
Water	£	-
Bank Charges	-£	3.46
Electricity	-£	766.00
Gas	-£	211.02
Repairs	-£	88.79
Equipment	-£	256.61
Consumables	-£	844.81
Café	-£	63.13
Misc.	-£	1,053.86

-£ 7,287.68

£69,216.11

Closing Balances:

Barclays Bank - Current A/C	£	1,257.78
Barclays Bank - Reserve A/C	£	14,100.43
Virgin Money	£	95.00
Virgin Money - Deposit A/C	£	53,492.50
Cash on hand	£	181.00
PayPal	£	89.40

£69,216.11

Difference £0.00

Notes

Shed net Income / outflow (-) £ 4,934.56

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It falls on me to once again to give you a roundup of the past year.

Jim Bell, our treasurer is intending to move north to be nearer to family. Jim stepped in when Alan Bush retired due to ill health and I want to thank him for the sterling job he has done. From this meeting Jim will be handing over the reins to Peter Harding and he will be the go-to guy if you need any expenses covered, as well as bringing his banking expertise to our funds.

Twelve months ago, we were contemplating extending the lease to extend into the old Auction Hall, well haven't we come along way. I can't claim much credit, as I did some drawings and disappeared off to America.

As always members got stuck in, and here we are today in this bright airy meeting room. So, a big thank you to all who helped. Moving out of the old room gave us the opportunity to move the lathes in there which I think has made a big difference.

Our procedure of everyone having a work box on the racking in here is starting to pay off with a lot less clutter in the workshop, but there is still room for improvement as I try to encourage you all to follow the clean bench policy, in order to leave the workshop as others would like to find it.

We are now moving toward a settling phase where we have to assess how well our facility matches the needs of our membership, to do this the trustees have decided that we should increase the size of the management team, in order to get better feedback on needs both current and future.

We want to co-opt members from different groups and interest areas, and hope that some of you will put yourselves forward before I have to rustle up a press gang. Please talk to one of the trustees if you would be prepared to join the management team, it's not onerous but I can say it's hugely rewarding when a project you have steered comes to fruition.

Apart from the establishment of this meeting room and its associated facility, the main capital spending this year has been,

Floor mounted Bandsaw

Professional quality scroll saw

A heavy duty wood lathe

Two dust extractors and one more ceiling mounted air cleaner

A variable power supply

4 more lightweight cordless drills

In addition, Gordon accepted the position as our quartermaster and is doing a great job in ensuring that our consumables are replenished.

Obviously, our main concern in taking on the extra cost of this space is long term affordability and whilst we have doubled our rent commitment as well as extra utility predictions, the increase in members, as well as the revenue from goods that our members have made, have taken us a long way toward that target.

I'm sure that Jim will give us a report on the exact figures, but I'm pleased to say we will be maintaining the current membership and day subs at the present level.

To further underwrite our long-term security, we are pleased to say that we are one of the benefactors of a local residents will, and the money will be invested to give us a cushion should we be unable to cover our yearly costs or should we ever be forced to relocate.

So where do we go from here? –

I think our broad aims to provide a community workshop, with a warm, friendly atmosphere, based on the idea that being creative will lead to, a satisfaction in learning or teaching is as valid today as five years ago.

I trust that the enhancement of our management team will build on our success whilst keeping the workload on any individual as low as possible.

Our sessions are all possible because our willing band of day supervisors make it so, but we would like to increase the number of day supervisors we have in order that no one has to do more than one duty per month if possible. We will organise a training session in a few weeks time, so if you would be prepared to take a share of this role, please put your name on the list on the workshop door.

As I have said at previous meetings, if two or three people have a similar interest in something we do not currently provide for, please write a brief summary and give it to one of the management team, if you need equipment, materials or expertise in order that it may benefit others.

Let's see what 2025 brings us

NORTHALLERTON MEN'S SHED
Annual Accounts 1st June 2023 to 31st May 2024

Bank Balance at 1st June 2023	£17,075.61	Total funds	£17,255.61
Cash in hand	£180.00		
Expenditure			
Rent	£6,323.63		
Insurance	£1,144.31		
Gas & Electricity	£1,952.83		
Improvement works and New equipment	£12,579.88		
Consumable	£3,118.43		
Miscellaneous Expenditure	£1,554.84		
TOTAL	£26,673.92		£26,673.92
Income			
Grants	£11,500.00		
Donations	£1,151.20		
Gift Aid	£1,294.98		
Weekly & Annual Subscriptions	£11,230.44		
Sales	£2,318.81		
Misc Income	£848.11		
TOTAL	£28,343.54		£28,343.54
Income exceeded expenditure by			£1,669.62
Bank Balance at 31st May 2024	£18,849.07		
Cash in Hand	£76.16		
		Total funds	£18,925.23

No audit undertaken as income was only £28,343 of which £11,230 was members own contributions
See Annual accounts summary.

D Puttock

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This is really our first full post pandemic year, and in my last statement at the AGM I said that we were trying to ensure that we had a sustainable income to ensure continued operation, and as our accounts will show we have pretty much done that, however this has emphasised a different problem.

That problem was also mentioned in that last report, it is one which, in a way, is of our own making. We are **too successful**. That is, there are days when so many people want to attend that it becomes overcrowded. In the coffee room for sure there are times when you can't find a chair, or even somewhere to put a chair. Also in the workshop we have sometimes struggled for bench space and sometimes all the lathes have been in use and people standing waiting.

Added to our own success, the number of referrals from NHS occupational therapists and social workers has brought in a stream of people who might benefit from time in the shed but we can't devote time and space to them.

Quite fortuitously, we were approached by our landlords to say that they were intending to vacate some premises adjacent to ours and offering to let us take a lease on a further 1000 sq.ft.

The trustees then had the problem of weighing up our desire for the space with the added cost in a time of rising energy costs. In the end we put it to a members meeting which was attended by nearly 80% of our 75 members, and the vote to take on the space was unanimous.

As we close out the financial year we look to the members to help in any way they can to fit out the new space and turn it into a much bigger and improved craft room and social area. We will then be able to reorganise and expand the workshop.

Our Tuesday craft group has been running for a full year now, but has not seen the number of attendees that we might have expected. Perhaps this needs reviewing once we get the new craft space operational to see if better publicity will find more variety of crafts. The other possible option is to open the workshop on Tuesdays, but this will certainly need more day supervisors to ease the commitment shown by our current supervisors.

The Friday ladies day seems to have reached a plateau of about 12 members and an average of 9 per session. The standard of their work is inspiring but as previously they still need a number of guys for advice and certain machine operations. I would like suggestions on how to progress the development of the ladies sessions.

The Tuesday afternoon computer group seems to be continuing in the same vein as last year being clinic style but with a small core of regular members. They generally manage themselves but I get the impression that they would like to encourage a few more into regular attendance, perhaps by changing to a membership+ similar to the rest of the shed

users, but scaled down as they only meet for two hours. I would welcome suggestions on this.

We supported Northallertons' Christmas Committee by making over 100 wooden tree ornaments for children to decorate as well as a number of freestanding sign posts.

We have participated in a couple of sales events such as Romanby Scarecrow Festival and a couple more are coming up later this year. Although we were able to sell some of our wares the publicity always brings interested comment and sometimes new members.

We are grateful to the Darlington Building Society for their continued support in having some of our items for sale on their counter; this has helped with cash inflow, as well as exposure for our activities.

My personal thanks to the trustees for the time they have given and all the day supervisors for taking on the essential running of the shed. I look forward to a very busy year to come.

Northallerton Men's Shed Accounts Summary 1/06/2022 until 30/05/2023

Balance Brought Forward from 30/05/22 £13791.89

Closing bank balance 30/05/23 £17075

Difference Income over Expenditure £3283.72

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Grants	3599.00	Equipment	3886.29
Donations	43.11	Rent	4220.42
Weekly & Annual Subs	9463	Gas & Electricity	2190.74
Sales	532.71	Consumables	583.74
Miscellaneous	409.95	Insurance	(paid in previous year)
Gift aid	1049.25	Miscellaneous	371.25
TOTAL INCOME	15097.07	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	11813.44

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Accounts

First I want to thank Alan Bush for his service as a trustee and Treasurer for the last three years, and to welcome Jim Bell who has agreed to take over that role.

Those of you who were at last years AGM may remember that I described two main aims for the future of our Men's Shed.

The first was to make it a safe, friendly atmosphere and I think we have done very well in that respect. The regular Monday catering is very popular and we recognise Rob for his great work in making it a success. I am also glad to see so many members freely giving of their time to help others.

The second aim was to attain a sound financial position. We are nearing that position although the effect of expected energy cost rises leaves some area of uncertainty. Our membership fees currently cover the bulk of the cost of insurance, fire extinguishers and other domestic costs. We currently have a need to find £4000/year for rent and £2000/year for utilities.

We started the year with average attendance of 12 per session; 2 sessions per week giving us a day subs income of £3600. Fortunately at the start of our year we were still being charged at 75% rent rate and our landlords also gave us some rent relief during the period we were closed due to the Covid pandemic. We announced at the last AGM that the Northallerton Computer Group would become part of the Men's Shed and would meet here on Tuesday afternoons, that has added a welcome £1000 to our income but I think they are still finding their feet in terms of establishing a regular attendance as opposed to a drop in clinic style, which is always difficult to service.

The ladies day which was tabled at the last AGM was trialled with a series of 3 taster sessions in November and after a very positive reception we decided to make Fridays a regular ladies day.

Ladies day has started positively with 11 paid up members and a regular attendance of at least 8.

With an increase of members at the Monday and Thursday sessions we are now able to cover our fixed costs from our membership subscriptions.

Job done ? – not quite

Chris has been successful in attracting donations and grants to enable us to purchase a much improved table saw, air filtration units, aprons, cooking equipment and a host of small consumable items. It is time now to think about how we might spend

further funds to the best use of the members. The majority of grants are given for specific project aims, not for running costs.

Ladies days whilst largely successful need more help in stewardship and guidance. We are grateful to Larry, Foz, Ian and Eric for their regular assistance but it seems that it is still going to be some time before the ladies are able to operate without guys to help. I would like to think that one or two more guys would be prepared to add themselves to the rota of session helpers, and still hope that we will find one or two ladies who are confident enough to take over leadership roles.

Towards the end of the period, the trustees were worried about the increase in members as there were occasional days when up to 20 members were in and it was becoming very busy. With over 50 members at that time we we're having to consider how it might be limited. The trustees do not want to take actions such as booking sessions or limiting which day members can attend as this does not fit with our policy of a relaxed friendly atmosphere, we want people to feel they can come when it suits them. At the end of the 2021/22 financial period renewals are about 80% plus a few new members so we are at about our comfortable numbers for these premises.

One of the other ways of fitting in more people is to operate more sessions, the problem here is that our pool of day supervisors is already very thin and many are being called on more than once a month (which is our aim), so more sessions requires more active day supervisors.

One new incentive is that a couple of members requested that they trial a craft session on Tuesday mornings (before computer group). During this time any sort of clean crafts could be envisaged such as bookbinding, tiffany style glass work, sewing etc but excluding the woodwork equipment. This has now had a number of meetings and is open to all members male or female, just turn up at 10 on a Tuesday morning.

Finally we all should say a big thank you to all the day supervisors who, have taken on the responsibilities of opening/closing bring milk (often refusing expenses), and have helped prospective members get a flavour of what we have to offer.

So what of the future, I haven't heard any grumbles so more of the same, I suppose. My main concern at present is space and storage. We obviously want to offer each of our members the space to safely leave their part finished projects but that is becoming difficult so we must look to see if we can improve tidiness and utilise space better. We are already having to store some timber and machines off site but this is less than ideal. I look for all members help, suggestions and involvement in tackling this issue.

Northallerton Men's Shed Accounts Summary 1/04/2021 until 27/05/2022

Balance Brought Forward from 31/03/21	<u>£9968.38</u>
Income from 1/04/21 until 27/05/22	£16120.07
Expenditure for 2021/22	£11270.81
Cash held 27/05/2022	£364.10
Funds held in current account 27/05/2022	£14453.54
Total Funds 27/05/2022	<u>£14817.64</u>

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Grants	6950	Equipment	5426.26
Donations	1075.50	Rent	3750
Membership Fee	1250	Electricity	160.82
Subs	5175.68	Gas	1175.84
Miscellaneous (1)	1668.89	Miscellaneous (2)	757.89
TOTAL INCOME	16120.07	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	11270.81

(1) Includes Gift Aid (£637.48) and Sales

(2) Includes Insurance (£571.20)

GRANTS and DONATIONS

Financial period 01/04/2021 – 27/05/2022

Grants:

Jack Brunton Trust	£1000
HDC (Covid Response)	£400
Together Fund	£1000
Lottery Grant	£2000
Cookery Grant	£650
BHA	£450
Northallerton TC	£450
NYCC	£1000

Donations include:

Shooting Club	£750
Masons	£75

Previous Financial Year 01/04/2020 – 31/03/2021

Grants:

Mayor's Grant	£750
Police and Crime Commissioner Grant	£2000
NYCC Stronger Communities Grant	£1000

Donations include:

Masons	£100
Rotary	£250

NORTHALLERTON MEN'S SHED

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After a traumatic end to our first year at Allertonshire school, with closing due to the Covid pandemic, the break in and theft at the school, and our forced decision to vacate the premises we began a new era.

The trustees searched the area at length with very little in the way of feasible premises until Larry made an approach to the Auction Mart. We must have hit them at the right time because they had recently decided that furniture sales were no longer profitable and ceasing those activities left an area of former cow byre vacant. The agreement we came to was that we take a 5 year lease with the option to roll on at the end of it. They gave us 6 months rent free and 12 months a 75% rent.

Those of you who were here at the beginning or have seen our progress slide show will appreciate the size of task we faced. We needed to

- concrete the slurry trough running the length of the floor
- Scrape down, clean and paint all the walls and roof beams
- Insulate the whole roof
- Install New Lighting and electrical power supplies
- Install a heating system
- Build a toilet, kitchen and provide water supply and drainage

And all in a time of lockdown regulations, social distancing with many of our members isolating for health reasons.

I am sometimes amazed and proud of the efforts of our members to rise above all that and in a year of two-days a week, 5 man working parties, accomplish every one of our objectives.

The result is, that whilst we were not able to operate in the manner we had in 2019 we are now ready for 2021 with a fully operating shed and ready for the future.

So what is our future ?

We have two main aims, **Firstly** to make this a safe, friendly place to meet others and pursue old interests. I am particularly heartened by the number of old members who have returned after lockdown, affirming that for them we are doing something right.

Secondly we need to achieve a sound financial position. Our move to these premises was largely funded by a lottery grant, and a lot of our own labour. **But** – we need to ensure that we are financially self-sufficient ongoing.

Alan's financial report will explain the current state of our finances, which is pretty sound. – As you know we all pay a membership fee, most of which is spent on insurance cover, fire safety equipment and first aid, all of which we hope we will never need.

We also pay our subs each day we attend and that has to cover rent, electricity, gas, consumables etc which at present we nearly cover, but we are still on the 75% rent.

We don't want to increase fees, so the obvious solution is to increase headcount. I think 15 to 18 is the most we want to have at any one time although it depends on the mix of workshop and craft room projects.

You may have heard that the Northallerton Computer club, which used to meet at Zion church, has now become an associate part of the Men's Shed and they now meet here on Tuesday afternoons thus bringing in a little more revenue to help with energy costs.

Additionally it is hoped that we can start a Ladies day on a Friday, again they will become a part of the Men's Shed and operate the same way as we do on Mondays and Thursdays.

If we are successful with this we will become truly viable, but let us not forget that there are opportunities to make a small amount of money with the sale of items we can make and I hope some of you will be forthcoming with ideas and skills to help us to do that.

Thanks largely to Chris Riley, we have been very successful over the last two years, in attracting grants and donations for projects and equipment. On the assumption that this continues, I'm sure some of you will come up with ideas on how to spend the money so feel free to write them on the chalk board in the workshop.

Continuity is not just about the shed it is also about its members. Finding projects seems easy at the start but with time we all start to run out of ideas. So look around see what other guys are doing and if you fancy a go at something they are doing, don't feel too shy to talk to them about it.

Finally the success of this Shed depends on having day supervisors who can look after the day to day operations. It is not too onerous if plenty of us are willing to share the load, so if you feel that you would be able to please talk to one of the trustees.