

## Annual Report for Elgin & District Men`s Shed

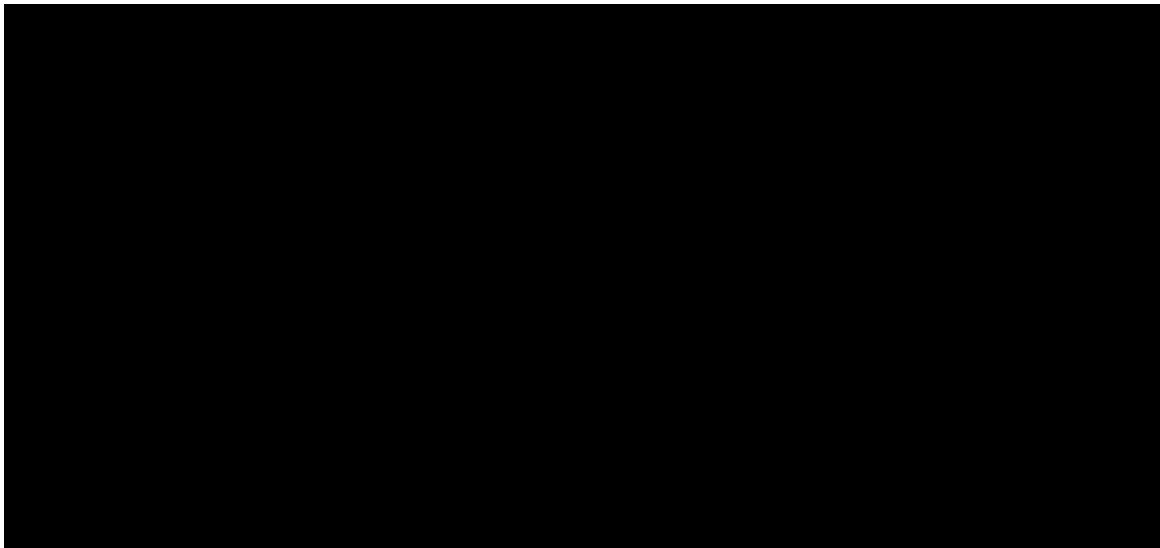
Elgin & District Men`s Shed was set up in 2017 as a charity (Number SC048460) to provide recreational facilities and advance the social needs, Health and Wellbeing of men of all ages and backgrounds living in Elgin and surrounding areas by creating, developing and maintaining a facility, namely a Men`s Shed, offering opportunities for men in the Elgin area to meet and undertake creative, physical, purposeful and recreational activities of their choice, reducing social isolation of men in the area thus contributing to their physical and mental wellbeing. Developing the capacity of men in the Elgin area to share their skills and knowledge with others in the community.

Membership numbers has remained fairly static with a few retiring and a few new faces. A small nucleus of people attend most mornings and undertake projects of various types but mainly building wooden items that have been requested by people in the community. The formal meeting continues to take place on Thursday afternoons with anything between 12 and 18 attending.

Once again the year has been a busy one for a number of members who are using their different skills for the benefit of all who are involved in Elgin & District Men`s Shed (EDMS).

EDMS applied to the Just Transition Participatory Funding exercise of 2024. The funds bought new windows and steel for constructing security grilles at each window. New window blinds were also part of the funding.

Members helped remove the old windows and got a coat of sealer on them prior to Installation.



The security grilles were then built in-house. Various members were involved in cutting, welding, painting and installation. It was very much a team effort.

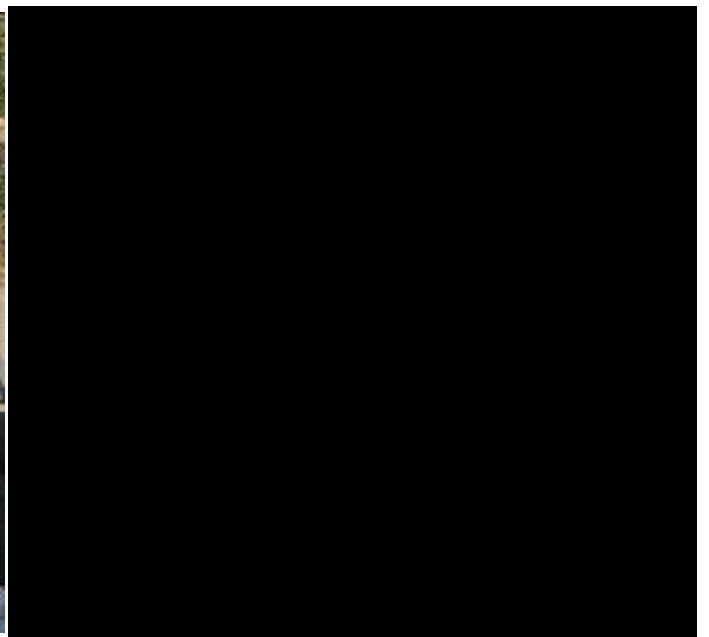
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At the same time lots of small jobs were undertaken in the community and these varied from fixing decking, felting shed roofs, hedge trimming, replacing or refurbishing garden benches, making replacement gates to hanging doors.

The work was worthwhile though and we can now charge the tools` batteries at no grid cost.

Once a changeover switch is purchased and installed, we hope to run the lights and perhaps a small heater off the renewable energy now generated by the system. That will help greatly as we have to pay industrial prices for electricity.



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Last year EDMS had been offered timber from a bridge that had been replaced in a nearby coastal town. The request from the Lossiemouth Development Trust was that EDMS build two benches and two planters retaining where possible the patina of the timber. These timbers had been walked on for many years and had varying amounts of wear so that created a challenge. Nevertheless, two of our members built what was required, the articles were picked up and eventually sited close to the entry to the replacement crossing.



An official handover took place on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023. All groups which had been involved in acquiring the replacement bridge or had handled the timbers from the old bridge were represented at a small ceremony with mince pies and refreshments afterwards.



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A further baulk of timber has been found which was adrift but has washed ashore at the

side of the harbour. It is very heavy so it will be cut into four pieces, lifted on to the harbour wall, transported to our HQ and left to dry out for a number of months.

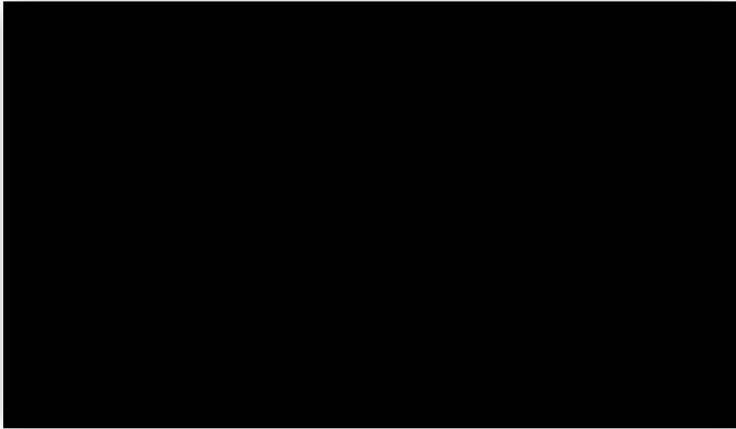
In the meantime, the few remaining planks were being turned into items such as pens, penholders, keyrings, and small bowls.



Because the bridge timbers will never again be available, these items caused lots of interest. One member in particular, spent a huge amount of time turning these items which led to a healthy income for EDMS. This work continues along with other items being turned from different species of timber including larch, oak and pine.

A local children's creche asked EDMS to build a new storage shed for them and in return they would receive the previous shed to use if required. The new shed was built, the old one transported to our current site and rebuilt. Work benches were installed inside to allow it to be used as a paint shop.

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One nearby hotelier asks EDMS if the members could repair a tabletop football game which had been spoiled due to water ingress. Despite its poor state, the table was repaired well enough for the owner to continue its use. It is based outside the function suite of the hotel to keep youngsters amused during weddings and other events. A collapsed office

chair was also repaired for the same person.

The Elgin Rotary Club approached EDMS to find out if there was any way we could manufacture extra long rakes to be used to rake back the embers of the bonfire on Guy Fawkes night. The result was three rakes with metal handles nine feet in length. Two members volunteered to help on the night and found nine feet too short due to the intense heat. A lesson was learned for future years!



Various other activities took place in the community, one of which was to build shelves inside a cupboard for a local community Café to store their drinks cans. The Local Authority had deemed their storage outside to be inadequate, so EDMS members were glad to help. Three sturdy shelves were installed with care taken over the spaces to allow drinks cartons to be stored full.

Various requests were received to refurbish benches and there were adequate willing hands to undertake this work. Some bench ends required shot-blasting and EDMS members were

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able to use a local contact to have the work done. Members feel it is important to support local businesses whenever possible and this is one such business.

One refurbishment done for a local estate owner led to EDMS being invited to visit the estate office to look at timber that was stored there. There are various species available to EDMS at a low price if required to build larger items such as tables or benches.

Early in the year EDMS had been asked by the Local Authority to empty a small industrial unit that had been used for making signs but the business had failed. Some IT equipment was removed along with some small items like card readers which it was felt could be useful. A large cutter was also removed and later sold on to another organisation. The card readers were utilised when EDMS held a sale and a form of raffle using lucky squares at a local Christmas Market. Soft toys had been purchased from the business next door but a reasonable profit was returned after overheads were paid.

During one of the weekly meetings EDMS members were given a talk about online security and the various scams that target members of the public. This was delivered by a police officer trained in searching out scammers and members enjoyed the talk. Another talk was organised about oral health but for various reasons never took place. A variety of toothbrushes and toothpaste were left for members but it was agreed it would be beneficial to the local School Bank so they were donated for the benefit of children. Furthermore, that was the organisation which allowed EDMS to share the pop-up shop.

EDMS also held a sale of wooden items after being offered a corner in a pop-up shop by a social enterprise who had taken on a shop unit for a few months in the local shopping centre. People had heard in advance that wooden items made from the timbers of the bridge as mentioned earlier, were to be available to buy. Those members in attendance were inundated by people wishing to purchase these items and, in fact, hardly got a chance to set up before being swamped with orders. Every item sold out quickly and orders were taken for many more. A date was issued to those who had orders to pick up and the pop-up shop was utilised once more, as was the card reader. Most transactions were made using cash but EDMS now find it



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helpful to have the facility to take payments by debit or credit card.



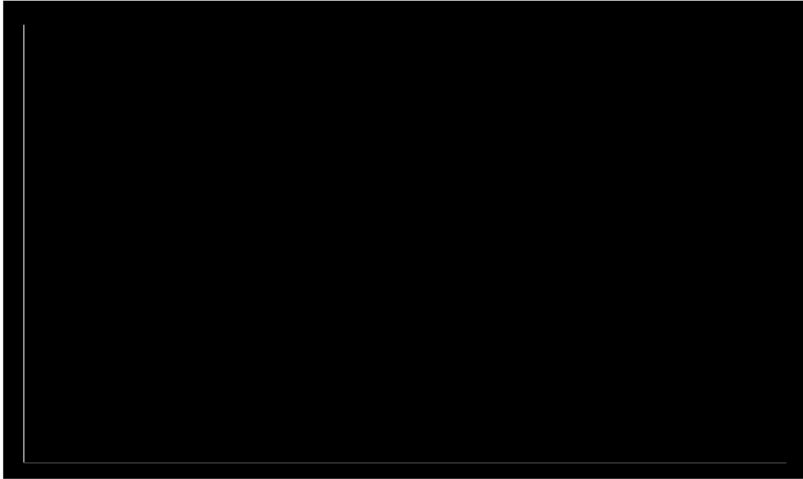
A particularly pleasing request that EDMS undertook was one from a local elderly people`s residential care home to make holders for dominoes as some were having difficulty holding the actual dominoes. Two types of holders were needed over for the use of residents with seven of each type being produced.



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Funding the lease continues to be very difficult. Five of our six local elected members visited our HQ. after an invitation was issued to them. They were reminded of their commitment to assist EDMS at a hustling prior to the last local election. A decrease in rent was discussed but they felt that since the council was working to deliver a very tight budget at that time a request for a drop in rent was unlikely to be successful. Nevertheless, EDMS received £3,400 from their ward budgets to allow us to continue paying the rent until after the budget gets delivered. That was a very welcome outcome.

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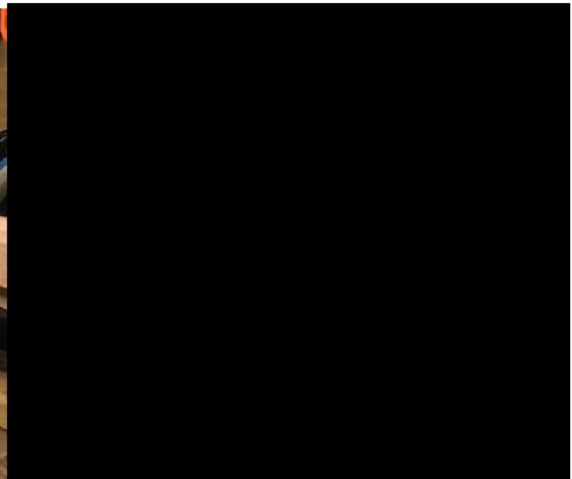
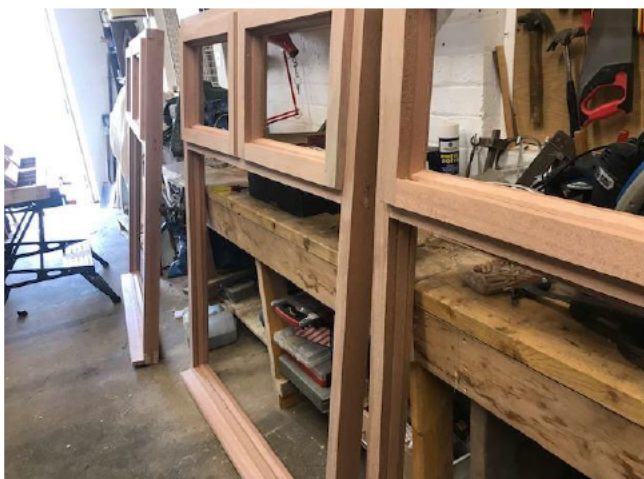


Staff from local company Gleaner, held a race night and EDMS was lucky enough to be a recipient of some of the money taken on the night. This local company has offered EDMS some assistance with media cover but also to set up a Crowdfunder which will be designed to help pay core costs. The work is ongoing as the person involved has a very busy

role within the business. However, the business owner is keen to help the Men's Shed movement, not just here but in other areas too.

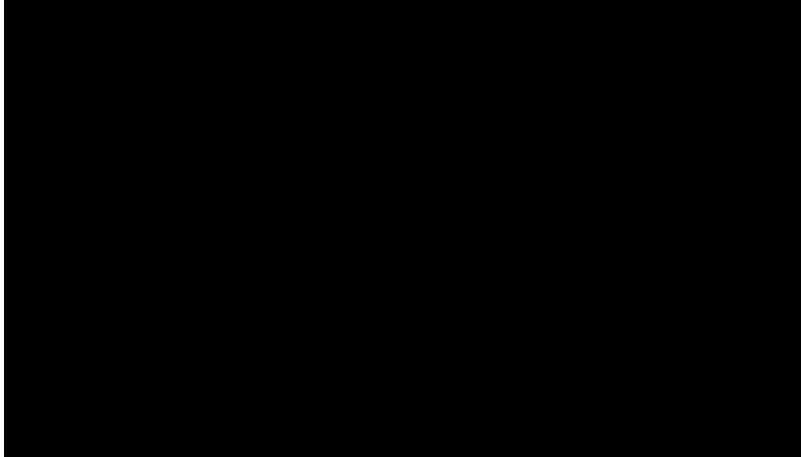
Most recently EDMS was awarded six days of time after applying to a government funded organisation called the Community Enterprise Group. This organisation specialises in helping groups get on to a sustainable footing. Their programme called "Accellerate" was deemed the most appropriate for EDMS so we certainly hoped for a positive outcome at the end of the allocated time. At the end of the programme we were in a position to start the CAT process and successfully requested support for the exercise from DTAS.

EDMS applied to the Just Transition Participatory Budgeting fund and were delighted to be successful in receiving enough public votes to receive funding to instal new hardwood double glazed windows.



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The old windows were single-glazed and in a poor state of repair. Of course the members helped remove the old windows.



Further funding from that source allowed EDMS to purchase steel to construct security grills for the new windows with vertical blinds for the windows within the social space.

This year EDMS members sat down to a Christmas lunch in a local club. The event was a good example of the camaraderie which exists within the membership.

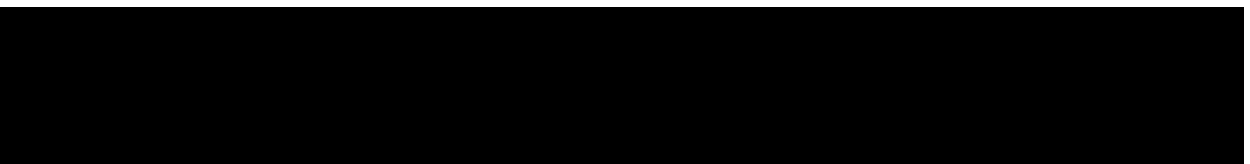
Further to our work with Gleaner, a Just Giving page has been set up and is now live. Problems with Facebook have been fixed and we have been gifted a laptop and printer which is for the use of members.

Staff from one of our major local businesses called Springfield do some fundraising during the year. This year the funds were shared between Dornoch Men`s Shed and us and we were delighted to receive £300.

We the trustees, end the report on a fairly positive note with a reasonable membership, lots of pieces of work taking place in the community which have been beneficial to many and the hope that a Community Asset Transfer will happen, and the rent will drop to an affordable figure putting EDMS on a sustainable footing.

(This report has been compiled to represent activities carried out by members of EDMS in 2023/24 but does not include every single activity)

Signed:-



# Annual Report for Elgin & District Men`s Shed

<b>Elgin &amp; District Men Shed</b> <small>Registered Charity No: SC048460</small>		<b>Receipts and Payments Accounts</b>	
<b>Period</b>		<b>1st January 2024 - 31st December 2024</b>	
<b>Closed FY2023 balance - £</b> <small>Bank Statement of Accounts</small>		<b>£17,103.68</b>	
<b>Opening FY2024 balance - £</b> <small>Bank Statement of Accounts</small>		<b>£17,103.68</b>	
<b>BANK STATEMENT TRANSACTIONS</b>			
<b>Income Source FY2024</b>	<b>Operational Income</b>	<b>Line Total - £</b> <b>FY2024</b>	<b>Line Total - £</b> <b>FY2023</b>
Grants & Donations	1,365.00	1,365.00	No Data
Grants & Donations - Restricted	30,711.57	30,711.57	
Sale of Shed Manufactured Goods	4,160.76	4,160.76	
Fundraising / Fayres / Tombolas / Raffles	935.46	935.46	
Other	623.14	623.14	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>37,795.93</b>	
<b>Expenditure FY2024</b>	<b>Operational Expenditure</b>		
Operational Costs	8,582.74	8,582.74	No Data
Grants & Donations Unrestricted	0.00	0.00	
Grants & Donations Restricted	4,883.80	4,883.80	
Tool & Machinery	2,215.81	2,215.81	
Materials, Consumable & Sundries (Shed Use)	1,260.20	1,260.20	
Materials & Consumables for Manufacturing & Repairing	720.48	720.48	
Tombola / Raffles / Gifts // Stalls	357.95	357.95	
Other	224.05	224.05	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>18,245.03</b>	
<b>Net Surplus FY2024</b> <small>(Total operating income minus total operating expenditure for FY2024)</small>		<b>19,550.90</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>FY2024 Bank Balance - £</b> <small>(Opening FY2024 Balance + Net Surplus FY2024)</small> <small>Bank Statement of Accounts</small>		<b>36,654.58</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>PETTY CASH - SUMMARY OF TRANSACTIONS</b>			
Opening Balance from FY2023		182.01	
Total Incoming Donations		3797.00	
Total Expenditure		3482.33	
Closing Balance FY2024		496.68	
<b>STATEMENT OF FINAL BALANCE FOR FY2024</b>			
		<b>Final Balance</b>	
		<b>£37,151.26</b>	
<b>APPROVED BY</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Signature</b>	
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<b>Final Approval Date</b>			

**ELGIN & DISTRICT MEN'S SHED**  
**PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees on the unaudited financial statements of the Elgin & District Men's Shed.**

I report on the financial statements of the Charity for the period ended 31 December 2024.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner**

As described, the charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeks 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

I have carried out such investigations as were necessary to enable me to form an opinion as to whether proper accounting records adequate for the purposes of the Charity have been kept and the financial statements of the Charity were in accordance with the accounting records.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

C/o Ritsons  
Chartered Accountants  
Independent Examiner

Date: 10/09/2025

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Forres  
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