



Nailed It! (Shed News)

Volume 2, Issue 1

3rd March 2021

WE'RE NEARLY THERE!

Inside this issue: It's been a very busy time over the last couple of months since the last "Nailed It" in December!

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We've had a new water stopcock installed, together with a very impressive fountain for a while!

There's also been a lot of progress inside the Shed, and we are nearing the point at which we can open, once the dreaded Covid-19 restrictions allow.

Hopefully those of you in the most vulnerable groups have now had a vaccine, and like me, are feeling slightly less vulnerable. Those who haven't yet, I understand the programme is progressing well ahead of schedule and hopefully your turn will come soon.

The last few days in particular have seen the emergence of Spring, and the evenings are getting lighter, so hopefully we will be in a position to meet up again soon and indulge in some tea and chat.

In advance of that, see later for some news on how you can "visit" the shed virtually, and if you haven't got to grips with the likes of zoom yet, then MAYFACS soon hope to be able to offer advice and training on how to use it.

See later in the newsletter for a progress report!



Materials Needed

We're getting to the end of the renovation works inside, but there are still some things that we need, so if you have any, or know of any works going on where these may become available and surplus to requirements, please ask if they could be donated to the Shed Project, or let us know the details:

WANTED!

PAVING STONES; SOUND INSULATION; FEATHER-EDGE OR TIMBER CLADDING; ROLLER BLIND; MOP/BUCKET; CLEANING SUPPLIES; ALOS DONATIONS TO FUND DUST EXTRACTION AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

PROGRESS REPORT

Firstly I'd like to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers who have been helping over the last few months; your help has been very much appreciated.

All the major dirty/dusty work inside is now complete, with just some minor touching up and filling to do on the decoration. The dividing wall is complete and ready to have the door fitted, and the floor coverings (vinyl and carpet tiles) have been laid. We have a quarry tile hearth in place should we ever get the funds to purchase a wood burner, but the electric heating has been surprisingly effective, even when working down there in the snow!

One major change has been relocating the WC. Paul B had the great idea that "we" should move the WC into the corner where the dart board was to go, and although a lot of work it has been very worthwhile. It's opened up a much larger area in the Social Room, and when demolishing the old partitions I found that they were completely rotten, so overall a good suggestion!

The relocated WC is finally working, although it just remains for the volunteer plumber to connect up the basin, water heaters, and two sinks. Electrical work has been ongoing for the last few weeks, and still has some way to go, as and when the Electrician can fit us in between regular work.

We've been very successful in obtaining donations from manufacturers and suppliers of materials such as insulation, timber, kitchen worktops, sink, etc.

The worktops are due to arrive this week, and we're now getting to the point of needing a good clean before gradually bringing in the furniture.

Externally there is still plenty to do but now the weather is improving we hope to see more volunteers venturing out!

Lastly, and by no means least, we're very grateful to WPE for finally allowing us to fit the intercom at the gate, so now visitors/deliveries/trades can call the shed from the gate and we can let them in, without us having to leave the gate open and block the drive further down for security!

We Won a Quiz Prize!

Thank you to all those who took part in the UK Men's Shed Association Christmas zoom Quiz, & particular thanks to Kelly-Anne who skillfully managed to win us a prize for the Shed of a Palm Planer from Triton Tools. The Quiz was good fun & free to enter so please support us by entering the next one. Dates are:

<https://menssheds.org.uk/2021/02/12/three-great-big-quizzes/>



LATEST PHOTOS



WHATSAPP Doc?!

Please excuse the terrible pun, but do you use WhatsApp messaging, and if not would you like to know more and learn how to use it?

If so please let the MAYFACS team in the office know, and we can look at some tuition.

ZOOMING AND SHEDINARS

I know some of you may be “zoomed out” after so long in lockdown, however, it can be a great way to stay in touch with each other visually.

For those that aren't familiar, zoom is like a video-telephone that can be used with a modern “smart” mobile phone, or on a computer, laptop or tablet. In fact it can be used on a regular telephone but although you can join in with the discussions, you can't of course see the other participants, which is the main benefit.

MAYFACS are compiling some instructions on how to use zoom on various devices, and to hopefully whet your appetite we will be installing a zoom facility in the Shed!

This means that if you are unable to physically get to the Shed, or would like to see what goes on before coming along, then you will be able to join us “virtually” via the video screens, and chat via the sound system in the Shed.

The equipment can also be used to search the internet and play videos from places like YouTube where generally you can find a video showing you how to do almost anything!

We plan to have two zoom points, one in the Workshop area and one in the Social space.

Although by no means the first, we are one of the early pioneers of this technology in Shed's, and may well be the first to “launch” our new Shed using zoom.

Once we're up and running we are looking at having “Shedinars” (webinars from the Shed!) where we will invite experts to come and demonstrate various crafts and skills that many more of you can view live online, so we're not limited to small groups huddled around the presenter.

If you'd like help understanding, or setting up zoom, please contact the MAYFACS office

TV FAME!

As announced in the last newsletter I was proud to receive the DFDS Everyday Heroes Award for the time I had been volunteering on the Shed Project. DFDS sent a journalist to the Shed to interview me, and that was shared with some mainstream TV channels. Apparently I featured on the local news segment of Good Morning Britain!, and on Meridian lunchtime and evening News bulletin's (it must have been a slow news day!!).

Unfortunately I missed my TV appearances as I was working at the shed! (and they don't tell you when they will be broadcasting them), but I'm told there was some "creative interpretation" of the piece by the presenters. For the avoidance of doubt I can confirm that I haven't been doing all the work at the Shed single-handedly (that was the translation of "I have been working alone a lot of the time due to Covid restrictions"), and "he has been converting his own shed into a community facility" isn't *quite* true!

For those who missed the edited highlights on national TV, here is a link to the interview on DFDS's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/dfdsuk/posts/10159197137768117>

FREE FIRST AID

In anticipation of the Shed opening, we'd like as many members as possible to have some first Aid knowledge, and we have been sent the following link to some free online first aid training. Please have a go and let us know what you think of it. When we are able we will be offering some practical "hands-on" First Aid training, but this could well be a great introduction, so use your lockdown time productively & help us to get going! <https://www.firstaidforfree.com>

AND FINALLY!

If you're interested in woodwork, Axminster Tools have a series of Woodworking Wisdom demonstration videos on their website, so grab a cuppa and have a look at the programme schedule:

<https://knowledge.axminstertools.com/woodworking-wisdom-schedule-march-2021>

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