



Nailed It! (Shed News)

Volume 1, Issue 3

24th December 2020

SEASONAL SHEDLY GREETINGS

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Frivolities

It's that time of year and although we're not quite ready to celebrate our first Christmas in the Shed, I thought I'd pop down and add some festive decorations and lights to it.



OK, I haven't, but maybe next year!

It's been a strange few months, trying to plan the renovation works with the various changes to covid regulations, and adjusting the way we work to minimize the risks but still progress the work so we can open as soon as possible.

It's probably worth remembering that the reason we are doing this is to help alleviate loneliness and isolation, and it is at this time of year in particular that these can be at their worst, without the added effects of the pandemic restrictions.

Hopefully even the knowledge that the Shed is on the way may help some, and we really hope to be able to open, subject to covid restrictions, during January.

See later in the newsletter for a progress report!



PLANNING UPDATE

I'm pleased to say that Planning Permission for the change of use (and minor alterations) was approved on 4th December, and we are grateful for the encouraging advice and guidance from Wealden District Council to achieve this.

There are no conditions that would affect our operations, and we are really looking forward to being able to start Shed operations in the New Year once the renovations are complete and the shed is suitably equipped.

PROGRESS REPORT AND THE NEXT STEPS

I'd like to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers and group leaders who've given up their time to help renovate the building and get it ready for use. There has been a considerable amount of work involved, and we couldn't have got this far so quickly without you!

In addition to clearing out the building, & removing the redundant internal partitions, we have patched blockwork, insulated & boarded the ceilings, fitted doors & windows, built walls, levelled floors, and painted anything that didn't move — and some things that did, and weren't quick enough to move!

Externally the guttering has been fitted and the trench dug ready for the surface water drainage pipe, as well as the rear French drain made ready for its pipe.

Inside we've made a start on levelling the social side floor, and we'll soon be ready for the electrical installation to start.

In addition to these the next tasks are:

- ◇ Complete the floor levelling, add insulation, and fit the DPM & boards
- ◇ Plasterboard the partition, and paint it
- ◇ Fit the fixed kitchen units, sinks, benches, etc
- ◇ Install the dust extraction, compressed airline systems & heating
- ◇ Complete the French Drain, and clean up the site externally
- ◇ Fit some trim to the edges of the roof
- ◇ Build some decking, an access ramp, and the canopy over the front door
- ◇ Build the outside store to the right of the main door
- ◇ Complete the painting

So still plenty to do for all abilities!

Materials Donations

Again a huge thank you to all the people and businesses who have donated materials and equipment for the project.

We've got most of the things we need so far, although decking and oil filled radiators are still on the list!



THEN and NOW



Just a couple of shots to show the progress we've made so far!



BY APPOINTMENT!

Not quite by HMQ, but almost as important, by the MAYFACS Trustees! I'm delighted to advise the Trustees have appointed me as the official Shed Development Lead with responsibility for setting up and running the Shed project for the next 12 months, and I look forward to working as part of the MAYFACS team both in the office and on site as usual.

AN AWARD!

I'm also very proud to announce that I have received the DFDS Everyday Heroes Award for the time I have been volunteering to get the project off the ground. This award comprises a cash gift of £500, and a free DFDS ferry crossing. I will be donating the prizemoney to the Shed Project, but really hope to be able to enjoy the ferry crossing in the Caterham at some point in 2021.

DON'T SHED A TIER

I know some of you are as keen as I am to progress with the renovation and kitting out of the Shed, and so far we have been able to continue to work on site in a covid safe manner complying with the "Tier 2" restrictions and general Covid guidelines. As I write a new, more contagious, strain of the virus is sweeping across the country, and we are about to enter "Tier 4" restrictions.

As the renovation work we are doing at the Shed is "work" that cannot be carried out at home, albeit voluntary, we are legally permitted to do it.

Having said that, clearly the spirit of the Tier 4 restrictions are that everyone should avoid mixing with others to minimize the chance of spreading the virus.

The regular working groups are therefore suspended until the MAYFACS team reviews the situation when we return on the 4th January, however in the meantime, if you would like to do some work at the Shed over the holiday period, perhaps as a family group or bubble, then this can be arranged. Some revised precautions will be implemented to further minimize transmission risks.

If you are interested please contact Ian for more information theshed@mayfacs.org.uk or 07973 291144

FESTIVE FRIVOLITIES

Here's a few light hearted bits & bobs to hopefully raise a smile.



WARNING!



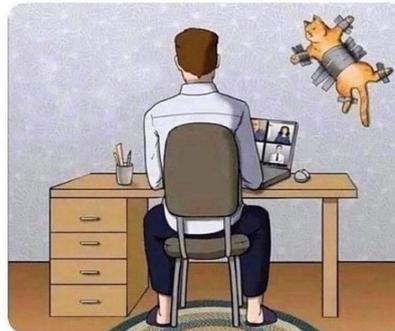
MAY CONTAIN NUTS.... BOLTS, SCREWS, SEWING NEEDLES, KNITTING NEEDLES, SCISSORS, SCREWDRIVERS, OLD COINS AND MANY OTHER SHARP OR USELESS OBJECTS THAT HAVE NOWHERE ELSE IN THE HOUSE TO BE KEPT.

Link to [Live Christmas Countdown and Carols](#) (you'll need the sound on!)

Click on the image on the right to listen to the **Ring(le) Spanner Bells >>**



How to prepare for a Zoom meeting



Link to download a [PDF of some Christmas Games and Quiz](#) from UKMSA (with answers!)

And for the finalé!

Myself, Shirley, Freya, Clare and the MAYFACS Trustees would like to wish you an enjoyable Christmas and a positive New Year, and send you the following musical message (click the "play" symbol and go to full screen for the best effect!):

<https://tinyurl.com/MAYFACS-Christmas-2020>

Contacts

MAYFACS Office:
01435 873888
07908 516875
manager@mayfacs.org.uk



Ian Bruce
07973 291144
theshed@mayfacs.org.uk