CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Annual Report for the period:-

From: 17/03/25 Period start date To: 28/2/26 Period end date

Charity name: Kingsbridge & District Mens Shed
Charity registered number: 1186277

Kingsbridge Men’s Shed – Annual Report 2025–2026

About Us

Kingsbridge Men’s Shed is a welcoming community space where men and women can connect, converse, and create. Activities often mirror those of traditional garden sheds — practical, hands-on, and social — but carried out in a supportive group environment. Our aim is to reduce loneliness and isolation while promoting friendship, purpose, and fun.

Our Approach

The Shed is managed by its members using a bottom-up model that encourages ownership, fulfilment, and shared responsibility. This approach not only builds confidence and community spirit but also ensures long-term sustainability. We have grown gradually through commitment and collaboration rather than through large initial funding.

Our Journey

Established in 2016, the Shed initially operated without dedicated premises. In 2019, with the support of a generous local benefactor, a purpose-built shed was made available. This milestone coincided with our registration as a charity with the Charity Commission.

In 2024, we completed an extension to the Shed, providing additional workspace and allowing more members to participate each day. This development has strengthened our ability to deliver meaningful projects and welcome new members from across the district.

Our Members and Activities

Membership continues to grow steadily, attracting people of all backgrounds who travel by bike, bus, or car to take part in projects and social activities. Members have undertaken a wide variety of initiatives, including:

- Building and refurbishment projects for local theatres and community groups
- Supporting *Kingsbridge in Bloom*
- Assisting Town Councils
- Contributing to other charitable and community organisations
- Work for people needing urgent work (if we have the skills) who can not get commercial help

We have also maintained our focus on developing the Shed's facilities and equipment to support a broader range of activities.

Community Connections

Kingsbridge Men's Shed works closely with three local general practices and the District Council's Mobility and Support Department, through which we receive regular referrals. These partnerships ensure that we continue to reach those who can benefit most from joining the Shed community.

Operations

The Shed currently opens two afternoons per week. As membership increases, we aim to extend opening hours, subject to the appointment of additional session leaders. We do some work externally to the shed including installations.

Income is generated through member subscriptions, manufacturing and refurbishment work, and small-scale fundraising. We continue to explore new income streams to strengthen our financial sustainability and support future development.

Looking Ahead

The coming year will focus on consolidating our achievements and expanding our activities. As awareness of our facilities grows, we look forward to welcoming more members, increasing our community impact, and continuing to make Kingsbridge Men's Shed a place where people can share skills, companionship, and purpose. We are always on the lookout for people with woodworking skills and people who can safely supervise members.

Names of the trustees who manage the charity

Alan Kirk Chairman

Malcolm Short Treasurer & Secretary