



## Happy New Year

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2023.



There have been a few changes to your committee. Mark has resigned as a trustee and social secretary for personal reasons. I'm sure you will join in with the committee in thanking Mark sincerely for the fantastic work that he has done.

Dave has also resigned as a trustee after doing some great work there.

So, we need some members to step up as trustees and social secretary. These roles don't pay but they earn you the eternal gratitude of other Shed members.

If you are interested or want to find out more, please talk to Gordon or any of the committee members.

Gordon is tied up for most of January on other matters, so to keep things moving, Peter B will be stepping up as acting Chair in the meantime.

## New members

A warm welcome to new members, who have recently joined: Kevin, Chris, Graham and Frans.

## Last of the Summer Wine comes to Alton

These spy shots show members of Alton Men's Shed seemingly rehearsing a scene for *The Last of the Summer Wine*.

Their task was to move some heavy work benches that were in storage at the grounds maintenance facility in Anstey Park.

Finding an abandoned supermarket trolley, the team set about their rescue mission. It is also rumoured that they retrieved the pound coin from the trolley.



A canny bit of work, chaps...



... or could it be a case of: *Hey-up, things must be serious if Foggy's opening his purse. I shouldn't bother with that, Foggy; we've been decimalized since they were last in there.*

## Developments

Your committee has continued working hard on a number of new developments:

- We have started to put together a procedures' manual. When it's finished, we are going to make it available in the Shed so that all members can have up-to-date information to hand on how we do things and the regulations that we are bound to follow.
- In order to keep members safe, there will be a series of safety briefings on the machine tools. Remember, you need to know how to work these tools before you

use them, to keep yourself and others safe. The first one will take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Yes, that's right - Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>! More details from Mike Loxley.

- The current system of combining membership cards with a four-monthly will be replaced by the new calendar system and membership cards will be issued at the start of the membership year or when new members join.
- A business plan has been drafted and will be adapted for future applications for grants.

### **Social and Organised Events**

- 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023: Shedders' social at All Saints' Parish Hall - 10.00am to 12.00pm. Donations of biscuits, cakes and savouries welcome.
- 13<sup>th</sup> January: Machine Tools Safety Briefing at the Shed and at All Saints' Parish Hall - 10.00am to 12.00pm.
- 19<sup>th</sup> January: Shedders' breakfast at the Departure Lounge, Basingstoke Road, GU34 4BK
- 27<sup>th</sup> January: AMS committee meeting at All Saints' Parish Hall - 10.00am to 12.30pm

If you have any ideas for social events or organised activities, please talk to a member of the committee.

### **Projects Update**

There are a couple of projects in the pipeline:

- Orchard House has requested our contribution to their activities programme;
- Greenfield's Beaver Group has requested our help with some activities - the word is getting out.

If you are interested in either of these, contact Mike. Without your help, we cannot take on projects, so please step up. You will find it very rewarding.

### **Get well soon!**

Unfortunately, Bob N has taken a tumble and broken his wrist and hip. Let's all wish him a speedy recovery.